



Local Mission

John Wesley said:

Do all the good you can
By all the means you can
In all the ways you can
In all the places you can
At all the times you can
To all the people you can
As long as you can.

This is our calling

We know only too well that what we are doing is nothing more than a drop in the ocean. But if the drop were not there, the ocean would be missing something."

Mother Teresa

Summary of Mission ACTS Findings.

It is not clear what is actually available already in the villages and there are far more opportunities/resources than we are aware of.

In no particular order of importance:

There is a need for an accessible reference directory to clarify what is available

We have an ageing population many of whom are lonely.

Transport is significant problem

Mental health issues are significant in this area

There is a local problem with education

The local villages would be happy to work together to share resources.

Funding is available for projects in the community if clearly defined.

There is an opportunity to utilise/join existing schemes

We are very active in the community

There is a need to share our faith in everything we do

Heavenly Father, thank you for giving each of us different gifts to use for serving you in the community. Show us the way to be servant hearted. Open our eyes to the needs of others around us and give us wisdom on how to meet these needs. Help us to want what you want—the joy and gladness of all people as they hear your story of salvation. Open doors and empower us to go to new areas that may be outside our comfort zone. And help us to be missional in our everyday lives, representing you in our neighbourhood and workplaces. Lord, bless this time now and come amongst us as we pray about the work of our church in the local community and as we gave thanks for all those who are involved in each of these activities.

Please Pray For

All our church activities

The local mission team as it comes together to help develop the key activities

Our Navigator – Michelle

More volunteers to support our activities

The lonely

Those struggling with health issues

Those struggling with financial issues

Those struggling with family issues

Improved local communications

Other groups active within our area

The outpouring of God's love in everything we do

Most gracious loving Saviour – we give you thanks for each and every one in our church family. It's a growing family yet Lord we yearn to see it grow even more, there are so many people in our surrounding towns and villages that have never encountered you and who are in need in one way or another. We know you will answer our many prayers, prayers for our many activities, for those who give their time and for those we meet and we pray that going forward we will be obedient to your word in reaching out to our communities. May we be a safe haven, a place of comfort and a place where Your Love shines both day and night. May streams of living water flow through these doors. We lift all these prayers to You in the name of Jesus. Amen

Pray for the Beacon Café



Our Mission Statement

We aim to provide an attractive non-threatening café venue, offering quality service and a warm welcome through a team of Christians committed to demonstrating the love of Christ and the values of his kingdom in all things.

Opening times

We are open every Wednesday (except the two Wednesdays over Christmas and New Year) from 2 to 4.30pm

Prayers

- That we continue to provide a place where people of all ages can meet, relax, find company and have a sense of community, and also find help if needed.
- That we as staff show the love of Christ through our interactions with our customers.
- That we have the energy and resources to find new ways to serve our local community.
- For increased visibility within the community and more customers
- That more volunteers will be found.
- Give thanks for all those who volunteer on a regular basis

Pray for Stitch and Steam



Stitch and Steam

Fancy a morning to do your own crafts in a friendly relaxed group....
Or simply getting those little sewing jobs done....

Join us from 9:30-11:30 in the
Baptist Church Hall, High Street, Bluntisham
On the following Wednesdays:

January- 9th, 23rd February- 6th, March- 6th, 20th
April- 3rd May- 1st, 15th June- 12th, 26th July- 10th

(Group free of charge, but request donation towards tea, coffee and hall.)
Contact 01487 845538 or tanya@bluntishambaptist.org

Prayers

- For continued growth of the group
- For new opportunities to expand creative skills
- For Tanya who oversees this group, for continued strength and enthusiasm
- For more volunteers to help Tanya
- For Improved links with other local organisations
- Give thanks for all those who attend and support Stitch and Steam

Pray for Little Fishes



Little Fishes toddler group meets on Tuesday mornings 10am - 11.30am in the Baptist Church Hall.

We welcome all children from 0-4 years with a parent, grandparent, childminder or other carer. We offer play with a variety of toys, along with an activity table for crafts/puzzles/playdough etc ... and story time with water and biscuits and then song time at the end of the session. Tea/coffee and biscuits are provided for the adults along with time for a chat or prayer with friends.

Prayers

- For the continued growth of this group
- For the mums, grandparents and the children that they may feel welcome
- For the opportunity to pray with and support those in need
- For the opportunity to share our faith
- For contact with the families after the children leave
- Give thanks for Pauline and the team who serve faithfully every week

LOCAL MISSION PRAYERS

- ❖ Psalm 145: 8-9.
The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love.
The Lord is good to **all**, he has compassion on **all** he has made.

- ❖ PRAY:
May the love of Christ take hold of me.
May the light of Christ shine in my heart.
May the love of Christ flow through me like a river.
Pray this for your own self, family, friends, strangers, those you don't like,
those in mental health distress, those caring for those in mental health
distress, all people who work and volunteer in the field of mental health and
wellbeing.
As you pray may God make you watchful and wakeful of all around you,
seeing through silence and for those hiding distress may you see their light as
they are gently brought into it. This is not spiritual warfare. Be mindful of
mental health through Jesus. Even his soul was so filled with sorrow it was at
the point of death.
Mark 13: 14.
"My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death," he said to
them. "Stay here and keep watch."

- ❖ Thank you, Lord, for the role Little Fishes played, many years ago, in bringing
me back to you and into a real relationship with you.
I pray that the group will be able to continue to do the same for many others
for years to come. Amen.

- ❖ Help us to resist being so busy making church happen that we use up all our
energy and resources and end up neglecting the people we should be serving.
Amen.

- ❖ Lord, let us start our Local Mission in our families and among our friends and
neighbours. Let us listen to you and recognise and be willing to work in our
community and our church activities as you direct us. You equip us for the
work we do. Thank you, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

- ❖ Lord, we pray for succession. We thank you that Simi was able to pass on
leadership to Pauline and we thank you for Pauline's gift of understanding.
Sustain her we pray, but in your perfect timing we pray for Pauline's
successor to be aware of your calling, whether that be in the near or the
future. Amen.

❖ John 4: 35-36.

³⁵ Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.³⁶ Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together.

Matthew 9: 35-38.

³⁵ Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸ *Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.*"

Amen.

❖ Luke 23: 24

²⁴ Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

So, father we pray for our friends serving you, who feel they are under attack, simply for being a follower of you.

Whenever they are the victims of unjust criticism or whenever their motives are questioned, sustain our friends, your servants, and may they continue with your strength upholding them. Amen.

❖ LONLEY – Activities to help. Revelation 3: 20.

Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me. Amen.

❖ Little Fishes. Philippians 2: 15-16.

¹⁵ so that you may become blameless and pure, "children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation." Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky ¹⁶ as you hold firmly to the word of life. And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labour in vain.

Hold by it and hold it out. As a team you show the building blocks of faith. Have the confidence to share the whole Gospel with the families.

❖ Acts 8: 25.

After they had further proclaimed the word of the Lord and testified about Jesus, Peter and John returned to Jerusalem, preaching the gospel in many Samaritan villages.

They must have been out of their comfort zones.

Where are our Samaritan villages?