



TOGETHER4BRISTOL PRAYER UPDATE: CHRISTMAS+NEW YEAR 2021

Hi everyone

God bless for 2021!

Here are a few examples of the Christian community **working together** across the Bristol region in 2020, with **Praise** for what has happened recently (especially in an amazing response to the COVID-19 pandemic) and **Prayer and Action** for the first part of 2021.

Please pass these on to your contacts, to encourage them and for prayer!

PRAISE POINTS

We thank God for:

1. The completion of the new [Together4Bristol](#) website, helping the WHOLE Christian community to work together in unity to be good news in the WHOLE of life in the Bristol region.
2. Tens of thousands of people praying during the [National Day of Prayer](#), including 160 on a call in Bristol. For continual prayer by T4B's prayer networks ([Arise Bristol!](#)), through WhatsApp groups, Zoom calls and over the hills around Bristol, throughout the COVID-19 crisis.
3. The Christian community's response in Bristol to COVID-19, showing a spirit of generosity and kindness, for example through 300 volunteers from 67 churches, supporting isolated and vulnerable people in the community. If you want to volunteer, see the [Noise website](#)
4. The [Politics and Social Action](#) sphere, called [Christian Action Bristol](#) (CAB), which led the Christian community's response, including to food poverty. Demand for food was four times higher during lockdown and this was met through Feeding Bristol, with foodbanks, which fed over 20k people, and food clubs (which expanded from 5 to 16). Fareshare worked through 250 community projects. As [this film](#) shows, the overall response was extraordinary.
5. The amazing response to the need for emergency fostering, with over 60 households from the Christian community volunteering. See the [Home for Good Bristol Response](#) and [this film](#).
6. The [Keyboard Trust](#) networker, Carmen Carrol connecting across over 40 black-led churches in the region, including through a Bristol Pastors Forum, to help them be stronger together and to engage more with the rest of the Christian community, including a Zoom with about 70, sharing about the Church and Racial Injustice. Contact keyboardnetworker@gmail.com.
7. The Bristol Housing Festival team, which had a virtual Building Expo this year, with 600 attendees and 3000 on You Tube. Praise God that projects, such as ZedPods, Innovate UK and BokLok are being delivered and awards won and for a week of prayer to release new housing across Bristol!
8. The regular prayer gatherings (recently on Zoom) for the [Whole of Life](#), such as the [Business](#), Education, Health, Family and Sport spheres. The prayer WhatsApp group prays for the churches and a different sphere of life each day.
9. The [Arts](#) sphere, or [Kingdom Creatives](#). Since the COVID-19 crisis, Erica Bebb has connected and mentored about 50 creatives, including with regular Zoom calls. For more information and for background explanation, including the concept of the "dome", read [here](#)

PRAYER and ACTION POINTS

We pray for:

1. The production and launch of an excellent Manifesto from the Faith community for the May 2021 Mayoral election (adapted from the Manifesto launched for the postponed 2020 Election).
2. Financial support to ensure there is a sustainable supply of food for the network of Foodbanks across the city. To purchase food to augment the supply of food from FareShare and others, and to get food to where it is most urgently needed. Donate through the Bristol Churches City Fund. Thank God for over £130k already raised!
3. Even greater engagement with the council by the Christian community, led by CAB, which helps the Christian community engage with City Office, to help Bristol move away from being a tale of two cities towards a One City Vision by 2050 and to help build a City of Hope.
4. Churches' online services to continue to have a wide impact across the city during the COVID-19 crisis and for the Major Emergency Plan's and Bristol Chaplaincy's listening service to be a comfort to many.
5. The Bristol Churches Winter Night Shelter, for the funding, volunteer churches and individuals and Deputy Co-ordinator, which are still needed. Thank God for a grant, which covers the extra B&B costs this year.
6. Other ways for the Christian community to connect, such as through Zoom. This includes for the church leaders' prayer breakfast with the Mayor, on January 14th 7am to 8am. If you are a church leader, contact Roger Allen (see below) to be added to the invitation list.
7. The Education sphere and Bristol Schools Connection, working with CAB and the council, to help churches connect with Transforming Lives for Good (TLG) to provide mentors in schools.
8. The Family sphere's (Love Family) use of online courses, such as from the National Parenting Initiative. For more information, contact t4b.family@gmail.com
9. The Health sphere's weekly Zooms for healing and for the growing Healing Centre Project. For Bristol Healing Rooms' Wednesday afternoon prayer session from 12.30pm and two healing homes on Tuesday nights from 19.30pm and Saturday mornings from 10.30am. All meetings are now online with Zoom. Contact: bristolhealingrooms@gmail.com
10. And for the Sport sphere, for World Sport Ministries and Christians in Sport's online resources, quiz and webinars: See Pray, Stay, Play

Please email us if you no longer wish to receive these prayer bulletins.

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