



Week of Prayer

August 16th-23rd 2026



The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in Heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name.

Thy Kingdom come.

Thy will be done on Earth
as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory
Forever and ever.

Amen.



Introduction

Psalm 37:5 *'Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him and He will do this.'*

As a church family we recognise that the appointment of a new minister is first and foremost a matter of seeking God's will. We believe that God already knows the person He is calling and that through prayer, He will guide both our church and the minister He has chosen.

This week of prayer is an opportunity for each one of us to listen to God, to pray faithfully for those involved in the appointment process, and to ask the Holy Spirit to prepare our hearts for the next chapter in the life of our church.

May we be united in prayer, confident in God's faithfulness and expectant of all that He has planned for us.

Sunday 16th August 6.00pm
Evening Prayer and Praise led by Alastair Clarke

Prayer Topic

SEEKING GOD'S WILL James 1:5 *'If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.'*

Please pray that:

- God will clearly guide every stage of the appointment process.
- Church will seek His will above personal preferences.
- Holy Spirit will give wisdom, discernment and unity to the ISG as we go through the selection process.
- Decisions will be made prayerfully and with confidence of God's leading.
- Church will trust God's timing.

Monday 17th August 6.30 pm
Prayer Meeting via Zoom. Chris Puddephatt leading.

Prayer Topic

RECOGNISING THE RIGHT PERSON Proverbs 3:5-6 *'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight.'*

Please pray that:

- God will make His chosen candidate evident to everyone involved.
- We would have peace and clarity in recognising who God calls.
- Any obstacles or distractions that could cloud discernment be removed.
- God will be speaking clearly to the candidate about the call to our fellowship.
- Every communication, interview and visit will reflect God's purpose.

Tuesday 18th August 10.30 am
Prayer Walk from SBC led by Arderne Gillies

Prayer Topic

SERVING THE COMMUNITY Matthew 5:16 'In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.'

Please pray that:

- New minister will build meaningful relationships within the congregation and community.
- New minister will connect well with people of all ages and backgrounds.
- God will give them a genuine heart for outreach, evangelism and serving our local community.
- Our church will become increasingly known as a welcoming, caring and Christ centred fellowship.
- New opportunities to share the gospel and serve others will emerge.
- Churches Together in Southwell will continue to grow.

Wednesday 19th August 7.30 am
Prayer Meeting via Zoom.

Prayer Topic

VISION, LEADERSHIP, AND MISSION Ephesians 4:11-13 'It is He who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fulness of Christ.'

Please pray that:

- Gifts and strengths of new minister will complement the vision and priorities of our church.
- God will give the minister a clear vision that inspired, equips and unites the fellowship.
- Church will be open to God's leading for the future.
- Minister will encourage spiritual growth, discipleship and the development of new leaders.
- Together we grow in faith, love and service.

Thursday 20th August 7.00-8.00pm
Evening Prayer Meeting at SBC. Jenny Harris leading.

Prayer Topic

FUTURE MINISTER 1 Timothy 3:2-7 'So a church leader must be a man whose life is above reproach. He must be faithful to his wife. He must exercise self-control, live wisely, and have a good reputation.

He must enjoy having guests in his home, and he must be able to teach. He must not be a heavy drinker or be violent. He must be gentle, not quarrelsome, and not love money.

He must manage his own family well, having children who respect and obey him. For if a man cannot manage his own household, how can he take care of God's church?

A church leader must not be a new believer, because he might become proud, and the devil would cause him to fall. Also, people outside the church must speak well of him so that he will not be disgraced and fall into the devil's trap.'

Please pray that:

- New minister will continue to grow in spiritual maturity and a deep personal walk with Christ.
- Be a faithful teacher of God's Word and a person of prayer.

Thursday 20th August continued.

- Lead with humility, integrity, wisdom and compassion.
- Be happy to work as part of a team.
- Be strengthened, protected and encouraged by the Lord during the period of discernment.
- Experience God's peace and confidence in responding to His call.
- Their family will know God's guidance, peace and encouragement as they consider their new chapter.



Friday 21st August 9.30-12.30

Drop in at SBC.

Prayer Topic

CHURCH PREPARATION Philippians 2:3-4 'I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ...'

Please pray that:

- Our fellowship will remain united, patient and encouraging throughout the process of finding a minister
- God will prepare our hearts to welcome new leadership with grace and openness
- We will support our new minister through prayer, practical help and encouragement
- Existing ministries will continue to flourish during the interregnum
- God will deepen our trust and faith in Him as a church family

Saturday 22nd August

Pray at Home.

Prayer Topic

MANSE: Psalm 127:1 'Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain.'

The provision of a suitable home for our future minister is an important part of our calling as a church. As we consider significant decisions about our current manse and the possibilities for the future, we seek God's wisdom rather than relying solely on our own understanding

Please pray that:

- God will give wisdom and discernment as we consider the future of the manse.
- He will make clear whether we should renovate our current manse, purchase another property, or pursue another solution that we have not yet considered.
- The church leadership will be united as they make decisions about property, finance and stewardship.
- God will provide the financial resources needed, whether through grants, fundraising, generous giving, or unexpected opportunities.
- We will be wise and faithful stewards of all that God has entrusted to us.

- If the current manse could be developed in a way that provides income for the church's future ministry, God will make that pathway clear and open the right doors.
- Our decisions will not simply be financially sound, but will best support the ministry and mission God is calling us to.
- Our future minister and their family will have a home where they feel safe, welcomed and able to flourish.



Sunday 23rd August 10.30am
Morning Service at SBC followed by
Bring and Share Lunch and
Prayer Meeting led by Janet Kneen.

Prayer Topic

A NEW BEGINNING Psalm 127:1 'Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain.'

Please pray:

- For a smooth and joyful transition for new minister and the fellowship
- For patience, understanding and grace during the adjustment period.
- That strong, trusting relationships will develop quickly
- That the ministry will bear lasting fruit as lives are transformed through the gospel
- That God will be glorified in every aspect of church life and this appointment will strengthen our witness

Regular Prayer Meetings are held weekly before the church service on Sunday mornings 10am-10.20am and via Zoom on Wednesday mornings at 7.30am.

For the Zoom link contact the church office
info@southwellbaptistchurch.co.uk.

For prayer requests contact the leadership
isg@southwellbaptistchurch.co.uk

For the church website see
www.southwellbaptistchurch.co.uk

