

AVONSIDE MISSION AREA

Avonmouth - Lawrence Weston - Sea Mills - Shirehampton - Stoke Bishop

Joining together to fast and pray in our own time on the first Monday of the month.

July and August 2021

Thank you for taking the time to praise God for all that He is doing across our Mission Area and to pray that He would lead us forwards in the power of the Holy Spirit.



*July and August can feel quite different for churches compared to other times in the year. There can often be new beginnings and endings. This is especially so for the Mission Area as key leaders and Trinity ordinands move on, and others join. Some activities are paused during the school holidays, and sometimes services feel a bit different, allowing time for lay and ordained leaders to take time off. These changes, though welcomed by many, can be unsettling for some. **The 'big picture prayer' for this summer is for God to guide and sustain the ASMA church communities as one season ends and another begins in September.***

Praise God:

- For the placement students from Trinity College who have been involved with the ASMA churches during June. Thank God for all they contributed and learnt.
- For Mark, the Space4Makers Workshop Tutor who has now started in this position. Pray that he would settle well into the team and quickly get to grips with this new role.
- For all that Helen Johnson has contributed during her 4.5 years as Vicar of St Mary's Shirehampton. Pray for Helen and her family as they move house in August.
- For all the schools ministry this term across ASMA: Collective Worship, Wellbeing Hubs, RE lesson input, trips to the church, Prayer Spaces, Year 6 Transition sessions and more!

Ask God:

- For His guidance and wisdom for all the churches as they look to September, and (hopefully) the continued easing of restrictions and all this will mean for church life (particularly children/youth ministry, small groups and services). Pray for decisions that need to be made and for church leaders managing the tensions of 'recovery' and moving forwards in church life.
- For strength and wisdom for St Mary's Shirehampton as the vacancy begins in late July. Pray that the church family would pull together, supporting one another through the change.
- For help and provision as the Space4Makers Workshop is developed and as a core team of people are drawn together so that people can begin to use the space to learn new skills.
- To provide new people to help with the 8.30am Rise & Shine service at St Mary's Shirehampton.
- To provide a Safeguarding Officer for St Mary's Shirehampton, as they are now without one.
- For healing for Andy Murray who is experiencing ill health. Pray for a surgery date soon, and for others to be able to support Andy so that he can take time to rest when needed.
- For His wisdom for St Edyth's as they consider how to offer provision for children and young people from September.
- For God's guidance as the plans at St Mary's Stoke Bishop come together for September, and for the launch of a new service called Together@4 on Sundays (fortnightly).

Please spend some time listening to God, discerning His direction for ASMA. If you would like to pass on any words or pictures you feel are from God, please email vicar@stmarysb.org.uk