



## Weekly Prayer Focus: 13<sup>th</sup> November 2022

### Rayleigh Baptist Church

Rayleigh is located between Chelmsford and Southend-on-Sea and has been home to Rayleigh Baptist Church since 1799.

Today Rayleigh is a large church which has seen a lot of change over the past few years. Rev Ricky Rew has been there for five years and currently leads the church's ministry team.

During covid the church prepared pre-recorded services and used zoom to keep in touch. Things are now nearly back to normal in re-establishing Sunday services which are well-attended once again and also live-streamed. There is a strong emphasis on being an inter-generational church where all parts of the fellowship can connect with each other, so that everyone including children and young people, are an integral part of worship and meetings.

The church has a lot of weekday activities including a community café, a well-being space, Boys' and Girls' Brigades, various life groups including youth life groups, and connect groups which are informal and often short-term groups which connect people in the fellowship and community who have a shared interest and bring them together.

As part of looking forward the church has taken a step of faith with a major building project which will see improved accessibility to the whole site, the refurbishment and upgrading of the existing buildings, and an independent building called The Base which will be restored, extended and re-established as a welcoming and flexible facility for the benefit of the church and the whole community. The church meeting recently agreed unanimously to go ahead with this project and the contract with the builders was signed-off and work is now well underway on the building project.

For prayer

- For the continued inter-generational focus of the church reaching out to all ages.
- For the sense of rebuilding, refreshing and re-establishment after lockdown.
- For stability after a season of change.
- For the building project and the associated financial challenges this brings.