



## Weekly Prayer Focus: 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024 Braintree Baptist Church

Located in north Essex approximately a twenty-minute drive from Stanstead Airport, is the town of Braintree. These days, it is perhaps better known for the Braintree Village (formerly Freeport) Shopping Centre than it is for its historic links to the wool and silk trade.

Braintree Baptist Church is in a central location of the town. Rev Ayi Samson Ake has been the Minister of the fellowship for one year having moved from the West Midlands. Samson is supported by an excellent team of Deacons.

The fellowship is very active in their local community. A Bounce Café runs on the first Saturday of every month and selected school holidays. Using the large hall to house a bouncy castle and café seating, it aims to provide a suitable and safe provision for young families in the town centre. If Bouncy Castles and inflatables are not your thing, you could try the Crafty Café which runs every Monday morning throughout the year providing a warm space and friendly welcome. Both Cafés have given Samson an opportunity to develop his links with the community and provided some ministry opportunities too.

Around the Christmas period, the Church were excited to celebrate a service of baptism. Braintree Baptist Church is a growing and vibrant fellowship who give thanks and glory to God for all that is happening in their midst.

To continue building for the future, Braintree Baptist Church is undertaking a renovation project. Replacing boilers that have reached the end of their life and updating toilet facilities present some interesting challenges.

Please pray for:

- The finances for the building project.
- Wisdom for the leadership as they seek God's will for the future direction of the Church.