



Weekly Prayer Focus: 28th April 2024 Central Baptist Church, Chelmsford

Central is a large Bible-believing Baptist church in Chelmsford City Centre, with people of all different ages and nationalities seeking to share the the good news about Jesus with others.

The Staff Team has recently been expanded so that the Lead Pastor, Phil Marsden, has now been joined by Grant Hopkins as Associate Minister and Clare Hogg, as Minister in Training.

The church is active and growing with new 'First Sunday' lunches attracting up to sixty for lunch each month, and over twenty baptisms celebrated last year alone. The churches diversity (over twenty nationalities) has helped make it a welcoming place for asylum seekers and others arriving from overseas, particularly from South/East Asia, Africa and the Middle East.

Sunday morning services are contemporary, with lively band-led worship, clear biblical teaching, and an informal family feel. There's a large youth and children's programme, seventeen small groups and a variety of social events that play a key part in helping the church grow as family.

The city-centre location enables the provision of services to the wider community. These include two clubs for people who are isolated and in need of friendship, and a budget coaching service for people who find it difficult to manage their finances. Coffee Central is a midweek coffee shop, providing customers with the opportunity to talk to someone and the church is jointly involved in city-wide ministries such as Food Bank, CAP-debt advice, and an emergency homeless charity.

Please pray for:

- Phil who has just returned from sabbatical and that the new Ministry team will rapidly gel together.
- Our Leadership Team, as nominations are sought for the election of five new trustees.
- The twenty plus different nationalities represented in the church will be united in work, witness and worship.