

Prayer Letter from Steve & Dawn Loader



Summer 2026

Prayer Focus and News from BRISTOL



'But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God.'

1 Peter 2:9

Family

Natasha and Jonathan were thrilled to have a baby boy in October 2025 called Jessie. Elvie and Isla absolutely adore him, and Dawn and I think he's wonderful and regularly enjoy many cuddles with him.

Danielle, Sam, Noah, Moses and Jude live an idyllic life in Taranaki, New Zealand. They often remind me of the Swiss Family Robinson in the 1960's film. After seven years since our last visit to NZ, we should be with them in early 2027!

Reuben volunteers in our local Oxfam shop and occasionally with the Wildlife clean up team. He continues to be involved in two amateur acting groups and regularly visits the gym.

Dawn continues to volunteer at the Children's Hospice shop, where she enjoys the many conversations she has with the public looking for a bargain, and then on Sunday, welcoming folk to the early service at Woodlands Church in Bristol.

Me – Well I'm tired, encouraged, discouraged, blessed and sometimes pushed out of my comfort zone.

There are many opportunities to serve the Lord in chaplaincy and preaching the gospel. It continues to be a privilege to point people to Christ and to encourage many to know God in a greater and more meaningful way.

Though I do I wish the Lord would answer my prayers and work within my timeline for getting things done.

Psalms 71:14 – *'But as for me, I shall always have hope, I will praise you more and more.'*



Jonathan, Natasha, Elvie, Isla & Jessie



Noah, Moses & Jude



Ministry to the Seafarers

There have been very encouraging times supporting seafarers throughout this year. But occasionally I need to deal with very difficult and upsetting situations.

On the 31st of July, three Filipino's left their ship in Avonmouth to get some much-needed shore leave. They walked into a nearby village to do some shopping and get something to eat. Whilst walking back to the port, they were attacked by a group of people and one of the Filipino's has been in a coma since then. This is in itself very upsetting, but what makes it harder for me is that I am a friend of this seafarer and have met him on his ship over a number of years. To see him in hospital with a part of his skull removed because of surgery, is awful. I have met one of his children and his wife who have both flown over from the Philippines to be with Romulo. I have been into the hospital and prayed over Romulo and to support his family. I have also attended many Teams meetings with the police and other agencies involved. The family are Christians and are looking to God for his help. Please join me in prayer for Romulo and his family. Five people have been arrested and there has been one court appearance so far.

Unfortunately, this isn't my first time that I have supported a seafarer who has been attacked whilst outside the port. On the previous occasion the seafarer needed only staples on his head and returned to his ship where I was able to give him support. Generally, the ship visiting sees me handing out many Bibles and 'Missing Peace' booklets, which are now supplied in a number of different languages. It's always encouraging to see seafarers from many nations eagerly take God's word away with them.

A seafarer rang me recently asking for my help. I had previously supported him many years ago from a modern-day slavery situation. He is struggling again with an entirely different situation. His wife encouraged him to call me, saying; *'No one is closer to God than Steve, he will help you!'* God may have something to say about that, but I was touched by their trust and confidence in me. (Pray for these seafarers – no names needed).



Prayer Points:

- Praise God we will be going to New Zealand in 2027
- Praise God for the opportunities to serve.
- Praise God for all those who support the family in my ministry.
- Pray for all my family.
- Pray for strength and encouragement.
- Pray that the Lord will answers my prayers according to his will (God knows the details).
- Please pray for fresh anointing.

Diary Dates:

September

27 Kingswood Congregational, South Glos.

October

3 GVC Men's Breakfast, Portishead
4 Salem Chapel, Bristol
6 Chaplaincy Workshop, Bridgewater
11 Salem Chapel, Bristol - AM
11 Florence Street Mission, Swindon – PM
18 Langford Chapel, Somerset
23-25 Counties Connect Conference
26-28 ICMA Conference, Dublin
30 Ebenezer Footprints, Bristol

November

1 Southfield Church, Bristol
6 Port of Bristo Remembrance Service
8 Emmaus Church, Severn Beach
15 Mil Lane Methodist, Warmely
29 Crindau Community Church, Newport

December

6 Nant Coch Church, Newport
9 Begbrook Fellowship, Frenchay
15 QVSR Carol Service, Bristol Seafarer Centre



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