



New Year message from Steve Taylor, UBM Chairman

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Dear Friends,

'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever' Hebrews 13:8

Greetings in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Let me, firstly, wish you a very happy 2021. In times of uncertainty, it is good to remind ourselves that, although we do not know what the future holds, we do know Him who holds the future. His Name is Jesus and He is Lord: the same yesterday today and forever.

Looking back on 2020: Much has happened in our country and in the world in 2020 and who could have foreseen what was in prospect this time last year? A worldwide epidemic has affected the Church in every continent and UBM was no exception. Some from our ranks have been directly affected and have been taken to be with the Lord. We remember Delores Brown from London our oldest UBMer who went to be with the Lord in April. In December, Robin Smith died. He started the UBM prayer meeting in the North East some 15 years ago. There may be others. We mourn with those who mourn but not as those with no hope, remembering that for believers: 'absent from the body ... present with the Lord' (2 Cor 5:8). There are a number of others with acute health needs. In particular please pray for UBM's Deputy Chairman, Jason Duffin recovering from a major operation, that God would grant a full recovery.

Although the days are difficult, there is much to be thankful for. The government introduced the furlough scheme which has meant that UBM has been able to retain staff whilst maintaining financial viability. Although missions on the beach were not possible, UBM was able to operate 'online' and to present the gospel in the English, Welsh and Irish contexts. We are thankful to those who put these programmes together. There has been a steady trickle of requests for literature through our evangelistic websites. There are currently around 190 children doing Postal Bible Club (PBC) some of whom joined over the summer via UBM online. After several years of heading up PBC, Paula Cullen stepped back at the end of August. Similarly, Richard Hilliard was taken on as a full-time pastor in his Church in the autumn and stepped back from UBM employment at that time. We are thankful to Paula and Richard for their work for the Lord. Richard joined the Executive Committee in November. PBC continues to be headed up by Tirzah assisted in a voluntary capacity by Lucy Howlett. The enforced break last summer allowed an in-depth review of the UBM and MV work to be completed. This will help us as we resume missions in the future.

Looking forward to 2021: We would love to be back on the beaches, but it is simply not possible to say for sure at the moment. We continue to monitor the situation closely: pray for wisdom. Meanwhile, and in anticipation, there are a number of online events planned over the next few months: UBM Advisory on Jan 22nd; UBM fellowship/training evenings on Feb 22nd and March 20th to which all are invited. There will also be a prayer meeting and family event on Mar 20th. MV (Missions Vacances) day this year is on Feb 13th – all of these are on Zoom. Our week of prayer is scheduled for Feb 28th – Mar 6th. If you would like any help in bringing the needs of UBM to your Church for prayer, please contact the office.

A final thought comes via former Director of YL, Trevor Knight: "91 year old Margaret Keenan became the first person to receive the Pfizer anti-Covid vaccine. Asked for her comments she said: 'It's free! It's the best thing that has ever happened. If I can do it, well so can you – Go for it!'. Now what a wonderful sentence for any UBMer to use in exhorting others to trust in Christ."

With very best wishes in our Lord Jesus Christ,

Steve Taylor
(Chairman of United Beach Missions)

In addition to Steve's letter may I add how grateful we are for your ongoing prayer support. The events of 2020 have brought into sharp focus how much we need to look to the Lord for wisdom and guidance. Here are some ways you can get involved!

PRAYING for UBM

- A few have suggested that we have **regular online UBM prayer meetings**. To help us gauge interest, there is a very simple questionnaire at <https://tinyurl.com/yd9fmzym>.
- The **UBM week of prayer** is 28/2-6/3. If you can host a prayer meeting (physical/online) then do let us know.
- The **PrayerMate** app is an excellent tool to manage a prayer diary. Why not install it and subscribe to United Beach Missions for daily prayer points? See <http://praynow4.org/unitedbeachmissions> or ask for more detail.
- A **full prayer letter** will be produced in February but, in the meantime, here are a few matters for prayer.
- The next **Irish online prayer meeting** is 9:00pm on January 12th. Please ask for login details.

Tim Howlett (UBM Executive Officer)



SUNDAY prayer points

GIVE THANKS THAT ..

1. UBM provides a great platform for Christians to grow and, that for many, it has provided a launch pad for other ministries.
2. We're still hearing of people converted as a result of UBM's outreach.
3. This is our 69th year of witness. Lyme Regis celebrates its 50th anniversary.

MONDAY prayer points

MISSIONS 2021

1. The Executive Committee meeting on 12/01
2. Wisdom in knowing what missions can take place in 2021 and what options to explore if they can't operate as they did in 2019.

Possible mission activity statuses			
YELLOW	RED	AMBER	GREEN
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ No decision yet for 2021 ➤ Booking system on hold ➤ Getting ready to respond to any scenario 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Online programmes ➤ Individuals visiting centres to advertise online missions ➤ Low key set up of boards/book tables ➤ UBM properties used for holiday accommodation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Online programmes ➤ Plus there could be ... ➤ Limited day trip evangelism ➤ Boards and manned literature tables ➤ Some missions (based on type and location) ➤ Other creative ways to take mission opportunity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ "Normal" missions running (albeit there might need to be certain new policies in place)

TUESDAY prayer points

MISSIONS VACANCES (MV) DAY – 13th FEB

1. Themba, Josiah and Tabi as they organise this online conference.
2. Hicham and Guillaume as they do the ministry and a couple of seminars.
3. A very good number to attend including those new to our work in Francophone Europe. You can register at www.ubm.org.uk/mvday.



WEDNESDAY prayer points

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

1. 22/1 - Advisory Committee (UBM leadership).
2. 22/2 - UBM training evening (everyone invited).
3. 20/3 - UBM 'mini reunion' (everyone invited).
4. Those involved in the planning of each of these.
5. All the above would be effective in their various aims (training, fellowship, teaching, prayer, communication).



THURSDAY prayer points

POSTAL BIBLE CLUB

1. The children who regular return the activity sheets.
2. Those who faithfully mark lessons.
3. Lucy Howlett as she takes on PBC administration (voluntary basis).
4. Children who started PBC in 2020 – some as a result of the online programmes.
5. Plans/ideas to develop the lessons for the 16+ age group.
6. Ongoing plans to implement an app based version.



FRIDAY prayer points

LEADERSHIP

1. Those who have recently joined Exec or a Management Group.
2. There will be enough leaders for 2021 for whatever missions we are able to run (and that a year away from leading UBM teams would not cause an extra burden).
3. For the ongoing aim of having more missions with dual leadership.



SATURDAY prayer points

MISCELLANEOUS

1. The UBM staff (Tim, Tirzah, Ulwyn, Marion and Hugh).
2. The ongoing work on the new Irish legal setup that is required.
3. Various project/tasks coming out from the UBM review.



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