

Dear Friends,

I trust that you enjoyed a good Christmas. It was certainly a Christmas like no other! Living in Tier 4 we were unable to meet any other family members but the four of us had a happy day and ate well.

JANUARY — It felt a strange exercise writing this month's diary since so much is unknown. I have presumed that we are likely to be in lockdown throughout the month but who knows? We have now become so familiar with online working that it really doesn't matter that much, but I'm sure we all long for the day when the vaccine has been fully distributed and we can live with much greater freedom and ease.

ASHLEY BAPTIST CHURCH — Ashley is a village next to New Milton on the edge of the New Forest in Hampshire. The Baptist church has been a large and thriving fellowship for many years and their current ministers, David and Alison John, will be retiring next month. I have agreed to serve them as moderator. They approached me about this in 2019 and when I agreed to do so I assumed that Waterlooville or Eastleigh would have been settled by now. Clearly that is not the case so I will not be able to give them as much time as I would choose, but I very much look forward to walking with them at this important time.

PREMIER - I have just completed writing the daily devotionals for April to June. It's great to be writing them on a daily basis but also a huge amount of work. It amounts to about 35,000 words per quarter. You will not be surprised, therefore, that I am trying to set apart two days a week for writing. The Voice of Hope magazine which contains the devotionals has a print run over just over 40,000 and they are also sent by email to 34,000 people each day, as well as being broadcast four days a day. It's an amazing privilege to be part of such an initiative.

May the Lord strengthen and bless you as you step into this New Year.

Yours ever, in Christ,  
Jonathan

#### JANUARY DIARY

Friday 1<sup>st</sup>

Midday - Leading a Reflection on Premier Christian Radio, looking back on 2020 and reflecting on the New Year

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>

Day Off

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>

Preaching online at Waterlooville Baptist Church

Monday 4<sup>th</sup>

Writing Day

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup>

Morning – Speaking at Wiltshire Ministers' Cluster Zoom meeting

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>

Writing Day

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>

Evening – Waterlooville Baptist Church Members' online meeting

Friday 8<sup>th</sup>

Day Off

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>

Eastleigh Baptist Church Deacons' online morning

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>

Preaching online at Waterlooville Baptist Church

Monday 11<sup>th</sup>

Morning – Eastleigh Ministry Team online meeting

Evening – Eastleigh Leadership Team online meeting

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>

Morning – Mentoring  
Afternoon – Parish Nursing Trustees online Meeting

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>  
Recording the February Be Still and Know devotionals for Premier

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>  
Evening – Spurgeon's online Governors' Meeting

Friday 15<sup>th</sup>  
Writing Day

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>  
Day Off

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>  
Preaching online at Eastleigh Baptist Church

Monday 18<sup>th</sup>  
Morning - Through the Roof Staff online Prayer meeting  
Mentoring

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>  
Morning - Mentoring  
Afternoon - Online meeting with John Buckeridge, my line manager within Premier

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>  
Afternoon – online Fostering Review Meeting  
Evening – Ashley Baptist Church online selection meeting

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>  
Evening – Waterloooville Baptist Church online Deacons' Meeting

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Writing Day

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Day Off

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>  
Preaching online at Waterloooville Baptist Church

Monday 25<sup>th</sup>  
Writing Day

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup>  
Evening – Waterloooville Deacons' online interview with a ministerial candidate

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>  
Newbury Office

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>  
Evening – Eastleigh Baptist Church online Members' Meeting

Friday 29<sup>th</sup>  
Writing Day

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup>  
Day Off

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup>  
Worshipping at Newbury Baptist Church