



## Weekly Prayer Focus: 26<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### Halstead Baptist Church

The town of Halstead is located in the Braintree District of Essex. Due to new housing developments, the town is growing and expanding rapidly and this presents new opportunities for the fellowship at Halstead Baptist Church.

The minister at Halstead Baptist Church, Revd Sean Carter, arrived in 2014. He is supported by two Deacons and an assistant. As the church emerges from lockdown, they are praying that God will guide them in the appointment of a Treasurer and further Deacons to support the leadership. Halstead Baptist Church describes itself as "not a large fellowship". It faces many of the similar struggles that all smaller churches face.

A great joy for the fellowship at Halstead was, shortly after, lockdown ended the church celebrated a baptism. Two new people have come into membership and the online service has brought a new face into the regular congregation. In recent years, the church has ventured onto the high street with the opening of the Rivers of Life shop. With one paid member of staff and a group of enthusiastic volunteers, the shop sells charitable items at low prices!

In a very real sense, the Church is where the people are. Having sold a redundant building, prior to lockdown, the fellowship bought a house. Working alongside a local Christian charity, they are looking to house people in need. As the fellowship seeks to follow in the footsteps of Christ, they are slowly making a difference in the town.

As the church looks to the future, discussions are beginning about forming an LEP with the local United Reformed Church. This could present some exciting opportunities.

For Prayer

- \* That those fearful of change may find peace in the process
- \* That the fellowship may discern God's leading for the future
- \* For the house purchased, that it may bring hope to those in need
- \* For more labourers! Particularly for a new Treasurer and Deacons



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