



Weekly Prayer Focus: 14th May 2023 Upminster Baptist Church

Upminster is a suburban town located just inside the M25 and at the end of the London Underground District Line. It has been home to Upminster Baptist Church since 1934.

The church is currently led by senior minister Rev Mark Davison and Families, Youth and Children's pastor Rev Rich Shorter. It is a lively, active and growing fellowship which is involved with the community in various ways.

The church has recently seen an increase in families attending and has seen real growth in the numbers attending Sunday services, with more children in Sunday School too.

There is a popular weekly Toddler group and a pre-school, which meets every morning in the church premises. A Well-being group meets on Wednesdays with a focus on mental health issues. There are a range of other community groups that meet at the church.

There is a very successful Men's Shed that meets three times a week in a fully equipped workshop in outbuildings on the church site. About thirty men attend each week to use practical tasks to bring men together and develop friendships. They work together to carry out projects to make equipment to benefit the wider community. This has now spawned a weekly 'Café with a Purpose' which is focused on those physically less able. Overall, these projects reach out to many who have no other involvement with the church.

Rich Shorter joined UBC in January 2022 to lead the families, youth and children's work and is also involved in outreach to local schools.

Please pray for:

- Wisdom in how to engage with new people and to disciple them and grow their faith.
- Wisdom for the leaders to prioritise their time and resources in developing the kingdom.
- To know the direction to develop and update the church premises.
- To know the Lord's guidance in developing a vision for the church and making it part of the community.