

This Prayer Calendar is provided to encourage us to pray for one another within the fellowship of Affinity.

Information is provided each month by our Partners, Associates and Churches. If you wish information for prayer to be included in the Prayer Calendar please send it to us at least 10 days before the end of the month in which you would like it to appear.

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- 1** **Shrewsbury Evangelical Church** has a new year series of meetings for prayer on 3rd, 5th and 6th January when they will be praying (among other matters) for folk on the estate near where they meet. They give thanks to the Lord for his provision of a new pastor and his family who joined them in 2017 and look to the Lord to add to their number "those who are being saved" in 2018.
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- 2** **London Seminary** ask for prayer for their new Principal, Bill James, as he starts at the Seminary this week.
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- 3** **Jubilee Centre** is starting a research project exploring the coming robotics/AI revolution, and responding to it from a biblical perspective. Please pray that the Lord will lead them to a suitable researcher who will look specifically at the impact on work and employment, and for industry collaborators and financial sponsors.
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- 4** During January, **Cromer Baptist Church** in Norfolk are due to relocate to a different building in East Runton, about a mile along the coast. Please pray that the Lord would continue to guide them through this move. They are so grateful for his clear leading in the last few months, after what was a time of long-term uncertainty.
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- 5** **Tots2teens** are currently trying to find opportunities to speak to churches firstly in the North East but further afield, as the Lord allows, to share the vision of Tots2teens, share opportunities to volunteer, train teachers, pray for and support in various ways their work. Pray for them as they do this that doors of opportunity might open for them.
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- 6** 2018 is a very busy year for **SASRA**, with celebratory and commemorative events for their 180th anniversary, alongside the national centenary commemorations of the end of World War One. Please pray for them as they engage with the Christian public, and work on their individual contributions to the planned events.
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- 7** Please pray for the elders and fellowship at **Iden Green Congregational Church**, Kent, as they seek the Lord's face and leading in searching for a new pastor.
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- 8** **Grace Baptist Partnership** would value prayer for wisdom and provision as they consider ways of supporting multiple church planting initiatives in Norfolk in the coming year.
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- 9** Pray for **AECW** church Christ Church, Deeside, as they negotiate the purchase of a larger building in the same street in Shotton as their present building. They need more space to accommodate their growing congregation. Pray that the purchase will go smoothly and that all the necessary permissions will be provided.
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- 10** For many years **Crosslinks** has had the privilege of providing bursaries to theological students to help them study appropriately for their contexts. Please pray that they would find partners who are captured by this vision of training trainers and who will enable this ministry to continue.
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11 Please pray for the deacons of **Peterhead Congregational Church** and their new pastoral visiting teams, that they will be of great help to all those isolated and alone through the winter months. As they share their DVD ministry, pray that it will be of assistance to the whole family of God.

12 Please pray for the 100+ people at the **FIEC** Hub Conference, from today until Sunday. It is a weekend of teaching, prayer and mentoring for those on their journey into ministry. Pray for wise outcomes.

13 The **International Presbyterian Church** ask for prayer for three IPC churches looking for their own premises in Scotland; Aberdeen, Inverness and Larbert.

14 **Blenheim Free Church**, Maidenhead give thanks for good discussions with a man from a Muslim background. Pray that his interest in Christianity will result in his genuine seeking Christ.

15 **Christian Concern** ask us to pray that: people respond to the government's call for evidence on sex education; people respond to the Scottish consultation on expediting transgender recognition; CC recruit good people to work in our communications department – and praise God for several street preachers acquitted in recent weeks.

16 The **Association of Grace Baptist Churches (South East)** church plant in Ebbsfleet Garden City has many opportunities for outreach in the rapidly growing new community. Pray for a few more team members. Pray for effective and fruitful evangelism. The team is planning to constitute formally as a church during 2018.

17 Gareth Russell, Assistant Pastor at **Trinity Road Chapel, Tooting**, is moving onto a ministerial position in Bury St Edmunds in January. The church would highly value prayer as they seek a new Assistant Pastor to take his place.

18 **Barnabas Fund** requests prayer for the debt relief programme for 'bonded labourers' in Pakistan's brick-kilns. Most of Pakistan's approximately three-to-four million Christians are to be found in the poorest sectors of society, and debt to landlords or employers is an endemic problem. Please pray that this new programme may bring life-changing benefits to dozens of families in the pilot schemes.

19 Pray for the **Evangelical Movement of Wales** Leaders' Training Days this month; one tomorrow in Colwyn Bay and the other next Saturday in Bridgend. Ian Parry is the main speaker at both, joined by twenty other speakers over the two days.

20 Pray for Tirzah Jones of **Teach Ministries UK**, leading a training session at Hounslow Baptist Church today.

21 Pray for **Brian Edwards**, preaching today, and for the next three Sundays, at Stockwell Baptist Church.

22 **Crossteach** ask for prayer for wisdom and guidance as they put together plans to grow and expand their work, for the provision of the resources they need to grow, and ongoing and improving strong relationships with churches and schools.

23

Through **Gospel for Asia's** Christmas Gift Catalogue, believers around the world can celebrate Christ's birth by touching the lives of families that are caught in despair. By God's grace, hundreds of thousands of families are finding new opportunities and hope through gifts like those in the catalogue. Last year alone, 600,989 families in Asia received Christmas gifts through the generosity of GFA friends! Praise God! But there are still millions who struggle every day and see no hope on the horizon. Please pray more people will provide life-changing gifts this Christmas, and ask God to minister to poor families in Asia that feel they have no hope.

24

Daylight Christian Prison Trust give thanks for the opportunities they had to run services, Bible studies and courses in prisons during 2017 and for the many prisoners who heard the gospel through these. Please pray that the doors would remain open for these regular activities this year.

25

Union School of Theology asks for prayer for recruitment of students for their 21 Learning Communities based in churches around Europe and North America.

26

ReachAcross ask for prayer for a doctor and his wife, along with their three small children who are planning to go to serve long-term in Central Asia in the spring. Pray for their support-raising and preparations – practical, emotional and spiritual.

27

OSCAR is hosting a re-entry course today in Gloucester for returning mission workers. Pray that many people will be helped by their participation in the event.

28

The **Association of Grace Baptist Churches (East Anglia)** ask for prayer for the planning for their new fellowship and Bible ministry day, called *Foundations*, to be held on 7 July. Pray that it might be a time that will strengthen the ties of fellowship between the churches and build up God's people.

29

Please pray for wisdom as the **FIEC** Trust Board meet today and tomorrow to discuss plans and priorities for the Fellowship in the coming year.

30

The Good Book Company ask prayer for joy in their work as they start a new year and resolve to work hard in all they do to make Christ known.

31

York Evangelical Church ask for prayer for continuing grace to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace as a church (Ps 133), and to embody as elders and as a church family the striking beauty of Eph 4.1-32, so that Eph 3.9-10 might be the result.

If you would like more information about the Affinity Partners and Associates mentioned in the Prayer Calendar, you will find their website addresses on the Affinity website – www.affinity.org.uk.

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Please send entries for the February Prayer Calendar to us by 20 January.