

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** **Africa Inland Mission** ask us to pray for those who have returned home after summer and short-term mission trips. One of AIM's recently returned short termers, Lucy Sudworth, asks: "Overseas missions is still a calling on my heart. Pray that God would lead me to where he wants me to serve and that I would trust in him for his calling on my life."
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- 2** Pray for **Brian Edwards**, giving an *Evidence for the Bible* presentation at St James' Parish Church, Streatham, London tonight at 6.30pm.
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- 3** **Frontiers** asks at this time of Advent that we pray for the many unreached Muslim people groups in India to know the true Saviour of the world. Three groups, the Ansari, Pashtun and the Shaikh, each over 10 million strong, urgently need more gospel workers to establish multiplying churches, as there are no known movements of people to Christ. More information: www.frontiers.org.uk/latest/pray-now.php with prayer resources for India from 3 December.
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- 4** **Christian Concern** ask us to pray for Steve Loha, a market trader who won his case after he was unfairly removed from trading after handing out tracts. However, the market operators have appealed his win. Please pray that for a positive outcome, and that Steve would continue to be unashamed to speak of Jesus. [<https://www.christianconcern.com/media/market-trader-steve-loha-wins-case>]
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- 5** Pray for **Union** as they seek to recruit a new Academic Registrar for their School of Theology based at the campus in Wales. Pray also for students as they sit exams in December and a good break for staff and students over Christmas. Give thanks for an extraordinary year of blessing with new validation for the School, hundreds of thousands of pounds given to church planting projects across Europe through Union Mission, and new books and resources through Union Publishing.
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- 6** Please pray for **Mission Care's** Christmas Service (led by Paul Yeulett) being held tomorrow afternoon at Grove Chapel, London. They see this as a great opportunity to share the gospel with residents, relatives, staff and supporters. All are welcome to join them from 2pm followed by refreshments. For further information contact David Evans at david.evans@missioncare.org.uk
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- 7** **Little Hill Church**, Leicestershire, have an international student carol service on the 9th at 5pm, informal coffee & carols on the 19th at 7.30pm and a family carol service on the 23rd at 5pm. Pray for a great turnout and for the Lord to be at work in the hearts of all who come.
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- 8** Please pray that as all the **Good Book Company's** Christmas resources go out that the Lord would use these resources for his glory, growing Christians in their dependence on him and showing non-believers who Jesus is. Please pray for their warehouse team as they try to fulfil all the orders before Christmas.
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- 9** **Grace Baptist Partnership** would value prayer for Ryan and Uliana King as they visit Albania and Austria this month to encourage workers supported by *Grace Baptists in Europe* partners.
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- 10** **Trinity Road Chapel**, Tooting, London, ask us to pray for their Christmas events: carol singing around the district (10th to 14th); Family Carol Service and Carols by Candlelight (16th); and the Christmas Day service. Also pray that those in the fellowship would take the opportunity over the Christmas season to speak to friends and family members about the gospel.
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Please pray for several outreach events organised by **Shaftesbury Square Reformed Presbyterian Church** (Belfast) during December, including a concert by the Phoenix Choir this evening.

12

London Seminary give thanks for their Plant course, and pray for more students in London and Manchester next year. They long for a new generation of church planters for the UK.

13

At this Christmas season, **Barnabas Fund** gives thanks for all the ongoing support it receives for the *Living Streams* programme. This has four main elements; providing Scriptures, sustaining Christian families in poverty via monthly food parcels; supporting pastors and evangelists in hostile contexts; sponsoring schoolchildren to get a decent Christian education.

14

Mike Frith of **OSCAR** is taking the second month of his sabbatical during December, so please pray for a good break and refreshment before he gets back into the work again in January.

15

The **ReachAcross** team in East Africa are looking for more long-term workers to join them: they have a well-established English teaching platform there, but are in urgent need of a project director, administrator and more English teachers. Meanwhile give thanks for two short-termers who have just arrived.

16

Saviour.

Daylight Christian Prison Trust ask us to pray for the many prisoners who have heard the gospel at our services, Bible studies and courses this year, that they would remember and think about the messages they have heard and would be brought to trust in Christ as their

17

Blenheim Free Church (FIEC), Maidenhead, thank God for those who regularly come to their Messy Church and Thursday lunch. Please pray that they will come to their Christmas Eve carol service and understand something of the wonder of the incarnation.

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Cuckfield Baptist Church ask us to pray for boldness in reaching out to their local community with the gospel in all their outreach events as well as in their conversations with non-Christian friends and family.

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The Jubilee Centre ask us to join them in praying for their new research report on the ethics of remuneration, as it goes through the editing process. Please pray that it will be full of fresh, biblical insight and that it will help Christians in business and policy to develop a new vision for a just ethic of remuneration.

20

York Evangelical Church ask us to pray that the Holy Spirit would bring unbelievers under conviction of sin and show them the crucified and risen Lord through their life, witness and preaching.

21

Hardwick Baptist Church, Stockton-on-Tees, have a "Just Turn Up" nativity service on 23 December, and Carols by Candlelight on Christmas Eve at 6pm. Pray for Matt Oliver, pastor of the church, as he leads these events and for many local people to come along to hear the good news of a Saviour born to save them.

22

Peterhead Congregational Church ask prayer for their additional services - two on Christmas Eve and two on Hogmanay as they seek to reach out into the community with the message of the gospel. Pray also for the children's service as the local Primary School come to church and that every opportunity will be taken to share the love of Jesus with all who are seeking.

23

The **AECW** ask for prayer for the Carols Under the Arch event today in the small former mining community of Abersychan in Gwent. This is the third year the event has been held and over the past two years more than a thousand people have attended. Pray for Pastor John Funnell as he preaches the gospel at the event.

24

Pray for all **those serving the Lord in overseas mission** who will be missing loved ones and friends over this Christmas period, that the Lord will make up to them in joy and peace in him for all that they have sacrificed for the gospel.

25

Give thanks for **Jesus, the Light of the World**, and pray that in the coming year the gospel light will shine more brightly in the dark places of our nation and our world, for his glory.

26

Gospel for Asia say that it is untrue that Asia is only ever hot and humid. In reality, some regions experience intense winters with snow and ice. GFA-supported workers are able to distribute winter clothing to those who are too poor to purchase thick blankets and winter attire. Pray that through these gifts, villagers will know that Jesus loves them. Please pray for believers who receive these gifts, that they will understand the love of Jesus in deeper ways.

27

Edward Connor Solicitors praise God for their continually growing team of solicitors. Please pray that new members of the team will settle into their roles quickly and that they will all be unified as they serve Christ together. Pray for wisdom and discernment as they serve a broad range of churches and Christian organisations, as they seek to give advice that is excellent both legally and biblically. Pray for ongoing recruitment, that they would be able to find servant-hearted legal experts to serve with them and retain their strong Christ-centred ethos as they expand.

28

The **International Presbyterian Church** give thanks for the purchase of a thousand-seat building for Trinity IPC Aberdeen, right in the city centre next to the university. Pray for wisdom in plans for its renovation.

29

Next month the **Evangelical Movement of Wales** are holding two regional training days for churches. From 10.00am-4.00pm, the north event is on 19 January in Colwyn Bay and the south event is on 26 January in Bridgend. Pray for all the planning, the speakers and for many people to be better equipped for service as a result of attending.

30

Grace Baptist Church High Wycombe have invited Alan Cartwright from Bridgend to serve as full time pastor. High Wycombe is a town of 120,000 with not enough evangelical churches. There is a strong Pakistani community alongside a population who are indifferent to the gospel due to a secular outlook on life. This is a familiar story across SE England. Pray for gospel breakthroughs even before Alan arrives.

31

Ian Williamson of **New Life Church, Middlesbrough**, has been much encouraged by the move of support for ministry in deprived areas, seen in the success of the sold out, A29 CiHP Gospel and Class Conference in September. And in November he attended the FIEC Leaders Conference, where it was exciting to see the passion and support of Johnny Prime, as he aims to get FIEC churches involved in taking the gospel to the poor and working class. Pray that through these conversations churches and organisations will come together to resource and fund much needed and far too often neglected gospel work in deprived communities.

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 January Prayer Calendar to us by 20 December.