

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** Please pray for John and Harriet Funnell at Noddfa Baptist Church, Abersychan, an **AECW** church. In the middle of March burglars broke into their manse at night when the family were all in bed. No-one was hurt. They stole electronic items and also seriously damaged the family car. Pray for the family and for the gospel opportunities that have arisen from the community's supportive response to John and Harriet and the family.

 - 2** **BCM (UK)** ask for prayer for their Spring Break children's holiday taking place this week at the Windmill centre in Arbroath, with around thirty children, with the theme of "under construction", looking at the life of Nehemiah.

 - 3** **UFM** give thanks for their Spring Conferences in Northern Ireland (6 April) & Scotland (26-28 April), that supporters would be encouraged as they hear from missionaries. UFM will also be at Word Alive. Please pray for a good response as Director Michael Prest speaks on world mission in a seminar stream.

 - 4** **Frontiers** praise God and thank us for our prayers for the prospect of an increased gospel workforce in the Muslim world over the past months. There have been nearly twenty applicants to Frontiers for South and SE Asia and the Middle East since the autumn. Please continue your effective prayer. Frontiers ask us to pray for Groundwork, a four-day conference beginning today where 800 people are engaged in worship and intercession on behalf of the Muslim world from inside the Muslim world.

 - 5** Please pray for the **FIEC** Women's Ministry Co-ordinator Elinor Magowan as she speaks at the Pastors' Wives Retreat in North Wales today and tomorrow.

 - 6** The next three months will be exciting and busy for **True Freedom Trust** as they deliver four day conferences around the country - Belfast (6 April), Bristol (11 May), London (8 June) and Edinburgh (22 June). Entitled "Pressing on: Running God's race with endurance", Stuart (Director) and Rob (Head of Speaking and Teaching) will be unpacking Hebrews 12 and embracing its call to "throw off everything that hinders" and to fix our eyes on Jesus "so that [we] will not grow weary and lose heart". Pray for them as they prepare their talks, and for Paul (Pastoral and Events Coordinator) as he organises the volunteers and logistics at each venue.

 - 7** Pray for the Larbert **International Presbyterian Church (IPC)** as they seek to purchase land for their building.

 - 8** Pray for Felix Ngole, as he and **Christian Concern** are awaiting judgment on his high-profile case. The judges appeared to understand the implications of the case and pushed the opposing lawyer quite hard on whether expressing such views should be a barrier to occupation. The judgment will probably come out in April. <https://www.christianconcern.com/our-issues/pray-for-vital-christian-freedom-case>

 - 9** One of **ReachAcross'** workers, 'Sophie', has many outreach projects for reaching Muslims in the Midlands – such as one-to-one seeker ministries, craft groups and English language teaching. Pray that she will sow into good soil, and for wisdom in planning session contents - whether spiritual, educational or craft activities. Pray too for her support-raising activities - which often get pushed to the back of the priorities list - for discipline and the Lord's provision for her ongoing long-term service.
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10

Pray for the **Good Book Company** as they advertise for a new sales person to work alongside their US staff, asking for the Lord to provide the right person for the growing team over there.

11

Please pray with **Grove Chapel** (Camberwell) for their Holiday Bible Club the week before Easter, that many new contacts would be made and families linked with the church.

12

Please pray for a series of **Grace Baptist Partnership** training days for church leaders and members in Cumbria beginning tomorrow at Grace Baptist Church in Workington.

13

Pray for **Church Society** as they deal with applications and enrolments for the next Priscilla Programme module on Ethics and Pastoral Care. Pray for students to be well-equipped for faithful service in their local churches.

14

This month **London Seminary** are thankful for a recent successful Open Day. They pray for a good number of applications to come through, for the need of more church pastors is great.

15

Pray for **Peterhead Congregational Church's** Easter outreach events during Holy Week that as they hold daily lunchtime services many will respond to the gospel. Pray for the choir of seventy men who will lead a special celebration of Christian music that many will be drawn nearer to the Lord at this Easter season.

16

Pray for **Mission Care's** Easter Service - a really important date in their calendar as they bring together residents, relatives, staff and supporters to celebrate the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. The service is at 3pm today at Hope Church in Bromley. Please also pray for all the services and times of devotion that will be taking place in their care homes during Easter.

17

Daylight Christian Prison Trust give thanks for encouraging Christianity Explored courses recently. Please pray that the prisoners would remember what they have learnt from Mark's Gospel and that this will be used in their hearts and lives.

18

As we approach the Easter celebrations of the crucifixion and resurrection of our Lord Jesus, **Barnabas Fund** requests prayer for the safety of brothers and sisters around the world who often experience heightened anti-Christian violence at times of Christian festivals. Give thanks for the efforts of some governments to provide greater security for minorities.

19

Please pray for all **SASRA** staff who will be involved in Easter Services for military personnel, including those for the families in the garrison churches. May the true meaning of Easter be proclaimed, and the power of the resurrection be understood to be personally relevant. Praise God that they still have this opportunity to preach the Good News of the cross to serving personnel and their families.

20

Edward Connor Solicitors are so grateful to God for sustaining them through their first year. Praise God for his faithfulness and his lavish grace as they have grown and flourished. Pray they would continue to depend on him as they help churches and charities with their legal needs, and develop and grow as a firm.

21

This Easter Sunday, pray for all churches as together we proclaim the risen Saviour to a dark and needy world. Pray for the light of the glory of God to shine in many hearts to give the light of the knowledge of his glory in the face of Jesus Christ (2 Cor 4:6).

Also today join with **York Evangelical Church** in thanking God for their busy church as they seek to reach out with the gospel in lots of creative ways. Praise him for some signs of interest from outsiders.

22

Africa Inland Mission give thanks for the many teachers who have followed God's call to Africa. These teachers make an enormous difference in the lives of missionary children and facilitate parent reaching the unreached with the gospel. Pray for more teachers, at all levels, to serve in this way and recognise the difference that their gifts and skills can have eternally.

23

Pray for the **Evangelical Movement of Wales** Easter Camp running this week for 11-18 year olds. May God be at work in the lives of these young people.

24

Pray for **Gospel for Asia's** leprosy and slum ministries, which help some of the most destitute victims of poverty, sickness and despair. Leprosy still affects people today. Every year, around 250,000 people contract the disease. Many will find themselves ostracised, even by family members, and left to live in leprosy colonies. GFA-supported workers and Sisters of Compassion minister to the sick and downtrodden in such colonies and in many slums throughout Asia. Today, lift up these faithful workers and the people they minister to.

25

Pray for **Union School of Theology's** Ministry Summer School at their Campus in Wales in May. Lots of their undergrad students will come in for that to develop their ministry practice. Pray for student recruitment, that more would be able to get trained for ministry in the church at their learning communities and on campus.

26

Cuckfield Baptist Church, Sussex, give thanks for five people within their congregation who have very recently professed faith. Pray that they will be baptised and become established in their faith.

27

The **Association of Grace Baptist Churches (South East)** church planting project in the brand new City of Ebbsfleet is well under way. Over the next few months there are important decisions to be made for the next 7-10 years. Pray for wisdom, for people and for practical provision.

28

Give thanks with **Christian Safeguarding Services** that they have a good number of churches who are enquiring and joining their membership as well as taking up training with them. Pray for CSS as they train churches or hold other events every Saturday between now and October (excluding holidays).

29

Blenheim Free Church (FIEC), Maidenhead, thank God for the group of special needs people who come every week with their carers from a local home. They love the music and the welcome given by members and their carers hear the good news regularly. One is now responding positively to the message.

30

Pray for **OSCAR's** week of training courses taking place in Nairobi, Kenya, at the beginning of May to support the many mission partners in the region.

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 May Prayer Calendar to us by 20 April.