

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** **Frontiers** are excited to see more people wanting to join overseas church planting teams in the Muslim world despite the pandemic. Praise God - he is faithful and his purposes are being achieved. They are running a training course from today until Sunday for 11 candidates preparing to go in the near future. Candidates and staff will be meeting in person, but with various social distancing measures in place. Please pray for protection for everyone involved and for wisdom on how to deliver training effectively and safely.

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**2** **True Freedom Trust's** annual National Conference is happening, via Zoom, tomorrow. This will be the first time in the conference's 38-year-history that members will not be able to meet in person. Pray that the sense of corporate worship and fellowship will not be lost despite the online format. Pray that the technology runs smoothly and that those speaking would do so faithfully with boldness and clarity. Pray that new members would find support and encouragement.

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**3** Pray for **AECW** churches as they cope with another raft of local lockdowns in Wales. Pray that pastors and other church leaders will not become discouraged but will identify innovative ways in which they can communicate the gospel to the people in their communities.

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**4** **Blenheim Free Church (FIEC)**, Maidenhead, give thanks for the limited restarting of Sunday services with about half the congregation attending (mainly the younger people). Please pray for two students starting out at university, they will link with the CU and grow as Christians whilst they study.

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**5** **Peterhead Congregational Church** ask us to pray for the continued growth in views of their online services. Give thanks that Lord continues to draw many under the sound of the gospel. Pray for the start of Sunday School which will be held online using *Teams* - pray that this will be a blessing to all. Give thanks for the faithful prayers of the people of God.

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**6** Pray for **Ealing International Presbyterian Church** as they resume Tuesday lunchtime services in October. Their location is moving from central Ealing to **their** own premises.

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**7** **York Evangelical Church** give thanks that, despite being without a full-time pastor since April and not being able to meet physically, numbers "attending" via Zoom have actually shown an increase, including a number of newcomers. Pray for the church as they continue to seek a new full-time pastor/elder. Pray also that they will be able to maintain links with returning students and make contact with new ones.

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**8** **Faith in Later Life** are launching today a resource, "Guidance for Christian faith organisations in the support and value of older people" which will be attended by MPs, church leaders and others. Prayers appreciated for a successful event with no technical problems! And prayers that the resource would be a blessing to churches and be shared far and wide. Pray also for two training seminars they are holding in partnership with Keswick Ministries, online on 15 October with a focus on older Christians flourishing and knowing God's plans for them. One seminar is for church leaders and one for church members: <https://keswickministries.org/event/fish-online-events/>

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**9** **Little Hill Church, Leicester'**, ask prayer for patience, perseverance and wisdom as they work out safe church attendance, Lord's Supper etc.

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# 10

**Christian Concern** ask us to pray for the result of Kristie Higgs' employment tribunal, the reserved judgment expected sometime this month She was sacked for gross misconduct for posting on Facebook concerns about sex education.  
<https://christianconcern.com/ccpressreleases/christian-school-worker-to-challenge-sacking-for-sharing-a-petition-against-compulsory-sex-education/>

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# 11

**Hardwick Baptist Church**, Stockton-on-Tees, ask for prayer that they would persevere in loving one another as a church family, particularly those who are unable to gather in person to worship. Pray, also, for those who have drifted over the last six months. Pray that the Holy Spirit will convict them and they will run to Jesus.

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# 12

**Dunstable Baptist Church** ask us to pray for two new Discovery Groups being launched in October. One has an evangelistic focus while the other is discipleship oriented.

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# 13

**Christian Safeguarding Services (CSS)** are grateful to those churches who have transferred their membership to them over the past few months. Please pray that their training opportunities will pick up again as it is this activity that sustains CSS.

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# 14

Pray for the work of **crossteach** in schools: for their staff - many are managing with the uncertainty of being placed on furlough. Give thanks for the opportunities they have to be in schools. Pray for patience and endurance to deal with the many changes and challenges they face and for wisdom for school leaders and safety for everyone in school communities. Pray for guidance and creativity as they create an online library of resources, that young people would continue to learn about the Christian faith and connect with local churches.

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# 15

Pray for **Edward Connor Solicitors'** Board of Directors meeting today, for wisdom as they make important decisions regarding risk and compliance. Pray, too, for another Property Solicitor, for the Lord to guide the right person to them and for wisdom in overseeing applications.

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# 16

Please pray for the 'Serving as Senders' course **OSCAR** is running online for Bellevue Chapel, Edinburgh on 17 October.

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# 17

**Grace Baptist Partnership** ask us to pray for Barry King as he preaches at the SALT Conference in Edinburgh on 17 October and at a special evangelistic meeting in St Andrews on 18 October.

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# 18

**Cornerstone Adoption and Fostering Service** have recruited their first family, social worker and trustee in Scotland during lockdown. Pray for them as they now need to connect with Local Authorities to accept their service as it is and make placements. Morale is high but the work itself is very challenging due to the needs of the children we care for. Please continue to pray for their carers, adopters and social workers that together, they will make a difference in these young lives.

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# 19

Please pray for **the Good Book Company** as they endeavour to support pastors with the changing demands and pressure of church life. Also that they would encourage individual Christians to persevere in walking with the Lord, reading his word and praying to him. Also, that we would be bold in encouraging our brothers and sisters to reach out to non-Christians with the hope and peace of the gospel and that we wouldn't grow weary of meeting together in whatever ways we still can and building one another up.

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# 20

Pray for John Benton and Malcolm MacGregor of the Pastors' Academy at **London Seminary**, seeking to support pastors under pressure.

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# 21

Please pray for members of the **Evangelical Fellowship of Congregational Churches** Committee who continue seek to support the EFCC's work with its churches at this challenging time. Their next meeting will be held virtually, God willing, today.

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# 22

**UFM** give thanks for reports of a number of conversions and baptisms in recent months. God is, as ever, at work! Please pray for many mission workers facing challenging circumstances relating to Covid: visa issues, travel restrictions, further lockdowns, uncertain or ever-changing ministry plans. Give thanks for a new worker interviewed and accepted in September for long term service in Slovenia.

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# 23

Pray for **BCM (UK)** as their direct ministries to children have been severely curtailed, but their teens meet once a month on Zoom and they are developing their basic 'face to face' teaching material for children into a weekly club time. Please remember their teens as they face many pressures to conform to standards at odds with Bible teaching. Pray also that the staff creating the videos may do so in a way the glorifies God and communicates His love.

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# 24

Women in Asia wrestle with many challenges, such as gender discrimination, illiteracy and extreme poverty. Pray that the **Gospel for Asia** Women's Fellowship groups would nurture new believers in their faith, teaching them God's ways and helping them grow as godly wives, mothers and daughters. Praise God that Women's Fellowship groups have been a source of strength and comfort to thousands of women during the COVID-19 health crisis.

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# 25

Pray for **SASRA** Scripture Readers as they continue to navigate the landscape of Covid regulations within the military. Give thanks that the Lord is still providing opportunities for gospel conversations, support for Chaplaincy and enabling online engagement and encouragement for Christian personnel. Please pray for their safety from the virus.

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# 26

**Sharing Christ Internationally** gives thanks for remarkable interest in Bibles and Christian literature as well as online viewing of gospel messages in Mongolia. This, after almost fifty years of seeing very little sign of spiritual concern in the nation. Pray that God will bring people to repentance and saving faith. There is need of much sowing the word in hearts and many video talks are needed. Pray for the finance to be provided to continue this work.

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# 27

**Cuckfield Baptist Church**, Sussex, ask us to pray that with all that is going on right now, they would not get distracted from their mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ.

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# 28

**Daylight Christian Prison Trust** give thanks for continued opportunities to send in written messages to prisons each week. Please pray that these will be an encouragement to Christian prisoners and that others will be challenged by what they read.

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# 29

**Barnabas Fund's** Suffering Church Action & Awareness Week takes place this year 1-8 November, with the theme of 'Hope in Suffering'. Please pray that many will prayerfully focus on brothers & sisters who face growing persecution around the world. Give thanks for the courage of those standing firm in their faith and for the project support that Barnabas' channels to bring hope and aid to those in need. Barnabas provides a range of resources for SCAAW meetings and events, visit: [www.barnabasfund.org/scaaw](http://www.barnabasfund.org/scaaw)

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# 30

Pray for **New Life Church, Middlesbrough**, as they continue to seek a building of their own to meet in and use for ministry to the community. They have identified one possibility. Pray for ongoing negotiations with the current owners and for the funding to be able to purchase it if this is of the Lord. Pray also for Nathan Young as he begins as Associate Pastor, and pray for the funding to be able to support him full-time from January 2021.

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# 31

Pray for **Brian Edwards** who, together with Clive Anderson and Dr Chris Sinkinson, is working on a twin volume to *Evidence for the Bible* under the working title *Background to the Bible*. Brian will contribute his share of the chapters plus editing and seeing the work through the design stage. This is progressing, almost on schedule. Please pray for this as it is a large and intensive project and needs to be ready for the autumn of 2021.

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***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](http://www.affinity.org.uk).***

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*Please send entries for the November Prayer Calendar to us by 20 October.*