

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 member agencies, churches and organisations. We also include prayer requests from churches within our wider network. 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 **Iden Green Congregational Church** are having a number of outreach events over the Autumn and the run-up to Christmas, alongside regular events such as their Toddler group. Please pray for good local contacts, and for the gospel to be well received by all who attend these events.

 - 2 Please pray for **True Freedom Trust** as they hold their annual residential conference this weekend. They'll hear teaching from Song of Songs exploring the unfolding imagery of God's love for his people. Pray members would leave refreshed.

 - 3 Andy Bannister from **Solas** is speaking at a church mission on the island of Jersey, with meetings in churches, in the community and in schools all this week (3 - 9 October). Please pray that Andy will declare the gospel with wisdom and clarity and that God will help people to see Jesus.

 - 4 Please pray for the Opening Service of the 2022-23 session of the **Reformed Theological College**, Belfast, today (4 October) at 8pm. The preacher will be Rev. Stephen Neilly, Professor of Old Testament Studies.

 - 5 Please pray for the **Church Society** Council meeting today (5 October), for useful discussions and wise decisions as they seek to contend for faithful gospel ministry in the Church of England. Pray especial for Rev. Andrew Towner as Chairman.

 - 6 Please pray for **Child's Hill Baptist Church** as they seek to reach out to their local community. This evening (6 October) they have a get-together where James Tredgett from London City Mission will give an evangelistic message. Pray for good attendance, new connections and for conversions.

 - 7 Give thanks for the **FIEC** London Leaders' Gathering which happened last week (29 September) – church leaders and their spouses from across the city got together to encourage and support one another in their ministry. Pray God will have used the gathering to revitalise ministries across London.

 - 8 As significant changes are made to the **SASRA** staff team this month, pray that God would provide more workers, who are Christlike and passionate to see military personnel reached with the gospel.

 - 9 Please pray for **Little Hill Church Wigston's** Harvest Service happening today (9 October) with international students invited. Pray all who attend will come to know God as the creator and sustainer of all life.

 - 10 As **Oak Hill Theological College** begins the 2022/23 academic year, please pray for their new and returning students, for their staff and for the opportunity to learn, worship and grow as a community. Oak Hill supports the Uganda Martyrs' Seminary in Namugongo (UMSN), this month they celebrate 'Martyrs' Monday' which marks a partnership with UMSN that goes back to the 1980s. Give thanks to God for this long and fruitful ministry.
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- 11 Give thanks for the new students starting at **London Seminary** this year. Please pray for them as they train for pastoral ministry in the UK and beyond. Pray also for Peter Williams, Principal of Tyndale House, who is giving the Martyn Lloyd-Jones Memorial lecture at London Seminary today (11 October) on 'The Preaching of Jesus'. Next week (18 - 21 October) there will be a week of special lectures at London Seminary with Greg Beale on the New Testament use of the Old Testament. May they be helpful and stimulating for both Seminary students and pastors.
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- 12 **Blenheim Free Church, Maidenhead**, is currently reviewing outreach opportunities for the coming 12 months. Please pray that they will make wise choices that will enable them to make good contact with outsiders and that God would be pleased to bring many to come to faith in him.
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- 13 Pray for the six **Associating Evangelical Churches of Wales** churches who are seeking a pastor and for pastors who are in the last year of their ministry. Pray for a good transition between church leaders.
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- 14 Please pray for many of the **UFM** workers in Ireland who will be taking part in the nationwide evangelistic campaign 'What's the story?' in the months of September and October. Pray that they will have the opportunity to reach those who have not heard the truth and that the campaign would receive good coverage across Ireland.
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- 15 **Solas** is working with churches in Stroud and Gloucestershire today (15 October), equipping believers to share the gospel. Please pray for God's blessing on this day - and for many gospel conversations to come out of it - all over Gloucestershire and beyond.
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- 16 **Christian Concern** is supporting the case of Christian Charity Core Issues Trust which had its bank account discontinued by Barclays Bank following a campaign by LGBT activists. Core Issues Trust offers talking therapy for those who want to be helped with unwanted sexual attractions. There is a hearing tomorrow (17 October). Pray that the case is allowed to proceed.
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- 17 Most of the **BCM UK** children's clubs will be starting or have already started. Pray for God's blessing for all those involved in leading and for the Clubbers who regularly attend. The BCM European conference starts today (17 - 19 October). It is both online and hosted in-person by BCM in Scotland. Pray for the team, the speakers and the tech to hold out.
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- 18 **Barnabas Aid** has sent help to Pakistan following the terrible floods there last month. Please pray for our Christian brothers and sisters in Pakistan, most of whom are very poor and have few resources to fall back on. Ask that they will be strong in the Lord, finding hope and peace in Him. It will take months to restore livelihoods and homes.
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- 19 Please pray for the **Apostolic Church** as they look to start a new course in relation to home and overseas missions. Pray that many churches across the UK will be equipped and motivated to reach the lost with the message of the gospel.
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- 20 Please pray for a renewed focus on the engagement with potential candidates for mission at **Reach Across**. Pray that the Lord will guide those he has spoken to through the process to apply. Please also pray for the ongoing financial needs of the mission and that supporters will continue to be faithful during a time of relative economic pressure in the UK.
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- 21 Please pray for the life and witness of the Gospel in Peterhead. There are many changes afoot and some church closures in the area. Please pray that the Lord will guide and sustain **Peterhead Congregational Church** through these changes. Please also pray for the advancement of the gospel, that God will grow the church and help them to welcome all who come seeking Jesus.
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- 22 Please pray for Barry King as he preaches at a **Grace Baptist Partnership** prayer and praise gathering in Edinburgh, Scotland today (22 October).
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23 **Akeman Street Baptist Church** praise the Lord for his continued grace and for giving them people who faithfully serve him in the many and varied ministries of our church. Give thanks for the appointment of four new deacons at their last QCM, please pray as they look to appoint a new pastor. Please also pray for the church as they begin a full autumn programme of ministry through the many clubs, groups and services. Please pray that the Lord will use all that goes on to draw others to trust and follow him.

24 Across Asia, Africa and the Middle East rural and small-town families move to large urban areas creating new opportunities to reach Muslims more effectively. In megacities, people often express more openness to Christ. In turn, they take the gospel message back to their home villages. Such large cities are often a melting pot of different ethnic groups, making it easier to reach many different people groups. **Frontiers** ask that we pray more teams would be sent to these strategic cities than ever before.

25 Pray that God will spur prospective leaders into Christian ministry. The **Free Church of Scotland** is looking to recruit and train 70 new ministers in the next 10 years. Pray that God will raise up leaders for these roles.

26 Pray for churches who are training men and women for ministry through **Crosslands**, and pray for growth in godliness alongside the development of their knowledge and skills. Pray also for Crosslands staff, Dan Strange and Matthew Mason as they begin a new Cultivate programme.

27 Twenty million live in overcrowded Cairo - 85% are Muslim. Three million belong to mainly historic churches – more than other Arab countries combined just in Cairo! In 2011, the year of the Arab Spring, 71,000 from all denominations met to pray in an all-night prayer gathering and now there is more openness to the gospel and more follow Jesus. **Frontiers** ask that we pray for hundreds of thousands of new disciples from a Muslim background though there continues to be much opposition and persecution.

28 Give thanks that **Daylight Christian Prison Trust** is able to run more Christianity Explored Prison Edition Courses. Please pray that many prisoners will be keen to come and study Mark's Gospel together, learning who Jesus is, why he came and what that means for us today.

29 Pray for **London City Mission (LCM)** workers Emmanuel and Joseph who serve alongside local churches in Harrow to envision and train them to reach their local community with the love of Jesus. Up to 50 Christians in Harrow have already attended LCM's Hindu engagement training, and more churches are interested. Pray for a sense of urgency around mission, as well as trusting relationships and positive progress. LCM's Hindu Engagement Training could be a fantastic new tool to enable churches to reach people living in Harrow, where a quarter of people follow Hinduism.

30 Many countries in Francophone West Africa where **Africa Inland Mission (AIM)** works have little to no Christian witness. Pray for more French speakers, and people willing to learn French as well as a local language, to consider serving there. Pray boldly for the church in the UK to send a team with AIM to West Africa within the next two years.

31 Give praise and thanks for the new trainers and consultants starting with **Christian Safeguarding Services (CSS)** in January. The new CSS charity will also be launching in January 2023 so please pray this goes smoothly. Pray also for enough funding to be raised to sustain the work of CSS.

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