

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** Please pray for the **ReachAcross** UK team as they continue to pray for clear direction in their mobilisation efforts, particularly how to reach and connect with young adults who may be considering and praying about serving in cross-cultural missions. Please pray for many people to come forward, expressing their interest in mission, both short- and long-term and for them to be suitable candidates.
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- 2** Please pray for Christian mother Izzy Montague whose four-year-old son was required to participate in a school's gay pride event against her will. This week, her case for religious discrimination against her son's school will be heard in court. It is the first time a UK court will scrutinise the legality of imposing LGBT ideology in primary schools. Izzy is being supported by **Christian Concern**.
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- 3** As **Oak Hill College** starts Semester 2 of this academic year please pray for the students who will be continuing their training on full-time and part-time programmes and those who will be studying Flexible Learning modules. Give thanks for the number of prospective students who attended the Online Open Evening on 19 January. Please pray for the Open Morning the college is hosting on 25 February, that it will be engaging and encourage people to apply for study in September 2023.
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- 4** **Barnabas Aid** have asked us to pray for the Christians of Nagorno-Karabakh, the Armenian Christian enclave within Azerbaijan. Much of their territory was seized by Azerbaijan in 2020, and since then they have faced constant threats and harassment. The only access route from Armenia has been blockaded by Azerbaijani protestors for weeks and food is becoming very scarce and expensive within Nagorno-Karabakh, where there are estimated to be 120,000 people. Please pray that food funded by Barnabas Aid will quickly reach the hungriest.
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- 5** Please pray for wisdom in helping churches appoint pastors. The Lord has been so gracious in raising up godly men for the ministry in the **EFCC**. They are seeing the Lord's faithfulness and are trusting him to continue to provide. Praise God.
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- 6** Praise God that the **Soldiers' & Airmen's Scripture Readers Association's** work with the RAF is expanding. Continue to pray for Army Scripture Reader (ASR) Steve Dougherty as he begins work at Northolt and for ASR Steve Curley's ongoing ministry at Brize Norton.
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- 7** Tonight is **London City Mission's** 'Pioneer Programme' open evening - it's a chance for those considering studying on their two-year missionary training course to hear more about it. Pray for a good turnout and for the Lord to be raising up bold and whole-hearted missionaries with a passion to reach the marginalised in London.
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- 8** **Blenheim Free Church, Maidenhead**, are in the process of appointing a 'Women's and Family Worker'. Please pray for the recruitment process and that they will employ a godly person who will advance the gospel in our area and provide spiritual support for Christian families.
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- 9** **Sharing Christ Internationally (SCI)** reports that Bible Society of Mongolia continues to send out evangelistic Bible videos on YouTube, advertising them to over two million Mongolians. A video have been watched over 47,000 times by Mongolian speakers over the world, whether in Chittagong, Africa, USA, Europe or Mongolia whether in the countryside or the city. Please pray for this. Pray also that God will supply volunteers to help in the ministry, whether in Mongolia, or with admin and financial admin for SCI in UK.
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10 Please pray for **Akeman Street Baptist Church, Tring**, as they continue their search for a new minister and also as they look to appoint new elders. After fifty years of service to the church, both as their pastor and more recently as an elder, David Chapman (a former Chair of Affinity) is standing down from their leadership team. Pray for the church through this time of transition.

11 Thank God for **Crossteach** supporters who are continuing to support their work through prayer, volunteering and giving. Pray for God to sustain these good relationships for the future. Praise God for their trustees Ian, Ros, Gill and Josh. Pray for good communication, abundant wisdom, unity and joy as they challenge and support us in the work. Praise God for providing the finances for Crossteach's work this year. Please pray for God to continue to provide the finances they need to sustain and grow the work in schools according to his will.

12 As **UFM** gears up for their 'Called to Serve' event towards the end of March, please pray for the attendees and their churches, who are seeking the Lord about serving in cross-cultural missions. Pray that this event would be a time of encouragement and clarification as they hear from active mission partners and share in fellowship and bible teaching.

13 Pray for Pastor Joshua Harrison at **Little Hill Church, Wigston** as he begins an 8-week Sabbatical this month. Pray that he will be blessed and refreshed.

14 **Frontiers** asks us to remember Afghanistan. Over recent months life has become more difficult due to the economic crisis and a Taliban regime that has a poor human rights record. Pray for women and young girls who are deprived of jobs and education because of the attitude of the regime towards women. Also pray for the church – many believers have left and those that remain are often in danger of death. Pray that they would have wisdom and boldness and continue to shine for Jesus.

15 Please pray that the **Caring For Life (CFL)** team will be able to continue helping 'at risk' and vulnerable people through the rest of this very difficult winter; helping them to budget, keep warm and dry and making sure they have enough food to sustain them. Give thanks to God for food and monetary gifts from churches and individuals which will help CFL to do this.

16 Give thanks that **Africa Inland Mission France** were able to meet face to face earlier this month to hear from God's word, pray, and talk about tasks to be implemented and the general needs of the office. Please pray for their needs in personnel (accountant and communications) and for God's work through the AIM France office to be done.

17 Pray for the guests who have attended events and services at **Radcliffe Road Baptist Church, Bury**, over the last month, and for the follow-up Life Explored courses which are happening. Pray that God would be pleased to draw many into saving faith through this ministry.

18 Today (18 February) at Abbey Baptist Church in Abingdon, near Oxford, the **Association of Grace Baptist Churches South East (AGBCSE)** will be holding an induction service for Chris Hawthorne. Please pray that the Lord will bless this service and cause the church and the Gospel to flourish there in the days ahead.

19 Pray for the process of onboarding new consultants and trainers at **Christian Safeguarding Services (CSS)**. They have been very encouraged to have new people join the team. Pray that the CSS ministry will be a blessing to the church as they continue to support churches with their safeguarding needs.

20 Pray for the Vision Gatherings which are taking place in Scotland throughout 2023 hosted by the **Free Church of Scotland**. These gatherings are an opportunity for congregations to encourage one another and share in the vision for 'A Healthy Gospel Church for Every Community in Scotland'. The first gathering is being held for the Glasgow presbytery on Saturday 18th March.

21 Please pray for **York Evangelical Church** as they seek to appoint new elders, that God would reveal the right men for this important role. Please also pray as they pursue options for a new building.

22 Pray for the **Access Insurance** staff as they enter a busy time of year and for all the people in churches and charities who play a part in managing risk – enabling the mission to continue.

23 Pray for the **FIEC's** London Gathering meeting tonight with church leaders from across the city gathering to hear from God's word, pray together, and share together.

24 Give thanks for new volunteers at **Daylight Christian Prison Trust** who are helping with running services and Bible studies in prisons. Please pray that they will be blessed and encouraged by their involvement with these.

25 Please pray for the annual **Grace Baptist Partnership** Prayer and Praise Gathering at Dunstable Baptist Church happening on Saturday 11 March at 3pm. John Benton will be the main speaker.

26 Please pray for Ann who works with **Africa Inland Mission** among an unreached people group in northern Chad, treating mentally ill and epileptic patients in a local hospital and supporting a local church, as well as talking to people about following Jesus. Pray that her new team members would acclimatise to life in Chad and that their language skills would continue to develop. Pray for Ann as she balances working with the team and investing in her own relationships with local people and the church there.

27 Please pray for housing for Adam Wilson and his family in Pocklington, Adam is the minister of Christ Presbyterian Church Pocklington one of the newest **International Presbyterian Churches (IPC)**. Pray also for the three men who are finishing seminary and looking for places to serve in the IPC. Lastly, pray for the IPC Weekender planned for March in York & Ealing to introduce people to what the IPC stands for.

28 Please pray for the **Iden Green Congregation's** Cornhill mission team, as they meet people in the village, and lead meetings. Pray for meaningful conversations with locals, for the seed of the gospel to be sown, and for a fruitful harvest.

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

This Prayer Calendar is prepared by Affinity
PO Box 905, Haywards Heath, RH16 9TJ
Tel: 07936 048259 Email: office@affinity.org.uk