

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** **Grace Baptist Partnership** values prayer for Ryarsh Baptist Church as they consider relocating their primary place of worship and witness to Maidstone, Kent. They will be meeting in Maidstone each week starting tomorrow (2 April) for three months as they prayerfully consider this move. Please join them by praying for wisdom and clarity as they make this important decision.
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- 2** Pray that all **ReachAcross** supporters and missionaries will be evangelistic in their lifestyle, especially reaching out to Muslims, building bridges of friendship, boldly sharing the gospel, and being good ambassadors for Christ.
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- 3** Please pray for **Peterhead Congregational Church's** daily Lunchtime Holy Week Services starting today (3 April) and running until Friday (7 April). Pray many will respond to the gospel this Easter as Jesus is presented. Pray for School Assemblies and for Peterhead's Children's Mission in partnership with other churches in the town. Give thanks for shared Lent Bible Studies in the community.
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- 4** Please pray for the students at the Reformed Theological College, Belfast (part of the **Reformed Presbyterian Church in Ireland**), as they sit their final exams for this year this week (4 to 13 April), and then go to congregational placements during May and June.
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- 5** Ask the Spirit to give **SASRA** Scripture Readers courage as they lead Easter services and give out Bibles and Christian literature. Pray that God may guard them against the fear of man and grow them in their love for the lost, so they would proclaim Christ crucified to those they meet.
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- 6** Please give thanks that **Blenheim Free Church**, Maidenhead, have been able to appoint a Women's and Family Worker. Pray for Vivian Lee as she starts this new role supporting church families and making contact with women outside of the church.
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- 7** **GOOD FRIDAY**
Today we remember the crucifixion of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ. Please pray for all the **Affinity** churches who will be meeting today to reflect on what Jesus did for us and worship God for sending his son to die the death that we deserved, '...all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.' (Rom 3:23-25)
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- 8** Give thanks for answered prayer over the recruitment of **Daylight Christian Prison Trust's** next Chief Executive Officer. Gaius Phillingham will be joining Daylight from Easter, please pray for him, his wife Tracey, and their family as he takes up this role, and for the rest of the Daylight team as they help and support Gaius in his new post.
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- 9** **EASTER SUNDAY**
Christ is risen! Join us as today we celebrate with Christians all over the world and rejoice that Jesus Christ has risen from the grave, defeated death and made a way for us to be rescued from our sins, 'For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.' (1 Cor 15:21-22)
He is risen, indeed!
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10 Please pray for the **Evangelical Movement of Wales** Easter camp that will be held this week (10-14 April). Pray for the leaders, Paul Daniel and Sharon Owen, and Pete Campbell, who will be the chaplain. Pray that the Lord will be at work in the lives of all the young people who will attend and that we will see lives transformed and saved.

11 **Cornerstone UK** are awaiting the result of a recent Ofsted inspection of their Fostering Service, please pray the Lord works in Ofsted's inspection and legal teams to give them a just, positive result. This is also key to the conclusion of Ofsted's legal proceedings against Cornerstone. Praise God for a 'good' rating in the recent Ofsted inspection of their Post-Adoption Support Service. Please pray that the Lord fills current/forthcoming vacancies with the right people and talent that enables Cornerstone to build for the future.

12 Please pray for the many people **Caring For Life** support, specifically; one man sleeping in his car and needing a hostel place; a lady who moved into a new home last month – that she'll settle well, keep safe and not let people take advantage of her or her home. Pray for a young man who is very poorly with his mental health and desperate for a move. Praise the Lord for many blessings; new hearing aids for a young lady; bible studies well attended; grants approved for several household items; benefits awarded; flats tidied and cleaned and birthdays celebrated!

13 Pray for **Access Insurance's** local church clients across the UK who were involved in organising Easter activities, services and outreach. Pray these churches will see gospel fruit from their labours.

14 Please pray for a new **IPC** church, Ebenezer Chapel, Luton, starting this Easter, led by Garry Williams. Pray for Gethin Jones who has just moved from Paris to Lille to start a new IPC church, Eglise de la Trinite. There are a number of people from unbelieving backgrounds who are seeking baptism at All Nations Church, Ilford in London. Please pray for those at the church who seek to disciple them.

15 **Sharing Christ Internationally** asks for prayer for the preparation of a Bible presentation by the Bible Society of Mongolia for an event in Ulaanbaatar in May which lasts three days and is predicted to be attended by around 180,000 Mongolians.

16 **Christian Schools Trust** primarily seeks to support and encourage existing independent Christian schools, to lay and maintain a foundation of biblical truth in education, flourish and become established within the educational provision in the UK to the glory of God. Please pray that God would provide the much-needed funds to continue this important ministry.

17 The tragic death of Ruth Perry is unspeakably sad. It serves as a reminder that school leaders are human, and the pressures they bear are immense. Please pray for the **Association of Christian Teachers** as they encourage churches to support teachers who take on these enormous responsibilities and provide a safe place for Christian teachers to connect and encourage each other with the gospel. Please also pray for parents and children of Christian families as they work through the implications of School Place Allocations for Primary (happening today - 17 April) in England

18 **London City Mission** missionary Brandon Thesee says, 'As society increasingly steers away from the moral truths of God's word, the people that are going to suffer the most is the next generation.' Pray for Brandon as he helps Oxlow Lane Baptist Church launch a new children's group and trains the team involved. You can meet Brandon tonight at the LCM online prayer meeting, at 6pm. Visit lcm.org.uk/prayonline to find out more.

19 Please pray that God would provide the right people to be appointed as new trustees of **Crossteach** so that the organisation has the support and skills required to ensure the work of Crossteach has great impact and increasing growth.

20 Please pray for the case of Kristie Higgs who is being supported by **Christian Concern**. Kristie was dismissed from her role as school pastoral assistant after sharing concerns about sex education on Facebook. Her case was heard in the Employment Appeal Tribunal last month and lay panel members had to be recused for perceived bias on extreme sex education. Pray for justice as they await judgment.

- 21** Give thanks to God for those who came to **UFM's** recent 'Called to Serve' event and pray for the attendees as they seek the Lord's leading for future cross-cultural mission. Please also pray that the various summer teams that are planned would, likewise, be helpful to those considering future opportunities to serve.
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- 22** The **FIEC** is gathering with current and past staff, members of the Trust Board, former Presidents, friends, and church leaders in London today (22 April) to celebrate and reflect on FIEC's Centenary year. Please pray that this will be a really encouraging time as they remember God's blessings and look to the future.
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- 23** **Little Hill Church's** international student service is today (23 April). Please pray that a good number of people will attend, that there will be a clear gospel message from Gary Prickett and for many to respond in repentance and faith.
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- 24** Please pray that 'Challenges to Living God's Way' – a new book from **Lovewise** for young people addressing tough topics on sex and relationships – will prove pastorally helpful. Please also pray for a presentation on 'Pornography: Dangers & Decisions' being given at a secondary school in Cheshire this week.
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- 25** Pray that the **Free Church of Scotland** would remain faithful to its biblical and theological roots and continue to be a strong witness for Christ in a world that desperately needs his love and grace. Pray for the members of the denomination who are experiencing physical, emotional, or spiritual struggles, that they would be comforted by the presence of the Holy Spirit and supported by their brothers and sisters in Christ. Pray for the youth and young adults within the Free Church, that they would be strengthened in their faith and be equipped to serve God in their generation.
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- 26** Please pray for **Edward Connor Solicitors** as they support churches in purchasing their own buildings – Easter has been a great reminder of the wonderful gospel opportunities that churches owning their own building can bring.
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- 27** Please pray for the Bible by the Beach convention in Eastbourne this weekend, especially for **Church Society** Director Lee Gatiss who is speaking on Saturday and Sunday (29 and 20 April) on Death, Judgment, Heaven, and Hell.
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- 28** Please pray for Steve and Deb Davies as they start as managers of the **Evangelical Movement of Wales (EMW)** Bryn-y-groes Conference Centre. Pray that the Lord equips them for all the challenges they will face and that He will bless their work. Join EMW in thanking the Lord for the faithful service of Gwydion and Catrin Lewis, and pray for them as they return to Cardiff where Gwydion will be serving as an elder at the Welsh Evangelical Church.
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- 29** In a sensitive location in Africa, **AIM** missionary Beth has the joy of reaching out to many with the love of Jesus through her growing understanding of the local language and culture. Pray for God to give peace and joy to her soul amid the discouragement of being expected to participate in corrupt tax accounting. Praise God that she was able to point her accountant to Jesus by insisting on being honest and paying her taxes in full when the norm seems to be to lie, to avoid full payment. Pray that this small act of honesty and submission to God's word would stir questions in her accountant's heart about the God she serves.
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- 30** Please pray for **Mission Care** as they seek to expand their delivery of care and witness to more people. Pray for wisdom and grace as they reach out to stakeholders they are working with.
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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.