

PRAYER CALENDAR June 2023

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.

1	Please join Barnabas Aid in thanking the Lord for protecting and guiding their work for 30 years. The name Barnabas Fund (later changed to Barnabas Aid) was first used on 1 June 1993. Since then, by God's grace and enabling, They have provided practical help to millions of suffering Christians around the world, especially those who endure discrimination or persecution because they follow Jesus Christ. Pray that the Lord will continue to keep and guide all their staff, supporters, project partners and the suffering Christians they seek to help.
2	Pray for two ReachAcross teams of 10 people to be called to Birmingham and Albania this summer. These mission trips will give hands-on experience in mission among Muslims, and a vision for prayer, support and service in mission. Pray also for ReachAcross's upcoming visit and exhibiting at 'The Gathering', a men's Christian conference (23-25 June). Glenn and Richard will be on the ReachAcross stand. Pray it will be a great weekend.
3	Please pray for Christian teacher Joshua Sutcliffe who Christian Concern are supporting. Joshua lost his job after referring to a pupil according to their legal and biological gender and has now been barred from the profession by the Teaching Regulation Authority. Pray for the government's forthcoming guidance on transgenderism for schools to protect teachers who wish to speak the truth about pupils' genders.
4	Pray for all the churches, charities and individuals who Access Insurance support and who will be involved in conferences, retreats and activities through this summer period, from holiday Bible clubs and beach missions to national conferences.
5	Please pray for Graham Nicholls (Director of Affinity), David McKay, Trystan Hallam and Simon Bowkett as they prepare to speak at the Evangelical Movement of Wales Bala Ministers' Conference which starts today and runs until Wednesday (5-7 June).
6	At the end of this month, Blenheim Free Church, Maidenhead , will be hosting a picnic in a local park when friends and neighbours will be invited. Please pray for the planning team as they organise events for the next year. Pray people will volunteer to help run the activities and the message of God's grace will be heard and responded to.
7	Please pray for the Deacons at Peterhead Congregational Church as they prepare to add to their number – this needs much prayer and guidance. Please also pray for the church's Children's Holiday Club in early July – that enough helpers will come forward to make this possible. Pray too for the warm space the church runs and for those who are welcomed and fed on Mondays.
8	Give thanks for positive feedback from staff and students at the secondary school in Cheshire where Lovewise recently presented on 'Pornography: Dangers & Decisions'. Pray for Christian teachers and parents to have courage and wisdom as they navigate the challenges of LGBT Pride month in UK schools.
9	Please pray for Sharon James as she speaks on the dignity of women at an outreach event at Wimbledon Baptist Church in a few weeks' time (23 June). This event is part of a week of outreach planned in coordination with Grace Baptist Partnership .

London City Mission has their Muslim Engagement Conference next Saturday (17 June). 'As Christians, I want to encourage us to consider the underlying burden which so many Muslims live with every day... and to respond with compassion,' says Imtiaz Khan, LCM's Islam Training Director. Pray for many to attend and that all would be equipped and inspired to share the good news of Jesus with Muslim friends.

- Please pray for many men and women whose lives and home circumstances remain very troubled and chaotic. Pray particularly for **Caring For Life's** 'Being There' team (CFL housing support workers in the city of Leeds) as they visit these situations and bring the light of the gospel into them.
- 12 In your prayers please remember the meetings of the Synod of the **Reformed Presbyterian** Church of Ireland (RPCI) which starts today and runs until Wednesday (12-14 June) in Belfast. Pray for the Lord's direction in all the discussions and decisions made.
- 13 Please pray for Little Hill Church, Wigston, evangelistic Men's Meal happening this evening (13 June). Pray for good numbers of guests and for God to use the after-dinner message, by Joe Bailey, for his glory.
- Give thanks for the prisoners who **Daylight Christian Prison Trust** meet and who are enjoying reading and discovering new things from the Bible. Please pray that the Lord will use his Word to speak to their hearts.
- Pray for the Pastors' Academy study day with Prof Alan Thomas today (15 June) at London Seminary on the theme of Tackling Mental Illness. Pray that it would be helpful to the pastors who are present, and equip them to serve those who are struggling with depression, anxiety and stress.
- 16 Pray for one of Africa Inland Mission's (AIM) creative access workers whose Muslim friends have been warned by their faith leaders during Ramadan, not to meet with Westerners or those of other faiths; especially Christians, and not to trust people who play videos (like gospel tracts/ translated bible studies) on their phones. This advice has led to her friends distancing themselves from her and her language teachers have become resistant to fulfilling their teaching commitments. Pray that God would give her strength in this social isolation and pray that the Holy Spirit would stir the hearts of her friends to want to meet with her and know more of the love of Jesus she displays, despite being warned away.
- **17** Pray for **True Freedom Trust** and Living Out as they hold a joint conference entitled 'The Family of God' in London today (17 June). Pray the conference would communicate a vision of Christian fellowship that transcends the nuclear family.
- 18 Please pray for God's financial provision for the schools that are part of the Christian Schools Trust and for the Trust itself. Pray also for pupil numbers to increase in the schools and parents will capture the vision of Christian education.
- **19** Pray for people who consider applying for **Crosslands**' seminary courses. Please pray also for the current Crosslands seminary students as they finish up their final assignments for the year and for their upcoming residential.
- 20 The Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC) Leaders' Conference takes place in Blackpool this November. Please pray for the plans currently in place and for church leaders to be able to book their places.
- Pray for the **Free Church of Scotland (FCS)** Teens' Conference happening this weekend (23-25 June), that it would be a transformative and impactful experience for all the attendees, and that they would encounter God in a personal and meaningful way. Pray for the youth leaders and volunteers involved in FCS Youth Camps, that they would be filled with compassion, patience, and wisdom as they guide and mentor the young people they are serving, leaving a lasting impact on their lives.

22	Please pray for the Global Anglican (the journal of Church Society) editorial Board which is meeting in Cambridge today (22 June). Pray especially for Lee Gatiss as Chairman and Peter Jensen as Editor. Pray that the articles and reviews included in the journal would be faithful, edifying, and useful to the church.
23	Tomorrow (24 June) the Association of Grace Baptist Churches South East is hosting a half-day conference in London where Jim Hamilton will be speaking on Typology. Please pray this will be an encouraging day for all who attend.
24	Pray for the seven London Seminary students who are completing their studies this month and heading into pastoral ministry. They will be giving testimony at London Seminary's Annual Thanksgiving Service today (24 June) – Jonathan Gibson of Westminster Theological Seminary will be preaching.
25	Pray for recruitment in all areas of Crossteach's ministry. Pray they find the right fit for each of the teams who currently have vacancies. Pray for the work Crossteach are doing, and that their aim to spread the good news would flourish in this time and not be hindered.
26	Please join York Evangelical Church in thanking God for an excellent weekend away last month. They're grateful for a high level of participation, excellent teaching, fellowship and good weather! Please pray as the church continues to search for a suitable premises to purchase for their Sunday meetings. Pray also as they seek to add suitably-qualified, younger men to the eldership.
27	Please pray for Edward Connor Solicitors (ECS) as they seek people to join their team so that they can meet the growing need for Christ-centred legal advice. Pray that the Lord would bring godly recruits passionate about Edward Connor's work, and who would flourish at ECS.
28	Pray for Associating Evangelical Churches of Wales (AECW) churches who are seeking new pastors after the retirement of faithful pastors. Pray they will be led to the right man and that the churches will be united during the period of searching.
29	Several SASRA Scripture Readers have seen people make professions of faith in Christ and be baptised in recent months. Just as these individuals have received Christ Jesus as Lord, may they 'walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith' (Col. 2:6-7). Pray that Army Scripture Readers could encourage and sharpen them in their walk with God.
30	Short-term ministry trips that are well planned with strategic goals often provide a wonderful contribution to assisting the long-term workers and blessing the nations, especially in places with the least access to the gospel. Frontiers thanks God for the fruit of previous trips – for believers and workers who were encouraged, for those who heard the gospel from short-termers despite limited language, the prayers that were offered and the short-termers who may well return long term. Please pray for the planning of future trips especially two trips over the summer.

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.