

## PRAYER CALENDAR August 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 five days before the end of the month in which you would like it to appear.

- Kingdom Bank give thanks for all the conversations they've had at the Keswick convention so far. Please pray that the remaining few days will be fruitful, with continued encouraging conversations and more chances to share their vision with people.
- Please join Barnabas Aid in praying for the grieving relatives of 42 Christians murdered by militants who attacked a Christian boarding school in Uganda on 16 June. Most of the victims were pupils at the school, who were singing hymns and Gospel songs before bedtime when the attack began. This death toll represents about two-thirds of the entire school roll. An estimated 5,000 local Christians fled after the attack, leaving behind all their possessions. Pray for them also, as well as for the pupils who survived, those who were injured and those who were abducted by the militants. While Barnabas Aid continues to give practical help, only the Lord can give his perfect peace to those who have suffered in this terrible event.
- Please pray that many Christian young people will be helped to develop Biblical thinking on relationships, marriage and sex by reading **Lovewise's** book, Challenges to Living God's Way. Pray that this will equip them to resist the pressures of the culture around them and to honour God in this area of their lives.
- Pray the Holy Spirit would lead **SASRA** Readers Curd, Dougherty, Witherick, Philipson and Blackstock to those who have ears that are ready to hear the gospel as they get alongside participants of this year's Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo which starts today (4-26 August).
- Let us thank God for the summer season and the time of rest and rejuvenation it provides for individuals, families, congregations and leaders. May we find renewed strength and inspiration during this period. Pray that the seeds sown during this summer's Free Church of Scotland Youth Camps will take root and grow deep in the hearts of the young participants. Ask God to nurture and strengthen their faith so that it may become a firm foundation for their lives. As the new academic year approaches, pray for the resumption of church activities across Scotland. Pray that ministries, programs, and services will resume smoothly and effectively. Ask God to equip and empower church leaders and volunteers for their various roles.
- Please pray for **BCM UK's** new missionary couple, Junior and Luana with their daughter Maria Luiza, as they settle in Scotland. Pray they will settle well and God will bless BCM UK as they work together with them.
- Please pray for the **ReachAcross** International Conference (9-16 August) that the Lord would speak to all of the ReachAcross workers and support staff at the conference and renew their vision, passion and unity and send them into a new season of sharing God's glory with their Muslim neighbours.
- Pray for all the people involved in church outreach and charity projects and initiatives over the summer. Pray for the team at **Access Insurance** continuing to advise churches and charities on matters of risk and insurance.
- Please pray for the planning of the new academic year and give thanks for our new cohort of students starting the **Crosslands** seminary programme in September. Please pray that their studies will be a blessing to them and their local churches. Crosslands are so thankful for being able to create a new course called Christian Ethics, please pray for those who will do this course and that they will be blessed by it.

- Please pray for Akeman Street Baptist Church, Tring, as they continue their search for a new minister. They are very thankful that during their time without a pastor they have been greatly blessed by preachers from inside and outside of the congregation. Pray also that the two newly appointed elders will quickly settle into their roles.
- The Aber Conference, run by **Evangelical Movement of Wales**, starts tomorrow (12-19 August). Please pray for all the speakers as they prepare to give talks this year the main speaker is lan Parry who will be focusing on 'Big Vision Christianity'. Please pray also for all 1,500+ people attending the conference, that they will have a refreshing and God-glorifying time.
- Please pray for Hannah from Daylight Christian Prison Trust who will be exhibiting and promoting the work of Daylight at this year's Aber Conference which starts today (12-19 August). Pray for fruitful conversations and positive responses.
- Please join UFM in giving thanks following an encouraging time at Summer Conference which took place last month. Praise God for all the mighty works he is doing through UFM mission workers and pray that the week's teaching from 2 Corinthians 4 would have challenged and encouraged them as they continue to support churches in identifying and sending crosscultural mission partners to proclaim the Gospel to all nations.
- Pray for one of Africa Inland Mission's Creative Access workers as she leaves her location of 17 years to complete her Home Assignment before moving on to a new location. Pray that she will lean on Christ as she reflects and adjusts to her new home. Pray that God will comfort her as she comes to terms with the fact that she won't see her beloved friends, teammates or favourite places every day. Pray for the Holy Spirit to lead her into joyful anticipation for what He has next for her.
- Praise God for the recent Ofsted reports for both Cornerstone Fostering and Post-Adoption services which rated these services as 'Good'. Please pray for this new 'season' in the life of Cornerstone with new CEO Josh Macdonald in post and other new staff in the roles of Admin and Marketing. Please pray for wisdom and guidance from God in shaping the future of the charity. Please pray for God to call the right people forward to fill the full-time roles Cornerstone currently has for a Social Worker, Senior Practitioner and Service Manager/Responsible Individual.
- Pray for the **Crossteach** team nationally. Pray that they will be encouraged and sustained by God's word as they work. Pray that God will give them creativity and wisdom as they create resources for schools for the new school year. Pray that they would also have time to rest and relax over the summer.
- Please join **Childs Hill Baptist Church** in giving thanks to God for their new assistant pastor, Edward Webster, who recently completed studies at London Seminary. Pray the time ahead will be helpful for Eddie's training and a blessing to the church as it seeks to evangelise and consolidate the work.
- The summer holidays can sometimes leave people who are single/celibate feeling lonely. Pray for members of True Freedom Trust who may be struggling with this, and ask that they would know good fellowship with brothers and sisters in Christ this month.
- Please pray for a move of God in Mongolia where the Gospel comes up against a simple lack of interest. Pray God will use the ministry of **Sharing Christ Internationally** to provide gospel answers to those searching.
- In September, Blenheim Free Church, Maidenhead, will begin a new Mums & Toddlers group called 'Little Lights' on Thursdays. Please pray that the short talk to the mums will start profitable conversations and encourage some to start coming to church.
- Join Mission Care in giving thanks for the Lord's continued guidance and provision for them as providers of care to vulnerable adults. It is a ministry of compassion with great challenges and that is also very rewarding. Please pray for the team as they continue in this ministry and as they plan to build a brand new home in London for residents living with dementia.

- Please pray that all the teachers who Association of Christian Teachers partner with will enjoy a refreshing break over the Summer holidays. Pray that the RSHE review would be fair, unbiased and suggest pragmatic ways of protecting children from over-sexualised and inappropriate material. Please also pray that the transgender guidance for schools would be published ahead of the new academic year, amidst much frustration from teachers and parents alike.
- Pray for Caerwent Evangelical Baptist Church in Monmouthshire (part of **Associating Evangelical Churches of Wales**) and their pastor Gwydion Emlyn. The congregation has outgrown their church building because of conversions and new families joining them. Pray for wisdom on whether to extend their present building or to find a plot to build a new church building.
- Please pray for Wimbledon Baptist Church (part of **Grace Baptist Partnership**) as they look to the Lord to provide the necessary funds to convert a portion of their building into a flat for their pastor and family. Planning permission is in place. Quotes from contractors are due this month. Provision from the Lord is the great need.
- London City Mission's Practical Evangelism Training Day on reaching Hindus and Sikhs with the gospel happens next month. The majority of people in Harrow, London, are from a South Asian background. Please pray for churches in this area to see the growing need for gospel witness amongst the Hindu and Sikh communities around them, and that the training might equip them for this mission.
- Join Caring For Life as they thank the Lord for his faithfulness to their ministry, particularly for the provision of the farm, homes and staff; and for the opportunity to share God's love with those disadvantaged people he brings to them. Above all, thank him for every soul he saves.
- Pray for the African diaspora in Hong Kong where Africa Inland Mission (AIM) work. Pray specifically for 'L' as she has started reading the book of Luke and is enjoying it. Pray that she may experience more of Christ. Give thanks that a local church, which is situated near a large African community, has provided AIM workers and local believers with a space to reach out to non-Christian Africans; pray that God will prepare their hearts to receive the gospel and accept Christ as their saviour.
- Challenging Leaders is a book written by a team of authors and edited by Affinity. It's a practical guide for churches looking to prevent, or navigate accusations of, pastoral malpractice. On the back of the release of the book, Affinity is hosting a series of seminars across the UK to help churches create healthy cultures. Please pray for preparations for the next event happening in London next month (26 September).
- Please pray for Church Society's Junior Anglican Evangelical Conference (JAEC) on the theme of 'The Church for England', starting today (29 August). Pray for speakers, organisation, and usefulness of the conference for junior evangelicals as they seek to equip them for gospel ministry in the Church of England. Please pray also for Church Society's AGM tomorrow (30 August).
- Please pray for the Wilberforce Academy by Christian Concern which is running for a week in September. Around 80 young professionals will have an intensive week of teaching, inspiration and fellowship. Pray for all the preparations and for it to be a transformative week for all the delegates.
- Please pray for Gethin Jones, starting a new International Presbyterian Church, Église de la Trinité, in Lille, northern France. Pray for him raising support, and making contacts with believers and unbelievers. Give thanks for Pilgrim Community Church's (Manila, Philippines) recent 10th anniversary. Pray for their minister, James Chu, and their growth and their desire to see new churches started in the region. Lastly please pray for Trinity Church Aberdeen who will be starting a new Ministry Training Academy with some other local churches next month.

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.