

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.

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- 1** Give thanks for the life and testimony of Jeremy Marshall whose funeral is today (1 September). He served in a number of Christian ministries including some Affinity member organisations such as **London Seminary, London City Mission** and **Kingdom Bank**.
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- 2** Please pray for Graham Beynon as he starts his new role as **FIEC's** Head of Local Ministries this month. Pray for a smooth transition and that he would know the Lord's help.
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- 3** **CARE** have 15 new graduates starting on their Leadership Programme. They will spend time together for the first few weeks, getting to know one another and learning some of the core theology that underpins Christian engagement in the public square. Please pray they all start well and there will be a wonderful spirit of unity in the group. Pray for the CARE team who are involved in the logistics, teaching, mentoring and praying for members of the 2023/24 cohort.
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- 4** Please pray for the Wilberforce Academy, hosted by **Christian Concern**, which is running this week. Pray that it is a transformative experience for the delegates and that God uses it to inspire, connect, and direct people in their individual callings.
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- 5** **Little Hill Church, Wigston**, have their week of prayer this week. Please pray that this will be a time of real spiritual growth for the church and its members. Pray that the prayers of the church will align with God's will.
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- 6** Please pray for Crosscollyer Evangelical Presbyterian Church's Kids' Club in Belfast who have a special three day event starting today (6-8 September). Also the **Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Ireland** resumed their monthly Presbytery meeting on Monday (4 Sept) after the summer recess. Please pray for their new Moderator, Rev. Robert Johnston, as he leads the denomination for the year ahead.
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- 7** The **Evangelical Housing Association** has a committee meeting today (7 September). Please pray that they will make wise decisions which serve their tenants well.
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- 8** Join **Kingdom Bank** in thanking God for a great summer of conferences where they were able to meet with lots of Christians and churches. Please pray that the Bank continues to grow and serve more ministries across the UK, and for wisdom and guidance for the Bank's leadership as it does.
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- 9** **Christian Safeguarding Services (CSS)** has had a very busy summer supporting churches, and it's going to get much busier over the autumn and winter. They are thankful to God for the provision of new consultants who are able to support with the growing workload and for the godly group of trustees who are very supportive. CSS highlights issues that speak into the unhealthy culture of some of the churches that invite them to work with them. Please pray for wisdom, sensitivity and for church unity when dealing with difficult situations.
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**10** This week (11-15 September) **UFM** will be thinking about – and praying for – gospel progress in the many varied areas of ministry in which UFM mission partners serve around the world, whether it be church planting, amongst least-reached peoples, using the opportunities of the digital age, amongst students and young people, or in the midst of suffering. Please pray for this time of focused prayer around the world.

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**11** **Affinity** is holding their Advisory Council Residential and Annual General Meeting today and tomorrow (11-12 September). Please pray that God would bless the conversations and that each member would speak with wisdom and grace. Pray the council would know the will of God as they make decisions about the future of Affinity.

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**12** Please pray for the week of celebrations for **Peterhead Congregational Church's** 200th Anniversary happening this week (12-17 September). Pray for the 'Exhibition of Fishing' and give thanks to God for the history of the Church. Pray for the Flower Festival happening at the Church and the daily afternoon programmes and for their Bi-centenary Service and lunch on Sunday (17 Sept). Give thanks for willing volunteers and for the blessings of God.

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**13** Join **Association of Christian Teachers** in giving thanks for the summer break and the new Academic Year's fresh start, they are especially thankful for the resolution of industrial action and pay agreement. Pray for the ongoing conflicts surrounding gender identity, freedom of speech, and the treatment of young people with gender dysphoria, recognising their inevitable impact on educational institutions due to the frustrating lack of government guidelines.

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**14** Edward serves with **Africa Inland Mission (AIM)** in a closed country where there are very few Christians. Pray for his friend 'S' who has been eager to read the Bible with him. He is interested in the prophecies of the Old Testament and Edward has been able to talk with him about how Jesus is the fulfilment of these prophecies. Pray that 'S' will continue to read the Bible on his own and that God will open more opportunities for him and Edward to spend time together to discuss the gospel.

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**15** Please pray for **Access Insurance** as they continue serving thousands of churches, ministries and Christian organisations across the UK.

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**16** Give thanks that several young people from **Blenheim Free Church, Maidenhead**, went to Christian Camps in Wales and benefitted from the main talks on the "I Ams" of John's Gospel. Encouragingly, they all enthusiastic to go again in 2024 and cannot wait for applications to open.

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**17** Join **Edward Connor Solicitors** in giving thanks to God for his provision in bringing several new members of staff to the team in August and September. Please pray for them as they adjust to new work and working patterns, that they will feel welcomed, be a great blessing to the organisation, and be blessed themselves through their work there.

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**18** New students are starting the **London Seminary** Pastoral Training course today (18 September). Pray for the Lord's blessing on their studies, that they would grow not only in knowledge but also wisdom and godliness to equip them for ministry. Give thanks for students starting the London Seminary Flourish course on 27 September. Pray that these women would be well equipped for their ministry to women.

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**19** Please pray for the start of another school year. That **Crossteach** would quickly re-establish relationships with schools and schedule activities that enable us to explore God's story and share their own testimonies. Please pray for the organisation as they continue to try and recruit schoolworkers in Warwickshire and Kent.

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**20** Please pray for those who suffer with addictions and are trapped by the hold they have on them. Pray for those who **Caring For Life** support; in particular one lady who has just left rehab, that she will stay clean and for a gentleman who has just gone into rehab, that he may be able to overcome his addictions. Please pray that they will come to know the Lord, who alone can fill the void in their hearts.

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- 21 Please pray for **Akeman Street Baptist Church in Tring** as they consider calling a new pastor this autumn, and that they would know the Lord's blessing on their gospel witness as they resume their programme of activities this month.
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- 22 Please pray that **Lovewise** resources will continue to be allowed in schools as the government conducts a review of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and prepares to bring forward legislation on conversion therapy. Pray that God would protect and encourage those who speak out clearly in public life about the goodness of his design for human relationships.
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- 23 Please pray for new **Grace Baptist Partnership** church plants in Enfield Lock and on the Isle of Sheppey, pray especially that they will find suitable meeting places.
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- 24 **Sharing Christ International (SCI)** shares that a Mongolian stated God's punishment of hell is not taught in Mongolia and others comment Christendom only teaches about love, forgiveness, and majors on doing good for the family and blessing, but says little about the sinful, fallen state of each person. Therefore SCI asks for prayer that there will be a bold proclamation of the biblical gospel across Mongolia.
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- 25 Give thanks for continued encouraging responses to **Daylight Christian Prison Trust's** regular written messages. Please pray that as prisoners learn about characters from the Old Testament, they will be able to see the relevance of these passages to their lives today and will want to read more of the Bible for themselves.
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- 26 The 3,000 schools in London are important local community hubs, full of young people who do not know there is a God or who Jesus is. Pray for **London City Mission** workers as they reach out to school families returning after summer holidays and for churches to build positive relationships for the gospel with their local schools.
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- 27 Praise God for his blessing over the Cornerstone Holiday that took place last month in the Yorkshire Dales. Most of the **Conerstone UK** families, social workers & staff team were present. It was a real time of refreshment and unity, and there were lots of activities going on throughout the week for everyone to join in with.
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- 28 The **Associating Evangelical Churches of Wales** asks for prayer for the Valleys School of Theology based in Noddfa Church, Abersychan, as it trains people for gospel ministry in the various communities of the South Wales Valleys.
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- 29 Please pray for Patrick, **SASRA's** newest Scripture Reader, who started work this month, and for Roddy, who is moving on to a different area of ministry after 17 years as a Scripture Reader.
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- 30 Tomorrow (1 October) marks the International Day of Older Persons. Before dawn breaks tomorrow, **Faith in Later Life** encourages us to bring the older people in our life to God in prayer, both those who know the love of Christ and those who are far from him.
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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](http://www.affinity.org.uk).

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