

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** This month **Affinity** will be publishing our Social Issues Bulletin, Foundations (our theological journal) and In Touch (our bi-annual magazine). Please pray that these will be useful to the church and its members as we seek to equip Christians to engage with the culture around them through the production of these various publications.
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- 2** In September a new toddler group was started at **Blenheim Free Church, Maidenhead**. Give thanks that some of the parents/carers came to a recent international outreach event. Please pray that some will come to church and to saving faith in the Lord Jesus.
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- 3** **Frontiers** asks we pray for their Prep Steps residential weekend which starts today (3-5 November). Prep Steps is a group of around 90 people exploring a long-term call to the Muslim world through regular online evenings and three face-to-face weekends a year. This weekend 20 of them will focus on going deeper in exploring their next steps for overseas work.
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- 4** Please pray for all those studying on **Crosslands'** Basecamp training route, including those undertaking a ministry trainee year. Pray that it would be a great grounding in theology and that they'd be able to balance study and work well. Pray for Tim Chester who's mentoring the group.
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- 5** **Barnabas Aid's** annual Suffering Church Action and Awareness Week starts today (5-12 November). It is a week to pray and raise awareness of the struggles and hardships our Christian brothers and sisters face around the world. Pray today for the countless faithful believers enduring unimaginable hardships because of their love for the Lord Jesus Christ.
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- 6** Nearly 1,000 church leaders are gathering in Blackpool this week for the **FIEC** Leaders' Conference (6-8 November). Please pray for a good time of fellowship, learning, and worship of our Lord Jesus.
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- 7** The State Opening of Parliament and King's Speech are happening today (7 November) and it's uncertain whether there will be a draft 'Conversion Therapy Bill' proposed. Last week **Affinity** wrote to the Prime Minister urging him to stand firm against the unreasonable curtailment of our freedom of thought and religion the Bill could bring in. Please pray with us that the Conversion Therapy Bill won't form part of the King's Speech, but if it does pray that there are suitable safeguards for churches and Christians.
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- 8** The House of Keys on the Isle of Man is considering a Bill that would legalise assisted suicide and euthanasia for terminally ill patients. Please pray as **CARE** engages with Members of the House of Keys (MHKs) and provides briefings making the case against this Bill. In Jersey, there's also an abortion consultation with some disturbing proposals and CARE are also providing a comprehensive response to this as well. Meanwhile in Scotland, it is anticipated that an assisted suicide bill will be published soon. CARE is engaging with MSPs and working to raise awareness in churches so Christians are prepared and equipped to engage with this dangerous legislation. Please pray all efforts to protect life will be blessed and used by God.
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- 9** Pray for all **Crossteach** workers as they communicate with schools and churches in the build up to Christmas. Pray that there are high levels of engagement and lots of bookings for Christmas assemblies and the Christmas experience. Please also pray that Crossteach finds the right people to recruit in Kent and Warwickshire to ensure that this important and necessary work can continue.
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- 10** Pray for the **Free Church of Scotland's** Generation Vision Conference happening tomorrow (11 November). Pray that it may ignite a fresh vision for reaching the next generation with the Gospel.
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- 11** Many of the **SASRA** Scripture Readers are privileged to lead or partake in military Remembrance services. Pray those who are involved would boldly proclaim a clear gospel message to those in attendance. Please pray also that SASRA Remembrance resources would help churches and individuals in their acts of remembrance. May these also encourage Christians to remember those who serve today and to see the need for the gospel behind the wire.
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- 12** Please pray for the meeting of General Synod which starts tomorrow and runs for three days (13-15 November). Pray for **Church Society** staff and members on Synod to be trusting the Lord throughout the next few days, especially regarding the ongoing discussions over 'Prayers of Love and Faith.'
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- 13** Please pray for General Synod which starts today (13 November). Prayers for blessing same-sex relationships will be proposed by the Bishops, though some Bishops have dissented from proposing them. Pray for clear faithful voices to be heard and for the new prayers not to be adopted.
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- 14** Give thanks for a steady stream of new contacts seeking support from **True Freedom Trust** over recent months. Pray they would be wisely supported by TFT's pastoral volunteers.
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- 15** Proposed changes to the Church of England's stance on marriage and sexual intimacy are likely to impact further on what children are being taught in schools. Please pray for the Bishops and the General Synod to hold to Biblical truth and God's good design for relationships, sex and marriage. Please pray also for **Lovewise** presentations of 'Growing up... Growing wise' due to be given at a primary school in Newcastle later this month, that it will help young people to make wise choices in relationships as they go through puberty and into adulthood.
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- 16** The Berbers of North Africa are the original inhabitants of the land. They call themselves the Amazigh, which means 'free men'. Pray for one believer, and **Africa Inland Mission** partner, among the Berbers whose sister in a neighbouring village said that the last three nights all the women in the village have gathered outside their homes and just looked at the sky for hours. She asked them what they were doing, 'We saw a face in the sky so we are looking to see if we can see it again.' The sister, who is not a believer but has read the Bible a little bit, asked her sister, who is a believer, 'Is it Isa (Jesus)?' So now they are all looking in the sky for Him! Ask Jesus to reveal Himself powerfully to these women so that they would realise He loves them so much that He stepped down from His throne into our world to be Emmanuel, God with us.
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- 17** Please pray for the **Gospel For Asia** National Missionaries in Asia and Africa bringing the love of Jesus to people who have not yet ever heard of Jesus before.
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- 18** Please pray for **Frontiers'** 'Neighbours and Nations' conference in Oxford happening today (18 November). It's an opportunity for staff, supporters and enquirers to meet together and learn about and celebrate what God is doing in the Muslim world. Pray that many will attend and God be glorified.
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- 19** Pray for the **Edinburgh Theological Seminary** Saturday course which runs once a month. Pray for those attending both in person and online, that God would speak through His word and help those attending to know and love Him more through the study of His word.
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- 20** Pray for the **Associating Evangelical Churches of Wales** Ministers' Annual Consultation at Hebron Hall this week (20-21 November) when they will be considering the opportunities and challenges they and their churches are facing.
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- 21** Pray for **Faith In Later Life** who started their Love My Neighbour campaign this month. It is a simple but potentially life-giving campaign to remind and encourage everyone to connect with their neighbours. Please pray that this will be especially helpful for older people this winter and that through it people will come to know God who is always close.
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- 22** Pray that the two baptisms at **Little Hill Church, Leicester**, this month will be a great testimony to God's saving power. Pray that the whole church will be encouraged by God's work in the lives of these two new believers.
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- 23** Please pray for the 'at risk' and vulnerable men and women **Caring For Life** support in Leeds. So many live with huge anxiety and they need to know the peace of God which passes all understanding. Some are happy to accept kindness and help but are apathetic to the Gospel. Please pray that their eyes will be opened to their need for the Lord's love and forgiveness.
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- 24** Give thanks to God for the several people who have recently joined the **UFM** mission family to serve long-term in various parts of the world. Continue to pray more will join, please pray especially that the 'Called to Serve' day in Nottingham tomorrow (25 November) will be significant for those who are exploring global mission possibilities.
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- 25** Cameroonian pastor Godwill Nkese has found his ministry opposed by followers of African Traditional Religion, who see Christianity as nothing more than 'the white man's tradition' and a form of Western colonialism. 'There are times I have been verbally assaulted and driven away,' says Pastor Godwill. He is one of more than 800 Global South ministry leaders from more than 30 countries receiving ministry training with **Barnabas Aid's** The Shepherd's Academy (TSA). Pray that the Lord will protect him and other believers from any harm. Ask that the Holy Spirit will use the training given through TSA to equip these church leaders further for their Christian ministry.
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- 26** Praise the Lord for new staff team members and new foster carers at **Cornerstone UK**. Please pray for them that they settle into their new job roles and responsibilities. Please pray for placements for foster carers awaiting children to welcome into their homes. Pray that God will have his hand over these matches and guide the social workers and foster carers in making these matches. Please also pray for protection over all of the Cornerstone family, particularly from illness, financial struggles and family problems.
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- 27** Give thanks to the Lord with the **Evangelical Fellowship of Congregational Churches (EFCC)** for the appointment of John Woolley as their South Wales and the South West Ministry Coordinator. Pray that the Lord will use John to support and bless the churches in that region.
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- 28** Pray for **Access Insurance's** church and charity clients as they prepare winter initiatives, such as Warm Spaces, to help those in need.
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- 29** Please pray for the **Free Church of Scotland's** annual Day of Prayer happening today (29 November). Pray that God would guide the prayers of His people for the church in Scotland.
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- 30** Give thanks for prisoners attending Bible studies supported by **Daylight Christian Prison Trust** who are keen to learn from God's Word and participate enthusiastically. Please pray the Lord will use these studies to speak to them.
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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.