

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 Partners, Associates and Churches. 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 pray for the **UFM Worldwide** staff leadership team having 24 hours together today and tomorrow to pray and plan at the beginning of the academic year.

2 Christians in Afghanistan are in very grave danger now that the Taliban has taken over the whole country. **Barnabas Fund** requests prayer that the Lord will protect them and keep them safe, for as converts from Islam they would probably be killed if they were discovered. Pray that the Lord will guide Barnabas Fund as they help Afghan Christians to escape and bring them to places of safety and security.

3 Pray for the new **Oak Hill College** students who will be starting their full time and part time programmes and those who will be studying flexible learning modules. Pray, too, for new members of staff and new visiting lecturers as they begin the new term – Sydney Tooth, David Fordyce, Thomas Renz and Andy Meeson.

4 **Christian Concern** ask us to pray for the Wilberforce Academy where dozens of young people will learn about a Christian perspective on our culture and the issues facing Christians today. Pray for them to be inspired, equipped, and encouraged to live faithful lives in an increasingly anti-Christian environment.

5 **Blenheim Free Church** (FIEC), Maidenhead, say that several children will be starting new secondary schools this week, so please pray that they will be able to identify other Christian young people and will know how to handle unhelpful social media content.

6 This week, Ed Hambleton officially begins his role as full-time Pastor / Elder at **York Evangelical Church**. Pray for him and the church as he settles into his new ministry.

7 Pray for the three students beginning their course at the **Reformed Theological College**, Belfast (RPCI). During September they will have an intensive course in New Testament Greek.

8 Over many years the **Evangelical Movement of Wales (EMW)** and **Associating Evangelical Churches of Wales (AECW)** churches and members have supported the Independent Church of India (ICI), based in Manipur, North East India, close to Myanmar/Burma. Currently they are severely affected by another wave of Covid 19. One report says, "We are in such a very fragile situation. If you can do something to assist in any way it will be greatly appreciated and amazing at this crucial time...No church services are taking place so our church finances are critical... Prices of essential items keep on increasing as the overall situation in the country continues to be grim." The EMW have launched an appeal for funds to meet the needs of pastors and their churches across ICI - and thereby across India. Pray for the ICI in its hour of need. If you wish to give to the appeal, go to <https://bit.ly/3xM7XN4> for more information on how to do so.

9 Praise the Lord with the **Evangelical Fellowship of Congregational Churches (EFCC)** that Steve Dunn has been called as the new pastor at Ogmores Vale, South Wales. Pray for the new ministry there and pray for Dom White, the pastor at Ogmores by Sea, who was very involved in helping the church call Steve.

10

On September 12 **Hardwick Baptist Church**, Stockton-on-Tees, will commission Matthew Weston as an elder and assistant pastor. On the 19th, Dan Strange will preach at their church anniversary service. Also, after a break of 18 months, house groups will begin again this month; please pray that they are fruitful for unity and maturity.

11

Pray for **Brian Edwards** as he gives three lectures at Westminster School of Theology, Newcastle, today and preaches tomorrow at Binscombe Evangelical Church.

12

Please continue to pray for **Cornerstone Adoption & Fostering Agency** as they seek to grow their work in Scotland. Pray that registration for a new service, "Foundations Matter... for Caledonian Children" would go ahead and that God grants them grace and favour across the border, that families will come forward and that their new offices near Stirling will be a great place to launch from.

13

Pray for the Trustees and Advisory Council of the new **Affinity** Charitable Incorporated Organisation as they meet today and tomorrow for the first time, that they will enjoy being together again after such a long break and that their discussions and praying together will encourage and strengthen ties of fellowship and ministry across the Affinity family of churches.

14

Pray for our **Union School of Theology's** publishing house launching this month and for their new Learning Community launching in Albania.

15

The long months of lockdown have been a reflective time for so many, and hymn and song writers have been hard at work. Pray for the **Praise Trust** editorial team as they work through new items for publication, and pray that other volunteers will come forward to join their team.

16

Pray for **Little Hill Church**, Leicester as they hold their next Historical Lecture on 20 September. Dr Lesley Rowe will speak about '*An Alarm to Unconverted Sinners: Joseph Alleine (1672)*'.

17

Time for Change Ministries ask us to pray that Prison Chaplains will order copies of *The Promised Child* book ready to give to prisoners in December. Gillian will be printing and distributing the books during September. Please pray for inspiration and guidance for Gillian as she writes new material for use in prisons, including a series of Bible studies from John's gospel and some booklets.

18

Today **Faith in Later Life** will hold their annual conference to encourage and equip their national community of church champions, who are based at churches throughout the UK. Pray that those attending will be encouraged as they seek to serve and empower the older Christians in their midst, and in reaching older people with the gospel.

19

Give thanks for prisoners who say reading regular written messages from **Daylight Christian Prison Trust** are helping them to learn more about the Bible. Please pray that these will continue to be an encouragement to them.

20

In Tunisia, the recent political turmoil has caused a lot of unrest and distress for citizens. **Frontiers** ask us to pray for all who serve Christ in this nation, that they will witness compassionately and courageously in the midst of this situation, and that many Tunisians would seek after Jesus, the only true bringer of peace. Go to www.frontiers.org.uk/latest/pray-now.php for more prayer fuel.

21

This month the **Association of Grace Baptist Churches (South East)** is celebrating its 150th anniversary. Please join them in thanking the Lord for his faithfulness and grace in holding together this network of churches. Lord willing, they will have an Anniversary Day on 25 September at Homerton Baptist Church, London, when Mark Dever from Capitol Hill Baptist Church, Washington DC is the guest speaker. More information at <https://tinyurl.com/2kx4a47j>

22

Sharing Christ Internationally asks for prayer that God will send labourers for Mongolian peoples who are wholly committed to God, who are also committed to study to preach faithfully, speaking and reading the same language as their hearers.

23

Please pray for several **ReachAcross** missionaries who will be returning to their fields following summer home assignments, and especially for a medic who will be heading for service in a country of the Arabian peninsula in the autumn for the first time. Pray for the growing team ReachAcross leads and coordinates in that region, and that local wars/conflicts will resolve so that mission personnel can re-establish in areas which were previously warzones.

24

Pray for the financial position of **Oak Hill College** as they work through the challenges and legacy of Covid.

25

Africa Inland Mission are running an online course called 'Into Africa' next month (October), designed to help people explore their calling to mission. Pray for those attending this event, that it would be helpful and encouraging (<https://eu.aimint.org/getinvolved/intoafrica/>)

26

On 28 September the Presbytery of Skye & Lochcarron of the **Free Church of Scotland (Continuing)** will meet (D.V.) in Snizort Free (Continuing) (and by teleconference) at 7.30pm for Ordinary Business. Pray for those who gather for the Lord's blessing in their deliberations.

27

One hundred miles north of Inverness the small town of Wick is in need of a new gospel church. The northern presbytery of the **Free Church of Scotland** is seeking to plant a new congregation there in the coming months. Please pray for a planting team to be established and for wisdom and guidance as they seek the way forward.

28

The **Evangelical Housing Association** hold their next committee meeting today. Please pray for wisdom from the Lord for all decisions that need to be made.

29

Like many others, **OSCAR** are trying to return to working from their office properly this month. Pray for safety and the challenge of re-learning how not to work from home.

30

Pray for **Edward Connor Solicitors**, as they have recently adopted a new strategic plan, that they are able to execute that well in God's strength and grace.

If you would like more information about the Affinity Partners and Associates mentioned in the Prayer Calendar, you will find their website addresses on the Affinity website – www.affinity.org.uk.

This Prayer Calendar is prepared by Affinity
PO Box 1958, Bristol BS37 0DH

Tel: 07989 773043

Email: office@affinity.org.uk

Please send entries for the October Prayer Calendar to us by 20 September.