

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 **True Freedom Trust** is holding its annual National Conference this weekend. The teaching will explore how we can be a "light to the world" when we live out our sexuality in God's holy way. Pray that this encourages us to deeper discipleship and dependence on him.

Today is International Day of Older Persons. Thank God for the Daily Hope phone line, co-founded by **Faith in Later Life**, which receives thousands of calls every month for people to hear hymns, prayers and talks (phone number 0800 804 8044). Please pray for this ministry.

2 **Frontiers** is holding a candidates' course which ends today, covering different aspects of preparation for mission, for eleven candidates and a new international office staff member. Most are present in person, two on Zoom. Please pray for a fruitful time to equip these wonderful people and the staff involved. Also praise God for the first post-lockdown prayer team to North Africa (9-16 October). They will pray for a region with no witness; several are seeking God about possible future service.

3 **Serving Christ Internationally** asks us to pray for a video on the subject of repentance by the Bible Society of Mongolia which has just been posted on YouTube. Such videos get up to 44,000 views by Mongolians around the world. Many are hardened against the gospel due to the bad influence of Christendom in the past. Please pray that God brings many to sincere repentance and saving faith.

4 **Grace Baptist Partnership** ask us to pray for Barry King and Mack Stiles as they speak at a day conference on church planting at London Seminary today.

5 Please pray for the Opening Service for the new year at the Reformed Theological College, Belfast (**Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland**) today. Two new students will begin their course of study.

6 This month **Africa Inland Mission's** *Into Africa* course, a series of four online sessions designed to help people explore their call to mission, is starting (eu.aimint.org/intoafrica). Pray that God would use this course to speak to and equip those attending, as they begin, or continue, to explore their journey into mission.

7 **Christian Concern** ask us to pray for Dr David Mackereth's case which is coming up for appeal this month. He said that in conscience he would not refer to someone as other than their biological sex. <https://christianconcern.com/cccases/dr-david-mackereth/> The original ruling said that belief in Genesis 1:27 was not worthy of respect in a democratic society. Pray for this to be overturned. <https://christianconcern.com/news/doctors-biblical-belief-ruled-incompatible-with-human-dignity/>

8 **Barnabas Fund** asks for continued prayer for Afghan Christians fleeing their homeland, trying to escape to a safe location. Pray urgently that the Lord will soften the hearts of governments of Western and other safe countries to give them a secure and permanent home, out of reach of the Taliban who are hunting for them and would kill them if they found them. Pray also that the Christians will be kept safe as they enter countries neighbouring Afghanistan, which could also be difficult and dangerous places for them, given that they are all converts from Islam.

9 The **Evangelical Fellowship of Congregational Churches** (EFCC) vision is 'exalting Christ in growing healthy churches.' Praise the Lord with us as Colin Wilson is inducted as the new pastor at Bridgnorth today. A pastor is a gift from the risen Christ to his churches (Ephesians 4:11).

10 **Little Hill Church**, Leicestershire, ask us to rejoice with them and pray for those being baptised today.

11 The pandemic has brought its own set of challenges particularly connected to delivery and logistics. Many different industries including publishing require consistent supplies of labour and materials. Pray for **Christian Focus Publications** and other Christian organisations who are searching for staff and who are tackling other shortages.

12 Please pray for the Lloyd-Jones Memorial Lecture at **London Seminary** today given by Rico Tice on the theme "The Challenge of Evangelism". The seminary hopes to make a recording of this available to serve churches as we look forward to Passion for Life in the Spring.

13 Over the coming months, **Union's Newton House** will be running a number of online lectures on the life and theology of Augustine. Pray for the first one, tomorrow evening, when Dr Michael A.G. Haykin will speak on "*Being Augustine: an overview of his life*".

14 Please pray for **Oak Hill College's** new students and faculty as they settle in and begin life at the college.

15 Pray for **Brian Edwards**, preaching this evening at the conference on Revival at Westminster School of Theology, Newcastle.

16 **The Evangelical Movement of Wales** (EMW) have launched a podcast entitled *TeamTalk: Supporting Church Leaders*. Episodes so far include one reflecting on the pandemic and discussing opportunities as we move forward, getting people back to church and reaching out to disengaged church members and an interview on preaching with Sinclair Ferguson. Please pray that the Lord would use these podcasts to challenge and support church leaders.

17 The **Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Ireland** ask us to pray for their church planting work in Foyle and Richhill.

18 Pray for new **International Presbyterian Church** plants which have started in Chester and Hammersmith.

19 Please pray for **Cornerstone Adoption and Fostering Services** as it continues to grow in both England and now also Scotland, even in this time of challenge and opposition from Ofsted. They need to register with the Care Inspectorate in Scotland, so need an open door with them and for the finances to come in to develop this brand-new service.

20 This month **Edward Connor Solicitors** would greatly value prayer for their five new members of staff who have joined them over the past couple of months. Pray they would settle well and be comfortable and confident in their roles, and for the organisation as they welcome and induct them, to do that well, and to manage the additional work which inductions produce.

21 Pray that the church would be equipped to serve their communities and support each other in spreading the gospel. Pray that **Access Insurance** might help by continuing to support churches and Christian organisations.

22

Give thanks for the four new Scripture Readers who joined **SASRA** in September. As they train at theological college or shadow current Scripture Readers, pray that God would equip them well for the work.

23

Blenheim Free Church (FIEC), Maidenhead, give thanks that several older members have now considered it safe to rejoin the regular services in person. There is a need for additional Sunday School teachers, so please pray that able, godly people will help teach the next generation the gospel.

24

Give thanks for opportunities for **Daylight Christian Prison Trust** to return to running services and Bible studies in prisons, and for prisoners who are keen to attend these. Please pray that the Lord will speak to many through his Word.

25

Pray for small **AECW** churches in the South Wales valleys that have stepped out in faith and called new pastors. Pray the Lord will bless the ministries of Steve in Ogmere Vale and Henry in Ystrad Mynach and will supply the needs of both them and their families and of their churches.

26

York Evangelical Church ask us to pray for new pastor Ed Hambleton as he settles into his role and also for new students arriving at the church – and for the potential of new members at the next church meeting.

27

The Good Book Company asks prayer as they grapple with the distribution and logistical challenges facing global publishing generally in these days.

28

Christian Safeguarding Services ask us to pray for wisdom for their trustees as the ministry continues to grow to more and more churches, yet with relatively few resources.

29

Next month **FIEC** will be holding a series of five regional leaders' conferences in place of its usual large national gathering in one venue. Pray that this will be an opportunity for many more church leaders than can usually attend to gather and be encouraged and challenged to consider how we should respond to the post-Covid world.

30

The world has undergone a monumental upheaval socially, economically and politically through Covid-19. Pray for **Jubilee Centre's** free online *Seeds of Change Conference* next month (22-26), which will consider the landscape, revisit these challenges, and showcase practical responses in key areas, ranging from business and finance to agriculture and technology, seeking biblically-inspired responses which recognise the importance of intergenerational understanding and co-operation.

31

Please pray for the MICEB (Christian Evangelical Mission in Brazil) conference happening in Brazil, 17-20 November. This is a hugely significant gathering as the historic Western mission structures of three agencies - **UFM**, Crossworld (American) and SAM Global (Swiss) in Brazil are passed to Brazilian leadership. Give thanks for the many years of faithful mission history and pray for more fruit to still come.

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.

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