

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.

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- 1** The **Free Church of Scotland** have adopted the following vision statement: A healthy gospel church for every community in Scotland. They ask that we pray this will be more than an empty slogan but will fuel their vision for the glory of Christ in one of the most secular parts of Europe.
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- 2** Many people of other religions believe that the Western New Year is a Christian festival, therefore, it can be a time of increased violence against Christian minorities (as are Christmas and Easter). Often the perpetrators are people who sincerely believe that their religion requires them to attack Christians. The **Barnabas Trust** ask that we pray for vulnerable Christian believers in such situations – that they will hold unswervingly to the Christian hope, remembering that he who promised is faithful, and that they will continue to spur one another on to love and good deeds in the knowledge that the day of the Lord is approaching.
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- 3** Please remember in your prayers the students at the **Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland Theological College** as they preach at a midweek service tomorrow (Tuesday 4 January). The College Committee will be present and their comments will be discussed with the students the following week.
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- 4** **Blenheim Free Church in Maidenhead** ask that we pray for their Pastor, Peter Cranch – that he will have time to refresh after the busy Christmas events and the Lord will continue to bless his ministry. Pray that many people will come to repentance and faith through the faithful ministry of the gospel.
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- 5** Pray for six **Associating Evangelical Churches of Wales** churches that are actively seeking new pastors. Pray for the elders in the churches without pastors as they maintain the regular life and ministry of their churches and as they consider possible new pastors. Pray also for men who are seeking openings into pastoral ministry to rise up.
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- 6** **Christian Safeguarding Services (CSS)** thank God that they have obtained charity status. Pray for wisdom for CSS as they seek to grow their ministry and impact.
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- 7** Matthew Evans, former Assistant to the Director of **Affinity**, retired last month. Pray for him and his wife, Alison, as they adjust to retired life together. Please join Affinity in giving thanks to God for Matthew's 11 years of hard work and service across all areas of Affinity's gospel work.
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- 8** **Christian Focus Publications** lost a very valued employee John Tennant last month after a short illness. John had worked for CFP for 30 years and they would very much appreciate prayers for his widow Susan, his family, colleagues and customers. John was a well known face on the UK publishing circuit and his patience, gentle manner and good humour will be deeply missed but our consolation is now that he is with the Lord.
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- 9** Pray for **Peterhead Congregational Church** in this latest wave of COVID as they reduce the number of mid week meetings. Pray that as church groups and ministries move back online that God will make their witness fruitful.
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- 10** The effects of the Taliban takeover in 2021 continue to drive uncertainty, instability, and fear into the hearts of Afghans. Afghanistan is 99.9% Muslim with 72 unreached people groups, and zero church buildings. **Frontiers** asks that we intercede for those who have fled, those who remain, and the Taliban rulers, knowing that we are asking our God of the impossible to bring hearts of peace and the restoration of Jesus to this land and these people.
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- 11** **The Association of Grace Baptist Churches (South East)** are currently recruiting for a new Company Secretary – pray that the Lord would guide them towards the best person. The role involves charity governance, property management and legal trusteeship work.
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- 12** Much of **BCM UK** work has been on hold due to COVID restrictions. Pray for the team as they work out how best to do ministry in constantly changing circumstances. Pray for the 750+ BCM missionaries as they continue to use technology to reach children and adults with the gospel.
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- 13** **Christian Concern** ask that we pray for Keith Waters, a pastor who lost his part-time job as a school caretaker after tweeting that Pride events are contrary to Christian faith and morals. His employment tribunal hearing is set for this month. Please pray for justice to be done.
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- 14** Give thanks for **True Freedom Trust's (TFT)** Women's Worker, Ruth, and all she does to build an encouraging community for female members. Tomorrow (15 January) Ruth is leading an online 'Zoominar' to enable the TFT women to catch-up following the Christmas period, and is planning a Women's Conference in London next month with teaching from Song of Songs.
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- 15** **Grace Baptist Partnership** would value prayer for a video micro conference they are hosting today (15 January) for those considering a call to Christian ministry. Pray for Ali McLachlan, Andrew Roycroft, Barry King, Brian Croft, and Conrad Mbewe who will be speaking.
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- 16** Thank the Lord for the ministry of Ask/Holi, **Evangelical Movement of Wales' (EMW)** bilingual evangelistic magazine. Over the Christmas period it was shared to around 35,000 households by various churches. Please pray for those who have received it, that the gospel would bring fruit in their lives. Thank the Lord for the *TeamTalk* podcast for church leaders. It is produced every two weeks and is being downloaded by hundreds of church leaders from across the country. Pray that God would use it to support and help leaders.
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- 17** Pray for **Access Insurance**, UK churches and Christian organisations this year, especially those affected by the pandemic and those with a mission for alleviating suffering.
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- 18** Please pray for for the orientation and settling in of the new **ReachAcross** team members who are serving on the field in the Red Sea region. Pray also for the leadership and stability of the team in North East Africa.
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- 19** Pray for Andy Bannister, Director of **Solas Centre for Public Christianity**, who is speaking at the St. Andrew's University CU mission week at the end of this month; please pray that the Lord would work through him and all those involved in the mission week. Solas also ask us to pray for their brand new evangelistic series "Have You Ever Wondered..." which kicked off this month. Please pray for the thousands of non-Christians who will end up seeing this resource as it is shared by churches and individual Christians across the country.
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- 20** A spike of pastoral issues often presents itself as serving personnel return from leave in January. Pray that the members of **Soldiers' & Airmen's Scripture Readers Association (SASRA)** would have much grace and compassion and ask that they could share the lasting hope Christ brings with those they meet. Pray the Lord would provide more Scripture Readers and open doors within the Army and RAF. As the COVID pandemic continues, pray for wisdom as SASRA Headquarters staff seek to plan and prepare events for the year ahead.
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**21** Despite the constraints of the pandemic, **UFM** are grateful for the privilege of partnering with churches during the last year to send new workers to serve in Brazil, Senegal, Portugal, Slovenia, Italy, Asia and South Asia. Pray that God will continue to call new workers in 2022 to serve in the least reached areas of the world.

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**22** **Little Hill Church, Leicester** ask that we rejoice with them as they enter their 50th year of existence as a local church. Pray that they will continue to be faithful and fruitful within their local community.

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**23** Bhutan is one of the most difficult places to reach the lost for Christ. **AsiaLink** is supporting new outreach work which is being led by local people. Pray for opportunities to share the gospel, for wisdom as they use new ways to reach neighbours with the love of Jesus, and for protection from the authorities. Pray that they would not be discouraged but would see fruit for their labours.

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**24** Please give thanks for Thomas Welch who is joining the **Edward Connor Solicitors** Property Team. Pray for Thomas as he settles into his new role and for the wider team as they welcome him.

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**25** Pray for the **Go Teach** staff as they try to plan and prepare the new syllabus which launches for the Autumn term. Much preparation time has been lost due to the pandemic so pray for wisdom and efficiency when putting together the new material.

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**26** Pray for **The Good Book Company** as they start another year, asking the Lord for strength and help to keep serving God with joy. Please pray especially for the launch of Hope Explored, a new evangelistic course, asking that many would sign up for courses and come to faith as a result. Please also pray for the production department as they face many challenges in the year ahead.

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**27** **Sharing Christ Internationally** asks prayer for the large number of people watching the videos Bible Society of Mongolia has been making and distributing to Mongolians. Pray that God will use this resource to lead people to a saving faith in him.

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**28** **Mission Care** gives thanks to the Lord for his amazing care and provision through a challenging year. Please pray for the staff and residents at Mission Care as they deal with another wave of COVID infections during the Winter.

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**29** **Union School of Theology** has a new Provost, Dr. Clive Bowsher, and a Hebrew / Old Testament Lecturer starting in January – pray for their move and induction. Please pray also as Union is launching their own publishing house called 'Union Publishing' this month with the release of two new books.

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**30** Please join **The Evangelical Fellowship of Congregational Churches (EFCC)** in thanking the Lord for his provision of many new pastors for the 16 EFCC churches in Northern Ireland recently.

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**31** Pray for **Church Society's Fellowship of Word and Spirit** conference over the next three days on the theme of 'Leadership Reset – from Scripture to theology to ministry'. Pray for clear, bold talks and an edifying time for all. Pray for the speakers; Lee Gatiss, James Hughes, and Rob Munro.

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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](http://www.affinity.org.uk).

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Please send entries for the February Prayer Calendar to us by 20 January.