

The aim of this e-mail is to provide you with the details of the October church prayer meeting, to help and encourage us all to pray.

“There are no limits to the effectiveness of our prayers. If we want to leave our indelible mark upon the world there is no more powerful way to do it than by getting involved in God’s purposes through prayer. Our prayers can go where we cannot. There are no borders, no prison walls, no doors that are closed to us when we pray. The political, economic, military and spiritual leader of the world may not know our names, but we can have more influence on all their plans than all their closest advisors put together. While many things may be impossible from a human standpoint, in the realm of prayer there are no impossibilities. And perhaps, most exciting of all, through prayer we can reach into the future and with loving hands touch those beyond our reach” (Brother Andrew).

The focus of the October Prayer Meeting was **‘Praying for Those in Authority’**.

1. Our Parliaments and Assemblies

- Please pray for protection, wisdom, courage and insight for all those serving in our Parliaments and Assemblies.
- Pray that they would be determined to defend the principles of freedom, love and tolerance.
- Pray that they will receive wise, godly guidance from advisors and civil servants.
- Thank God that we live in a society with freedom of speech and democracy.

2. Our Police Force

- Please pray that officers on patrol would build confidence with the public
- Pray that they would have wisdom when making difficult decisions, particularly those that have the potential to lead to an escalation of violence
- Pray that they have strength of character to resist the corruption that they are regularly in contact with, and to never abuse their position
- Pray for members of the Christian Police Association – that they will live righteous lives both on and off duty, and that they will be powerful and effective in their witness.

3. Teachers

- Please pray for all those Christians who feel called to serve within the education sphere, and that they would be empowered and energised in their calling.
- Pray for their strength and protection. Pray that they are able to be salt and light in the communities in which they serve.
- Pray for those who are experiencing mental exhaustion and spiritual dryness because of an excessive workload.

4. Health workers

- Pray for all doctors, nurses, pastoral care workers, social workers and other healthcare workers who seek to heal the sick and offer care. Pray that they will be given wisdom and skill, patience and determination, compassion and sympathy as they go about their work.
- Pray that all those involved in the medical field would have the resources they need to administer to those in their care.
- Pray that Christian care workers would reflect God’s character in their words and actions, and bring hope and comfort to those patients enduring suffering and a sense of God’s enduring love for them.

And finally, pray that as churches we will discover appropriate ways of reaching out and supporting both those in positions of authority and those serving our community. Pray for opportunities to show how much the work they do is valued and appreciated.

Thank you for your support and for praying.

Every Blessing, Alison