

Dear members and friends of The Mission congregation,

Welcome to our February prayer / newsletter. February is always a transition month as we begin the hopefully short and seasonal journey from winter to spring. The month takes its name from a Roman festival called Februa during which people ritually washed, purified and expiated themselves. These themes are very appropriate to our congregation as we begin our journey to rebrand and upgrade a number of aspects of our witness and premises. Please pray for all those involved in this initiative and especially for Andrew who will project - manage the process.

Our monthly meeting to immerse the work of the Mission will take place at 7 00 pm on Wednesday 08 February during which we will also make decisions about the future content, purpose and style of our midweek meetings. Please join us for this important time of prayer.

Our Mission of the Month for February will be Tearfund which is a cause very dear to our hearts and I'm delighted that Alan Fraser, the local Tearfund Rep. will join us and update during our Cafe - Style Family service on Sunday 10 February.

Our Sunday morning teaching series continue to be well received, during both our regular style of service as we learn about the wonderful Holy Spirit in the Luke -Acts writings and also during our Cafe - Style Church services as we learn from the ' tips by Jesus family and friends about how to follow him more effectively ' as we study the general Epistles of James, Peter, John and Jude together. Please pray the messages from these scriptures would continue to encourage, bless and change us as individuals and as a community of God's people.

Snippets;

I'm aware that David and Jessie Burgess are very self-effacing and may not welcome being singled out, but on behalf of the Deacons and the congregation they do deserve a special mention; After many years supplying and preparing the Bread and the Wine for our communion services they have now withdrawn from this ministry. The provision of the elements has now been taken over by Alasdair Matheson. We thank the Burgess's very warmly for all they have done and continue to do for us. David will also withdraw from Service Leading once we come to the end of our current rota.

As the use of the building increases and the numbers attending our Services and visiting the Office increases so correspondingly there is an increased use of commodities and resources. Items like toilet rolls, fairy liquid, bin bags etc tend to be used up much more quickly than before. The reason I'm sharing this is because there may be someone of the congregation who quietly and effectively could provide one or some of these items on a regular basis as a way to serve and help the Mission in its work.

One of the resources we are beginning to need are the plastic plates and bowls we use for our Congregational lunches and for other events. I estimate we need about 40 or so of each so it would be a welcome blessing if somebody could source and provide these items for us.

I'm encouraged by the numbers of young people attending our services and I'm grateful to Steven for the ways in which he befriends and cares for them. However, there may be people younger or older who would wish to serve the congregation in a more committed and formal way, if so, the role of Deacon or Deaconess may be appropriate for you. We are very happy to provide some information and training for this office or even provide some literature to whet your appetite. Please speak to me about this prospect and keep praying about this possibility.

Matters carried over from January that we should continue to pray about;

Prayer for some of the partnerships we are involved with is always welcome, The monthly meeting with local pastors and church leaders is a wonderful way to share, pray and work together. I'm pleased to report that the new way to approach and enjoy the city pastors lunches has had the desired effect, there was a considerable increase in numbers attending and a genuine unity and warmth characterised the occasion. Our membership of the DCP continues to be valuable and appreciated and our commitment to the NESGP is important and strategic. Soon we will be meeting with our partners to plan the next Easter Journey.so prayer for all of these important partnerships is very desirable.

As I write the AUCU events week is in full swing. Please pray for the students during this week and especially for any follow-up events that they plan. We are well aware of the need not only to Win new converts but also to Consolidate and Disciple them in a Church setting and we trust that the CU will be able to achieve this outcome for many of their peers.

There was a lovely and encouraging atmosphere during the SU prayer space event on Wednesday 23 January, please pray that the seeds sown during that event will reap blessings in the days ahead. We share the office with SU and SAMS and it's super when we pray together each Monday morning to launch the working week. The SU staff are Cheri Young, Pamela Sloan and Lola Suberu. The SAMS staff are Su van der Plas, Danielle and Chris Hood. Please remember them and their important work prayerfully.

Prayer is needed for the Syrian families; due to local authority cut-backs there is now only one member of staff retained to work with the refugees. Accordingly, the demands on her are considerable and the expectations of the refugees are likely to be disappointed. Please pray during these critical times for the families.

Items and Dates For your prayers during February;

<i>Mon</i>	<i>04 Feb to Fri 08 Feb.</i>	<i>AUCU events week</i>
	9 30am	Local Pastors & church leaders meeting for prayer and intercession in the Lighthouse.
Wed	06 Feb	7 00pm Immerse the Mission in prayer for the month of February meeting
Sun	10 Feb	11 00amCafe - Style Church with Tearfund
Fri	15 Feb	9 00am NESGP prayer breakfast in DCFC
<i>Mon</i>	<i>18 Feb to Fri 22 Feb.</i>	<i>RGUCU events week</i>
Sat	23 Feb	3 00pm Trinity Church Sunday School event
Mon	25 Feb	All Day - SU North Team Training Day
Tues	26 Feb	11 00amSyrian Families bridge - building gathering
Thurs	28 Feb	7 00pm icafe

During the month please continue to remember the regular events held in the Mission and that many will be brought into a new relationship with our Lord Jesus through these meetings.

Deuteronomy is one of my favourite books in the Bible. During a recent reading I came across this precious promise that greatly encouraged me and I trust will encourage us all. 'The Lord your God moves about in your camp to protect you and deliver your enemies to you. Your camp must be holy so that he will not see anything indecent in you and turn away from you'.

With warmest blessings on behalf of the Mission Church elders'

Hector

You're invited!

Join us every
Sunday at 11am

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