

Dear friends,

Welcome to our Prayer / Newsletter for February 2020.

There is no doubt that we live in 'times they are a - changing' to quote Bob Dylan. We are no longer members of the EU and our national future has elements of uncertainty and insecurity about it. Thankfully our gracious God doesn't change and his word endures forever. I came across this instructive, timely and helpful prayer from John Baillie's Diary of private Prayer which I share with you;

'O Lord of the nations, in the knowledge of your love and power, I believe that there is still salvation for the peoples of this earth.

Quickly, bring the day when everyone shall acknowledge you as Lord over all things,
Quickly, bring the day when our earthly society shall become the kingdom of Christ,
Quickly, bring the day when your presence and the strong hand of your purposes shall be found not only in your people but throughout the nation, in corridors of power, in the workshop, office, marketplace, in the city and in the country.

Whatever I can do myself toward the fulfilment of your purposes, give me the grace to do it today through our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.'

Our recent Prayer and Coffee mornings have been times of meaningful and effective prayer. I am delighted that following a suggestion we are now gathering our weekly prayer requests in a goldfish bowl so that we can review our petitions and answers to them and then give thanks in due course.

I'm also pleased that we have introduced a weekly opportunity for people to receive prayer during the singing of our final praise item / items during our Sunday morning service, available in the new sitting area at the rear of the upper hall. Please use this opportunity. I myself, felt really blessed and encouraged when I received prayer, in this way, last Sunday and I highly recommend it.

Our 'immerse the Mission in prayer meeting' for the month of February will be held at 11am on Thursday 06 February, please join us. We also request special and focused prayers for the AUCU events week which will begin on Sunday 02 February with outreach and meetings happening daily during the mornings, lunchtimes and evenings of the first week of the month. Our Mission of the Month for February is Tearfund! We will have a short focus about Tearfund during our cafe - style service on Sunday 09 February when we will welcome Luana Ackermann from the Just Love group who will tell us about the importance of their work with Tearfund and about the emerging work of Just Love in the University here.

Matters for prayer carried over from January;

I have been very impressed with the wide uptake of the ten challenging questions which we included in the January newsletter. I commend them to you. We continue to pray for the Scottish Bible Society, which was our Mission of the Month and especially for their initiative Bible 2020 which encourages Everyone Everywhere to read the word of God out loud. Please let us know if you are engaging with this worthwhile project.

We requested prayer for the MENA nations last month and we have been appalled by the execution of Rev. Lawan Andimi the Chairman of Christian Association of Nigeria and also a 22-year-old student Ropvil Daciya Dalep who was executed by a child soldier. So again, we request prayer for the church in this area which is currently experiencing painful persecution. Jesus encourages us to pray for those who persecute us and although that can be difficult. The blood of martyrs seems to be flowing as it did at the beginning of the church so pray, we must. Please storm heaven with prayer for the church in the MENA nations and for the salvation of the persecutors.

Please also remember the work of Bethany Marsh as she establishes the important ministry of Friends International among students from many nations.

I have been encouraged by a number of people who have recently committed themselves to the Mission, this appears to be a fulfilment of the words from our scripture for the new year, from 2 Kings 19 v 30 about being rooted below and bearing fruit above. My prayer is that these folk will 'Treasure the new beginnings, even if they are small, Embrace the process, even when moments of disappoints occur, Thrive rather than strive, Celebrate what is good and feel very welcome among us.'

Items for your diary and prayerful interest during February;

Sun	02 Feb	11 00 am	Family service with communion
		2 00 pm	Setting up for the AUCU Events Week
Tue	03 Feb	9 15 am	Local pastors & church leaders prayer meeting in the Tillydrone Hub
Sun	09 Feb	11 00 am	Cafe - style service followed by congregational lunch
Tue	11 Feb	7 00 pm	Deacon's meeting
Fri	21 Feb	7 30 pm	City - wide prayer gathering - Mannofield Church of Scotland
Sat	22 Feb	3 00 pm	Trinity Church Sunday School meeting
Thur	27 Feb	7 00 pm	i'cafe

I came across this prayer this prayer from a Swiss mystic which I thought was very powerful and something I should leave with you,

'My Jesus and my all, let a torrent of graces flow from your holy person and from your heart, the fire of your divine love for me and for those dear to me who are also your children. Keep all in your love and grace. Let a torrent of graces and the fire of your love flow on all your servants as they are chosen to be instruments of your love. Pour a torrent of graces and the fire of your love on all poor sinners and those who are in danger of going deeper into sin. Give to all, O heart full of love, the grace of repentance so that they be with you now and forever.'

On behalf of the Mission Church elders,

Hector

You're invited!

Join us every
Sunday at 11am

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