

Prayer at the Parish

We would welcome anyone to come and join with us at one of the regular prayer meetings below. Prayer is essential to the life of our Church as it was essential for Jesus in his ministry.

Sunday Prayer Breakfast

The Church prayer breakfast runs every Sunday from 9:30 in the kitchen on the first floor of the Church. Our time of prayer together follows at 10:00 until 10:30 in the Eden Room. Please come and join with us at any time from 9:30 for food, prayer and fellowship together.

Church Prayer Meetings

The Church prayer meeting runs on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month from 19:30 to 20:30. We meet in the Eden Room to spend time praying for our church, our community, our country, our world and each other as well as giving thanks for the many blessings that God has given us. This month we will have one of the youth workers from Gorebridge Parish Church, Joel Nicholas, on the March 14th coming to share about his role and his work with the organisation Young Life. On March 28th we will have a guest speaker from Interserve, who will be coming to share and pray about the work that they organisation is doing to bring the gospel to the neediest people in the Asian and Arab world.

Saturday Prayer Walks

Prayer walks are being led around Dunbar by Shiona Liddle on the following dates and times: Saturday 3rd March at 10:30am, Sunday 18th March at 3pm, Saturday 24th March at 10:30am. This is a great opportunity to get to know the town better and to have focussed prayer on specific areas of our community. Please contact Shiona at shiona.liddle@btinternet.com if you would like to be involved.

Serving and Prayer Requests

We have a growing prayer ministry at Dunbar Parish Church, and it is central to our weekly worship. We are committed to seeking God's will and His grace for all situations in our church, and among His people, both locally and further afield. If there is anything you would prayer like for or if you would like to be involved in serving in this ministry please contact:

Douglas McClintick, our prayer co-ordinator, for leading the Church Prayer Meeting, prayer requests for the monthly prayer diary, the monthly prayer letter and anything else related to prayer at prayer@dunbarparishchurch.org

Alison Mitchell for serving in the Prayer Breakfast rota, either for preparing the breakfast or for leading the meeting, at administrator@dunbarparishchurch.org

Gordon Stevenson, our minister, for anything related to the prayer ministry at our Church at minister@dunbarparishchurch.org

Dunbar Parish Church

Prayer Diary

March
2018



“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks;
for this is the will of God in Jesus Christ for you.”

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

March Prayer Letter

On March 28th our prayer meeting will be led by a guest from Interserve, an organisation who aim to make Christ known to the neediest people of the Asian and Arab world. The focus for the letter this month is therefore on our brothers and sisters in these areas who are part of a Church that is continuing to grow, despite the attempts of the state to exterminate it. Three countries in the top five of the Open Doors Watch list for 2018 are in this region. This is a list compiled to show the countries in which Christians receive the most extreme persecution, thus areas which need an incredible amount of prayer and support.

The number one on this list for the 17th year running is North Korea, where to be a Christian is risk to everything. The threat of forced labour camps or murder is a constant yoke to Christians in the country, as they are forced to keep their faith secret and are prevented from gathering as a Church. We pray therefore for all those who are currently isolated from other Christians, that God would surround them with his presence and that he would in time provide them with the opportunity to form trusting and loving relationships with fellow followers of Jesus. We pray for protection for all those who have yet to be discovered by the regime, that the Lord would shield them as they aim to grow his kingdom. We also remember the estimated 70,000 Christians who are currently in forced labour camps; send your Holy Spirit to dwell within them and to give them the strength to persevere. Finally, we ask Lord that you would continue to provide opportunities for organisations such as Open Doors and Samaritan's Purse to secretly help meet the physical and spiritual needs the North Korean people.

We consider also the countries in positions 2 and 5 on the list; Afghanistan and Pakistan. We pray for the Christians in these nations who have come to know You personally and have risked persecution and rejection, even from their own families, by turning away from Islam. Thank you, Lord, that they have received Your salvation. Pour out your Spirit on them and surround them with your love and your church so that they might grow in their new-found faith. Give them the courage to in turn share the gospel their friends, families and neighbours might also come into a relationship with You.

We remember your words Jesus in Matthew 5:11 "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me." Bring this hope and encouragement to all who are currently suffering in Your Name in the Asian and Arabic regions. Thank you also for the organisations who aim to support and encourage them such as Interserve, by sharing the gospel and connecting them with Christians and churches in the UK and across the world. We pray that the volunteers and staff workers would be bold in sharing their faith and that they would be protected from the persecution that prevents them spreading your Good News. May your Kingdom grow in Arab and Asian nations.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

29th March

- Ploughman's Lunch. Give thanks for all the volunteers who support this and for all the farmers who are working across the world to provide food for us to eat. Pray that our conversations as we break bread together would be a chance to share Jesus' Good News.
- Please pray for the Maundy Thursday communion service happening at the Church this evening. Help us Lord to reflect on the Last Supper and the events of the Garden of Gethsemane and meditate upon the sacrifice that you were preparing to make for the world. We give thanks Jesus for Your example in Gethsemane of praying to and serving the Father willingly. Help us to learn from this as we aim to become more like You each day.

30th March

- Today we remember the crucifixion of Jesus. We can't imagine the pain that You went through on the cross, taking all of our sins upon Yourself and suffering the wrath of God. We just give thanks that your love for us was so great that you chose to die so that we would have the opportunity to receive eternal life and to be in a relationship with You. As we meet together in worship tonight, we pray we would reflect on Your sacrifice but that we would go forth in joy knowing that you overcame that death and are alive with us now!
- We pray against the continual secularisation of the Easter period. We ask that people would be encouraged to look beyond the holiday and chocolate eggs to you Lord Jesus.

31st March

- Pray for our mission partners in the United Arab Emirates, Rwanda, Spain and China as they seek to share the Gospel with people abroad who do not know the love of Jesus. Ask that God would protect them from those in their countries who seek to persecute them and that he would richly bless them with friendships with the local people. Pray also that he would give them courage in facing the challenges of a different culture.
- We pray Lord for our own Church, that we would continue to grow and that we would be able to learn from each other. We ask that we would also be able to faithfully love and care for each other as a family, supporting each other when we are heavy with burdens.

Additional Space for Prayer Notes and Requests:

25th March

- Pray for those meeting together at the Prayer Breakfast this morning. We hope their time in fellowship will be guided by your Spirit and we thank you for their prayers.
- Please pray for the guest preacher as they lead today's service on Luke. Ask that as a congregation we would come prepared to hear the teaching of God's word.
- Pray for the DCT Palm Sunday Walk taking place this afternoon. We hope that as they act out the Gospel, people in our town would be inspired to come and hear more about Jesus.
- Give thanks for the Earth Hour initiative which promotes stewardship of God's Earth.

26th March

- Pray for the Holy Week Lunches which are taking place throughout this week. We pray that you would bless these times Lord, as people from different churches in Dunbar gather together in fellowship. We hope that this would be an opportunity to build relationships and to reflect on and learn more about your character through gospel teaching.
- Pray for Easter Divided—for the children who come to learn, appreciate and understand the true meaning of Easter. We pray for the leaders to be guided by your Holy Spirit and to be given the words to reach out to all who come.


27th March

- We pray Father that as the Easter leaflets are dropped into the homes of our Parish, that those who receive them would be encouraged to come along to one of the Easter events being held at the Church and to hear the Good News that Jesus is alive!
- Pray for prisoners, and for chaplains who take the message of hope and healing into prisons. Pray for a positive impact and outcome for those introduced to Alpha. Holy Spirit move powerfully in these places.
- Pray for the local review support team meeting tonight in Pencaitland. We hope that they will be able to be open and honest and that God will bless their discussion.

28th March


- Pray for the guest leader of the prayer meeting tonight, visiting from Christian Charity Interserve, that they would be able to teach us of God's work throughout the Asian and Arab world. We ask that prayers for these regions and for our own country would be lifted up before you Lord and that we would see Your kingdom grow.
- Pray for the work of international Christian organisations, such as Christian Aid, World Vision, Tearfund and Compassion who aim to end the poverty and meet the spiritual needs of the people they work with by introducing them to the saving grace of Jesus Christ. We ask that You would bless them Lord in their service of You.

Guest Prayer Meeting Leader on 14th March




Young Life has been making a difference in the lives of young people around the world due to the invitation and support of adults who care about the young people in their community. Our staff and volunteers are trained in time-tested methods of relating with adolescents, and they are equipped by a world-class organisation dedicated to effective ministry. Young Life is now present in more than 75 countries, reaching more than a million teenagers and young people each year with the life-changing message of God's love for them

Guest Prayer Meeting Leader on 28th March




The purpose of Interserve is to make Jesus Christ known through wholistic ministry, in partnership with the global church, amongst the neediest peoples of Asia and the Arab World. To aid this, they aim to:

- Serve the Church as it participates in the mission of God
- Build partnerships for mission
- Make disciples who are co-workers in God's transformation in all spheres of society



Samaritan's Purse is a nondenominational evangelical Christian organization providing spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world. Since 1970, Samaritan's Purse has helped meet needs of people who are victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease, and famine with the purpose of sharing God's love through His Son, Jesus Christ. The organization serves the church worldwide to promote the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.



Open Doors aim to strengthen and equip the body of Christ living under or facing restriction and persecution because of their faith in Jesus Christ, and to encourage their involvement in world evangelism by providing Bibles, training and prayer. We do so, because we believe that when one member suffers, all members suffer with him (1 Corinthians 12:26), all doors are open and God enables His body to go into all the world and preach the gospel.

1st March

- Take time to consider the ways in which you feel God has been at work in the past month. Give thanks for any blessings or answered prayer requests. Praise him for how he has moved in our country and in the wider world. Ask that he would continue to move through the Holy Spirit in March.
- Pray for the Bible book club as they meet together. Pray that they have an engaging literary discussion and enjoy their time spent together.
- Pray that adult Christians will take responsibility to pray for, encourage, teach and mentor

2nd March

- Please pray for 6 year old Lennox and his family. He has had a brain tumour removed and is now getting treatment for cancer. Ask God would have his healing hand upon Lennox and that as a family they would feel the love and comfort of the presence of the Holy Spirit. Encourage others Lord to give the family the support they need.
- Please pray for Gordon as he speaks at the Primary School assembly today. We ask that his words would inspire the young people to look towards Jesus and to explore the Bible.
- Today is the World Day of Prayer. Take extra time out today to spend with God in conversation and pray for all of the services happening around Dunbar and the world.

3rd March

- Pray against the critical situation facing Christians in North Korea, where they are despised and persecuted. Desperately harsh conditions await those who refuse to denounce their faith in Jesus. This can seriously affect families. Give thanks for their courage and pray for them to be sustained by the presence and deep love of our Lord Jesus.
- For all our young adults who are currently away at university studying for their degrees. Pray that God would give them the focus and motivation to work hard and do their best. Pray also for the work of UCCF and the Christian Unions at their universities as they seek to give every student the opportunity to hear and respond to the gospel of Christ.

4th March

- Please pray for the morning service. Pray that the Holy Spirit would work through Gordon and teach the congregation.
- Pray for the care home services taking place this afternoon. Pray that God would come and be present in the homes and that those who are there would be able to enjoy the time of worship, teaching and fellowship.
- Pray for the Young People's Reborn group meeting tonight. Ask that they would have fun and build friendships as they learn more about Jesus. We hope that through they would have the courage to share the Good News with their friends.

21st March

- Please pray for the church home group as they study the Bible together and seek to learn more of Jesus' love and grace. Pray that God will also bless their time fellowship together.
- UCB asks us to pray - Lord you have called me into your kingdom to serve you in this specific place at this specific time and for this specific purpose. Despite my ordinariness, I belong to you, and you are anything but ordinary! Today help me to pour out your grace and compassion upon others, that they too may experience the richness of your love.
- Pray that the Holy Spirit would transform your heart and focus your life upon serving God.

22nd March

- Pray for the worship group as they practice and prepare for leading praise on a Sunday. Ask that God remind us that our worship is all about Jesus.
- We pray for those known to us who are receiving treatment and coping with long term illness. May they know your healing touch. We give thanks for those who have experienced God's healing hand upon them these past few months.
- Give thanks for the Presbytery Prayer Meeting this morning. We ask that as our Church leaders meet together, the Spirit would be present among them guiding their thoughts.

23rd March

- We pray Lord for the young people in S1-S6 who are heading away to Lendrick Muir today for the East Lothian and Midlothian SU Weekend away. We hope that they will have a fun time together and will have an opportunity to build many new friendships. We hope that through hearing the Word of God taught by their leaders that they might come to have a relationship with Jesus.
- Pray for the learning community meetings happening at the Faith Mission today an tomorrow. We ask that the meetings would be educational and Spirit-filled. Give them direction Lord as they look to move your Kingdom forward in their local area.

24th March

- Give thanks to Jesus for all of the volunteers we have in our Church. They are working tirelessly to serve the Lord in a variety of different ways and we are very grateful for their service. We ask Lord that you would bless them in their roles. Pray also that we would have volunteers willing to serve by distributing the Easter leaflets. It is a key part of our mission in the community and hope it will encourage people to turn towards Jesus.
- Please pray for the New Tribes Mission Youth Conference for 16-30 yr olds which is happening this weekend. Pray to the Lord of the Harvest to use the conference to raise up and send forth more labourers for the work among unreached peoples of the world.

17th March

- Give thanks for the 11 people that attended SU's last Senior Supper. We pray that the Supper happening tonight will be similarly blessed and that everyone will enjoy spending time together.
- Give thanks that Bible Alive has been enthusiastically received in Windygoul Primary in Tranent, the sessions having been completed on the Old Testament and the next series covering stories from the New.
- Pray for the manse family as they support Gordon in his ministry.

18th March

- Pray for the discussion at the Annual Stated Meeting today. Ask God to help ensure that any concerns raised will be responded to with care and understanding. Pray that we would also remember to thank Jesus for the blessings our Church has received over the last year.
- Give thanks for the prayer walk taking place this afternoon and the opportunity that it provides our church to shower the town with prayer.
- Pray for the Young People's Reborn group meeting tonight. Ask that they would have fun and build friendships as they learn more about Jesus.

19th March

- Pray for the Dunbar Churches Together Meeting tonight. We ask that God would continue to strengthen them as they look to work together to grow Christ's kingdom here in Dunbar. We pray that the team would be given guidance on how best to carry out this work.
- Pray for those who met last night and those who are meeting today at Fresh Encounters. We give thanks for the freedom we have to study Your Word and we pray that you would reveal yourself to the two groups as they discuss and apply the teaching in Ephesians.
- Pray that the Church would maintain the Bible as our ultimate authority on God's word.

20th March

- Pray for the pastoral work being undertaken by our Church. We ask that Gordon and the team would be guided towards those who most need support and that they would be given the right words to say at the right time.
- We hope that through their love and kindness Christ's light may be able to shine through them to those they are helping. Post Alpha Home Group. Please pray for those meeting together in fellowship tonight. As they share food and study the Bible together, pray that Jesus would reveal more of Himself and his plan for their lives.

5th March

- We give thanks that God's word has the power and the authority over challenging situations. Pray for comfort and hope when reading the words, "Be still and know that I am God". Stillness and rest is what God desires for our hearts.
- Give thanks for Crossreach and the dedicated staff committed to caring for folk in their latter years. May the staff and Residents feel the love and compassion of Jesus embracing them each day.
- During this period of Lent, help us to take time to examine ourselves, reflect and seek God's guidance.

6th March

- Pray for the learning community meeting which is happening at Murrayfield this morning. Ask that God would bring his wisdom to the meeting and that he would be present there.
- Please pray for today for all of our partner churches around the world. We consider those with whom we have formal links such as the Living Church in Kibungo but also for all the churches that are connected through members of our respective congregations.
- Pray for the Eldership, Board Members and all in leadership within the Church. May they seek our loving Father's will when making decisions, and receive wisdom and discernment during their discussions.

7th March

- Pray for the work of the Basics Bank. Thank God that we have this unique opportunity to share the love of Jesus with people through meeting their physical needs.. Pray for the courage to share the gospel with others this month.
- Pray that the light of Christ will so shine in our lives, that others will be touched, and start questioning, and then asking to receive this gift, through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Pray that as a church we would use the gifts that God has given us to serve Him and to encourage others within the wider Church family.

8th March

- Pray for the SU Group meeting at the Grammar School today. Give thanks for the young people that are coming along seeking a relationship with Jesus, and pray for the leaders as they teach them more about Him.
- Pray for the Syrian families who are staying in Dunbar, as they adjust and integrate into life here. Pray they will feel welcomed and supported.
- During this period of Lent, help us to take time to examine ourselves, reflect and seek God's guidance.

9th March

- 3% of all Christian missionaries work in the region where 97% of the world's unreached are living. This is the area in which the Interserve ministry aims to make a difference. We pray Lord that the work done by the volunteers and staff of Interserve in the Asian and Arabic regions would bring this number down and that many more people would have the opportunity to hear and respond to the gospel. We would ask that you bless the different projects they are running as well as all of their missionaries with financial support so that they can continue to serve You.
- Pray for Churches in Scotland, that they would be devoted to the advance of the gospel.

10th March

- This morning the Traidcraft Big Brew is taking place at the Parish Church Hall. Pray that many people would be able to attend and enjoy fellowship together. We ask that God would bless the many conversations to be had and that the sale of Traidcraft goods would greatly bless many poor farmers and craftsmen and women from across the world.
- Pray for the churches' associated young peoples organisations such as the boys brigade and the guiding association. Give thanks for the opportunities these groups give to young people to learn valuable skills and pray that their association with the church the young people might learn something of you.

11th March

- Pray for those meeting together at the Prayer Breakfast this morning. We hope their time in fellowship will be guided by your Spirit and we thank you for their prayers. We thank you that you hear and respond to our prayers.
- Please pray for Gordon as he leads today's service. Pray that the Holy Spirit would give him wisdom as he teaches from God's Word.
- Pray for the congregation and the young people as we listen to God's Word today. Help us to have our hearts and minds ready to worship and learn about Jesus. We hope that through hearing your Word our relationship with you will grow.

12th March

- Please pray for more girls to apply for the SU East Lothian & Midlothian S1-S6 Weekend Away at Lendrick Muir (Mar. 23rd-25th). Similarly pray for more boys to apply to the primary age weekend (May 25th-27th). These represent a great opportunity for young people to come and ask questions and find out more about God whilst having fun doing many activities at the same time. We hope and pray that these camps will be full.
- The Kirk Session is meeting tonight to discuss and approve the accounts for the past year. Pray that God would give them wisdom as they review our resources and give thanks for their stewardship. Ask that they would use our finances to fulfil the Lord's plan.

13th March

- Post Alpha Home Group. Please pray for those meeting together in fellowship tonight. As they share food and study the Bible together, pray that Jesus would reveal more of Himself and his plan for their lives.
- We pray for Richard Taylor; the work and witness he has in our schools, and in the community. Give him energy and wisdom for each new day.
- Thank God that He has sent his Holy Spirit into the world to be our guide, comforter and strength.

14th March

- Pray for Little Fishes. Give thanks that through the commitment of volunteers we are able to provide a loving, caring and supporting environment for children to come and play together. Pray that more volunteers would come forward to help to support this work in our community.
- Pray for Joel Nicholas as he leads our prayer meeting tonight. We give thanks for this opportunity to learn more and to pray about the work that Gorebridge Parish Church and Young Life have been doing to bring young people to Christ. Help us Lord to remember their work over the coming months in our prayers.

15th March

- Pray for the worship group as they practice and prepare for leading praise on a Sunday. Ask that God would use them to remind us that our worship is all about Jesus.
- Pray that we would take time even when we are busy to persevere in spending time with God in Bible study and prayer so that our hearts might be transformed from the power of Christ's love.
- Pray for the SU Group meeting at the Grammar School today. Ask that Jesus would open the eyes of the young people to Him and that they would let Him enter their hearts.

16th March

- The staff and volunteers of Young Life enter the world of adolescents, focusing on what matters to them: fun, adventure, friendship and a sense of significance. We give thanks that this provides Young Life teams the privilege of talking to adolescents about something that we believe matters most of all: the truth about God and His love for them. Pray that through Young Life more young people would want to enter into a relationship with Jesus.
- Pray for the Cairn meeting tonight on Multiplying Missional Leaders. We hope that many of those who attend would be inspired to take on leadership positions within God's Church and to prayerfully encourage others to do so as well.