



## **East Staffs and South Derbyshire Prayer letter July 2024 Monday OR Wednesday 9.00 to 9.30 am**

If possible, please join your brothers and sisters in prayer around the circuit at one of these times in your week and  
If you feel it appropriate for you, just pick areas/ideas that appear most important and concentrate on them.

### **Jeremiah 23:24 (New International Version)**

**Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them?” declares the Lord. “Do not I fill heaven and earth?” declares the Lord.**

### **Give Thanks**

- For family and friends, especially those who have been mentors or positive examples in your life.
- For your neighbours, both those you find easy to get on with and those you struggle with.
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### **EACH WEEK**

- Continue to pray for ceasefires in Gaza and the Ukraine.
- During the pilgrimage to Mecca during the recent heatwaves in the middle East thousands have died from the effects of the heat. Pray for those families affected by the loss of loved ones on what was supposed to be a religious pilgrimage.
- Please continue to pray for our Circuit Leadership Team and those working with them to guide the circuit at this time.
- Pray for the elections planned for the Syrian elections 15<sup>th</sup> July, Rwanda 15<sup>th</sup> July, Venezuela presidential election 28<sup>th</sup> July that the will of the people in these countries (some of which have poor democratic credentials) will be observed by the parties involved.
- Continue to pray for neither the Middle East or the Ukraine to become a focus for world conflict and all that would mean for mankind. Pray for a consensus to be reached as to the future of Palestine and that a political end to the conflict will be reached that provides security for Palestinians and Israelis alike. Great statesmanship is needed throughout the world at this moment in time and it is difficult to see where it will come from.
- Pray for the Reverend Rachel as she returns from her sabbatical and looks to lead the circuit into the future.

### **Week one 1<sup>st</sup> July**

#### **1 Corinthians 7:17**

**Nevertheless, each person should live as a believer in whatever situation the Lord has assigned to them, just as God has called them. This is the rule I lay down in all the churches.**

- **1st July is Canada Day.** Pray for this vast country where populations are mainly in the towns and cities and travel to the more remote places is limited to plane or boat. Pray for the indigenous people (first nation peoples) who have to continually fight for the rights that most Canadians take for granted. Pray for the country as it moves to reduce its carbon footprint, moving the population from reliance on oil to using renewable energies and new technologies.
- Pray for all those **new MP's** who will be elected this week. Pray they will act responsibly in the interests of all the members of this country. Pray for them to accept the responsibility of governing fairly and in the interests of all citizens. They will need time to readjust to the new focus of their lives. Pray they will not be victims of baseless violence or abuse; pray they will have a balanced life with family and friends who support them in their work. Pray for the new cabinet and leaders of the government as they adapt to their new responsibilities.
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- July 3<sup>rd</sup> [National Bereaved Parents Day 2024](#) Pray for those parents who have lost children. It is a tragedy for any parent to lose a child especially when the child is young. We often think that the natural order of things means parents should pre-decease their children. Pray for all those who mourn their children that there will be opportunities for comfort and healing through the power of the Holy Spirit in their lives. Pray for those charities who support the bereaved especially those who are parents having lost children.

## Week Two 8<sup>th</sup> July

### [James 1:17](#)

**Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.**

- Pray for our **country**. At last, the country has the opportunity to move forward after a period of terrible decline. Pray that the people of our country will use their votes well and that a period of recovery can take place, not just in the everyday lives of the population but in the growth of respect for one another, for people with different or even opposite ideas.
- Over the next two weeks many **schools** will be breaking up for their summer holidays Pray that
  1. The pupils will be able to relax over the summer and recharge their batteries.
  2. That the teachers will also be able to relax and recover from the stress involved in meeting the governments targets and balancing that with providing education to suit all children.
  3. That the new schools minister will not seek to change things for change's sake.
  4. Pray for those leading summer schools, that their students will be safe and excited by the things they do.
- Pray for those **parents** seeking to do the best for their children during the summer. For those still working that the childcare they have to use will be a positive experience for their young ones and that when they go on holiday, if they can afford it, they will have a great time.

## Week Three 15<sup>th</sup> July

### [Hebrews 13:8](#)

**Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.**

- Pray for those **researchers** trying to find new, cheap/free ways of producing and storing energy for heating, cooling and powering industry. Pray for governments round the world to encourage innovations such as the sand batteries being used in Finland. As the world gets hotter there will be a growing need for air conditioning and production of renewable fuels will need to be expanded to cater for this. Pray for the innovators who are looking at ways of solving the problems the earth will meet over the next 5 to 10 decades.
- Pray for the work of **our circuit**. The work done by our paid employees and that of our volunteers. Pray especially for our Methodist based charities -Action for Children (formerly NCH), LWPT - Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust, LWP Homes, MHA – Housing and care for older people, Methodist Ministers Housing Society, All We Can (formerly Methodist relief and development fund) and MWiB – Methodist Women in Britain. All these charities seek to promote the Methodist church and its commitment to justice and equality.
- Pray for all those Christians working in **the music industry** that they can take the love of Christ into the workplace, whether in classical or pop culture. Pray especially for them to have the confidence to speak truth to the people they work with and the media that can be so influential. Pray for those who are so famous they have online followings that they may be true to the gospel of Christ in their communications with fans and with the music Industry in general.

## Week Four 22<sup>nd</sup> July

### [Romans 13:8](#)

**Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law.**

- **The African Union** has made serious efforts in the last decade to develop a full-fledged architecture for the prevention and management of conflict, however, that is so far yet to produce tangible results. Its performance has continued to be mixed. Pray that the Union will develop further protocols to help prevent wars within the continent. The AU continues to struggle with inconsistent funding and resources (provided largely by the European Union), and political divisions and lack of political will among its member states. This situation has meant that mediators, often from outside of the region, who are part of the problem, have taken leading roles in conflicts like Sudan and Libya. Despite its elaborate structures aimed at peace-making, the African Union (AU) is clearly failing to end conflicts on the continent. Last month's annual AU summit in Addis Ababa should have been an opportunity for heads of state to tackle the many raging conflicts. Leaders at the event on February 17 and 18, 2024 said they were extremely concerned about the war in Sudan, armed groups threatening lives in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and jihadist violence in the Sahel. However, they made little progress.
- There are several factors behind this. One is the AU's institutional weakness. It is mired in bureaucracy and often doesn't have enough money to send mediators to conflict zones or pay extra staff for the AU's offices in various African capitals. Or else it has to wait for funding from donors, who often try to influence the AU's priorities. Another obstacle is competition between member states. Many don't agree on how to tackle conflicts or where the AU should be heading. And like the UN, the AU is an intergovernmental organization that can only take action on conflict when member states authorize it. Pray for a commitment to permanent peace throughout the African Union and not just when it suits individuals and parties involved in the conflicts.
- **July 24<sup>th</sup> is National Schizophrenia Awareness Day**. Pray for those services and charities that support people with this condition. Pray for the researchers trying to find new cures and to find out the causes of this condition. Doctors often describe schizophrenia as a type of psychosis This means the person may not always be able to distinguish their own thoughts and ideas from reality and as a result have hallucinations, muddled thought processes and delusions. Pray for the families of such people who often find themselves with no support as the mental health system in the UK is not currently fit for purpose.

## Week Five 29<sup>th</sup> July.

### [1 John 3:11](#)

For this is the message you heard from the beginning: **We should love one another.**

- **Emergency Services.** Pray for the emergency services that we so often rely on. The Ambulance Service, Mountain Rescue, Cave Rescue, Fire and Rescue, Police, Coast Guard and Lifeboat Association. Much of their work is done under great stress and often in conditions ordinary people would be unable to cope with. Pray especially this week for the Coast Guard service, working to keep our coasts safe but often vilified for its work and actions over asylum seekers and boats. Their National Day is August 4<sup>th</sup>. Pray especially for Mountain Rescue, Cave Rescue, National Lifeboats and Air Ambulances as these services are funded by donation not the government
- **National Immunisation awareness month.** This month is designed to highlight the need for children and young people to be immunized against both childhood and adult diseases that can threaten to end or alter life chances and expectancies. After the tragic cases of autism being blamed on vaccines and the ridiculous scare stories and conspiracy theories on the internet, the level of immunity for many formerly common diseases has fallen and we are seeing the impact in rising cases of such things as measles and whooping cough. Pray for parents to receive the right advice so their children can be protected against these diseases.
- **Pray for all those volunteers** around the country organising and staffing fetes, barbeques, open arts, open gardens and other fundraising events for charities throughout the UK. Many charities rely on these events too be able to continue working and helping their local communities.

*A big thank you for joining in with the prayers. Obviously if something from one month becomes a burden on your heart then keep praying for it and I will endeavour to provide feedback where that is possible. Please feedback to me any things you would like the group to pray for and any ideas you might have to improve the way the group works. God Bless Steve 01283 820096*