

WORD AND SPIRIT

Pray for a coming together of the Word and Spirit in the Methodist Church. Pray for the church to return to a theology with the authority of scripture at its centre; for true repentance where it has moved away from biblical principles; for churches to take seriously the need for prayer and Bible study (2 Timothy 3:16; Romans 12:2).

FOCUS ON THE CHURCH

The Methodist Church: The President, Rev Richard Andrew and Vice President of Conference, Matthew Forsyth in their last weeks in office. Pray for Conference 25 June – 1 July, that all discussion and decisions will be honouring to God; pray for the President and Vice President designate, Rev Mark Slaney and Caroline Stead, as they prepare to take up office (Psalm 37:3-6; Proverbs 19:21).

Children and young people: Give thanks for the number of young people seeking and exploring faith; pray for their growth and nurture in spiritual and biblical truth. Pray for the Holy Spirit to inspire youth and children's workers across the nation to teach God's love in dynamic and creative ways. Pray for all who go into schools to bring the Christian message of hope (2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Mark 9:42).

FOCUS ON NATIONAL ISSUES

The shaking of the nation: As God begins the shaking of the nation, pray for people's eyes to turn to the Lord in

the days that lie ahead; for the light of Christ to shine into the dark corners of our land. Pray for God to prepare each of us to speak out boldly and courageously to share our faith stories with those outside the church that they may find their hope in Jesus (Haggai 2:7; Psalm 46:1-3).

Integrity and accountability: For integrity and honesty in all institutions and services throughout the nation – both public and private sectors, such as in the media, government and the Royal family. Pray for all decisions made to be for the good of the population and not individual interests; for God to continue bringing into the light that which is hidden in darkness (Proverbs 10:9; 1 Peter 3:10-12).

FOCUS ON WORLD ISSUES

Focus on Yemen, the third most dangerous country globally for Christians. Pray for a loosening of control by Houthi rebels, an Islamic militant group who brutally persecute Christians. Pray that God would bring peace and justice to Yemen; that secret churches will be able to meet, and for leaders to find the strength to keep serving (1 Corinthians 16:13; Isaiah 41:9-11).

Focus on Sudan, ranked the fourth most dangerous country. Pray for a peaceful resolution to Sudan's civil war, a future for the church and protection over all believers. Pray for openings for Sudanese Christians to spread Jesus' peace to others (Jeremiah 32:17; Deuteronomy 31:6).

THE FORGOTTEN FIFTH ALL OF METHODISM

Pray for this forgotten Fifth All of Methodism to be spread abroad; for the Holy Spirit to convict people of the necessity of ‘telling our story’; courage for people to step out in faith into the unknown to talk about what Jesus means to them, a ‘must’ to witness about our salvation; pray for the church to wake up and sing our song! (Matthew 5:13-17; 1 Peter 3:13-15).

FOCUS ON THE CHURCH

Revival: Pray for the wind of God’s Spirit to blow through the church, bringing repentance and a turning

away from all that is not holy; pray for a return to our foundational roots of spreading Christian holiness across the land; pray for an acceptance and a desire to seek the work of the Holy Spirit; for all in positions of leadership within the church to uphold godly values (2 Timothy 4:1-4; James 4:4-10).

Cliff College: Pray for the Principal, Rev Andrew Stobart, and staff; for spiritual growth and confidence for all students; suitable placements and experiences for students to share their faith and reach out to others; for more students to come to the college to explore

their calling; adequate funding for all the courses.
(Psalm 25:4-5; James 1:22-25).

FOCUS ON NATIONAL ISSUES

The Government: As the nation is shaken, pray for wisdom and discernment for the Prime Minister and all Members of Parliament; pray for a return to integrity and trust amongst all politicians; pray for openness and honesty in all dealings and decisions. Pray for Christian MPs – for courage to stand firm on Christian principles and for their integrity to shine out; pray for a return to the Christian roots our land was built upon. (Haggai 2:6-7; Philippians 2:1-5).

Natural disasters: Pray for all who have been affected by the recent flooding across the nation; for finance to rebuild homes and damaged infrastructure; for careful discernment of where it is necessary to build flood defences by the appropriate authorities. Pray for people to turn to the Lord to find hope in their distress and light in their darkness. (Nahum 1:7; 2 Corinthians 1:3-4).

FOCUS ON WORLD ISSUES

Planet in crisis: Given the apparent changing weather patterns across the globe with areas affected by extremes of weather, such as soaring temperatures and flooding, pray for resources to combat the underlying causes; for new strains of crops to stand extremes of weather; for farmers to cope with these extremes of weather. Cry to the Lord for mercy. (2 Chronicles 7:13-14; Revelation 4:11).

The Middle East: Pray for the situation in the Middle East and for peace. Pray for wisdom and discernment for the Israeli and American governments and leaders around the world. Pray for a turning to Christ of both Jew and Muslim. Pray for godly leadership in Iran and for a tolerance to Christians in the country; pray for protection for the growing Iranian church; for the mental and physical wellbeing and release of Christians in prison. (Matthew 17:20; Luke 12:11-12).

LAY WORKERS

Give thanks for the inspiration and work for the Lay Witness Movement and its legacy. Pray for all lay workers across the church in whatever form that may take – local preachers, leaders of worship, pastoral workers, youth and children's workers. Pray that they may be inspired by the Holy Spirit in their work for the Lord; for many to be impacted by their witness and come into a closer relationship with the Lord. (Hebrews 4:12; Romans 8:15).

FOCUS ON THE CHURCH

MET:Revive: Chris Briggs as chair; for the trustees and Marian Izzard as administrator; David Hull's role as ambassador, particularly for invitations from churches to speak; wisdom and discernment on the way forward.

Online Bible studies and prayer meetings; the upcoming AGM in May and MET:Revive's involvement at Cliff Festival. (Colossians 1:9-12; Hebrews 13:20-21).

Hope: For people across the Connexion to keep their hope fixed on Jesus in these dark and difficult days; to reach out and grasp his assurance and keep hold of the promises in Scripture and let his light guide us in the darkness of all that is happening in our nation and the world. (Romans 15:13; Psalm 119:114).

FOCUS ON NATIONAL ISSUES

Gang culture: For all who are involved in gang culture and all it entails; the breaking up of county lines and drug supply chains; for Christian youth workers reaching out to lost youngsters with a better pathway; for our youth to find their hope in Jesus, leading to transformation in their lives; for a realisation of the fruitlessness of violence; for the police as they attempt to combat the violence across our land. (Psalm 145:17-20; Psalm 107:13-16).

Children and young people: For youngsters who are suffering from anxiety, depression, and associated illnesses; for underlying causes to be identified and for specialist help to be available at an early stage; for people to reach out to help these vulnerable young people. (Luke 12:6-7; Isaiah 41:10).

FOCUS ON WORLD ISSUES

Russia/Ukraine: Pray for a peace which is acceptable to Ukraine and not biased towards Russia; for a halt to the targeting of power supplies and the civilian population. Give thanks for the distribution of Bibles in Ukraine over the last 4 years. Pray for a continued spread of the gospel amongst troops on the front lines – both Ukrainian and Russian – and amongst the population, bringing hope in their darkness. Pray for protection for Russian Christians in a repressive regime; for the Russian Orthodox Church to be true to biblical belief (Proverbs 3:5-7; Romans 1:18).

The World Economic Forum (WEF): Pray for the influence of the WEF on the world and for prominent business leaders to be open and honest. Pray for integrity and the exposure of any negative and erroneous ideologies that might be harmful to humankind. Pray for the Holy Spirit to work in the lives of the CEO and the managing board responsible for the forum's mission and operations. (Micah 6:8; Isaiah 66:1-2).

PRAYER FOCUS CONTACT

The Prayer Focus section is compiled by Roz Addington. If you wish to contact Roz with any prayer requests or prayer related items, please contact her via prayer@metrevive.uk