



Power Points

Issue 100:
July – Oct 2017

1st July please pray for:

- a youth weekend for 9-13 year olds on the Isle of Wight from 30 June to 2 July.
- the Wessex & South Western Synods Big Day Out on 1st July at Burgate School, Fordingbridge. A day of fun and celebration for all the family.
- for Alison Wright as she prepares to leave Shanklin and begin a new job with the churches in Alton.
- development of the new GEAR website resource Praytheway.org.uk to facilitate prayer around the URC and its focus on discipleship and mission.

Week beginning 2nd July please pray for:

- GEAR Focus Group meeting at City Temple on 6th July
- Just One evangelistic event with J John at the Emirates Stadium on 8th July
- the ordinations and inductions of new ministers around this time and for the churches they will serve.
- **the Retired Ministers' Housing society and all the work they do** to provide housing and support in their homes for many retired URC ministers and spouses, and especially on Thursday 6th July when the society holds interviews for the post of General manager of the society.

(PTO)

Week beginning 2nd July (ctd.) please pray for:

- the Mersey & North Western Synods Big Day Out at Southport Convention Centre on the 8th July. Barrel loads of fun and inspiration for young and old with speakers including Steve Chalke, workshops from puppetry to piety and a plethora of stalls, worship and singing.

Week beginning 9th July please pray for:

- the Romans One Eleven Trust group visit to Uganda from 9th to 29th July. Jon Sermon and Chris Vivian are going for the whole time, with Mike and Jane Saqui joining them until 22nd. Please pray for safe travels, good health and fruitful meetings with the many pastors, churches, schools and others who will be met during the trip.
- Adeyfield Free Church, Hemel Hempstead as they gain access and begin the fit out of their new building from the 11th July. Pray for the whole congregation to be engaged in ministry.
- the graduation on 16th July of the first group of student pastors to complete their studies at the Karokajenga Spiritual Life Centre near Kyenjojo in Uganda, overseen by the Romans One Eleven Trust. Jon Sermon and Chris Vivian will be taking part in the ceremony.
- **Wessex Synod youth camp “Re:Claim”** at Ferny Crofts Activity Centre in The New Forest from 14th to 16th July
- Pray for the Leadership Team for the Dunamis Fellowship in Britain and Ireland as they meet to pray for that ministry on 15th July.
- the East Midlands Synod Study Day at Sherwood URC, Nottingham on 15th July. The day will be led by the Revd Dr David Cornick on the theme of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

Week beginning 16th July please pray for:

- churches in vacancy often without a clear way forward in the immediate future. Pray for the raising up of lay people for leadership and an active raising of hope and the spreading of the gospel. Pray for Sompting URC where they have been without a minister for 6 years and now there is a plan for the 4 churches in the Worthing area. Please pray for those making decisions about ministry and for the churches to form good plans to work together.
- **interviews for the 'URC's Head of Children's and Youth Work'** on Wednesday 19th July.
- **the participants in CWM's** Face-to-Face program for theological students after they have completed 7 weeks of study on migration and human trafficking in the UK ending on July 14th. Pray for the international links the students will have formed and for the lessons learned will be integrated into future living and ministry. Please also pray for the victims of human trafficking and those ministering to them.

Week beginning 23rd July please pray for:

- the setting up of phones and IT preliminary to the return of staff to Church House and pray for staff as their time away from Church House comes to an end hopefully before the end of July. Pray for staff to quickly settle into the new environment.
- Messy church initiatives at Charlton URC on July 25th and August 29th and at the church plant in West Thamesmead on July 26th.
- URC young people at the first Soul Survivor event from 26th July to 1st August.

Week beginning 30th July please pray for:

- Welcome, hospitality and outreach during Shanklin Carnival from the 2nd August and during the rest of the week.

Week beginning 6th August please pray for:

- the many families taking holidays at this time. Pray also for those families unable to afford a break. Pray for strengthening of family ties, relaxation for parents under pressure and the space to reflect on areas for strengthening family, for children and young people to grow in understanding of good relationships and for families to put Christ at the centre of their lives.

Week beginning 13th August please pray for:

- URC young people at the second and third Soul Survivor events between 19th and 29th August. Also for Andrew and Sally Willett taking a group of young people to Soul Survivor for the second event from the 19th to 23rd.
- the people of Plymstock United Church as they enjoy multiple celebrations this weekend: first the marriage of one of their young women and then some believers' baptisms 19-20.

Week beginning 20th August please pray for:

- the 'Kingdom Advance & Spiritual Warfare' Dunamis event at Zion United Church, Frampton Cotterell, led by Elaine Pierpont and for Lynne James and Pauline Eyles as they do the teaching. 21-25 August.
- Greenbelt at Boughton House, near Kettering from the 25th to 28th August. The festival celebrates the arts, faith and justice – re-imagining the Christian narrative for today. The URC is an official associate of the festival.

Week beginning 27th August please pray for:

- preparations for our Ministers' Conference Refreshing your

Ministry in November.

- for the many meetings at Church House in the next three weeks of September, as various church committees pick up their business after the summer break. Next week for Pensions Executive (5), Investment Committee (6), Education & Learning Committee (6 – 7), Mission Council Advisory Group (8) & Finance Committee (9)

Week beginning 3rd September please pray for:

- Rose Wakeman at Shanklin celebrating her 100th birthday
- a mission weekend in Rhos North Wales led by Sally and Andrew Willett on Sept 8th and 9th.

Week beginning 10th September please pray for:

- Wessex Synod ministers' day at Salisbury on the 14th.
- centenary celebrations of the ordination of Constance Coltman on 17th Sep – the first ordination of a woman in a Free Church denomination. A short film about her is available at <http://www.urc.org.uk/media-news/1767-constance-coltman-film-released-today.html>.

Week beginning 17th September please pray for:

- the Evangelical Alliance and all the work it does to unite Christians to spread the good news of Jesus Christ and especially for their Council meeting at High Leigh from the

20th to 21st with Brian Harley attending and representing GEAR.

- final preparations for the local Songs of Praise style event on the Isle of Wight, due to take place on Sunday 24th. Pray that it will grow still further following its success last year.

Week beginning 24th September please pray for:

- the prayer event at Hythe URC with Sally Willett on Sept 30th and Oct 1st.
- a renewal day at St. Andrews URC, Dartford where Andrew Willett is leading on Sept 30th.
- all 13 Synod of the URC with a view to the autumn meetings that mainly take place in October.

Week beginning 1st October please pray for:

- two Wessex Synod events at looking at Mental Health Awareness: Reducing Stigma, Resourcing the Church. The events are at Canford Heath, and at Woking on the 7th and 14th respectively.

(ctd.)

Week beginning 1st October (ctd.) please pray for:

- the Movement Day event being held on the 6th and 7th. It is being held at Central Hall, Westminster. The event invites us to be part of a nationwide conversation based around the

words of the prophet Jeremiah: “Seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have called you into. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” (Jer 29:7) “There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry, Mine.” Abraham Kuyper, 1880

- an elders 24hours away for Christ Church, Petts Wood, Orpington, Kent with Sally Willett leading on Oct. 6th and 7th.

Week beginning 8th October please pray for:

- the GEAR committee meeting at Barnes Close on Oct 10th and 11th

Week beginning 15th October please pray for:

- Canterbury URC, where Paul Stokes will be leading a weekend event exploring the topic 'Growing the Church in the Power of the Holy Spirit' on 20th to 22nd.

Week beginning 22nd October please pray for:

- the 500th anniversary of Luther nailing Ninety-Five Theses to Castle Church door in Wittenberg on October 31st and what being part of a Reformed church means to you.

Week beginning 29th October please pray for:

- many churches which will look forward to the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in their services today.

- As we approach All-Saints day when we remember all Christian saints, we remember that they all received the light of Christ into their lives and witnessed to the difference that Jesus makes possible in all our lives. On the evening before on the 31st many churches have started to have light parties for children to counter the darkness of Halloween. Pray for faith, hope and charity to enter young lives and for blessing in and for Light Parties being held in various churches.
- All-Saints Day. Many Christians in the Reformed tradition consider all Christians as saints, not just the famous figures of faith from the past. We pray for each other and thank God for the stories that remind us of the faith of witnesses from the past.
- the Dunamis Listening Evangelism event at Ashburnham from the 1st to 5th Nov. This will conclude the current track of six events.

Please email items for the next issue of 'Power Points' (November 2017 - February 2018) to Richard Turnbull by 30th September 2017 to prayer@gear.org.uk or post to 3 Oban Road, Beeston, NOTTINGHAM NG9 4FX