



PRESBYTERY OF NORTH EAST & NORTHERN ISLES

PRAYER POINTS – SEPTEMBER 2024



Please use these ‘Points’ in personal prayer,
but also encourage their use in church services/meetings, study & prayer groups.

Psalm 138: 1-3, 8 NLT

I give you thanks, O Lord, with all my heart;

² ...I praise your name for your unfailing love and faithfulness;
for your promises are backed by all the honour of your name.

³ As soon as I pray, you answer me; you encourage me by giving me strength.

⁸ The Lord will work out his plans for my life—
for your faithful love, O Lord, endures forever.

THOSE RECENTLY RETIRED...

Eternal Father God, we pray for Kenneth Petrie, Eddie McKenna, Louis Kinsey (Aberdeen charges) and Douglas Stevenson (Cullen & Deskford, Moray) as they settle into retirement. May they continue to know your unfailing love and faithfulness and the plans you have for their lives going forward. Even ‘in old age’ may ‘they still produce fruit and remain vital and green’! [Psalm 92: 14 NLT] Come to their congregations, Lord, as they too start a new phase in their journeys of faith. Encourage them with new strength and godly local leadership. May praise and thanksgiving overflow in meaningful worship and caring service.

... AND THOSE RECENTLY ‘ROOTED’

Daria Oskolkova [‘Dasha’] - **Communications Officer** aiming to engage with the wider community through different forms of media and media contacts.

Refugee from Kharkiv, Ukraine. Graduate of St Andrews University 2013-14, now in Cove Bay, Aberdeen. “I hope [to] bring my passion for storytelling to Presbytery and use my skills in sharing Good News stories with as many people as possible.”



Matt Sinar - **Youth Development Officer**, aiming to inspire congregations with a vision for mission to and with Secondary School age youth and young adults. Originating in Blackpool, now in Stonehaven with his wife and two young boys. “I believe God’s intention for his church has always been intergenerational, and that if we want to hand the church over to biblically-grounded godly leaders for the future, one of our top priorities must be youth ministry today.”

Ever faithful Lord, we pray for these young staff members as they get to know folk and seek your wisdom and guidance to discover and learn how best to serve Presbyters across the region. Grant vibrant faith, hope and patient perseverance, we pray!

- Pray for those in your own areas who will be links with Dasha and Matt in spreading the Good News of Jesus’ love and desire, and ability, to ‘save the world’ through radically transformed lives.
CH 771 - *If you believe and I believe and we together pray;
The Holy Spirit shall come down and set God’s people free...*

ALPHA YOUTH SERIES EVENTS - pupils at Mackie Academy, Stonehaven ran successful AYS series in the school library after school during the final term of the 2023-24 academic year. Joe, one of the pupils involved, said, *"We started with only a few guests on the first week. However, I kept praying...! By the end of the course there were 14 of us!*

Lord, how we rejoice in this outreach and pray for Joe and those involved in running courses to be filled and empowered by your Holy Spirit. Give them full confidence in your Word and power!

THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 7-8 pm ZOOM PRAYER MEETING, led by Moderator, Shuna Dicks, for the unique event and way forward for **19 ORKNEY congregations uniting in a single Kirk Session** on 1st October.

[See Prayer Points for March 2024 for names, geography, scale of project.]

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81869917861?pwd=oBT6UUQ3RCWDrHVlLkmbi87D1v17v.1>

Mighty God and Head of the Church, we pray for an outpouring of your Holy Spirit on these 19 congregations. May the surrounding communities be impacted and led to say, 'See how these Christians love one another'. May your name be glorified by this unified witness and many people brought into your Kingdom, as leaders and members work and pray together in humble, joyful service

FRIDAY 6 SEPTEMBER - Service of Union of Torry St Fittick's and South St Nicholas Kincorth congregations, forming the **new united charge of Aberdeen South Church of Scotland**.

*Heavenly Father, please bless and help these and all the other congregations and charges forming new unions or groupings to rejoice in your leading and guiding. Take away undue sadness or bitterness. Fill hearts with thanksgiving for past blessings and with hope and firm faith for a future **still** held in your unfailing love and faithfulness.*

SEPTEMBER (& October) SHETLAND is hosting ***Threads through Prayer & Creation***, two collections of large textile art panels which have travelled up from Devon, having toured many cathedrals and churches around the UK. Artist **Jacqui Parkinson** says: "My Christian faith is the creative trigger in most of my work. My work is designed to catch the eye and set you thinking." The **Creation** collection is in St Magnus Episcopal Church, **Lerwick**.



The **Prayer** collection will tour the islands.

"Prayer is all about establishing a personal relationship with God, revealing our feelings and thoughts to a most reliable friend. It is a relationship which is constantly being renewed and explored."



SATURDAY 7 SEPTEMBER - NENI PRESBYTERY CONFERENCE DAY, Fountainhall at the Cross, Aberdeen. *Gracious God, Please bless this time together with effective business and happy fellowship. We pray especially for Shuna, Stella, Peter, Ruth, James and all Committee Conveners as they work together to deliver an informative meeting, making wise and timely decisions. Grant safe travel to all and freedom from technical glitches. Bless Very Rev Sally Foster-Fulton as she shares with and challenges us on legacy of slavery issues.*

WED 25 – SUN 29 SEP - Events leading to closing service for St KANE's., NEW DEER
Living Lord, thank you for all the years of faithful worship conducted at St Kane's. We pray for those who have celebrated life-events there and feel a strong connection to the building. May they look to you for the eternal support and comfort that only you can give. As we pray for St Kane's and its people, so we pray for congregations all over NENI going through similar processes, as ancient and well-loved church buildings close their doors for the last time. Please help those in charge to be wise in the handling of things to be protected, preserved or passed on. In your mercy, Lord, grant that these buildings earmarked for disposal, might have a 'clean' ending or be put to good use by and for their communities where possible. Only you can do this, Lord. We trust in you alone.

Great Creator God,

*Thank you for sharing your creative gifts with human beings. Please bless the tour coordinator, **Parish Development Worker, Michele Simms**. May all who attend be blessed and made to think and speak of spiritual things. As we pray for this special tour, we give thanks for all those who have used their talents to beautify churches throughout the NENI area with banners, paintings, stained glass and carvings over all the years of their existence. All honour & glory be to YOU.*