

<p>Tuesday 23rd May Eve's Space is working with a woman in her thirties who has been in prison a few times but is making very positive changes in her life. We have placed her in a new flat and are hoping to enrol her in college soon. This will be very alien to her. Please pray that God will give wisdom as to which course is right for her and that He would help her to keep her path straight.</p>	<p>Wednesday 24th May Praise God for the positive outcomes of the one-to-one cookery courses that are provided by Friends of Fun Food. Adults and children have been visibly encouraged, have improved their cookery and budgeting skills, and have increased their confidence in the kitchen. Pray that they continue to put these skills into practice and continue to have fun!</p>	<p>Thursday 25th May Please pray for the continued development of our Friends of Fun Food project. We are looking for new and innovative ways to increase our presence and deliver more group and one-to-one sessions for both adults and children.</p>
<p>Friday 26th May Please continue to pray for those young people known to RUNA who are at risk of antisocial behaviour, crime and sexual exploitation. Pray for God to have an impact in their lives and lead them to love and respect themselves and other people.</p>	<p>Saturday 27th May Please continue to pray for young people known to RUNA and their families and friends who are experiencing abuse and exploitation. Pray for God's intervention and that people will feel able to reach out for help to end unhealthy relationships, and for guidance for RUNA when working within these complicated situations.</p>	<p>Sunday 28th May Please continue to pray for out-of-borough young people. Some of the young people known to RUNA are the responsibility of other local authorities and can struggle to get support when they are out of their home area. Please pray that they will easily get access to the services they need and that they get help and support from their carers.</p>
<p>Monday 29th May Preparations are well under way for Bolton Lunches 2017. Please pray for all the pieces to come together in making the project work. Pray too for the provision of finances as we look to feed thousands of children over the summer holidays. Thank you.</p>	<p>Tuesday 30th May Over the next month we will see a number of Year 5 and 6 children from several different primary schools coming to learn about homelessness, poverty and the work of Urban Outreach. Please pray that these sessions are informative and that the children learn about the difference they can make in Bolton.</p>	<p>Wednesday 31st May Please pray for our continued relationships with local schools. Let's thank God for the support of so many schools around Bolton and their generous hearts. Please pray that the relationships will grow in order that Urban Outreach can play a small part in educating children and young people about social issues in Bolton.</p>

'Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.' 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Prayer Diary





April - May 2017


 UrbanOutreachBolton


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<p>REGULAR THINGS TO PRAY FOR</p> <p>Monday Local Welfare Provision, Eve's Space with Probation Tuesday Storehouse, Street Life Drop-In Wednesday Urban Outreach Team Time, Local Welfare Provision Friday Local Welfare Provision</p> <p>admin@urbanoutreach.co.uk 01204 385848 www.urbanoutreach.co.uk</p>		<p>Saturday 1st April As the doors on our Winter Watch Project close for this year, let us thank God for His amazing provision and for meeting our every need. 1 Cor.12v12 says 'The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body.' Praise God for so many people, with different gifts, coming together, in mission, to serve our local people.</p>
<p>Sunday 2nd April Please join us as we thank God for a successful application for the Police and Crime Commissioner's Active Citizen's Fund. This will help UOB and other partnering agencies to heighten community awareness around the Modern Slavery issues that are facing Bolton. Our prayer is that as we progress, God will use our ideas and shine His light into those dark places.</p>	<p>Monday 3rd April In these days, when so much is uncertain and many changes are taking place throughout the world, we need to continually go to God and ask for His wisdom. God has placed Urban Outreach in a time such as this. Please pray particularly for the Trustees, that as they ask God for wisdom, they will hear His voice and 'serve' accordingly.</p>	<p>Tuesday 4th April Please give thanks for the relationship between RUNA and a person who was spiralling into substance misuse, alcohol abuse, risky relationships and poor choices. A month ago her situation felt on the verge of hopeless BUT she has now stopped using substances and drinking, has broken ties with many bad associates and is engaging with workers.</p>
<p>Wednesday 5th April Please pray for RUNA's relationships with other agencies and schools. As the project continues to grow and develop, it is important that we keep the positive relationships which have grown over the years. Please pray that we are able to explain ourselves clearly, respond to people graciously and continue to develop strong relationships.</p>	<p>Thursday 6th April Please pray for a woman who has been the victim of domestic violence. She has made a fresh start in a new home and has developed an innovative business. Ask that God would protect her family and allow her business to flourish so that she is empowered to provide for her family and break free from the control of the past.</p>	<p>Friday 7th April As the school term ends, please pray for the families that will find the holiday period trying. Pray for enough food, time and resources to help families manage. Pray also that children will be kept safe and well, particularly those who are at risk of exploitation or harm.</p>

'Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.' Hebrews 10:23

<p>Sunday 14th May Please pray for a young lady known to RUNA. She is continuing to go missing without understanding of consequences or dangers. Pray for her safety and pray her family will continue to love and support her, even with her challenging behaviour. Pray too that she will be aware of the risk she is putting herself in and engage with professionals to get help.</p>	<p>Monday 15th May Please pray for a well-earned break for Samuel and Laura this week. Pray for safety as they travel and that they will be refreshed and re-charged by their time away from work. Pray that services they are responsible for will run smoothly in their absence and for the staff and volunteers providing essential cover in their absence.</p>	<p>Tuesday 16th May Please pray for the Poverty Conference that we are hosting at the Grace Centre today. Please pray for collaborations to build between churches and the pooling of skills and talents to enable us to reach out in unity to communities across Bolton. #####CHECK DATE WITH SAM—IN CALENDAR AS 9TH MAY#####</p>
<p>Wednesday 17th May Please continue to pray for young people known to RUNA who are also parents or carers, or parents-to-be. Pray that God will intervene in their lives and help them to have a positive, nurturing family life within their community.</p>	<p>Thursday 18th May Praise God for continual progress being made with one of the men we work with through Support First. He smiles so much more than he used to! Please pray that the positive changes continue and pray for his wider family, especially his two grandchildren who are caught up in a history of pain, addiction and hurt.</p>	<p>Friday 19th May Please pray for all our clients who suffer from personality disorders as the numbers are rising amongst those we are working with. Pray that we can gain a greater understanding of the difficulties they face on a daily basis and that God shows us how best we can help them.</p>
<p>Saturday 20th May Please pray for all those involved in the running of Bolton Council. Pray that God blesses them with wisdom in the decisions they make for Bolton and that at the heart of these decisions remain the people from all walks of life who make up the community of Bolton.</p>	<p>Sunday 21st May Please give thanks for the progress made with a lady that is working with Eve's Space. She has successfully completed detox and has under-gone a major transformation in her attitude. Please pray that she continue to make positive changes and for God's strength as she deals with her mum's illness.</p>	<p>Monday 22nd May Please pray for changes and new opportunities being planned for 2017 with Urban Outreach and the organisations we work with. Pray that God will provide clear guidance and that the UOB staff team and trustees are receptive and attuned to His guiding hand.</p>

'I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore with loving kindness I have drawn you.' Jeremiah 31:3

<p>Friday 5th May Please pray for the many people we see every week through the Street Life project. Pray they would see the love of God through everything we do and that this would lead them to wanting to know God for themselves. Pray for breakthrough; that they would be set free from their chaotic lifestyles.</p>	<p>Saturday 6th May Please pray for the family of a 14 year old boy that RUNA are supporting. The children have recently moved back in with their mum and they are struggling to rebuild relationships and boundaries. Please pray that the appropriate support can be found for the whole family to enable them to rebuild and move on together.</p>	<p>Sunday 7th May Please thank God for the safe arrival of a baby, born to a young person known to RUNA. Pray that God will be with them both, their family, community and the professionals who are working with them.</p>
<p>Monday 8th May Please pray for all of our prolific reported missing children who continually put themselves and others at risk. Thank God for bringing them to RUNA and pray for God to intervene in situations where young people go missing but are not reported, so that families and young people can have appropriate support.</p>	<p>Tuesday 9th May Please pray for young people known to RUNA who are secretive and quiet in their habits. Often this behaviour can hide all kinds of issues, rather than being just un-cooperative or rude. Please pray for God to open their hearts to support from RUNA and those who care about them.</p>	<p>Wednesday 10th May As we seek to serve God today, help us to meditate and consider these words: <i>“Do everything without complaining or arguing so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the word of life”</i> (Philippians 2:15).</p>
<p>Thursday 11th May <i>‘Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted’</i> (Psalm 46:10). Please pray for a man experiencing high anxiety and depression. This is having a negative impact on his family and housing situation. Ask for God’s peace and calm in his life.</p>	<p>Friday 12th May A mum has been referred to Family First who has struggled to engage with services in the past. Pray for a change of heart in her and the development of a new openness and trust. Ask God to break through the barrier of hurt and distress and allow positive change to come.</p>	<p>Saturday 13th May Please pray for a lady who had gone from being homeless to housed and was doing well. She had started going to church and stopped offending. However, some bad associates started hanging around and she began to take crack cocaine and is now addicted. Pray that God will protect her, direct her back on the right path and complete the good work He has begun.</p>

‘For you, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, And abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You.’ Psalm 86:5

<p>Saturday 8th April Please pray for our young people at Easter. Pray for a relaxing time to re-boot and re-fuel. Not all our young people have firm boundaries or even stable family lives. Please pray that the school holidays won’t be a stressful time but an enjoyable one.</p>	<p>Sunday 9th April Please pray for a young woman who has really engaged with Eve’s Space and has made very positive changes in her life. She is working really hard to get her children returned to her but is finding it hard at times to stay positive whilst living with the uncertainty as to whether or not she will get them back. The court will make a decision in May.</p>	<p>Monday 10th April Please pray for a young woman, who since leaving prison in January, has become involved with a very violent man. This lady needs the courage to make that final leap and leave for good. Please ask that God opens the right doors for her and that He keep her safe until she can get out of Bolton.</p>
<p>Tuesday 11th April As Storehouse is open this morning please pray that it is a place of hope for people as they come to receive their food. Pray for the volunteers that they speak words of life with wisdom into people’s situations. We thank God for the continued provision of Storehouse and pray that people continue to engage with other services in order that they might come out of their circumstances.</p>	<p>Wednesday 12th April Over the last couple of months there has been an increase in the number of people accessing Local Welfare Provision. It is becoming increasingly hard for families to afford to live as a result of benefit cuts. Please pray that the funding will continue for this valuable project and that people will continue to be able to access the support.</p>	<p>Thursday 13th April Give thanks for all the volunteers who help move and sort the food and stock up the shelves at Storehouse Pantry at the Hope Centre each week. Thank God for the opportunity for the church and unchurched to stand together, side by side supporting those in need on Johnson Fold, and for the opportunity to shine God’s love into every dark and gloomy place.</p>
<p>Friday 14th April <i>“God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners”</i> (Romans 5:8). Let us worship and praise God today for this amazing truth and His amazing grace. Please pray that He would create opportunities and help equip us to share this with all those we meet.</p>	<p>Saturday 15th April Please pray for good relationships with local schools. It is important that RUNA work closely alongside the education staff. Pray for these relationships so that we can effectively work together as a team in the best interests of our young people.</p>	<p>Sunday 16th April Please pray for a person known to RUNA who is not engaging with services. He desperately needs guidance but it is difficult to contact him as he is not attending school and his mum has a chaotic lifestyle and rarely knows the young person’s whereabouts. Pray that he will soon be open to support and that we can work with him to prioritise his wellbeing over drugs.</p>

‘Therefore give to Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil.’ 1 Kings 3:9

<p>Monday 17th April Please continue to pray for a 15 year old boy supported by RUNA. He is consistently absconding from school and there are concerns over the people that he associates with. Please pray that RUNA can identify the reasons that he is going missing and can provide him with the support he needs to stay in education.</p>	<p>Tuesday 18th April <i>“The Lord is my light and my salvation – whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life – of whom shall I be afraid?”</i> (Psalm 27:1). Please pray for our clients that any strongholds that hold them back - anxiety, depression, alcohol, drugs, abuse will be replaced by an experience of God in their lives – that the Lord can be the stronghold of their lives.</p>	<p>Wednesday 19th April As we seek God for the future development of the former Baptist church building in the town centre please pray that we can access grants to both improve the premises and develop outreach opportunities from this building.</p>
<p>Thursday 20th April Thank you for praying for a client who has recently fled domestic violence from her two sons. We have managed to find her a flat in a new area and she loves it. Please pray that God keeps her safe and at peace and that her sons do not discover her whereabouts.</p>	<p>Friday 21st April Please pray for a client who has just been diagnosed with brain damage due to his alcohol use. We are currently looking at getting him into detox and rehab to prevent further damage. Pray that everything runs smoothly for him and a bed becomes available soon.</p>	<p>Saturday 22nd April Please pray for the many people in our town who are lonely. Pray that as we support them and build relationships with them we would shine God’s light into dark places and their lives would be changed by Him.</p>
<p>Sunday 23rd April We thank God for our continuing close partnership with the council, particularly through Local Welfare Provision. Please pray for our council; for wisdom, strength and soft hearts as they seek to help our town and it’s people through this financially challenging time. We thank God that we have a great council who want the best for the people of Bolton.</p>	<p>Monday 24th April ‘Our Father in Heaven, May You make Holy Your Name.’ Profound words of the Lord’s Prayer. Please pray for each of the volunteers in Storehouse; those who help at the Drop-in on a Tuesday and those who do deliveries on a Monday evening. Pray that in all their actions and conversations, God’s name is glorified and made Holy.</p>	<p>Tuesday 25th April ‘Your Kingdom come, Your Will be done.’ Please pray this for all those who access Storehouse. Many are hopeless and struggling to find anything to live for. Please pray that they are transformed by God’s love, that His Kingdom is established in their lives and that they find new hope and purpose.</p>

“Are not five sparrows sold for two copper coins? And not one of them is forgotten before God. But the very hairs of your head are numbered. Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.” Luke 12:6

<p>Wednesday 26th & Thursday 27th April Friends, as you know we have been led by the Lord to purchase Central Baptist Church to provide a more missional outreach centre for us. This is now in progress. A greater issue that faces us is the uncertain future of our extensive food store and the need for more office accommodation. To this end hot off the press is the news that a piece of land has been made available to us to build a warehouse with offices. This is critical as we develop our wider vision in the town. Please would you pray for us as we begin this enormous building project, for faith and vision, for the right people to design it and for those that will ultimately build it. More to follow as it develops.</p>		<p>Friday 28th April A family have lost their home and are struggling to manage. Please ask God to help them to work together as a family and to work with the housing support on offer. Please pray that the younger son will be able to access school during this difficult time.</p>
<p>Saturday 29th April Please pray for a lady who is struggling with the care of her children. Being a single mum can be very overwhelming in itself but add debt and other complications into the mix and it can become even more difficult. Please pray for strength and peace and for others in the community to get around and support this family.</p>	<p>Sunday 30th April Please pray for Dave as he leads and speaks at Atherton Baptist Church this morning. We value the close partnership we have with so many churches and are constantly looking for ways to build on this.</p>	<p>Monday 1st May Please thank God that the three ‘Slow Cooker Cooking’ sessions that were led by Friends of Fun Food in partnership with Money Skills went well and were enjoyed by everybody. Pray that the people who came continue to benefit from their slow cookers and the energy saving tips provided by Money Skills.</p>
<p>Tuesday 2nd May Please pray for one of the Urban Outreach team who has had a major operation and recently returned to work. Please thank God that the operation went well. Pray that she continues to heal quickly and is well rested, and that she feels God’s peace as she settles back in to work.</p>	<p>Wednesday 3rd May Please pray as Friends of Fun Food seek new secondary schools, to deliver cookery sessions in. Pray for God’s guidance in planning new courses and that He opens doors so we reach the right schools.</p>	<p>Thursday 4th May Please pray for a young couple who were sleeping rough having been evicted for anti-social behaviour. Street Life has been able to find them accommodation and is keeping contact with them on a weekly basis until things improve. Pray that they will settle in to their new home and make positive changes around their behaviour and how they conduct their tenancy.</p>

“These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.” John 16:33