

December 2021 To May 2022

# **Prayer Diary**



*Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.* 

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

#### Dear Friends

It's great to be able to partner together in prayer and pray for one another and for the progress of the gospel in our region by using our biannual prayer diary. This diary consists of prayer requests from Churches, Individuals and Associates who are Partners of the Sussex Gospel Partnership. It is divided into 31 sections for use as a daily prayer diary, over a six month period. A weekly diary of SGP prayer needs is also included in the centre, together with a map showing the location of all our Partner Churches, which you may like to pull out and display somewhere as a reminder to pray for the churches in our region.

On behalf of all the contributors to the prayer diary, thank you for your prayers and for your partnership in the gospel.

Yours in Christ,

Nick McQuaker

SGP Director

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Please join with us in praying for church planting and evangelism in this area. SGP partner churches in the BRIGHTON CLUSTER GROUP are shown on this map.

1	<ol> <li>BISHOP HANNINGTON CHURCH, HOVE (representative, Phil Moon)</li> <li>that, following my retirement on 6 February 2022, the Patronage Trustees will be able to appoint an outstanding next vicar for BH, and that the Lord will enable the ministry here not just to tread water but to thrive during the vacancy.</li> <li>for our work with children which has been quite hard hit during COVID times. We are getting back on the road, but do please pray for continued recovery and growth.</li> <li>for the many opportunities with our long-standing but now very much rejuvenated CAMEO group for seniors. Pray that this new life will not just be social but spiritual too.</li> </ol>
	<ul> <li>HOLY CROSS, HOVE (representative, Dave Howarth)</li> <li>1) Give thanks for faithful believers amongst us. Pray they would strive side by side for the sake of the gospel.</li> <li>2) for 'passengers' to become 'partners' because they set apart Christ as Lord.</li> <li>3) for the pastors and their wives - Dave &amp; Hannah and Rich &amp; Suzi - to love Jesus, trust his promises, and persevere in faithfully serving him.</li> </ul>

2	<ul> <li>CALVARY CHURCH, BRIGHTON (representative, Philip Wells)</li> <li>1) for the provision of a full-time pastor/elder to serve here as I step back from full-time ministry at the end of November 2021. The most recent promising candidate withdrew from the process at the end of August. At the time of writing we have just completed a week of prayer, asking the Lord of the church to send labourers into the harvest. We believe in a plurality of elders - so we are really praying for more than one person!</li> <li>2) for the re-balancing of responsibilities and roles as we seek to appoint and embed a renewed team of deacons. We also take on Mark as a part-time gospel worker, and trust that others will step up into roles of responsibility.</li> <li>3) that in all our internal concerns we will not lose sight of the gospel but, alongside other gospel churches in the city, be given fruitful ministry among students, residents, traders and internationals here in inner-city Brighton. We pray for the peace of the city.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>MIKE JOURDAIN (Associate Partner, Brighton &amp; Hove City Mission)</li> <li>1) for the provision of a new building in the centre of Brighton from which BHCM could carry out God's work.</li> <li>2) for those people who will be radically affected by reductions in Universal Credit, the ending of Furlough, and higher fuel costs.</li> <li>3) for hearts to be changed and people in our city to say 'YES' to Jesus.</li> </ul>

3	<ul> <li>GOLDSTONE CHURCH, HOVE (representative, Simon James-Morse)</li> <li>1) for us as we seek to encourage and reconnect with members and visitors at Sunday services; to delight in worshipping God together, in person.</li> <li>2) for us to share the love of Christ with the residents and staff at a local residential care home.</li> <li>3) for us to re-establish a God-centred relationship with the deaf community across Sussex, especially after the isolation of lockdown.</li> </ul>
	<ol> <li>TIM GAGE (Individual Partner, St Peter's, West Blatchington, Hove)</li> <li>Give thanks for multiplying Bible ministries taking place here, such as our Bible study groups. These have increasingly become places of greater engagement with the text and its application in people's lives.</li> <li>for us as we prepare a new Mission Action Plan, partly in response to a community questionnaire we developed and distributed.</li> <li>for God's wisdom in what new initiatives we decide to start, improve, replace or remove.</li> </ol>

4	<ol> <li>ST LEONARD'S, DENTON (representative, Louis Wilson)</li> <li>Give thanks with us for some growth in recent months as more local Christians have discovered that there is a gospel church in Denton. Please pray that they would feel welcome and quickly become part of the church family.</li> <li>Give thanks that this growth has given us the opportunity to start or expand new initiatives. Please pray for us as we try to discern which areas might be most fruitful.</li> <li>for us as we reorganise and increase the number of our small groups. Please pray for this process to be successful and that we will have enough enthusiastic, servant hearted leaders to provide for each group.</li> </ol>
	<ul> <li>PEACEHAVEN EVANGELICAL CHURCH (representative, Graham King)</li> <li>1) for our new small-group initiative starting this autumn, with seven proposed groups.</li> <li>2) for our technical set up and operation for livestreaming, recording services and website.</li> <li>3) for guidance and blessing for the Sunday school and youth work team.</li> </ul>

5	<ul> <li>OLI BUTLER (Associate Partner, UCCF)</li> <li>1) for Brighton and Sussex CUs to welcome new students well and that God would grow the CUs numerically and in spiritual fervour for Jesus.</li> <li>2) for Anika and myself as we seek to provide godly leadership to the committees and disciple individuals.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>NEW LIFE CHURCH, BRIGHTON (representative, Julian Rebera)</li> <li>1) New Life Church has joined with David Skull and his family to form a new church in Brighton: Grace Plant Brighton. Please pray that we will find a Sunday venue that is highly visible and accessible, attractive and functional.</li> <li>2) for us as, within the next six months, we will need to have formed a new charity, transferred assets from New Life charity and closed New Life charity. Please pray we can do this without getting bogged down with logistics and that we get the right help, support and expertise with this.</li> <li>3) for the Lord to add people to the church. Pray that unbelievers come to faith and are added, and for competent, mature, solid, servant-hearted Christians to join the core team to help establish a new and viable church.</li> </ul>

6	<ul> <li>AL PICKERING (Individual Partner, King's Church, Lewes)</li> <li>1) Give thanks for a number of new people at the church since lockdown; pray they settle in and stay.</li> <li>2) for wisdom on how to care for church members who are cautious about Covid and consequently not meeting with other Christians, or engaging with church activities.</li> <li>3) for our Christmas outreach events and services. Pray that many would start connecting with the church, and hear and respond to the gospel.</li> </ul>
	<ol> <li>ST ANDREW'S, HOVE (representative, Dan Henderson)</li> <li>1) that God would raise up people to continue our youth and children's ministries as we have lost quite a few volunteers during the pandemic, through drifting or stepping down. This could be a great opportunity to strengthen the team with new, committed people.</li> <li>2) for us as we start to shape a reordering project. Give thanks and praise to God for an extremely generous donation which will make it possible.</li> <li>3) for us as we try to combat ongoing anti-social and criminal behaviour in our churchyard and for ways to reach out and minister to the drinkers and drug-takers who often use it.</li> </ol>

	1
7	<ul> <li>WORTHING TABERNACLE (Representative, Rich Owen)</li> <li>1) Covid brought about so many changes for us. Pray that new folk who have joined would be able to settle in to the church family. Pray that existing folk would re-engage well as we rebuild our ministries and church life, not according to how things used to be, but in light of all the lessons we have learned through the pandemic.</li> <li>2) Give thanks that the myriad of changes and disruptions that the pandemic brought about have also motivated us to review our vision and core values as a church. Pray that the church would be more focused, clearer on her mission, priorities and the character that Christ demands from his people.</li> <li>3) that a renewed focus, particularly on hospitality, evangelism and families would see many new people saved and added to the church.</li> </ul>
	<ol> <li>JOHN WOODS (Associate Partner, School of Preachers)</li> <li>Praise God for sustaining the work of the School of Preachers in the UK and in a variety of other countries. It was a particular joy to be in Latvia to preach and teach for two periods in September and October. The next scheduled visits are in early December and early March.</li> <li>for wisdom to know which opportunities to pursue in the coming months. There are a few possible trips to countries that I have only visited by Zoom.</li> <li>for my book, <i>God is in the House: A fresh model for shaping a sermon</i>, which is due to be published in March 2022. Pray for it to be useful, and for other writing projects on the go.</li> </ol>

## CHICHESTER CLUSTER GROUP



Please join with us in praying for church planting and evangelism in this area. SGP partner churches in the CHICHESTER CLUSTER GROUP are shown on this map.

8	<ul> <li>ARUNDEL BAPTIST CHURCH (representative, Jim Braddock)</li> <li>1) for the fellowship as it moves forward and seeks a new pastor, following the death of Steve Lomas in September.</li> <li>2) for wisdom for me as I seek to guide the church as its pastor in the interim period.</li> <li>3) that we can maintain contact with those who haven't been back to church since Covid, and that we can encourage them to return.</li> <li>4) for every Christman contact or guidance for outcome in the New Year.</li> </ul>
	<ol> <li>for our Christmas services and for guidance for outreach in the New Year.</li> <li>MATTHEW LUFF (Individual Partner, St John's the Evangelist, Southbourne with West Thorney)         <ol> <li>for a swift conclusion to building repairs in order to reopen, following an accident in May and, much more importantly, for the continued recovery of those involved.</li> <li>Give thanks for a growing family service in spite of all the above. Pray for wisdom in leading them and hearts to be opened to receive the gospel.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

# CHICHESTER CLUSTER GROUP

9	<ul> <li>TOM ROBSON (Individual Partner, All Saints', Wick &amp; St Mary Magdalene, Lyminster)</li> <li>1) for everything around A Passion for Life, including outreach events and equipping the church family to feel confident in sharing the gospel.</li> <li>2) for opportunities locally as we restart 'Info Centre' and use the renovated hall to invite people to hear the Good News.</li> <li>3) about the challenges around ensuring we have ministry in place across both our parishes, as we adapt to staff changes.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>MARK RODGER (Associate Partner, All Saints', Wick &amp; St Mary Magdalene, Lyminster)</li> <li>for a deeper desire, trust and more intimate walk with God.</li> <li>for us as Laura and I have just had a baby. Pray for good adjustment for all of us, especially our two children, and for wisdom and love in how we parent.</li> <li>for faith, courage and wisdom as we consider a church plant within our parish and as we seek to disciple about a dozen families, interested in faith, who come to a family service.</li> </ul>

# CHICHESTER CLUSTER GROUP

10	<ul> <li>ANGMERING BAPTIST CHURCH (representative, David Barnes)</li> <li>1) Give thanks for about a dozen new people who have joined us, coming out of lockdown. Pray for their integration into the church and a continuing commitment to it.</li> <li>2) for a planned Alpha or Christianity Explored Course running from January.</li> <li>3) for me as I distribute evangelistic leaflets and the Gideon's 'Hope' magazine in Rustington and Angmering, and for conversations with passers by.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>ST MARGARET'S, ANGMERING (representative, Mark Standen)</li> <li>1) for the resumption of church life, with people moving from live-streaming to in-person services and activities in the coming months.</li> <li>2) for opportunities over the Christmas period to explain the 'reason for the season' and invite people to Hope Explored in January 2022.</li> <li>3) for planning for 2022 – that we would devise a range of services and events that build up Christians in their faith and engage with our community.</li> <li>4) for the recruitment of a further member in our Under 18s staff team to start work in September 2022.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>ROBERT LOVATT (Associate Partner, St Margaret's, Angmering)</li> <li>1) Since retiring from All Saints' Eastbourne I have become fully involved at St Margaret's Angmering with preaching, discipling, small groups and youth work. There is a lot of great ministry taking place in this early post lockdown period. Please pray that I serve the church and the Vicar, Mark Standen, in the most productive ways possible.</li> </ul>

## **CRAWLEY** CLUSTER GROUP



Please join with us in praying for church planting and evangelism in this area. SGP partner churches in the CRAWLEY CLUSTER GROUP are shown on this map.

<ul> <li>ST JOHN'S, FELBRIDGE (representative, Mark Francis)</li> <li>1) that each member of St John's would be equipped to be and growing as a disciple-making disciple.</li> <li>2) for the new online congregation plant on Monday evenings to reach people we wouldn't otherwise be reaching.</li> <li>3) for unity as we look ahead beyond the time of restrictions and rebuild our teams of volunteers and our corporate life together.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>THREE BRIDGES FREE CHURCH, CRAWLEY (representative, Roger Barden)</li> <li>1) for continued wisdom in regathering - it has been encouraging to have many return for Sunday services, including a number of visitors. We now need to consider the best way forward for some of our midweek ministries, including children's and youth groups.</li> <li>2) for our Christmas outreach, as we explore holding an outdoor evangelistic carol service in a local park. So far the local authority seem keen and supportive, so please pray that all the details can be worked out.</li> <li>3) for our Toddler Group as we have seen lots of new families attend this midweek group at the church building since it restarted a few months ago. Please pray for the Lord to open hearts and interest in the gospel as we get to know these new parents.</li> </ul>

# **CRAWLEY** CLUSTER GROUP

12	RUDGWICK CHAPEL (representative, Charlie Sanders)
	<ol> <li>for ongoing, fruitful contacts with people in the new housing development, opposite the chapel. We visited all the homes with a welcome gift in October.</li> <li>as we have someone who is very interested in the joint Families Worker/Pastor position that we are seeking to fill, together with Kirdford Charle Development for them and form the provident the provide the provide them.</li> </ol>
	<ul><li>Chapel. Pray for wisdom for them, and for us, as we explore the possibility together.</li><li>3) for wisdom as we gradually ease Covid restrictions. Pray that we would judge the pace appropriately for our congregation.</li></ul>
OFORD CHA	KIRDFORD CHAPEL (representative, Miriam Lindsay)
	<ol> <li>for us as we continue to look for a Pastor/Family Worker in conjunction with Rudgwick Chapel. Kirdford is only a small village but we do have good contacts with folk in the neighbourhood. With a new housing estate going up right behind the chapel we need help to continue outreach and the witness of the fellowship. Please pray for God's guidance and leading.</li> </ol>
	2) for us as plans are progressing to build an Annex to the chapel. It is a much needed facility for our activities now and as we look to the future. Pray for planning consent and guidance as we seek to finalise the plans to make the best use of the space we have available.
	<ol> <li>for the children and families we currently have contact with through the Good News Club and for the older folk who attend the weekly Coffee Morning. Some are now regularly attending our Sunday Service and we long to see them come to faith.</li> </ol>

## **CROWBOROUGH** CLUSTER GROUP



Please join with us in praying for church planting and evangelism in this area. SGP partner churches in the CROWBOROUGH CLUSTER GROUP are shown on this map.

13	<ul> <li>ALL SAINTS', CROWBOROUGH (representative, Steve Rees)</li> <li>1) for the Lord to bless our seven months of Mission, culminating in <i>A Passion for</i> <i>Life</i>. Pray that many will come to know the Lord Jesus.</li> <li>2) for the transition of leadership. By the time you read this, three key members of staff will have moved on to new ministries. Pray for the team and the new appointments who will fill their places.</li> <li>3) for our two partnerships with St Richard's and Holy Trinity High Hurstwood, that they would continue to flourish and grow under new leadership.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>RON GEORGE (Associate Partner, Eurasia Education Foundation &amp; member of All Saints', Crowborough)</li> <li>1) for wisdom for the international community to hold the Taliban to freedom of religion, and for women.</li> <li>2) for power for the Pakistani church to serve and care for the Afghan refugees there.</li> <li>3) for safety for the believers in Afghanistan as the Taliban hunt them down.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>ST RICHARD'S, CROWBOROUGH (representative, Ben Thorndike)</li> <li>1) Give thanks for growing links between St Richard's and Forest Fold Baptist Church. Pray for fruit from our joint work with children and young people in the local area.</li> <li>2) for St Richard's as they seek a new Minister to take the church forward, following my move out of Sussex in November. Pray for stability and unity of the church family; for a good field of applications and a deep trust that the Lord puts the right people in the right places at the right times.</li> <li>3) Give thanks for <i>A Passion for Life</i> events planned up to Easter 2022. Pray that many will invite non-Christian neighbours, friends and family and that the Lord will use the events to transform hearts and lives eternally as the gospel is proclaimed. Pray especially for a new outdoor Carol Service on Alderbrook estate on 19 December.</li> </ul>

## **CROWBOROUGH** CLUSTER GROUP

14	<ul> <li>ALL SAINTS', DANEHILL (representative, Paddy McBain)</li> <li>1) for all in the churches, especially the leaders, to grow in godliness, love and faithfulness to the scriptures.</li> <li>2) for those who have drifted during the pandemic to return to a whole-hearted commitment to the Lord Jesus.</li> <li>3) that we would have God's compassion for those who are far off and be prayerful and bold in sharing Christ with them.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>JOHN COWLEY (Individual Partner, Forest Fold Baptist Church)</li> <li>1) Give thanks for most of the congregation returning after Covid and events and ministries restarting again.</li> <li>2) for a renewed enthusiasm to reach people around us with the gospel after a long period when contact has been difficult.</li> <li>3) for God's provision of the right people to help with the different aspects of our youth and children's work.</li> </ul>

## **CROWBOROUGH** CLUSTER GROUP

15	<ul> <li>NIGEL MASON (Individual Partner, St Deny's Rotherfield &amp; St Mark's, Mark Cross)</li> <li>1) for the building of relationships with young families through toddler groups, pre-school, and local schools.</li> <li>2) for a new dementia-friendly service we are holding with the support of a local charity.</li> <li>3) for us as we face financial challenges as we maintain a listed building and seek to ensure a faithful witness in our local community.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>NICK CORNELL (Individual Partner, Christ Church, Southborough)</li> <li>1) for our new Children and Families Pastor, Jamie, who started working with us in September.</li> <li>2) for discussions taking place about how to focus on the next few years of mission and ministry in the parish - particularly how we become a church representing every stage of life.</li> <li>3) for our homegroups as we seek to grow these both in terms of membership and the number of leaders.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>ST PETER'S, TUNBRIDGE WELLS (representative, Mike Warren)</li> <li>1) Give thanks for Phil and Lucy. Pray that the Spirit would go before them in evangelism and children's work, opening hearts to Jesus.</li> <li>2) Give thanks for faithful servants. Pray that the Lord will send us a humble musician and mature leaders.</li> <li>3) Give thanks for new members. Pray that their spouses will also come to the Lord and grow in Christ.</li> </ul>

## **DECEMBER 2021**

**Week 1** - pray for the Spirit to be at work in hearts as the gospel is proclaimed throughout the Partnership this Christmas time. Pray for help in taking opportunities in conversations and ask the Lord to bring many to repentance and faith in Jesus.

Week 2 - pray for all the students on the training courses (about 100) to continue gaining clarity in their understanding of the Bible, a growing love for Jesus and help in applying what they learn to life, ministry and witness. Give thanks for the opportunities for fellowship and the great friendships which so often develop from these courses.
Week 3 - pray that church leaders and workers will be able to benefit from a time of physical rest and spiritual refreshment at some point over the Christmas/New Year period.
Week 4 - pray for the ongoing training and evangelistic events taking place across
Partnership churches in the run-up to *A Passion for Life* in March/April 2022. The website, *apassionforlife.org.uk/train-in-evangelism*, has a choice of 21 interactive training sessions designed to help churches train their people to share the good new of Jesus with those around them.

## **JANUARY 2022**

**Week 1** - pray for Nick McQuaker as he continues to give a portion of his time to supporting the Regional Gospel Partnerships nationally as Development Officer and as he co-chairs *A Passion for Life*.

**Week 2** - Pray for David Skull and his family, now that they have moved from Guildford to Brighton, for David to lead a church plant in the city, Grace Plant Brighton. Pray for Christians to be stirred up by the Lord to join the initial core group.

(See *graceplantbrighton.org.uk* for the vision for the new church.)

**Week 3** - pray for many people to book for *Bible by the Beach* from 29 April to 2 May 2022, in Eastbourne. For more info see: *biblebythebeach.org* 

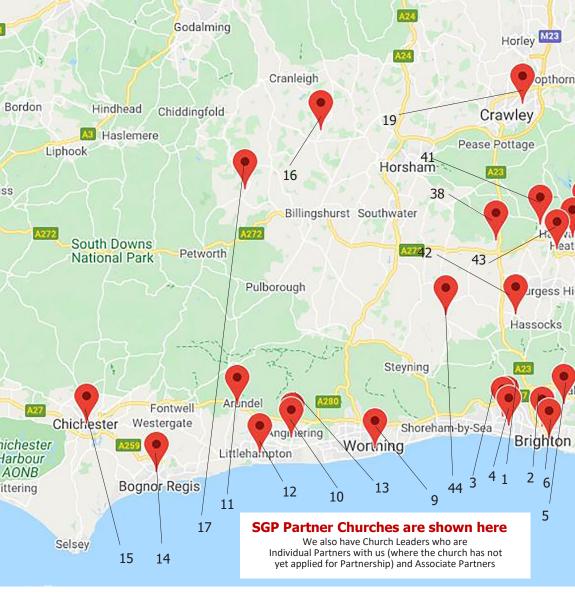
**Week 4** - pray for good attendance and a time of fellowship, learning and encouragement at our spring Partnership Meeting on Wednesday 2 February.

### **FEBRUARY**

**Week 1** - pray for the Steering Group to have wisdom, faith and vision as they seek to lead the Partnership in the year ahead.

Week 2 - pray that the churches of the SGP would have a vision for church planting and rejuvenation so that the gospel witness in Sussex might be strengthened and expanded.
Week 3 - pray that our Partnership Training Days (which are open to all) will be well-attended and effective in equipping many for Christian life and ministry.

**Week 4** - pray that church leaders who are struggling or facing difficulties will seek help and receive the support and encouragement they need.



#### Brighton Cluster Group

- 1 Bishop Hannington, Hove
- 2 Calvary Church, Brighton
- 3 Goldstone Church, Hove
- 4 Holy Cross, Hove
- 5 New Life Church, Brighton
- 6 Park Hill Church, Brighton
- 7 Peacehaven Evangelical Free Church
- 8 St Leonard's, Denton
- 9 Worthing Tabernacle

#### **Chichester Cluster Group**

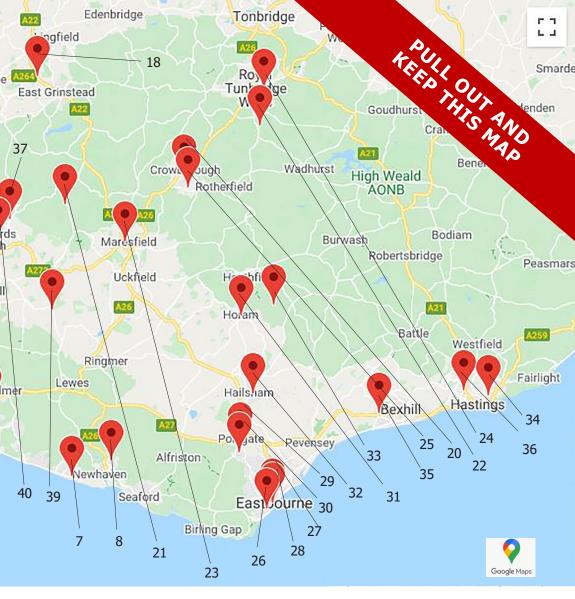
- 10 Angmering Baptist Church
- 11 Arundel Baptist Church
- 12 Parkside Evangelical Church
- 13 St Margaret's, Angmering
- 14 St Mary Magdalene, S.Bersted
- 15 St Pancras Church, Chichester

#### Crawley Cluster Group

- 16 Rudgwick Chapel
- 17 Kirdford Chapel
- 17 Kirdford Chapel
- 18 St John's, Felbridge
- 19 Three Bridges Free Church

#### **Crowborough Cluster Group**

- 20 All Saints', Crowborough
- 21 All Saints', Danehill
- 22 St Albans, Frant & Holy Trinity, Eridge
- 23 St Bartholomew's, Maresfield
- 24 St Peter's, Tunbridge Wells
- 25 St Richard's, Crowborough



#### **Eastbourne Cluster Group**

- 26 All Saints', Eastbourne
- 27 All Souls', Eastbourne
- 28 Holy Trinity, Eastbourne
- 29 St John's, Polegate
- 30 St Wilfrid's, Eastbourne

#### Hailsham Cluster Group

- 31 Christ Church, Horam
- 32 Hailsham Parish Church
- 33 Warbleton Parish Church

#### Hastings Cluster Group

- 34 Emmanuel, Hastings
- 35 St Mark's, Little Common
- 36 St Matthew's, St Leonards-on-Sea
- . . . . . . . .

#### Haywards Heath Cluster Group

- 37 All Saints', Lindfield 38 - Bolney Village Chapel
- 38 Builley Village Chape
- 39 Chailey Free Church
- 40 Christ Church, Haywards Heath
- 41 Cuckfield Baptist Church
- 42 Good News Church, Hurstpierpoint
- 43 Grace Church, Haywards Heath
- 44 Henfield Evangelical Free Church

## **MARCH 2022**

**Week 1** - pray for a good start to the Summer term for the training courses. Pray that the training given will serve as a good foundation for further training and for future ministry for all on the courses.

Week 2 - pray for Nick and Jon and others to know the Spirit's help as they continue to prepare their training course lectures and for help in teaching and leading workshop groups.
Week 3 - pray for the Sussex Youthworks Task Group as they plan events to benefit all those who lead and help run children's and youth ministries across the Partnership.
Week 4 - pray for many to hear the gospel presented in a clear and compelling way through the *A Passion for Life* mission in Sussex and the rest of the UK.

#### APRIL

Week 1 - pray for the planning of *Revive* for all those in full-time children's and youth ministry. Pray that it would be a great time of being fed from God's word, encouragement and fellowship and that workers from right across the Partnership will join us for the day.
Week 2 - pray for good attendance and a valuable time of teaching, encouragement and refreshment for all those at the Sussex Women's Convention on 11 June, at All Saints Church, Crowborough, with guest speaker Lizzie Smallwood. Pray for Lizzie in her preparation and for others involved in leading the day.

**Week 3** - pray for greater practical partnership between SGP churches in training, evangelism and church planting, through the Cluster Groups.

**Week 4** - pray for more churches to join the Partnership as they see the value of working together in gospel partnership across the region.

## MAY

Week 1 - pray for good attendance and a time of fellowship, learning and encouragement at our summer Partnership Meeting this month when we plan to have 24 hours away together, with the purpose of refreshing pastors and strengthening partnership.
Week 2 - pray for the staff team (Nick McQuaker, Jon Hobbs and Wendy Sands) to know joy and encouragement in their work and God's help and wisdom in all they do for Him.
Week 3 - pray that many people will apply to join the Sussex Ministry Training Course (Tuesdays in Cuckfield, near Haywards Heath) and the monthly Saturday Morning Bible Training Course starting in September.

**Week 4** - give thanks for those who support the Partnership prayerfully and financially. Pray for an increase in the number of Supporters.



# A month of mission. A lifetime of evangelism. A passion for life.

Churches across the UK and Ireland are gathering and preparing for a united month of mission leading up to Easter 2022. Will you stand with us?

Get involved at apassionforlife.org.uk



# BIBLE TRAINING COURSES

## Every September we start a new Tuesday and Saturday course

On our training courses Christians from different churches across Sussex and beyond come together for biblical instruction, training, and warm fellowship. Through lectures, group work, class discussions and teaching workshops students gain a firm understanding of the Bible and its teaching; confidence and ability to share the Bible with others and a practical understanding of biblical ministry. The result is that students are equipped to be more effective in living for Christ and serving him in the church and the world.

We welcome men and women of all ages who hold evangelical convictions and desire to serve Christ in their particular context.





www.sussexgospelpartnership.org.uk



Fees (2021/2022) £210 per term (£630 for the year)

## Sussex Ministry Training Course (SMTC)

- Three terms of 11 weeks, from September to July
- Tuesdays at Cuckfield Baptist Church, near Haywards Heath, West Sussex

Students who complete Year 1 may apply for Year 2 which is particularly suitable for those regularly involved in leading Bible studies or giving talks or sermons.





Fees (2021/2022) £70 per term (£420 for the whole two-year course)

## Saturday Morning BIBLE TRAINING COURSE Hove, near Brighton

Equipping Christians for Bible-Centred Ministry

## Saturday Morning Bible Training Course (SMBTC)

- A two-year course (which includes the core elements of Year 1 of the SMTC)
- One morning a month (except August) over two years
- Venue for 2022 to 2024 to be confirmed

#### To find out more about either course please contact:

Mrs Wendy Sands SGP Administrator **admin@sussexgospelpartnership.org.uk 01444 458 635** Usual office hours: Tuesday mornings and Wednesdays

Or visit www.sussexgospelpartnership.org.uk/ministries/training-courses/

## **EASTBOURNE** CLUSTER GROUP



Please join with us in praying for church planting and evangelism in this area. SGP partner churches in the EASTBOURNE CLUSTER GROUP are shown on this map.

16	<ul> <li>MARTIN POVEY (Associate Partner, Association of Evangelists)</li> <li>1) Thank God for the great opportunities to preach Christ and him crucified in a range of settings.</li> <li>2) that my relationship with our Father in heaven thrives, with me listening to his word, and believing and living out what he says!</li> <li>3) that as a family we speak boldly, truthfully, passionately, and winsomely about Jesus in our local community.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>DAVID BAKER (Individual Partner, East Dean, Friston and Jevington Churches)</li> <li>1) for our daughter, Naomi, whose Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome (EDS) and Crohns Disease continue to present major and unpredictable health challenges and lengthy hospital admissions.</li> <li>2) for our work among children and families.</li> <li>3) for wisdom, guidance and a sense of direction in a whole raft of areas post- Covid, including key appointments and future strategies.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>DAVID JACKMAN (Associate Partner, East Dean, Friston and Jevington Churches)</li> <li>1) for wisdom regarding future writing projects, that God will guide to the subject areas most needed.</li> <li>2) for continuing involvement in preaching and training opportunities, through Cornhill courses in London, Glasgow and Belfast and by Zoom overseas. Pray that the Lord will raise up a new generation of well-equipped expository preachers to reach their generation.</li> </ul>

# EASTBOURNE CLUSTER GROUP

17	<ol> <li>HOLY TRINITY, EASTBOURNE (representative, Philip Coekin)</li> <li>1) Thank the Lord for sustaining the church through the lockdown, overcoming the inertia following its lifting and that the congregation has continued to love and care for each other, working to catch those at risk of 'falling'.</li> <li>2) Thank the Lord for sustaining the children's ministries, most particularly through Sophie (Children to Youth Team Leader) in answer to the prayers of this Partnership.</li> <li>3) for wisdom, courage and clarity for the Leadership Council to appoint a senior colleague alongside me to oversee the church, as well as a 2-year Ministry Trainee to encourage the 20-35s, following the shaping of our 5-Year Plan.</li> <li>4) for the Lord to sustain me and the whole church family with certainty of His devotion to them, the everlasting power of His gospel to save and transform, and His sovereignty over all things for the sake of His eternal kingdom.</li> </ol>
	<ul> <li>TONY BAKER (Associate Partner, Holy Trinity, Eastbourne)</li> <li>1) for the right preaching/teaching opportunities and for persistence in personal prayer.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>MICHAEL WILCOCK (Associate Partner, All Saints', Eastbourne)</li> <li>1) for me as I get to work on the final chapter of 'An Overview of my Lifetime'.</li> </ul>

18	<ul> <li>ALL SAINTS', EASTBOURNE (representative, James Knowles)</li> <li>1) that the All Saints' church family might be excited to grow in our love and knowledge of Jesus.</li> <li>2) for our new Vicar, James Knowles, as he gets to know the church family. Pray for wisdom, unity, and a sense of joy and fun as he ministers amongst and alongside the congregation and parish.</li> <li>3) for us as we plan our <i>A Passion for Life</i> events and our Mission Action Plan. Pray that we will depend on the Lord for his guidance and strength to build his church</li> </ul>
	church.

## EASTBOURNE CLUSTER GROUP

19	<ul> <li>ST JOHN'S, POLEGATE (representative, Chris Spinks)</li> <li>1) that our Christmas services and events will proclaim Christ clearly and that some outside of the Kingdom will want to know more.</li> <li>2) that we might find ways of maximising the <i>A Passion for Life</i> opportunities and that we might make the most of all the excellent training materials.</li> <li>3) for a full recovery for our church family life over the coming months, following the Covid pandemic, and that new opportunities for the gospel might be identified and following the covid pandemic.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>identified and followed up well.</li> <li><b>TERRY BRINKLEY</b> (Individual Partner, Golden Cross Chapel)</li> <li>1) Give thanks that Chiddingly market has re-opened, post Covid, where there has been tremendous success and opportunities. Please continue to pray.</li> <li>2) Give thanks that we have been given opportunities to take school assemblies.</li> <li>3) for an opportunity for a village housing scheme that will allow young people to be able to buy and stay in the village.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>DAVID BATCHELOR (Individual Partner, South Street Free Church)</li> <li>1) Give thanks for the Lord's gracious financial provision for the church over the last year.</li> <li>2) for God's blessing on our current project to employ an evangelist who, God willing, we hope will be in post by the time you read this.</li> <li>3) that many people in our town would be brought to new birth in Christ through the evangelist and others in the church working together to make Christ known.</li> </ul>

20	<ol> <li>ALL SOULS', EASTBOURNE (representative, Mark Redhouse)</li> <li>Thank God for his grace, enabling most of our midweek groups to start back this autumn. Please pray that teams that have worked hard to re-establish groups will be sustained in their work during the coming term.</li> <li>Thank God that we are beginning to restore relationships with local schools that were put on hold for the last 18 months. Please pray that we can use any God-given opportunities for his glory and sharing the good news of Jesus.</li> <li>Our PCC has voted unanimously to pursue the appointment of an Assistant minister. Please pray, if this appointment is the Lord's will, that the funding will be secured and the right person found.</li> </ol>
	<ul> <li>ANDREW CORNES (Associate Partner, All Souls', Eastbourne)</li> <li>1) for me as I finish and revise my book (next Easter time?) and find the right publisher.</li> <li>2) for evenings spent phoning or zooming our five children, local Christians and non-Christians and SGP pastors (a particular joy!).</li> <li>3) for a right use, in God's service, of the considerable extra time that will be released when my book is finished.</li> </ul>

## HAILSHAM CLUSTER GROUP



Please join with us in praying for church planting and evangelism in this area. SGP partner churches in the HAILSHAM CLUSTER GROUP are shown on this map.

21	<ul> <li>WARBLETON PARISH CHURCH (representative, Marc Lloyd)</li> <li>1) for gospel fruit from our Christmas services.</li> <li>2) for our plans for evangelism and for the <i>A Passion for Life</i> mission.</li> <li>3) for growth in our work with children and young people.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>HAILSHAM PARISH CHURCH (representative, David Bourne)</li> <li>Praise God for the new opening of the west end of our church building. Pray that we will make the most of the new opportunities it brings.</li> <li>Praise God for all the different occasions we have to speak of Jesus over the next few months. Pray for winsomeness and clarity for all who speak.</li> <li>that the Lord would open the eyes of those who come and that they would receive Jesus and get plugged-in to the life of the church.</li> </ul>

22	<ul> <li>CHRIST CHURCH, HORAM (representative, PJ Guy)</li> <li>1) Give thanks that our Sunday morning children's work has been able to restart. The Lord provided us with a leadership team and families have begun to return. Please pray that our work with families will grow and for leaders to mature in their discipleship.</li> <li>2) for more within the church family to want to get involved and use their gifts</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>for the building of the church, and for the PCC as we seek to encourage this.</li> <li>for wisdom as we develop our diocesan mission action plan and seek to connect with and reach out to residents moving into the new developments in the village.</li> </ul>

## HASTINGS CLUSTER GROUP



Please join with us in praying for church planting and evangelism in this area. SGP partner churches in the HASTINGS CLUSTER GROUP are shown on this map.

23	<ul> <li>EMMANUEL, HASTINGS (representative, Martin Lane)</li> <li>1) for the church as we engage with the <i>A Passion for Life</i> training resources and plan for 'a month of mission' in 2022.</li> <li>2) for the development of our ministry to men.</li> <li>3) for continuing fruit in our families ministry.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>ST MATTHEW'S, ST LEONARDS ON SEA (representative, Matthew Foy)</li> <li>1) Give thanks that we have been able to re-start all our midweek ministries post pandemic and that we have begun to see new people on a Sunday morning.</li> <li>2) for our discipleship training group which is running this academic year to equip people to lead small groups and 1-2-1 bible studies.</li> <li>3) for our ministry to 0-14s, especially as we seek to appoint a full-time staff member to lead our work with families and youth.</li> </ul>

24	<ul> <li>ST MARK'S, LITTLE COMMON (representative, Jonathan Frais)</li> <li>1) that God's word will be received as truth in our confusion, vision for our blindness, refreshment for our weariness, and strength for our serving.</li> <li>2) for God's blessing on our search for a Director of Music to lead our enthusiastic choir to the glory of God.</li> <li>3) for God's love to embrace the newcomers who have made contact and started to attend services.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>JAMES CLARKE (Associate Partner, St Mark's, Little Common)</li> <li>1) for two occasions coming up where 60 neighbours are invited to afternoon tea <ul> <li>gentle local outreach to be followed up at Christmas time.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2) for good attendance at the SGP Annual Conference on 13 November and <ul> <li>effective follow-through.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3) for us as we build up contacts in our new church family and for help in forming <ul> <li>good relationships for outreach.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## HAYWARDS HEATH CLUSTER GROUP



Please join with us in praying for church planting and evangelism in this area. SGP partner churches in the HAYWARDS HEATH CLUSTER GROUP are shown on this map.

25	<ul> <li>CUCKFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH (representative, Will Cockram)</li> <li>1) Give thanks for those who have come to faith during lockdown, and for the significant growth we have experienced over the summer months. Pray for wisdom as we seek to integrate and care for these new members.</li> <li>2) for wisdom as we prayerfully consider appointing another full-time elder to work alongside me.</li> <li>3) that we would continue to be imaginative, bold and prayerful as we seek to reach the lost around us.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>GOOD NEWS CHURCH, HURSTPIERPOINT (representative, David Lowries)</li> <li>Praise God for keeping us and, in his sovereignty, adding to our number during the pandemic.</li> <li>for us to love well those who cannot get to church due to ill health, as well as those who are as yet unwilling to return to church in person.</li> <li>that the children in our congregation will come to joyful saving faith.</li> </ul>

## HAYWARDS HEATH CLUSTER GROUP

26	<ul> <li>BOLNEY VILLAGE CHAPEL (representative, Simon Allaby)</li> <li>1) Give thanks that, in answer to a previous prayer request, God has added to our 'core' number.</li> <li>2) that, compelled by Christ's love, we may make the transition from being a community that primarily meets to invite people in, into one that meets to equip and encourage those who are sent out.</li> <li>3) for an increasing love for God's word and confidence in using all the gifts of the Spirit.</li> <li>4) for my ministry with Turn the Page. Pray that many lives will be touched through reading the stories on social media, and for speaking engagements as they start to pick up again. www.turn-the-page.co.uk</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>CHRIST CHURCH, HAYWARDS HEATH (representative, Mark Ventham)</li> <li>1) for continued unity, growing together in spiritual maturity and maintaining a healthy church culture.</li> <li>2) for wisdom regarding a building, that the Lord might provide!</li> <li>3) for our witness and evangelism as part of <i>A Passion for Life</i>. Pray that we will see many come to Christ.</li> </ul>

27	<ul> <li>GRACE CHURCH, HAYWARDS HEATH (representative, Jon Hobbs)</li> <li>1) Give thanks for encouraging growth in the church.</li> <li>2) for those more on the fringe to value and make time for church life and family.</li> <li>3) for courage and opportunity in personal evangelism around <i>A Passion for Life</i>.</li> <li>4) that our young people would be stretched in their discipleship, truly seeking to honour the Lord.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>ALL SAINTS', LINDFIELD (representative, Steve Nichols)</li> <li>1) that we would settle in as a family to All Saints' and our children would make friends in the church and grow in the faith.</li> <li>2) that I would get to know the church family and learn well about All Saints' and the area.</li> <li>3) that I would depend on the Lord day by day.</li> </ul>

## HAYWARDS HEATH CLUSTER GROUP

28	HENFIELD EVANGELICAL CHURCH (representative, Andrew Lawton)
	<ol> <li>for our Christmas Tree Festival, with displays and activities in the church building in early December. Pray that hearts will be challenged to encounter Jesus and not just the hype of the season. Pray also that all our other Christmas activities and services will clearly proclaim the Saviour to our village.</li> <li>for our new Mainly Music parent and pre-schoolers programme beginning in January. Pray for our team of leaders and helpers - for energy, stamina, love for those who attend and the ability and desire to share the gospel, confident in Christ. Pray that the Christian message will bear gospel fruit in the lives of the parents' and children's lives, for God's glory.</li> <li>Praise God for the wonderful work he is doing in our fellowship. Pray that we all 'may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God' and 'be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, giving thanks to the Father.'</li> </ol>
	<ul> <li>SAM CARTER (Individual Partner, St Mary's, Barcombe)</li> <li>1) Give thanks for the welcome we have received in Barcombe and for answered prayers about the children settling in.</li> <li>2) for our Christmas programme and outreach events – that many would hear</li> </ul>
	and respond to the gospel. 3) for God to raise up people to fill various vacant roles.

29	<ul> <li>CHAILEY FREE CHURCH (representative, Roger Nutley)</li> <li>1) that the Lord will guide and bless the Messy Church outreach after an encouraging restart.</li> <li>2) that the Lord will guide us as we develop a new outreach for older children.</li> <li>3) that the Lord will continue to oversee the final stages of the establishment of the CIO framework for our church.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>ANDREW ANGEL (Individual Partner, St Andrew's, Burgess Hill)</li> <li>1) that the Hub schools team will engage well with the young people when our local secondary schools re-open to the team and that many young people will come to Christ.</li> <li>2) that God will bring us the right new parish administrator.</li> <li>3) that God will give us all a passion for Jesus, and meeting together to worship him, as society opens up again .</li> </ul>

## **STAFF WORKERS**

30	NICK MCQUAKER (SGP Director)
	1) Give thanks that the Lord has sustained me personally and the ministry of the
	SGP through all the demands and challenges of the past year.
	2) for wisdom, faith and strength as I combine serving the Sussex Gospel
	Partnership with my additional roles of Development Officer for the Regional
Co L	Gospel Partnerships across the country, and co-chair of A Passion For Life,
	working towards a national mission in 2022.
	3) for Chris' health to improve so that he is able to sustain his studies as he
	resumes his University degree course in Southampton; and for Sam to stand
	firm in the truth of the gospel and grow in his love for Christ and knowledge of
	God during his first year studying theology at Cambridge University.
	4) for Sarah to know joy in her walk with Christ and how to serve the Lord in this
	new season of life as the boys spend less time at home.

31	JON HOBBS (SGP Associate Trainer, part-time)
	<ol> <li>Give thanks for the Lord's sustaining grace and encouragements in church over the last eighteen months.</li> <li>for wisdom, energy, and spiritual freshness in managing time for me and for Bethan, with church, jobs, children and home life.</li> <li>for sufficient time and insight to develop lectures and to engage in my other roles within the Partnership.</li> <li>for prayerfulness, faithfulness, and clarity in all I teach.</li> <li>for gifts in organisation and planning to do what is necessary in these areas alongside everything else!</li> </ol>
	<ul> <li>WENDY SANDS (SGP Administrator, part-time)</li> <li>1) Give thanks for the Lord's constant love, grace, mercy and many provisions.</li> <li>2) for growth in faith and discipline, and joy in the Lord.</li> <li>3) for the Lord to soften the hearts and open the eyes of many family members and friends towards the good news of Jesus and for wisdom, ability and courage in my witness.</li> </ul>

# The Sussex Gospel Partnership is... a partnership of Bible-centred churches working together for a growing gospel church in every Sussex community

To find out more about the SGP please use the contact details below.

If your Minister or Church is a Partner of SGP, but does not feature in this prayer diary, we hope they will submit prayer requests for our next edition which will be in June 2022. We aim to issue a prayer diary twice a year.

Due to the lead-time required for publication, prayer requests need to be 'long term' rather than immediate needs.

For our next issue the deadline for prayer requests is 15 April 2022.

## SGP contact details:

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