



Prayer  
Network

# Prayer MATTERS

**AUGUST 2025**



## Dear Prayer Matters readers

Welcome to this edition of *Prayer Matters*, where we are doing something a bit different for the month of August. Every so often we like to change things up, as it helps keep our prayer rhythm fresh.

During the second weekend of August, 650 young people from around Europe will gather in the Netherlands for EYE 2025, the European Youth Event. This event only happens once every five years, but it was cancelled in 2020 due to Covid, so this will be the first one in 10 years. We will of course be lending our prayer support to the event itself, but we thought we would give the whole month to praying for children and young people.

Our daily themes will remain the same, but every day's prayer will focus on children and young people in some way. Our prayers come mostly from those involved in youth and children's work around the UKI Territory, and the themes range from summer camps to schools work, from holiday hunger to online safety.

Please do join us in making the month of August a special season of prayer for children and young people – those you know and those you don't. Let's give ourselves to the work of blessing each other, from one generation to the next.

Blessings,

Lyndall Bywater  
and the UKI Boiler Room Team

# AUGUST



## **FRIDAY 1 AUGUST: JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION** **The blessing of holidays**

Lord, thank you for the summer holidays. Thank you that the rhythm in education includes breaks – time to slow down, for different experiences and less pressure. Please teach us all to rest, and to know that the world keeps turning when we stop, because you are in control. Some families will struggle this summer, worried about food, money or the expectations of providing a great holiday. Lord, will you help people discover joy from simple things, from being together and finding community – and may we be ready to serve where you need us.

Captain Kat Whitmore (Territorial Youth and Children's Secretary)



## **SATURDAY 2 AUGUST: CARE FOR CREATION** **Reflection – listening well**

Lord, may we listen when children and young people speak to us about what you are saying to them. May we expect to hear your voice coming through them, and may we expect your challenge to us to come from them. When they tell us what concerns them and what matters to them, may we hear your heart in what they say.

Hannah Willis (Divisional Children's Worker, Central and Southern Scotland Division)



## **SUNDAY 3 AUGUST: SABBATH PRAYER** **Reflection – being examples**

Father, we see our children; they are in pursuit of you. Help us as we come alongside them, to travel into the deep places with you. Help us make channels through which they can find you easily. Help us, in the way we speak and the way we live, to reflect who you are. Speak to us quickly and loudly if we are ever at risk of frustrating what you are doing with them. Help us always and only to be in the business of building them up, never stifling.

Hannah Willis (Divisional Children's Worker, Central and Southern Scotland Division)



## **MONDAY 4 AUGUST: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS** **Children's work – London Division**

This summer across the London Division there will be various corps joining in with what God is doing in their local communities: running events such as children's day camps, 'Good Grub' clubs (a programme to combat school holiday hunger), youth worship events and children's activities. Pray too for our two residential events, shared between the London Division and the South East Division: our Summer School from 2 – 9 August and our Summer Outreach Camp from 10 – 17 August.

Charlotte Tanner (Divisional Children's Worker, London Division)



## **TUESDAY 5 AUGUST: SERVING AND CARING** **Summer camps – staff**

Lord, I pray for the teams who run our summer camps. I pray that you will equip them with everything they need for the week. I pray for patience, compassion and a sense of fun, and I pray for protection over them too. Lord, use these weeks and use these people, in Jesus' name.

Rachel Gash (Divisional Youth Specialist, London Division)



## **WEDNESDAY 6 AUGUST: GROWING IN FAITH** **Summer camps – participants**

Father, I want to pray for all the summer schools and camps taking place over the summer period. I pray that these events may be places where people encounter you in a really significant way. I pray for all the young people who are attending. I pray for them as they come to the camps, that they will be open to hearing from you. I pray that this will be a transformational time, setting them on a path to follow you in every aspect of their lives.

Rachel Gash (Divisional Youth Specialist, London Division)



## **THURSDAY 7 AUGUST: INTERNATIONAL SALVATION ARMY – European Youth Event (EYE) 2025 – ‘Don’t look down!’ (7-10 August) (Isaiah 43:1-3)**

Today, 650 young people connected to The Salvation Army around Europe will be travelling to the European Youth Event, EYE 2025. The theme is ‘Look up!’ Adventure instructors all over the world, whether bungee jumpers, climbers or mountain bikers, have a go-to phrase for nervous participants: ‘Don’t look down!’ Isaiah 43 encourages God’s people not to be afraid, saying, ‘Don’t look down! Look at me!’ Please join in praying that the delegates will look up to God and pursue his invitation to something beyond where we are, to something more.

Captain Jonny Whitmore (Territorial Youth and Children’s Secretary)



## **FRIDAY 8 AUGUST: JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION EYE 2025 – ‘Look out!’ (Isaiah 43:15-19)**

God’s people in the wilderness needed to be reminded they were created for God’s glory. And glory shines! We, too, are made for God’s glory and we are needed to shine. When young people are figuring this out, it’s tempting to look at others; external voices and influences surround them as identity is formed. Let us pray for the young people gathered at EYE 2025, and the young people we know, that they will discover that they are deeply loved, accepted and created for God’s glory!

Captain Jonny Whitmore (Territorial Youth and Children’s Secretary)



## **SATURDAY 9 AUGUST: CARE FOR CREATION EYE 2025 – ‘Look out!’ (Isaiah 43:15-19)**

In these verses we see God reminding his people who he is. He is the mighty God, the holy and everlasting Creator! In the wilderness, God’s people had lost sight of who God was, and because of that they were no longer able to see what he was doing. Today at EYE 2025, young people will be encouraged to look out and see what God is doing – and not just see, but join in! Let’s pray for young people as they respond to the new thing God wants to do in and through them.

Captain Jonny Whitmore (Territorial Youth and Children’s Secretary)



## **SUNDAY 10 AUGUST: SABBATH PRAYER** **EYE 2025 – ‘Look Up!’ (Isaiah 43:18-21)**

As EYE 2025 concludes and the young people prepare to return home, we celebrate and thank God for all that he has done at this event. We pray that young people will keep looking to God, to know their identity in him, to find their purpose in him and know deeply that they belong. And as the young people disperse around Europe, we pray they will continue to radiate God's living Holy Spirit in their homes, corps and communities.

Captain Jonny Whitmore (Territorial Youth and Children's Secretary)



## **MONDAY 11 AUGUST: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS** **EYE 2025 – Looking ahead**

Pray for the young people who have been at the European Youth Event in the Netherlands as they settle back into their daily lives. Pray that God's Spirit will protect the good seed sown in their hearts and minds over these days, and that they might find the right people to talk to about their experiences – people who will hear them with excitement and will help them put into practice the dreams and resolutions they have brought home with them. Pray too that they will continue to enjoy the new friendships they have made, and that, as they connect across our continent, they will form a network of prayer and activism which will grow stronger in the coming years.

Lyndall Bywater (UKI Boiler Room Team)



## **TUESDAY 12 AUGUST: SERVING AND CARING** **Children in the North West Division**

Pray for our recently appointed Divisional Children's Outreach Workers as they commence their employment with The Salvation Army. Please pray for good connections and relationships to be developed in the communities and schools where they are placed, as they seek to be salt and light in those places and to bear fruit which lasts.

Debbie Eaton (Divisional Children's Officer, North West Division)



## **WEDNESDAY 13 AUGUST: GROWING IN FAITH** *Kid's Alive!*

Lord, we thank you for the gifts and talents you have given the *Kids Alive!* team. Help them to use those skills to nurture children on their faith journeys, as they learn more about the good news of Jesus in fun and exciting ways. We pray that *Kids Alive!* will reach new children this summer, and that those children will want to know more about living like Jesus. Be with every reader, from youngest to oldest, and help them grow in kindness, courage and love each day. Help them to remember that you are with them wherever they are this summer, and that each of them is part of God's amazing story.

Cara Mott (Editor, *Kid's Alive!*)



## **THURSDAY 14 AUGUST: INTERNATIONAL SALVATION ARMY – Korea Territory**

We give thanks today for the way in which Salvationists in Korea are helping to care for children and young people. The territory has several children's homes, and has also been involved in helping to fund treatment for children from neighbouring countries in need of medical care which their families are unable to afford, or which is unavailable where they live. We pray that The Salvation Army in Korea will continue to be a blessing to children, caring for their physical, emotional, psychological and spiritual needs.

Lyndall Bywater (UKI Boiler Room Team)



## **FRIDAY 15 AUGUST: JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION** **Reflection – the digital world**

Father, I pray for children and young people as they navigate the digital world. I confess it scares me. It seems so overwhelming. It often steals my peace, and I see it stealing theirs too. I know all too well that sharp intake of breath when you read something painful, see something unhelpful, or fail to get validation from others in response to something you posted. God, it hurts, and I bring it to you over and over again. But what about those who don't know you, who don't have you to take all the pain to? Lord, have mercy.

Hannah Willis (Divisional Children's Worker, Central and Southern Scotland Division)



## **SATURDAY 16 AUGUST: CARE FOR CREATION** **Growing opportunities**

Today we pray for the various children's clubs around the UKI Territory where children are learning about how to care for creation: growing fruit and vegetables, building insect hotels and discovering new ways of creating environments where the wildlife can thrive. As they learn and have fun together, we pray that they will become life-long carers for God's precious creation.

Lyndall Bywater (UKI Boiler Room Team)



## **SUNDAY 17 AUGUST: SABBATH PRAYER** **Growing in love**

Dear God, we pray for the children and young people we know. Surround them with love that is safe and true, from family, friends and mentors who see their worth. Help them to know they are never alone, even when they feel misunderstood or unseen. May they grow in wisdom and compassion, living as lights in this world, shining with your grace, now and always.

Jillian Gemmell (Divisional Youth Worker, Central and Southern Scotland Division)



## **MONDAY 18 AUGUST: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS** **New academic year – primary school**

I pray for the children and young people who are starting new schools. I pray for the little children who are entering the education system for the first time, leaving their parents for a significant amount of time every day. I pray that this introduction to school will be exciting for them, that they will make new friends, and that they will find a thirst for learning.

Rachel Gash (Divisional Youth Specialist, London Division)





## **TUESDAY 19 AUGUST: SERVING AND CARING** **New academic year – secondary school**

I pray for children who will be starting secondary school. The jump from primary to secondary can be a daunting one; and so I pray, Lord, that you will take any anxieties away. I pray that new friendships will be made, and that these young people will find their place within this new setting.

Rachel Gash (Divisional Youth Specialist, London Division)



## **WEDNESDAY 20 AUGUST: GROWING IN FAITH** **Times of change**

Heavenly Father, we pray for children whose summer holiday marks a time of change – new teachers, schools, routines and friends. May they know that you're with them at all times. May their trust in you mean they're able to declare that you're their rock and salvation, a fortress that means they will not be shaken (Psalm 61). May feelings of anxiety not overwhelm, and may they find confidence in knowing that you, the God of all creation, are with them and for them. All power belongs to you.

Captain Kat Whitmore (Territorial Youth and Children's Secretary)



## **THURSDAY 21 AUGUST: INTERNATIONAL** **SALVATION ARMY – Malawi Territory**

We pray today for the work which The Salvation Army in Malawi is doing to help rescue children from trafficking. We pray for the Recovery Centre, where children are helped to reintegrate safely and sustainably into their home communities, and where they can find help to get back into education, with a view to learning skills that will enable them to make a living. We pray for the children who are going through these programmes at this moment, that they will know the presence and peace of God and that they will be fully healed from the effects of trauma in their lives.

Lyndall Bywater (UKI Boiler Room Team)



## **FRIDAY 22 AUGUST: JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION**

### **Reflection – social media**

Father, I pray for young people who are alone, grappling in the dark of the digital space without help. Why do we long so much for affirmation in this place? The images, the words, the sheer volume of attention, the overwhelming nature of it all ... it crowds out your peace and calm. How do you speak to us when we absorb information in 20-second clips and adverts, and then our minds bounce on to the next thing? How do we learn again to be still and focus? Lord, have mercy.

Hannah Willis (Divisional Children's Worker, Central and Southern Scotland Division)



## **SATURDAY 23 AUGUST: CARE FOR CREATION**

### **Schools resources**

As part of our 'Care for Creation' Mission Priority, The Salvation Army in the UKI Territory creates and promotes resources to help schools teach children how climate change affects the world around them. Pray that these resources will be found by those who need them, and that they will help children to understand the seriousness of climate change without being daunted by it. Pray that these resources will help them not to be afraid but to understand how their life choices can make a difference in the years to come.

Lyndall Bywater (UKI Boiler Room Team)



## **SUNDAY 24 AUGUST: SABBATH PRAYER**

### **Growing in confidence**

Dear Lord, we pray for the children and young people living in our neighbourhood. Guide them through the pressures they face – to fit in, to succeed, to be perfect. Remind them that their value lies not in what they do, but in who they are: deeply loved and wonderfully made. Protect their minds from anxiety and despair, and fill their hearts with joy, creativity and purpose. Help them to dream boldly, and to walk in kindness, justice and truth.

Jillian Gemmell (Divisional Youth Worker, Central and Southern Scotland Division)



## **MONDAY 25 AUGUST: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS** **Schools work**

We pray for corps who will be invited into schools to share their faith and work during the coming academic year. Lord, we pray that you will bless these encounters, that pupils will know more of you, and that they will be inspired to think of others. And we pray that this will be the start of a meaningful relationship between the school and their local corps.

Fiona Johnson (Resource Coordinator, including schools)



## **TUESDAY 26 AUGUST: SERVING AND CARING** **Children's work at Ipswich Bramford Roam**

Heavenly Father, we thank you for making it possible for us to continue with our toddler group. We pray for each family represented and ask your blessing on them all. Guide us through our conversations with the parents and carers, that they may see you in us. Give us the energy and enthusiasm to continue this important outreach.

Hazel Cooper (Corps Secretary, Ipswich Bramford Road)



## **WEDNESDAY 27 AUGUST: GROWING IN FAITH** **New academic year – further education**

I pray for those who will be starting at college or university, with all the new experiences this brings. I pray particularly for those moving out of home and living independently. I pray they will find good rhythms of learning and socialising. May they know you are there to guide them in everything. May they flourish in the places they find themselves.

Rachel Gash (Divisional Youth Specialist, London Division)



## **THURSDAY 28 AUGUST: INTERNATIONAL SALVATION ARMY – Canada and Bermuda Territory**

Today we pray for The Salvation Army's Youth Action Committee (YAC), made up of young adults from across Canada and Bermuda. The YAC meets once every quarter for a chance to share resources, have times of learning and connect with fellow young leaders. The hope of this committee is to offer a voice for young leaders throughout the territory, to inspire and motivate creative ministry initiatives and to develop and promote young leaders as essential to the future of The Salvation Army.

Lyndall Bywater (UKI Boiler Room Team)



## **FRIDAY 29 AUGUST: JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION Reflection – online safety**

Jesus, we know that our children and young people can be in danger as they climb into the digital space which is so available to them, and we admit that we don't really understand it well enough to protect them. The screen may feel to them like a protection, but you know the reality, the real intentions behind the messages and the images, and you know the curiosity which takes young people deeper into it all. Jesus, if you had had this digital landscape, what would you have done with it? Help us to go with you into the digital space and figure out how we use it without drowning, how we balance it without feeling its constant sting, how we protect young people from all that seeks to destroy. Christ, have mercy.

Hannah Willis (Divisional Children's Worker, Central and Southern Scotland Division)



## **SATURDAY 30 AUGUST: CARE FOR CREATION Voices for change**

Lord, we give you thanks for children and young people who have come to understand the seriousness of the climate crisis and who commit themselves to living out the changes which they know will make a difference. As your church, we pray that you will forgive us when we have written off young people's views as immature or less valuable than those of older people. Give us humility, that we might welcome the leading of those who may have less life experience but who have greater wisdom in matters of caring for your creation.

Lyndall Bywater (UKI Boiler Room Team)



## **SUNDAY 31 AUGUST: SABBATH PRAYER**

### **Growing in hope**

Dear God, we lift up to you the hearts and lives of children and young people everywhere. In a world that moves so fast and speaks so loud, may they hear your still, small voice of peace. Grant them courage when they feel afraid, strength when they are overwhelmed and hope when the days feel dark.

Jillian Gemmell (Divisional Youth Worker, Central and Southern Scotland Division)

# NOTES



# CALLING CONNECTING

*Releasing*  
DYNAMIC KINGDOM-BUILDING  
PRAYER

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