



Prayer  
Network

# Prayer MATTERS

SEPTEMBER 2025



## Dear Prayer Matters readers

Welcome to September's edition of *Prayer Matters*, where we are diving into autumn with some big topics ... not least The Salvation Army's Big Connection appeal. If you're not familiar with the Big Connection, it's a flexible fundraising tool which also serves to raise awareness and build relationships in our local communities. Let's pray that it will raise much-needed funds, but also (and even more importantly) that it will bear fruit in the sharing of the good news of Jesus with all sorts of people.

We're also focusing prayer on our Wellbeing Department and our work to combat human trafficking and modern slavery, and we're supporting a couple of important events happening this month, not least the Territorial Leaders Conference.

Our Care for Creation prayers are all about seas and oceans, and our praying for the international Salvation Army takes us across many an ocean as we dock in four different continents.

So buckle up for a thoroughly inspiring month of praying for The Salvation Army!

Blessings,

Lyndall Bywater and the  
UKI Boiler Room Team

# SEPTEMBER



## **MONDAY 1 SEPTEMBER: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS**

### **The Big Connection – gratitude for fundraisers and engagement**

Give thanks for all those who have already been fundraising for the Big Connection appeal – individuals, churches and communities offering their time, resources and prayers to help support the vital social work of The Salvation Army, serving people who are vulnerable, marginalised or in crisis across the UK.

Sassi Stuckey-Beer (Fundraising Officer)



## **TUESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER: SERVING & CARING**

### **Wellbeing Department – Counselling Service**

We pray for the work of The Salvation Army Counselling Service, which provides support to officers and their families, territorial envoys, cadets and employed spiritual leaders of local settings. We ask for the Holy Spirit's healing presence to be evident within the therapeutic space, and for physical, emotional and spiritual strength for the counsellors, and for all who carry out the demanding role of active listening.

Major Sarah Evans (Wellbeing Department)



## **WEDNESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER: GROWING IN FAITH**

### **South and Central Scotland – Growing Leaders**

Pray for all the people participating in the Growing Leaders course starting in September and for all those involved in the leadership of it, especially Majors Alison and Iain Hudson. Please pray that this course will encourage and enable people to discover more about how God has shaped them for leadership, and that they will step into whatever sphere of leadership God is calling them to.

Major Janet Robson (Divisional Leader)



## **THURSDAY 4 SEPTEMBER: INTERNATIONAL SALVATION ARMY – United Kingdom and Ireland Territory**

Today we join the worldwide Salvation Army in praying for our own territory. We give thanks for the signs of life and growth which are springing up all around the UK and Ireland, both in traditional church settings and in fresh expressions of church. We pray that this 'quiet revival' of young people rediscovering faith will go from strength to strength. We ask God's blessings on our territorial leadership team: Commissioners Jenine and Paul Main and Colonels Julie and Peter Forrest.

Lyndall Bywater (UKI Boiler Room Team)



## **FRIDAY 5 SEPTEMBER: JUSTICE & RECONCILIATION 'Agents of Transformation'**

This year's first-year cadets at William Booth College have the session name 'Agents of Transformation'. The *Cambridge English Dictionary* defines the word 'transformation' as 'a complete change in the appearance or character of something or someone, especially so that that thing or person is improved'. As the Agents of Transformation begin their training, we pray that they will delight in the grace of God at work in their lives, changing them into the image of Jesus, that they will discover the joy of being those who, with God's help, change the world for the better.

Lyndall Bywater (UKI Boiler Room Team)



## **SATURDAY 6 SEPTEMBER: CARE FOR CREATION**

### **Thank God for oceans**

'Creator God, all your works are wonderful. The earth and the oceans are yours. You made them with your hands and filled them with life, both big and small. The oceans tell of your glory, and we are amazed by the beauty you have placed in them.'

Cast your mind back to the last time you looked at an ocean or a sea. What were your thoughts and feelings as you looked at it, swam in it or travelled on it? What thanksgiving flows as you think about that moment? What prayers bubble to the surface in you?

Lyndall Bywater (UKI Boiler Room Team, prayer taken from [www.arocha.org](http://www.arocha.org))



## **SUNDAY 7 SEPTEMBER: SABBATH PRAYER**

### **Displaced**

Pray for the many people who are displaced by war, natural disasters or trafficking. Through no fault of their own, they find themselves in a strange place, not knowing anyone, not knowing the language, alone and afraid. Both Ruth and the Israelites found themselves in countries not their own, but God worked miracles in their lives when they trusted in him. We may feel we can do nothing, but Jesus said that when we welcome a stranger, we welcome him (Matthew 25:38-40).

Major Cheryl Davies (Chaplain, Anti Trafficking and Modern Slavery Team)



## **MONDAY 8 SEPTEMBER: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS**

### **The Big Connection – inspiration and creativity**

Pray for inspiration for those planning and leading fundraising activities, that they will be filled with creativity, energy and joy. Lift up those working behind the scenes, coordinating events and managing logistics. Pray that they will feel supported, encouraged and valued.

Sassi Stuckey-Beer (Fundraising Officer)



## **TUESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER: SERVING & CARING** **Wellbeing Department – psychological assessments**

Pray for the Wellbeing Department Critical Incident team as they respond to the needs of Salvation Army workers affected by traumatic events in the course of their service. Pray for the ongoing training programme which is under way to grow the team so that it can meet the demands created by the rising number of incidents each year. Pray too for the implementation of the new wellbeing protocol for Salvation Army residential events.

Major Maureen Doncaster (Wellbeing Department)



## **WEDNESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER: GROWING IN FAITH** **Rhythms of Rest wellbeing retreat (9-11 September)**

We pray for all the officers attending the Rhythms of Rest retreat at Highgate House, and for the Wellbeing Department as they lead and facilitate. May the teaching, the united worship, the prayer stations, the fellowship and the individual guidance on physical wellbeing inspire all who attend, as they create a personal wellbeing plan for a balanced and flourishing life within ministry.

Major Sarah Evans (Wellbeing Department)



## **THURSDAY 11 SEPTEMBER: INTERNATIONAL** **SALVATION ARMY – India South Western Territory**

We pray for the work of The Salvation Army in the south west of India: for strength and resources to meet need, for boldness to preach the gospel, and for protection when attacks from the Enemy come. We pray for the territorial leadership team, Colonels Prakash Chandra Pradhan and Rani Phula Pradhan and Lieut-Colonels Jacob John Joseph and Sonia Jacob, for a deep and daily experience of God's abundant goodness in their lives.

Lyndall Bywater (UKI Boiler Room Team)



## **FRIDAY 12 SEPTEMBER: JUSTICE & RECONCILIATION** **Partnership Trophy (18 September)**

The Partnership Trophy is an annual five-a-side football tournament organised by The Salvation Army for individuals experiencing homelessness. It brings together teams from various Lifehouses, supported housing, outreach programmes and drop-in services. Pray for this year's event happening next Thursday: may each person taking part feel valued for who they are and the experiences they bring. May it be a space of encouragement, connection and celebration, and may it make a difference for those within our Homelessness Services.

Nathan Slinn (Deputy Director, Homelessness Services)



## **SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER: CARE FOR CREATION** **Lamenting for oceans**

'Almighty and Righteous God, you asked us to look after the oceans, yet instead of encouraging them to teem with life as you intended, we have filled them with our waste. Forgive us for our carelessness and ignorance. We are sorry for polluting your creation.'

Polluted sea water is a major concern around the coast of the UK at the moment, not least because of some water companies discharging too much raw sewage into the marine environment. Lord, we grieve the damage these practices cause, and we pray for creative solutions which will help to heal our seas and oceans.

Lyndall Bywater (UKI Boiler Room Team, prayer taken from [www.arocha.org](http://www.arocha.org))



## **SUNDAY 14 SEPTEMBER: SABBATH PRAYER** **Exploited**

Exodus 5 tells the story of the Israelites in slavery, under forced labour and harsh conditions. Used and abused, they cry out to God for help. God sends Moses to save them. God uses another to achieve his rescue work – and God will use us too. What can we do? Proverbs 31:8 challenges us to 'speak up for people who cannot speak for themselves' and 'protect the rights of all who are helpless' (*GNB*). We each have a voice, and we are challenged to use it.

Major Cheryl Davies (Chaplain, Anti Trafficking and Modern Slavery Team)



## **MONDAY 15 SEPTEMBER: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS**

### **The Big Connection – unity**

Pray that the Big Connection appeal continues to bring people together in a spirit of unity and shared purpose, strengthening connections across divisions, churches and communities. Pray that we will resource Social Work Trust projects and our local mission well, building a stronger and more sustainable future.

Sassi Stuckey-Beerl (Fundraising Officer)



## **TUESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER: SERVING & CARING**

### **Wellbeing Department – regional team**

We pray for the Wellbeing Department regional team, often working in isolation while they support their officer colleagues at times of stress and change. We ask you to bless all initiatives for holistic wellbeing, including the Personify Health challenges, individual mentoring for physical health and nutrition, and plans for Body Mind Spirit enrichment days across the territory.

Major Sarah Evans (Wellbeing Department)



## **WEDNESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER: GROWING IN FAITH**

### **Territorial Leaders Conference (16-19 September)**

Gracious God, as leaders gather for the Territorial Leaders Conference, we ask that you will bless them with wisdom and unity. Guide their hearts in holy discernment as they seek your will for The Salvation Army's mission. Bless all who participate, with humility and clarity. May prayer and discussion around a Blueprint for Better Choices result in a clear way forward, and may all the conversations be rooted in your love and purpose. In Jesus' name.

Commissioner Jenine Main (Territorial Leader)





## **THURSDAY 18 SEPTEMBER: INTERNATIONAL SALVATION ARMY – New Zealand, Fiji, Tonga and Samoa Territory**

We pray for The Salvation Army's work in such a diverse set of places, and particularly for all those whose job is to help keep things connected and united. We pray God's blessing on Territorial Commander Commissioner Janine Donaldson and on Chief Secretary Colonel Gerald Walker, and we pray for all those who worship in corps and centres around the territory, for a stirring of hearts to closer relationship with Jesus.

Lyndall Bywater (UKI Boiler Room Team)



## **FRIDAY 19 SEPTEMBER: JUSTICE & RECONCILIATION World Peace Day (21 September)**

We pray for those lives, made in your image but damaged by violence. We pray for those in authority, that they may use their power to bind wounds, heal relationships and find common ground. We pray for a transforming peace, turning fear into trust, pain into hope and doubt into confidence for a better future. We pray for world leaders, that they may establish structures for justice, protecting human dignity, enabling reconciliation and building God's Kingdom.

Sue Cooper (CAFOD, taken from [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk))



## **SATURDAY 20 SEPTEMBER: CARE FOR CREATION** **Protection for oceans**

'Healer and Redeemer God, you sent your son Jesus Christ to reconcile the whole world to yourself. We pray that your Kingdom of healing will come today to your oceans. May your Holy Spirit help us to live lives that honour you and emulate your care for the oceans. May your Holy Spirit act through our politicians so they can work to prevent plastic entering and harming the oceans. May your Holy Spirit work in your Church to equip us to be your hands and feet in facing this problem.'

When it comes to influencing politicians and campaigning for laws that will protect our seas and oceans, it's often more effective to work in communities rather than individually. What could your church community do to speak up against marine pollution?

Lyndall Bywater (UKI Boiler Room Team, prayer taken from [www.arocha.org](http://www.arocha.org))



## **SUNDAY 21 SEPTEMBER: SABBATH PRAYER** **Enslaved**

In the Genesis story, Joseph was taken captive by his brothers and sold into slavery. Can you imagine what that was like to be betrayed by family or friends? Sadly that is the reality for many people today. Joseph, like many survivors, had no choice and no voice against what happened to him. And yet Joseph came to a place where he was able to say: 'Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good ...' (Genesis 50:20 *NRSV*), a testimony of God's redeeming work.

Major Cheryl Davies (Chaplain, Anti-Trafficking and Modern Slavery Team)



## **MONDAY 22 SEPTEMBER: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS** **The Big Connection - engagement and impact**

Pray that more people will hear about the Big Connection and feel moved to get involved, whether through giving, volunteering or spreading the word. Pray that the funds raised will meet and exceed the needs of the appeal, and that every pound given will make a meaningful difference in the lives of those it supports.

Sassi Stuckey-Beerl (Fundraising Officer)



## **TUESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER: SERVING & CARING** **Wellbeing Department – psychological assessments**

Pray for the psychological assessment weekends attended by those pursuing a vocational calling within The Salvation Army. Pray that the applicants will feel nurtured and encouraged in their search to identify God's calling for them. Pray for the assessors to be granted wisdom and discernment in their interviews and discussions. Pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance in any recommendations that the assessing team may make.

Rosemary Steadman-Allen (Wellbeing Department)



## **WEDNESDAY 24 SEPTEMBER: GROWING IN FAITH** **South and Central Scotland – divisional youth sessions**

Pray for the young people who participate in our youth sections (brass band, youth chorus and worship band) and the great group of people who lead/support them. Whilst we value the beautiful opportunity these groups offer to build friendships across the division, our prayer is that each young person involved in these groups will encounter Jesus and that they will grow deeper in their discipleship.

Major Janet Robson (Divisional Leader)



## **THURSDAY 25 SEPTEMBER: INTERNATIONAL** **SALVATION ARMY – Mali and Burkina Faso Region**

Today we pray for one of The Salvation Army's youngest regional commands. The work started in Mali in 2007 and in Burkina Faso in 2012. There are 23 congregations and 17 youth groups, as well as a host of social services. We give thanks for the witness of the Army in these nations, and for every person who has come to faith as a result. We pray for the regional leadership team of Lieut-Colonels Blaise and Evelyne Kombo and Captains André and Nana Togo, and we pray for protection for every expression of Salvation Army life in the region.

Lyndall Bywater (UKI Boiler Room Team)



## **FRIDAY 26 SEPTEMBER: JUSTICE & RECONCILIATION**

### **Welcome weekend at William Booth College**

Lord Jesus, as we welcome a new session of cadets to William Booth College, we bring the 12 Agents of Transformation and their families to you in prayer. Continue your work of transformation in them, that they may impact this world with courageous, creative and life-giving love. In their training, may the example of your disciples inspire them to connect with 21st-Century cultures in ways that resonate with your truth – the truth that sets people free.

Major Catherine Smith (Candidates Director)



## **SATURDAY 27 SEPTEMBER: CARE FOR CREATION**

### **Praying for oceans**

'Comforter God, we ask you to help our brothers and sisters around the world who are suffering because of the problem of plastic pollution: subsistence fishermen who pull up nets full of rubbish, those who suffer health problems due to contaminated seafood, and those whose places of work and leisure are marred by washed-up plastic. We place this problem in your hands and ask for your help. May your oceans reflect your glory once again.'

Look up some images of the impact waste plastics have on our oceans, and spend some time praying for a transformation in human behaviour, and for the miracle of healing and restoration in the waters of the Earth.

Lyndall Bywater (UKI Boiler Room Team, prayer taken from [www.arocha.org](http://www.arocha.org))



## **SUNDAY 28 SEPTEMBER: SABBATH PRAYER** **International Day of Prayer for Victims of Human Trafficking**

Father God, on this day we bring before you those who have been affected by trafficking and slavery. We cannot begin to imagine their feelings, but we pray for healing and wholeness for them. We pray for freedom of body, mind and spirit. We pray that they will know that you love them, that they are made in your image and are precious in your sight. We pray for their families, many of whom they haven't seen for many years, that they, too, will know your comfort and peace. May your presence and blessing rest upon all who are far from home and who need to know that they are loved.

Major Cheryl Davies (Chaplain, Anti Trafficking and Modern Slavery Team)



## **MONDAY 29 SEPTEMBER: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS** **The Big Connection – fundraising as mission**

Pray that as church members we will see fundraising not just as a means to an end, but as part of how we live out our calling. Pray that the fundraising will bear fruit: that through the Big Connection, people will find hope, forgiveness and a relationship with God. Ask that we will see lives transformed, faith renewed and congregations grow, as we engage with the public through the appeal.

Sassi Stuckey-Bერი (Fundraising Officer)



## **TUESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER: SERVING & CARING** **Wellbeing Department – networks of support**

We pray for officers who work in remote areas of the territory, where their nearest colleagues or family may be many miles away. Loving Father, help us all to reach across the miles, ensuring that everyone feels part of the body of Christ. May Officers' Councils in October be a time when new friendships are formed and old ones renewed, the cords of love being made stronger between us.

Major Elaine Cavanagh (Wellbeing Department)

# NOTES



The background features a large light blue semi-circle at the top, a red semi-circle on the left, and a dark blue semi-circle at the bottom right. These are overlaid with a network of thin, colorful lines (blue, green, yellow, red, purple) connecting small dots. The text is centered in the white space between the shapes.

# CALLING CONNECTING

*Releasing*  
DYNAMIC KINGDOM-BUILDING  
PRAYER

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