



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

A women-led, global, ecumenical movement



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR ENGLAND, WALES AND NORTHERN IRELAND

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A Letter from the Chairperson of the National Committee, World Day of Prayer

Dear Sister in Christ

Thank you for all you do to keep this wonderful movement alive in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

This year the corona virus pandemic has affected all our lives. Closed Churches have meant that people have been unable to meet for worship. Many people have lost their loved ones without even being able to be present at their bedside or even their funerals. Families have been unable to visit grandparents and even shopping for essential items has been difficult. Many people have lived in isolation for months. However, we have applauded the Health service, care agencies and other key workers. People in our communities have volunteered to help and there has been an awakening of love and concern for others.

The 2021 Service

I hope you will enjoy preparing for the service written by the Christian women of the Republic of Vanuatu. The service includes women, youth and children. The programme is not indicating leaders by number. Please adjust the number of leaders to your local situation. The theme of the service is from Matthew chapter seven: "Build on a firm foundation" and the focus is on living wisely. We reflect on the text and its message for today. Consider how to respond. Included in the meditation moment is a fragment of the Bible Study.

Service Details

More people have been going to our website to find out where and when their local service is. This is commendable and we hope that branches will check that the details for their service are correct and change them if necessary. If you are unable to go to the website yourself, please find someone who can do this and check the information on it for you.

Preparation Days

Please try to attend Preparation Days and invite members of your committee to join you. There is a list of the places where the Preparation Days are to be held in the Together in Prayer Magazine, and full details are also available on the website.

Y-Pray? Conference

The corona virus meant that the 2020 Y-Pray? gathering had to be cancelled. However, the 2021 Y-Pray? is booked to take place at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire Friday 30 April to Sunday 2 May. This is a gathering for women of all ages. Please make sure everyone in your church, especially younger women, know about it and encourage them to book.

2022 Service

The Writing Group for this service has completed their task and it is now being edited in conjunction with the International Executive.

The Future

Thank you to the many people who met after the Zimbabwe service and forwarded commitment cards to the office afterwards. Time will be allocated at our residential in November for the whole committee to reflect and discuss them. We will also spend time reflecting on the future of World Day of Prayer to ensure we maximise its effectiveness and explore new ways of encouraging more people including young people to be empowered to be involved in this great movement.

Thank you for all your hard work to keep this wonderful movement alive. I pray that together we can help to continue to thrive in our three countries for many years to come.

Every blessing



Nicola Hoskin-Stone
Chairperson
World Day of Prayer England, Wales & Northern Ireland

PS Don't forget to share this letter with the other members of your local branch committee