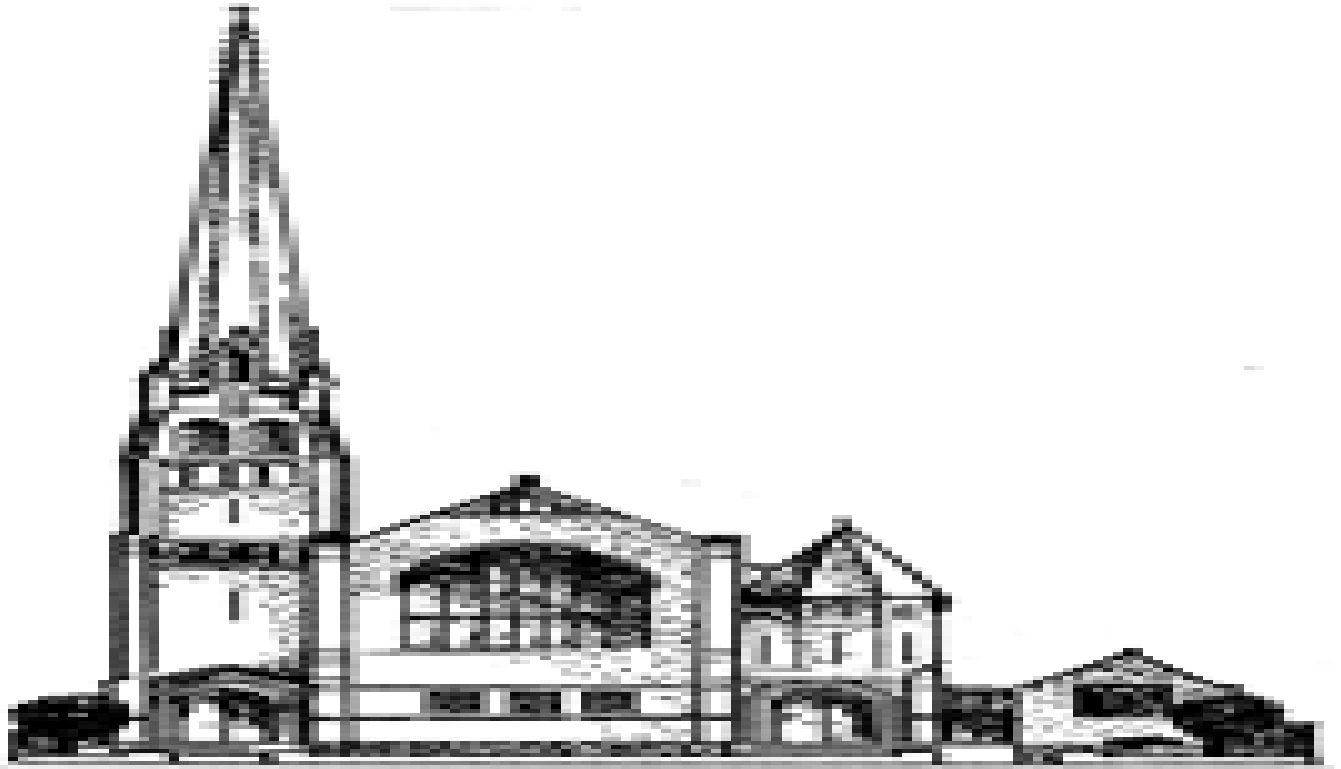


AYR, ST ANDREW'S CHURCH



OCTOBER PRAYER DIARY

(The month of harvest)

**Holy Spirit, gift bestower, breathe into our hearts today.
Flowering water, dove that hovers, Holy Spirit guide our way.
Love inspirer, joy releaser, Spirit take our fears away.
Reconciler, peace restorer, move among us while we pray.**

(CH4 Hymn 590)

“Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to teach them that they should always pray and never become discouraged. ²“In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected people. ³ And there was a widow in that same town who kept coming to him and pleading for her rights, saying, ‘Help me against my opponent!’ ⁴ For a long time the judge refused to act, but at last he said to himself, ‘Even though I don't fear God or respect people, ⁵ yet because of all the trouble this widow is giving me, I will see to it that she gets her rights. If I don't, she will keep on coming and finally wear me out!’”

(Luke 18:1-5)

Always start your prayer with thanksgiving and praise

Topics are arranged over 7 days which you may find helpful

SUNDAY

Every new morning is an opportunity to encounter God's amazing grace. Thank God for the privilege to be called his son/daughter. As we gather in the sanctuary of faith, ask God to help us become aware of his presence and to open our eyes to perceive him, realign our minds to believe him, and reawaken our hearts to receive him every day of our lives. Thank God for the universal church and pray for St Andrew's Parish as the Spirit leads.

MONDAY

Give thanks and pray for families. Families are a crucial social unit, and they can weather some significant challenges. Pray for the parents, aunts, grandparents, uncles, cousins, siblings, and children in your neighbourhood. Pray for God's presence in families. Pray for strength and understanding between the marriages in our neighbourhood. Ask God for loving, strong bonds between the children, teenagers, adults, and grandparents. We pray that each branch of the family would demonstrate love for one another.

TUESDAY

This month is crucial in the struggle for climate justice. To rise to the challenge, we must underpin it in prayer. Pray for the willingness of decision makers to listen to calls for climate justice and make real and bold commitments to change at COP26 as they meet in Glasgow from 31 October – 12 November 2021. The UK is committed to working with all countries and joining forces with civil society, companies and people on the frontline of climate change to inspire climate action ahead of COP26. Pray for wisdom and God's guidance on the government as they plan and prepare to host this all important summit.

WEDNESDAY

In a world that is often very dark, and in times that we know the end is drawing nearer, many believers are persecuted, even killed, daily all around our world. Many are being intimidated by others around them, or are ridiculed and attacked because of their beliefs. Pray for Ayr presbytery and all the parishes within the Presbytery including our congregation. That the church may be faithful in its witness and mission. Pray for massive harvest of souls into local parishes across the country.

THURSDAY

Let us come humbly before God with thanksgiving and bring our prayers for people who are sick, people you know and can name before God. Let us pray for God's healing upon Mair Kirkwood. Pray for those who have been diagnosed with cancer. Some fear it might lead to the end of their journey in life. Pray for people with cancerous disease; pray for Margret Clydesdale, Jennie Chinembiri, and others you could name. Thank God for healing grace.

FRIDAY

Thank God for our congregation and for his presence in our midst. Pray for wisdom and direction from God upon our minister and other ministers in our cluster. Pray that God's will and purpose be made perfect through the Presbytery's mission plan we have accepted. Pray for members of our church family and to everyone the Spirit of God will lead you to intercede for. That God, help our church body to walk in a manner worthy of the calling we have received. Ask God to help us in all our interactions with one another to have humble and gentle hearts. To grant us patience for one another, bearing with one another in love. Pray that as God's body we may live in unity and walk humbly with our God, allowing him to show us our wrongs and lead us to the right path.

SATURDAY

Thank God for the gift of life today. We read about violent attacks and wanton killing of people every day. Pray for God's protection over your family and whoever you could call a neighbour. Ask God to comfort families and friends of those whose lives have been forcefully taken. We long for a nation where all could live happily without someone pulling the trigger or raising a knife against another; pray for God's intervention.

Does God Care?

Lord, save us! We are perishing!

Matthew 8:25

If we medicate fear with angry outbursts, drinking binges, sullen withdrawals, selfstarvation, or vise-like control, we exclude God from the solution and exacerbate the problem. We subject ourselves to a position of fear, allowing anxiety to dominate and define our lives. Joy-sapping worries. Day-numbing dread. Repeated bouts of insecurity that petrify and paralyze us. Hysteria is not from God. "For God has not given us a spirit of fear" (2 Tim. 1:7).

Fear will always knock on your door.

Just don't invite it in for dinner,

and for heaven's sake don't offer it a bed for the night.

Let's embolden our hearts with a select number of Jesus' "do not fear" statements. Fear may fill our world,

but it doesn't have to fill our hearts.

The promise of Christ is simple:

we can fear less tomorrow than we do today.

(Max Lucado – *Fearless _ Imagin your life without fear*)

If you have a prayer request or a favorite prayer which you would care to share in a future prayer diary, please e-mail:

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