

Prayer Diary

June to July 2024



"Binding up the broken hearted and setting the captives free" Isaiah 61:1



Urban Outreach Bolton



@UrbanOutreachUK



urbanoutreachbolton



UrbanOutreachBolton

www.urbanoutreach.co.uk

Company No. 3019108

Saturday 1st & Sunday 2nd June

We still continue to grapple with the issues that are emerging with Bolton at Home selling their stake in the Trinity Retail Park where we have our Food Hub.

We know that God wanted us to be there; it is a very busy place with many thousands of people receiving food that has been sorted by our volunteers at the Hub.

It is also very draining as we attempt to consider the future needs for food parcel distribution in Bolton and the place that we might play in that.

We would value your continued prayers for us. Wisdom is crucial.

Wednesday 5th June

Today please join us in prayer for those who are either expecting a baby or have recently had a child. Pray that families will find proper support, community, and resource to help bring the child up in a place of love for their flourishing.

Please pray daily for:-

- **All Urban Outreach staff. For wisdom and protection in the many varied situations they find themselves.**
- **Our Food Hub as we provide food, gas & electric to many vulnerable households each week.**
- **Bolton Lunches 2024**

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Monday 3rd June

We would really value your continued prayer support as we seek to fill vacancies within UOB. We have some very exciting opportunities to bring God into many people's lives.

Thursday 6th June

Please pray for a mum who is extremely anxious for her child. Ask that God would give her peace, clarity of mind and for her to recognise the good parenting that she provides. Petition that God may take from her all that harms and hinders her.

Tuesday 4th June

Today please pray for those who are elderly in our town. For those who are being cared for by family, in retirement homes, or living alone with little care. Pray that those who are nearing the end of their life that they may not experience great suffering and may enjoy their last days with dignity.

Friday 7th June

The Lord shall keep watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth for evermore (Ps91). At a time of adjustment in the Children and Families' Team with staffing changes and new opportunities, pray that God will walk closely with them and that they would be strengthened by the Spirit and adapt to a new season.

<p>Saturday 8th June As young people are sitting exams such as A levels, SATS and GCSEs, may God provide the right perspective. Please pray that young people will know that they are valuable and loved no matter what. Please also remember to God those who are not able to sit exams at this time due to school absence, behaviour or mental health.</p>	<p>Sunday 9th June Please pray for those we work with this week who will come to see us in crisis. They may feel at the end of their strength, but we know a God who is a refuge and shelter. Let's pray that they will experience this refuge and feel comforted by Him. God is close to the broken hearted.</p>	<p>Monday 10th June Today please join us in praying for those attending our Amber Centre this week. We ask that all who come will feel welcome and valued. We ask God for a sense of purpose and belonging for all who move through the building and the grounds.</p>
<p>Tuesday 11th June Please continue to pray for the gentleman from Street Life who is waiting to go into detox to address his alcoholism. Sadly, things haven't improved, and now his health has deteriorated. Pray that Street Life will be able to find accommodation, a space in a detox will be available and that God would set him free.</p>	<p>Wednesday 12th June As the Street Life Drop-In happens today, please pray for all those who attend that God will give them hope in the hopeless situation they find themselves in. Pray also that the staff and volunteers will be filled with God's wisdom as they seek to help each individual person with their diverse problems.</p>	<p>Thursday 13th June As you are aware there is a housing crisis. Please pray for the Street Life project as they tirelessly seek to find housing. There is a huge shortage of affordable housing across all housing associations and the private sector, which results in more people resorting to sleep rough.</p>
<p>Friday 14th June Today please pray for children and young people who have recently completed their support with one of our Rise workers. Ask God to provide each one with other trusted adults in their lives that will support them, listen to them, and give them confidence to be strong.</p>	<p>Saturday 15th June Please continue to pray for those receiving support through RISE. Ask God to help them be reassured by the emotional tools they have been given and confident to put them into practice. Please pray for a Y6 boy who is extremely anxious. He finds new situations incredibly difficult, and he is very nervous about starting secondary school in September.</p>	<p>Sunday 16th June As we join with other Christians to worship God in our various denominations, let us thank God for the unique ways He has created us. Pray that our eyes are opened to see the beautiful diverse creation that God has made, and may we always be thankful for the unique ways that God speaks to us all.</p>

"My salvation and my honour depend on God; He is my mighty rock, my refuge. Trust in Him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to Him, for God is our refuge." (Psalm 62 : 7-8)

<p>Monday 17th June At the start of the week, let us give the week to God. All the opportunities, challenges, booked in appointments and unknown encounters. Pray for the staff that they are able to cope with all the challenges that they are faced with, and that God's love will be evident in every part of their week.</p>	<p>Tuesday 18th June Today we open our doors at the Food Hub for schools to come and learn about poverty. Pray the children and adults will be inspired to make Bolton a better place. Pray that each school that engages with the lesson will leave believing they can be part of making a difference.</p>	<p>Wednesday 19th June Pray today for children and teenagers living in Bolton, that they would be hopeful of their future and would see how they can help to make meaningful changes right now. Pray for teachers, carers and other professionals whose jobs are involved in helping young people, that they would be able to make a difference in these young lives.</p>
<p>Thursday 20th June Please pray for all Urban Outreach staff and volunteers, whether they are working with food, adults in need, children and their families, or something else. Pray that they would be blessed today, and that they would see God's work happening where they are. Pray for God's love, strength and guidance throughout their day.</p>	<p>Friday 21st June Please pray for our clients who are struggling to engage with our services. Pray that they would see that there is a plan for their future which is beyond what they would ever expect.</p>	<p>Saturday 22nd June Please pray for our clients who are living with depression which affects their ability to care for themselves and their properties. Pray for breakthroughs in their situations and freedom from the negative events that have happened in the past.</p>
<p>Sunday 23rd June Please join us in praying for the chaplains in Bolton who offer ministry and support in a wide array of contexts. Pray that God will protect them and give them wisdom and the words to speak as they embody the gospel.</p>	<p>Monday 24th June Today we pray for the emergency services that are necessary to help our society function. For those that work in those services, to protect, aid and provide physical care, that they themselves will be sustained by God in this work. Pray that these services continue to meet the needs in the town as they arise.</p>	<p>Tuesday 25th June Life can sometimes feel overwhelming as we face the storms of life. Remembering Isaiah 43:2 please offer thanks to God that He has promised to be with us in all the scenes and circumstances of life. Thank Him that He is there for our clients facing difficult times, whether they know Him or not.</p>

"Cast all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you." (1 Peter 5:7)

<p>Wednesday 26th June “Jesus looked at them and said, “with man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible”. (Matthew 19:26) Please offer thanks to God that He makes all things possible and pray for His “possible” in the lives of those we support and situations we encounter across all outreach projects.</p>	<p>Thursday 27th June Please give thanks for the UOB food team and all they do. Please ask God to bless them today as they attend a Poverty Open day. “For the needy shall not always be forgotten and the hope of the poor shall not perish forever”. (Proverbs 9:18)</p>	<p>Friday 28th June Only God can give us a ‘peace that surpasses all understanding’. Please pray for the young people of Bolton and the ever-growing mental health crisis. Pray that He gives us the resources, wisdom and expertise needed to enable young people in this generation to flourish.</p>
<p>Saturday 29th June The Lord told us ‘Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted’. Please pray for comfort for the people of Bolton who are in mourning, whether over the loss of a loved one, a loss of relationship, the loss of a job, the loss of security or a home. Pray that we, the people of a God of comfort, can be a comforting presence in a world of grief.</p>	<p>Sunday 30th June Please pray for those who are called to be peacemakers in our town. As the world seems to be increasingly polarized and divided, draw out the peacemakers to be agents of reconciliation, mercy and compassion to all the people of Bolton, so that we may all flourish together.</p>	<p>Monday 1st July Our plans are coming together for the Summer, please would you uphold the team as we seek to put these plans into action. It can be very demanding on everyone across the organisation.</p>
<p>Tuesday 2nd July Please continue to pray for our great Trustees, we value their wisdom and the commitment they make to us on the ground.</p>	<p>Wednesday 3rd July As always we remain incredibly excited and humbled by the partnerships we have with local churches. We see these relationships as being absolutely fundamental to seeing how God is extending His Kingdom here in Bolton. Please continue to pray for these and for further partnerships.</p>	<p>Thursday 4th July A verse that often comes to mind when working with women in Eve’s Space is Jeremiah 29:11. We believe that God has a plan for these women and even when they feel that they are in a dark pit God is with them. And if they don’t have hope, we have hope for them, until they can see it for themselves. We are currently working with four such women. Please join us in praying for them.</p>

“Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ.” (Galatians 6:2)

<p>Friday 5th July Eve’s Space are working with two women who are waiting for places in recovery homes, we believe the changes they can make are life changing. It’s not an easy route and they will be challenged every day. Please pray for spaces to become available and for their long-term recovery.</p>	<p>Saturday 6th July Please pray for a lady who is paraplegic. Her partner has died recently, and she is worried that the authorities may put her into a care home. Pray for the right provision and care to be put in place so that she can remain in her own flat.</p>	<p>Sunday 7th July Please pray for a female who sex works to fund her drug habit and has been doing this for many years. Pray for breakthrough and for her to accept a place in rehabilitation.</p>
<p>Monday 8th July We begin this new working week with hope for all those we will encounter over the next few days. Please join us as we pray for those we know well, and those who we do not yet know, that they will encounter an amazing God through the love and support shown to them through all our staff and volunteers.</p>	<p>Tuesday 9th July Please pray today as the wonderful trustees of Urban Outreach meet together. Please pray for great wisdom and discernment as they seek to make decisions on all aspects of the running of the charity</p>	<p>Wednesday 10th July Please pray for a new project starting in the Children & Families Team. ‘No Hiding Place’ will support young people in our town at risk of Child Criminal Exploitation through schools work and 1:1 sessions. Lord, we ask that you work through this project to shine a light on what is in the shadows and to protect every child in our town.</p>
<p>Thursday 11th July We praise God for our partnerships with schools that we go in to frequently to support children, and for their support to us in organising donations and raising awareness of issues. Praise God for the teachers’ hard work and dedication to the children and to the town.</p>	<p>Friday 12th July We lift up a child in care known to our RUNA project that is transitioning into post-16 semi-independent accommodation. Please pray that this change will be smooth and centred on his wellbeing, helping him to flourish towards adulthood. Thank you Lord that you love him and will be with him all his life.</p>	<p>Saturday 13th July The summer holidays can often be a source of stress and strain for those families struggling with finances. As they approach, please pray for peace in those families and that they would be able to access the holiday activities happening across Bolton.</p>

“Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever.” (Psalm 107:1)

<p>Sunday 14th July As we're coming up to the summer holidays, please pray for the Food Team as they put the final plans in place for Bolton Lunches to begin next week. Please pray for a smooth delivery of this project, that children in need all across Bolton would be able to access the lunches and that they would be a blessing to them and their families.</p>	<p>Monday 15th July Please pray for a lady and her children who are facing eviction. Pray she continues to engage with services and that they are able to receive the support needed to help build a new safe and secure home.</p>	<p>Tuesday 16th July Please pray for the Urban Outreach team, that they feel rested, strengthened, and supported. Pray that they receive the Lord's guidance when helping those that come through our service.</p>
<p>Wednesday 17th July As we prepare for Bolton Lunches please pray for the staff and volunteers, that the early starts and busy-ness of the project does not overwhelm them. Please also pray for those receiving the lunches – that a burden may be removed from those families struggling this summer.</p>	<p>Thursday 18th July Holiday season is here! Please pray for Urban Outreach staff who may be taking a much needed holiday over the summer. May they be granted sunny days, laughter and serenity so that their minds, bodies and spirits can be refreshed allowing them to return ready to continue their incredible work with kindness and compassion.</p>	<p>Friday 19th July As the schools break up for the summer break, we ask that you will be with all families who will be struggling this summer in trying to feed and entertain their children. We give thanks for the numerous summer clubs that take place and for all the volunteers that run these clubs.</p>
<p>Saturday 20th July We give thanks for all our volunteers at Urban Outreach and for all their hard work and dedication they give to our organisation throughout the year. At this holiday time give them the opportunity to rest and relax and enjoy their holidays if they are going away.</p>	<p>Sunday 21st July On the eve of our Bolton Lunches initiative, we ask for a smooth introduction tomorrow. We ask that all volunteers who signed up are able to come and give of their time and that we are able to reach out to all children and young people in our town and be able to provide them with a lunch.</p>	<p>Monday 22nd July Join us in prayer as we begin Bolton Lunches 2024. Over the summer, we will serve thousands of lunches to young people across Bolton. Pray that the food reaches and blesses those most in need. Pray for every individual involved in preparing, delivering, and serving the food and every school and agency we work with to combat food poverty.</p>

*"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."
(Isaiah 41:10)*

<p>Tuesday 23rd July As the summer holidays begin for many young people in Bolton, pray against the forces of exploitation that threatens young people's lives daily – criminal exploitation and sexual exploitation. Pray against alcohol and substance misuse that develops into addiction and damages relationships. Pray that over the summer months, young people experience</p>	<p>Wednesday 24th July Today, let's join in prayer for the strength of Christian Hope. "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." (NRSV, Romans 15:13)</p>	<p>Thursday 25th July Praise the Lord for the Street Life project, that even though we have seen a vast increase in the numbers of people being open to them, they still continue to support and help each person. Last year from April 2023 to March 2024 they were able to accommodate and assist 345 individual people, this includes single people, and families.</p>
<p>Friday 26th July As Street Life are working with many refugees or asylum seekers who now have the right to stay in the country, but still do not speak good English. Please pray for Street Life as they seek to support them, in many their areas of need, such as housing, how to claim benefits, opening bank accounts or finding a job.</p>	<p>Saturday 27th July Please pray for the many people who are experiencing the fear of homelessness through being given eviction notices by their landlords due to them either wanting to increase the rent or selling their properties. Pray that God would strengthen and equip Street Life as they seek to support and assist these people through this anxious time.</p>	<p>Sunday 28th July Please be praying for the children throughout Bolton that have recently been moved into looked after care. Please pray that their foster or residential placements are places where they feel loved, supported, and cared for. Please pray that they are kept safe and that they feel at home in these new places.</p>
<p>Monday 29th July Please pray for the young people in Bolton that are regularly away from home but are not being reported missing. Please pray that the right support will come alongside these young people and their families so they can talk about what is going on in their lives. Pray that these young people do not go under the radar.</p>	<p>Tuesday 30th July As we are now into the second week of Bolton Lunches, please pray that this continues to move along successfully. Pray that all those involved are touched by God's love – both those who receive a packed lunch and all our volunteers, who give up their time so generously.</p>	<p>Wednesday 31st July Please pray for our food collection points, for the volunteers and their contribution every week in meeting clients and helping them to feel welcome. Pray for those collecting food, that their needs are met with the provisions we are able to provide through donations.</p>

*"But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control."
(Galatians 5 v 22)*