

Daylight Newsletter February 2023

We continue to be thankful for opportunities chaplaincy duties provide to spend time with individual prisoners on the wings; answering questions, befriending, and offering support to those who are particularly struggling. Helping prisoners who have lost loved ones also continues to be a big part of this work.

One of our chaplains has recently had contact with a very young man, Theo, who has a complicated background and has faced a lot of difficulties for someone of his age. He recently heard that his mother had been diagnosed with a terminal illness and did not have long to live. We are thankful that it was possible to arrange for him to visit his mother in the hospice before she died and hope that it will also be possible for him to attend her funeral.

Theo is grateful for the support he is receiving from chaplaincy, and said that he had come along to some services in the prison when he first came in and had stopped attending, but now would like to start coming to services again. Please pray that something of this contact will be used to speak to him, and that our chaplains will be given wisdom as they seek to support prisoners like Theo who have recently lost loved ones.

Carrying out receptions also continues to provide good opportunities to make contact with new prisoners. One of chaplains recently did the reception for a man in his forties who was keen to sign up to come to services, saying he wanted to turn his life around. He also requested a Bible, and has been one of a number of new prisoners to do this over the last couple of months. Please pray that these Bibles will be read, and that the Lord will use His Word to speak to the hearts of many.

February Prayer Points

Chief Executive Recruitment — Please continue to pray for the recruitment of a new Chief Executive Officer for Daylight; for the advert being circulated this month, and for our trustees, that they will be helped in making decisions over applications that come in.

Josh - Please pray for Josh, a Christian ex-offender who is now undergoing chemotherapy treatment for a lymphoma condition. As he did during his sentence, he maintains a bright Christian testimony, even whilst undergoing this treatment in hospital.

HMP Kirklevington Grange (North Yorkshire) - Give thanks for opportunities to run services here each month. The men are very appreciative and have deep questions.

Please particularly pray for Scott, a Christian prisoner who was previously given a booklet by George Whitfield. When we saw him at the most recent service, he said he had really enjoyed it, and that if we had other material like that, he would love to read it.

Mel - Please pray for Mel, a man who had previously been threatening towards one of our chaplains, but during his discharge interview listened carefully as the chaplain spoke about his need of a new heart and accepted a booklet on knowing God. Pray the Lord will use this contact in his heart and life.

HMP Oakwood (Staffordshire)— Give thanks for continued encouragements here, particularly from the weekly Bible study group who are really enjoying the current studies in John's Gospel. Please pray that these will continue to be an encouragement to those who are believers, and that others will be challenged by what they are learning.

Rick - Give thanks for Rick who has received letters from one of our volunteers for some time and often mentions how much he appreciates this contact. He has quite severe dyslexia and finds reading a challenge, but takes the time to read through Daylight's regular written messages, saying how much he enjoys them, discussing any parts he is unsure about with the chaplain in his prison. Please pray that this contact will be used to speak to him.

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Sunday Services — Give thanks for encouraging responses to Sunday services over the last month. Having heard a sermon on the baptism of Jesus in Matthew chapter three, along with a short biography of a Christian from World War II at one of these, a prisoner commented, "I've learnt a lot this morning. Thanks very much for that". Please pray that what he learned from the service will not just be head knowledge, but something that changes his heart.

Volunteers — Give thanks for new volunteers who are getting involved in helping with Sunday services and mid-week Bible studies. Please pray that the necessary security clearance for them will go through quickly, enabling them to be able to help on a regular basis.

HMP Wayland (Norfolk) - Please pray for a Muslim man who has started reading the Bible after watching the quiet consistent testimony of a Christian man on his wing.

Please pray for another man who has been remarkably saved and transformed, but needs to understand the importance of getting a fuller grounding in the fundamentals of the Christian faith and the error of thinking that all faiths can lead to God.

West Yorkshire Prayer & Support Group — Give thanks that after hearing about Daylight at his church in Leeds, a new volunteer is in the process of joining the team. God had laid it upon his heart for many months that he should be more involved in sharing the Gospel with others, and prison ministry is now where he feels he should go.

Please pray for prisoners who are still feeling quite low after the Christmas period, as the numbers of those self-harming have increased, and for those who are sick and suffering from incurable illnesses. Pray too for concerns in some of the nearby prisons for those who have recently been released with no home to go to, that they will find the help and support they need to rebuild their lives outside.

Give thanks for the recent baptisms of four men in HMP Wakefield and twelve women in HMP New Hall and praise God that two of the nearby prisons have now received the Gideon Bibles they had requested. Please pray that these will be read and that the Lord will speak to many through His Word.

Daylight Giving Form



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Thank you for your support.

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