

PRAYER DIARY

September 2018 -
February 2019

WELCOME

to the prayer diary

Autumn marks a new year for many of us; whether we are returning to university, going back to school, starting a new season with our sports team, or moving on to a new phase of life.

As we begin a 'new year' at Christians in Sport, we look back at the plans from last year that God, in His goodness, has made happen. We also look forward with excitement for the year to come; new projects we will be starting and another season of reaching the world of sport for Christ as we have done for close to 40 years. As we do this, we are reminded of Proverbs 16 v 1: 'To humans belong the plans of the heart, but from the Lord comes the proper answer of the tongue.' And later in verse 3, 'Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and He will establish your plans.'

So with that in mind, we ask that you pray with us as we commit all our plans to Him, the maker of heaven and earth and our loving Father. Pray that we would carry out His plans for His work in the world of sport. Thank you for praying with us!

Jen Warnock, Partner Relations Team



Did you know we're on the PrayerMate app?

It's a great way to help lift this work up to our Heavenly Father in prayer. You can get prayers each day onto your phone to pray wherever and whenever suits you.

Why not download the app or add Christians in Sport to your existing feed?

Here's the link you need: praynow4.org/cis_uk

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THANKSGIVING

30 Sep - 13 Oct

Since all our blessings flow from God, we have much to be grateful for. This fortnight, let us praise and thank God for all He has been doing in the world of sport.

Sun 30th Young Performance Athletes (YPAs) parent/guardian booklet. Praise God for everyone who has received the booklet in the last six months. Pray this new resource would help them as a family to live for Jesus in the world of elite sport.

Mon 1st Oct Dialogue Dinners. We are so thankful to God for the 49 student Dialogue Dinners (where guests discuss questions of faith over a meal) which took place last academic year. Praise God for the boldness of the students who held one for their sports club and pray that many seeds will have fallen on good soil through these meals.

Tue 2nd European Sports Mission. Thank God for the 70+ students who have now come through the three ESM schools. Praise God for this new model of training European young leaders together and how we have seen the benefits already. Pray that God would protect the hearts of these leaders and keep them walking faithfully with Him.

Wed 3rd Donations. Thank God for every pound and pence that has been donated to this work, allowing us to equip sportspeople to share their faith, and speak of Jesus to sportspeople around the UK and internationally.

Thu 4th Church engagement. Praise God that over 700 more churches engaged with our resources during the summer compared to the same period last year. Thank God for the vital role local churches play in encouraging and challenging believers to apply Scripture to their whole lives, including sport.

Fri 5th Schools. Thank God for teachers who have delivered assemblies using resources downloaded from the Sports Mission Pack this year. Praise God for their boldness in doing so and thank Him for this open door for the gospel in an increasingly closed context.

Sat 6th Digital and social media. Developments in the digital and social media world have expanded the number of opportunities to communicate and share content. Thank our Heavenly Father that more sportspeople are now hearing the gospel as our resources are being read, watched and listened to more widely than ever before.

Sun 7th Major event Bible studies. Thank God for the many group Bible studies that have taken place at major events this summer on the Ladies European Tour, European Tour, Diamond League and Wimbledon to name a few. Pray that God would foster Christian community on these tours, which demands months away from home and church.

Mon 8th Events' Weeks. Thank God for granting us the opportunity and freedom to declare the gospel at Cardiff and Loughborough university events weeks in the coming year. Pray that He will use every talk to achieve His salvation purposes in the lives of those who hear the gospel of His son Jesus Christ.

Tue 9th European Christian Sports Union (ECSU). 86 organisations and individuals from 46 countries feed into the quarterly ECSU prayer diary. As we pray for things going on in the UK, give thanks for our God with a global heart and for all these individuals looking to share Christ through sport in a variety of circumstances and cultures.

Wed 10th Partners. We are thankful for the partners who have recently started giving financially to support the work of Christians in Sport. Praise God for the opportunity to meet many of them at Partner Evenings in the last year.

Thu 11th Sustainable mission. By 2020, we long to see leaders in 300 towns and cities across the UK and globally, serving to reach the world of sport for Christ in their local area. Please pray that God would raise up more leaders to carry this out.

Fri 12th UK leaders. Without local volunteers, our vision to reach the world of sport in 121 UK towns and cities could not be realised. Thank God for all those who devote time and energy to running prayer gatherings, evangelism training and guest events.

Sat 13th Church partnerships. Thank God for the strong links we have with many UK churches who recognise the value of sport, as well as the urgent need to reach out to their local sports communities.

ELITE SPORT

14 - 27 Oct

Heavy training and competition schedules take elite athletes and coaches away from home for long periods of time, meaning they can miss a lot of church teaching and church fellowship. Please join us in praying for the world of elite sport and all those within it.

Sun 14th Professional Football. Pray for a regular Bible study group to be established at St George's Park, The FA's National Football Centre, for all those interested to know more about who Jesus is.

Mon 15th Vitality Netball Superleague. Thank God for the Christians we know of competing in six of the ten Superleague Teams. Pray that the Lord would continue to raise up Christians in the other four teams.

Tue 16th Hockey. Pray for God to raise up a strong Christian in the men's and women's GB centralised programme and for boldness for them to speak of their faith.

Wed 17th IAAF Diamond League. Over the summer, Julia, Graham and Stuart have hosted athlete Bible studies on the Diamond League athletics circuit. Thank God for all those who came and the large community of believers there. Pray that the athletes would live fully for Christ in a challenging world.

Thu 18th Coaches and Managers. For Christians who hold positions of authority within their squads, ask that they would lead with a servant heart and for God to give them immeasurable wisdom and strength to deal with any situation that comes their way.

Fri 19th Young Performance Athletes (YPAs). Pray for YPAs who have started in a new team, age group or club this season, that they would have settled quickly and would be able to flourish in their sport. Pray for them to be distinctive in their new relationships with team mates and coaches.

Sat 20th Rowing. Thank God for the Christians in the GB men's, women's and Paralympic squads. As they start a new season following a break after the World Championships, give them a refreshed motivation and joy to train each day ahead of a long winter training block.

Sun 21st County and International Cricket. Pray for continued open doors for Andrew Wingfield Digby to share the gospel and for regular Bible studies with believers and seekers to be established.

Mon 22nd WTA Finals Day. As the WTA Finals begin today in Singapore, pray for the Christians we know of playing on the women's tennis tour. Pray that God would place Christians around them as they travel the world and that the Christians on the tour would provide helpful fellowship to each other.

Tue 23rd World Golf Championships. Pray for Kenny Crawford at the World Golf Championships this week leading Bible studies with players and caddies. Thank God for Kenny's first season on the European Tour and how He has used Kenny powerfully for His glory.

Wed 24th Professional Rugby. Pray for wisdom as we look to find and support more Christians and seekers in the world of professional rugby union.

Thu 25th Recently retired athletes. Ask that the many athletes who know Christ would be aware of His 'everlasting arms' upholding them through what can be a painful and confusing transition. For those who don't know Christ, pray that as their identity as an athlete is stripped away, it would lead them to find their true identity in our loving Lord.

Fri 26th Paralympic Sport. Pray that God will lead us to find more Christians involved in Paralympic Sport, especially within para-athletics, para-cycling, para-swimming and wheelchair rugby.

Sat 27th Logos Golf Ministries Pro-Am. Pray for Vincent Brown as he hosts a Pro-Am on the 30th October with an interview with Ali Nicholas over dinner. Pray that Christian golfers would use the opportunity to invite friends along to hear something of the gospel.

ENGLAND AND WALES

28 Oct - 10 Nov

Starting with Northern Ireland in 2002, we now have small teams in each of the four home nations. Praise God for His goodness in guiding this expansion. This fortnight, we commit England and Wales in prayer – Scotland and Northern Ireland will follow in January.

Sun 28th London. Pray that there would be more regular prayer gatherings of sportspeople across churches in London, giving thanks for those groups which already meet monthly. Pray these would lead to more people passionate and equipped to live out and proclaim the gospel amongst unbelieving sportspeople in London.

Mon 29th Bury St Edmunds. A Pray Play Say introductory training session is taking place tonight. Pray that those who attend would find the Colossians 4 framework helpful for life as a Christian in sport, and for planned follow up sessions going in depth on each element of Pray, Play and Say.

Tue 30th Newcastle. Praise God for the Sports Quiz held on 9th October at St James' Park, and for the clear and faithful gospel message shared at half-time. Pray for courage for sportspeople to follow up with their guests.

Wed 31st South West Region Clubhouses. Praise God for recent Clubhouse gatherings of sportspeople in Bath and Bristol. Pray that those that came would be boldly living out their faith in their sports clubs and speaking of Jesus. Pray too that those attendees would be able to find more Christian sportspeople.

Thu 1st Nov Abingdon, Oxfordshire. Give thanks for the small group of Christians in Sport meeting to pray for their teammates. Pray more local Christian sportspeople would join the network, and that their combined witness would bear lasting fruit.

Fri 2nd Leyland, Lancashire. Thank God for the 10 members of St Andrew's Leyland who are involved in club sport. As the winter season hits its peak, pray for opportunities to share life and the gospel with teammates. Pray also for St Andrew's Sports Life initiative (sporting activity for over 55s) which runs every Monday afternoon in the church hall.

Sat 3rd Bristol Sports Quiz. Pray for the Sports Quiz taking place in Bristol on Friday 16th November. Pray that many sportspeople who don't know Jesus would come along with their teammates and that the Holy Spirit would be moving attendees to realise their need for Jesus.

Sun 4th Port Talbot, Neath. Pray for Steve Jones, who moved to Port Talbot in September to lead Riverside Baptist Church. Pray that God would use Steve powerfully to reach sportspeople with the gospel in an area where we don't know of any Christians in sport.

Mon 5th North Wales. Thank God for the Christian sportspeople found in North Wales over this last year. Pray that they'd build on the training they received and be bold in sharing Jesus across North Wales.

Tue 6th Rhondda. Pray for Dylan Jones and Jack Dunning, two young Christian coaches in Rhondda, as they lead their teams this year. Pray they would have opportunities to share the gospel and lead their squad members to Christ.

Wed 7th West Wales. As we seek to grow this work across the country, pray that God would raise up more female Christians in sport to reach their teammates in West Wales.

Thu 8th Rugby dinner. Next Thursday is a rugby dinner for the Cardiff Met and University teams. Pray that many players would attend, for Chris, James and David inviting, and for those Christian rugby players hosting and being interviewed that they'd be faithful and speak clearly of Jesus.

Fri 9th South Wales. Tonight is the South Wales Sports Quiz at The Swalec Stadium in Cardiff. Pray for Jon Reeves and Tom Hocking hosting and speaking, for boldness bringing guests and hearts to be transformed.

Sat 10th Newport. Thank God for the Clubhouse event held in Newport on 10th September. Please pray that those who attended would be encouraged and equipped as they look to reach the world of sport for Christ in their many clubs and teams across the city.

STUDENTS

11 - 24 Nov

Thousands of students train and compete in their sport every week and the need for gospel workers in this harvest field remains great. As we team up with UCCF to support an events' week in Cardiff, join us in praying particularly that God will empower student sportspeople to Pray, Play and Say among their teammates.

Sun 11th Freshers. Praise God for giving Christian freshers the strength to start university boldly for Him. Pray He will continue to transform them by the renewing of their minds so that they can live for Him amidst the pressure to conform to the patterns and norms of the university sports world.

Mon 12th Gospel fruit. Thank God for the opportunity we have to partner with UCCF for the Cardiff Universities' events' week starting today! Pray that this week will bear much gospel fruit in the sports clubs at both universities and lead to hundreds of students confessing Jesus as Lord!

Tue 13th Cardiff Met. Please pray specifically for our efforts at Cardiff Metropolitan university this week as we seek to connect with students through interactive sports stalls and specific talks. Pray this will lead to many gospel conversations with unbelievers and the discovery of new Christian sports students who will join the mission.

Wed 14th University Group. Pray that God will give courage to the Cardiff and Cardiff Met Christians in Sport University group as they invite their sports friends to the events. Pray the events will act as a catalyst for their evangelism and lead to the opportunity of reading the Bible with their teammates.

Thu 15th Teams. Praise God for the Christians in Sport and UCCF teams who are serving across the week. Ask God to enable them to shine brightly as they hold out the word of life to sportspeople who have never heard of Jesus before.

Fri 16th Partnership. Give thanks for our partnership with UCCF this week. Please pray we can faithfully continue to partner with other student ministries, and together through God's grace and mercy, be used to bring glory to His name through the proclamation of His son.

Sat 17th More workers. Please pray for universities where we know of none or few Christians in the sports clubs; for instance Northumbria University and Nottingham Trent. Ask God to send more workers into these harvest fields and pray that we can connect with Christian sportspeople already at these universities.

Sun 18th Churches. Praise God for the relationships we have with churches who disciple students whilst they are at university. Pray that we can connect with more churches and work in partnership to equip the students to stand firm in their faith as they train and compete in their sport each week.

Mon 19th Leaders. Thank God for the student leaders who are leading their university Christians in Sport groups this year. Pray for God to use them to envision and encourage their groups to boldly live for Jesus throughout the whole academic year.

Tue 20th Guest events. Praise God for the guest events that have taken place so far this term. Ask God to use the Sports Quizzes and dodgeball tournaments to open the eyes of those who attend so they will see His glory in the face of Christ and turn to Him as their Lord and Saviour.

Wed 21st Disappointment. Please pray for students who are suffering disappointment in their sport either through injury, form or other circumstances. Pray they can cast their anxieties on the Lord and know that He is near. Ask God to give them faith to trust Him despite not knowing what the future holds.

Thu 22nd Clubhouse Xtra. Praise God for the way God has used our conferences to empower students to boldly live for Him whilst at university. Pray that He will do this again this January as we hold Clubhouse Xtra in England and Northern Ireland.

Fri 23rd Staff team. Pray that God will glorify His name through the Christians in Sport intern and staff team who support students across the country. Pray He will use every Bible study, prayer and conversation to fulfil the good plans He has prepared in advance for them to do.

Sat 24th Transitions. Pray that God will continue to use the Christians in Sport team as they help freshers start university and graduates move on into working life. Pray that every person who makes those transitions will find a new church family and keep looking to reach the world of sport for Christ.

CHURCHES

25 Nov - 8 Dec

The local church is vital to our mission. It's the primary community through which sportspeople come to know Jesus and grow in Him, and from which they are sent out to make disciples in the world of sport. Please join us in praying for different aspects of the church's ministry to sportspeople.

Sun 25th Sports outreach services. Pray for Graham Daniels speaking at a sports outreach service at Inspire St. James Clerkenwell London this afternoon. Give thanks for churches like them who run special services which are easy for sportspeople to invite friends to.

Mon 26th Carol services. This fortnight, thousands of churches across the UK will host carol services. Thank God for this continuing tradition and pray sportspeople everywhere would be making the most of the annual opportunity to share the wonder of Christmas with teammates.

Tue 27th Discipleship of sportspeople. Thank God for the opportunity that belonging to a church provides to be discipled by older, wiser Christians. Pray that adult sportspeople would be intentional about investing in sportspeople who are younger or less mature in their faith.

Wed 28th Church leaders involved in sport. Give thanks for church leaders who play or coach competitive sport. Pray their sports team would be a place where they can enjoy rest and build friendships with those outside the church.

Thu 29th Guest events. Last Friday, Ian Lancaster spoke at a Sports Quiz run by St Mary's Maidenhead. Give thanks for this event and the many other sports quizzes or dinners which we have been privileged to speak at this term. Praise God for guests who've heard the gospel and ask Him to be at work in their lives.

Fri 30th Training events. Last month, we ran sports-specific evangelism training for two churches in Guildford. Ask that all who came would remain encouraged, equipped and excited by the gospel. Pray that lots of churches would run similar training sessions for members involved in sport.

Sat 1st Dec Prayer groups. Praise God for key leaders who have begun informal prayer gatherings and WhatsApp groups for others in their church who play sport. Give thanks for a Father who longs to give good gifts to His children and is mighty to do far beyond all the prayers which are shared.

Sun 2nd Sports Mission Pack. Praise God for the 1,000+ churches and individuals who accessed the pack ahead of the football World Cup and used it to run big-screen events, quizzes and guest services. Give thanks for their initiative and heart for the lost.

Mon 3rd New links. Thank God for the number of new churches we were able to speak to around the World Cup this summer. Now the media excitement around top-level football has died down, pray that churches would keep considering the mission field of club football which continues on their doorstep.

Tue 4th Partner churches. Join us in thanking God for the handful of churches who already support the work financially and in prayer. Pray He would raise up more churches seeking to invest in reaching sportspeople who would feel able to support us as one of their home mission partners.

Wed 5th Sunday sport. With much sport now being played on Sundays, pray that churches would be able to work with sportspeople and parents to help them to be active members of both their local sports clubs and their churches.

Thu 6th The UK church. Church attendance has declined from 6.5 million to 3.1 million in the past 25 years. Pray for revival in this country, and particularly that churches might be intentional in engaging the 10 million adults who play competitive sport weekly.

Fri 7th Evangelistic courses. Thank God for courses such as Life Explored or Alpha and for the many stories of salvation through them. Perhaps you know of a course running locally which you could commit to prayer? Pray for courage and love for sportspeople to invite friends.

Sat 8th Diverse outreach. Sport is a shared passion across racial, cultural and economic divides. Pray for growing links with churches serving deprived areas and refugee communities, and for humility and understanding in our communication that the gospel might reach sportspeople from all backgrounds.

YOUTH

9 - 22 Dec

Please join us in giving thanks for the work being done amongst young Christians in sport. Pray on for God's will to be done within clubs and teams, churches and schools, as well as for ongoing fruit from our summer Sports Plus camps.

Sun 9th Church support. Praise God for the churches engaged in supporting young Christian sports players in their youth groups to Pray, Play, Say in their teams. Pray that more churches would be actively seeking to support their young sports players.

Mon 10th Coaches. Give thanks for all those who sacrificially devote time to helping young people develop in sport. Pray especially for Christian coaches; for wisdom as they seek to support Christians in their teams, and for opportunities to shine for Jesus in their own witness amongst parents, guardians and fellow coaches.

Tue 11th Youth resources. Praise God for the video and Bible study resources available. Pray that these would continue to support young Christian sports players to represent Christ in their clubs and teams.

Wed 12th Youth Workers. Praise God for the hundreds of paid and unpaid youth workers across the UK and their commitment to the spiritual growth of young people. Pray that more youth workers would hear of and access the resources available for sportspeople in their care.

Thu 13th Young Christians in sport. Pray that young Christians in sport may have opportunities to spend time with teammates during the holidays.

Fri 14th Young sportspeople. Pray that young sportspeople who don't yet know Jesus would have opportunities during this Christmas period to hear the gospel and that they would have a saving encounter with the One, who for their sake, became flesh.

Sat 15th Teachers. Give thanks for Christians we know who teach PE or coach sport in schools. Pray they might have a restful Christmas break and be refreshed by time reflecting on the birth of their Saviour.

Sun 16th Sports Plus young people. Thank God for the 673 young people who attended Sports Plus this summer. Pray that Christians would have been strengthened in their faith and equipped to represent Jesus in their sport. Pray that many who heard the gospel would trust in it for their forgiveness of sins.

Mon 17th Sports Plus Bursary Fund. The Bursary Fund enabled more than 150 young people to attend Sports Plus this summer who would otherwise be unable to. Thank God for all those who donated to the Bursary Fund and that young people who are financially restricted are able to attend Sports Plus.

Tue 18th Sports Plus Trainees. Thank God for the opportunity we had to invest in the lives of 92 Trainees at Sports Plus this summer. Pray that the training and experience they received would enable them to serve in future roles within Sports Plus, university and the local church.

Wed 19th Sports Plus venues. Praise God for providing the following school venues to host Sports Plus this summer: Repton School (Repton), Christ College (Brecon), Campbell College (Belfast), Glenalmond College (Perth) and Monkton Combe School (Bath). Pray for ongoing relationships with these schools and that our witness with school staff would bear gospel fruit.

Thu 20th Sports Plus Leaders. Praise our Heavenly Father for the 408 leaders who served as Team Leaders, Coaches and Support Staff this summer. Pray that they were encouraged as they served the young people and the gospel. Pray they would return to their own clubs and teams seeking to share Jesus with their teammates.

Fri 21st Sports Plus teaching. Thank God for the opportunity to teach the Bible in Main Meetings, Team Meetings and Water Breaks. Pray that the teaching from Luke's gospel under the theme 'Rescued by the Saviour of the world' would encourage the young people to choose rescue in Jesus.

Sat 22nd Parents/guardians. Thank God for the hundreds of parents and guardians who sent their young people to Sports Plus this summer. Pray that they too would have been impacted by their children's experience of Sports Plus.

BIG PRAYERS

23 Dec - 5 Jan

We read in Ephesians 3 v 20-21 that God can do “immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine”, so let’s pray big. As we look ahead, please join us in praying for the long-term aims of different areas of the work, that we would depend on God in everything.

Sun 23rd Professional tennis. Pray for a vibrant Christian fellowship to be established on both the men’s (ATP) and women’s (WTA) tours, so that players may be strengthened in their faith and stand firm for Jesus.

Mon 24th University Groups. Pray that in every university where we have a Christians in Sport group, each sports club will know that it exists and that if anyone from their club wants to find out more about Jesus then they can connect with someone from the group.

Tue 25th Happy Christmas. Thank God for His amazing rescue plan in sending Jesus to die for us. Pray for elite sportspeople trying to balance family, training and playing or competing commitments over the festive period that they keep the gospel in focus at all times.

Wed 26th The Gathering. The biennial ECSU networking conference ‘The Gathering’ takes place next May. Two years ago, we had 300 from 38 countries attend to meet other sports mission minded people across Europe in the three contexts: Health and Fitness, Competitive Sport and Community Sport. Pray for more to attend and for a great impact across Europe.

Thu 27th Growth. We stand amazed at how God has grown the work over the past four decades. As we seek to grow further in the coming year and reach more sportspeople with the gospel, pray that God would be raising up even more partners who can cover the work in prayer and contribute financially.

Fri 28th A change in culture. Pray that churches would challenge the misconception amongst young people that Christianity and sport are in opposition, and that no-one would walk away from Jesus because of this view.

Sat 29th Young Performance Athlete support. As we seek to double the number of YPA families we support this academic year, pray that more individuals and churches would find out about the support on offer.

Sun 30th Sports Mission Pack. Pray that the Sports Mission Pack would be a great resource for churches and Christian sports players to reach their local clubs and teams.

Mon 31st Student outreach. Pray that as Christians in sport students boldly and attractively live for Jesus in their sports clubs, that a rich intrigue will sweep across every university as to the difference Jesus can make to someone's life.

Tue 1st Jan Happy new year. Pray that 2019 will see huge numbers of sportspeople across the world hearing the gospel and coming to faith in Jesus. Ask God for opportunities to play your part in reaching the world of sport for Christ.

Wed 2nd Sustainable mission. Just like in the UK, we long to see a sustainable model of sports mission in each of the cities with populations over 150,000 across Europe. Pray for God to raise up workers so that local teams can start up and for favour with local governments who often are a hindrance to work starting.

Thu 3rd Giving. Christians in Sport is funded entirely by donations. It is an honour and a privilege to steward these gifts well. Regular giving, in particular, helps us to budget wisely. Pray for regular giving which will help us plan well for the coming months and years.

Fri 4th Sportspeople hearing the gospel. Our goal is that 150,000 sportspeople across the UK are given the opportunity to hear and respond to Jesus by 2020. Pray for open doors for the gospel message and that the seeds that are planted would fall on good soil.

Sat 5th Growing the work regionally. As we look to place staff and Interns in new regions, pray that God would provide enough resources and people for this expansion, and that we would seek His wisdom on the right timing and locations.

SCOTLAND AND N IRELAND

6 - 19 Jan

With more than 20,000 registered sports clubs, Scotland and Northern Ireland remain a rich harvest field for this work and in need of many gospel workers. Please join us in praying for Christians in sport and churches across these countries as they seek to reach sportspeople with the good news of Jesus.

Sun 6th Carnoustie Baptist Church. Praise God for churches like Carnoustie Baptist who have been able to use Christians in Sport resources and expertise to reach out and share the gospel with local sportspeople both young and old. Pray that we can work with more churches in order to do the same.

Mon 7th Clubhouses. Thank God for the opportunity we had to equip and encourage many Christians in sport at Clubhouse events in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Perth and Stirling. Ask God to open up doors for gospel conversations so that many sportspeople will hear of Jesus.

Tue 8th Mission. Please pray ahead of our Scotland regional mission in February where we will seek to deliver many evangelistic events for youth and adult sportspeople. Pray that it will be an exciting three days where God will powerfully bring salvation through the proclamation of His gospel.

Wed 9th Borders. The Scottish Borders is said to be the home of Scottish rugby with a rugby club in nearly every town! Thank God for our partnership with Hawick Baptist church who are seeking to reach their local sports clubs, and ask God to help us connect with more churches in these towns.

Thu 10th Aberdeen. The third largest city in Scotland, Aberdeen is a hub for sport in the north. Pray that we can find more Christians in sport across Aberdeen, and together we can make an impact in sports clubs with the good news of Jesus.

Fri 11th Volunteers. Thank God for the way He has been using key volunteers in churches across Scotland to encourage their congregations to get playing, coaching, managing and more, in order to shine the light of Christ to the world of sport.

Sat 12th Dundee. Pray for Dundee, a city of nearly 150,000 people and around 120 registered sports clubs, yet where we know of fewer than 10 Christians in sport. Please join us in asking the Lord of the harvest to raise up many more workers there.

Sun 13th Larne. Praise God for the Sports Quiz held in Larne in November. Praise God for the six different sports clubs in the area who were represented at the quiz and pray for good follow-ups for those who invited their teammates along.

Mon 14th Dundonald. Praise God for the World Cup quiz held in Dundonald, Belfast in June. The quiz was organised and run by Dundonald Bible Ministries. Pray that the 'Two Sides of Sport' video shown during the half-time break would give opportunities for gospel conversations with those who came.

Tue 15th Coleraine. Praise God for the big screen event Stephen Collins organised in Killowen Parish Church in Coleraine. Please pray that those who came would find a regular church home within Killowen, so they can ask more questions and go deeper within their understanding of who Jesus is.

Wed 16th Ballymena. Thank God for the Clubhouse training event held in Ballymena in October. Praise God for the many Christian sportspeople who were equipped and encouraged to represent Christ in their sports clubs. Pray for Mark and Matthew as they plan to organise a regional quiz in Ballymena.

Thu 17th Lisburn. Praise God for the Sports Quiz which took place in Lisburn Cricket Club in August. Pray for Pete Ferguson as he follows up with his team mates off the back of the event and encourages them to explore the truth of the gospel for themselves.

Fri 18th Scrabo. Pray for the men's fellowship in Scrabo Hall church who organised a Sports Quiz for their mission week in August. Praise God for the men from outside the congregation who came along to the event and pray for fruitful conversations around the message they heard on the evening.

Sat 19th Malone RFC. Pray for Dan Kerr in Malone RFC who had the opportunity to read the Bible with four teammates in the rugby club last season. Pray for more gospel conversations with those teammates this season and praise God for the influence he has there.

GLOBAL MISSION

20 Jan - 2 Feb

We are part of a global movement whose European arm is the European Christian Sports Union (ECSU). Please join us in thanking God for all He is doing in the world of sports mission and pray for the coming months.

Sun 20th European Sports Mission. Give thanks for the reunion of the 2018 European Sports Mission students which took place over Clubhouse Xtra at the beginning of January. It was great to have so many there and catch up on what has been happening and what they have put into practice since the summer.

Mon 21st Conference. In May the biennial ECSU networking conference takes place and we would love to get all three previous years of ESM students there to encourage past students, help them to continue seeing the wider picture but also to continue investing in these future leaders. Pray diaries would be free.

Tue 22nd Applications. As applications for the 2019 ESM intake open, pray God would be preparing the hearts of those British and European students He wants to be there.

Wed 23rd Competitors. In October, the ECSU held its first ever 'Competitors Conference'. A three-day gathering for coaches, players and athletes to support and train them as they witness in the world of competitive sport. Praise God for all who came and pray they feel equipped to be bold disciple-makers in their clubs and teams.

Thu 24th Women's Network. Pray as we set up a network for women involved in the world of Competitive Sport and Health and Fitness. This has been a passion for many years and pray it is useful to gather together and discuss issues and challenges facing women as they compete, train and coach.

Fri 25th Jersey. Give thanks for a new part time staff worker on the island of Jersey. Emma Sterry began at the start of the year and will help facilitate the work of Christians in Sport in Jersey alongside our Intern Vusa Mtunzi.

Sat 26th GO Sport. We help develop ReadySetGO sports mission training resources for use around the world. The GO element includes working through academies, chaplains, sport camps and coaches. Leaders are gathering in Orlando to strategise how to do this best. Pray for the logistics of this and for the right people to be there.

Sun 27th ReadySetGO 2.0. In November, global sports mission leaders met to plan for 'ReadySetGO 2.0' - the deeper resources package to accompany ReadySetGO - which will be launched next year. Give thanks for the three-year correcting, gap finding and testing process to ensure we produce effective resources. This process will continue in May.

Mon 28th ECSU. The new three-year ECSU plan, written by a team of over 70 leaders, was released this month. After the success of ReadySetGO equipping local leaders, pray this plan will lead to lasting ministry in the areas of Competitive Sport, Community Sport and Health and Fitness.

Tue 29th Moldova. Give thanks for the chance the Interns had to go to Moldova and help teach at the Admirals Basketball Academy's 'Born to Play' conference this month. Praise God for their long standing work and their investment in these young leaders. Pray that those who committed their life to Christ would be life-long disciples.

Wed 30th Elite athletes. Give thanks for the opportunity we have to connect British elite athletes training or competing overseas with local partners throughout Europe. This links them up with English-speaking churches and trusted partners to help support them in faith as they are away from home.

Thu 31st Persecuted church. Pray for our brothers and sisters across Europe who face persecution, discrimination or difficulties for being a Christian. Pray for their faith to stay strong and for their numbers to grow despite these hardships.

Fri 1st Feb Resources. Give thanks that our resources can reach people and places we cannot visit. The Sports Mission Pack, as well as other camp resources and evangelistic films, have been used and translated countless times abroad.

Sat 2nd Relationships. Pray for the work in Jersey as Vusa continues in the second year of his Internship and as Emma and Vusa plan events for the coming year to reach the world of sport in Jersey for Christ.

YOUR SPORTS FRIENDS

Why don't you write down the name of three of your sports friends who you can commit to praying for in the next few months? Use this as a prompt in your daily prayers.

Download it online

Visit christiansinsport.org.uk/pray to download a PDF of this prayer diary.

Receive it on your phone

Find Christians in Sport's daily prayer points on the free 'PrayerMate' app.

Sign up to get it via email

Register to receive prayer points via email fortnightly at christiansinsport.org.uk/pray.

For the most recent news and stories visit the Christians in Sport website or find us on the following social media channels:



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