



MAZE  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

# PRAYER FOCUS

[www.mazepc.org](http://www.mazepc.org)

SEPT - DEC 2024

# PRAYER FOCUS

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At Maze, we recognise the importance of prayer in all aspects of our ministries, activities, Sunday services and all that goes on outside of our Church building.

This booklet contains what is going on at Maze PC until the end of 2024, with specific prayer points put forward by those involved, as well as key dates and events that are coming up for each aspect of our Church.

Please take the time to spend time praying for our organisations and ministries. Each day, pray for a particular ministry, or keep an eye out for the key dates and consider praying for what is coming up soon.

Within this Prayer Focus is included: Church Activities, Sunday Service, Church Life, Other Prayer Topics, Months in Focus and Additional Prayer Resources.

Key:



Description



Key Date/Event



Prayer Point

# CHURCH ACTIVITIES

# SUNDAY CLUB

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Sunday Club meet each Sunday morning from 10:15-11:15. The purpose of Sunday Club is to teach the children who attend about Jesus from the Bible, through songs, memory verses, prayer and through sharing life experiences to ensure they have a sound knowledge of God and that they are supported in growing their spiritual life, faith and understanding.



## SUNDAY MORNINGS

Regular Meeting (10:15)



Give thanks for all who come to Sunday Club, that they would know Christ and follow him.

## SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

Christmas Service

Give thanks for the teachers and leaders who volunteer each week. Pray for wisdom as they prepare and teach lessons.

## SUNDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER

Craft Morning

Pray for good relationships to be established in classes.

Give thanks for the Praise and AV Teams who support Sunday Club.

# JUNIOR BIBLE CLASS

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Junior Bible Class is a ministry for those in school years 8-10, having the opportunity to share God's good news and reach those who maybe haven't accepted him as their saviour. It also helps those who are Christians to grow and develop in their faith further as they live out their lives at home, school and beyond.

Rachael Higgins and Tom McKendry will be new leaders for this class.



## SUNDAY MORNINGS

Regular Meeting (10:15)



Pray for Rachael and Tom as they settle into this new leadership role.

## SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

Christmas Service

Pray that God would continue to speak through the curriculum being used.

## SUNDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER

Craft Morning

Pray that relationships between kids and leaders would develop and for opportunities to encourage one another.

Pray for those who don't know Christ, that they would come to know his unending grace.

# SENIOR BIBLE CLASS

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Senior Bible Class is for our young people in school years 11-14. As they meet, the leaders aim to support our young people through this often difficult and busy period of life, tackling some of the tough subjects they will face and find out how the Bible can direct them in these situations, encouraging a reliance on their relationship with Jesus in all they do.



## SUNDAY MORNINGS

Regular Meeting (10:15)



Pray for the class dynamics with large numbers expected. Pray that they integrate well with one another.

## SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

Christmas Service

Pray for the new study regarding what the Bible says about being male/female.

## SUNDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER

Craft Morning

Pray that all who attend will feel open to contribute to discussions.

Pray that the young people will be committed to personal prayer and bible study.

# YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

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Youth Fellowship (YF) is a ministry aimed at secondary school ages 11-18, meeting on Sunday evenings at 19:30-21:00 where young people engage with worship, prayer, bible studies, talks and games.

It provides a place for a deeper study of God's word, growth in fellowship, asking deeper questions and helping develop spiritual gifts.



## SUNDAY NIGHTS

Regular Meeting (19:30)



Pray for the leaders as they organise a new year of teaching and activities.

## SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

First Night

Pray for the young people who will return from last year, that they can build on relationships and teaching from last year.

Pray for new members joining for the first time, that they would feel welcome to the YF family.

Pray that the group would know God's presence with them and that he remains the centre of all they do.

# YOUTH CLUB

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Youth Club is for boys and girls aged 3-11, meeting on Friday's at 18:30-20:00 for games, craft, worship and bible stories. An opportunity to share the gospel to those who may not know Christ.

It exists as an informal event to welcome the whole community.

Our prayer is that kids will build friendships and that leaders can show God's love while serving as his church.



## FRIDAY NIGHTS

Regular Meeting (18:30)

## FRIDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

Autumn Fun Night

## THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

Christmas Trail (SEN)

## FRIDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

Christmas Trail



Pray that children would return to Youth Club after the break with enthusiasm and build on what was learnt last year.

Pray for the dedicated group of leaders who help with 70-90 kids attending each night.

Pray for the trial of a 'Parent's Zone' in the foyer and for opportunities to introduce them to Jesus.

Pray for the Christmas Trail and for a separate SEN event.

# CROSSROADS

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Crossroads is for those in secondary school allowing them to meet informally in a youth club style format. Each night includes a talk and group game before the young people are given free choice of their activities afterwards.

Crossroads follows on from Youth Club, keeping families connected to church, offering a safe Christian environment for young people with Christian leaders open to questions and conversations.



## FRIDAY NIGHTS (FORTNIGHTLY)

Regular Meeting (20:00)

## SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Keep an eye on church email / announcements for upcoming activities



Pray for the leaders as they plan and create a relevant and engaging programme.

Pray that the kids would be challenged by the talks and reflect on what was said.

Pray for leaders who prepare talks and for opportunities to share faith with the kids.

Pray that kids would be encouraged to attend other activities in church such as the HBC and YF.

# DUKE OF EDINBURGH

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Maze Presbyterian Duke of Edinburgh Open Award provides the opportunity for young people within the church and in the local community to achieve their Duke of Edinburgh Award within a Christian environment, run by Christian leaders.



MONDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

DofE Introduction Evening



Pray for participants and their parents, that they feel welcome at the introduction evening.

Pray for the strengthening of existing and new friendships between the young people.

Pray for opportunities for the leaders to share their faith.

Pray for opportunities in church for young people to complete physical, volunteering and skill aspects.

## PARENTS AND TODDLERS

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Parents and Toddlers exists to provide an opportunity for preschoolers and babies to interact, and for parents and carers to build friendships.

Meeting every Thursday at 09:30-11:30, they have free play, crafts, songs, stories and snacks.

P&T aims to show genuine love, support, welcome and allow all who attend to encounter Jesus no matter of their background.



THURSDAY MORNINGS

Regular Meeting (09:30)



Pray for new and returning families, that all would feel welcome, and relationships would be established.

Pray that the Holy Spirit would be at work and that all who attend might experience Jesus.

Pray for the children and families who moved on at the end of the last term. Pray particularly for those who have no church links, that they might have been impacted and that seeds have been sown.

THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

Christmas Party

# FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

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Fellowship Groups meet on a fortnightly basis to study God's word together and to support each other as we live out our faith.

This term, Fellowship Groups are beginning a new study titled, 'Living Christianity', looking at how to follow Jesus in every area of life.



## TUESDAYS

Joe Cole's / Gibsons' / McKendrys' / Watsons' / Trevor Shannon and Mark Kirkwoods'

## WEDNESDAYS

Millers' / Houstons' / Melanie Cleland's

## THURSDAYS

Pages'

## FRIDAYS

Kathryn Kelsey's



Pray for friendships through the fellowship enjoyed.

Pray for those who are new members to groups, that they would feel welcomed.

Pray for a recognition that following Christ transforms all aspects of our lives.

Pray that within groups we would be encouraged to support one another in prayer.

# TUESDAY CLUB

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The Tuesday Club is a relaxed group of over 50s meeting in a church aspect.

Meetings mainly have a Christian input, but the social aspect is very important also.

The group meets every second Tuesday of the month in the Welcome Area of the church at 10:30am.



## TUESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

Ryan Higgins



Pray for the safety of the members through long winter months and for good health.

## TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

David Cupples

Give thanks for long years of faithful service and leadership of the members.

## TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

Christmas Lunch @ Gowdy's (12:30)

Pray for guidance in organising the programme and any trips. Pray for those who will come and speak.

Pray for energy for those who are frail, who have given so much to our church over the years.



# MEN @ MAZE

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Men @ Maze aims to connect the men of our congregation both socially and spiritually, growing in fellowship and faith.



## NO EVENTS SCHEDULED

Keep an eye on the church email / announcements for upcoming events



Pray for new members of church and the group, that new friendships would be formed and those established would be strengthened.

There are a wide range of events that are designed to suit as many men in our church.

Events are planned to have a mixture of social events and ones with a greater faith-based focus.

# WOMEN @ MAZE

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Women @ Maze exists to enable the ladies (young and old) in the congregation to support one another in prayer and fellowship.

This is done through a WhatsApp group set up for sharing prayer requests and then through meeting on a monthly basis with organised social and spiritual based events.



## SATURDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER

Rare Grazing Breakfast



Give thanks for those who have volunteered to join the committee. Ask God to encourage them as they serve.

## 11<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

Irish Women's Conference

Pray that conversations would be "full of grace" at September's event and for those who will share.

## THURSDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

Thanksgiving Party

Pray that the conference would be an opportunity to grow in faith.

Pray that Thanksgiving will develop a deeper sense of gratitude.

# WALKING GROUP

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The Walking Group (or to give a more appropriate title the 'Talking Group'), meets once a month for walks and good chats.

Walking together has created new friendships within our church.

Walks begin at the church with a prayer before heading off to the chosen location each month, and always finish with tea/coffee and scones.



WEDNESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

Gosford Forest Park



Pray for those who are no longer able to walk with the group.

WEDNESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

Craigavon Lakes

Pray for the new friendships, that these would lead to meaningful conversations about faith.

WEDNESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

Lurgan Park

Pray for safety in travels and on walks, for good weather and new members.

Pray that all would feel welcome, that new members would be encouraged to join.

# CARE HOME SERVICES

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Care Home Services take place on the last Sunday of each month, engaging with St Paul's Court and Drumlough House in Lisburn, bringing church to those unable to attend and the gospel to those who don't know Christ.

These services provide a time for singing traditional hymns, a short talk/sermon and bible reading. The services begin and close with prayer and there is time to spend getting to know residents.



SUNDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

St Paul's Court



Pray for the Christmas Carol Services on 14<sup>th</sup> December, for opportunities to share the hope we have from the Christmas story.

SUNDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

Drumlough House

Pray for Ryan Higgins (Sept/Oct), Paul Hanna (Nov) who will be speaking at services; and for all who volunteer at services. Pray for confidence in sharing the gospel.

SUNDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

St Paul's Court

SATURDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

Drumlough House and St Paul's Court

Christmas Carol Service

Pray for staff in the homes, especially those who are Christians, that they would show God's love in word and deed.

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# SUNDAY SERVICE

# PREACHING

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Between September and December, our services will feature sermon series' focussing on God working in his time, Abraham, learning to trust and a focus on Christmas in December.



Pray that we would be open and teachable before God.

Pray, expecting God to speak and offer your whole self to him as an act of worship.

Pray for William and Ryan, that they would be sensitive to the Spirit's leading in the preparation of sermons.

Pray for Ryan as he continues in his training.



Our Worship Team aims to help provide a way for our congregation to connect with God by being able to express their praise and adoration. They also provide an opportunity for people to use their musical gifts to glorify God and bless others.



Pray for unity, that teams would work well together and practices would flow easily.

Pray for worship leaders, that they would be led by the Holy Spirit in choosing songs, reading scripture or speaking at the front.

Pray for guidance in selecting new songs, that they would be theologically rich and help our congregation worship.

Pray for the Music Mentoring Scheme, that it would encourage younger people to use their gifts to glorify God.

# WORSHIP

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# AV TEAM

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The AV Team supports Sunday services, events, conferences and funerals by controlling sound, lyrics, graphics and videos. They also look after the livestreaming of services which reach approx. 700 people per week.



Give thanks for the commitment and energy given by the team each week preparing and serving.

Pray for sustained energy over the busy Christmas period.

Give thanks and pray for the continued reliability of the AV equipment.

Pray that as livestreams and podcasts reach those who have not heard the Gospel, lives would be transformed and people would come to find faith in Jesus.

# PRAYER MINISTRY

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? Prayer Ministry is available on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month.

The aim is to enable people to receive prayer for any issues to encounter the healing power, truth and love of God as their prayer request is directly prayed for.



Pray for the 6 team members and their families, that they would be protected spiritually as they serve.

Pray that people would feel comfortable to receive prayer ministry and nothing inhibits them seeking prayer.

Pray for those coming forward that they would encounter God in a tangible way that helps their relationship with him.

Pray for future expansion of prayer ministry beyond 6 members to enable more opportunities of prayer ministry beyond Sunday mornings.

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH

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? Childrens Church is for children aged pre-school to P3 which runs during the second half of our services offering a programme specifically for them.

There is a 5-minute video, a quiz and craft, and the themes are soon to reflect what the children learnt at Sunday School.



Pray that children would have fun and would engage with the videos, quizzes and craft, and that the message taught in Sunday Club would be consolidated.

Pray that every child would look forward to Children's Church each week.

Give thanks for the leaders and helpers involved. Pray that God would be close to them each week as they teach his word.

Pray that new children would settle quickly.

# CHURCH LIFE

# KIRK SESSION

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Kirk Session is the body of elected elders within our church who meet regularly to focus on the spiritual requirements and direction of the church.

Over the coming months, session will be focussing on the services in Maghaberry Community Centre and the potential for church planting within the community here.



MONDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER

Kirk Session Meeting



Pray for wisdom and guidance as Session seek God's will for our church.

MONDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

Kirk Session Meeting

Give thanks and pray for the continued unity amongst the members of Session.

Pray that God would make clear the road ahead regarding the initiative in Maghaberry.

Pray that God's word would have an impact in Maghaberry and people will be saved.

# COMMITTEE

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The function of our Committee is to look after the practical needs of the church.

Committee meet regularly throughout the year to discuss how we look after our property and maintain it, manage finances, implement technology (i.e. AV, IT, Website, Social Media) and also catering.



MONDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER

Committee Meeting



Pray for our members of committee as they meet to discuss the needs of our church.

MONDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

Committee Meeting

Pray for wisdom in decisions made regarding all elements of what committee looks after, especially as financial situations may vary and new or unexpected issues arise.

# PASTORAL CARE

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A new initiative to enhance our pastoral care within church has been developed which will offer practical, emotional and spiritual support for all within our congregation.

This service will support the existing work of the elders, to bring to light the needs of our congregation and allow others to exercise their pastoral gifts as they serve as part of this ministry.



As pastoral care within our church expands to support the work of the elders, pray for the Lord's guidance and blessings for this ministry.

Pray for the pastoral care visitors as they undertake visitations. Ask that they would be able to demonstrate genuine care and compassion for those they visit.

Pray for church members who are experiencing difficulties or loss. Ask that they would be comforted and strengthened as they work through their situations and that God would reveal himself to them.

Pray for Heather Houston as she continues to coordinate this new ministry of pastoral care within our congregation.



# FURTHER PRAYER TOPICS

# MEADOW BRIDGE PS

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Meadow Bridge Primary School (MBPS) is the local primary school to our church will many of our kids attending here.

P7 pupils will sit SEAG transfer tests on 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> November.



Thank God for new P1 pupils and how they have settled well.

Give thanks for opportunities for visitors to share in assemblies and RE classes. Pray that pupils would be attentive.

Pray for Harvest time, that there will be chances to remind kids to be thankful of God's blessings.

Pray for unity between staff and pupils and the homely, Christian atmosphere would remain.

# PRISON FELLOWSHIP

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Prison Fellowship NI (PFNI) is a Christian ministry responding to the spiritual, emotional and physical needs of prisoners, released prisoners and their families. Several members of our congregation support this ministry directly or voluntarily.



Give thanks that Presbyterian Women have chosen PFNI as their local mission for 2024/25

Pray that people would be blessed and encouraged as they learn about how God is working in the lives of those in turmoil.

Pray that God would give help to PFNI staff as they take on additional work to share their work in congregations.

Pray that God would continue to use PFNI to bring his love to prisoners and their families and that many would seek him.

# PRIESTHILL GB & BB

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Priesthill Methodist Church hosts the local Girl's Brigade (GB) and Boy's Brigade (BB) companies.



Pray for the 'We Believe' course GB will run, that the girls would trust and believe in Jesus as their saviour.

Give thanks for the new members of both BB and GB who have been attending.

Pray for those who will attend who do not know Christ. Pray that the gospel message would be made clear to them.

Pray for the enrolment service for GB and BB:  
**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November**

# SCRIPTURE UNION: E3 LISBURN

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Scripture Union: E3 Lisburn is a localised form of school ministry, where SU aim to Engage with schools; Equip teachers and pupils; and Empower churches to be involved in schools' ministry. Josh Sanderson is the Lisburn worker as Rebekah takes maternity leave.



Pray for Rebekah and new daughter Lily. Give thanks for her safe arrival.

Pray for Josh who will cover the maternity leave as he settles into the new role.

Pray for Josh as he contacts leaders of school SU groups and sets up groups where ideas can be shared.

Pray for greater awareness of the work of SU in Lisburn and for God to provide more people for the District Support Team who support this work.

## LISBURN FOOD BANK

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Lisburn Food Bank is an emergency food and support to people in crisis through referral agents. In addition it host activities such as mental health, financial and cookery courses. The service has some staff but relies heavily on volunteers to make up food packages.



Pray for those who receive from the Foodbank. Many live with challenging circumstances. Pray that they would be physically and spiritually fed.

Give thanks for the many volunteers who keep the Foodbank running.

Stores are low with donations reduced and demand high; Pray that donations will correct this. Pray for generosity at Christmas time.

As the Foodbank is connected to a church, pray for opportunities to share faith with volunteers.

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# MONTHS IN FOCUS

# SEPTEMBER

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Pray for our organisations as they begin new programmes.

Pray for our young people who begin the new school term. Particularly those in new schools.



SUNDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> SEPTEMBER  
AND FOLLOWING SUNDAY EVENINGS

Discipleship Explored

TUESDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER

Presbytery Event

# OCTOBER

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Pray for our Harvest services and for generous giving to the Harvest fund.

Pray for the Discipleship Explored course, that those attending would find joy through the course.

MON 5<sup>TH</sup> – TUE 6<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

NIMA Conference

WEDNESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

Blood Transfusion Session

# NOVEMBER

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Pray for those in P7 who will sit the SEAG transfer tests.

Pray for Music Mentoring, as members of our worship team help younger members in serving.

THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

Eastern GP Federation  
Support Unit Event

SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

Concert: Pensulia Praise  
Choir

# DECEMBER

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Pray for our Christmas Carol Service and all the preparation involved.

Pray for our Christmas services and all the practicalities involved.

SUNDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER

Christmas Carol Service

WEDNESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

Christmas Day Service



# ADDITIONAL PRAYER RESOURCES

# LET'S PRAY



<https://www.presbyterianireland.org/Prayer/Prayer-for-Today.aspx>

Daily prayer points provided by the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, designed to give exposure to prayer to wider church activities.

# CARE PRAYER DIARY



<https://care.org.uk/prayer>

Prayer diary designed for praying about some of the great moral and ethical issues of our time, focussing mainly on issues within the UK.

# OPENDOORS



<https://www.opendoorsuk.org/resources/prayer>

Prayer resources that have been put together to serve persecuted Christians worldwide.

# TEARFUND

tearfund

<https://www.tearfund.org/get-involved/pray/prayer-resources>

Prayer resources for individuals, families and churches helping guide prayer for an end to poverty.