



## **TOGETHER4BRISTOL (T4B) PRAYER UPDATE: EASTER 2024**

Here are a few examples of the **Christian community working together** across the Bristol region in the last few months to help transform the Bristol region, with **Praise** for what has happened recently and **Prayer and Action** for the rest of 2024!

**Please pass these on to your contacts, to encourage them and for prayer!**

### **PRAISE POINTS**

#### **We thank God:**

1. For the response of the Christian community to the recent killings in the city. In Knowle West, there was a quiet space with a book of condolence, chaplains on the street and prayer walks. On 6 March over 200 prayed by Zoom and a similar number gathered at the Cathedral. Pray for comfort for the families and the local communities. Come to the Pentecost gathering on Sunday 19 May, at Woodlands church, from 2.30 to 4pm.
2. For donations totalling about £1,800 a year so far, out of a target of £5k a year, to the [100 Friends Appeal](#) to fund the Together4Bristol website and social media. T4B's monthly e-newsletter is sent to over 1,700, with nearly 1000 on [Facebook](#) and over 500 on X ([Twitter](#)). Please pray about donating to the Appeal and that all the money comes in.
3. For the revival of the Media sphere in 2023. For the gathering with [Christians in Media](#), in May, called "[Theology: the Art of Storytelling](#)", a very enriching time for about 50, and for the first [Bristol Media Hub](#) in October. Pray for Part 2 of the Art of Storytelling, which had to be delayed, because of the killings in Sea Mills, to come together later in 2024
4. For the [Politics and Social Action](#) sphere, called [Christian Action Bristol](#) (CAB), led by Andy Street and others. For continued engagement with the Mayor (until May), and the council by the Christian community. For example, CAB, with the [Good Faith Partnership](#) (GFP) run 15 'Welcome Hubs', set up by churches, to help integrate about 600 Ukrainians. GFP has also co-ordinated a response to the recent influx of asylum seekers to the city, by setting up a 'Hub' in Stokes Croft to support those located in a city-centre hotel.
5. For CAB and GFP (with Bristol City Council), running [Welcoming Spaces](#) in 33 churches across the city, to support those people struggling with the impact of the ongoing cost-of-living crisis, who cannot afford both eating and heating. Pray for and donate to, the [Bristol Churches City Fund](#), to raise £60,000, for the network of Welcoming Spaces.
6. For regular Prayer gatherings for the [Business](#), [Education](#), [Health](#), and [Family](#) spheres. For about 30 Christian Workplace Groups (CWGs), facilitated by Mal Shaw of [Transform Work](#) and for the [Bristol Chaplaincy](#), linking about 90 chaplains. These link to the Business and Workplace sphere and the [Upper Reaches](#) barge: pray for best ways to develop these links. Pray for a gathering on the barge 5-7pm Thursday 18 April, suitable for those who are part of or interested in starting a CWG. Contact [Mal.shaw@Transformwork.net](mailto:Mal.shaw@Transformwork.net)
7. For increased engagement by the Love Family sphere with the council. For Stu Dendy ([Home for Good](#)), who continues to respond to the council's request for foster parents, with

30 Christian couples fostering so far (see [this film](#)). Pray for more to respond now. For growing engagement by [Safe Families](#) (Chris Whitwell). Pray for the council's Family Hubs gathering on May 14<sup>th</sup> and for a conference, to celebrate Love Family later in 2024.

8. For [Bristol Churches Shelter](#), which ran from October 2023 to the end of March 2024. Give thanks that funding was provided and for all the volunteers from across the Christian community. Pray for the guests as they move into accommodation and for funding to cover costs until the autumn.

## **PRAYER and ACTION POINTS**

### **We pray:**

1. For wisdom for CAB, with the change in city governance from May 2024 (from an elected mayor to a committee system). CAB is working to ensure the Christian community is best able to continue engaging with the Council in various areas of social need. Pray the council has the structures in place to enable this to happen.

2. For [Hope into Action: Bristol](#), run by [inHope](#). This helps churches provide move-on housing for those affected by homelessness, with 3 tenants in each house, who are befriended by the partner churches. Pray for churches to come forward who want to set up further houses across the city, for investors to buy the houses and for the team. For more information contact [bristol-inhope@hopeintoaction.org.uk](mailto:bristol-inhope@hopeintoaction.org.uk)

3. For the [Health](#) sphere's weekly Zooms for encouraging creativity, for healing and for the growing Healing Centre Project. For [Bristol Healing Rooms'](#) sessions in person and on Zoom, with thanks for a recent conference with Chuck Parry (Bethel). To find out details contact: [bristolhealingrooms@gmail.com](mailto:bristolhealingrooms@gmail.com). For the Christian Workplace Groups in hospitals, such as Southmead and the BRI.

4. For the [Arts](#) sphere, [Kingdom Creatives](#), with a community of over 350 creatives. Pray for its facilitator, Malcolm Bourne, and for its partnership with [Joseph Studios](#). For the KiC steering group and a wide variety of creative projects across the region (see their [map](#))

5. For the Noise 2024, from 4 to 6 May, which will be the last one. Pray for the [Noise 365](#) which takes over and helps bring the vision of God's love in practical ways, into every day of the year. In 2023, there were over 650 volunteers from 47 churches, doing 65 projects. See this [video](#).

6. For T4B's links with [Gather Movement](#), which connects about 150 "unity for mission movements" across the UK. A recent [Learning Community](#) podcast explored pioneering work in the spheres of life, in Bristol and elsewhere, to encourage other towns and cities.

7. For a Whole Life group (linked to [LICC](#)) to help church leaders and the spheres work more closely to help empower everyday Christians across the whole of life and for the [Reframe](#) course, with a small group as a pilot scheme, which aims to do the same.

### **Please email us if you no longer wish to receive these prayer bulletins.**

Roger Allen, Spheres Facilitator, (1½ days a week, voluntary)

([spheres@together4bristol.org.uk](mailto:spheres@together4bristol.org.uk))

Derick Mulubwa, Prayer Facilitator, T4B ([prayer@together4bristol.org.uk](mailto:prayer@together4bristol.org.uk) )

Paul Hazelden, Admin and Finance, T4B ([cafo@together4bristol.org.uk](mailto:cafo@together4bristol.org.uk))

