



TOGETHER4BRISTOL (T4B) PRAYER UPDATE: CHRISTMAS 2023

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 2024!

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

PRAISE POINTS

We thank God:

1. For donations totalling over £1,700 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 newsletter is sent to over 1,700, with over 950 on [Facebook](#) and over 500 on X ([Twitter](#)). Please pray about donating to the Appeal and that the rest of the money comes in.
2. For the revival of the Media sphere. 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 on March 16th.
3. For the [Politics and Social Action](#) sphere, called [Christian Action Bristol \(CAB\)](#), led by Andy Street and others. For continued engagement with the Mayor, Marvin Rees, 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.
4. 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.
5. For regular Prayer gatherings for the [Business](#), [Education](#), [Health](#), and [Family](#) spheres. For about 30 Christian Workplace Groups, facilitated by Mal Shaw of [Transform Work](#) and for the [Bristol Chaplaincy](#), linking 88 chaplains. These link to the Business and Workplace sphere: pray for its growth in 2024.
6. 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 and a possible conference, to celebrate Love Family in 2024.
7. For the [Education](#) sphere and [Bristol Schools Connection](#), which led a Prayer gathering for Education in September. For CAB and the Council, helping churches connect with [Transforming Lives for Good \(TLG\)](#) to provide mentors in eight schools. Pray for more, and for the lives of many primary pupils to be touched.

PRAYER and ACTION POINTS

We pray:

1. For The [Bristol Churches Shelter](#), from November 2023 to March 2024, which needs more funds. Last year there were 150 volunteers, from across the Christian community.
2. 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.
3. For [Hope into Action: Bristol](#), run by [inHope](#), This helps churches provide move-on housing for those affected by homelessness, with 3 tenants who are befriended by the partner churches. Pray for referrals and for those who want to set up further houses across the city. For more information contact homesnohousesteam@hopeintoaction.org.uk.
4. 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. To find out details contact: bristolhealingrooms@gmail.com. For the Christian Workplace Groups in hospitals, such as Southmead and the BRI.
5. 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](#)).
6. For the Noise 2024, 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](#).
7. 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.
8. For a Whole Life group (linked to [LICC](#)) to help church leaders and the spheres work more closely to help release 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.

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