

## **One Accord - Proposal for a London year of prayer and fasting (2020)**

One Accord is a proposal that seeks to effect city-wide transformation. A Police officer reflected that the prayer response to our knife crime is having an observable effect when targeted on a particular area, but the issue is not being eradicated, only displaced. He wondered how can we create a prayer response that addresses a London-wide issue?

One Accord is an on-going prayer response that covers the whole city and includes the whole body of Christ. We plan a continuous, united year of prayer and fasting in which individual churches take responsibility for a day to watch and pray over three specific London-wide issues. As the body stands together across London in prayer and fasting during 2020 it will hasten the transformation we pray for. It is also being in "One Accord" with our communities who are grieving. We are encouraging churches as part of their response to invite their local community to participate in prayer with them.

### **What are we praying for?**

The specific focus of our prayer and fasting is threefold –

- **Praying for the peace and well-being of London.** *"Seek peace and well-being for the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf; for in its peace (well-being) you will have peace."* (Jeremiah 29:7 AMP)
- **Praying for leaders in London:** Government, business, health... *"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people – 2 for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. 3 This is good, and pleases God our Saviour"* (1 Timothy 2:1-3 NIV)
- **Praying for a Godly awakening that brings societal transformation, especially among the Capital's youth.** *"Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you. For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people; But the Lord will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you."* (Isaiah 60:1-2)

### **How are we going to do this?**

We are asking churches and prayer groups from London's 32 boroughs and the City to select at least one day to pray for the above things for their area of London and the city as a whole. Thereby, with other churches creating a canopy of prayer for London during the whole of 2020.

*"The fire shall be burning continually on the altar; it shall not [be allowed to] go out."  
(Leviticus 6:13 AMP)*

*"O Jerusalem, I have posted watchmen on your walls; they will pray day and night, continually. Take no rest, all you who pray to the LORD." (Isaiah 62:6)*

The style and format for the prayer is up to each church to decide based upon their own situation and preference. For example, you could host a prayer meeting so people can gather together, or create a prayer space for people to come to or even enable them to pray on their own in their own homes/offices for part of the day.

### **There is already lots of prayer happening, why should we support this initiative?**

Whilst there is much prayer occurring locally and within particular churches, there is a sense that we need more united prayer where the whole body of Christ stands together to strategically pray on this issue. By joining this initiative, you are standing with others across London and church tradition and are contributing to a united expression of prayer in London that can more effectively deal with this London-Wide issue.

## **What are we committing to?**

By signing up you are committing to:

- Fast for the selected day
- pray for the above three themes for your area/borough and for London as a whole
- To pray for a minimum of 4 hours on your selected day. (For example, you could host an early prayer meeting (1 hour), ask members to prayer individually in their lunch hour and then host a prayer meeting in the evening (2 hours)). Alternatively, it could be that you are able to organise within your church a day of 24/7 prayer and cover every hour of the day between you. That would be great, but the minimum commitment is to pray for 4 hours.
- There is a response from the community that as the church we can facilitate by creating prayer spaces and opportunities for the local community to engage with (not just the church membership). This could partner with the excellent existing [Hope Spaces](#) planned by 247 Prayer & Hope.
- Providing feedback to London Prayer after your day of prayer

## **How do I sign up?**

You will be able to register your church and see the available days for signing up at <http://www.londonprayer.com/oneaccord>

There will be a registration fee of £25 per church to cover the costs of managing the initiative.

The sign up will be automated and send out links to resources and have an interactive site which will allow date selection, provide resources and have information about events and the churches praying that week.

## **How will those signing up be supported?**

We will be producing bespoke and regular resource updates for London to help you pray for the three themes. We are also talking to partner organisations about the creation of community focused resources, as we feel that providing a place for London's communities to come and pray in addition to those events focused for the church membership is important.

Resources to assist you in praying for your area and London will be provided when you sign up. These will be added to and developed over the year in response to the feedback from churches praying and the accumulated prayer information that is shared.

Social media and electronic resources and campaign to support the local expressions of prayer.

Termly celebrations (some in partnership with other events (eg. PrayLondon) bringing together churches and those praying in the year of prayer and fasting.

*This is a draft proposal. It is anticipated that as churches decide to get involved this Autumn they will help craft the initiative before it is publicly launched this November. A number of people are involved in its planning but at this point please direct any questions or interest to:*

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