



Arise Cheshire East

Together in prayer for Cheshire East

Keep Shining!

*"May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us,
That your ways may be known upon earth, Your saving power among all nations.*

Let all the people praise you, O God; Let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,

For you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon the earth." Ps 67

Dear All

Just a quick update as we have a couple of new dates for Prayer Gatherings that we'd like you to join with and a few events for which we would really value your prayers.

Wednesday 25th June at Cheshire East Headquarters, by the invitation of the Leader of the Council, Michael Jones, (Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach, CW11 1HZ.)
5.00pm—7.00pm.

We know you may not be able to make the whole time but please feel welcome to join us for as long as you are able when you are able. We shall meet to pray for one another, those things with which we are involved and some important issues concerning our borough.

Wednesday 16th July in Macclesfield. Praying round the town from 3.00pm—5.00pm (meeting point to be confirmed). **Macclesfield Town Hall, 7.00pm—8.30pm.**

Please join us when you can in the afternoon or evening, or both.

Also your prayers for the following events would be welcome. Pray for wisdom, guidance and understanding.

Monday 9th June, midday until 5.00pm. **Review of the Ageing Well Programme Board**, achievements and priorities for the year(s) ahead. This group brings together many partners involved with caring for our older population and is also looking at how to combat social isolation and loneliness in our area. Many Christians are involved with this one way or another. It has been the basis for our join conferences and seminars we have run in the last two years. We have built some good relationships and learnt a lot together and now it feels like we are on the edge of a breakthrough in this area.

Wednesday 11th June, midday until 4.30pm. **Leadership Summit** for partners in the **Cheshire East Children's Trust and the Local Safeguarding Children's Board**. The Children's Trust brings together the many partners working with children and young people across our area. Pastor Michelle Nunn, (Elim Church, Nantwich) and I are taking part.

Friday 13th June, Morning conference to learn more about how to help make Cheshire East a **Dementia Friendly Community**. Tatton Park. 10.00am—12.00pm.

Monday 16th—Wednesday 18th June The Cheshire Show. Church services, displays and 10,000s visitors. Pray for witness, worship, connections and weather!

*"But **strive** first for the Kingdom of God and his righteousness,
and all these things will be given you as well." (Matt 6 v 33)*

The International Festival for Business is running from 2nd June–18th July hosted by Liverpool, with a number of events being held more locally. This is an important occasion for the whole region with business leaders and Mayors from over 100 towns and cities worldwide attending. It is an occasion when many Christian business people from overseas may visit, and perhaps meet.

The North West Christian Business Forum held a prayer meeting on Wed 4th June in Liverpool Cathedral which I was able to attend and we prayed through the various areas and themes outlined below. The Scriptures from Ezekiel 47 and Revelation 22 describing the river of life flowing from the sanctuary, bringing life, prosperity and “healing for the nations” seemed key on Wednesday evening. We reflected on how often in the past the gospel had been spread through the trade routes, including it first coming to these shores as early as the first century. We also confessed that often our trade had not been righteous, and had even been utterly evil. We are aware of Liverpool’s links with the Slave Trade, but more recently we are rediscovering Cheshire’s history of engagement with child slave labour and engaging directly in the slave trade, trading salt for slaves. The Turks and Caicos Islands actually have a plantation called “The Cheshire Plantation” and much of our wealth locally was generated this way. Hardly righteous.

Significantly, we felt, the Festival begins on the day after **Pentecost**, another significant international gathering in Jerusalem from which the gospel spread across the known world, and runs for 50 days (the period of the Feast of Weeks).

Each morning there will be a “thought for the day” and time of prayer in the Cathedral and there is also a Chaplaincy team working and praying with folk throughout the Festival. It would be great if you could join in the prayer using this guide. All these themes and questions are relevant to us in Cheshire as well as Liverpool and of course many work in our neighbouring cities.

Week	Date	General Theme	International Festival of Business Themes	Question
1	9th–15th June	INTERNATIONAL TRADE “Doing Business” “Doing Business”	Maritime, logistics, energy	How do we restore the strengths of the past for the new economic future?
2	16th–20th June	CITIES & EDUCATION “Living and Learning”	CITIES, ENTERPRISE & URBAN BUSINESS / HIGHER EDUCATION AND FURTHER EDUCATION	Cities are growing but more economically challenged; education is required for all—how do we contain the threats and seize the opportunities?
3	23rd–27th June	NEW BUSINESS GROWTH “Discovering and making”	MANUFACTURING, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	How do we encourage innovation and growth while planning for the consequences?
4	30th June–4th July	FINANCE “Money makes the world go round!”	KNOWLEDGE, PROFESSIONAL & FINANCIAL SERVICES	Money has become our master—how do we restore it as a servant, not master?
5	7th–11th July	ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP “Looking after our home”	LOW CARBON & RENEWABLES	Economic growth so often appears to conflict with stewardship of the planet—how do we find a balance good for all?
6	14th–18th July	COMMUNICATIONS “Connecting to everyone, everywhere, anytime”	KNOWLEDGE, CREATIVE & DIGITAL	We now have connectivity previously unimaginable—course or blessing?