

**PRAYER
AND NEWS
UPDATE**

JESUS
CHRIST IS THE
SAME YESTERDAY
AND TODAY AND
FOR EVER.

HEBREWS 13:8



MONTHLY UPDATE:
SUPPORTING THE MINISTRIES OF CPAS



CPAS is an Anglican evangelical mission agency working in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Our mission is to help every person hear and discover the good news of Jesus Christ through the ministry of local churches.

We'd love to pray for you and your church during these challenging times. Please email Caroline Davenport (cdavenport@cpas.org.uk) or call the number overleaf to be included in our staff prayers.

**THANK YOU FOR
ALL YOUR SUPPORT.**

PRAYER AS PARTICIPATION

Welcome to our second monthly Prayer and News Update, which we are producing at this uncertain time in place of our usual Prayer Diary, Catalyst magazine and Falcons Update.

In Genesis 18:17 we have a momentary insight into the mind of the Godhead as the question is posed: 'Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do?'. Reading on in the chapter and elsewhere in Scripture we realise that this is a moment when God has to consider judging Sodom and Gomorrah as a result of the sin that is so prevalent and the holiness of his own being.

What is salient for us is how this instructs us in approaching God in prayer. Firstly, in that we read in the remainder of chapter 18 of God inviting Abraham to be on the inside of his plans. Prayer is always an invitation to participate in the unfolding of God's sovereign plan. Secondly, we read how God's heart is to be gracious in judgment. In this amazing account of dialogue between Abraham and God (18:27-33), Abraham is allowed to 'persuade' God to be gracious.

Thank you for praying with us and for us. Your prayers are welcomed by God and – I believe – part of what will enable the grace of the gospel to be heard and responded to afresh in this unusual time.

John Dunnett
General Director



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All Bible quotations taken from the New International Version.

16-22 AUGUST

PCCS

Building on our PCC Tonight resource, CPAS has produced free additional resources to help PCCs operate well as many meet virtually and church activities remain far from 'normal'.

PRAY
FOR US, TOO,
THAT GOD MAY
OPEN A DOOR FOR
OUR MESSAGE, SO THAT
WE MAY PROCLAIM THE
MYSTERY OF CHRIST.

COLOSSIANS 4:3



Prayer points:

- Pray for PCC members who are living in some form of isolation. Ask that they will feel connected and play a key part in steering their parish to do God's work, even if they can't be physically present.
- Pray for these free resources to be well used. Ask God to equip and bolster PCCs and equivalent bodies as new ideas and fresh ways of doing things are trialled.
- Praise God for your own church's PCC, and ask for his blessing on your whole parish as they discern the right direction for ministry and mission for the next season.

23-29 AUGUST

VENTURE AND FALCON HOLIDAYS

We praise God that thousands of children and young people are taking part in Virtual Ventures, with hundreds more engaging in other ways such as Falcons-in-a-Box (see overleaf).

BUT GROW
IN THE GRACE AND
KNOWLEDGE OF OUR
LORD AND SAVIOUR
JESUS CHRIST. TO HIM BE
GLORY BOTH NOW AND
FOR EVER! AMEN.

2 PETER 3:18



Prayer points:

- Praise God for all he has done and is doing through Ventures and Falcons. Pray that the Christian teaching received online or through the post would have a significant and lasting impact on the young people.
- Both young people and leaders have inevitably faced disappointment this summer as Venture and Falcon residential have been cancelled. Ask God to provide them with other ways to grow and thrive in their faith.
- Ask for God's wisdom in planning for autumn Ventures and Falcons. Pray also for the office team as they work to finalise venues for summer 2021.

30 AUGUST-5 SEPTEMBER

PATRONAGE CHURCHES

We have now been in touch with the vast majority of incumbents at CPAS' 691 patronage churches through the 'phone-a-friend' initiative. It has been hugely encouraging (and sometimes very moving) to hear what God is doing.

LET
YOUR LIGHT
SHINE BEFORE
OTHERS, THAT THEY
MAY SEE YOUR GOOD
DEEDS AND GLORIFY
YOUR FATHER IN
HEAVEN.

MATTHEW 5:16



Prayer points:

- Pray for God to be glorified through CPAS patronage church involvement in ministries such as food banks, relief funds and other forms of support for those who are vulnerable or isolated.
- Pray for leaders as they navigate church life with a mixture of physical and virtual activities in the coming months.
- Praise God that lots of churches have seen increased engagement through online services. Pray this may result in many people coming to know Christ as their Saviour.

6-12 SEPTEMBER

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

CPAS is seeking to engage church leaders in training on relevant and timely topics through a variety of formats this autumn. Pray that this will lead to church growth across the UK and Republic of Ireland.

HE PUT A NEW
SONG IN MY MOUTH,
A HYMN OF PRAISE TO
OUR GOD. MANY WILL
SEE AND FEAR THE LORD
AND PUT THEIR
TRUST IN HIM.

PSALM 40:3



Prayer points:

- Praise God for the hundreds of church leaders who have engaged with CPAS for the first time this summer through our free webinars. Ask that they may continue to be strengthened and supported through our ministry.
- Pray for CPAS staff as they devise new training topics and material in response to the changing realities of church ministry at this time.
- The ultimate goal of all our training is to help local churches bring people to faith in Christ Jesus. Pray that leaders would be equipped to lead healthy, growing churches.

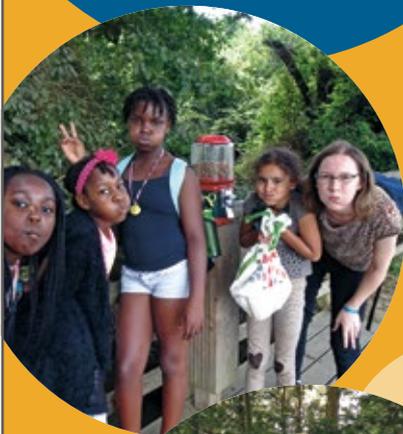
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‘We are excited to be reaching out to the children and their whole families.’

Joy and Kevin Johnson, Overall Leaders of Carrotty Wood 2



With residential holidays unable to take place this year, our wonderful Falcon leaders have been reaching out to the children who would have attended in a different way – Falcons-in-a-Box, delivered direct to their homes.

Each holiday has put their own spin on this, with many sending each child a box with a package to open every day during the week of the holiday. These contain everything from activities, jokes, sweets and treats to craft kits, age-appropriate Bibles, engaging resources and messages from the leaders.

‘As a team, we feel that it is very important that the children receive this’, said overall leaders of Carrotty Wood 2, Joy and Kevin Johnson. ‘For those who have been before, it is a reminder of what it is like to be on a Falcon holiday and for those who were due to attend for the first time, it’s a taste of what is to come in 2021.

‘Although we are disappointed that we won’t actually see the children this summer, we are excited to be reaching out to them and their whole families in this new way. We are praying that all the children who would have taken part will know that they are truly loved by God.’

Many of the children and young people who usually attend Falcon holidays face challenging circumstances in their daily lives. Thank you for supporting CPAS as we seek to bless them and their families through this initiative.

VIRTUAL VENTURES

Haslemere and Broads Cruise were the first Ventures to go virtual (since followed by 40+ other holidays!).

They enjoyed virtual choirs, quizzes, a murder mystery (with leaders in fancy dress!), cooking workshops over YouTube, interactive Bible studies, talks and worship. Competitions included lipsync battles, 'the teabag challenge' (throw a teabag into a mug from 2 metres away) and 'who can wear the most items of clothing?'

For fifteen-year-old Emily*, this was her first ever Ventures experience. She said: 'Thank you so much for making me feel welcome and a part of a family. I love you guys so much and I will definitely come back again. Thank you for making it so much fun and so special... I can't wait to come next year and see people in person.'

*Name changed to protect identity.



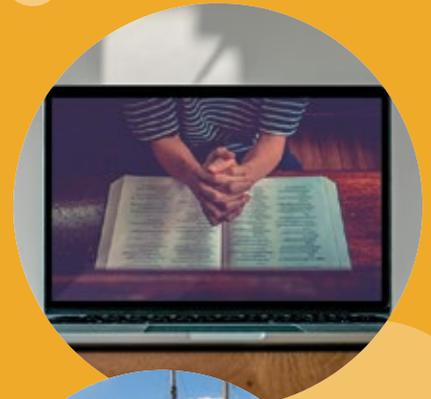
SUPPORTING CPAS

Thank you for your prayerful support at this time when, like many other charities, our income is reduced. If you would like to make a donation or set up or increase a standing order, please visit www.cpas.org.uk/give or phone **024 7526 7835** 9am-12.30pm Monday to Friday. You can also send a cheque payable to CPAS to the address bottom right.

www.cpas.org.uk/give

Keeping Up-to-Date

We have a dedicated COVID-19 webpage where you can read all the latest information about how CPAS is working in this time. You can also follow [@CPASnews](https://twitter.com/CPASnews) on social media for regular news and prayer points, or go to <http://praynow4.org/cpas> to download the PrayerMate app.



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