

Mon. 26/01	Please pray for the Finance Group (Shona Adam, Alister Greig, Cath Lighterness, Emma Masson and Hugh Mcdiarmid) and for a smooth process to draw up the 2014 annual accounts. Thank God for their diligence and care and please pray for a sense of God's presence with them they deal with the banking scam loss and our generally tight financial circumstances.
Wed. 28/01	Richard Foster points out that in contemporary society the devil majors in three things: noise, hurry, and crowds. If he can keep us engaged in "muchness" and "manyness" he will be satisfied. He implants taximeters in our brains. We hear the relentless tick, tick, tick telling us to hurry, hurry, hurry, time is money, resulting in this roaring blur called the human race. But Jesus stands against the tide saying, "Come to me, all you who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matt. 11:28). Will you come? Will you follow the One who often".....withdrew into the wilderness and prayed" (Luke 5:16). A thousand voices will tell you not to. Ignore them! Adapted from Word for Today.
Thur. 29/01	"Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves." (Philippians 2.3). Lord, give us the strength to live loving, forgiving and humble lives whose very example can challenge societies primacy of self interest.
Fri. 30/01	Do not look forward to what may happen tomorrow; the same everlasting Father who cares for you today will take care of you tomorrow and every day. Either He will shield you from suffering, or He will give you unfailing strength to bear it. Be at peace, put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginations, and say continually: "The Lord is my strength and my shield. My heart has trusted in Him and I am helped. He is not only with me but in me, and I in Him." (From Prayers-for -Special Help).
Sat. 31/01	Many enter a new year full of well meaning resolutions and good intentions yet, as the week's progress, find reasons to amend or jettison them. Lord, sustain us!

Newhaven Church January Prayer Calendar 2015

Thur. 01/01	As we step into 2015, pray that this year will bring refreshing hope to our nation: hope that flows to every life, every place and every institution. Pray that people everywhere will want to get to know the God who offers them healing and freedom. (Adapted from Word for Today)
Fri. 02/01	Please pray for our minister Peter Bluett who is visiting his brother Stephen in South Africa. Pray for safe travel and good fellowship.
Sat. 03/01	Let us pray that God will bring some peace and comfort to those for whom the festive season has been a difficult time. Be it through illness, bereavement, loneliness or financial worries. Lord, may they feel your love.
Sun. 04/01	Alastair Sutherland is leading the morning service today. Pray for wisdom, peace and inspiration from the Holy Spirit for Alastair.
Mon. 05/01	"And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year. Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown, and he replied go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be better to you than light and safer than a known way, so I went forth and finding the hand of God, trod gladly into the night." (From Minnie Louise Hoskins, 1908).
Tues. 06/01	Pray for the work of the Scottish Bible Society (SBS). Give thanks for the prayers and generosity of those who have committed to support the work through bible-a-month partnership. Pray that more people will consider giving £1 per week to share the bible with others.
Wed. 07/01	Has your love for God grown cold? If so, you need to go back to where you first met Him, to seek Him again like you did before you'd heard so much and seen so much, before the pressures of life had worn you down. "But I'm busy doing the work of the Lord", you say. Busyness and barrenness go hand in hand together. It's possible to look like a saint in the courts of Babylon, yet be a backslider in the courts of Zion. Three times Jesus asked Peter, "Do you love me?" Finally Peter said "Lord, you know all things; You know (the extent to which) I love You"....(John 21:17). Oswald Chambers said, "Beware of anything that competes with your loyalty to Jesus Christ. The greatest competitor of devotion to Jesus is service to him." Adapted from Word for Today.
Thur. 08/01	Heavenly Father, we praise you today and thank You for all our blessings. You are a wonderful listener, bringing peace and contentment to our daily lives. Very often we forget to tell You just how much we need You but, when we do, You never turn us away. Today we remember to say Thank You.

Fri. 09/01	Before we rush into a new year, take time to reflect back on 2014, giving thanks for answered prayer!
Sat. 10/01	Debt and financial difficulties are not only a personal problem, but a global issue which affects countries and regions all across the world. The C of S and Jubilee Scotland have joined up to make people aware of the Eurozone debt crisis and encourage the church to advocate for Debt Justice. (See www.churchofscotland.org.uk) Pray for those who are suffering and where national debt is having a devastating impact on their lives.
Sun. 11/01	Colin MacNeill is leading the morning service today. Pray that Colin will be blessed by the Holy Spirit as he preaches, and also that all who are in Church this morning might be transformed anew by their encounter with God.
Mon. 12/01	Lord, we think of the many Christians, especially in the Middle East, who are suffering persecution at the hands of militant Islamists. Bless the work of those organisations that seek to help such as the Barnabas Trust, Christian Solidarity and Release International.
Tues. 13/01	The Independence Referendum has passed and a General Election looms. Pray for those who are chosen to govern; that they may listen to the electorate rather than pursuing their own self-seeking agendas.
Wed. 14/01	A poet wrote: "A careless word may kindle strife; a cruel word may wreck a life. A gracious word may soothe the way, a joyous word may light the day. A timely word may lessen stress, a loving word may heal and bless." So today let your words be faith-building, for people battle with doubt and fear. Let your words be comforting, for people have wounds you cannot see. Let your words be uplifting, for people get torn down by criticism and discouragement. Let your words be calming, for God has promised to bless you if you are a peacemaker. And let your words be character-building; that way you'll leave people better off than you found them. Adapted from Word for Today.
Thur. 15/01	Pray that the warm clothes which were collected for Syria will safely reach their destination and that they will help to ease some of the horrendous suffering of the refugees.
Fri. 16/01	Pray for the Scripture Union holiday brochures now circulating in the schools that many young people will sign up for Easter and Summer Camps.
Sat. 17/01	Pray that God will fill out hearts with His goodness. Pray for a deeper commitment to live out God's goodness in every aspect of the days (and year) ahead.

Sun. 18/01	We welcome back our minister, Peter. Lord, give him the strength and endurance to face the year ahead with all its inevitable challenges. Yet, with your grace, may he revel and find sustenance in moments of camaraderie and joy.
Mon. 19/01	"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their skin, but by the content of their character." Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Join those who, on this day, celebrate the life of Dr King who advocated nonviolent civil disobedience to confront racial injustice. Lord, give us the strength to carry on the struggle of confronting racists in their many guises.
Tues. 20/01	The Kirk Session meets tonight. Please pray for wisdom, unity and inspiration from the Holy Spirit as the Elders meet to discuss and plan the affairs of our Church.
Wed. 21/01	Our abrasive words can cut off people's ability to hear. We can't just fly off the handle whenever we feel like it. We must be sensitive to God: If he tells us, "Say nothing", we must stand there quietly, even if it means letting someone think they're right even when we know they're not. We must say, "Yes, Lord," and accept that he doesn't owe us an explanation. How many times do we prevent someone's spiritual growth, or God's blessings from coming into our own lives, because we don't control what we say? Perhaps you think that compared to adultery or stealing this is no big deal? Think again: "He who guards his lips guards his life, but he who speaks rashly will come to ruin" (Proverbs 13:3). Adapted from Word for Today.
Thur. 22/01	Lord help me to remember that "I can do everything with the help of Christ who gives me the strength I need." (Philippians 4:13)
Fri. 23/01	A new year and the world's media will inevitably move on from West Africa as the Ebola virus becomes old news. Yet people will continue dying, grieving, healing and helping. Lord, let us not forget. Pray for them.
Sat. 24/01	Thank God for his continued presence with us in our Newhaven fellowship. Even as we mourn the passing of much-loved older members, God brings vibrancy into our midst with the arrival of new worshippers and young families with all their enthusiasm and energy.
Sun. 25/01	Give thanks for the Little Lights team, give thanks for the love and care they show the children. Pray that they will be a blessed by all they do.

