

december – Christmas & A Thankful Heart

1-10 Dec

❖ **CAROL SERVICES.** Every year, thousands of students attend carol services arranged by Christian Unions, university chaplaincies and local churches. Please pray for Christian Unions especially at this time as they arrange Christmas activities and carol services while juggling their own work loads. Pray that they would take into account the presence of international students and make efforts to invite and include them in the events. Pray that, ultimately, Jesus would be glorified and that the gospel would be made clear to all who attend.

11-17 Dec

❖ **CHRISTMAS HOSPITALITY.** Over the Christmas period there are amazing opportunities to host international students. Christmas dinner, carol services, mince pies & mulled wine, Christmas trees – these may all be very normal to us, but to an international student they may be an unconventional cultural experience! Pray that church members would seize the opportunities to invite internationals for a meal, to a service etc. Pray that international students would be able to see through the commercialism of the season to who Jesus is and why He was born.

18-24 Dec

❖ **STAYING OR RETURNING.** Over Christmas many international students will return home to family and familiarity. However, some will simply not have the

money to fly many thousands of miles and therefore find themselves on their own and with few people around them. This can be a difficult time, especially if it is the first time they are away from family at Christmas. Pray for these students that are staying, pray against loneliness and that Christians would offer friendship and hospitality during this time.

25-31 Dec

❖ **THANKFUL.** Join us in thanking God for the year that we have had and the blessings that we have received. 2017 has had its challenges, but we have seen international students all over the country hear and respond to the gospel and we praise God for that. Thank God for the ministry in your local area and pray for any internationals that you know. Finally, pray about how God may want you to be involved in ministry in 2018.



“But you, Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love...”

Psalm 86:15

september – New Academic Year

1-10 Sept

❖ **PORTSMOUTH.** Please pray for our international freshers' day (September 15th), when we will have the potential of reaching 400+ new students and to invite them to a free meal (Saturday 16th). Pray for our new venue for the international café – it will be centrally located now and able to offer many different activities and reach more students. Please pray that this year we would reach many students with the gospel and make a difference in their lives. **Wynelle Cowdery, Portsmouth Staff Worker**

11-17 Sept

❖ **LAUSANNE MOVEMENT.** From 11th to 16th September the Lausanne Movement International Student Ministry track will meet in Charlotte, North Carolina. A number of Friends International staff have been invited and are able to participate, including Alan Tower, Richard and Catharine Weston, and Sarah Dawkins. Please pray for a useful time connecting with other movements from around the

world who are also involved in ministry to international students. Pray for the learning and sharing that will take place, and that we would return to the UK inspired and energised to further the work. **Alan Tower, National Director**

18-24 Sept

❖ **ABERDEEN.** We will have two International Student Welcome Meals in September at the two universities; please pray for fun evenings, that everything would run smoothly and for fruitful follow-up. We also have an international café planned for the end of September and an outing early in October. Please pray for our ongoing partnerships with CUs and churches. Also, pray for our ongoing recruitment needs: we need new local Church leaders and members to become part of our Development Group and we are looking to recruit a staff worker to be our Centre Team Leader. **Steven Hamilton, Aberdeen Staff Worker**

25-30 Sept

❖ **MANCHESTER.** Please pray for good numbers and the start of lasting friendships at our welcome events in Manchester. Pray as we take international students away for a walk in the Peak District on Saturday 30th September. Pray for wisdom for the Manchester Branch as they consider applicants for the vacant Manchester staff worker position and plan a strategy and some goals for the ministry in Manchester. **Sabine Stockton, Manchester Staff Worker**



october – New Academic Year

1-8 Oct

❖ **REACH PROGRAMME.** The 2017/18 Reach Volunteers started their year of service in September. We have 15 Reach, 9 of whom come from overseas. They are based all over the country, from Southampton to Dundee; please pray for them as they settle into a new routine and get to know their supervisor, co-workers and international students. Pray for their support raising and their growth in ministry skills and personal discipleship this year. Pray for wisdom for their supervisors and the Friends International staff coordinating the Reach Programme. **Kah Foon, Reach Programme Coordinator**

9-15 Oct

❖ **BOURNEMOUTH.** Praise God for the warm welcome we always get from staff at Bournemouth University International College, home to 400 students and 50 different nationalities. We've always enjoyed an open door at the college, and this year we are exploring if there are more ways we can meet and support the students living there. Pray for creativity as we think of ideas, and wisdom to know



which ones to act upon. Pray especially for our hospitality scheme - this year we're trying to give as many students as possible the chance to have a meal in a British home. Pray that real lasting friendships would develop out of these initial meetings. **Gareth Leaney, Bournemouth Staff Worker**

16-22 Oct

❖ **YORK.** We are working closely with the University of York Christian Union to reach out to international students on campus. We have an exciting new initiative starting which involves introducing the gospel in an engaging format. Please pray that many will come and respond to the gospel and for the follow-up. York St. John University is holding their events week in November and, for the first time, we will be working with the CU to hold an event for internationals on Campus. Please pray that internationals will be challenged and Christians encouraged as they reach out with the gospel. **Helen Callow, York Staff Worker**

23-31 Oct

❖ **LEICESTER.** Praise God for Gateway Café, a new venture, we are starting in the autumn, specifically for De Montfort University students. Please pray for unity in the team, for international students to hear about the café, come along and feel welcomed and cared for. Pray for God's blessing on this new ministry. We also thank God for Penny Wang who has joined the Leicester team this term. **Emese Carter-Whittle, Leicester Staff Worker**

november – New Staff

1-5 Nov

❖ **SUPPORT OFFICE.** We have recently welcomed Tracy Moreton to our office team. She now oversees our supporter relations as well as admin for the Reach Programme and Affiliate Network. Please pray for her as she gets to grips with her role and settles into the rhythm of work at the office. Please pray for all the support staff that oversee the finances, digital communications, and human resources of Friends International. Pray that they would all work diligently and faithfully for the smooth and legal running of the charity and, more importantly, for the Lord.

6-12 Nov

❖ **GUILDFORD.** Lilli Jones has joined the Friends International team in Guildford as Centre Team Leader. She takes over from Rocco Dalia who we are very grateful to for his committed work over the last year. Please pray for Lilli and for the work in Guildford; may they know the faithful leading and provision of God in all that is done. We pray also for all the volunteers, that

they would know the vital nature of their contribution to all the activities.

13-19 Nov

❖ **OXFORD & LEICESTER.** We are pleased to announce that Jonnie Green has joined our team in Oxford. Jonnie will be working alongside Peter and Lynette Teagle. Please pray for him as he joins the ministry. We also thank God for Penny Wang, the new Staff Worker for Leicester who started in September. Please pray that Penny would settle quickly and find a suitable church. Pray that God would provide those who would support, encourage and pray for her.

20-30 Nov

❖ **GLASGOW & NOTTINGHAM.** The work in Glasgow has been growing over the years and we now welcome our third member of staff to the city, Rebecca Mann. We thank God for the opportunities in Glasgow and pray for Rebecca as she gets to grips with the work. Madeleine Bonicel has joined us this term in Nottingham. Please pray that she would gel well with the team and would flourish in her role there.

