

Friday: Many seminary students have graduated recently.



Thank God for those students who have completed their training. As they start their ministry and prepare for ordination, may the Lord be their teacher and guide. We pray for staff at Nanjing (including Jiawei), and at Chengdu (including 'Peter' Yuan Shiguo) as they help students theologically to contextualise the faith, and politically to respond to the demands for 'sinicisation'. As they all 'love country and love church', may we and they be deeply motivated to learn to live in love for God and neighbour.

Saturday: Looking ahead, we pray with Jesus (Psalm 31v5/Luke 23v46) "Into your hands I commit my spirit".

Protestant / Roman Catholic ecumenism in practice in Shandong Province.



We hope Pat O'beirne will join the members meeting in September. Like Eamonn O'Brien, he represents the Columban brothers. Let us pray with Pat and our RC friends in Shandong, Sheshan and Shanghai for the unity of the

church of God in Christ Jesus, and for the deepening of friendship between churches in China and the British isles.

Let us pray for God's opening of opportunities among the various possibilities in an unknown future, including a) the FCC Annual Meeting on line November 23rd; b) a possible visit in January by doctoral student Meng Xiangjiao; c) openings for Chinese participants at a conference in Oxford June 3 to 17th 2023; d) visits by Nanjing ThD students to the UK.



China Prayer Diary : Autumn 2022

***Friendship in Christ, and our fellowship in prayer,
bind us together with brothers and sisters in China***

In the conclusion to his recent book 'The Power of Reconciliation' (2022), Archbishop Justyn Welby uses the phrase 'Preventive Reconciliation'. This idea nicely echoes a priority we value in FCC, namely building friendships that endure over many years, and which are ready to face any challenges as they arise. What also could be more relevant at present geo-politically for the West's relations with both Russia and China?

In this second half of 2022, we look forward to two meetings for members and friends – one in person in London on September 10th, and the other on-line (the Annual Meeting) on November 12th.

This edition of the Prayer Diary focuses on some contemporary issues, and in particular asks that we pray God's blessing on the work of five charitable projects that FCC is supporting at a time when developing relationships through travel to and from China is not possible. Your committee decided to allocate some of our own funds to these projects. Alongside a significant grant from the Barbour Trust, we also gladly acknowledge generous gifts received in memory of Mary Ream and Alison Lewis. These latter are being directed to new projects in the Southwest of China.

Monday Keeping in touch - news of the church in China

Qingdao

Sunday
afternoon
inquirers group
with 20+ present



At Christmas 2021, the Covid pandemic meant that many churches were closed. We hear now that from May onwards (in Ningbo), and by July (Qingdao), churches are open again for worship and Bible study.

- a) Pray for this inquirers' group in Qingdao to be fruitful;
- b) May the regular life of the churches glorify God in worship, in welcome to all, and in working for the coming of the Kingdom of God;
- c) Please God, our communication with friends in China will be sustained.

Tuesday: Hong Kong news

The Very Revd Frankie Lee is now
Dean of Holy Trinity Cathedral East Kowloon.



The churches in Hong Kong are facing times of change and challenge. Let us remember Will Newman at St John's cathedral, and Frankie Lee in his new role as Dean of Holy Trinity Cathedral in East Kowloon.

We pray for the Amity Foundation (www.amityfoundation.org)

- a) In Hong Kong, Anthony Tong asks FCC to 'send a volunteer to support our work here ... that would be a real blessing!' Do you know anyone?
- b) FCC has invited She Hongyu in the Nanjing office to consider sending another staff member to the UK for staff development training. May God bring someone who will benefit from such a visit.
- c) Pray for the FCC input to the meeting of the European Network of Amity Partners (ENAP) online on December 7th.

Wednesday: FCC Projects 'put legs on our prayers!'

Volunteers
at work



Pastor He Qicong continues to lead his church to work with needy people in Xi'an.

We thank God that the Barbour Trust have joined with FCC in supporting Xi'an

- a) Let us pray for the ten other churches who are now being trained to run their own community-based projects – and thereby to make known the love of God.
- b) Remember Kan Baoping, 'Paul' Wang Baocheng and 'Sylvia' Cao Ya'nian as they co-ordinate social and community projects from the offices of China Christian Council in Shanghai.

Thursday: FCC supports projects in SW China

Thanks be to God for legacy income, and for support from the Barbour Trust, that joins FCC to provide support two new projects in SW China.

- 1: Pray for mothers whose babies who will benefit in the first 1000 days of life (<https://amityfoundation.org/eng/index.php/cause/2237/>).
- 2: Pray God's blessing on the Bible Society's project translating Scripture into local languages among minority group. They are also producing some audio materials to assist those whose literacy skills are less developed.

More generally, we pray with the Scottish Churches China Group and other partners as Amity develops the Green Church Project. This project is currently based in Changsha, and is designed to help churches to understand how they can teach, and take action towards, environmental sustainability.