

Dear Prayer Intercessors,

We hope you've had a wonderful summer so far! As we gear up for the new academic year we wanted to invite you to join us in some more targeted prayer about our upcoming new student welcome activities at the University of Oxford:

New Student Welcome Dinner Venue: Many of you have heard us share about the welcome dinner we do each year where we offer a free dinner to all new graduate students arriving in Oxford. We collaborate with 12 local churches and a few local ministries to pull this event off and it involves coordinating catering for 200-300 people and setting up tables for 10 including pairs of returning students to help welcome and give advice/encouragement to new students. In years past we have used our church, St Aldates, as a venue. However, this year we just found out that some **much needed renovations of lighting and sound equipment** has gotten behind schedule and this will impact our use of the space. On Fri the 8th of Oct, when the dinner is schedule, we will be navigating some venue limitations (limited setup time, space, AV, etc). **We would LOVE prayers that we would make wise plans for how to move forward and whether we need to consider an alternative venue. Thank you!**

Graduate Christian Forum (GCF) Planning + Freshers' Fair Outreach: As a formal student society for the University of Oxford, the GCF gets to host a table at the Freshers' Fair the first week in October. This is a key moment for us to connect with incoming grad students, to get them signed up for our mailing list, and to provide information about local ministries and churches. **Please pray for our upcoming leadership team's planning meetings, as well as for protection and for an excellent outcome from the fair this year!** (Also, one of our committee members, Richard, will be **getting married** mid-September, so please also pray for him, his fiance Clara, and all that goes into coordinating wedding logistics!)

InterVarsity Grad & Faculty Ministries Leadership Team Coming to Oxford!!: The week before new student welcome begins we will have the privilege of welcoming the national leadership team for InterVarsity's Grad and Faculty Ministries to Oxford for their annual planning retreat. We feel incredibly blessed to be "in the right place at the right time" and to get to introduce them to the amazing ministries and activities that we've been involved in here. **Please pray for smooth logistics, for smooth travel, for health for everyone involved, and for the Holy Spirit to show up in mighty ways** as this team takes precious time to experience the history, beauty, and vision of those committed to serving Christian grad students and faculty in Oxford and beyond.

David Finishing a Chapter: David has some strong momentum on his chapter on Abraham Kuyper and he's hoping to finish this over the next two weeks that we're in Seattle. **Please join us in prayer for his writing efforts and for balancing time with family/work while here in the beautiful Pacific Northwest!**

Thank you so much for your support and love as we travel this journey together!

Warmly,
Alissa, David, Charlie