



to give light to those who sit in darkness

Daylight Newsletter July 2025

Regular readers of our newsletters will remember that as part of our 20th Anniversary celebrations, we teamed up with Songs of the Folk; a husband and wife folk duo of A.T & Lauren Cason who use their music as a means of ministry to people in tough situations.

The Casons were in the UK on a two-year missionary assignment, and during their time here have carried out two prison tours, as well as a number of concerts in HMP Chelmsford, the prison nearest to them. Each of their visits have been very well received, with both prisoners and prison staff appreciative of their music, and the lyrics have also caused prisoners to ask questions, leading to many good conversations.

Emailing just before their return to the US a couple of weeks ago, they write, "Whenever someone asks what the highlight of our time here has been, our first answer is usually 'playing music in the prisons'. Thank you so much for

allowing us entry into these special places and for all of your continued work with these men and women. You will stay in our thoughts and prayers".

Please give thanks for the impact Songs of the Folk have had in the prisons here, and continue to pray for A.T. & Lauren as they continue to serve the Lord back home, that they will know much blessing in their future ministry.



Last summer, we introduced new sign-up cards, enabling prisoners to request Letter Writing and Written Studies, and were encouraged to see an immediate increase in the number of sign-ups for both these ministries.

In response to the growing need, we are thankful that many new people also signed up as letter writing volunteers. However, demand continues to increase,

and we once again have a number of prisoners waiting for someone to write. Please pray that the Lord will raise up the right people to meet this need.



July Prayer Points



Andy – Please pray for Andy, a Ukrainian prisoner who was recently reading Joshua in his Russian Bible. In conversation with one of our chaplains, who he sees regularly, Andy shared that he is concerned at all of the killing in the Old Testament, yet realises that his mother and other Christians he knows have a peace of mind he does not have. He came to the UK as a young adult and set up a business that did well, and yet had no peace; plenty of money, a beautiful wife, lovely kids, but not peace. And he wants it and is searching for it.

Please pray for our chaplain as he seeks to provide Andy with reading material to address his concerns. He is so honest, saying that he knows he should have faith to overcome his doubts about why God commanded such things, but has not found it yet, and also realises it is God's gift. Please pray that he will come to know the peace that can only be found in Christ.

Donald – Give thanks for Donald, a prisoner who uses our letter writing ministry as well as receiving our written studies. In one of his latest letters, he shared how he has passed on our material to a friend on his wing, writing, *"There's an old chap on this wing who goes to chapel and also attends our Bible study. He's been getting quite agitated about some aspects of the Old Testament, and as the Bible study I do by post has been covering this, I've*

introduced him to them and I've given him the last couple of Daylight Bible studies and the Easter and Pentecost Booklets. I've suggested he writes to Daylight too, as the last Bible study sheets were really very good". Please pray that this material will be used to speak to Donald's friend.

HMP Doncaster (South Yorkshire) – Give thanks for continued high levels of attendance (around twenty prisoners) in the Bible study group, and for a really good start with the book of Jonah. Please pray that this would continue.

Give thanks for a particularly encouraging one-to-one contact with L, going through the book of Mark. Please pray for enduring fruit.

Pray too for David (chaplain) as he takes some holiday this month, that this will be a time of relaxation and refreshment.

Keswick Convention – Give thanks for the opportunity for Daylight to have a stand at this year's Keswick Convention (12th July – 1st August). Please pray for the teams staffing this each week and for fruitful conversations that will lead to more people volunteering with us and supporting prison ministry prayerfully and financially.

HMP Leeds (West Yorkshire) – Praise God that twelve attended the most recent Wednesday Bible study; six regulars and six new men. Please pray particularly for Brian who was unable

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to be there after finding out that he has Stage 3 cancer, that the Lord will give him peace and strength.

Pray too that the good numbers will be maintained, and that they will also increase in the Tuesday studies with the vulnerable prisoners.

HMP New Hall (West Yorkshire) – Staffing issues here continue to impact the frequency of the Bible studies, so please pray that these will soon be resolved and that our team will once again be able to visit on a regular basis.

Seb – Give thanks for the opportunity one of our chaplains has to work with Seb who says he was converted and baptised in another prison. While Seb seems genuine, there are some concerns over his lack of acknowledgment of the reasons he is in prison. Please pray that our chaplain will be helped as he seeks to get Seb into the Word more deeply.

Smithy – Give thanks for Smithy, a prisoner who recently phoned to thank us for the regular written studies, saying, "I just phoned to say I find your David studies insightful, and wanted to thank you". Please pray that this material will continue to be an encouragement to him.

HMP Wakefield (West Yorkshire) – A new regime is likely to begin in the coming months which will make a difference to when meetings will be held and who can attend. Please pray that the Lord will continue to use our team within the new system.

HMP Wealstun (West Yorkshire) – Praise God that six men attended the first session of *Hope Explored* and nine came along to the second one. Some

very good discussions took place. Please pray that they will all return for the final session and that many will 'seek the Lord while He may be found'.

Please pray for Stefan who has a sound knowledge of Jesus and recognises that He came into the world to save sinners, but yet does not want to commit his life to Christ. He says that his love of money and the things that it brings is something he does not want to give up. Pray that the literature he has been given and his attendance at the last *Hope Explored* session will enable him to take that needful step of faith.

Please also continue to pray for Minty, that his attendance on the course will help him to concentrate on the things of Christ and not on self.

West Yorkshire Prayer & Support Group – Give thanks for new volunteers joining the group and for the opportunity for one of them to attend a Sunday Service in the near future. Please pray that the Lord will show her, and the other new volunteers, how they can work for Him.

Written Studies – For the last year or so in our fortnightly Written Studies, we have been working through 1 and 2 Samuel, looking at the life of David. During this month, we will reach the end of this series, moving to one-off topics over the summer period. Please pray that what the recipients have learnt from the life of David will stay with them, and that they will also go on to read through Psalms as we have encouraged them to.

Pray too that we will be helped as we think about what book or topics we should consider in our next series after the summer.





News from the Office: Being diligent to make our call and election sure

Being the best we can be in prison involves preparation, not least in prayer, and training, not least by worshipping and studying together. Small groups prepare and train together regularly, and we hope to do all of this with as many as possible at our Connections+ Workers' Weekend (Oct. 10th-11th). Please pray as we work out the details and hopefully secure our keynote speaker. If you are a volunteer and interested in attending please get the date in your diary.

Our revised training scheme for volunteers is now being rolled out. We have run the first couple of our 'On Board with Daylight' Zoom meetings and are now starting to deliver the next section too, 'Being Confident in Prison'. Please pray as existing team leaders are learning the revised course and new volunteers are starting out on their journey.

Please pray that we will find ways to connect all our workers together and enable us to be the best we can be, as Peter said, *"For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with goodness, goodness with knowledge,*

knowledge with self-control, self-control with endurance, endurance with godliness, godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being useless or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. The person who lacks these things is blind and shortsighted and has forgotten the cleansing from his past sins. Therefore, brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election, because if you do these things you will never stumble" (2 Peter 1:5-10 CSB).

We are grateful to God for all of your prayerful support and for the many financial gifts we also receive. Indeed, this last month we have received a single gift of £30,000 in support of the Unlock Mark Project, which can now begin. However, from time to time, we receive gifts that do not allow us to trace the giver. We are then not able to send acknowledgements to those donors, and we just wanted to let you know that these gifts too are greatly appreciated.

If you would like to support Daylight's work financially, one-off or regular gifts can be made via the 'Donate' tab on our website daylightcpt.org, or call 01245 252735 to make gifts by phone. Cheques made payable to Daylight Christian Prison Trust can be sent to our office address below, and if you would like a Gift Aid or Standing Order Form, please let us know.

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