

PUDDING AND PRAYER

March 16th 2026 at Verso Vineyard

Thank you for joining us to pray for Step this evening. In each of the four sections, we will share a story or two, and provide a selection of ideas to guide your prayers. Feel free to pray for anything that you feel led to.

Section 1- Big Picture (Lead by Geoff)

Maddie- Our New Schools Coordinator

Please pray for Maddie and the team as we prepare for her starting full time in September (and joining us for some hours in June/July). Pray we are wise in dividing up responsibilities and find the best fits for everyone.

Fundraising- Grant Applications

Please pray for success with multiple grant applications we are submitting to cover the cost of our growing capacity.

Fundraising- Spring Appeal and Love Your Enemy for Step

Please pray for new financial supporters through our Spring Appeal and those who are being sponsored to wear their rival's shirt for a day, including Geoff's part 2 of his challenge on Easter Sunday.

New Schools

Please pray that as we grow, we can capitalise on an existing opportunity to work with Oaklands College, have a way in to STAHS, and to continue developing our new relationship with St Albans School, who have a new Head of RE.

Step Trustees

Please thank God for our trustees (Will, Richard, Hannah, Phil and Graham) and pray for wisdom as they deliberate Step's vision for the next few years and the budget for 2026/27.

Step Volunteers

Please thank God for our 70+ volunteers who serve in schools and in the office. Pray that they, along with our staff team, play to their strengths, that they grow and are courageous in looking for opportunities to share Jesus with the people they meet.

Section 2- Lessons and Step Days (Helena and Chris)

Good News For Everyone Youth Testament Recipients

Over 1,000 young people have already accepted the gift of a GNFE Youth Testament this year either in a lesson or as part of a Step Day. Please pray they will read them and the words will come alive in their lives.

Upcoming Lessons

We have loads of lessons coming up (see below for just a few examples). Please pray that these opportunities to teach about the Christian faith will bear fruit. Pray also for wisdom for the staff and volunteers who lead them, when answering the questions the young people ask.

- Suffering at Verulam (Yr 9) and Samuel Ryder (Yr 8).
- iMatter at KWS (Yr 8).
- First time ever running Arguments for the Existence of God at Roundwood (Yr 8) and same lesson in Beaumont this week (Yr 9).
- Narnia Resurrection at Verulam (Yr 7), which is a follow up from their Christianity Day a couple of weeks ago.

Lesson Refreshing

We are constantly updating and refreshing our lessons so please pray for the team to have creativity to make them relevant and engaging.

Revamping Step Days

Please pray for the team as we look to improve the Step Day content and offer, ensuring each one has a significant moment of awe and wonder. Pray each Step Day to be deeply meaningful and impactful in providing opportunities for young people to follow Jesus.

Step Days Still to Come

Please pray for the 19 Step Days still to happen before the end of the year, including ones at SJL, Townsend and Loreto in the next fortnight. Please pray especially for the new opportunity for a Yr 7 Cultural Enrichment Day at Sandringham and clear direction for the ALPS Conference.

Week of Opportunities

Please pray for strength and energy for the team who will be involved in the first week in July where we have a Step Day everyday.

Section 3 - Following Jesus and Step Up Days (Mary)

New Christians in Schools

There are many young people who would consider themselves Christians, pray and read their Bible, but aren't yet attending a church. Pray as we journey with and invite them to spaces such as Illuminate events and Young Life Club that they will grow in their faith and find a church.

Mary's New Role- Following Jesus Lead

Mary has taken on a new role to lead us in this area. Please pray for her that she has wisdom and creative ideas to provide opportunities for young people to explore following Jesus.

Youth Alpha

Pray for the town wide youth Alpha that started last week. We had 12 young people attending the first week and would love to see these young people grow in their faith journey and invite their friends this week.

Explore Groups - Lunchtime Clubs

Please pray for the various lunchtime groups we run in most schools we work in. Pray specifically for:

- Favour to run a lunchtime group in Samuel Ryder and restart one in Roundwood
- Plans to create a group on the back of a Youth Alpha at Loreto
- New young people and leaders in some of our smaller groups in Marlborough and Beaumont for example.

Explore the Bible and Next Steps

Please pray for those using the Explore the Bible resource - an accompanying Bible study booklet offered with a GNFE Youth Testament. Also for those involved in our 6-week discipleship mentoring program called Next Steps. Pray more young people make use of these resources.

Step Up Days

Summer term is Year 6 Step Up Day season where we help children with their move to secondary school. Last year we delivered 13 of these. Please pray as we prepare and train the volunteers that these days will be an effective introduction to the Step team they will see in their new schools.

Section 4 - Courses and Mentoring (Steph and Jez)

Haven Hope

Please pray that all the schools we work in would like to run a Haven Hope course, especially for discussions happening in Beaumont (Yr 9) and Nicholas Breakspear (Yr 10)

Pray for Haven Hope course starting with 12 Year 7 students at SJL after Easter and for the students who are just finishing the course at St Columba's College to grow from the excellent conversations and also attend Haven Hope Local.

Mentoring

Pray for Step to develop its mentoring work. Pray for those who are already mentoring to be wise and able to share Jesus. It would also be great to have a larger team working in a wider selection of schools.

Leadership Foundations

Please pray for the courses currently running in Verulam, Roundwood, Townsend and St Columba's and the upcoming one at Loreto. Pray also for wisdom as we rethink the course and seek to improve it even more. Pray God will show us what to keep, what to change and what to add.

Leadership Conference

Give thanks for the conference in February that was a huge success and impacted many students. Give thanks for the speakers who generously gave their time on the day to share their wisdom.

Tough Stuff

Please pray as we redevelop our Tough Stuff course, which helps those who have experienced loss through bereavement or parental separation.

Faith in Action

Pray for our Verso Care collection at Sandringham and thank God for the generosity of those at St Albans School in a recent collection. Please pray as we develop new ways for young people to be involved in other projects.

Please join us at our End of Year Celebration on Thursday 16th July at Verso Vineyard (7.30pm). The next Pudding and Prayer Evening will be in Harpenden (Date TBC)