

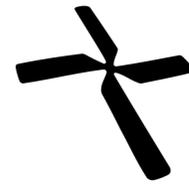
# December



## Please pray for

- ▶ Families facing challenges with their finances in the run up to Christmas, particularly regarding benefit changes which are out of their control.
- ▶ The Romsey Mill charity shop volunteers, as a number of them have been poorly recently and this puts extra strain on other members of the team. Pray for good health for all our volunteers and praise God that we have such a willing and flexible team who support each other.
- ▶ Our partnership with Shelford, Stapleford Youth Initiative (SSYI) and the two new youth groups that we run on Thursday. Please pray that we can create an environment where young people respect and enjoy each other's company; where they can be sensitive and open with one another in sharing their experiences and discussing some challenging topics.
- ▶ Funding applications that have been submitted to enhance our work with young people and for our Aspire programme, working with children with autistic spectrum conditions.
- ▶ Various trips that we have organised with our young people, children and families, around Christmas, including a trip to take a group of young people to a church service, followed by a Christmas meal.
- ▶ The whole Youth Development Team. Pray for protection in relationships and that there would be a sense of togetherness, innovation, excitement and vibrancy amongst the group as well as a passion for Jesus and an equipping by the Holy Spirit.
- ▶ Our Children's Centre staff and families as they face change and uncertainty in the wake of the withdrawal of County Council funding.

# January



## Please pray for

- ▶ The young fathers boxing group will be well attended and that the young men will learn new skills as well as self-control and discipline, as our Young Fathers Worker engages with them.
- ▶ Pray for wisdom and discernment as we use capital funding to improve the building and refurbish areas that are 'tired' (and of course praise God for the funding we've received).
- ▶ The Aspire team as they recruit, support and train volunteers to help in our autism-friendly groups, creating more places for young people.
- ▶ Those families on our growing waiting lists for Aspire groups, as they survive life with their autistic child or young person and face the daily challenges that this can bring.
- ▶ The new team members at Romsey Mill, that they will quickly feel a part of the team and be able to positively contribute to the work.
- ▶ Pray for wisdom and connections; we are particularly wanting to grow partnership with local churches in order that young people become rooted and established in a supportive community.
- ▶ Pray for funding for our record label and social enterprise. We need around £15,000 to get things properly off the ground and mean we can operate our studios commercially – in order to draw in revenue for our youth work – as well as enabling our young people to access professional equipment and release their own music.
- ▶ Volunteers to come forward and help across our Youth Development activities.

# February



## Please pray for

- ▶ Our local families during the changes within the Children's Centre service, that families will continue to feel valued and supported through the provision provided, during and after the closure of Romsey Mill and Cherry Hinton Children's Centres which we have run over the last 10 years.
- ▶ The Aspire team, who are working to find ways to address some of the local need of families with an autistic child, in a climate where support and resources are scarce.
- ▶ Our Pre-school children's social and emotional development, that they will feel comfortable and secure in both of our settings and will be kind friends as they play and explore.
- ▶ Pray for the new youth work starting in Peterborough. As well as practical matters including venue space, please pray that we quickly connect with the young people in the most need and those 'people of peace' who can influence those around them.
- ▶ Pray for a sense of God's presence and peace in all the venues we work in (Romsey Mill, The Meadows, Cambourne Soul, Sawston Free Church, Shelford Social Club, Cherry Hinton Community Centre etc.) and that young people would experience this.
- ▶ Funding to enable the Young Parents Programme to continue to offer bespoke one-to-one, outreach and group support to young parents in Cambridge City and South Cambs.
- ▶ Our Trustees as they share their time, gifts and experience to help Romsey Mill in its work.

## Praise God for...

- ▶ Rachel Briant, who is leaving Romsey Mill in December, and the fabulous work she has done leading the Young Parents Programme. May God continue to bless her in her future endeavours.
- ▶ An excellent session for many of the families who are on our Aspire waiting list, and the positive response from young people and parents who met with others in their situation. It was great to be able to provide some support despite not being able to provide places for them in our groups at present.
- ▶ Our Pre-school families and the supportive relationships we are building with them and for the children, who have settled in well this term.
- ▶ The many people who help us keep the building in good repair – both paid and unpaid. We have volunteers who help keep the outside of the building tidy and looking pretty and we have various tradesmen who give us reduced rates. Maintaining a building the size of Romsey Mill Centre is a significant task and we are so grateful to all those who help us keep on top of all the maintenance.
- ▶ The growing self confidence experienced by young mothers taking part in the SHINE course run by the Young Parents Programme.
- ▶ Our wonderful charity shop, which helps to raise funds but also provides a resource to the local community. Praise God for the generosity of all the people who donate goods to the shop.
- ▶ Such a good attendance and engagement of families attending our Children's Centre 'Building Resilience' course, which helps parents and children learn strategies to help them cope positively with life's challenges.

## Praise God for...

- ▶ Such a positive start to the new Babies and Buddies (mum and baby) group. It's been brilliant to see new and existing families come along and engage with the session activities on a weekly basis. We are also being supported by some new volunteers.
- ▶ New young people who have joined our Aspire groups this term and are settling in well.
- ▶ The opportunity to run a memory quilt making sewing course, which has re-engaged 10 families with the Children's Centre, giving opportunity to share, support and make a memorable quilt from their children's clothes.
- ▶ Improved contact between our Aspire youth workers and Special Needs Co-ordinators in local schools.
- ▶ The growth in confidence and friendships that we have witnessed with the 17-19 year olds who attend our Aspire Plus groups.
- ▶ Our office volunteers who come in weekly to help with admin and projects, for their willingness to give their time and expertise; and for all the volunteers (100+) that help us on a regular basis.
- ▶ Our Pre-school team who work hard each day in both settings. We pray for grace in our conversations and in our listening to each other.
- ▶ All those who support Romsey Mill in any way. We are especially thankful for our being selected by the Co-op for their community fund which has raised over £8000 in just 6 months, to help with refurbishing our Sports Hall.

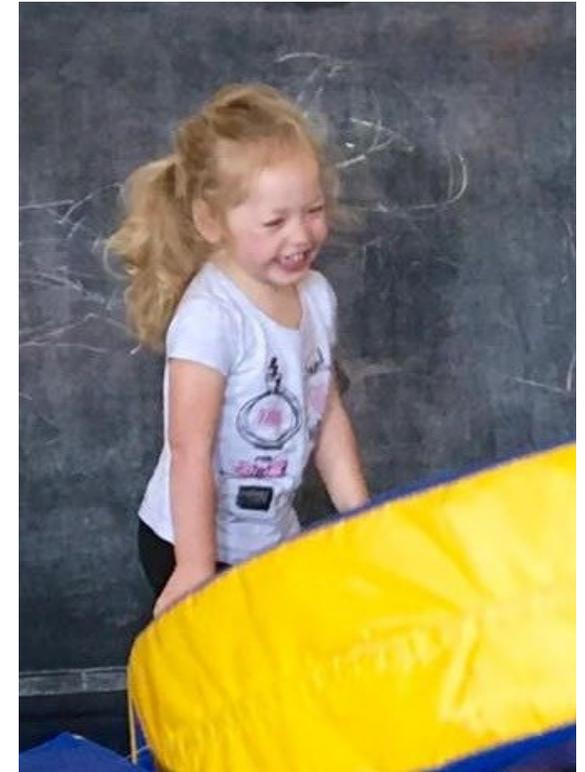
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Dec 2017–Feb 2018

ROMSEY MILL



## Prayer Diary



“Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works.”

Hebrews 10 v 24

**The Bible**