

# World Day of Prayer (England, Wales & Northern Ireland)

## Basic Information

<b>Contact name and email address</b>	The Revd Dr Ana Gobledale <a href="mailto:RevsGobledale@hotmail.com">RevsGobledale@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Action required</b>	For report

## Summary of Impact

<b>Financial</b>	
<b>External (e.g. ecumenical)</b>	This ecumenical event has a long history, and we are glad to be actively involved.



## World Day of Prayer

*Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action*  
(WDP motto) [#PRAYWITHOUTCEASINGWDP](https://www.facebook.com/PrayWithoutCeasingWDP)

- For almost 100 years on the first Friday of March, Christians from more than 170 countries unite to pray at local ecumenical World Day of Prayer services. Each year a different member country creates a worship booklet, used globally, focusing on issues in their own culture and society. Last year, 95,551 services were held, connecting more than 1.5 million worshippers. Source countries are as follows:

2019 – Slovenia

2020 – Zimbabwe: a call to act in love for peace and reconciliation

2021 – Vanuatu: focusing on everyday struggles with production of food, care for the environment and the education of children (artwork by Juliette Pita depicts Cyclone Pam)

2022 – England, Wales & North Ireland: ‘I Know the Plans I Have For You’ – supporting charities, including Girls’ Brigade



- Those gathering at the annual service are enriched through this international, ecumenical expression. Through our participation in the World Day of Prayer, we affirm that prayer and action are inseparable, and that both have immeasurable influence on the world.
- Using the resources throughout the year**  
The WDP service can be easily modified for use in a local Sunday worship service. It tends to be interactive with numerous visual elements, so works well for intergenerational worship. It can be used as a whole or in part, any time of year. A Junior Church or Adult Study Group might easily incorporate the resources into an extended study of another member of the world church. Free resources from

the 2020 Zimbabwe service, including Children's Activity Sheets, craft ideas, dramas, Bible Studies and worship components, can be found here:  
[www.wwdp.org.uk/2020-free-resources-to-download](http://www.wwdp.org.uk/2020-free-resources-to-download).

#### 4. **Global outreach & connections**

Throughout the year, World Day of Prayer (England, Wales & North Ireland), through the National Committee, connects with partner World Day of Prayer groups from around the world from Palestine to Pakistan, from the UK to Uganda. During Covid-19, the firsthand accounts shared from other countries have been insightful and fascinating. Offerings collected at the annual services are distributed to numerous charities, near and far.



#### 5. **URC Membership**

The United Reformed Church participates, through our denominational representative, on the National Committee of the World Day of Prayer in England, Wales & Northern Ireland.

#### 6. **Helpful links**

- Current and relevant prayer, hymn and worship resources from WDP England, Wales & Northern Ireland  
[www.wwdp.org.uk/prayer-focus](http://www.wwdp.org.uk/prayer-focus)
- Resources for 2021 Vanuatu service  
[worlddayofprayer.net/vanuatu-2021](http://worlddayofprayer.net/vanuatu-2021)
- World Day of Prayer England, Wales & Northern Ireland  
[www.wwdp.org.uk](http://www.wwdp.org.uk)
- Worship & action opportunities throughout the year  
[worlddayofprayer.net/index](http://worlddayofprayer.net/index)