24-7 prayer
praying for your community

AIM
Here are some ideas for those wanting to pray for their local community during the 24-7 prayer event.

INTRODUCTION
There are many different ways in which we can pray for our local community. Those suggested here are just a starting point. Please add to and alter them according to your situation.

STRUCTURE
• Cut out some good and bad news stories about your area from the local newspaper
• Write a list of the buildings around your church – or draw a diagram of your building and your neighbours – and put it on a large sheet of paper in the place where you’ll be praying
• Visit the neighbours around your church, or the other people who use your building, and ask them for any prayer requests they may have
• Ask if anyone in the congregation with local links in education, health, social services or other ways of helping people can suggest live issues your church could pray about
• Invite those in your church to name one worry they have about their community and one hope they have for its future
• Collect these on different coloured post-it notes and display them during your 24-7 prayer time so people can pray for these concerns

Prayer
You may want to conclude your time of prayer with the Vision4Life prayer:

A Vision4Life prayer
Life-giving God, creator of all, you spoke the world into being and saw that it was good. Help us to see the world through your eyes – messy yet full of potential, incomplete yet perfect in parts. When our view is distorted may we refocus it through your lens of love.
Generous God, give us vision for life.

Jesus Christ, saviour of all, you live alongside us and show us life in all its fullness.
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Help us to look with you for hidden possibilities – tiny mustard seeds of new growth, grains of yeast that activate change. As we identify signs of hope give us your energy to keep searching for more.

Generous God,
give us vision for life.

God, the Holy Spirit, new life of all, you blow away our excuses and overcome our defensiveness. Help us to keep in tune with your promptings – glimpses of what could be, hints of new outcomes we didn’t expect.

Generous God,
give us vision for life.

EVALUATION

Please try to answer these questions for yourself and for others who will use this material:

1. What was the most helpful thing?
2. What was the least helpful thing?
3. What would you like to try now?

THE NEXT STEP

There are more resources related to the 24-7 prayer event on the website as well as links to help you find more.

Acknowledgements

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HOW TO FEEDBACK TO VISION4LIFE?

If you wish to offer any feedback – brickbats and bouquets are equally welcome! – you can do so in various ways.

You can email the Vision4Life steering group about general or website V4L issues via the website or at admin@vision4life.org.uk

If you have comments and particularly contributions to the prayer year, you can email the V4L prayer year coordinator via prayer@vision4life.org.uk

If you want to make contributions or ask questions about other V4L years you can email:

Year 3 – Transformed for Evangelism: evangelism@vision4life.org.uk