

**THE HOPE TRUST OXFORD PRAYER UPDATE – MARCH 2026**

As the weather improves and the sun returns, we thank the LORD for His faithfulness: for how he sustains life and provides everything in its time, giving new growth and buds, and then fruit in its proper season.

Like the natural world, we wait upon the LORD for his provision and his unfolding plans. Our CAP staff remain very busy, and we hear that the Oxford Safe Families' work is growing too. But as a trust, we are aware that our resources are diminishing, though the needs of those in our city seem only to grow.

We are very grateful for you reading this update and praying for the trust. We are also so grateful for everyone who came to our wonderful prayer supper this month! Yet there are only 20 individuals or couples from our Oxford congregations who support this work financially: this will not be enough to support it into next year without the LORD's intervention. In light of this, we humbly ask for you to pray for the following:

- Please pray that the LORD raises up new givers throughout the St Ebbe's network of churches this year who have a passion for serving the vulnerable and poor in our communities in the name of Jesus.
- Please pray for our trustees and administrator as we seek to engage with more individuals at our churches in the next few months. Please pray for the Lord's clarity, unity, and energy as we do this.
- Please pray that we would use the resources the LORD gives us wisely, to benefit the needy and to glorify His name!



If you'd like to consider giving to the work, [please follow this link](#) to our giving page.

*Georgina Bartlett, Chair of Trustees, The Hope Trust Oxford*

## ***Christians Against Poverty (CAP)***

We have continued to be busy at the CAP St Ebbe's Debt Centre. We have had four debt clients go debt free since January. It is wonderful to see the weight of debt lifted, and the hope of a fresh start for these clients. We have recently had several folk from the church volunteer to come on client visits with us as befrienders. We have been much in prayer for this, so we praise God for his provision.

We have completed our latest CAP Money Coaching course with a group meeting weekly at St Ebbe's. We had a large number of people join the group, and whilst not every member was able to come to every session, we ended strong, with a good group who made it to the end! We thank God for each person who came along, and pray that they will have got at least a glimpse of the love of God through being part of the group, as well as some helpful money management skills.

Our weekly CAP Cafe continues to be a valuable source of community and friendship for a core group of regulars, and we have seen several new people come along in recent weeks. This past week, a few members shared about their faith in God and how much it meant to them, which was a wonderful witness to those who don't yet know Jesus.

*Please Pray:*

-For the new volunteers as they start to come along on client visits. That they would be an encouragement to clients, and that clients would see the love and care God has for them through the prayers and support of the volunteers.

-For Jonny and me as we meet with representatives from the NHS and other charities to discuss how we can best support those they work with to benefit from the Life Skills and Money Coaching courses we offer.

-For several clients in deficit budgets, where their income is not enough to cover their basic living costs - that they would find ways to increase their income so that once the debt solution is in place, they can stay debt free for the long-term.



*Kirsten Beavan, Debt Centre Manager*



## Safe Families

It's a busy year for Safe Families as referrals swell and conversations continue with the council. Please pray for the following:

- Thank the LORD for growing warmth in the relationship between Safe Families and the City Council;
- Please pray that these conversations would continue to develop so that the programme in Oxford could have sustainable funding in the future;
- Please pray for the 20 families (representing 28 children) who have been referred to the programme, that they would be connected with wonderful volunteers and church communities who can support them in crisis;



- Please pray that there would be more volunteers from across Oxford, and particularly from the St Ebbe's network of churches, who can be trained to get alongside families in need.

*Andy Turnbull*

*Minister, City Congregation Leader & Community Engagement*