



# Birmingham Churches Together

## Playing your part in the Commonwealth Games

May 2022

### 336 hours of unbroken prayer

The Burn 24/7 UK network will partner with churches in the Midlands to host two weeks (336 hours) of non-stop worship and prayer through the Commonwealth Games. The prayer begins at 5.00pm on Monday 25 July and continues round the clock until 5.00pm on Monday 8 August. Elim Life Church North Birmingham have offered their building in Pheasey as the venue, which is located just 10 minutes from the Alexander Stadium.

Each hour will be led by a different person, group or congregation. Over the two weeks, the aim is to include as many different styles and traditions of worship and prayer as possible, representing the rich diversity in the Body of Christ. It is also hoped that a variety of Commonwealth nations will be represented during the fortnight.

The event is a perfect environment for those who do not normally lead worship or prayer, as well as more experienced worship leaders. The person or group leading each hour is free to lead in whatever way they prefer, using music or spoken word, liturgy or extempore prayer. The more variety the better!

There are many opportunities to serve and be involved. In addition to worship leaders, everyone is invited to join in sessions led by others, to help with hospitality, or providing accommodation. For more information, or to sign up, e-mail: [commonwealth@theburn247.com](mailto:commonwealth@theburn247.com).

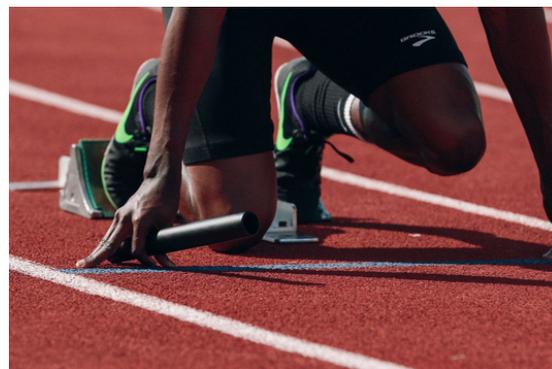


Photo by Braden Collum on Unsplash

## It's A Penalty

The West Midlands Violence Reduction Unit and Faith Alliance are partnering with the West Midlands Anti-Slavery Network (link [here](#)) and campaign charity It's a Penalty (link: [here](#)) to help run an anti-trafficking/modern slavery campaign before and during the Commonwealth Games.

Sadly, the risk of trafficking and modern slavery increases during large international sporting events. Faith communities in the West Midlands are invited to support the campaign.

For more information, contact Fred Kratt at: [fred.kratt@westmidlands.police.uk](mailto:fred.kratt@westmidlands.police.uk)



To keep updated, please visit: [www.birminghamchurches.org.uk/commonwealthgames/](http://www.birminghamchurches.org.uk/commonwealthgames/)



## Blessing the Commonwealth

From 2.30pm to 5.00pm on Saturday 16 July, an afternoon of celebration to welcome and bless the nations and territories of the Commonwealth to Birmingham will take place at Gas Street Church, 41 Gas Street, B1 2JT, with worship led by Tim Hughes and Gas Street Music, and speakers from various Commonwealth Nations.

This is free event, but registration is essential due to limited capacity.

Click [HERE](#) for free tickets.

## Healing on the Streets

Healing on the Streets, in partnership with St Martin in the Bullring, will run two training days for people who would like a refresher, or those engaging for the first time, in order to prepare for a number of teams to offer prayer during the Commonwealth Games.

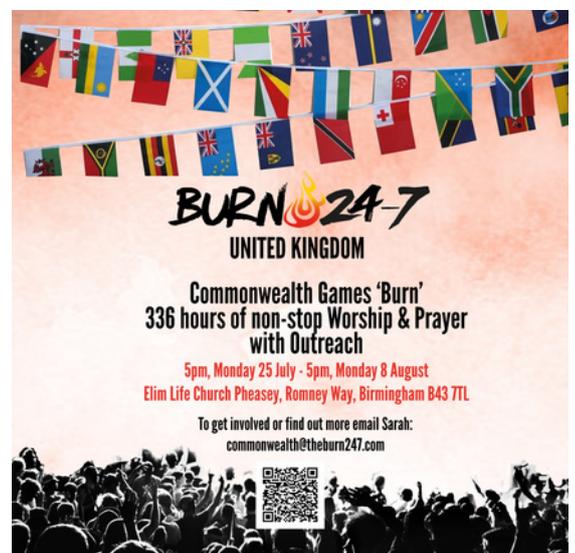
The training sessions will take place at St Martin in the Bullring on Saturdays 25 June and 23 July, on each occasion from 9.00am to 4.00pm. To sign up, click [HERE](#).

GOOD NEWS for Everyone! (formerly Gideons) will be working alongside us and there is also a HOTS team coming over from Coleraine for the first weekend.

# HEALING ON THE STREETS

## 120 Chaplains at the ready!

With the help of Steve Bavington (Chaplaincy Plus), Revd John Butcher (Lead Chaplain, West Midlands Police), Bishop David Carr (Order of St Leonard) and others, 120 chaplains from a wide range of Midlands Christian churches and agencies have been trained and vetted in order to be available to athletes, volunteers and visitors as required.



To keep updated, please visit:  
[www.birminghamchurches.org.uk/commonwealthgames/](http://www.birminghamchurches.org.uk/commonwealthgames/)