

Prayer This Week

Our focus this week is: **Our City and Our Nation**

A. God, I pray this week for Calgary:

1. Civic Leaders:

_____.

2. Churches:

_____.

3. Issues & Events:

_____.

B. God, our nation needs your intervention. I pray today for:

1. _____.

2. _____.

3. _____.

C. The Cry of my heart this morning for our city and our nation is:

_____.

D. Praying for one another:

Healing & Strength: Bernie Smith, Rachel Dunkerley-Underwood,
Sylvia Gibson

***For confidential or urgent prayer requests, call Jessica (prayer chain)
to the office 403-263-5911***

Nation we are in prayer for this week

New Zealand – Pacific



Religion		Pop %	Ann Gr
Christians	2,289,439	53.20	-0.8
Evangelicals	784,015	18.2	0.5

Geography

Area: 264,515 sq km

Two mountainous main islands 1,600 km southeast of Australia.

Population 4,303,457 **Annual Growth:** 0.92%

Capital: Wellington

Challenges for Prayer

Kiwi society is increasingly post-Christian and secular. Other religions are far less a threat to the Church than basic unbelief. The last 20 years have seen significant proportional decline among Anglicans, Presbyterians, Methodists and, to a lesser extent, Catholics. Those claiming to be non-religious increased from 1.1% in 1951 to 40.9% in 2010; at current rates of change, Christianity will cease to be the majority religion before 2020. Church attendance is also in decline. About 14% attend weekly; 40% of Kiwis attended church in the past but no longer do so. Pray for:

a) A further outpouring of the Spirit to renew those in churches and to draw in again those who have left. 24/7 prayer rooms and other prayer groups are multiplying throughout the country, indicating that God is indeed stirring the Church.

b) Effective training and discipleship tools that enable all Christians, ministers and laity to connect meaningfully with the unchurched. New bridges to non-believers need to be built.

c) New expressions of church that are dynamic, relational, relevant and culturally appropriate to both the Pakeha (Caucasian) majority and the many minorities.

d) Wisdom for the Church as it comes under increasing pressure from the government to cooperate with other religions.

Christian division is a threat. There are tensions in many denominations over a variety of issues, and cooperation among denominations has declined. Some tension exists among Pentecostal churches. The activity of some churches in politics is criticized by others. New Zealand Christian Network (formerly Vision Network) is a national body linking denominations and agencies that represent the majority of New Zealand's Christians. Pray God's wisdom for this group in what is a vital ministry for the health of the Church and its testimony to non-believers.