

Prayer Letter July 2026



Theological Training in Africa for Africa

1st Exams are now over. Pray for capacity, focus, and discernment for faculty as they mark papers, that they might provide an accurate assessment of each student's understanding.

2nd Students are on a mid-year break until term 3 begins on 14 July. Pray for restful and rejuvenating holidays for students, along with safe travels for those who are going home to see family and friends.

3rd GWC past student Christiaan Snell (Minister in charge of the Edgeworthstown Group and Ardagh Union of Parishes) is bringing a team from The Church of Ireland to Cape Town from the 5th to 12th July for a week of mission. Pray for the team as they prepare to travel and for their ministry in St Thomas Church Heideveld.

4th Praise the Lord that, after a demanding season of preparation and transition, the new Explore operational model was successfully launched on 1 June. Pray for Dr Mawonga Celesi and the Explore team as they lead this new phase, particularly with the goal of growing the ministry in the Southern Region.

5th Dr David Turnbull has come to GWC from Adelaide to teach the 'Distance and Online Education' Elective of the PGDip (HTE). Pray that his teaching would be extremely beneficial to students, and that he and his family would be blessed by their time here.

6th The Registry department is beginning to process study applications that have been coming in. Pray that the Lord would raise up the right students to join the College in 2027.

7th Pray that those faculty who are using the July period for concentrated research and writing would be productive and that their studies would serve to strengthen their teaching.

8th GWC past student Tumelo Matsitse gives thanks for being made Deacon in May at Trinity Church Morningside. He requests prayer as he grows into his role, while relying on the Lord, as he continues to serve as Junior Minister at Trinity.

9th The TALHITE Phase 3 that was scheduled to take place in Angola in July has been put on hold due to the Ebola outbreak. Dr Caroline Seed is trying to arrange an alternative time and potentially alternate venue, likely in 2027. Please pray for these plans to go ahead so that this training can still take place.

10th GWC past student Sbonelo Ngcobo gives thanks for his ordination as Presbyter on 7th June. Please pray for Sbonelo as he continues to lead uBabalo neThemba Church (Masiphumelele, Cape Town), that Christ may be glorified in his life and ministry.

11th Pray for students who have had to travel home to regions where there is a risk of Ebola (such as Uganda), and in particular for health and safety for these students as they return to campus and to class.

12th As second semester lectures start tomorrow, pray for students as they are introduced to different subjects. Pray for faculty as they teach and engage on the Doctrine of Revelation, Ethics, and Religions & Worldviews among other things, that they might impart wisdom faithfully and that their classes would be stimulating and edifying for everyone attending.

13th Give thanks for Dr Mawonga Celesi's safe travels to the Eastern Cape to visit Explore partners and facilitators. Pray for fruit from the meetings and the growth of the programme in the region.

14th The men and women of GWC meet every term respectively for a joint fellowship session. Pray for the women's "all-in" meeting on 15 July, which will be led by Dean of Women Diane Lovell who has returned after being on home assignment in Australia for the first semester. Pray that female students and staff members would feel at home at College and that this time would serve to strengthen bonds of friendship and fellowship.

15th Dr Richard Seed is presenting at the IAMS (International Association for Mission Studies) conference taking place 17-21 July in Pretoria. Please pray for him as he prepares and for travelling mercies.

16th Pray for Reach-SA as they reflect on and work through the

outcomes of their Leaders' Retreat and National Executive and Central Trustees meeting, and for their upcoming Synod in September.

17th The GWC event taking place at the Lanier Theological Library (US) in September, is a significant opportunity to grow awareness for the College and build fundraising partnerships. Pray that those guests who have been invited will register their attendance, so that the event can go ahead successfully.

18th There is a GWC Sunday taking place at St. James Church, Kenilworth, Cape Town on 19 July. Pray that it will be a good opportunity to share College news with the congregation.

19th GWC past student Romola Alfino is studying Counselling with Biblical Counselling Africa while serving at Hope Central Pinelands. She is passionate about sharing biblical hope with those who feel unseen or misunderstood and requests prayer for direction and opportunities as she completes her studies.

20th Continue to pray for the Principal's succession process, which is underway and which will continue into 2027. Pray for the Lord to provide the candidate that he has in mind to take the College forward, and for wisdom for those who are serving on the selection committee.

21st The College has many collaborating partners in Africa and overseas who send students. Pray that as we recruit students for 2027 we will deepen these relationships.

22nd The leaders of Explore's regional hubs and partner countries are working through how the programme will operate within their local contexts under the new arrangements. Ask God to give them wisdom, unity, and clarity as they organise for sustainable growth.

23rd Planning is underway for the GWC Women's Retreat, taking place in August. Pray for faculty member Dr Liz Mburu who is speaking on "Walking in Love" from 1-3 John. Pray that the Lord would give her insight and wisdom on the message she is preparing.

24th GWC past student Joseph Okulo has planted a new church in May, The Message Fellowship Baptist Church in Bungoma (Kenya), which is meeting at his house. Pray for the leadership and founding members to be unified, encouraged and bold in sharing Christ.

25th Our Honours students are currently planning their Honours dissertation, which means regularly connecting and working with their supervisors. Pray that this time spent together will be fruitful.

26th Give thanks for the many donations that the College receives on a regular basis, that sustain its operations. Pray for continued provision so that more Christian men and women can be trained and equipped for faithful gospel ministry.

27th As "mid-year fatigue" can set in, pray for stamina and energy for the whole staff team, and for good health and protection from winter illnesses.

28th Pray for Explore's finances during this period of transition, which has placed significant pressure on available resources. Ask the Lord to provide through faithful donors and partners so that the work of equipping churches across Southern Africa and the continent may continue to flourish.

29th Pray that God would keep us faithful to him and to his unchanging, eternal Word.

30th GWC's online short course in Biblical Theology is currently being advertised. Pray for a good response to this course which teaches individuals how to bridge the gap between the Bible's original meaning and its relevance for today.

31st Give thanks for God's sustaining grace and ask for strength and wisdom for the remainder of the academic year.