

Newsletter Update

Friday 27th December 2013



Neighbourhood
PRAYER.NET

Stats

2,072 Streets being prayed for [See Map](#)
209,272 Houses on those streets (101 per street)
497,280 People living there (240 per street)

****Click here to see our research sources.**



Dear Carl,

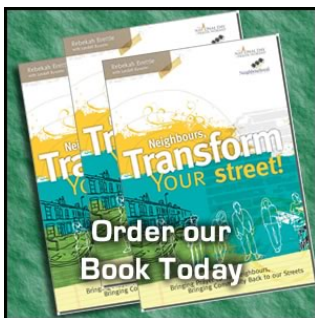
We hope that you are enjoying the Christmas period. In this newsletter we share highlights from the past year and there are some special prayers for Christmas again this week, focussing on Medical staff looking after unwell children.

For those Struggling this Christmas

For those who are having a difficult time this Christmas, we want you to know that you are not alone. UCB runs a prayerline (limited hours over Christmas), the number is 0845 456 7729, if you want to get prayer. I myself know what it is like to face Christmas without family, with the loss of a loved one, or visiting a relative in a hospital or a nursing home. I am particularly praying for all of you who are struggling over Christmas. My prayer is that You will feel closer to God than ever !



Testimonies



Our Mulled Wine and Minced Pie party (with lamb sandwiches) was a great evening, ten people came and we had a great time together. We have identified two people who will be lonely this Christmas and so they will be joining us for lunch over the Christmas period. We also gave out the Father's love letter to those attending, with a small gift. I have to admit to being nervous about this... isn't it easier to give this out to people you don't know at all? The youngest attending was 17, the oldest 84. It was exhausting, but great fun!

Another testimony from Bolton

Round Up of the Our House group had a Pizza and Pudding Party last Thursday to which we invited many neighbours and friends. We had 19 all together, including 6 visitors. It was a good time and, though I had prepared a few activites (carols, quizzes, monologues), we needed none of it because everybody was busy chatting with folk

Tom and Ruth, Horwich, Bolton.



Highlights from The Year



Looking back over the year, I am surprised how much has happened and all of it has been down to people like me and you praying for your neighbours.

Father's Love Letter: 102,000 Father's Love Letters were ordered over the Lent period to be delivered to people's neighbours. We have heard multiple testimonies of people coming to faith as a result and people returning to church after many years of being away!

Testimonies of people coming to Faith in Jesus



Someone in Scotland ran a "Street Alpha Course" and saw three of their immediate neighbours start attending church.

Others have given testimony of how in their difficult times, this has opened up opportunities to share their faith with neighbours.

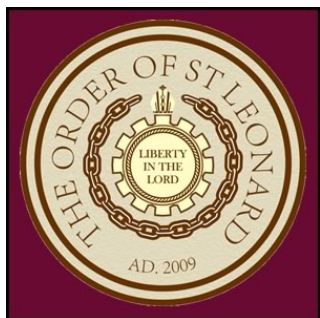
There has recently been a steady increase in people reporting that one and twos on their streets are starting to come to church or becoming interested in the Christian faith. This is truly wonderful and is happening because people are praying!



Testimonies of Healing

This year we have heard testimonies of a man who was found on the floor, having had a stroke, getting timely medical attention because someone had heard from God that their neighbour was on the floor.

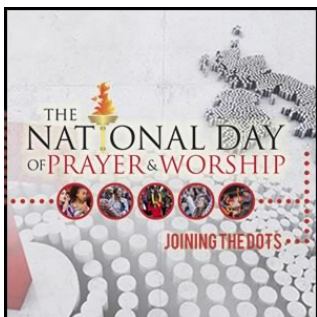
We have heard stories of people's cancer improving after prayer and other illness' being healed!



Testimonies of churches Working together in Unity

A major highlight was attending the "Saints in the Stadium" Prayer event in Saint Helens where 2000 people gathered to pray, October 12th.

We have heard how 28 churches in Folkestone have been working together to give out Father's Love Letters and Pray for their neighbours.



Loving Telford, Pray for Rugby and many other groups are working together in unity to pray for their communities and we will be sharing more developments of this in the coming year.

There is a sense of synergy as we have formed partnerships with other organisations, as we are all one small piece of the wider jigsaw of what God is doing.

And Personally



And personally, this year has been the best ever, as I have given birth to Reuben, our much prayed for and long awaited first child! It is by God's grace that I have been able to do anything at all towards the vision of Neighbourhood Prayer Network as I was so unwell during the pregnancy. Reuben is such a blessing to us and to so many others!

In the New Year

In the New Year we will publish more of the testimonies we have received on our website and we will publish past newsletters as well for those who have missed some. We are also being joined by our first member of paid staff...more of this in the New Year.

A Big Thank You to all of You

For praying, for doing kind things for your neighbours when no one is looking... it all matters and it is making a difference. For those of you who have yet to see any change on your street...keep praying. Some of my close friends are only just seeing the fruits of their prayers after many faithful years of praying and there seeming to be no change happening. Now they have marvellous testimonies of what God was doing all along !

Neighbour Friday

PRAYER

Special Prayers this Christmas

For the nurses, doctors and support workers, looking after unwell children and young adults, or those with chronic conditions, in hospital, residential care or at home this Christmas. Please give them strength and support as they look after children and families this Christmas. Help them to find time to enjoy Christmas with their own families as well. Give them wisdom and encouragement as they provide care. Let compassion flow from them and refreshment and strength come from Your Holy Spirit. Amen

HOPE prayers

FRIDAY 27TH DEC LUKE 2:21
JESUS

Sometimes we get so caught up with the busyness of the season that we forget that Jesus is the reason! He is the answer to the yearning of every human heart. Give thanks for His love, and for all He has given you. Pray today for a renewed desire to follow wherever He leads you.

Neighbourhood Prayer Network is joining many ministries and denominations to pray with HOPE 2014 between 18th October to 31st January. These prayers are taken from the HOPE prayer

guide. You can download the whole guide from www.neighbourhoodprayer.net/pray. The whole of this weeks prayers are at the bottom of this newsletter. To obtain a free copy from UCB, [click here](#) or order more at the same address.

CARE

Can you offer to take some of your neighbours' wrapping paper, boxes and anything that could be recycled to be recycled?

AND/OR:

Is there someone who is facing spending Christmas on their own this year? Could you consider inviting them into your home at Christmas?

SHARE

Start praying as New Year approaches, asking God who He wants you to concentrate your prayers on this coming year.

Every Blessing



Rebekah Brettle

P.S. Don't forget to click on the block advert links to some of our great partners (on the left).

Hope Filled Vision Source Evangelical Alliance

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SATURDAY 28TH DEC LUKE 2:25
HOLY SPIRIT

Simeon depended on the Holy Spirit's leading to be in



*in our villages,
towns and cities*

the right place at the right time. Father, thank you for Your Spirit. May we welcome His presence afresh into our lives and communities. Teach us to wait on You for Your guidance and timing, so that we can be where You want us today.

SUNDAY 29TH DEC ISA 61:1-2

THE POOR

Lord Jesus, thank you that You cared for, lived with, and ministered to the poor. We ask that You will enable us, Your Church, to follow You, so that those who are poor may encounter You in us. Help us as Your Church to rise up with practical compassion and boldness, to share Your good news.

MONDAY 30TH DEC LUKE 4:18

RECOVERY OF SIGHT

Jesus healed those who were physically blind and those who were spiritually blind. Gracious God, give us confidence to trust in Your power. May Your Church recover the gift of praying for healing - spiritual, emotional and physical - so that many find healing in Jesus' name. Bless the many prayer healing ministries working across our nation.

TUESDAY 31ST DEC ACTS 4:31

NEW YEAR'S EVE

The dream of HOPE 2014 is to see our nation changed by the love of God. Thank God for the many HOPE prayer events this New Year. Pray that God's Spirit will inspire every believer and every church to be committed to looking outwards, meeting the needs of their communities.

WEDNESDAY 1ST JAN LUKE 4:19

YEAR OF GOD'S FAVOUR

Jesus proclaimed God's favour. It is the message of hope which the nation needs to see and hear. Lord, we pray that Your Church will be a community of boldness, proclaiming and living a message of hope and transformation. Help us make the most of every opportunity in this HOPE 2014 year of mission.

THURSDAY 2ND JAN LUKE 2:46

HOPE FOR PARENTS

Being a parent is not always easy. Father, we pray for parents today. We pray that You will give them great grace, love and limitless patience in bringing up their children. We ask that Your love will build strong relationships, especially in times of stress. Lord, we pray for hope-filled families.

PRAYER CHALLENGE:

Make time to follow the news this week to find out what national issues need

praying for.

[Forward this email](#)



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