

# Newsletter Update

Friday 1st November 2013

## Stats

1,869 Streets being prayed for [See Map](#)  
 188,769 Houses on those streets (101 per street)  
 448,560 People living there (240 per street)

**\*\*[Click here to see our research sources.](#)**



## Dear Carl,

This week, we bring you excerpts from an extremely inspiring speech from the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, at the launch of HOPE 2014. Neighbourhood Prayer Network is committed to supporting HOPE and we will continue to encourage people to pray for, care for and share faith with neighbours, during 2014 and beyond.

We also bring you a testimony from Nottingham about how on one street, neighbours have begun attending church after years of prayer and sharing faith.

Our regular Neighbour Friday is at the bottom of this newsletter, together with this weeks prayer guide for HOPE. We also highlight two national prayer events: "Prayer Storm" and "The Stand" and ask you to consider supporting one of these events.



Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby's Speech @ launch of HOPE 2014

On 24th November at Lambeth Palace, Hope 2014 was launched. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby gave a fantastic speech, encouraging us to imagine what the nation might look like in 2063. He suggested that if the church unites and works together and we all take personal responsibility to share our faith with friends, neighbours and family; our nation would be transformed. He highlighted in his speech, the catalyst that he believed HOPE 2014 would be for united mission, prayer and transformation.



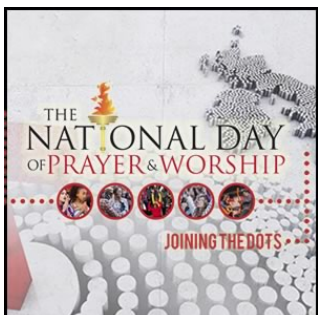
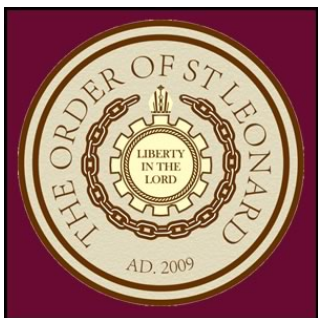
We have permission from the Archbishop of Canterbury's office to use excerpts of his speech in our newsletter.



## Excerpts from the speech

We encourage you to read the full text of his [speech here](#):

*"We look back and are thankful that in the first couple of decades of the 21st century the churches put aside their differences and chose - chose, it didn't just happen, they chose consciously - to pray and work together. ...  
 ...And this happened because the churches gave themselves to unity but to diversity in unity, to difference in unity..."*



*...But I want to highlight three things that I see as key, looking back [from 2063]. The first of them was the Church believed again that it is the role of every member of the Church of Jesus Christ to bear witness to their faith. If it had not been for the responsibility that ordinary members of the Church took with their friends and neighbours in their localities and communities, we would not be where we are now. Something happened all those years ago to give every Christian person confidence in the notion that they individually were to be witnesses to Jesus Christ. Simply to give testimony to who they'd experienced Jesus to be with them. There was a lot of training - events like Hope trained every community, every person, every church. The Bible Society was enormously important. Courses like Alpha and Emmaus, all sorts of things, contributed widely to people's ability to say to others: 'I know Jesus Christ and I want to introduce you to him.'*

*And when people did this they saw the most attractive demonstrations of the transforming love of Jesus Christ turning individuals' lives upside down, or rather the right way up, and making them completely different people. So, every Christian became a witness. Secondly, the Church demonstrated that it had confidence that the best thing that anyone can ever do with their lives is to follow Jesus Christ. Not merely that it's good for them, or good for their marriage, or for their money; but it is the best thing. It is the only way to have a complete life. And this confidence was shown not just in proclamation - in fact it wasn't even primarily in proclamation looking back at it, but through the way we lived our lives. Christians learned afresh to be known as those who forgave each other when things went wrong..."*

### **Testimony: Neighbours start coming to church after years of prayer and sharing faith.**

*In June this year, both my husband and my father died within ten days of each other. My husband had a chronic health problem, but the death was unexpected and sudden and a shock to our neighbours, who used to see him out and about in his wheelchair. Since this happened, I have had the opportunity to speak to so many of my neighbours. One mother, who I'd invited to church many times, suddenly started bringing her children to church with her. I have been able to talk to her about my faith. The family across the road sent me a sympathy card and quite a few others have spoken to me, helped me and said they were praying for me. A few others have come to church events.*

*Over the years my husband and I had prayed for our neighbours and on occasion put invitations to church events through our neighbours' doors, at Easter, at Christmas and at special events, so our neighbours knew we were Christians. We also took part in the "Battle for*



*Britain" campaign that God TV ran a few years ago. My husband and I befriended a man who lived on his own and helped him when he needed help. We used to give him a meal every week and we were able to share the Gospel with this neighbour, before he died recently. It has been easier to invite my neighbours to church and church events because the church has put on a lot of community events. Recently we had a hog roast and the local councillor hearing about it, donated £300 to the event. The church has put on lot of other events such as firework displays.*

*Losing my husband and father so close together has been devastating, but since it happened, so many of my neighbours have spoken to me and been kind to me. I continue to pray for my street, that all will "be saved."*

*M, Nottingham*

### **Upcoming Events**

#### [Prayer Storm](#)

Date: 30th November 2013

Time: 12pm - 7pm (Door open at 11:30am)

Venue: Audacious Church Manchester, Trinity Way, Manchester, M3 7BB

The event is free but registration is required. To register [click here](#)

Click here for the [youtube link](#):

James Aladiran writes:

*"Our Nation is in desperate need of the mercy of God and another great spiritual awakening, which will only come as the body of christ gather together in prayer. We believe the promise of Joel 2:28 is for our Generation. We may have taught a generation to feast and play, but the times demand we fast and pray. When there's no hope for a Nation, when there is no remedy, God has a holy prescription. We must drop every barrier that divides us and unite in urgent, humble fasting and prayer, with the promise that God will pour out His Spirit.*

*Fasting isn't a way of twisting God's arm into doing something he wouldn't otherwise do, fasting actually changes us: it humbles us, awakens and sensitises us to God's heart for our nation. When we pray out of a place of brokenness, it's more effective because we realise our true need for God.*

*Join us on the 30th of November as we gather together to worship God and seek Him for a mighty outpouring of His Spirit. The day will feature short contributions from prayer leaders from across the Nation, Powerful, Spirit-led*

*worship is a key feature of these Gatherings and several worship bands will serve throughout the day".*

[The Stand](#), 30th November 2013, 10am-10pm, Queens Park Baptist Church, Glasgow, G42 8QS

On 30 November, St Andrew's Day, Christians from around Scotland and many church backgrounds will gather in Glasgow for The Stand - a national day of worship and prayer. The Stand is also the launch of a 24/7 Year of Prayer - inviting people both in Scotland, the UK and around the World to pray for Scotland during 2014. Next year, Scotland hosts the Commonwealth Games and there is the 'once in a lifetime' referendum on independence. The Ryder Cup and the 700th anniversary of Bannockburn also take place. You can sign up to pray for Scotland an hour a week or for a shorter period on their website: [www.thestand.org.uk](http://www.thestand.org.uk)

To Book your place on 30 Nov. (free of charge) [Click Here](#). Please book your place now.

Please also visit [www.thestand.org.uk](http://www.thestand.org.uk) and consider taking part in the year of prayer.

## **Neighbour Friday**

### **PRAYER**

FRIDAY 1ST NOV PRAYER PRIORITY NEH 1:4  
Nehemiah had a vision to put things right in his city, but he fasted and prayed before he acted. Prayer allows God to give us His plans. Today, ask God to show you your village, town or city as He sees it, and to give you His heart before you act.

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](http://www.neighbourhoodprayer.net/pray). The whole of this weeks prayers are at the bottom of this newsletter. To obtain a free copy visit [UCB](#), or order more at the same address.

### **CARE**

Could you donate some food to a local [foodbank](#)?

AND/OR:

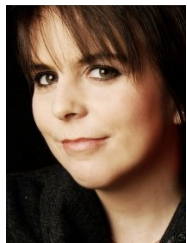
Could you visit, with a friend or church member, a neighbour who lives alone on your street and try to get to know them longer term?

### **SHARE**



Could you and some people from your home group, invite neighbours to your house to pack a shoe box with presents for underprivileged children around the world? [www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk](http://www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk) . The last date for collection is 18th November.

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 THROUGH UNITED MISSION**

SOURCE: HOPE 2014 and [Evangelical Alliance](#)

PRAYER CHALLENGE: Do a prayer walk past every church in your local community this week.



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NEH 1:4

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SATURDAY 2ND NOV COMMUNITY MATT 9:35-38

Jesus saw individuals as part of a community. Let's give thanks today that God has put us in a local community, but also that He's put us in family with other believers within that community. Ask Him to give you a big heart for the family of God where you live.

SUNDAY 3RD NOV ONE BODY EPH 4:4

Father, I ask today for unity among the churches in my area. Bless each church leader, and help leaders and congregations to develop a spirit of love and openness towards one another. Forge strong relationships which are mission-focused, emphasising the hope we have in common. May we act as one Body, united by one Spirit.  
(Source: Bible Society)

MONDAY 4TH NOV TRUTH CARRIERS JOHN 17:15-18

Give thanks to God for Alpha, Christianity Explored and other

resources which enable us to share the good news of Jesus. Pray for fruitfulness for all the mission being planned leading up to Christmas, so that many people will come to know Jesus. Ask God to show you how to be a truth carrier!

TUESDAY 5TH NOV FIRE OF GOD'S LOVE LUKE 24:30-32  
Bonfires will burn tonight to mark Guy Fawkes' 'Gunpowder Plot', which had its roots in Christian conflict. Pray today for the broken Body of Christ: that God will ignite our hearts to burn with His passion for the lost, overcoming our differences for the sake of the Gospel and exploding with His love and light.

WEDNESDAY 6TH NOV ONE SPIRIT ACTS 2:1  
The Spirit brings us together for mission, but maintains our distinctive qualities as congregations, so that we reflect the diversity of God and His Kingdom. Let's pray that we will continually encourage and affirm unity, as well as embracing our diversity. Let's pray that we can celebrate our differences whilst also sharing our strengths.

THURSDAY 7TH NOV HOPE-FILLED ANSWERS 1 PET 3:15  
Are you prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you why you have hope? As we reach out in mission together, putting faith into words and action, we are trusting that God will prompt people to ask 'why'. Ask for God's help as you consider how to explain why Jesus gives you hope.

[Forward this email](#)



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