

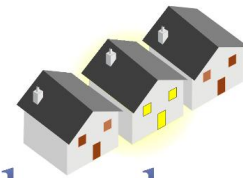
Newsletter Update

Friday 25th October 2013

Stats

1,865 Streets being prayed for [See Map](#)
 188,365 Houses on those streets (101 per street)
 447,600 People living there (240 per street)

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



Neighbourhood
 P R A Y E R . N E T



Dear Carl,

In this week's newsletter we discuss the issue of loneliness as raised in the national media. We also want to highlight a significant national event, "[The Stand](#)" taking place in Scotland. We encourage you, if you can't attend, to join them in prayer and consider signing up to pray for Scotland in their year of 24/7 prayer. The national HOPE prayer guide for this week can also be found at the bottom of this newsletter, following our regular "Neighbour Friday."



An epidemic of Loneliness

Last Friday 18th, Jeremy Hunt sparked a national debate about loneliness in our society, saying;

"According to the Campaign to End Loneliness, there are 800,000 people in England who are chronically lonely. Some five million people say television is their main form of company - that's 10% of the population. We know there is a broader problem of loneliness that in our busy lives we have utterly failed to confront as a society. Each and every lonely person has someone who could visit them and offer companionship. A forgotten million who live amongst us - ignored to our national shame."



This quote appeared in multiple national newspapers and media outlets. Regardless of our own personal political affiliations and thoughts about government policy; the reality of loneliness is a daily misery for many people, of all ages. As a GP, I was confronted with many people on home visits, who were unable to leave their home most of the month, because of severe illness. This was most often elderly people, but younger people were also affected. Sadly because family had moved away, I was the only person they might see for days or in some cases, weeks on end.



Caring for our Neighbours

On our streets, we no doubt all live near someone who is suffering from loneliness or perhaps some of you also feel lonely a lot of the time. We could all make a huge difference across the nation, if we all tried to make time on a Friday, or over the weekend, for one of our neighbours who lives alone. Do not underestimate the impact of a kind word, a card at



christmas, birthdays, during illness. I am personally challenged at the moment, about whether I could sacrifice some time in front of the TV, to make time for a neighbour.

Can I challenge you, this month, with a friend, a relative or someone from church, to try to get to know an adult neighbour, who lives alone?

Upcoming Event

The Stand, 30th November 2013, 10am-10pm, Queens Park Baptist Church, Glasgow, G42 8QS

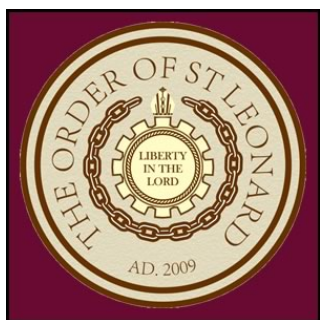


On 30 November, St Andrew's Day, Christians from around Scotland and many church backgrounds will gather in Glasgow for The Stand - a national day of worship and prayer. The Stand is also the launch of a 24/7 Year of Prayer - inviting people both in Scotland, the UK and around the World to pray for Scotland 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



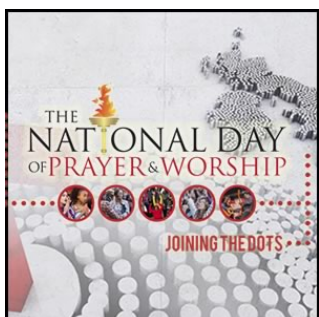
Alistair Barton from "The Stand" writes

"There is no doubt that 2014 will be one of the most significant years in Scotland's history. There is a tremendous amount going on - politically, economically, socially - and spiritually - and it all needs prayer. Society in general, and the church in particular, needs prayer as never before in recent history - and we must not give up 'in despair', but keep pressing into God with the hope and the expectation that there will once again be a powerful, fresh move of the Holy Spirit in Scotland".



Book your place on 30 Nov. (free of charge) at: www.eventbrite.co.uk/event/8628055747. Please book your place now.

Please also visit www.thestand.org.uk and consider taking part in the year of prayer.



Neighbour Friday

PRAYER

FRIDAY 25TH OCT RESTORING RELATIONSHIPS HEB 12:14

Family relationships and friendships often become strained or fractured. Pray for those close to you whose relationships need to be restored, that God will bring reconciliation and understanding, and that they will create enough space in their lives so that the Holy Spirit can show them the other person's point of view.



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](#), or order more at the same address.

CARE

Could you donate some food to a local foodbank?

AND/OR

Could your church put on an alternative Halloween party? See page 223 of "Neighbours, Transform Your Street or visit www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk

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 . The last date for collection is 18th November.

Book Recommendation

Read the exciting story of 'Street Angels - the amazing story from binge to better' in an eBook available on Kindle or as a PDF.



Written and compiled by Paul Blakey MBE the eBook tells amazing stories of hoe God is working through teams of volunteers to bring about community transformation in the night-time economy. Crime reduced, lives changed, Christians working in partnership with statutory bodies and people healed are some of the incredible stories told.

The eBook is priced at £5 and all money benefits the work of Street Angels - CNI Network - www.sa-cni.org.uk/ebook

"I have always been impressed with the work of Street Angels... I wasn't prepared in reading this latest book for the impact it has had on me..." Rebekah Brettle, Neighbourhood Prayer Network

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 FOR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS

Source: [Crossing London](#)

PRAYER CHALLENGE: Bless a friend you haven't seen for a long time by inviting them round for a meal.



*in our villages,
towns and cities*

FRIDAY 25TH OCT RESTORING
RELATIONSHIPS HEB 12:14

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SATURDAY 26TH OCT WHOLENESS IN RELATIONSHIPS
JOHN 10:14

We only find true wholeness when we know our identity as children of God. Pray for family members and friends who need to be reminded of their true identity today. Ask the Holy Spirit to show them where they fit into His purpose and His family, and to show you how to encourage them.

SUNDAY 27TH OCT WHOLE HOUSEHOLDS SAVED ACTS
16:31

Father, please give gifts of grace and faith to those members of my family who don't yet know You. Create in them a hunger for You and stir them to respond to You. May the households of my extended family all be saved, and their homes be filled with Your presence.

(Source: Bible Society)

MONDAY 28TH OCT SEEKING GUIDANCE ROM 12:2

Think of friends and family who have important decisions to make. Pray that they will not settle for second best, but will be prepared to make the sacrifices needed to discover God's good, pleasing and perfect will. Pray that the Holy Spirit will guide them and that they will listen to His voice.

TUESDAY 29TH OCT BEING CHANGED PHIL 2:5

Ask God's forgiveness where you have tried to change the ones you love, rather than trusting the Holy Spirit. Over the next few weeks, pray for 20 or so of your family and friends, asking that each one would become more fully the person God made them to be, by the power of His Spirit.

WEDNESDAY 30TH OCT BEING FREE GAL 5:1

Every prison in our lives, whether emotional or practical, has a spiritual root. We only find freedom when God's Spirit breaks the chains that hold us, and helps us live to the full as Father God intended. Pray for your friends and family, that they would experience the liberation that only Jesus can bring.

THURSDAY 31ST OCT BEING LOVED ISA 54:10

Many find it difficult to feel loved by God. Pray for your friends and family who do not yet know God, or understand how much He loves them. Pray that they would seek Him and find Him. Pray for those who have run away from Him, that they will hear His voice calling them back.

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