



Newsletter Update

Friday 2nd May 2014

Stats

2,346 Streets being prayed for [See Map](#)
 236,946 Houses on those streets (101 per street)
 563,040 People living there (240 per street)
****Click here to see our research sources.**



Dear Carl

On Wednesday I attended the Gather Conference, (A unity conference for networks across the UK) run by Roger Sutton, in London. I came away with a renewed sense that we need to be working together with churches across our villages and towns.



Also as far as it depends on us, we need to set aside personal differences, to ensure that where we can work together, we do; for the sake of the advancement of God's Kingdom. There were plenty of examples of how people in different parts of the country and indeed Cities around the World, had managed to achieve so much more, when many churches across a City, town or village, came together with a common vision. In the case of New York, this had resulted in a significant increase in the number of people attending church in the City!



Can I challenge all of us this week to reflect on our relationships with people in our churches and from other churches. Are there any relationships that could be better?

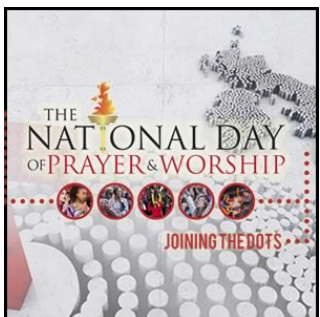
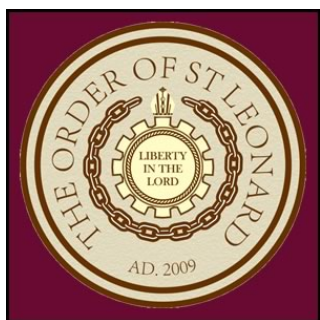
Get Connected...

This week we are looking at how we can connect with our neighbours. For some of us, knocking on a neighbours door and making friends comes naturally; for many of us, it can be a daunting prospect (I include myself in this category).

Here are just a few suggestions that might help some of us find a way of "connecting" with our neighbours.



1. Don't underestimate, smiling, or saying hello to your neighbours when you bump into them or are leaving the house. If you have the time, try to strike up conversations when you see them.
2. Pray about joining Streetbank, an online service for sharing household items you no longer need or don't mind lending to your neighbours. This project is run by a Christian and is a great way of getting to know neighbours. It works best if more and more people sign up. For us, as yet none of our neighbours have yet signed up. This could change if we tell more people about it.



3. Invite your neighbours to sign up to a street facebook group, where you can share info, idea's, news etc. We are trialing this in our street at the moment, I think this works better when you know your neighbours already. We will let you know how this develops. We have met online, one new neighbour this way in the last couple of weeks.
4. Organise a Street Party as profiled later in this newsletter.
5. Pray about joining a Residents Association or Neighbourhood Prayer Watch Group
6. If you see a neighbour has just moved in, send them a "Welcome to the Street/ New Home card"
7. If you know a neighbour is unwell, send them a Get well Card, offer to provide them with some food or shopping.

How to Organise your Street Party



Based on an interview with Jenny Woods from Fusion, Youth and Community.

Visit www.fusionyac.org for more information.

The Big Lunch (A National Day of Street Parties), is fast approaching on June 1st. It is not too late, four weeks out, to put on a party for your neighbours, working together with friends.

Here are some suggestions of how to get started

- Ask a few neighbours what they think of the idea of a get together. Hopefully one or two will be positive and say it is a 'good' idea.
- Gather a few friends together to see what you can do together. These "friends can be neighbours, a home group or some friends from church. At a planning meeting, decide what you want to do:

Do you want to do an Afternoon Tea, a Lunch, a Barbeque or a full blown Street Party? Where will you get tables from or chairs from? Jenny says it is nicer to do with others, so that the responsibility doesn't all fall on you.

- Knock on people's doors, personally inviting them to the event, ideally with a small card with the time and venue on. Again this is easier if you are working with others. Speaking to people face to face often gets a more positive response and even if they don't attend, it is a great way to start getting to know your neighbours.

Marty and I came back after two months away and we have done three parties on our street. People came up to us and were asking us if we were doing another one and said they were looking forward to it. We feel that since



doing the Street Parties, our streets have become friendlier places, with people saying hello and waving at us in their cars. It takes a long time to build up relationships. We have found opportunities to have meals with neighbours, cheese nights, drinks parties throughout the rest of the year. None of this would have happened if it wasn't for our street parties. Last week we had the opportunity to offer prayer support to a neighbor with some difficulties and we are praying for a number of neighbours on our street.

Neighbour Friday

Prayer

Romans 12:1-21

Lord, help us all, if it possible and as far as it depends on us, to live in peace with other Christians in our church and other church traditions. Bring reconciliation, where there has been disagreement, hurt and misunderstanding. Help us to say sorry, when an apology is needed. Heal our hearts from past hurts and disagreements. Help us all to see others through your eyes and love others unconditionally. Amen

Care

Ask God for an opportunity to show kindness to a neighbour on your street.

Share

If you have not already bought a copy of 'Sharing Jesus' buy a copy for you and a friend, so that you can look at how to answer questions about your beliefs, with a neighbour, if they were to ask you.



HOPE has teamed up with Share Jesus International and UCB to produce a new book. Sharing Jesus focuses on how to put faith into words. With contributions from a range of churches and ministries, Sharing Jesus looks at how to spark God conversations, ways to explain the gospel, next steps, answering tough questions and leading someone to Jesus.

To order [click here](#).

Financial Update

We have had enough money to register and pay our travel costs to the "Gather conference" - Praise God.

We are so grateful for every single pound donated. We had three [regular givers](#) sign up last week, which helps us budget

our income each month - Thank You.

April - All paid Praise God.

May - £535 left to find - Paid for PO Box Renewal and Gather Conference already.

June - £531 left to find.

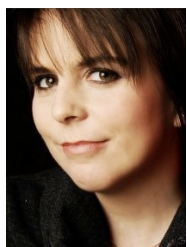
If you would like to make a gift [click here](#).

If you would like to give a small monthly gift [click here](#).

Thanks again for supporting what we do, together we are making a difference. We've got some incredible testimonies to share in the coming weeks, God is on the move.

Please remember if you are unable to give, don't worry, your prayers are ever so meaningful to us, we are a family of believers who will work together to get the job done, some give, some volunteer, some pray, together we'll see transformation in our Nation.

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).

Neighbourhood Prayer Network is a registered Charity: Charity Number 1150306, established 31st December 2012

Address : PO Box 308, Manchester, M22 2DA

Website : www.neighbourhoodprayer.net

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