

ChristChurch Wrexham



Newsletter Sep 2011

September Key Events

4th Community
Sport Plus

4th Evening
Service

10th Act for
Justice event

14th Corporate
Prayer

22nd Growing
Leaders

25th Back to
Church Sunday

27th – 30th
Leadership
Team Retreat

27th Sunday
Service Review

28th WLT
Meeting

Relay



This month is focused on External Ministries with a report from Campbell and Glenys about all of the ministries supported by ChristChurch

Who can you invite to Back to Church Sunday? Prayer and invitation cards available from Sunday 4th September



Scripture Focus for September

Rom 5:1-5

¹ Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.



Leader's Log

Pray for the peace and prosperity of the PLACE where you are.

As I sit to write this article civil unrest accompanied by violent rioting and looting is spreading from London to other major cities in the UK.

We are all rightly and deeply concerned by these shocking and surprising events which are a clear sign those things are far from well in the nation. Young people seem particularly disaffected with their current lot and future prospects.



At the same time financial markets are highly volatile with billions being wiped off share prices and pensions over the last ten days or so. World markets are in panic with governments very unclear of how to make things any better.

With so much doom and gloom about, what is an appropriate response from the people of God at such a time as this. We all know how easy it is to point the finger and highlight what is wrong or needs to change but does that always improve things?



Sometimes yes but often no!!

Two things I would suggest we should be doing (not just now but on an on-going basis), individually and corporately:

1.) ***Stand in the gap***

I looked for someone among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land **Ezekiel 22:30**

Praying and interceding for our nation and its people. Taking responsibility for what is happening in the land and bringing it before God. Let us not be found lacking or wanting at this key time. The nation has drifted far from God and His ways and we need to see it, and its people, turned back to Him. Persistent, purposeful prayer and intercession will be necessary to see things turn around.



2.) Pray for the peace and prosperity of the place where you are

Also, seek the **peace** and **prosperity** of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper

Jeremiah 29:7

This was God's message to His exiled people and it is good advice to us at this time. We need to see peace restored and people making a success of their lives (biblical prosperity = successful living which is achieved by living in God's world, God's way). Without a future and a hope people will turn to desperate things and take desperate measures. We are seeing some of that right now. Let's cry out for **The Prince of Peace** to bring His peace and prosperity back to this land and its inhabitants.



There are no easy answers to the multi-factoral problems we have as a nation but what I know for sure is that prayer changes things so let's do it. To prayer, prayer and more prayer, brothers and sisters.

Love and prayers,

Every Blessing,

GARETH

- God does nothing except in response to believing prayer. **John Wesley**
- Prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance, but laying hold of His willingness. **Martin Luther**
- "Prayer does not change the purpose of God. But prayer does change the action of God." **Chuck Smith**
- "God shapes the world by prayer. The more prayer there is in the world the better the world will be, the mightier the forces against evil everywhere ..." **E.M. Bounds**

Bearing Witness - Act and pray for climate justice

Join us in **Manchester** on **Saturday, 1 October 2011**, the eve of the Conservative party conference, and be part of the church's response to the injustice of climate change. There will be the chance to hear from inspiring speakers, take part in workshops with overseas partners, and attend an ecumenical service in the cathedral. Supporters of Tearfund and Cafod will be there, too - it should be a great day!

Go to this page for more information

<http://www.christianaid.org.uk/ActNow/climate-justice/bearing-witness.aspx>



Local Leadership Team Reports

We ran a holiday club during the summer in Hightown and in Acton. We aimed it at the children from the estates and distributed flyers through the schools in the areas. The three Americans, Nathan, Susie and Alex, joined us for the week and were a great help. Not many children turned up to the Acton club but a family of 5 turned up in Hightown, this increased to between 5 and 9 as other members of the family joined us. We based the teaching on the armour of God and taught them about the breastplate of right living, the sandals of the good news of peace, shield of faith and the helmet of salvation. We watched videos, listened to stories, talked in small groups, made crafts and played many, many, many games! The children really enjoyed it and joined in well. At the end of the week, we laid a large piece of paper on the floor and asked the children to write down anything about the holiday club, Rhys, a young boy who is completely un-churched, wrote: 'Jesus loves' and then wrote the name of everyone from the holiday club around it! He really understood by the end of the week what we wanted them all to know, that Jesus loves them all!

We feel that we made some good contacts and that we have established a base on which we can build in the future.

Catch/C2 update - We would really appreciate your prayers as the new term starts with a planning meeting on 2nd Sept.' Pray especially that we have enough 'staff' to run Catch and C2 effectively.



External Ministries Update: September 2011

It has been a busy summer for most of the individuals and groups supported by CCW with a lot of positives and a real sense of lives being changed and God's kingdom expanding by and through the work of the various ministries.

It was a real pleasure to welcome Martina Best back to CCW and to hear of her experiences in Ankara, Turkey. At the beginning of July she had helped lead a children's camp, a challenging but rewarding time suited to her background as a Kindergarten teacher. She had just spent a few weeks in London and had felt renewed and invigorated by the Ichthus Revive Conference.

She shared her experiences with the fellowship on Sunday morning, joined those from CCW involved with Feeding the Roofless on Sunday afternoon and on the Sunday evening met with a smaller group for a question and answer session followed by prayer. She reported that more women are now accepting Jesus as their saviour against a background when it was more common for the men to do so and for splits in relationships to occur as the women rejected the Gospel. The basis for the change has been founded in prayer and she spoke of God answering prayer in exciting and remarkable ways and often in a



very short time frame.

She is currently without a flatmate and although she would like to find a suitable individual to share her home she does find it peaceful after the challenges she faces in her counselling role, which is her main role in the Church. She reported how blessed, encouraged and supported she felt by her visit and that each visit brings her closer to us as a fellowship

The FI team celebrated the safe arrival of Christina and Nelu's first baby, a daughter named Dalia who arrived into the world on Saturday 13th August. Please pray for her and for her parents.



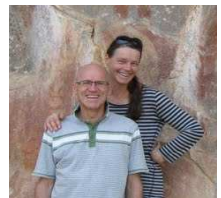
The summer camp held at the beginning of July was once again a wonderful event for all who attended. David Pitt, our Light-teamer, was able to witness at first hand God at work in the lives of teenagers who had previously little or no knowledge of Jesus. Over 40 young people attended the camp in a beautiful valley approximately 50km west of Cluj. The facilities were excellent with volleyball, table tennis, badminton as well as the usual rambles and water fights! The night sessions were a time of worship and learning about Jesus and David was able to introduce a new worship song which soon became a real favourite and an inspiration for some of those attending. Nelu was his usual enthusiastic self despite on going issues with Hepatitis with the virus proving difficult to completely eradicate. A video of David's experience is available on You Tube via the following link. <http://www.youtube.com/user/TheDavidpitt> which is a wonderful uplifting snapshot of an FI camp.



The support of CCW for the camp was once again overwhelming and without it many would have missed the opportunity to attend. Hopefully more individuals from CCW will be inspired to travel out next summer to witness real changes to the lives of young people who suffer from poverty, abuse and the effects of alcoholism at home.

The team continue to deliver preventative education to schools and the new term is about to start, so please pray for them as they reach out to hundreds of young people and especially for Nelu as he copes with fatherhood, the increased workload until Christina returns to work and the effects of his illness. A real encouragement is the plan for Christi to employ one of his clients in his counselling work. Mihok Tamas has abstained from alcohol for 5 years and has successfully completed his Masters Diploma in Sociology from the University of Oradea. The FI Trustees are supportive of this and would ask for him to be uplifted in prayer.

Kevin and Anne are now settled into life in Kilolo and having had the woodburner chimney cleared now have a smoke free environment in which to cook. Kevin baked his first loaf recently and Anne invented a new breakfast cereal which she has christened as "stone age cornrocks"! Give thanks that Kevin's health is good and Anne's has improved.





Kevin has completed his language school and is now busily occupied with the computer lab as 20 computers have arrived and a programme of training for teachers and students has started. His prayer is that there will be no electricity cuts to disrupt the teaching schedule.

Anne's Bible School students are nearing the end of their three month course, so pray for them as they return to their homes. Her O-level Bible Knowledge students need prayer that they manage to complete the two-year course material. She is also teaching RE to Form 1. You can keep up to date with their activities on Ann's blog at:

<http://annelapage.blogspot.com/> A sad event was the death of the new-born son of Philip and Happiness Magawa, the second master at the school who died suddenly only three days old. The teachers and students were very involved in carrying the family through this time, so as well as praying for them, give thanks for the supportive community they belong to.

The ongoing hardwork and dedication of Wrexham Street Pastors continues to provide much needed practical and pastoral support in the town centre and in the Hightown and Acton communities. At this year's commissioning service 7 new SPs "graduated" to join the ranks of those who have been patrolling the streets for 5 years now. An enduring feature is the positive relationships that have developed between the SPs and both the public and the night time business community. There are many stories of people whose lives have been changed by their encounters with a SP and this year alone 173 pairs of flip flops have been handed out, a small gesture perhaps but a practical demonstration of God's love.

On a national level Les Isaac, the SP Founder, has been responding to the recent unrest on the streets of several towns and cities. He said "We are asking the Church to pray: for the Police to maintain law and order; for parents to take greater responsibility over their children; for the young people out late at night not to be drawn into further lawless behaviour; for young people within the Church to join together in praying for their generation; for young people of other faiths and no faith, who are law abiding; and for God to help us all to be a part of the solution." A date for the diary, this year's annual dinner will be on Saturday 19th November at the Ramada Hotel.

In order to strengthen our links with Tear Fund CCW is joining their "Connected Church" programme. Through pledging to regular giving CCW will support a project in Nepal. Sagoal takes its name from the Nepali word for 'being together', reflecting its desire to work closely with churches and communities.

Sagoal's church mobilisation project works in partnership with local churches in the western regions of Nepal. A young organisation (registered in 2004), Sagoal has a vision to help churches be agents of positive change in their communities by engaging in integral mission. There are 6 'mother churches' and 12 daughter churches envisioned and actively mobilising their communities to address poverty needs. By forging a direct link we will have regular updates for prayer and the opportunity for visits to see at firsthand what is happening. Glenys has met with Mary and Geoff to begin planning the links and there will be opportunities for other to get involved.

There will be an 'Open Doors' meeting at Bradley Road on 12 October - speaker Adrian Patterson (Mold) at 7.30.

An opportunity to learn about Open Doors and its work.



We're a group of likeminded people from the Wrexham area that have passion and share the vision to see an end to Human Trafficking (modern day slavery.) Each of us has been shocked by the statistics and moved to take action in our local area so we are supporting the charity Hope for Justice as they investigate cases in the UK, rescue victims, assist in their protection and rehabilitation, ensure perpetrators are held responsible for their crimes through prosecution and campaign at a local and national level.

There are hundreds of Act For Justice groups over the UK who share the vision and are supporting the rescue mission of Hope for Justice. Our group meets every 6 weeks to pray and discuss ways we can raise awareness in Wrexham, fundraise and campaign. We have met twice so far and have planned our first event which will take place on the 10th September in Wrexham town centre. If you want to know more, get involved or sponsor a group member to spend a day in chains please do get in touch. More money means more resources, more resources enables more investigators, and more investigators means more rescues! Since meeting we have praised God for at least two precious lives rescued from the darkness. One of these victims says the words that she will never forget are 'you are a princess, you are a child of the King!' There are many more princesses to be rescued and that's why we're taking action. We look forward to hearing of many more rescues, to seeing statistics change and to seeing an end to this crime against humanity.

Human Trafficking is the fastest growing crime. Children as young as 3 are being trafficked into the UK. 1.2 million children are trafficked every year, that's 2 every minute. The average age of victims is 14 years old. An estimated \$9.5 billion is made through human trafficking each year. It is estimated that 99% of victims are never rescued.

This has to stop! Will you get involved and join the rescue mission?

See www.hopeforjustice.org.uk for more information and ways you could get involved to help. If you want to join our Act for Justice group or receive regular updates and prayer pointers please e-mail Meg Meason:

actwrexham@hotmail.co.uk.



Take a look at www.north-wales-christian-events.co.uk – for Christian events across North West Wales

ChristChurch Monthly Rotas

	4 th Sep	11 th Sep	18 th Sep	25 th Sep
		communion	offering	communion
Setting Up	Richard	Sue	Gareth	Art
PA	James, Meg	Eth, Colin	Eth, Colin	Rob, Rod
IT	Frank	Lucas	Campbell	
Music Group Leader	Huw	Colin	Huw	John
Service Leader	Gareth and Jean Jones	Sue Allen	Rob Griffiths	Peter Whitaker
Speaker	New Creation Revelation	Gareth	Ros Whitaker	Gareth



Your chance to be part of the magazine!

If anyone would like to contribute to the magazine we are always looking for items to include. If you have poems, pictures, stories, or would like to share your testimony please can you let us know?
Thank you from Sally and Marilyn

If you have any queries please call Gareth Jones - ChristChurch Team Leader on 07545 866597 (01978 354805),

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or send us an email - admin@christchurchwrexham.org.uk

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