



August 2005

27th—30th July, On The Move

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Then Jesus came to them and said “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age”

This month's prayer guide will be posted out early so that we can continue to pray for On The Move as it is taking place.

This evangelistic initiative is now taking place in Colchester town centre from **27th-30th July 2005**.

It is a free barbecue where team members from local churches take to the streets with several worship bands. Other team members go up to passers by and offer them an invitation to a free BBQ.

The BBQ is running from **12.00— 2.00** for the four days, **Wednesday 27th to Saturday 30th**. Team members act as host and talk to guests at tables.

Richard Morgan and the team organising this event asks for the following prayer requests for:

- Moving of Holy Spirit. For the guests, that God puts the right guests next to the right hosts, and that the hosts are able to listen well and to be sensitive to our guests and to the Holy Spirit in all their conversations.
- The working together of music groups
- Safety/security
- Follow-up. The right people, churches and seeker courses are

available for those who come to the barbeque and want to take things further.

- Continued unity
- The venue for worship in Culver Square, to be made available. Also for Eld Lane, that the local traders might receive this well - especially the food providing ones!
- God to use this to put people back in touch with church who have stopped coming in the past, and to make faith in Jesus available to those who have never even thought about it.

Following on from three days of On The Move: **SONGS FROM GOD SPELL. BRINGING OUT THE MESSAGE OF THE MUSICAL**

Date: Saturday 30th July

Venue: Colchester Arts Centre

Presenting **Songs from God spell**, led by the Brightlingsea Operatic Society and Friends, with Peter Adams narrating.

A clear presentation of the gospel message concluding with an evangelistic invitation.

PLEASE PRAY!

Alpha



2005 is the eighth annual Alpha initiative – now called the Alpha Invitation – designed to raise awareness of Alpha in the UK and to invite the nation to hear the good news about Jesus Christ.

It's working! In 2004 there was a 17% increase in the number of guests on Alpha courses across the country – from 155,000 in 2003 to 182,000 in 2004, bringing the total UK attendance to over 1.8 million.

According to MORI research conducted in September 2004, about 9.5 million people in the UK now know about Alpha. Of these, nearly 8 million have not yet done a course. **Let's invite them!**

Every year churches come together on the same day to pray for communities and the impact of Autumn Alpha suppers and courses. In 2004, nearly 60,000 people were involved in Alpha Invitation prayer meetings from over 1,750 churches. This was an increase of around 38% on 2003. We believe this resulted in the transformation of many lives. In 2004 there was an increase of 32% in people attending Alpha suppers or similar launch events..

Once again, this year the vision is that groups of local churches will come together for an hour on or around 15 September 2005 to pray for the re-evangelisation and transformation of communities and for the impact of Alpha.

This year Colchester and Tendring Districts will again be gathering to pray in preparation for the 2005 National Alpha Suppers on :

Thursday 15th September 2005
Venue: **St Martins church**
(Opposite Pizza Express in town)
Time: **7 pm for refreshments and fellowship. 7.30 pm for prayer**

The aim is to provide an opportunity for united prayer for the Alpha Invitation, but also for the community at large.

150 churches across Colchester and Tendring will be invited to this prayer event.

Let's continue to pray for our community, our friends, neighbours and work colleagues. Let's pray for the opportunity to invite them to the course.

We want to know that every person in Colchester has heard the gospel and been given the opportunity to respond.

Please come and join with others as we unite in prayer with many Christians around the UK.

Further details about this meeting contact Paul Carr
Tel. 01206 854104 or
Teresa at Colchester Prayernet
Tel. 01206 242235

24/7 prayer

'From **Sunday 28th August to Sunday 4th September** Rowhedge Christian Fellowship are organising a 24/7 week of prayer, because we have been seeing God's blessing over the last 6 months and really want to build on it.
If you have a burden for Revival or

a burden for prayer, or if you just want to spend an hour with the Lord then please get in touch as we seek the Lord
Wouldn't it be great if over the Summer other churches did a week of prayer as well?'
Contact Andrew Price 01206 728264 to book a slot.

Because of the holiday period the next prayer guide will be posted out on 27th September 2005.

We have tried to include extra prayer items this month to cover the extended period.

Please send items for the next prayer guide by no later than 15th September to ensure inclusion.

COLCHESTER MPs

Thank you to everyone who prayed for our visit to the National Prayer Breakfast on Tuesday 12th July.

'Christians in Parliament is coordinating an important initiative to involve constituents in supporting their MP through prayer. Many Christian people across Britain want to pray for Parliament. However, many people are telling us that they find this difficult as they are unsure what to pray for, or how to pray. We are therefore eager to build on this enthusiasm by setting up groups to encourage and assist people to pray for their MPs. We hope that people will find that building a relationship with their local MP will humanise Parliament, and will also be non-party political, as we are aiming to set up groups across the country to support MPs of all parties. It will help those who pray, as they be-

come more informed about parliament, and will also be a source of support and encouragement to MPs.

To date we have helped establish more than 25 of these groups across the country, in partnership with a local MP in each case, and our vision is to see this number continue to grow until it covers the majority of Members of Parliament'.

This is an exciting development and something which CPn has wanted to see happen in Colchester since we started in March 2003.

Although our MPs did not attend the breakfast they will be contacted by Steve Webb MP offering prayer from us. I hope then they will contact CPn.

We had a wonderful time hearing the desires, vision and passion

for prayer held by many Christian MPs from all political parties. It is evident that God is really moving by his Holy Spirit within parliament and much prayer is needed to continue this spiritual intensity.

Leaders in Government

Father, I pray that as the leaders in the government acknowledge You in all their ways that You direct their paths and that they will find favour in Your sight. Show them Your ways that they may know You and find grace in Your sight – considering that this Government and nation are Your people. (Pro 3:6; Exo 33:13)

Lord, I pray that the leaders will hate evil and love the good, establishing judgement in the governmental gate. Because when the righteous are in authority the people rejoice. (Amos 5:15; Pro 29:2)

Church and government

'In almost every case where society was at peace, prosperous (both spiritually and materially), and advancing, we see the partnership of priests and kings, church and government, vision and provision working together to incarnate God's Kingdom on the earth. By government we mean politics, business, education etc. or other spheres of influence in society. The church's vision here is absolutely essential' Quote from 'Church and Business, Ed Silvano.

Examples: Gen, 47:1-12, Dan, 2:46-49, Dan, 6:25-28, Ez, 4, Est. 9,10, 1Chr.17, etc.

'The church represents the spiritual side of life, and without

Christ and the hope of salvation, life is bleak. Each governmental sphere has it's own contribution to make a great community, each must respect the others contribution. Without the visionary 'priestly' role of the church all of society suffers. We are looking for a way in not a way out!

Quote from Nation Strategy'.

- Pray for Church influence in every sphere – business, education, media, health etc
- Pray for leaders of our town to encounter God!
- Pray for Christian leaders in our town as they stand in places of influence. As they network together, pray and advance the Kingdom of God.
- Thank God for relationships already in place, For the work of Work Dynamics, CYO, United Solutions and many other partnerships.
- Pray for continued coming together of the church and those in governmental leadership in Colchester. For the church to gain credibility continue in unity and express Jesus servant leadership.

Friends International news

Friends International.

Praise that Michael and Caroline White who are coming to take over the co-ordination of FI on October 1st have sold their small house in London and found a house in Wivenhoe with no chain which is within 15 minutes walking distance of the university!!! Please pray for them as they have had to store their furniture and will be living in 2 venues prior to moving to Colchester. Continue to pray that all the monies will come in by October 1st to support the Whites.

Praise God that the International House party at Letton Hall went really well in June. Praise for the real sense of unity and partnership between the whole team of Christian folk who

came together at the house party. Twenty six students from Japan, Indonesia, China, Rwanda, Congo, Germany, Kenya, Korea, Taiwan and Iran attended the house party. One student came to the Lord and others were encouraged and challenged by the talks on ' Faith, Hope and Love...a recipe for life.'

Praise that all the monies came in to cover the cost of the house party, coach travel and various expenses. Pray for new VISA Bible study course which will be starting on Wednesdays for 7 weeks (as a follow up to the house party) that many will attend.

Thank you for your prayers, Joan

Note new e-mail address
frinco@essex.ac.uk

Friends International
Introduce Michael and Caroline White, with guest Speaker: Richard Weston Director of Friends International Ministries. Tea provided!
Date: **SATURDAY 15th October**
Time: **2.30 pm - 5 pm**
Venue: St Johns' church, Ipswich Road, Colchester

PRAYER BREAKFASTS:
August—no prayer breakfast
Saturday 3rd September
8.30- 10 a.m.
Christchurch Ireton Rd
For more details contact:
Dennis Codd, 01206 395792

*Thank you to everyone who contacts CPn.
Please continue to let us know how God leads you in prayer.
By post to: 1, Lodge Court,
West Bergholt, CO6 3JL
or email Teresa at :
admin@colchesterprayernet.co.uk*

The prayer guide is edited by Teresa Lasky. (The contributors views are their own, and do not necessarily express those of the editor).

Colchester Prayernet has a new website. Visit us at
www.colchesterprayernet.co.uk

VE day memorial service and parade organised by the mayor of Colchester
Venue: Colchester High Street.
Date: 21st August
Time: 10 am

Holiday season

During August some congregations in Colchester and surrounding villages will provide holiday clubs for school age children. At the beginning of this summer break let's support this work in prayer:

- For safety, fun and lots of energy for the adults!
- Seeds to be planted – for children to move on in their journey to faith
- For children to be touched by love of God for the first time
- For the Gospel to be proclaimed clearly :
Colossians 4:4, Romans 1:16, Proverbs 8:35, 2 Corinthians 3:17
- For impact of God's love on the school and the surrounding communities, continued networks and connections between church and community
- Families – during holiday time when there is sometimes increased pressure on the family unit, for whole families to be transformed by love of God
- For opportunities to pray with the children and their families, for God to reveal Himself to them
- For good weather!



Prayer for our communities

Pray for the aftermath of the terrorist attack in London

As Londoners prepared to celebrate the title host city for the 2012 Olympiad, and the eyes and prayers of the world focused on the G8 meetings 400 miles away, the long anticipated atrocity of terrorism struck the capital.

Meanwhile, 200 delegates at London School of Theology, engaged with aspects of Christ's death on the cross, at the jointly held Atonement Symposium.

'Regardless of our differing understandings of the mechanics of atonement, we are assured of the reality, that God so loved the world...that God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself...that in the incarnation and death of His Son, He not only enters our situation, but brings redemption to the most apparently hopeless of situations.

The life, death, resurrection, ascension, reign and anticipated return of Christ, give us reason for hope in the darkness of atrocity and for eternity.

In the constantly changing pattern

of world events we are called to be good news people, seeking the peace and prosperity of the communities in which we have been called into exile (Jeremiah 29). May we increasingly be such people.

It is in this context that we offer the following prayer points...

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging' Psalm 46

We give thanks for:

- those from our town spared from injury, the commuters and the group of young people from Stanway school, travelling that day

We pray for:

- The injured - for healing and comfort, especially for those who are critically injured.
- Peace and comfort for the families of those who have died.

- Those individuals in the emergency services that have been dealing with casualties – pray for God's peace on them.
- Churches that have been responding to the crisis by opening their doors and providing comfort. Pray that they would continue to be a source of hope for their communities.
- Harmony in communities - that relations would not be damaged in the aftermath of such events.
- Christians to take this opportunity to offer hope and message of Gods love as communities are shaken
- Colchester University and the Muslim community represented there
- Protection upon our town and Nation in Jesus name.

Journey Into Wholeness (JIW)

On Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th September Journey into Wholeness will for the fourth year have a stall inside the Mind Body Soul Exhibition at Charter Hall.

JIW mission statement is '**Sharing Jesus Christ with Spiritual seekers in New Age settings**'

Please pray for:

- The new committee, Howard Gardener, Jane Mason, Mike Eavery, Paul Jonas, Rose Loy
- Provision of finances

- Those helping on the stall and for prayer support throughout the two days
- The training days—Saturday 2nd September and Monday 12th September

If you would like further information, would like to be involved on the stall, by praying or would like to make a financial contribution please contact:

Howard@indexprint.freeseve.co.uk

Thank you.

SMILE MEGA KIDS CLUB (Will not meet in August)

Date: Friday 9th September

venue: The Stanway school

Time: 7-8 pm

Age group: 5—11 years

Around 150 children attend this event, many with their parents.

Please continue to pray and see January prayer guide for more information

Colchester Soup Run

'For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink' Matthew 25 v35 NIV

The Soup Run is just one of several voluntary agencies in Colchester that are attempting to meet the needs of the homeless and needy people that are in or passing through our town.

Other than the very occasional lapsed evening there have been four or five Christians in St Nicholas Square between 8 - 9 pm every night including Christmas providing soup and sandwiches.

It is accepted that this practical sharing of basic food and drink does not solve the problem of homelessness but despite what the Governments Rough Sleepers Unit says about such operations, it does meet the basic needs of many people. Many visitors to NEEDAS have commented that while they were dependant on drugs, without the soup run they would have possibly been forced

to steal in order to feed themselves.

For some of the regulars it is a social meeting point without having to go into a pub. It is an opportunity to talk together with the helpers about anything they want to. There have been occasions when the discussions have gone quite deep and a short prayer in a corner has been the acceptable and only sensible thing to do. For most of the visitors they are very appreciative of what is done and only on rare occasions, five or six times in eleven years, have we had to close down due to drugs or behavioral problems which could have put the helpers at risk.

The Soup Run is a wonderful way of sharing God's love in a practical sense. It provides an opportunity to take the church on to the streets of Colchester.

The vision for the soup run is that one day we may have a warm and dry building to work from.

Prayer points

- Praise God for all the volunteers who faithfully give of their time to sandwich making and serving on the soup run.
- Pray that the presence of Jesus would have impact on the many visitors we see
- Pray that as we meet the practical need in some small way, we would have more opportunity to reach them on a spiritual level.
- That the visitors would feel a sense of belonging.
- Pray for the visitors, that Jesus would break into their lives and bring liberty.

Pray also for work of Beacon House, Open Door, Lifelines, Night Shelter, Police, Options and others who care for the physical, emotional and spiritual Needs of people in our town.

*If we do not shine, then who will be the light?
 If we do not have influence, then who will mould the shape?
 If we do not speak, then who will be the voice?
 If we do not lead then who will show the way?
 If we do not stay united, then where will unity be found?
 If we do not go to the community, to whom will the community go?
 If we do not impart life, then who will be their life?
 If we do not show the way, then which way will they take?
 If we do not lead against injustice then where will the downtrodden turn?
 If we are not the salt, then who will flavor our community?
 If we do not offer salvation, then where will they go to be saved?
 If we do not forgive, then where will they ever find forgiveness?
 If we do not act wisely, then where will they gain wisdom?
 If we do not hear the community then who will ever hear their cry?
 If we do not incarnate good citizenship then who will be the citizens?
 If we do not make Jesus known then who will be their hero?*

BBH Future Church Conference 2005

Date: 2nd – 3rd November 2005

Venue: High Leigh Conference Centre, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire

SPIRITUALITY, SUSTAINING A MISSION - SHAPED CHURCH

Cost: £75.00 all inclusive

For more information or to register please contact Revd Terry Tennens on 02076547236 or email terry.tennens@ctbi.org.uk