



# June 2009

## Changes at CaCC

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### Roy Wheeler, Senior Pastor shares for prayer the significant changes at Colchester Area Community Church (CaCC):

In the epistle to the Hebrews chapter 12, the Christian life is depicted as a race which we are urged to run with perseverance to the very end. I believe that the leadership succession in a local church can be viewed as like a relay race. There are key times in the life of a church when it is the time for the leadership baton to be handed on to the next leader to run with the vision and encourage the whole church to run with him (see Habakkuk 2:2)

In a relay race, before the baton is passed the next runner gets into the same stride as the existing runner and they run together. The one handing on the baton is running at his hardest when the transfer takes place and the new runner runs with all his energy the race ahead of him. At the end of the race it is not the last runner who wins but the whole team who each ran for a time with the baton.

For the past 25 years God has trusted me, assisted by my wife Dorothy, with the leadership baton for the leadership of the Colchester Area Community Church (CaCC) which we started in our home in January 1984. Over the years many ran the race with us as members of CaCC for varying periods of time with some becoming leaders in other churches, including overseas.

In the early years of the church I continued my banking career but in 1990 became the full-time pastor. On taking that step of faith, God began to open doors to minister overseas in fulfillment of previously spoken prophetic words – first Poland, then Africa and elsewhere. In more recent years we have had a growing pastor-teacher role within the Plumblin family of churches in the UK, the Republic of Ireland and other overseas nations and we have been “running hard” undertaking this role as well as continuing to lead CaCC here in Colchester.

Over a period of time the Lord has confirmed to us that it is now time to hand on the leadership baton to another so that Dorothy and I can concentrate on giving pastoral care to church leaders and teaching into their churches.

Since the beginning of this year the next leader of CaCC has been “running with me” learning much and gaining experience ready for when the leadership baton passes to him in a special service on the morning of Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July.

We regard my successor – Bryan Morrissey – as a spiritual son. Bryan was part of CaCC for a number of years and I had the joy of marrying him to Helen with our own daughters as her bridesmaids. Now, along with their children – Caitlin and Nathan – they are planning to move back to Colchester to be more fully part of the wider community of Colchester. Ini-

***‘Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.’***

***Hebrew 12:1***

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tially, Bryan will continue his secular employment in Ipswich and our existing Assistant Pastors – Keith & Karen Barrett – will become the main couple pasturing the people of the church as well as being pastor to the Hythe community which is CaCC's primary outreach focus. Bryan, as Church Pastor, will be the senior leader of CaCC's leadership team, responsible for vision and the teaching and preaching ministry.

After the leadership handover we will be having a rest from ministry for two months. During this time we are hopeful that things will come together for us to down-size to a smaller home locally for the next season of our life. CaCC will continue to be our home church and be the base for our wider ministry and already our diary is almost full from October – December, including ministering in Ireland, Malawi and Mozambique.

At the present time I am running as hard as ever as the time fast approaches to hand the leadership baton on to Bryan. Dorothy & I are looking forward to the future and are expectant of what God has in store for us and also for CaCC under Bryan's leadership.

It has been a privilege to be one of Colchester's church ministers for the past 25 years and to have prayed and worked together with the leaders of many other churches over the years. They, including Bryan, and ourselves in our new role, need and value your prayer support.

As well as informing you of the changes for your prayers, may I also take this opportunity of en-

couraging all receiving this to lay aside every hindrance and to run with perseverance (as we have sought to) the race that is before you with your eyes fixed on Jesus, the source and perfecter of our faith.

Thank you for partnering with us in the ministry of intercessory prayer.

Please pray for:

- Continued unity amongst the churches and for a revival-like visitation of God to our town
- The church leaders of our town (especially those needing fresh encouragement) – that they will run the course of their race with faith and determination
- The next generation of church leaders, like Bryan, who are emerging in our town
- Bryan, as he becomes pastor of CaCC – for God's enabling. Wisdom and anointing and that he will run his race well
- Keith & Karen Barrett, our assistant pastors – that God will help them to adapt to a new leader and for salvation fruit from their labours into the Hythe community
- All in CaCC at this time of change – not everyone finds change easy
- CaCC to fulfill God's call and to faithfully make their distinctive contribution as part of Christ's Church in the Colchester area
- Dorothy & I in our expanding support role to church leaders and their churches in this country and overseas. Also for our house move, having lost both our buyer and what seemed to be an ideal bungalow which was withdrawn from the market after a sale to us had been agreed.

### Prayer Breakfast

**Date:** Saturday 6th June

8.30 am - 10.00 am

The Ark, Highwoods Methodist Church, Gavin Way

### Seeking God's Blessing for Colchester (SGBfC).

Following a meeting in April we will be praying together about a possible festival for 2011 on Tuesday 2nd June

Venue: Methodist Church, London Road, Mark's Tey

Time: arrive 7.45 pm.

Please continue to pray as the Church in Colchester seeks to express God's love through united prayer and action.

### ALL WELCOME

Colchester Barnabus Ministry presents

### Deconstructing Darwin tour

Dr Mark Harwood will give a talk entitled

"Darwin and the First Eleven"

**Wednesday 17th June 2009**

Abbeyfield Community Church, Abbeygate Street

Time: 7.30 pm

Enquiries Adrian and Debbie Bland 01206 869559

To contact Teresa Lasky:

[admin@colchesterprayernet.co.uk](mailto:admin@colchesterprayernet.co.uk)

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The contributors' views are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of the editors.

## Prayer for Leaders

### Parliament and Government.

"Now is the time for us to mobilize as many individuals, groups, churches and organizations to be praying for God's purposes to be done in our political system and for English local elections. In the providence of God, a week has been planned many months ago to do just that from 7-12<sup>th</sup> June 2009! There are excellent resources provided by 24-7prayer and a [complete prayer pack](#). Check it out and let's mobilize as much prayer as we can now.

**EU elections.** On 4<sup>th</sup> June the UK will be voting to elect 78 representatives (MEPs) to the European Parliament (EP). The concern is that low turnout for the vote could mean significant gains for extreme parties due to the European Parliaments proportional representation voting system.

Pray:

- That God will turnaround the voting apathy in the UK and that voting attendance will be increased;
- For the vision of peace and co-operation in Europe and for the efficient administration of the EU"

Prayer Forum.

Prayer for Colchester. We thank God for:

- Local councillors who serve our Borough faithfully
- Every leader whose actions are honest, true and trustworthy
- All the "behind the scenes" work that our leaders carry out

We pray for:

- Anne Turrell, leader of the Council, that she would have wisdom, courage and strength to do her job well
- Our local MPs, Bernard Jenkin

and Bob Russell

- Local Councillors, who often hold down a paid job as well as their Council commitments
- Our leaders' families, for great family times and strengthening of marriages
- Unity amongst our leaders, working together to serve our communities

***1 Timothy 2:1-2, Matthew 6:9***

***Hebrew 12:26-29, Isaiah 9:7***

**Praying for your MP.** Prayer groups are in place to support the MP from your constituency.

To pray for Bob Russell contact Richard Smith:

[richard@colchesterboilerroom.org.uk](mailto:richard@colchesterboilerroom.org.uk)

If your constituency is North Colchester and you would like to pray for Bernard Jenkin contact Teresa Lasky 01206 242235

## Colchester Schools

In the current period of uncertainty over the future of Colchester schools, The Stanway School, Thomas Lord Audley (TLA) School and Alderman Blaxill School (ABS) continue to work together under the same head teacher to provide education for the children of Colchester. Here in our schooling system we are seeing a model of unity and a compassion for those whom others would choose to marginalise. Through Jonathan Tippett, kingdom values are being established in our community.

A recent Ofsted report from TLA states: The school's very rapid improvement is attributable to the outstanding leadership of the executive head teacher.

In a relatively short time, he has gained the confidence of the pupils and, with the support of the staff and other senior leaders, he has brought about very significant improvement in all aspects of the school's work.

The staff and parents of both The Stanway School and TLA school are being consulted on proposals that would link the schools even more closely enabling the governing bodies and staff to work together towards outstanding schools. Whatever the conclusion of the Local Authority, students will continue to be educated on the TLA and ABS site until at least 2014 and these plans are to ensure the TLA site remains thriving until at least this

time. Under these proposals TLA would move out of local authority control and become a foundation school, no longer accountable so directly to the local authority.

We continue to pray that decisions made at county level will reflect the kingdom values we are seeing being established in Colchester. We thank God for those who continue to raise their voices to defend the marginalised. We pray that it will be those kingdom values that direct decision making and not the lure of additional finance. We pray for the wise stewardship of all that God has given to us, in finance, resource, talent and for the very best for the children of our town.

# Feedback and Town News

## Hope in Colchester

After the success of last year's Hope on the Streets summer event I am very pleased to let you know that we would like this event to happen again. The proposed date for this is **Saturday 22nd August** and we are hoping it will follow a similar pattern to last years event.

This decision has been mainly based on your feedback, having spoken to many of you personally, we've been encouraged to do it all again, (and to be honest, I can't wait!).

However as always this can only happen if we all work together, and I would love it if a representative from every church in Colchester could come to the next Hope Champions meeting.

The next Hope champion meeting will take place on **Tuesday 9th June** at **Colchester Baptist Church** on Eld Lane. We aim to **start at 8pm** and finish around 9:30pm.

Please put this date in your diary, if you are unable to come please find someone else to represent your church, the success of this event relies on all of us working together, I really hope to see you there.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Thank you and God Bless

James Collitt  
07977510880

## Foodbank

As you know we had a meeting on the 26th of March about

holding a Foodbank here in Colchester. We were delighted that over 16 churches and organisations expressed a strong interest! We would be able to help families impacted by the Credit Crunch and we seek to work with existing agencies already giving relief to the homeless.

Since the meeting several other congregations have contacted us wanting to be part of this initiative. If you would like to know more, please contact me at CPn.

Foodbank is especially helpful to those waiting for statutory benefits to kick in, and also provides a great volunteering opportunity for those who need to engage with the community, for whatever reason.

We are seeking to tap into the skills of the Foodbank national network that already works in 30 towns and cities and effectively become a franchise of this Trussell trust initiative. ([www.trusselltrust.org](http://www.trusselltrust.org)).

Our immediate task is to raise the money needed to join the Trussell Trust, so that we can be part of this nationally recognised scheme and benefit from their experience. We are encouraged by some gifts that have already been given!  
*Marie*

## Friends International (F.I)

### Praise God

- We have been able to start up 'Chatterbox' every Tuesday evening for 6 weeks at the Language centre at Lexden road from 7.30- 9pm. At present we have a skeleton

number of volunteers and could do with more from the churches around that area. If you are interested please email Joan at [joandavie@gmail.com](mailto:joandavie@gmail.com) tel 862070 or Enoch 07969210284 [enoch\\_gen524@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:enoch_gen524@yahoo.co.uk)

Quite a few students have come who want to improve their English.

### Please pray for:

- God's leading as to the future of Chatterbox.
- The F.I house party at Letton Hall from 23rd - 25th June that it will be full of students seeking to know more of the Christian faith and that God will bring students to know Him during this time.
- Students taking exams at this time.

Many thanks for praying for the work. God bless, Joan Davies

### Destiny Conference.

We are delighted to be able to welcome **Sandy Zondervan** to Gosbecks Christian Fellowship on **SATURDAY 20th JUNE**, for a one day DESTINY conference.

This will be from 10am - 5pm at the Jesus Centre. To book a place please email Ann Taylor at:

[taylormade4u@ntlworld.com](mailto:taylormade4u@ntlworld.com)

The cost will be £5 per person, payable on the day.

Please can I encourage you to let me know as soon as possible as our last conference was full. Love and blessings, Ann Taylor

# Through the Gateway—Essex

Essex Prayer walk.

Please pray for Jane Almond and her team as they prayer walk the Essex borders.

She writes “This vision has been a struggle to write down. Puzzling over this procrastination has been part of the process. I feel inadequate and ill-equipped for the task I’ve been called to and it is from this place of trembling that I write. This is not false modesty or superficial humility. The closer I come to Jesus the more un-able I feel and yet, I know this is both the place and the time to be walking the borders of the county. (For more information about the walk itself and our progress, please check out the blog at [www.essexprayerwalk.blogspot.com](http://www.essexprayerwalk.blogspot.com).)

But, this is not about that. This is about how it happened.

One Friday morning, early in 2008, I was asking the Lord what the walking would be about. I already knew I was to ‘walk the Essex marshes’ – two people had spoken prophetically about that. It had also been prophesied that I would ‘receive revelation in the gateways’. This day I sensed something was occurring in the spirit realm. I felt the fatness of the Spirit – filled up with silent joy and unspeakable anticipation, yet trembling with awe at how he does that! Symbolically, under the waters, I was gently but forcefully pushed to my knees. Was I willing? I’m not sure – I had no choice.

I saw Essex, the county, laid out before me in England. It was impressed upon me to walk the Essex borders. Then walk to the centre. ‘Connect’ the gateways and gateway people on the way.

Once round the borders, I should then walk to the centre from my gateway with people from the other gateways, carrying ‘what God says’ from their town, to the centre. This would form a wheel frame and spokes on the land.

This land-wheel is like ‘one of the wheels that carries the living creatures’ (Ezek 15) In Ezekiel 10.2 & 6, the wheel (Heb. *galgal*) is a whirlwind blowing up dust and chaff. Essex will form a wheel for the ‘tower’ of England to assault the stronghold of Europe. How this will work, I don’t know.

So we walk:

- To fulfil the vision (1.2.08) and the prophetic word (19.5.07)
- To serve the body in Essex and call her into her destiny by walking the land.
- To speak the ‘language’ of those in the gateways and those over the borders, and to take that language from the liminal places to the centre.
- Calling for the prophetic to be the foundation.
- For the King of Glory to ‘take and occupy’ (Matt 11.12) the gateways and the centre.
- To be an inspiration to the intercessors – those who are willing to stand in the gap for Essex.
- To emulate the *peregrinati* in our generation.
- In the footprints of him who has gone before us.

If this is enough for you in these days – something that stirs your heart and your spirit – then please pray for us as we walk. Our last stop was Walton on the Naze. We are in your area – the Tendring Peninsular. The whirling wheel in this warrior land is beginning to

form and is creating dust.

Ancient things long silent are now stirring – Jeremiah 6.16. We do not seek to stir these things except through love, power and sound mind, carrying grace and mercy and by humbling ourselves. There is no name to this activity, no centre, no structure – it is under the radar, born of relationship between us and the land. We wear only what the Lord chooses to give us for the day – boots, backpacks and the Holy Spirit.

Where we are welcomed, we seek relationship; where we are not, we bless and move on. The walking itself is our intercession and we give not take. Our testimony is that Jesus has met us at every crossroad, river and path.

Thank you for praying as we walk your area” Jane Almond

## New Mayor for Colchester.

We thank God for the election of Colchester Mayor Henry Spyvee. We pray for him and his chosen charities which are:

St Helena Hospice, the Army Benevolent Fund, Christian Youth Outreach (CYO), Colchester Emergency Night Shelter and CO1.

## Alpha Marriage course.

Nicky and Sila Lee would like to invite leaders to a special dinner to hear about how *The Marriage Course* and Alpha can work together to help transform your community.

**Venue:** Weston Homes Community Stadium

**Time:** 7pm,

**Date:** Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June

For more information phone 01206 791986 or email: [info@pandk.co.uk](mailto:info@pandk.co.uk)