



# May 2009

## Through Faith Missions

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### Evangelism is a doing Word.

'You can't read the New Testament for long without realising that there is a responsibility, to spread "The Good News".

Did not someone, in some way help you to have a relationship with the living God?

Jesus encourages us in the Gospels, to do this, see:

Matthew 28 v 9-20.

Mark 16 v15-16. Luke 24v47-48.

John 20 v21-23. Acts 1 v8-9.

Please note Jesus chose mainly "fishermen" to follow him, and indeed help him to talk about "His Father in Heaven and His Kingdom on Earth", and fishing sometimes takes a bit of getting used to, as there are new skills to master. He also chose tax collectors and people of other professions to follow him.

Through Faith Mission has been training and equipping "fishers of men" since 1991 and practises what it preaches every year, with an area mission, requiring hundreds of fishermen.

**This year the mission is "Walk National Forest" Leicestershire west to Staffordshire (12th -27th September) and will require approx 350 followers of Jesus Christ.**

This is an opportunity to live simply and obediently for one week, spreading the Gospel (yes you will do it) not relying on our possessions (cars, mobile phones, much money)

but looking to God to give us this day our daily bread.

The local training for this mission, is being held on **Friday evening 15<sup>th</sup> May** (Pub evangelism instruction followed by practical session). We will sleep on St John's church hall floor. The sessions on **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May** will include survey work (people's personal beliefs) practical application, plus an introduction to schools work, preparing your personal testimony, general guidance/tips, etc.

Finally, if you have been a Christian for a few years and are getting comfortable in Church, this is the time and the vehicle for you, as God has a vast storeroom of gifts for those who "go outside the Camp, and bear the shame that Jesus bore". Thank you'

Tony Horne

Supporting Websites:

[www.through-faith-mission.org](http://www.through-faith-mission.org) &  
[www.walkcumbria.org](http://www.walkcumbria.org)

For further information, please contact Rev Peter Adams on Col 854041 or [peter@through-faith-mission.org](mailto:peter@through-faith-mission.org)

### Prayer Breakfast

Venue: St Anne's Church,  
Compton Road

Date: Saturday 2nd May

Time: 8.30 am - 10 am

## Out for Good

'The Out For Good house will be undergoing some refurbishment, it will be used again in the project at a later date. Patrick the lead tenant is moving on, and we are extremely thankful for his loyalty, hard work and support for the lads, and both the other lads are in the process of moving, into other accommodation.

We are seeking an alternative source of accommodation for new lads as they join the project, and are keen to meet with any landlords prepared to lease, or rent their property out.

We are currently working with a dozen lads in the community who have been involved with the Criminal Justice System, assisting them in acquiring Identification papers [birth certificates, provisional driving licences, and

passports where appropriate], we continue to work with Fellowship Afloat providing Power Boat Courses teaching new skills and increasing their opportunities for paid employment, as well as links with Ribshare, a company prepared to help with further opportunities to gain experience afloat, and also a new connection with Seachanges, which uses the Thames Sailing Barge Wivenhoe, and we hope to be able to provide Competent Crew qualifications for some of the lads.

Employment is also an extremely important facet of their rehabilitation, so we continue to seek employers who are prepared to give the lads a chance. We have assisted two lads into employment, and a further two undertake regular voluntary work. Further to the twelve lads in the community we visit two lads in prison, one in

Rochester and one in Guys Marsh.

DNA networks is proving to be an excellent supportive church and three of the lads are exploring faith, also connecting with and enjoying the community of Colchester Boiler-room.

We would appreciate prayers for more accommodation and the resources to be able to work with the lads to continue to provide worthwhile purposeful activities for them to engage with.

God bless'

Pete Hope

Out for Good, PO Box 10102,  
Colchester CO1 2GB

07941019750

## 24/10 Prayer Room

As part of the Hope in Colchester movement, Colchester Boiler Room Community are again organising a 24 hour, 10 day prayer room in the lead up to the Global Day of Prayer on 31st May.

The prayer room will start on **Thursday 21st May and run continually until Saturday 30th May.** We will invite church congregations from across the town to support the prayer room by taking on a 12 hour slot each. We hope to make the prayer room an inspiring and welcoming place of prayer for believers, and for people who don't believe yet. The prayer room could also be a launch pad for acts of mission and serving the poor.

We are still looking for a shop venue for the prayer room.

Please pray for;

- the right venue to open to us
- good communication amongst the body of the church as we work together to fill the prayer slots
- Holy Spirit inspiration for setting up the prayer room and everyone who comes into the prayer room.

Thank you.  
Richard Smith  
Colchester Boiler Room  
Community  
01206 522781  
[richard@colchesterboilerroom.org.uk](mailto:richard@colchesterboilerroom.org.uk)

### Care for the Family

#### [A Day for Bereaved Parents](#)

will take place in **The Darash Centre, Pilgrims Hatch, Brentwood** on **Saturday 6 June**. Please will you tell any bereaved parents you know about this special day? It will strengthen them, and give them a **renewed hope** for the future. To book call us on **(029) 2081 0800**.

## Feedback and Town News

### Through the Gateway

"During March 2009 a team of six people from Colchester and Corringham worked with the church in Turkey to run a 24-7 prayer room in a Turkish city. The team were warmly welcomed by the believers in Turkey. We were encouraged by news that the Turkish believers had been praying regularly through the night since the previous 24-7 prayer room in 2008.

They further demonstrated their commitment to prayer by starting and finishing the 24-7 week with all night prayer and worship meetings. The 24-7 prayer room was supported by many of the local believers. There were also many visits by Turkish people who are not yet believers, including some students who had been sent to visit the church building by their architecture teacher! Several people received words and pictures in the prayer room about light shining out across the city and across Turkey.

We come back challenged to worship Jesus and seek God's kingdom with as much commitment as the Turkish believers. We are encouraged that there are signs of God's kingdom coming in Turkey. The believers in Turkey are particularly praying for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit to transform their communities and city. After sharing stories with them, I realised that God is working by his Holy Spirit in many ways in Colchester. However, our struggle, as the Church in Colchester, is mobilising to respond to all the opportunities that God is opening up."

Thank you for your prayers for our trip". *Richard Smith*

### Friends International

Many thanks for your prayers for the Easter outing to Sudbury and Kersey. There were about 40 students and their families who came on the trip and about 8 helpers. We had a warm welcome from the Anglican Church by the market square at Sudbury where we had coffee and later had a lovely welcome from the Baptist Church where we had our picnic. Several students helped themselves to free literature.

Praise for:

- The happy Easter outing and for students to read the literature.
- Good news of students who have come to faith in Christ here and are now attending churches back in their home country.
- A number of students attended church for the first time with their host family.

Pray for

- Saturday 30th May: First outing for pre-sessional students to attend a BBQ and go to the Wivenhoe regatta. Pray that good friendships will be formed.
- The possibility of helping international students with their English at the English Language school at Lexden Road. (Few folk have offered to help so far).
- More students to attend Bible studies.

*Joan Davies*

### What's so good about Good Friday?

Churches from around Colchester joined together on Good Friday for a walk of witness through the town centre. Later we gave away several hundred creme eggs and provided music and testimonies in Lion Walk.

I joined Richard and Katy Smith as Richard carried a cross through Lion Walk. We asked people for their response to the cross and had many interesting conversations. People were provoked! I sat with one woman for about 10 minutes chatting about the fact that she'd never really known what to think of the Cross. I also talked to two teenage girls, who summed up their thoughts about Jesus: "Dead, now alive!" *Marie*

### New Neighbours' Project

Last September, 7 refugee families came to live in Colchester. They are part of a pilot scheme to see if refugees linked to local churches integrate more effectively into the community.

The Home Office is very pleased with the way the project is working and so a further 4 families came to live in Colchester in April. Please pray for these families and those congregations who befriend them.

As the project expands it needs more volunteers and a further advice worker (paid part-time position, Arabic speaker an advantage). For more details contact Enoch Kunarajah [enoch@ecsr.org.uk](mailto:enoch@ecsr.org.uk) or 07969 210284.

Check out our new website at [www.colchesterprayernet.co.uk](http://www.colchesterprayernet.co.uk)

To contact Teresa Lasky: [admin@colchesterprayernet.co.uk](mailto:admin@colchesterprayernet.co.uk)

Phone: 01206 242235

For Marie Morris:

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

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

# CYO

“About 70 people joined us for this year's Open Evening to explore several issues relating to the work of mission to young people in the Colchester area. We've got a full report available, but here are some highlights.

## Events

Many people picked up on the need for youth events to bring the young people of Colchester together, to broaden their friendships with other Christians and especially as an encouragement to new Christians.

Please pray:

- for the emergence of new inter-church events and activities for Christian young people

## Youth Leaders

Alongside connecting and bringing together young people was a need for more communication between youth leaders. This is already happening to some extent with the CYO Youth Leaders Gatherings (the next one is on the evening of Monday 1st June), however, there was a desire to see more training and equipping of youth leaders. People also asked about how to energise a church into being more youth focussed.

Please pray for:

- stronger links between youth leaders across the town
- new opportunities to train and inspire youth leaders and churches in youth ministry

## Inter-church discipleship

There was a very strong response in favour of regular inter-church discipling and

outreach activities. In particular, several contributors suggested running an inter church Youth Alpha in a town centre venue. This is something that has been incredibly successful in other towns.

It was also recognised that new Christians need good links to more established, stronger young Christians - a sort of 'buddy' system - that would help new disciples to be established firmly in their faith.

Other comments related to practical involvement in mission, giving young people something to do.

Please pray:

- that God would open up a door of opportunity for a town wide youth alpha in partnership with youth leaders and churches
- for inspiring, practical works of mission and outreach in our town that will engage young people and make a lasting difference

## Schools

One of the main themes to emerge was the need for stronger links between churches and schools, tending towards an ideal where each school would be served by at least one church youth worker with CYO bringing a level of co-ordination. Several people asked about what is allowed in schools and whether there are new things that could be done.

Please pray:

- for the Christian staff and students known to you as they represent Christ and his church each day in school
- for new and creative opportunities to take the good news into schools

- to the Lord of the harvest for more workers in this harvest field.

## CYO's links with churches

There was some frustration expressed about the apparent lack of connection between CYO and local churches. Some people lamented the lack of awareness among fellow church members about the work of CYO, others wondered whether CYO made it clear how other people could be involved. Some questioned whether CYO was sufficiently accountable to the churches of Colchester.

Under this theme people also picked up the desire for more unity and cross-church communication.

Although it was recognised that this is primarily the responsibility of the churches themselves, some wondered whether this was an area where CYO might have a role to play.

Please pray for:

- the relationship between your church and CYO
- continuing opportunities for churches to work together in unity

The full version of the Open Evening Report includes more detail and people's quotes in each of the sections mentioned above. Where the themes that emerged link with CYO's current or planned work we've also given a short response.

If you would like a copy of the full report please get in touch and we'll send you one in the post.”

*Tim Abbott*

# Global Day of Prayer

*We unite together on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2009 for the Global Day of Prayer and declare:*

## **Almighty God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit,**

Together with believers all over the world,  
We gather today to glorify Your Name.

You are the Creator of heaven and earth.

There is no one like You, holy and righteous in all Your ways. We submit to Your authority as the King of the universe.

We pray with one voice to enthrone You in our hearts and to honour You before the world.

## **Lord God, You alone are worthy of our praise and adoration.**

### **Our Father in heaven,**

Thank You for loving the world so greatly.

You gave Your only Son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross for our sins so that we could be reconciled to You.

We are grateful to call You Father and to be called Your children.

Nothing can separate us from Your love.

## **Thank You Father, for adopting us into Your family because of Jesus Christ our Saviour.**

### **Lord Jesus Christ,**

You alone are worthy to open the scrolls of history, for You were slain and have redeemed us to the Father by Your blood.

We confess that You are Head of the Church and Lord of all heaven and earth.

May people from every tribe and language become Your followers so that Your blessing brings transformation among all peoples.

Let Your kingdom be established in every nation of the world

so that governments will rule with righteousness and justice.

And may Your Name be great, from the rising of the sun to its setting.

## **Jesus Christ, You are the Saviour of the world and the Lord of all.**

### **Father of mercy and grace,**

We acknowledge that we have sinned and that our world is gripped by the power of sin.

Our hearts are grieved by injustice, hatred and violence.

We are shamed by oppression, racism and bloodshed in our land. We mourn all loss of life in murder, war and terrorism.

Our homes are broken and our churches are divided by rebellion and pride.

Our lives are polluted by selfishness, greed, idolatry and sexual sin.

We have grieved Your heart and brought shame to Your Name. Have mercy on us as we repent with all our hearts.

## **God of mercy, forgive our sins. Pour out Your grace and heal our land.**

### **Spirit of the living God,**

Apart from You, we can do nothing.

Transform Your Church into the image of Jesus Christ.

Release Your power to bring healing to the sick, freedom to the oppressed and comfort to those who mourn.

Pour Your love into our hearts and fill us with compassion to answer the call of the homeless and the hungry and to enfold orphans, widows and the elderly in Your care.

Give us wisdom and insight for the complex problems we face today. Help us to use the resources of the earth for the well-being of all.

## **Holy Spirit, we need Your comfort and guidance. Transform our hearts.**

## **Lord Jesus Christ,**

Because You were dead, but are now risen, and the Father has given You a Name above all names, You will defeat all powers of evil.

Tear down strongholds and ideologies that resist the knowledge of God.

Remove the veil of darkness that covers the peoples.

Restrain the evil that promotes violence and death.

Bring deliverance from demonic oppression.

Break the hold of slavery, tyranny and disease.

Fill us with courage to preach Your word fearlessly, and to intercede for the lost faithfully.

## **Almighty God, deliver us from evil.**

### **King of Glory,**

Come and finish Your work in our cities, our peoples and our nations.

We lift our voices in unison with believers from Africa and Asia, from the Middle East and Europe, from North and South America, and from Australia and the Pacific Islands—together we cry:

## **Lift up your heads, O you gates! Be lifted up ancient doors so that the King of glory may come in!**

As Your deeds increase throughout the earth, and as Your blessings abound to all the nations,

they will seek You, asking, "Who is this King of glory?"

Together we will answer:

**He is the Lord Almighty!**

**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!** Come fill the earth with Your glory as the waters cover the sea.

The Spirit and the Bride say:  
**Amen! Come Lord Jesus!**