



Together in Prayer for Sheffield
and
Sheffield Prayer Link
Working together to encourage citywide prayer

Every month a free bulletin is issued with prayer points for the City. To get your monthly copy register with SPL today.
Email: prayer@sheffieldcrosslinks.co.uk Tel: 0114 2493956

MAY 2009

VOICES TOGETHER IN PRAYER Acts 4:24

Acts 4:23-30 records the very first post-Pentecost church prayer concert. Against the background of opposition threats, believers in the new-born church in Jerusalem *"raised their voices TOGETHER in prayer to God"*. No arms needed to be twisted to get them together for prayer; there was a spontaneous recognition that to raise their voices together was the obvious response to the needs of the hour.

It was some prayer concert – God centred, Bible based and Kingdom focussed! They knew to whom they were speaking: *'Sovereign Lord'*. They brought scripture to bear on their praying: *"You spoke by the Holy Spirit"*. They asked for power to do Kingdom of God business: *"Enable your servants to speak your words with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs..."* God answered. The prayer room shook and *'they were filled with the Holy Spirit'* Acts 4:31. Some result!!

On 31st May a global prayer concert will take place, and at five centres in Sheffield we can be part of that international *"voices together in prayer"*, calling upon God to act. Against the background of so much that is a threat to the church and its witness in our day, we shouldn't need our arms twisted to get us all together for vigorous calling upon God and Acts 4:23-31 is both a challenge and encouragement to do so.

Lord, may the church in Sheffield, along with the church throughout the world, experience a spiritual tsunami on 31st May! **AMEN**

Sheffield Prayer Team



Join The Prayer Concert every quarter at Wesley Hall, Crookes, to pray for Sheffield. The next meeting is 30th MAY from 9 till noon.

Bathing our Leaders in Prayer For a Month

Each month we focus on leaders and ministers in a particular area of the city. Starting in S6 we will *give the surname of every one, irrespective of their denomination or stream. This month please pray for the wisdom and power of God in their lives and in their preaching of the Gospel; for their health and family; for their prosperity and blessing.

Please pray for ministers: Kilgannon, Collinson, Fenwick, Rashford-Hewitt, Irwin, Ingram, Buckley, Ellis, Neil, Jenkins, Parker, Milner, Metcalfe, Adams, Dunning, White, Tutt, Brown, Lloyd and Sutton

*Please forgive us and pray for any leader we may have missed.

Chaplaincy at Risk.

The National Secular Society (NSS) is arguing that the NHS should stop funding chaplaincy services. Commenting on the campaign by the NSS, Paul Woolley, Director of Theos, said: 'Hospital chaplaincy plays a vital role in patient care. It's not an optional extra. ... Chaplains give unique support to patients, relatives and staff, especially in times of personal crisis. Our research indicates that chaplaincy care is greatly valued'.

Please Pray: that God would protect this vital role that brings recognised holistic support to patients.

Please pray: for chaplains, covering other areas of Sheffield e.g. police, fire services, industrial, universities and colleges, sport, retail, court chaplains and others.

Please pray: for: Rev Paul Ellis, Rev Peter Allen, Rev John Stride and others working as chaplains across our city.

www.sywc.org.uk

Hillsborough Memorial

Some 96 Liverpool supporters died in a crush on 15th April 1989 at Sheffield Wednesday's Hillsborough stadium. The 20th anniversary of the tragedy, Britain's worst sporting disaster, was marked with memorial services in all three cities last month.

The victims' families are still fighting for further inquiries into the deaths.

Please pray: for peace for the families still grieving as a consequence of this disaster.

Please pray: for the police involved and the future release of the minutes of the Enquiry. May God bring justice and peace.

Please pray: for the Sports Chaplains at Hillsborough, Liverpool and Nottingham Forest as they deal with the continued aftermath of the tragedy.

Hope in Jesus

I am the resurrection and the life.

The person who believes in me, even though he dies, he shall live.

John 11: 25

Open Hands Project Sheffield

Refused asylum seekers are not allowed to work, to register themselves as homeless, or places in local authority night shelters. There is no legal way for them to support themselves. Many become destitute, struggling daily for food, accommodation and clothing. It is estimated that there is about 1000 destitute asylum seekers in the Sheffield area alone.

The aim of Open Hands Project is to provide accommodation and support for those asylum seekers who find themselves in this position. Working with ASSIST, Open Hands provides housing, pastoral care and a weekly allowance.

Please pray: for Open Hands Project, Assist and others working with refugees and asylum seekers in Sheffield

www.openhandsproject.co.uk

www.assistsheffield.org.uk

SHEFFIELD-A GREEN AND PLEASANT LAND

The Manor in Sheffield was recently heralded as a shining example to the rest of the country in making the most of its green open spaces and is now seen as a "credit to the city," which had a "significant impact" on the quality of life for local residents.

Lets thank God for the beautiful city we live in, for the open spaces and parks which make Sheffield one of the greenest cities in Britain.

Lets thank God for the good changes to the Manor estate and the positive changes taking place across many estates in the city.

Please Pray: that blessings and peace will be the predominant attribute of all our estates!

When I was hungry you gave me food. When I was thirsty, you gave me drink. When I was homeless you took me in. Matthew 25: 35

Tongues of Fire



They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit ...

Acts 2:4

We all need the flame of God's Spirit in our lives. God wants to kindle a flame of love in our hearts for sharing and spreading the warmth of God's love to others.

Within a few weeks of the first Pentecost the High priest had to admit that Jesus' disciples had 'filled Jerusalem with their teach-

ing' [Acts 5:28] The coming of the Holy Spirit made the difference empowering them to witness.

Let's pray that God will fan the flame of His spirit in each one of us, that we might be as the first disciples—full of power and the Holy Ghost.

Please pray that your church and churches in Sheffield will make the mission to 'spread the Gospel' a priority.

Please pray for your own witness, that there will be opportunities to talk about your faith and help others to come to appreciate the greatest news ever told.

Please pray for faith to believe that everyone can hear about the love of God shown through the risen Christ and that a great number will turn to the Lord.

What is an Intercessor? 15. An Intercessor is by definition, “ a witness with us of HIS RESURRECTION”

Acts 1: 14 & 21-22

14 *They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus and with his brothers. . .*

21 *Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,*

22 *beginning from John's baptism to the time when Jesus was taken up from us. For one of these must become a witness with us of **His Resurrection.**”*

It is wonderful what can be gleaned from texts that deal with incidental matters. Here we have the practical steps taken by the disciples to replace the vacancy in the number of Apostles by the defection of Judas Iscariot. Not only does this tell us something of the qualities needed in an Apostle: one who prays, and does so with the Church: one who has a record of faithfulness and constancy; but also who will be willing and able to be a fellow witness of the Resurrection of the Lord.

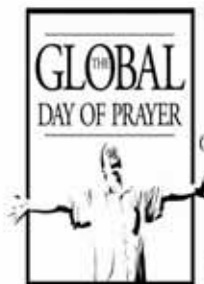
The media seemed as intent to challenge the Resurrection this Easter as it has done in previous years, questioning just how many who call themselves Christians actually do believe in the Resurrection of Jesus.

During the Easter Season and in preparation for Pentecost, I invite you to join me in studying Peter's power-filled testimonies to the Resurrection in Acts 2, 3 and 4.

May all the blessings from Heaven be yours this season.

Love Noel

Each month the Sheffield Prayer Team meet to pray for the monthly prioritised areas of the city. You are invited to join us at the Sheffield Cross Links office for that prayer time. Every third Wednesday in the month from 11 till noon. For further information, or if you have prayer points for your area please ring the SCL office: 0114 2493956.



31st May, 2009 - Pentecost Sunday
From 3 till 4.30pm

Come and join in the biggest prayer meeting
the world has ever seen

Five Sheffield Prayer Stations led by teams:

North: City Life Church, Shalesmoor

South: Meadowhead CF, Jordanthorpe

East: The Beacon Centre, Arbourthorne

West: St Stephens Church, Netherthorpe

Central: Victory Assembly, 99 John Street

Further details: 0114 2493 956 / prayer@sheffieldcrosslinks.co.uk
www.globaldayofprayer.co.uk