



## **Petersfield Area Churches Together**

11 Churches - many shades of worship - but only 1 God

*May 2013 Newsletter*

*Hello, may God continue to bless you and your family, Susanne*

### **Cafe Church: Science and religion - contradictory or complementary?**

**Sunday, 12th May from 5:15-7:00pm (Costa Coffee, Ramswalk):** Many ground-breaking scientists in history combined their work with a firm belief in God, but now it is assumed that science has disproved God or at least made him irrelevant. Is it possible to be a scientist who believes? Or to be a believer who is anti-science? Further details from Nigel Halliday (Tel: 07952 120937, Email: nigelhal@waitrose.com). Topic on 9th June: Young people: trouble-makers or history-makers?

### **Prayer walking during lent - Feedback from Steve Field**

This year, the Salvation Army put on a series of prayer walks for Lent, visiting local churches, PACT organisations, local authority provisions, government organisations, trouble spots etc. We were blessed with dry weather, although at times it was very cold. 20 people turned up on the first evening, and numbers varied through the following weeks. On the last evening (Sunday 24 March), we asked people to go on their own prayer walks, and I was made aware of at least 3 separate groups who went out. One prayed for all the pubs in Petersfield, another went around in their local neighbourhood, and one went out and prayed around the retail areas of the town. On a few occasions we were approached and asked what we were doing, much to our delight of being able to say that we were on a prayer walk. On one occasion, we were at Love Lane Skate Park, when a young PCSO approached us with a torch shining in our faces, and was pleased to see us. When she realised what we were doing, and there was nobody else around, she decided that it was safe to move on to her next destination. The experience of walking and praying has been very inspiring. There was a real sense of praying God's spirit and power into the buildings or places we were visibly looking at. Prayer definitely changes things, and we hope that as we have gone out as a group, we have made a difference in our community.

### **Prison visiting - new course on restorative justice in Winchester**

Also continuing a long tradition of prison visiting from Petersfield, a group is starting a new course of restorative justice teaching in Winchester. Please pray for the chaplain Rev Marina Brain and the team from Petersfield as they 'visit me when I was in prison' and pray that the work will set 'captives free'. Many repeat offenders wish for a different life and the Sycamore project may make a big difference. More about the Sycamore Tree on Prison Fellowship web site [www.prisonfellowship.org.uk](http://www.prisonfellowship.org.uk)

### **Engage Charity Concert for Project Shalom and IMC- Advanced notice**

**Thursday, 6th June at 7.30pm (refreshments) for 8pm start (Town Hall):** Juliet Nasuuna, who came to November's Engage has asked to come again for a concert. She is a wonderful young lady who was in the UK last year fundraising for an orphanage she set up in Uganda. She would like to tell us more about her orphanage and has agreed that an offering would be split with our own In Ministry to Children – Colombia charity. Project Shalom (Reg. Charity Number UK1136019) was founded on the belief that a child that has the love of the Lord instilled in them at an early age will grow into a well-balanced caring adult. Now a registered Non Government Organization (NGO), Project Shalom started in 2002 as a community based organization (CBO) then opened officially in 2003. It currently cares for 24 orphans in house and have placed another 40 in the local community. The IMC charity continues its work with children whose lives are at risk in Colombia, South America. The ministry started after a visit by two of our members in 1993 and subsequently the ministry has become a charity in UK and continues to raise awareness and funds for the work in Colombia.

### **How can the local Christians pray together more effectively for our town?**

On the first Thursday of each month we meet together at 28 Moggs Mead at 2.00pm. At other times, there is Prayer Impact. Have you seen this red pi symbol ( $\pi$ ) on people's front doors and windows? If yes, it means that the household is involved in Prayer Impact. Prayer Impact is about Christians who live near each other, especially from different churches, meeting together on a regular basis to pray for their neighbours, i.e. neighbours are praying with their neighbours for their neighbours! There is no need to pray aloud. If you prefer silence, then pray in silence. Maybe one of you could read a set prayer from your church's liturgy. Or you could write out your neighbours' names and place them on a table in front of you and ask God's blessing on them. The important thing is that we get together in Jesus' name. For more information email John Studd on [info@prayer-impact.org.uk](mailto:info@prayer-impact.org.uk). And if you're not on-line, or just don't like computers, please phone him on 01730 264857.

### **Flame mission for young pioneers - Democratic Republic of Congo**

As part of our Young Adults Programme (YAP) we're looking for radical Christians (or those aspiring to be) aged somewhere between 18 and 30 for our mission to the youth of Aru in north-eastern Democratic Republic of Congo from 23 August to 7 September 2013 - could that be you or someone you know? This is our third year of running this type of mission and we've seen miracles of healing and lives transformed among both the delegates and the team! This is an opportunity to explore your gifting too. As a team member you'll be asked to teach (if you want to), pray with individuals and even lead/help sessions on sport, music, art or any type of creative activity that you have a passion for. And don't worry, we arrange all the details of the trip – apart from the cost, that's up to you. You'll need to raise around £1,600 but you're not on your own, as we'll help you with ideas for that as well. There will be a Training Weekend (29- 30 June) to try and get the whole team together in preparation for the trip. If you are interested in coming and want to explore more, please contact Brenda at [brenda@flameinternational.org](mailto:brenda@flameinternational.org) who will give you more information, or visit our YAP webpage. Blessings, Jan Ransom Director, Flame International [www.flameinternational.org](http://www.flameinternational.org)

### **Wanted for rent: Dry secure garage for storage**

Please contact Life Church Office on 231400 if you can help out

### **Spiritual food for thought:**

*"Prayer isn't limited to a slot in our schedule. It's living in the Lord's presence and being open to Him" (Cheri Fuller)*

Any items for inclusion in the **June PACT Newsletter** to reach me by **Thursday, 30th May**

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