

PRAYER NEWS

Ireland



CROSSLINKS
God's Word to God's World

July 2009

CROSSLINKS

- 1.** The annual General Council Residential meeting finished yesterday. The focus was on the nature of the relationship between staff and trustees, and the future direction of the work in Ireland. Pray that Crosslinks would be a more effective servant of God's children engaged in world mission as a result.
- 2.** We give thanks for the Lord's provision of finance for running Crosslinks in 2008. Please pray that He will make the resources (financial and otherwise) available for us to do more in 2009. Pray that we would use it wisely and appropriately.
- 3.** Pray for the governance review seeking proposals that give more continuity and a wider skills base to our trustee body. Pray for the new trustees who started last month to be understanding and effective in steering Crosslinks in difficult economic times and times of considerable change.
- 4.** Crosslinks Junior Camp for 8-11 year olds at the Kilbroney Centre, Rostrevor starts today. The Bible Teachers are Mike Morfett and Geoff Haugh. Please pray that the gospel will go forth 'in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction' 1 Thessalonians 1:5. Pray that God will raise up the next generation to love, serve and follow him.

(Crosslinks Junior Camp: 4th-11th July 09)

- 5.** Preparatory Meetings are being held today in churches around London prior to the launch of the Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans in the UK and Ireland on the 6th July, Westminster Central Hall. Crosslinks and others will be participating in this launch. This is the movement taking up the momentum of the Global Anglican Future Conference (GAFCON) held in Jerusalem last June. Pray that we will be faithful, humble and gracious.

EUROPE

- 6.** Jonathan Heeb continues to work with the Finnish Lutheran Mission and has been involved with teaching in both the Theology and Missions departments. Please pray for the preaching and teaching that Jonathan is doing. That he would be faithful to God's Word as he explains it to others, and that hearts and lives would be changed by the in-working of that Word. Please pray that Jonathan and Jessica would make time to help their children grow in their faith.

7. Jirka and Keira Kralovi are working from an established evangelical church in the center of Olomouc, a large university town in the east of the Czech Republic. They are discipling Christian students and reach out with the Gospel to other students at Olomouc University. Please pray for them and their ministry.

8. Please pray for Edward and Laura Nelson in Paris, France, where Edward is leading a church plant. Pray for the gospel to bear fruit there, with people coming to trust Christ personally and be built up as they hear His Word (the church is studying John's Gospel together). Pray for wisdom as they seek to structure this young church for a fruitful future ministry.

9. French speaking Belgium epitomises the spiritual battlefield that is continental Europe: largely secular and resistant to the Gospel. Steve and Dawn Orange are working in the church in Woluwé where Steve is actively involved in the church's leadership. He is an 'elder in training', preaching and leading services, whilst developing new and existing ministries. Please pray for him and Dawn.

10. Chris and Lotta Strajnic have been working in Novi Sad, Serbia since 2001. From 2005 they worked as colleagues with Crosslinks' mission partners, Rob and Trish MacCurrach, training church leaders and members. Please pray for the Strajnics and MacCurrachs as they teach, train and equip people for ministry.

11. The Crosslinks Junior Camp for 8 – 11 year olds at the Kilbroney Centre, Rostrevor, finishes today. Please pray Philippians 1: 9-11 for the campers, leaders and cooks: 'And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ....'

AFRICA

12. The Ounate-Lare Family have been in the UK since March. Please remember the church at Dapaong, Togo and the church leaders. Pray especially for Gnoate - he is working full-time for the church and doing an evening bible course. Pray that he will grow in the knowledge and love of God.

13. Principal Vernon Light is stepping down from his 15 year tenure as Principal of Bible Institute Eastern Cape, Port Elizabeth. Vernon will be leaving a significant gap in the college's leadership. Jamie and Helen Read, Crosslinks' Mission Partners, ask for prayer for the college board as they look for a suitable person to take on this position.

14. Rosie Button meets with the Women in Theology group at the Uganda Christian University in Mukono, and reports lots of fun and good prayer times together. She asks us to pray especially for Mercy, Betty and Sarah who are leaving this year to begin or return to parish ministries.

15. Robert and Sharon Heaney plan to go to Tanzania in 2010. They will be joining the School of Theology and Religious Studies, St John's University, Tanzania. Robert and Sharon will be delivering current courses and developing future post-graduate and research programs. Robert and Sharon are from Northern Ireland and will be returning here at the end of July to meet with Rectors. Please pray that individuals and churches will partner with them in this vital gospel work.

16. Tim Wambunya is Principal of Carlile College. He gives thanks for the commitment of the students, and asks that we pray for their training and economic needs and for those who have pledged to donate to the college bursary and emergency funds.

17. Richard and Bianca Reeve have become involved in marriage preparation teaching. For a sequence of Friday evenings, the couples they work with come to their home for a meal and then work through material on aspects of married life. Please pray for Richard and Bianca and the young people they are helping.

18. Gill Olaaka is the Country Director of Oasis Uganda, a locally registered non-governmental organisation which was set up to run projects which provide holistic care to vulnerable and destitute children and their families in slum areas. Her husband Carlos is actively involved in sports ministry both in their church and with other organisations in a voluntary capacity. Please pray for them both.

19. Karen Salmon asks for prayer for the prison bible study with HIV positive prisoners. Please pray for an open door to begin a bible club at Romenat Rural School. Also remember the girls from the youth centre Bible studies as they continue to grow in their knowledge and understanding of God.

20. Please continue to pray for the development of Johanne's role with the women in the local church, especially for an increased ability to share with them in Arabic.

ASIA

21. Neil Watkinson asks for wisdom about accepting invitations for teaching and developing Schools of Biblical Training in Asia. Please also remember Debbie – who encounters far more cross-cultural challenges in her work as a palliative care consultant doctor at the National Cancer Centre, especially issues of hierarchy, language and medical practice – with Chinese, Malay and Indian cultures!

22. Peter and Ineke Cook are Mission Partners in Bangkok, Thailand where Peter is Vicar of Christ Church Bangkok. Please pray for a number of ministry vacancies within the church, that godly people will make themselves available for these gospel ministries.

23. Jo has three roles that she is involved with in East Asia. Pray for her to be a good witness for Christ as she teaches English in a local university and for wisdom as she oversees the pastoral work of a group of expatriates for whom she has responsibility. Continue to thank God for the ministry that Jo and her team of local believers have amongst women working in the commercial sex industry. Pray that more of these women will give their lives to Christ and be transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit.

24. Please pray for the children Katy is in regular contact with. They are from non-Christian families. Pray that the good news about Jesus Christ will be proclaimed and will bring these children to repentance and faith in him. Pray that links will be made with these non-Christian families that will have eternal significance.

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25. Crosslinks Senior Camp (12-17 year olds) runs 25 July to 1 August at Greenhill YMCA, Newcastle. The Bible teachers are Peter Bourke, Tim Anderson and Mark Smith. Please remember them in prayer, that their teaching will be firmly grounded in Scripture.

(Crosslinks Senior Camp: 25th July-1st August 09)

26. Give thanks for Andy Lines, Crosslinks Mission Director, visiting Northern Ireland 27-30 July. He is hoping to meet with Rectors and visit the Crosslinks Senior Camp. Please pray that his time in Northern Ireland will be a great encouragement and support to others to contend for the faith.

27. Give thanks for Crosslinks in Ireland. Pray that God will continue to use Crosslinks to achieve His purposes and plans – “to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.” (Ephesians 1: 10). Pray for wisdom concerning the future direction of Crosslinks in Ireland. Give thanks for the work of Brian Blacoe, Hazel Coulter, Pam Smyth and Val Ellis.

(Andy Lines, Mission Director visiting Northern Ireland: 27th-30th July 09)

28. Remember all the staff at the Crosslinks Office, London. Pray particularly for Andy Lines, Mission Director, Giles Rawlinson, Operations Director, Jo Sayer, Means of Mission Team Leader and Alan Purser, the Church and Members Team Leader.

AUSTRALIA

29. Pray for David and Rachel Williams, seconded to CMS Australia. David is training new CMS mission partners: CMS wants to increase the number of missionaries going to Muslim countries and David has been involved in formulating proposals. Please pray for wisdom in this.

(Interviews for Crosslinks Ireland Team Leader)

30. Please remember the greatest need in the world – for people to know God, to receive His forgiveness and enter His kingdom. Pray that many more people will join the work of pasturing the sheep and gathering the harvest. ‘Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.’

31. Give thanks for the many men and women who have so faithfully supported Crosslinks over the years through prayer and sacrificial giving of time and money. Pray that the Crosslinks’ Family may continue to be strong and supportive of one another.

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