

TOGETHER4BRISTOL PRAYER UPDATE: EASTER 2019

Happy Easter everyone

God is doing so many exciting things across the Bristol region, shown partly in Bristol being named recently as the UK's <u>"kindest" city!</u>

Here are a few examples of the Chistian community **working together** across the Bristol region in the last few months, with **Praise** for what has happened recently and **Prayer** for the rest of 2019.

Please pass these on to all your contacts to encourage them and for prayer!

PRAISE POINTS

We thank God for:

- 1. The old Bristol Networks website. Funding has come to an end. If you want to contribute to an appeal for some final work over the next couple of months, please find out how here. Many thanks!
- 2. The launch in a couple of churches of One Church, One Day prayer initiative to cover the city in continual prayer. Pray for this to spread across many other churches during 2019. For more information contact the Crawleys: silasandannie@gmail.com
- 3. The <u>Bristol Churches City Fund</u>, which has reached its initial fundraising target. The first 5 projects have been awarded grants. Further fundraising to raise £100k will continue in 2019. The website has a film and tells us how to donate.
- 4. The <u>Bristol Churches Winter Night Shelter</u>, which ran from January until the end of March. Finance is still needed: to donate, see here
- 5. Keyboard 2020, which has regular lunches with a small group of black church leaders and has recently appointed a part-time networker, Carmen Carrol, across the black-led churches.
- 6. The Christian community's increased involvement in the the Mayor's <u>City Office</u>, including the <u>launch</u> in January of Bristol's first ever <u>One City Plan</u>: a vision for Bristol in 2050 as a fair, healthy and sustainable city of hope.
- 7. The <u>Feeding Bristol</u> initiative, with breakfast clubs at the 20 to 30 schools in Bristol with the highest proportion of children on free school meals (up to 75%). A further 20 schools are targeted.
- 8. Progress for 7 Offers from the Christian community which have been made to the City Office. For example, CAP Money Matters courses are provided in 4 Children's Centre hubs. A first CAP Centre in South Bristol is opening, with Rachel Goodchild as the Manager.
- 9. Early intervention, which brings hope to struggling children in Education through TLG (Transforming Lives for Good), who have appointed a new manager, Charlie Carron. There are now 6 churches involved.
- 10. For various recent conferences, including the Kingdom Creatives' (Arts sphere) Outreach Gatherings at the Colston Hall and the Healing Streams' (Health Sphere) conference: "Stronger Together". Also Global Aware Bristol's Festival of Transformation.
- 11. The Bristol Healing Rooms, who have been going out evangelising and praying for people to

receive healing. A number of healings have been taking place (see here)

12. The <u>Bristol Housing Festival</u>'s progress with ZEDpods and Launchpad, which has recently gained planning permission (see <u>here</u>), following the launch exhibition, which over 6,000 people visited and which started to re-imagine affordable housing solutions for the city.

PRAYER POINTS

We pray for:

- 1. The completion of a new website which combines the old Bristol Networks and Christian Action Bristol websites. And for a new website, called Bristol Threads, to help spread good news stories across the city.
- 2. The Bristol Noise, from 4 to 6 May, which shows God's love in practical ways, for example by doing community projects, having Family Fun Days and Senior Citizens Events.
- 3. The Keyboard 2020 networker, to connect across over 30 black-led churches in the region, to help them be stronger together and to engage more with the rest of the Christian community, and to help everyone collaborate together on issues of racial justice...
- 4. Including the issues raised by the visit in July 2020, of the replica slave ship, the Zong , which will be a catalyst for change, so that Bristol is no longer the most racially segregated of the ten core cities, according to the 2017 Runnymede Report .
- 5. The Christian community's engagement with the Mayor and council to keep developing, for example through the various Offers to City Office mentioned in the Praise points above. Also through parenting and relationships courses (Family sphere) in Children's Centres and Home for Good, helping to find 30 homes in Bristol to foster and adopt vulnerable children. Contact Kate Walker: clare.walker@homeforgood.org.uk...
- 6. And through the church leaders' prayer breakfasts with the Mayor at St Stephen's Church. The next one is May 9th from 7am to 8.30am. If you are a church leader, contact Silas Crawley: silasandannie@gmail.com
- 7. The <u>Burn 24/7</u> Bristol worship gatherings over 2019. To find out more contact Joseph Davies: idavies@theburn247.com
- 8. The writing of an excellent Manifesto from the Faith community during 2019, in time for the 2020 Mayoral election.
- 9. The Sport sphere as they help churches use the 2019 Cricket and Rugby World Cups to engage with their local communities. For more information, contact Akeel Yousaf: sport.t4b@gmail.com
- 10. The Thy Kingdom Come gathering at the Cathedral on 2 June, 6.30pm, as part of a global wave of prayer (initiated by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York), to pray that people would come to know the love of God.

Please email us if you no longer wish to receive these prayer bulletins.

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