



Glasgow Street Pastors

Bulletin - 1 May 2020

God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble. Psalm 46: 1

From Linda:

Hello to you all at the end of a week in which we have seen and heard about many different events and situations some of which have raised our spirits and others make us feel sad. And its that shared experience which is uniting us at present. I am delighted to tell you that Stuart McCloy got home from hospital: thank you for prayer for his recovery. Stuart had visits in the hospital from Anne Barlow one of our SPs who is a nurse in QEUH. He said that "God had sent him an angel". Great that Anne could support Stuart!

I am sure we all feel the sadness around our care homes across the country: again, much prayer is needed in support of residents and carers.



As we continue on our journey, we go in the assurance that God loves each one of us!

Here are Anne Madill's thoughts about these questions:

What does it mean to go in God's strength?

"I try to keep God as the main focus & not get distracted by the media etc who only seem to report on the negatives of COVID 19.

I am grateful for God's continued faithfulness to me by being the "one certain person" during this time of great uncertainty."

What does "God's presence" mean?

"During my quiet times, that I am aware God remains with me on this journey. He keeps me calm."

"Count your blessings"

"Grateful that I can keep in touch with family & friends via Zoom, Facetime etc.

That I have a home, food, clothing & my health.

I can work from home & continue to be paid.

I am in a position to help others in need."

God bless you: at home, in the workplace; volunteering.



Here is an update from Stuart:

- The GSP phone will be 'open' again this Friday and Saturday from 10pm until midnight. This is being publicised through our Facebook page on a Friday.
- Friday & Saturday teams 2 would have been on duty this weekend on the street and in the Safe Zone.
- ATS board meeting took place on Tuesday 28 April. Possibility of a 'virtual' conference in September was explored.
- Congratulations to Linda Burke who was appointed as a director of ATS.
- Social Bite have given out 100,000 food packs since March 20th.
- From Glasgow City Mission

Our guests have been enjoying phone calls and food deliveries from our project team along with video chats, cookery demos and Bible studies. We've been live streaming our weekly Gathering on Facebook and the Child and Family Centre have been keeping children entertained with activities on Facebook. Clare O'Sullivan the Urban co-ordinator at GCM speaks about her work.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ks50e4D2-aM>.

Helen, International Project worker at GCM on food deliveries

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aNIuW2GI_V8

- Inside Central Station starts on BBC Scotland Sunday 3 May 9.00pm.

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Ephesians 6: 18

Please pray for Lorna and Stuart as they continue to work from home.

'Please see the prayer points from Willie

PRAY

And finally,

Please be in touch if GSP can be of support to you: please do not be stuck. As a family, we are here for one another.

Blessings,

Linda

Linda Burke

Chair - Glasgow Street Pastors

SCO39983



Context for prayer

- Many vulnerable people in our society depend on carers to visit them at home, in many cases two or three times a day. They are finding that, with the reduction in services because of carers being unwell or being forced to self-isolate, visits have been greatly reduced or in some cases have become non-existent. Apart from the dangers to physical health and wellbeing, this is causing stress and anxiety attacks for these individuals. Similarly, many homeless people now in hotel accommodation are finding it hard to cope with the changes to their circumstances, particularly if they have to self-isolate.
- Glasgow Street Pastors have arranged to cover the GSP phonenumber between 10.00pm and midnight on Friday and Saturday evenings to listen, help and care for any member of the public who would like to talk to someone. This service is being advertised on GSP Facebook page.
- Linda Burke, the chairperson of Glasgow Street Pastors, has been appointed as a director of Ascension Trust Scotland, the umbrella charity that governs all Street Pastor work in Scotland.

Please pray:

- For the vulnerable people in our country who are experience a major loss in support services. Pray that the Lord will calm their worries and enable care providers to be creative in how to meet the needs of their patients. Continue to pray also for Glasgow City Mission as they keep in touch with needy people with phone calls, video chats and food deliveries in addition to cookery demonstrations and Bible studies. Pray that City Mission staff and volunteers will not be overwhelmed by the scale of need that they encounter among their guests. Give thanks also for organisations like Social Bite, who have delivered 100,000 food parcels since 20 March.
- That people in our city will see that this service is available and take advantage of it. Pray also for the Street Pastor(s) handling the calls that they will be sensitive to the needs of the people who call and will have the wisdom to offer appropriate practical and spiritual care.
- For Linda in her new role with ATS, that she will have the ability to contribute to the vision for the future operations of Street Pastors in Scotland, which may have to be very different from the ways we have operated in the past. Pray that Linda will be able to encourage even closer working between the different Street Pastor initiatives across the country and also strengthen the relationships between Street Pastor groups and ATS.