

# Glasgow Street Pastors



**Bulletin - 8 January 2021**

*hope*

**Blessings to you for 2021!**

*When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." John 8: 12*

**InDay 2021 - Saturday 30 January 10am - 12noon**

The InDay this year will be a morning only event and will be online. As in previous years, the first part will be our AGM and the second part will have a fellowship and worship focus. It will be a shorter event than usual as it is online. The InDay will be a welcome to WESP (West End Street Pastors) to be part of GSP. We will have the opportunity to hear about the work of WESP and to share thoughts with one another during group discussion.

I look forward to seeing as many of GSP and WESP street pastor family as possible. While the event will be different, we can come together as a group who have a common purpose to serve God as we support others. We are unsure what the year has in store for us, but it is important that we have a readiness to serve the needs of the city and that we are fit for the future. So, let us view the InDay as a time of encouragement and support for one another.

Practical arrangements for the InDay:

- Agenda and other papers will come to you in advance.
- Reports will also be sent to you. (On the day aspects of the reports will be given with an opportunity for questions.)
- Team Leaders will be given the link for the InDay. Please let your team leader know if you are able to attend and they will give you the link. WESP members will receive their link from Tony. Entry to the InDay via the link will be from 9.40am
- If you are not part of a team, please contact Linda Burke for the link for the InDay.

Let's look forward to our time together!

**PRAY**

*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.**

## And from Stuart

- In the lead up to Christmas teams were on the streets on seven occasions with prayer pastor support. Thanks to all who were involved.
- GSP supported other agencies over the festive period by passing on toiletries and items of clothing for distribution to the homeless and disadvantaged.
- A connection has been made with Helensburgh Helping the Homeless. Through the generosity of the people of Helensburgh we were able to pass on essential supplies for distribution in George Square by another voluntary group.
- The GCM Overnight Welcome Centre in the first month of opening welcomed 49 guests, on average 8 per evening, with most of these individuals finding alternative accommodation after a brief stay. The OWC is a very different experience from what was the case at the Lodging House Mission due to greatly reduced numbers requiring emergency accommodation and the use of a city centre hotel. Again, due to generous donations, we have supplied toiletries and clothing for the hotel guests.
- A donation of £1,500 was received from the Hope Trust.
- The Ascension Trust Board is meeting on Friday 15 January.



**Regular giving:** continued thanks to all who give to GSP on a monthly basis or as one-off gifts. Your giving is greatly appreciated. Our finances are only being used just now to cover our financial commitments. If you are in a position to give to GSP, that would help as we move forward. This can be set up easily: bank details and gift aid information are available from Willie. ([willie.henry@gsp.scot](mailto:willie.henry@gsp.scot))

**Thanks to everyone who has made the necessary banking changes to direct their giving to the CAF account.**

From now on all donations to GSP should be sent to the following account at CAF Bank.

Account Name: Glasgow Street Pastors SCIO  
Bank Sort Code: 83-91-46  
Account Number: 20401096

Love and prayer for all of the SP family,  
Linda

Linda Burke Chair - Glasgow Street Pastors - SCO39983  
[linda.burke@gsp.scot](mailto:linda.burke@gsp.scot) 07870269546



## Context for prayer

- The recent acceleration in the spread of Covid has increased the problems for our city. Thousands more are suffering from the virus and many have lost loved ones. Apart from the direct impact of the illness, pressures on vulnerable people in our city are growing, the homeless, those with drug and alcohol problems, people suffering from mental illness and many who are experiencing severe financial hardship.
- Until the recent lockdown we have been operating daytime and early evening patrols but these have now ceased. We have also been able to give toiletries and items of clothing to other charities in the city for distribution to the homeless and disadvantaged. January is normally the month when we do not patrol and we are waiting to see what the lockdown situation will be at the start of February.
- Saturday 30 January is Glasgow Street Pastors' annual "In Day." This is when we all gather together, hold our AGM, reflect on the year that is past and discuss plans for the coming year. It is always an encouraging day but this year it will be very different. Since we are unable to meet physically, the meeting will be held on Zoom; our activities during 2020 have been greatly curtailed and some of our street pastors have been struggling with the knock-on effects of Covid. Also, the future is somewhat uncertain and it is difficult to make plans for the next few months.

## Please pray:

- For all those in our city affected by the virus directly or indirectly, that the Lord will bring healing and protect NHS staff who are caring for Covid patients. Pray also that Glasgow City Mission and other charities that are trying to help the vulnerable will be able to do their work effectively. Give thanks that Glasgow City Mission's Overnight Welcome Centre in a Glasgow hotel is providing comfortable accommodation for the homeless and that almost two thirds of the guests using the Centre before Christmas have been placed in more permanent accommodation.
- Thank the Lord for the opportunities we have had to operate some street patrols and offer clothes and toiletries. The patrols have been positive and we have seen several incidents of God at work in bringing street pastors in touch with needy people. Pray that by the end of the month, the spread of infection will have reduced and that we will be able to restart the daytime patrols at least.
- That our In Day will be a positive and encouraging meeting and that we will be able to focus on what the Lord has achieved through GSP in 2020, rather than the difficulties we have faced. Pray that we will be encouraged as people share their experiences and their vision for a future post-Covid.