TOGETHER4BRISTOL PRAYER UPDATE: NEW YEAR 2020

Hi everyone

Happy new year to you all! Praise God that He came to reconcile all things to Himself (Colossians 1: 20). Here are a few examples of the Christian community **working together** across the Bristol region in the last few months, with **Praise** for what has happened recently and **Prayer** for 2020!

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

PRAISE POINTS
We thank God for:
1. The Feeding Bristol Appeal, which raised £125,000 from 55 businesses. Over 600 volunteers provided over 50,000 meals over the summer holidays to feed about 5,000 children in the city on free school meals, vulnerable to food insecurity during holidays.

2. The Keyboard 2020 networker, Carmen Carrol, who started recently, to connect across over 40 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. For an excellent gathering recently, with Deputy Mayor Asher Craig, to explore these issues. To find out more contact keyboardnetworker@gmail.com

3. The Bristol Housing Festival's progress with ZEDpods, Launchpad and other projects. For the Festival, in October 2019, with about 2000 visitors and 15 events to help re-imagine affordable housing solutions for the city.

4. Progress for 7 Offers from the Christian community which have been made to the City Office. For example, Transforming Lives for Good (TLG) is now being run by 18 churches providing mentors in their local schools, to help children who are in danger of exclusion.

5. The first Christians Against Poverty (CAP) Centre in South Bristol has opened, with Rachel Goodchild making good progress.

6 Various recent conferences by the spheres, including the Kingdom Creatives' (Arts sphere) "Press Red" conference about violence and abuse against women worldwide.

7. The Gather Collective (a group from the 139 "unity for mission movements" similar to Together4Bristol) transforming towns and cities across the UK, which came to Bristol in November, to find out about our work across the spheres, especially with Christian Action Bristol (the Politics and Social Action sphere) and our engagement with the Mayor, Council and One City Office.

8. The Burn 24/7 Bristol worship gatherings over 2019, which hosted the presence of God in various communities over the Autumn, including South Bristol,Central church and Lawrence Weston. To find out more contact Joseph Davies: jdavies@theburn247.com

9. A plaque commemorating Bristol as a "City of Hope", which has been placed near the City of Sanctuary plaque in City Hall. To find out how to get involved (eg with a banner outside your church) see here

10. The bi-monthly Healing Pool at Hope Chapel (Health Sphere): networking and prayer for Christians with an interest in Healing of body, mind and spirit. healing.streams@outlook.com

PRAYER POINTS
We pray for:

1. The completion of a new website which combines the old Bristol Networks and Together4Bristol websites. If you want to contribute to an appeal for some final work on the Bristol Networks, please find out how here.

2. The Bristol Churches Winter Night Shelter, which runs from January until early April 2020. Sixteen churches are involved, with over 350 volunteers so far. Funding has now been received for the whole project: see here

3. The Bristol Churches City Fund. The website has a film and tells us how to donate.

4. The Christian community's increased involvement serving the City Office, including the One City Plan (a vision for Bristol in 2050 as a fair, healthy and sustainable city of hope) and the next One City gathering on January 10th, see here

5. And through Offers such as Home for Good helping to find 30 homes in Bristol to foster and adopt vulnerable children. See the video and contact Clare Walker: clare.walker@homeforgood.org.uk

6. And through the church leaders' prayer breakfasts with the Mayor. The next one is on January 9th from 7am to 8.30am, at God's House International Centre (http://godshouseic.org), Cannon Street, behind Bristol bus station, BS1 3LP. If you are a church leader, contact Silas Crawley: silasandannie@gmail.com

7. The production and distribution of an excellent Manifesto from the Faith community for the 2020 Mayoral election. For the Christian community to be fully involved in the election process (voting on May 7th 2020), so that the best candidate is elected.

8. The Noise, which takes place between 8th and 10th May for its 20th anniversary!

9. Thy Kingdom Come, which is 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. Pete Grieg of 24/7, will speak on the evening of 31 May.

10. The development of the One Church, One Day prayer initiative to cover the city in continual prayer. Pray for this to spread across many other churches during 2020. For more information contact the Crawleys: silasandannie@gmail.com

11. Two gatherings from the Family sphere (Love Family-Bristol). 18th January: Building Families as Factories of Hope and June 6th, Day of Inspiration and Equipping

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

Derick Mulubwa, Prayer, Together4Bristol, Arise, Bristol Evangelical Alliance (prayer.t4b@gmail.com)
Roger Allen, Enabler, Together4Bristol / Churches Together in Greater Bristol (enabler.t4b@gmail.com)

CHURCHES TOGETHER in GREATER BRISTOL