

MCCABES NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2008



Recently a message was preached in St. Mark's Church on 'Holding on to the Dreams God has Given You.' *"Remember those earlier days...So you do not throw away your confidence...You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what He has promised."* Hebrews 10:32-36 . We are seeing answers to prayer to some of those dreams that Jesus put into our hearts – and its because of YOUR partnership! If you've financially given to our ministry - bless you! If you've been praying for us – bless you! We are seeing dreams become reality in this pioneer ministry. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

St. Patrick's Day Celebration

St. Patrick's Day we'll be celebrating with thousands of believers at the Arise Dublin prayer rally in Dublin's Croke Park (rugby stadium). Churches from around Dublin have been praying together each Friday night for the past 6 weeks. On Sunday, 16th March (the day before St. Patrick's Day), we'll come together for a celebration of prayer, praise and worship as churches intercede for our capital city. Join us in prayer for our city and nation – that hearing and deaf will find Christ Jesus and once again we'll become a nation of Saints and Scholars. Happy St. Patrick's Day!!

Border Counties & Meath Deaf Resource Centre

A dream we have had over the past year, since the Lord moved us out of Dublin and into the border county of Cavan (we are one hour's drive from Northern Ireland), has been to set up a Deaf Resource Centre. This centre will meet the needs of the Deaf Communities in the border counties of Louth, Monaghan, Cavan, Leitrim and the non-border county of Meath. The west county of Kerry has had a wonderfully successful resource centre based in Tralee for the past 9 years. They have graciously invited us to come to see how their centre is run and how they went about getting the necessary funding. Pray with us as we seek God's wisdom for establishing this centre – and His favour.

Bible translated into Irish Sign Language

Another dream we have had is that the Bible will be translated into Irish Sign Language. This would benefit our Irish Deaf people greatly, being able access the Word of God in a format that they can more readily understand. At the first Arise Dublin prayer meeting six weeks ago, a woman approached Debra with the news that an American Deaf girl wants to come to Ireland to learn ISL. As it turns out this young woman is with Wycliffe (Bible translators). Bev met Michael when he was ministering in southern California. She has had a burden ever since that meeting to translate the Bible into Irish Sign Language. Bev will be coming to stay with us on Easter Monday for a number of weeks doing a survey/linguistic research. Pray for Bev's time in Ireland, for project to be given priority within Wycliffe, and that God will work out all the details. We are so excited by this development!

Lloyd and Monika Couch's Ministry Visit

We'll be attending the Northern Europe missionary fellowship retreat on the 1st-4th May in Amsterdam, Holland, where our Area Directors, Tim & Marketa Southerland, are missionaries. The Southerland's are from the Illinois District as are Lloyd and Monika Couch, ministers to the Deaf for a remarkable 50+ years. Brother and Sister Couch have honoured us by agreeing to come to interpret for Michael in Holland and then stay on in Ireland for a few weeks ministering to our Deaf people. They will be doing some intensive one-on-one counselling with people who have been hurting for a number of years due to sexual abuse, rejection, infant deaths, etc. Please pray with us that their time with us will be fruitful, and those Deaf people who are seeking physical, emotional and/or spiritual healing will have the miracles they so desperately want and need. We would also like to express our deep appreciation, love and thanks to Tim and the Illinois District for making the Couch's time with us possible.

On Your Marks – the follow-on from the Alpha Course

When the Alpha Course was completed, a 10-week follow-on course entitled, 'On Yours Marks', began and has been a wonderful blessing for our Deaf people. Praise God they have a spiritual hunger for a deeper relationship with Him through Jesus Christ. They have begun to understand that their relationship with God will deepen as they look to Him as Saviour, and start relating to Him as their Lord. This has been an incredible revelation for them. Three of our Deaf people have followed Jesus' example and command to be water baptised, and four are very nearly ready to make this bold step of obedience.



Pray for these Deaf people as they search their hearts and attitudes for God's Will in their lives. (Photo by Michael taken at the Holy Spirit Day, Alpha Course.)

Alpha Course – DVD Presentation

Another dream being fulfilled ... we've recently been given permission by Nicky Gumble's Alpha Course organisation to be able to take their DVD presentation and insert an ISL interpreter (bubble) onto the DVD so we can use it time after time with Deaf people. Praise God! Please pray with us about an upcoming meeting with the Roman Catholic Chaplain to Deaf People, the Alpha Ireland director, Mr. Paddy Monaghan, and ourselves to discuss the possibility of a wide-scale running of the Alpha Course within the Catholic Deaf community. Pray also about the possibility of getting together with the Church of Ireland Chaplain to the Deaf to discuss the same strategy.

Women's Card-making Workshop

Debra held a card-making workshop with some of the Deaf women at the Navan (County Meath) Deaf Club and gave a short devotional on 'Creativity'. It was a great success and the women were so encouraged by the creative abilities the Creator had given to them. Their interest was so great that we'll be repeating the workshop in Navan as well as at a few other Deaf Clubs around Ireland. A heartfelt thank you to the various women's ministry groups in Minnesota and California who blessed Debra with craft materials – and especially to Katrina Carlson for her generous discounts (Close To My Heart, MN) and the



Andover, MN, young people who brought the 8 boxes when they came to Ireland a few years ago on a mission's trip. We couldn't have done it without you!

Mental Health Workshop

Please be in prayer with us for the Mental Health Workshop we'll be holding in May with Assemblies of God Ireland's Rev. Anne Rowe Monaghan who is also a leading psychologist/therapist. This was such a mighty workshop back in September 2007 that we've been asked to hold it again. Pray that those who need to be there will be present, and that lives will be changed with the glory going to God.

Dollar to Euro

Ouch! With the dollar becoming weaker and weaker in Europe we are really feeling the 'pinch'. Thank you most sincerely for your sacrificial giving and support. Your faith promise to God is what allows us to stay where God has called us. We love and appreciate you.

Happy Easter!

Have a great resurrection Sunday! Hallelujah – Christ arose!

His Hands Extended in Love,

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P.S. For individuals: If your place of business does a charitable donation match, please consider this when next you give to missions (i.e. Microsoft does this and there may be others). Remember: all donations are tax deductible. Many thanks!