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LONDON NEWS

“We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ.”

Colossians 1:28 (NIV)

SHARING ALL THE GOOD NEWS FROM AROUND OUR FELLOWSHIP IN LONDON

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THE YEAR OF THE TEEN?

The beginning of the 'teenage' decade of the 2000s looks really promising for the Youth & Family Ministry. God has already blessed us with four new additions to the family since January. Christian Xavier (South), Sarah Farrell (Surrey), Isabelle Agerbak (Northwest) and Ella Zakaryan (West) all made the bold decision to become Christians in recent months. We are so excited to share this news with you and to welcome them into the church.

The teens enjoyed a fantastic party on 14 February. This replaced the annual end of year event, which had to be cancelled last year because of problems with the venue (at least we managed to pull it off in time for Chinese New Year – the year of the tiger!) Teens from all over the church enjoyed food, fellowship and music. We are so grateful for Barney Ajetunmobi and Funmi Ajayi, teen leaders in the Northwest. They helped the Christian teens to put on a tremendous evening for the rest of the teens. Thank you for all your hard work!

Adrian and Maureen Hill have returned from Singapore having completed training in 'Movie Therapy' by John and Karen Louis. This has equipped them to draw on a new series of marriage and parenting classes that use film clips to illustrate biblical and practical points. Watch out for announcements on these classes; they are invaluable and should not be missed! The new series can improve our life skills and transform the way we approach the Youth & Family Ministry.

We are so excited to see what God will do in the Youth and Family Ministry this year. With so many teens making inspiring decisions to become Christians, should the tiger bow to the 'year of the teen'? With faith for the year ahead and in line with God's powerful work to date, we couldn't resist the subtle shift in reframing this year; from 'twenty-ten' to 'twenty-teen'!

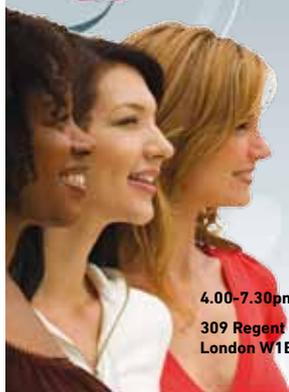


TO DREAM THE DREAM

10/04/2010



A special evening to celebrate the lives we have as women and to dream about the future God has in store for us.



4.00-7.30pm
309 Regent Street,
London W1B 2UW

Clockwise from top: Isabelle Agerbak is baptised by her parents, Ellen Zakaryan is congratulated by her family, Sarah Farrell is baptised in Surrey and Rachel Farrell being baptised November 2009. Words: Adrian Hill.

SINGLES REPORT

Since the September 2009 UK **'Built in Love'** singles retreat in Cefn Lea, Wales, the Spirit has worked powerfully in the hearts of single disciples. Once again we are collectively dreaming about how God can use us to glorify Him through our lives. Step-by-step the singles ministry is becoming more and more united. After every London-wide Sunday service the singles have met together at a central London venue for fellowship and to break bread together.

In November, the South East singles ministry led and organised an opportunity to invite friends to a bonfire night held in this fine city's far south east region. It was a time of food, fun and seeds sown.

In December the singles ministry hosted **'Make a Difference Day'** for the whole London church which raised over £500 for Hope (an amount doubled by a company) through carol singing in Covent Garden.

As 2010 got under way, disciples gathered from around the UK for the **'Called'** worship service, which sought to bring the year, our dreams and plans before God in prayer. It was a time filled with thanks and praise to God with public reading of scripture and a message to respond to the call that God has for us this year.

In February, the brothers organised a valentines dinner / dance entitled **'From London with Love'**, that sought to express how important and valued the sisters are to the brothers and to remember how valued we all are by God.

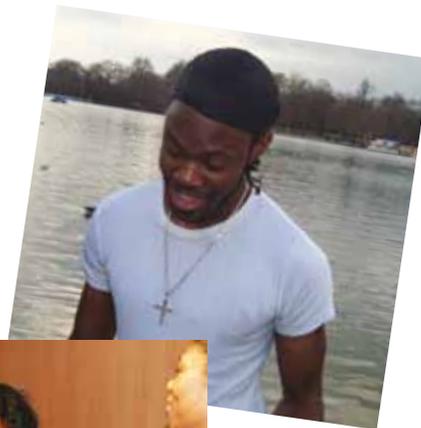
There is much more to look forward to. The representatives of each London singles ministry, through prayer, have drawn up a calendar for the rest of the year filled with exciting events, including, amongst others, the March invitational service, **'Why Shouldn't I Get Baptised'** and October's retreat; all of which seek, in unity and love, to build up the body of Christ and present an opportunity for a seed to be sown in the lives of those that are seeking God in their hearts. To find out more about what is going on have a look at the singles page on the ICCM site: www.icoc.org.uk/singles



Above: Having a great time at the Singles' Retreat in Wales, September 2009. Photo: Shaun Elkington, words: Phil Rogers.



Left: Pearl is baptised, above: JaRoy prepares for his life-changing event.



CENTRAL LONDON MULTIPLIES

With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may count you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may fulfil every good purpose of yours and every act prompted by your faith. - 2 Thessalonians 1:11

This is the theme passage for the Central London Ministry as we move forward this year, praying that God will fulfil our good purpose to make disciples in the city centre. God has blessed us much since we started in the autumn, growing our group to 22 people with two baptisms so far this year. We welcome JaRoy and Pearl into the kingdom, with more people studying the Bible, well on their way!

We had a special worship service at the end of January for the students, meeting at the University of London Union. Andy Boakye came down from Manchester to give a talk on evidences for the historical Jesus, and the attendance was over 60! The student ministry has since been happy and blessed, having Bible studies with people on four different campuses and our fellowship events growing bigger each week. We have just returned from an encouraging time of fellowship at our **'All UK Student Retreat'**, which was much bigger than the one we had in the autumn, showing that God has been blessing not only London but also Reading, Birmingham, Leicester and Manchester with active new student ministries over the past year.

God has set it on our hearts to not only spread the gospel in the city centre, but also to serve the whole London church. We know that there are many disciples who are members of the "outer" regions yet work in the centre and have colleagues who might not want to travel out to the suburbs for Sunday services. We want to help them reach out to their co-workers by hosting evangelistic events for them in the centre. Our first one is Thursday 18 March - a talk by Rob Payne entitled: **God, the Big Bang and Evolution: Can We Believe in All Three?** If you're able to come, details are on the website.

We appreciate all the prayers and support we've received from everyone, and for the many wise and inspiring leaders who have come to preach for us. Please keep praying for us (2 Cor 1:11) and we're sure God will continue to bless our acts prompted by faith! All glory to Him!

Words and photos: Ian Mohlke.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 18 March, 7:30pm
God, the Big Bang and Evolution.
Can we believe in all three?
Venue: Seven Dials Club
Contact: David Kaner

Saturday 20 March, 6:00pm
Kingdom Kids Coordinators Meeting
Venue: Woodford Green
Contact: Barry Lamb

Sunday 28 March, 3:00pm
London Teen Devotional
Contact: Adrian Hill

Saturday 10 April, 4:00-7:30pm
To Dream The Dream
Details: www.icoc.org.uk

Saturday 10 April, 3:00pm
London Teen Leaders Meeting
Contact: Adrian Hill

Saturday 10 April, 6:00pm
Link Leaders Meeting
Venue: Woodford Green
Contact: Barry Lamb

Saturday 17 - Sunday 18 April
London Marrieds' Retreat
Venue: Hilton Dartford Bridge
Contact: your local leadership group

Sunday 25 April, 3:00pm
London Teen Devotional
Contact: Adrian Hill

Sunday 25 April, 6:00pm
London Family Group Leaders Meeting
Contact: Malcolm Cox

Saturday 8 May, 3:00pm
London Teen Leaders Meeting
Contact: Adrian Hill

Sunday 16 May, 10:30am
London Churchwide Service
Venue: Friends House, Euston

God, the Big Bang and Evolution Can we believe in all three?

Lecture and Discussion
19:30, Thursday 18 March

The Central London Ministry will be holding a lecture and discussion on Thursday 18 March at 7pm at the Seven Dials Club, 42 Earlham Street, Covent Garden WC2H 9LA. The title is 'God, the Big Bang and Evolution. Can we believe in all three?'

The speaker will be Rob Payne, who has been interested in the interface between science and religion for more than 15 years.

This is the first of a series of events which the Central London Ministry plans to host which are will be an evangelistic resource for Christians all over London. Please bring a friend and come along to the evening.

Refreshments will be served at 7pm.



Hubble Deep Field Image © NASA/STScI