

OUTREACH NEWSLETTER

Here at SML we have a wide range of REACH ministries. These are just some of the initiatives from the Summer term.

SML Weekly Café

We have been really encouraged to see the cafe continue to be so busy each week and to receive lots of positive feedback.

This would not be possible without our dedicated team of volunteers, who do an amazing job and are the reason we are able to keep the café running. We are currently low on 'befrienders' and could do with some more volunteers for this role. It involves welcoming newcomers to the café, chatting to them and being a friendly face - no practical work is required and the rota is on a fortnightly basis. If you think you might be interested in this please do get in touch with Sue Payne.



Sunshine's Toddler Group

This term has gone well at Sunshine's, there are 50 families associated with the toddler group that meet on Monday and Thursday mornings. Children and parents enjoy coming along to build friendships, partake in a craft, play with a selection of toys, enjoy a healthy snack, hear a story and join in with Song Time. Song Time is an activity enjoyed by everyone and it's a blessing to see those who don't come to church singing along and learning about who God is. As a team, we are speaking about God's love and teaching them some child friendly worship songs from church.

Please pray that we continue to speak up and share the good news with those coming along. Please also pray that those who come to Sunshine's would consider joining SML for the socials and church services, and that the Daytime Alpha would be a blessing to those who join. As a team we are looking for more helpers, so prayers for this too would be great! We are glad that God knows all of our needs and we trust that he will continue to provide. If you are interested in helping contact Amie Coates, or send an email to admin@smlpoole.org.uk. Thank you for all your support.



Town Pastors



We now have 9 people heading out into the town with 4 prayer pastors supporting us as we go. As part of our training, a few of us attended a brilliant conference on The Church & Mental Wellbeing, hearing talks on Addictions, Anxiety Among the Youth, and Depression. We also spent an evening with St Mungo's hearing about their work among rough sleepers.

We have got to know several people we see regularly: stall holders, local people wanting to chat; rough sleepers; the Big Issue seller. We have also had the opportunity over summer to connect with tourists, tell them who we are, what we do, and be the face of Christ's Church on the street. As a team we have been able to be a positive presence, offer a helping hand to those that need it, and come alongside vulnerable people who may otherwise not have spoken to anyone else that day.

Please pray that we would get more volunteers so we can grow what we are doing. We want to be able to cover more ground and to go out on to the streets on more days to be Jesus' hands and feet showing God's love in our community. If you'd like to know more about joining the team or helping us through donating then contact John & Anne Ainsworth on 01202 738615 or send an email to pooletownpastors@gmail.com.

SMILE

At SMILE we have had a great term with many activities and days out for our families.

Please pray for more volunteers to take families for fun days out.

For more information contact Racheal Peck at smilepoole@faithworkswessex.org.uk or visit www.smileconnect.co.uk.



Sunday Night Soup Run

This ministry has run for several years and is a blessing to the homeless and more disadvantaged members of our community. On the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of each month team members make sandwiches and serve them in Poole.

Please pray for provision for those we serve and for us as a Church to know how we can best love and support this community in the future.



Community Cooking Course

Angela Brackstone led the Cooking Course for 5 weeks over the summer and had an average of 4 guests attending. They enjoyed learning how to make simple but tasty food on a budget. Thank you to Angela and the team for making this happen.

Please pray that the guests will put their skills into practice and continue developing friendships with SML members.



Foodbank



We experienced our busiest start to the year ever. Between January and April we distributed food for at least 6000 meals for the community of Poole. We are so grateful to churches, businesses and individuals who provide the food, time, finance and prayer in support of this incredible work.

We now provide a 'Recipe and Ingredients in a Bag' as part of the food parcels for those who enjoy (or want to try) cooking. We are also soon to be re-launching our Budget Support Program for people with money problems.

Please pray for all who visit the Foodbank and for Gill and volunteers as they seek to provide the right support.

Anna Booker at TLC in South Africa



These past few years I have been back & forth to Johannesburg, volunteering at The Love of Christ Children's Home (TLC). During my time at TLC I have helped care for over 50 babies and young children – watching them grow up, love one another and go to forever families. They currently take care of 36 children from new-borns to 11 years old. My main group of children has been the two to eleven year olds, as I worked with them everyday for 5 months when I spent a year at TLC. We have grown strong bonds and trust one another. I have been taking each child out on adventures. Some days we have no power, no electricity, no water and no security – so as you can imagine it can potentially be very dangerous.

Please pray for safety over everyone here, for financial help for the home, and for the children to find permanent homes for adoption. Please pray as I return back to South Africa after spending the summer back in the UK.

For more information about what Anna is up to and the work she is doing contact Anna at bookeranna24@outlook.com, or follow her blog at southafricatlc.blogspot.com.



Community Lunch

The monthly community lunches have been a great success and we have an average of forty guests attending. We want to say a big thank you to Neale and the team for all the hard work they put in and the delicious food.

Please pray that our guests continue to enjoy their time together and that good friendships are developed.



Mars

Last term we ran 15 workshops across 7 schools with the support of 141 volunteers and over 1000 students concentrating on our 'Communication' and 'Conflict Management' workshops. We had an average of 88% of students indicating that the workshops had been received positively and had given them the skills they needed to improve their communication skills and handle conflict in a more positive way.

We will be launching workshops in at least 2 new schools next academic year as well as starting a brand new 6th form program at 2 schools. We cannot do any of this without the amazing generosity of our volunteers. For more information please talk to your MARS Trust Church Champions Sue Dismorr and Nina French.

Please pray for the new schools we will be launching workshops at, more volunteers to help with the MARS Trust and more funding to make this work possible.

For more information please contact Sue Waters at suewaters@themarstrust.co.uk or visit our website www.themarstrust.co.uk.



The Future

- Please Pray for the **Recovery Course** starting on 26th September, especially for prayer ministry team and for more men to volunteer.
- Please pray for the daytime **Alpha Course** that started on the 10th September.
- Please pray for Elly as she plans another trip to reach out to **refugees**.

