

CITY CHURCH

DUBLIN



Carols in the City

In mid-December, to celebrate the birth of our Saviour, City Dwellers invited friends, neighbors and colleagues to our traditional carol service. Our church family and guests were treated to selected carols led by the band and a message delivered by Mark. Afterwards, everyone was invited to stay around for some chat and mulled wine and mince pies. City Dwellers were very proactive in their inviting, and through a little creative arranging, we were able to fit the more than 70 people who attended into the main room. While the majority of City Dwellers are students and young professionals, there were many older individuals and families in attendance, showing that there is interest in the church among a demographic we don't often see.

Please pray for opportunities to follow up with guests who attended the carol service and pray that what people heard and experienced would be the spark the Holy Spirit fans into a flame of love for Jesus here in Dublin.



We are Having a Community Group Baby!

Wednesday, 15th of Feb, will officially mark the beginning of City Church's second community group, meeting on the south side of the city. Last year we plotted a map showing where City Dwellers live throughout Dublin and discovered we were split nearly 50/50 on both sides of the city. We are hopeful that a second community group, closer to some people's homes and daily lives, will open opportunities for ministry in other parts of Dublin, enable anyone who hasn't been able to come on Tuesdays to have a second option, and remove transportation barriers for those who live far from the north side.

This week and next week, the south side community group will meet socially and to discuss and pray for the vision of the community group as we move forward. The community group will be hosted by Jarryd and Tamzyn Kotze, a young couple who moved to Dublin last year from South Africa, and facilitated by our beloved intern, Chris McGuire. Both groups will be reading and discussing through the Old Testament, continuing in the book of Joshua.

We are so excited and thankful for the new south side group! Please pray that those who transition to the new group would have hearts unified around a love for Christ and eyes to see opportunities the Lord would provide for His name to be proclaimed in the south side of Dublin. Pray that Chris would have great wisdom and insight into the Scriptures and that this would inform his facilitation of the group's discussion, and pray for Jarryd and Tamzyn, that the Lord would bless them and protect their time and energy as they seek to serve City Dwellers by sharing their home.

The Gospel on Campus

The new year is the time when University Christian Unions launch their campus missions— a week of events designed to engage non-Christians with the gospel on campus. This year Mark has the privilege of being involved in both the Trinity College and University College Dublin missions. Over the next few weeks he will be speaking from John 11 on Jesus being the resurrection and the life through a talk on tolerance and a talk entitled *In God we Trust: Trump, Brexit and the politics of fear*. Students in the Christian Union's give a lot of attention to inviting their unbelieving classmates, and these events often lead to interesting gospel conversations. As a church with a large percentage of students, it is important for us to support these endeavours and to be in prayer for them when they happen.

Please pray for opportunities for our students to engage their unbelieving friends and gentle boldness and wisdom to answer questions they may have. Pray that Dublin's universities, bastions of liberal thought in Ireland, would be overwhelmed by the truth of the Good News. Also pray for Mark over the coming weeks as he prepares his talks and seeks to be an ambassador of Christ on the university campuses.

Something to Celebrate!

In fulfillment of Mark's prayer that more couples would join City Church, we are delighted to announce a new married couple will be joining us in July! Our intern Chris, popped the question to his lovely fiancée, Leah Ewart, at the end of last year! Leah brings both brains and brawn to City Church, as she is both a PhD student at University College Dublin and a field hockey aficionado. Please join us in congratulating the happy couple!

Please pray for Chris and Leah as they prepare for their marriage, both logistically and spiritually.

