

Communic@te



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Extra dates for your diaries!!

- **Newcomers Meal** on **Sunday 23rd November** at Ebe.
- **Lockleaze Prayer Time** on **Monday 24th November** at St. James Church, Lockleaze. Come and pray for the local community.
- **Worship and Intercession Evening** on **Tuesday 2nd December** at 8pm at Ebe.
- **Footprints, TIME OUT, Globe Café, Rendezvous, Ignite, Men Utd and The Rock** all have their own special Christmas events during December.
- **Next 24-7 Prayer Week** from **Sunday 11th—18th January 2004**.

CHRISTMAS 2003

This year, Ebe is holding various Christmas events for the church and community and they are all wonderful opportunities to invite friends and families along too.

Sunday 7th December
Student Christmas Meal
 12.45pm at Ebe

Sunday 7th December
Celebrate Christmas
 7.30pm at Bristol Cathedral

Regional Christmas Guest Service featuring traditional readings, carols and music from the New Bristol Sinfonia, with guest, Crispian Steele-Perkins, Britain's finest trumpet soloist. Message from Philip Jinadu.

Saturday 13th December
Ebe Christmas Party
 4–7pm at Ebe
 For everyone, with food, games, and plenty of fun.

Sunday 14th December
Lockleaze 'Carols by Candlelight' Service
 7pm at St. James Church, Lockleaze
 Speaker - Philip Jinadu

Sunday 21st December
'Completing the Crib' - children's nativity
 10.30am at Upper Horfield School

Christmas Eve
'Carols by Candlelight' Service
 6.30pm at Ebe

Christmas morning
Christmas 'All Age Worship'
 10.30am at Ebe (for 45 minutes)

OTHER CHRISTMAS INITIATIVES

Christmas cards - We will be providing a board at the back of the hall, at Upper Horfield School for people to put cards written to the whole church, and then we suggest that there is a donation to 'Crisis Centre' in a brown envelope, in the offering, for the money saved by not sending to lots of people in church.

Carol Singing - If you would like be part of a group to do some carol singing around the streets in Horfield, during week of 14-21 December, then please speak to Derek or Stewart.

Help Needed! - We will be distributing Christmas invitation cards to all houses, in our area around the weekend of 14th December. If you can help, please speak to Stewart North, asap. Upper Horfield School also need help with their Christmas Fayre on Friday 12th December at 2pm. Please speak to Derek or Angela.

Giving out mince pies - We are looking for volunteers to give out mince pies outside the shops in Horfield and Lockleaze, before Christmas events. Speak to Derek or Stewart.

Providing mince pies for Christmas Events - Speak to Stewart or Derek, if you can help.

Online Shopping - Ebe's website will have a list of recommended Christian books and music, if you are looking for presents.

SOULINTHECITY

SOUL SURVIVOR LONDON 2004

SOUL IN THE CITY

The rich mix of London's churches are on a constant mission to serve and witness to the 9 million people that inhabit the complex and multi-layered communities that lie within the M25.

Soul Survivor propose to serve these efforts by bringing thousands of young people from their conferences to 12 days of co-ordinated activity, established in partnership with local churches, from 26 July 2004 to 6 August 2004.

The mission will run as two 5 day missions, Week A 26-30 July 2004 and Week B 2-6 August 2004, sandwiching a SOULINTHECITY weekend, 31 July-1 August 2004. Delegates will be accommodated in a number of 'tent cities' within the Local Centres. In the mornings delegates will have times of worship, teaching and ministry. In the afternoons and

evenings they will go to designated projects within their Local Centre. Evening celebrations will be evangelistic and open to contacts made during the afternoon projects.

The crux of the mission is the afternoon and evening projects. By painting community centres, reclaiming parkland from rubbish, or cleaning graffiti from a shopping parade, the mission creates a lasting legacy of physical change in the community. It also communicates the good news by esteeming individuals unconditionally and builds lasting cross-community ties. As one local church leader said after Soul Survivor The Message 2000 in Manchester, "It's shown us that even the simplest of community activities opens doors into many people's lives who they



otherwise would never have met."

We are hoping to have team going from Ebe, as we did for Soul Survivor: The Message 2000 in Manchester, who we can 'send out' from the church to serve in the capital city. If you are interested in going or want to pray or financially support Ebe's team, then please contact Derek Powell or Stewart North, asap.

In January 2004, we will have a meeting for those interested in going or finding out more.

www.soulinthecity.co.uk

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY CLUB AT EBE

February Half-term Holiday
(Monday 16th to Friday 20th February)

We are considering running a holiday club for children on the five mornings of the half-term break. It will be a time of mayhem, music, craft, games, surprises and stories. It can happen if we have enough volunteers. If you will be free or if you could book time off work to help out, an early indication of your offer to be a part of this event would be very helpful (whether for the full week or just part of it). Please contact Angela or Derek.

LOCKLEAZE COMMUNITY CAFE

On Friday 14th November, Ebe opened a new community café for Lockleaze at St. James Church on Romney Avenue. The downstairs lounge, hall and kitchen have been redesigned and refurbished by Ebe's Year Team, Dave Thomas and other fantastic volunteers.

There has been a need for a community café in Lockleaze for years, and we are looking to slowly develop the work here and also work in partnership with other organisations to provide a

useful facility for the community. It also provides a regular meeting place to enable relationships to be built up with local people and members of the team that run the café.

The work in this local council estate of Lockleaze is a long term work, as we serve and build trust in the community. It has been great to see some of the suspicions of the community erased over the last few years, as we have continued serve them.



If you want to be part of the Café team or would like to regularly help by providing cakes, then please speak to Stewart or Derek.

LORD LET YOUR GLORY FALL

©

The song "Lord, let your glory fall" is taken from the book of 2 Chronicles, chapters 5 - 7. I think this must be one of the most powerful and inspiring examples of congregational worship in the Bible.

The work for the temple had all been done, and in an amazing procession, they brought the ark of the Lord into the temple. It was an occasion that those present would never have forgotten for the rest of their lives. There were 120 priests sounding trumpets, cymbal, singers, and other instruments. It must have been the best band they'd ever heard! The trumpeters and singers joined in unison and sang, "He is good; his love endures forever." (5:13)

It would have been an amazing sound. And yet, that wasn't the thing that impressed itself upon their hearts the most that day. The life-changing event that day happened next: "... the glory of the Lord filled the temple of God." (5:14)

The priests were totally overwhelmed by the cloud of God's presence, so much so that they couldn't continue to perform their services. Solomon went on to pray a powerful prayer of dedication.

But that's not the end of this awesome encounter. Fire comes down from heaven and consumes the burnt offering and sacrifices. The glory of the Lord fills the temple again (7:1), yet this time seemingly even more powerful, because not only can the priests not carry on ministering, they can't even enter the temple of the Lord (7:2). The people worshipped again, sang the song again, made more sacrifices, and the trumpets started up once more.

That's where the song, "Lord, let your glory fall" grew from. It's recalling that ancient day where God met his people so powerfully, and asking that we might see something of that here and now, as God's people in church. That we might know what it really is to bring meaningful sacrifices before Him, and that we might also know what it really means to be enveloped in the cloud of God's presence.

That's what I love about these chapters - it shows congregational worship as an exciting, powerful encounter. It's a 2-way event. Notice the cycle that seems to happen - God's people respond to who He is, and then the cloud of His presence comes down. They can't help but respond again, and He seems to inhabit their praises even more powerfully. Again, this makes them want to worship Him even more, and they throw their hearts into yet more songs, music and sacrifices.

CARING AT CHRISTMAS

Since 1987, Caring at Christmas has provided the homeless people of Bristol with those traditional comforts that most people take for granted at Christmas time: warmth, comfort, companionship, as well as turkey and presents.



Over the Christmas period their emergency shelter in St Paul's is open all day.

This year they are open from 3 pm on December 24th to 10 am on December 30th to provide food, shelter, accommodation, entertainment and friendship as well as a basic healthcare and advice service to homeless people. They can accommodate up to 45 people in their dormitory and serve around 200 meals a day. It takes 350 volunteers, people like us, to staff this event.

On **Sunday 7th December**, the monthly special offering at Ebe is for 'Caring at Christmas' so please come prepared.

<http://www.caringatchristmas.org.uk/>

GLOBE CAFÉ UPDATE

Globe Café is now into its third year. During the first year, we remember finishing the first term and having to seriously consider shutting it down. We were disappointed that there was hardly anyone who came. Things picked up and we got to know around 15 students. So we decided to continue and then last year, we had an average of 15 students per week and got to know around 40 students. Now this year, we have had record weeks of around 70 students, Globe Café Unplugged evening had at least 120 students come along.

It has been great to be able to serve and bless these students, and gradually get to know them. We are looking

forward to those amazing opportunities to share of God's love. We had several of those moments last year.

It is quite incredible to think that we have students from all over the globe, from Indonesia to Sweden, from Nepal to Brazil, from China to France, all coming along.

Coming up in the next few weeks, we have a Malaysian

afternoon, when a group of Malaysian students, who come to Ebe, will be cooking for us and sharing more about their country, in games, songs and dancing. We have also started an international student cell group, which meets before Globe Café, which is an exciting new development.



"...providing food, shelter, accommodation, entertainment and friendship..."

EBENEZER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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The Powells

Derek and Angela Powell have just started to work for Ebe on a part-time basis and we thought that this would be a good opportunity to take a glimpse at the real Powells.

Angela Powell:

Height - 5ft 6inches
Favourite shop - Charity Shops (all of them)
Favourite holiday destination - Paris
Favourite footwear - a pair of warm boots
Favourite quote - Hey Angela, that's a good-looking husband you have!
Pet hate - Wet bath towels left on the bed.
Favourite Bible verse - Psalm 27 v 11 'Teach me your way O Lord'.
What do you love most about Ebe? - Being part of a big family.



Derek Powell:

Height - 5ft 11inches
Favourite shop - WH Smith & PC World & Dixons & The Sony Centre & Toys r us
Favourite holiday destination - Anywhere to ski (although haven't been skiing for a long time now)
Favourite footwear - Sandals with big chunky socks
Favourite quote - It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing.
Pet hate - People who pull out in front of you and then proceed very slowly along the road. The sound of people filing their nails with a nail-file. People who hog the middle-lane on the motorway when there is nothing on the nearside lane.
Favourite Bible verse - (This keeps changing, depending on the season I am in.) Just now: Psalm 121 v 2 'My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth'.
What do you love most about Ebe? - The warmth and care that Ebe people show. The way people pull together to make things happen. The curtains at Ebe.

Mullers Church Partnership

Working together with local churches to enable them to reach out and care for their communities, especially children, young people and families with physical, emotional, social or spiritual needs.

Background

For 170 years the George Muller Foundation has been at the forefront of Christian care for vulnerable members of society. The Foundation has had to continually refocus its ministry to meet the changing needs of society, while keeping to its distinctive core values of **faith, care and evangelism**. The most recent development has been the Muller Church Partnerships. The early partnerships were based around a community project, but now the Foundation is able to offer a much deeper relationship with local churches, which could lead to a community project. The vision is to see more of these Church Partnerships established in the years ahead.

What is a Muller Church Partnership?

It is a relationship between the people in the community, that George Muller Foundation and a local church which is expressed in a signed Memorandum of Understanding which is renewed each year. In the Partnership, the church partnership which covers all areas of our community outreach, from our local church which is seeking to reach out and care for their community especially children, young people and families with physical, emotional, social or spiritual needs. The local church, as a local faith community, is well placed to help touch these needs and to bring wholeness and a sense of belonging.

How is Ebe involved?

Ebe has been involved in the

NEXT ALPHA COURSE

The next ten week course will be during the Spring Term, starting on Thursday 12th February 2004.

