

# ABERDEEN STREET PASTORS

## Newsletter Christmas 2011



### Annual Dinner

Date: 20 January 2011  
Time: 6.30pm for 7pm  
Venue: Destiny Centre

### Commissioning Service

Date: 27 January 2012  
Time: 6.30pm  
Venue: Pearl Lounge

### Street Pastor Away Day

Date: 12 May 2012  
Time: 10am-4pm  
Venue: Banchory Christian Fellowship



Mark Twain said "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness." and the novelist Henry Miller said, "One's destination is never a place, but a new way of seeing things."

We at Street Pastors are most definitely on a bit of a journey that's changing the way we see the world, people and more importantly love of the Father. This year we have seen our teams grow numerically and that's brilliant. The more volunteers, the more hands and feet are out there on the streets, bringing goodness, peace and kindness. But its not just the team sizes that encourage me, this year we have seen so many of our volunteers grow spiritually. Their increasing passion for Jesus is inspiring. We are truly discovering that Jesus really is Emanuel! God with us! His presence at times has been tangible on the streets and during team times. The teams' prayers, the expectation and the deep care for each other on and off the street is wonderful to see and feel. It is such a privilege to to be apart of this wonderful ministry. So we invite you to join us on the journey! Come and experience it for yourself, maybe 2012 you too will find yourself on Union Street at 2 am demonstrating and sharing Gods love!

May the Lord bless you and keep you and may his face shine upon you all this Christmas season. - James

### **DO YOU FANCY A NIGHT OUT ON THE TOWN?**

We are looking for more volunteers to join our street teams. We are aiming to have 100 active volunteers in 2012 so why not join up and be part of a team that is making a difference in our city. Application forms are available by contacting Wendy at the office. Once we receive your form, references will be taken and one referee must be your Minister/Pastor. Disclosure forms are also required. The all important training then begins with 4 initial training days commencing on 11 February, followed on the 18 February, 3 & 10 March from 10 am-3 pm.

### **"Safe Space" HELP needed!**

Our Safe Space truck is coming into its own, it's getting busier as the winter temperatures drop and we are looking for a couple of people that would be willing to give it some TLC. It needs cleaning every week now and is stretching our present team. If you feel like you could give an hour or two please contact the office. A little time would go a long way!

### **Schools:**

We are planning to launch School Pastors this coming year!, if you have a heart for young people, would love to help deliver a mentoring and personal development plan for secondary school pupils we want to hear from you! Please contact the office, as training will also begin in February.

MERRY  
CHRISTMAS!  
From  
Street Pastors!

Text: **70070**

**ABSP10 £3**

**SUPPORT  
US!**



**Donate on line: @**  
[www.aberdeen.streetpastors.org.uk](http://www.aberdeen.streetpastors.org.uk)

## Good News

Street Pastors has been busy training our latest 14 volunteers and they joined our teams on the streets in November. This brings our total active volunteers up to 80 people across 36 different congregations in Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire. We are closing in on our goal of having over a hundred active Street Pastors. It's very exciting to see the initiative growing numerically and seeing the people of Aberdeen embrace the work we do in such a positive manner one person recently made the comment,

*"You guys are definitely positives when there's a lot of negatives around"*



It's so encouraging to hear those in the city thanking the church for being present and caring, that's got to be good news!

## One New Volunteer for February

One young lady who is applying to start training in February 2012 told us she thought about becoming a Street Pastor after she received assistance on a night out. 'Having consumed a little too much alcohol one evening Street Pastors came to my aid. They did not judge me instead they spoke to me like a human being which I had never experienced on the streets before. I had started thinking about church earlier in the year and Street Pastors made me realise that there was a God who cared for me and God has since taken me out of my darkness, for which I am truly thankful.' She has since become a member of her local church and has been sharing her faith with others. We look forward to see what God will do in her life when she joins Street Pastors.

## BIG THANKS!

We want to say 'Thank You' to all those that have contributed this year, the churches, individuals, guilds, other groups that are supporting us as we aim to be in unusual places at unusual times ready to do unusual things for those that are vulnerable or searching for meaning and purpose.

One individual we would like to say a big 'Thank You' to is Liz who went on a sponsored slim and donated the proceeds, amounting to £200 to our cause.

Well done Liz!

## Prayer Pointers

- Please pray for James, Gerry and Board of Directors, the Management Team and Team Leaders
- Please continue to pray for the teams each week and for our new volunteers who have now joined their teams.
- Pray for more recruits starting in February to be Street and School Pastors.
- Please pray for the truck safety and for the team who will be around and in the truck. Pray also for volunteer cleaners to come and join us.
- Please pray for our financial situation that we can continue to cover our operating costs.
- Please pray for guilds/groups where Street Pastors give presentations that lives will be changed.

## Personal Reflections

### By Wendy

*I have been a Street Pastor for a year and have been in the office for most of that time. What a privilege to work with you all and thank you for your help to make my job easier.*

*Over the summer I had the joy of sharing with people in Caithness the work of Street Pastors and then again in Aberdeen in both Summerhill and Ferryhill services. As I tell of things that has happened, people are moved at seeing God work. I too am moved as I reflect on how God spoke to me when a man had cut his hand and needed an elastoplast. I felt God say 'if that was one of your children you would have given them a hug or kissed it better' and so God challenged me by giving me a question - 'when was the last time this man was given a hug?' So I offered him a hug and a few moments later he asked if he could have another one. God reminded me in that moment this man was a child of His and needs to be loved and treated the same as my own children. What a honour to serve God - giving out free hugs on the streets of Aberdeen being with all of God's children.*



*"Crystal and Brian chatting on Safe Space"*



Credo Centre  
14-20 John Street  
Aberdeen  
AB25 1BT  
01224 625487

Email: [Aberdeen@streetpastors.org.uk](mailto:Aberdeen@streetpastors.org.uk)  
Website: [www.aberdeen.streetpastors.org.uk](http://www.aberdeen.streetpastors.org.uk)

Charity No. SCO41984  
Company No. 390373