

Gap-Year-Update



Since the last issue of n:vision we have had an additional member join our gap year team. Tolu is from London and will be based at Woodberry Down Baptist Church.



The team have had a good, but challenging, first term. They have been getting to know each other and settling in to ministry life at their placement churches. During October half term they organised and participated in the second bible reading marathon. Between the four of them they read the entire bible in 72 hours straight! We all survived the team building trip to Wales back in September. Reaching the top of Snowdon was an achievement for all!



2012-Celebration-Dates

north london youth celebrations **2012**

PALMERS GREEN BAPTIST CHURCH
211 GREEN LANES
N13 4UH

Jan 21st

Feb 18th

Mar 17th

Apr 21st

May 19th

Jun 16th

SATURDAY
7:30-9:30 PM

worship
word
ministry

for ages 13+

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n:vision is the termly newsletter of The n:flame Trust

n:flame is a joint initiative of North London Churches and is a Registered Charity (No. 1081965)

If you would like to support the work and ministry of n:flame, either by praying or giving financially, please either download a form from the website or contact the office at the address below and we will send you some information

Our main office is:
The n:flame Trust
211 Green Lanes
Palmers Green
London N13 4UH
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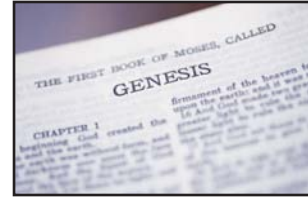
n:VISION

Winter 2011

- Bible Marathon 2!
- Schools Update
- Gap Year Team

and more...

I don't know if you can remember the last n:vision but I listened to my own advice and have started a new Bible reading scheme which takes me though all sixty-six books in two years. The plan I chose jumps around a bit but started with Genesis and Exodus. I saw again how, as God's people rubbed shoulders with an unbelieving world, so the pressure to take on other gods and create idols soon crept in. I suppose the pressure has never really gone away.



Here's one way of looking at it. In our consumerist age we can be drawn into the religion of getting more things and filling our lives with the newest and latest. We love our stuff. This was brought home to me the day after the Tottenham Riots. The church I'm part of spent the day helping a lady whose flat had been above the local post office which had been completely destroyed by fire. All she had were the clothes she wore, her phone and her pet dog. It made me realise how much comfort I gain by all the belongings I have. This month I'm reading through Job and being convicted by the attitude of a man who lost pretty much everything, yet puts his hope in God.

But idolatry can be far more subtle. I was talking to a pastor the other day who was looking forward to a baptismal service at his church. The six people due to be 'dunked' were from six different nations, were all homeless and had started following Jesus through the amazingly sacrificial ministry of his church. Yet to get to this point he had to get rid of two idols in his church – the exclusive worship area and the youth group! Every night the old youth cafe and games area becomes a recreation area and then about 40 homeless people bed down on the red carpet in the worship area where it's warm, dry and safe. Instead of attracting people with wonderful services in a pristine auditorium his church is a magnet to people in desperate need of a shower and a hot meal. Many get more than they bargained for and find Jesus alongside the jollof rice. Their youth work has also been transformed as the young people had to vacate the church building as it became a seven day a week homeless hostel. Instead, the youth group now run a cafe in the local authority youth centre, blessing other young people and learning to live as servants rather than consumers.



In my Bible reading quest I've yet to get to 1 Kings 18. Elijah is imploring Israel not to try to serve idols alongside God; his words stick with me, "How long will you waver between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him." Then in the gospels the One who had no place to lay His head repeats the call, "Follow me." It's putting all your eggs in one basket, nailing your colours to the mast and burning your bridges, all in one go. It may be highly unfashionable but it's where Jesus seems to be turning up.

Andie

Time for a new year clear out?

the GAP



Are you just finishing **university** or **sixth form**, or looking for a **career break**? If so the n:flame 2012/13 GAP year is an unique opportunity to receive practical training and hands on youth work experience - in church, the community and schools in North London. **You need to be 18+, a committed follower of Jesus and have a heart for young people.**

More information can be found at www.nflame.org.uk

Financial Update

A big thank you to all of you who have supported us financially this year, especially to those of you who are able to give by standing order each month. We continue to trim our costs and so we go into 2012 confident that we can pay all the bills up to January. However, the reality is that to keep pressing on we need at least eight more regular monthly supporters, so please keep praying and watch out for some fun-fundraising ideas in 2012. It would be great if you could join in.



2012 Prayer Dates

Here are what we currently have in the diary for 2012. More will be added to the list as the year progresses, but please do pray for all that we have coming up:

19th January

Church Leaders Consultation - Trinity-at-Bowes, Palmers Green

21st January

Celebration, Palmers Green Baptist Church

6th -10th February

Faith in Focus Week - St Mary Magdalene Academy, Islington

10th - 12th February

Le Training Course, Weekend Away

18th February

Celebration, Palmers Green Baptist Church

5th - 23rd March

Faith in Focus Month – Greig City Academy, Hornsey

17th March

Celebration, Palmers Green Baptist Church

11th - 22nd April

Germany Mission

21st April

Celebration, Palmers Green Baptist Church

28th April - 9th May

Lebanon Mission

19th May

Celebration, Palmers Green Baptist Church

16th June

Celebration, Palmers Green Baptist Church

20th June

Team Day Away

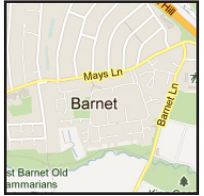
28th July - 5th August

Go.Serve 2012

Area Schools Update

This term in Barnet we kicked off the year by heading back into Wren Academy for a drop down day which was fun as ever. Then the Barnet team was been invited back to Totteridge Academy to do a lesson with Year 10 on 'Does God Exist'. It was a great lesson and the students were so obviously hungry to know more. We have been asked to go in again soon to run a lesson on worship that we are looking forward to. There is also the possibility of starting up a CU at the school. We are hoping to get into both QE Girls and QE Boys soon after Christmas. From work that some of the team do in after school clubs and working on Dollis Valley Estate, we have really been able to build relationships with many of the young people who go in to the local schools. The year has begun positively and God has so much more to do. For the team, we'd love doors to open so we can be involved in more schools locally and keep moving forward building strong links with both staff and students.

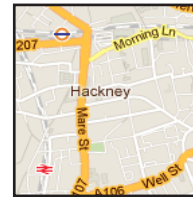
Georgia Telman.



Autumn term in Hackney started with us reconnecting with the young people in the bible studies and Christian Unions. The students in Cardinal Pole bible study wanted to reach out to the new students, so they put on their own playground outreaches and assemblies and we now have a lot of new students attending. Next term they will start leading a bible study through the book of Phillipians! We taught the year 11's in the Urswick school three new Truthology lessons each and also put on a special off-timetable day for the Year 9's on drugs, alcohol and the cross where ex-addicts from Teen Challenge and Avanti Ministries came and shared their testimonies. It was a very powerful day. A whole group of us from n:flame were also invited to run some off timetable days for sixth formers in Tonbridge Kent using the Truthology curriculum. God brought a new

full time Youth worker called Laura to Hackney and we have been working in collaboration with her. Alongside some other youth workers we have started a bible study going through the book of Revelation, in a café right in the middle of Hackney that is open to the young people as a further way for us to disciple them! We are especially praying now that God will open some doors into new schools in Hackney.

Rowina Balcombe.



The area team taught lessons on Euthanasia, Abortion and Human Trafficking over a four week period in St Thomas More School. It went really well and we are due back in January to do some of the Truthology series with Years 10 and 11. We also have recieved the go ahead to start a bible study at Harringey 6th form college. Christian clubs continue at Greg City Academy and Park View Academy. Meetings and email correspondance with teachers at John Loughborough and Hornsey Girls continue also, so please pray.

Christian Gabriel.



The bulk of lessons this term have been in Enfield County School on the subject of Self Esteem. The main area of development in the Enfield area are the weekly lunchtime clubs, there are members of the team running meetings in Hadley Academy and Palmers Green High School. There is also a new Christian Union starting in the lower school at Enfield County in January. We have had a surprise open door at Aylward Academy, where we accepted an invitation to do a drop down day and a chance to assist in some lessons. In the New Year we'd like to develop this further and also get back into Enfield Grammar and Winchmore schools.

Phil Kingham.

