

MARANATHA BULLETIN

maranatha

Our prayer is, 'Come, Lord Jesus!'

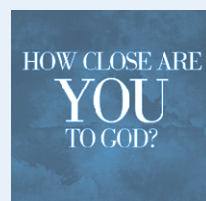


Timeline

August 2014

Social Media

Our own Instagram, Twitter, Tumblr and Pinterest aimed at young people will be coming soon.



LAUNCHES IN SEPTEMBER!

M A R A N A T H A T I M E L I N E

At the beginning of this year we believe the Lord said to us
"Don't plan anything, I will bring you invitations".

So much has happened already this year!

This timeline identifies the key points of our journey so far.

m 2013

- 1 God repeatedly emphasised that He is doing a new thing, in the Community and throughout the Church. Word given at our National Gathering **"Same clay, different form"**.
- 2 Formation of new Communications & Public Witness Teams.
- 3 Christian leaders gathering at The Ark on 'The Struggle for the Soul of Our nation'.

m 2014
January

- 1 Theme for our **Annual Gathering** - 'Prepare the Way for the Lord'. Maranatha's call is akin to John the Baptist's. We reflected on the 5 facets of the prophecy over John the Baptist (Lk.1.16-17). We are to pray and work for unity, renewal and healing across the generations. Word given **"Sharing life"**.
- 2 Maranatha's call to issue a statement and hold meetings for Christian leaders on **'A Matter of Life or Death - The Struggle for the Soul of Our Nation'** was confirmed by David Shearman (Pentecostal Pastor, Nottingham) and Andy Dipper (C.E.O. for CSW). Word given: **"Maranatha has been given a match, now strike it"**.
- 3 **Review of Maranatha's work in Ireland.** We felt the Lord directed us not to plan our usual trips but to focus on the already booked Maranatha Weekend in Dublin. Two day trips were made to share with Maranatha members in Fermoy and Randalstown that we believe the Lord now wants to take more of a lead in Maranatha's work in Ireland.

m 2014
March

- 1 **Private Consultation on 'The State of Israel'** convened by the Maranatha Spearhead Group. This was attended by Christians with widely diverse views on the Israeli-Palestinian situation.
- 2 Meeting of four young people – **'Voice 2014 - A Generational Perspective'** - to share the fruit of their commission to listen to God for three months on behalf of the Community (notes available on website). Summary word - **"Our generation needs to be equipped to use the Sword"**.
- 3 **First meeting of the new Maranatha Co-ordinating Hub.** The only agenda - to listen to God. Word given - **"Turn your hearts to the children and young people"**. We interpreted this to mean that as a Community we are to invest everything that God has given us for the equipping of young people.
- 4 First meeting of **'Dunamis'** – a monthly Maranatha listening group at The Ark in Flixton. Word given (April) - **"I will bless this Community with suffering"**.
- 5 Maranatha Spearhead Group on Islam launched report **'Islam – An Appraisal'**.

m 2014
April

- 1 **Review of Maranatha's healing ministry.** There is need to explore the way in which the Lord wants to bring healing to those suffering from mental health problems.

m 2014
May

- 1 The **new position of Maranatha Intern** commenced. Rachel Lee started work in this capacity, with a particular focus on a project initiated by the Communications Team – to review the Maranatha literature and look for ways to re-publish this for young people.
- 2 Private Lunch for key Christian leaders in church and political spheres, hosted by the Marquess of Reading and led by Dennis with Lord David Alton, Alixe Buckerfield de la Roche, David Shearman and Andy Dipper. This meeting affirmed the Maranatha statement '**A Matter of Life or Death - The Struggle for the Soul of Our Nation**', which was subsequently launched with a dedicated website www.lifedeath.org
- 3 Visit to Manchester by two senior Christian leaders to witness a selection of Christian ministries. Message from this visit – *"Jesus is present in His people, bringing hope and tangible help to the vulnerable, broken and marginalised in this nation"*. It is vital that this **message of hope** be included in the statement on the Struggle for the Soul of Our Nation.
- 4 **First National Christian leaders' consultation, Nottingham** on 'A Matter of Life or Death – The Struggle for the Soul of Our Nation'.

m 2014
June

- 1 Second Christian leaders' consultation, **London** on 'A Matter of Life or Death – The Struggle for the Soul of Our Nation'. Word given – *"We are to weep over our nation, not to point the finger of judgement"*.
- 2 Third Christian leaders' consultation, **Manchester** on 'A Matter of Life or Death – The Struggle for the Soul of Our Nation'.
- 3 **Maranatha weekend in Dublin** – this was the first Maranatha event in Ireland with shared leadership by those from both the North and the Republic. New relationships were forged between Maranatha members from areas which is now leading to a new expression of Maranatha in Ireland.
- 4 **Maranatha Yorkshire Regional Gathering** – with contributions by Maranatha members from Wakefield, Sheffield, Leeds, Harrogate, Bradford, Halifax, Brigg, Grimsby, Durham & Manchester.

m 2014
July

- 1 Private consultation '**What Are The Fundamental Values Of Our Society?**' arranged by Maranatha, led by Lord David Alton in the House of Lords. This was attended by 22 Christian leaders from diverse traditions, including Anglican Bishop Michael Nazir-Ali, Roman Catholic Archbishop Kevin McDonald and Coptic Bishop Angaelos. There was total oneness in the decision to produce a statement on British values and the Judaeo-Christian foundations of our nation, which may be used to influence political party manifestos and conferences in preparation for the next General Election.
- 2 Maranatha Spearhead Group on Persecution launched report '**Global Persecution – The Price of Faith for Christians Worldwide**'.

m 2014
August

- 1 Meeting with three men: Tim Evans, John Mercer & Peter Shelley, not involved with the Community, who individually brought a **prophetic message** to Maranatha. Messages given – *"Goals in extra time", "Dennis is like Caleb – he has pressed through many giants but there are still giants in the land. Dennis will inspire young people, handing them the legacy of Maranatha to send them out as fighters to take on the giants", "The river described in Ezekiel 47 and Revelation 22 is like Maranatha – established with all kinds of trees with leaves for the healing of the nations", "The document 'A Matter of Life or Death' is like the trickle of water leaving the sanctuary (Ezek 47) and will become an unstoppable river", "Like Peter, Maranatha must cast its net (the statement + our teaching material) again and again", "Maranatha should learn from Nehemiah and Ezra – rebuilders of the city/nation and of the temple. Maranatha's role is as an anonymous servant"*.
- 2 **Review of the prayer life** of the Community and its prayer networks. The effectiveness of our prayer should be maximised.

Upcoming Weekends



Prophets Alive!

Seeing and responding to the signs of the times
Beechwood Court, Conwy
12 - 14 September
Price £155 standard, £167 en-suite.



Communing with God

Hearing the still small voice in a noisy world
Loreto Convent, Llandudno
17 - 19 October
Price £130 (£140 for late bookings)

To JOIN - Please contact the Maranatha Office

maranatha community

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