

McClure Mumblings



Steve & Debs serving with The Navigators in Southampton and beyond...

Jun 10



Above: End of Year BBQ 2010

Strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus...

"But as for you, continue in what you have learnt and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus." 2 Timothy 3:14-15

During the final weeks of this academic year we have been studying 2 Timothy at Thursday night Navs. This has come at a particularly poignant point of the academic year as we say goodbye to a number in the group who are graduating, and as the remaining students head home for a long summer's break. As a group we have been greatly challenged by Paul's desire and concern for Timothy to continue in what he has learnt, to endure hardship, and to be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus. We are praying that each of the students and graduates would know and continue to be strengthened by God's grace as they return to their home contexts or move to new places to work, and that the foundations of faith they have would remain strong and will continue to be built upon in the years ahead.

Paul also encourages Timothy to entrust what he has learnt to faithful men and women so that they too can entrust these things to others. At the start of this academic year we were very much aware of our need to distribute and delegate out some of the jobs and responsibilities involved with the daily running of the ministry. God graciously provided us with a fantastic leadership team, all of whom have risen to take on each task and role we have given them. As we have spent time this year supporting and entrusting things to our leadership team we have seen them catch a greater heart and vision for discipleship, as well as a desire to entrust and train up younger members of the group.

Family News

Steve is continuing to enjoy the stimulation and learning opportunities his Ministry and Theology Course (FFM) is providing, and has completed the 1st of 3 years of study. Debs and Benjamin are continuing to enjoy the Poppin parent and toddlers group at our church and we give thanks for the friendships that Debs has been able to form with the other mums. Benjamin is keeping us very much on our toes as an active toddler who loves climbing, being outside in the garden, and playing with cars, trains, mud and water!! We are very much looking forward to taking him with us again to Norway this year. We are pleased that James will be lodging with us again this coming year, but are sad to be losing Patrick from our newly-adapted attic. Both have been a real blessing and help to us as they have lived here.

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Summer Planner

Thurs 17 June - Sat 17 July
Norway & Latvia Discipleship Programme 2010

Thurs 24 June – Summer Bible studies begin

End of July / August – Rest and relaxation until Baby #2 arrives (Due 23rd August)

Fri 10-Sun 12 Sep – NAVS Student Forum (Derbyshire)

Fri 24-Sun 26 Sep – SOTON NAVS Leadership weekend away (Reading)

Mon 27 – Fri 2 Oct – SOTON Uni Freshers Week

Above: 09-10 Leadership Team (less Jane Mitchell) at our "Connect worker thank you meal"

Movers and Shakers...

It is sad that the academic year is drawing to a close! The end of a year inevitably brings changes; some farewells, some new arrivals and some opportunities for others to step up. The picture above is from a recent team meal we had to thank our '09-10 Connect Team' for their hard work this year. Patrick is applying to the US Navigators with a view to ministry in Latvia in the future, Kashimana is moving to London where she wants to work as a lawyer, and Kate is hoping to stay in Southampton and work. Each has played a vital role in the ministry this year and all have become very dear to us. Patrick has been our Prayer Co-ordinator and has led our IGNITE discussion group (see picture below). Kashimana has been responsible for Evangelism, and Kate for Communications; both have led a weekly girls Discipleship group which has also been encouraging. We will miss them on Connect but are grateful to have two guys ready to serve with us next year; Adam who has been involved with the ministry for 3 years and Steve who has been involved in the Leicester student ministry.

We are hoping that the remainder of the team above (Steve & Holly, James, Lydia, Kim, Tim & Lowri and Jane) will continue to serve within the group although we always encourage a period of reflection over the summer. At the beginning of the year we distributed some responsibility to the team so Steve P has served as group Treasurer, James has been working on relationships with the CU and recruitment, Jane has encouraged one-to-ones and Kim has continued to co-ordinate food across all the different groups. What a blessing they have all been to us as we minister together in the Gospel. Finally, some exciting news is that Tim & Lowri are in the midst of buying a house almost directly opposite us (praise God). Tim will be working alongside us a trainee Rep for the next 3 years; very exciting indeed!!



From right to left: Monday evening IGNITE group, NAVS Punting Trip, Benjamin eating ice-cream, Tim & Lowri Peters (New Rep 2010-2011)

Partnering with us in this ministry...

Ministry Prayers;

- Please pray this years graduates; Adam, Anne, Chris, Ellie, Helen, Helen, Laura & Lola. Pray that they would continue to walk with God and that He would use them effectively in the workplace.
- Please pray for Katie (Mexico), Elizabeth (Kent) and Jo (Surrey) as they spend most of the coming year away from Southampton on various placements. Pray for us as we continue to try and support them.
- Please pray for Adam and Steve who will be doing the Connect Programme with us in Southampton and for Tim & Lowri Peters as they move to Southampton ahead of Tim starting as a Rep in September.
- Pray for Chris as he takes responsibility for the NAVS summer Bible studies which will run through the summer months here in Southampton.

Family Prayers

- Please do pray for us as a family as we head out to Norway and Latvia again (see N&L letter).
- Please pray for us as we try to have a quieter summer, getting some much needed rest and preparing for our new arrival. This term has taken a lot out of us as we juggle so many roles and responsibilities
- Please pray for continuing good health for Debs in the final weeks of pregnancy.
- Pray that God would continue to use us in the coming months in all of the opportunities He gives us.

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