

## SPAIN

### Fuengirola, Southern Spain.

The people at the Ark (our small international church in Spain) responded with lots of praise and worship and prayer today. It lasted for an hour and 40 minutes. I was so surprised how many people lifted their voices to ask the Lord to bless their countries from all over the world – passionate petitioning prayer to heal and to liberate from all the curses of the enemy. I was very touched.

GARY LA MONICA

### Madrid

***“And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people.  
Your sons and daughters will prophesy...” (Joel 2; Acts 2)***

On Saturday evening, May 26, Spain joined with 203 other nations of the world to cry out to God for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In a center in the heart of Madrid –and the heart of Spain– we had an all-night prayer vigil in which about 35 brothers and sisters participated from different churches and ministries in Madrid.

There were sisters there who have a prayer vigil in the same place the last Saturday of every month. There was also a group of young people, who were coordinating the prayer for a Massive Concentration of Young People to be held in Madrid on June 23, 2007. There were others of us, too, from the group that meets in this same center to pray every Thursday for 8 hours, and from those who join us for the School of Prayer that meets the last Saturday of every month. A pastor from Colombia and his son also accompanied us that night, and they shared about their work with children in poor neighborhoods of Colombia.

We really felt the presence of the Lord with us that night. At the beginning of the evening, based on the reading of Joel 2, we prayed that the Lord would cause us to feel the urgency of the judgment that is pending over Spain. Later, we confessed our own personal sins and prayed for each other to be healed (James 5:16), before praying for the healing of the land. Afterwards, we prayed for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit, especially over the young people who were present there, but also for the new generation of young people in Spain. Then the group from the prayer coordinators of the Massive Concentration of Young People shared with us about the upcoming event, and we prayed for them.

When dawn was approaching, we began to dance and praise and rejoice in the Lord. Then we prayed for the healing of our land (2 Chronicles 7:14), confessing the different sins that contaminate our land and bring the judgment of God over us. One of the last things we did was pray for the different nations represented there (United States, Switzerland, Mexico, Colombia, Chile, Italy, Peru, and others). The Colombian pastor and his son shared with us about their work of rescuing children and young people in poor neighborhoods in Bogotá and other cities, through their soccer ministry. We prayed for a young Peruvian girl that was about to return to Italy, to serve the Lord there. Afterwards we prayed for each one of the nations represented, and, of course, for Israel!

We hope to be together again on May 11, 2008. May the Lord set us all on fire for him.

Many blessings, Leopoldo and Renee Lobo (Madrid, Spain)

### Malaga

It is nice to know that we are not alone in the work of "His vineyard". It was quite a wonderful experience for us in Malaga in spite of the initial difficulties in getting other churches to join with us due to the programme date clashing, we had planned to have ours in a stadium but due to the financial constrains we could not make it, however, the wish of the Lord prevails. We were able to have a wonderful time of prayer together and all those present were filled with the anointing of the Holy Spirit. We pray that the upcoming one would attract more participants; and we also ask for your prayer for us in Malaga Spain for

the Lord of the Harvest to send in more workers and to open the inner heart of the Spanish Christian community is Malaga to be more open to the immigrants in their Country.

Spain is one of the countries in Europe that is yet to experience the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and we the immigrants from different African and Latin American countries are being deployed by the power of the Holy Spirit to go to these countries and to spread the Gospel of salvation and Redemption. We need your prayers for the new Missionaries from Africa and Latin American Countries who are migrating into Europe in order to bring the Good News back to the Homeland of the former Missionaries. We from Africa called it "The Gospel From Africa To Europe". We need your prayers for God to open doors and windows of opportunities for us to be able to reach out to more souls.

Once again we thank you for your cooperation in bringing us into the Global Day Of Prayer Program, and we look forward to participating again in the next one. Please keep us in mind, and keep us informed. Be blessed.

Pastor Jerry Sulaiman

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### ITALY

There were about 35 communities from all over Italy involved. See the website [www.gdop.it](http://www.gdop.it) Most of them were involved in the 10 days of prayer. However we had definitely one full prayer watch (day and night) in Torino and almost 2 for all of Sardegna. The people in Torino, which is a main city in Italy, are very excited and are definitely thinking of establishing a permanent 24/7 watch. Also here in Sardinia we are praying that we can build a prayer house on the prayer mountain where there will be permanent prayer.

In Napoli some churches got together at Marano main "piazza" in Via Paolo Borselli to make manifestations during the GDOP. In Milano some churches got together to celebrate GDOP in one main church, Oikos church. On the prayer mountain in Sardinia, people from different nations came together and worshiped every day for at least two hours (sometimes four) during the watch.

Matthias Winkler

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### GERMANY

#### Berschweiler

I thank the GDOP organisation for bringing all the nations together to pray as one body of Christ globally, one day in a year on this special day of Pentecost. We the body of believers in Germany both Germans, Americans and Africans, 62 in number came together in a small town called Berschweiler joined in praying for the nations of the world. It is awesome to see that the light of Africa can shine anywhere in the world if we are obedient to the call to pray. I am happy for Germany that we Africans can shine the light of God through prayer for this nation to be revived. Next year I'm claiming a stadium for all the believers to pray on Pentecost in Germany in Jesus name. Yinka.

### ALBANIA

9 people from 3 evangelical fellowships, 4 nationalities and 5 people groups joined as the Church of Albania on Mt Korab, the highest point of Albania, 2752 m high. We had a wonderful trip, and a very special time of prayer and worship at the top. The top of Mt Korab is very often clouded by day. During the ascent, the night before we had storms, hail, rain and severe thunder and lightning hitting the cliffs very close to us several times. BUT on the 27<sup>th</sup> everything was perfect!

Dag Rane Schjelderup

## POLAND

### Lodz

In the first place we would like to give all the glory and praise to our ever faithful God that this blessed and special occasion, Global Day of Prayer also took place in Lodz.

The Lord, who makes a way where there seems to be no way really helped us in the organization. We encountered a lot of obstacles especially in the area of the venue – twice we had to change the venue because the hotel managements changed their minds over our agreement with them. However, we didn't give up but kept praying and believing the Lord for the best. And at the end of the day, the Lord, in His sovereignty, gave us the very best and most strategic venue – the Big hall of the Lodz City Council, at the very centre of the government of Lodz.

Thank God for enabling us to join over 500 million people across the world this day to pray and seek God's face for our peoples, cities, countries and continents.

In attendance were people from within Lodz and beyond and even from outside Poland. Special guests at the programme included the representative of the President of Lodz City, the chairman of the Lodz City council and Dr & Mrs Uzo Obed pastors of 2500 member church in Nigeria. The two men from the government addressed the audience and each gave prayer needs for Lodz.

On the whole over a hundred persons attended the Global Prayer Day in Łódź including children, pupils, students – both polish and international students studying in Lodz, families and press men.

A report on the world Day of Prayer in Łódź was written in the Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May edition of a local newspaper – *Exspres ilustruowany*. We pray and trust God that next year more pastors and churches would join in organization of the whole event, and attendance would be much higher to the glory of God, amen!

Praise God for what He did in the lives of those who attended. Everything went in a joyful atmosphere and there was a sense of spiritual refreshment, happiness and encounter with God on those who came. As a pastor's wife hugged a polish lady after the programme, this lady burst into tears of joy saying that she has been hungry for God and fellowship with God's people, and longing for an encounter with Him. God answered her prayers through the programme, glory to God!

It is very remarkable that the programme was held at the city council headquarters. We believe it is very prophetic - that the fear and righteousness of God will always reign and guide those who in authority for the welfare and peace of the city of Lodz and the country Poland. We believe this is the beginning of something great the Lord wants to do through the Church in this city for the expansion of His Kingdom. "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done O Lord..." (Mat.6:10). And may Lodz be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea, amen!

**Pastor Raymond Osuchukwu**

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## BULGARIA

### Kazanlak

We were blessed to see our country Bulgaria marked by a red flag at GOD TV studio. Watching the GDOP programme was an extreme blessing for our family, church and country of BULGARIA.

While watching GDOP programme we were amazed how the Church of Jesus Christ is worshipping and praying in unity in every part of the world.

We had the opportunity to connect our prayers with the rest of the world by GOD TV live broadcasting.

We showed it on multimedia at Bethany Christian Centre and people were blessed to understand it all by the help of Ivi, our interpreter.

This year we registered our country BULGARIA to participate at GDOP and we at Bethany Christian Centre-Kazanlak organised GDOP in the biggest church in Kazanlak, situated right in the heart of BULGARIA.

On Saturday 26th May we also organised Youth GDOP at our Christian Centre gathering young people from our central region of the country.

Years ago God gave us a vision that the Christian Centre we were building in the centre of BULGARIA is going to be a centre for revival for our country.

We also spread all the information regarding the GDOP to all denominations of Evangelical Alliance in Bulgaria. Several churches confirmed their participation. We tried to give information to the Orthodox Churches but it was more difficult soil.

On Sunday we had a blessed prayer meeting celebrating God's presence and we prayed together the Prayer for the world and sang: "Hallelujah" and "Lord, Cover the earth with Your Glory as the waters cover the sea"!

We thank God we feel a part of the Body of Christ-God's Global Church.

We used the Prayer Manual for the 10 days which we translated and sent to the rest of the churches. We also translated the GDOP video and put subtitles and played in several churches and at the beginning of the Sunday GDOP service. We also used PP Presentation in Bulgarian.

We feel our hearts and spirits refreshed from the 10 days of repentance and prayer preceding the Day of Pentecost. We had our prayer room at the Pentecostal Church in Kazanlak and we hear of other Bulgarian churches that have been extremely blessed in prayer during these days of refreshment. We expect more churches to join in the next years.

God's Spirit is working here but we need more from God to wake up our nation and clean our government from injustice and corruption. The Christians in Bulgaria need to wake up and be set on fire for GOD. There is a spirit of apathy and discouragement.

WE pray for God's mercy and favour over our nation!

This year we spread lots of information about GDOP to Bulgarians by e-mail, websites, phone calls, posters, newspapers and magazines.

We heard from about 15 churches who had been celebrating GDOP at their places throughout Bulgaria and we are sure many more had joined although we have not received feed back yet.

Bless you in the Name of Jesus!

We love you! We are encouraged seeing all the nations of the world honouring GOD!

Pastor Bozidar & Nelly Yalamov  
Bethany Christian Centre-KAZANLAK

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## ROMANIA

### Deva

The Domino Effect

The three days of fasting and prayer in Deva were indeed a celebration of the Holy Spirit in the middle of the saints' gathering.

About 400 watchmen, brothers and sisters, children, young and old people, came together for 3 days of personal searching, sanctification through God's Word, cleansing and healing through the Holy Spirit, filling with the Holy Spirit and celebrating the awakening of the Global Church to a new life.

The 10 national conferences on fasting and prayer in the last 18 months were characterized by a domino effect when it comes to God's work and expression of His presence and glory.

That special time committed to our uniting in prayer with the hundreds of millions of believers on the Global Day of Prayer has been preceded by a special preparation for the outpouring of God's glory and our coming closer to the Holy of Holies.

May 25

13 hours of fellowship, prayer, praise and worship, cleansing, healing and an amazing joy at the anticipation of what was to come. Testimonies of the Lord's wonders done during the latest conferences on fasting and prayer in Romania and Austria gave us the opportunity to praise and thank God abundantly.

There came also believers with various personal needs, oppressed by the evil one. Still others came as they heard of the Lord's doing when his watchmen come together and prayed:

"I have lived in one day more than in the last 2 years," shared a church minister.

"What is happening here is a sign from God as regards the awakening of the Romanian Church," said Sister Maria from Portland.

Around 50 watchmen from Austria joined the Romanian watchmen. Our joy increased as we heard the testimonies of our guests from USA, Moldavia and Sweden.

After several hours of personal searching and cleansing, counselling and advising, praising and thanksgiving, we had a special prayer time for healing. And our Lord touched many bodies and hearts, too.

The Holy Spirit transformed our understanding capability and we were able to see the dozens of million of believers praying worldwide during the 10 days preceding the Pentecost. We joined them in prayer for our brothers and sisters in Pakistan, India, China, Indonesia, the Arab countries. The prayer tide for the Persecuted Church extended to the entire world. We could hardly part away at midnight.

May 26

The anticipation of a mighty work on the Global Day of Prayer increased. All the participants were touched by the presence of the Lord and were filled with the Holy Ghost. Though it was quite hot inside (over 35 degrees Celsius), nobody was complaining.

The world prayer movement vision and the calling to a fresh commitment to the Lord increased the number of people that made the decision to be watchmen for their city and nation.

The witness of God's work among the people of Israel and the prayer for the fulfilment of His promises to the chosen people was followed by a mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The people of the Old Covenant and the people of the New Covenant cannot see separately the outpouring of glory over all the earth (Habakkuk 2:14). That is why we must turn our hearts toward Israel. (Isaiah 40:1-5).

Around 10:30 p.m., the Spirit of the Lord confirmed that the Global Day of Prayer started in the Pacific islands. Suddenly we felt our spirits lifted up to a new level of spiritual sight and understanding and joined in prayer and praise with the millions of brothers and sisters that had already started the GDOP. We could barely stop after midnight.

May 27 – The Global Day of Prayer

The restoration of David's praise and worship Tabernacle over all the earth, the vision of calling 500 million watchmen who are being prepared and preparing the way for the Lord's return, the calling to live in the presence of God's glory a victorious life were followed by a special prophetic time – an engagement.

The Church is in a special commitment time to the Lord globally, in a time of engagement of our generation to the Lord.

A young lady, whose name means "Tears" has loved, wept and waited for her bridegroom for 10 years. At the Vienna conference in April, the young man had a turnaround and committed faithfully to the Lord. The first thing that he did after he repented of his sins and received forgiveness and inner healing, was to propose to the young lady. He publicly confessed, "I am completely overwhelmed by your love; I love you so much too!"

We witnessed a great sermon: how the Church is supposed to – with love and patience, tears and hope –wait for the fulfilment of the Promise – her Bridegroom's return.

We had a break between 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. The Holy Spirit had told us in the morning to have the GDOP special fellowship and the World Prayer done outdoors. It was such a hot day! During the break several persons felt sick though they were sitting in the shade. Therefore we prayed for the Lord's cloud to cover the gathering of the saints. At 2: 15 p.m., the cloud started to come closer. At 2:30 p.m., when we started praising the Lord, we were completely covered by the shade of the cloud and a cold breeze started to blow.

At the urge of the Holy Ghost that we were accepted by the Lord, we drew near the Table of the Lord. Lightning and thunder accompanied us to the Lord's Table. His presence was electrifying.

Summer rain drops started caressing us when we began saying the World Prayer together with brothers and sisters from Africa, Central and Eastern Europe, Middle East.

It rained slowly as a great divine sign of acceptance and blessing. The Lord is glorified indeed over the face of the entire earth!

In order for our joy to be complete, many friends that came with us confessed that God is alive and working in our midst and turned their lives over to Lord Jesus. At 8:30 p.m. again we could hardly part away.

Therefore, the domino effect is quite obvious. The outpouring tide of God's grace cannot be stopped. Our joy and anointing received here were taken away by the participants to the 60 places they came from.

And that is just a small part of God's work in our days!

Shalom,  
Pastor Ioan Peia  
International Prayer Council, Central East Europe Coordinator

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## CROATIA

### Zagreb

The final meeting in last Sunday on GDOP was great. God gave us breakthrough, this was obvious. The day before GDOP we had 24hours prayer and worship watches. At these watches we had people worshipping Him and were just in his presence for hours.

We heard from Him that the Church in Croatia needs new wine, new modus of prayer and new relationships between believers.

On the final night there were 50 - 60 people from 5 or 6 communities and God was there. We had fresh repentance and new decisions for Christ.

The most important thing was the 2 movies about "Power Houses" and "Awakening the Watchmen". This warmed the hearts of the people and after this we prayed for new wine in Croatia.

Vanko

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## UNITED KINGDOM

### Doncaster, South Yorkshire

Just wish you to know that Doncaster, South Yorkshire, held its 3rd Global Day of Prayer this year. Our venue was, 'The Salvation Army Community Church.' Praise God.

The first two years that we met were poorly supported, however those of us who were there, met with God and believed God can use the small things as we came before Him repenting and praying for a mighty move of His Grace in our community, land and that of our Nations. (However, there's nothing small when people bend the knee in prayer.) It was humbling to know God had called us along with many throughout the world to repent for our Nations and seek the Lord for transformation/different atmosphere, globally. Revival!

This year at our, GDOP Ministers/lay people came and took part along with many others. The Youth prayed for the older generation/youth throughout the world. A powerful time of repentance, prayer and praise to our God who is so faithful, so worthy of all our praise.

Cathy Gillis.

### Northern Ireland

**Ballymena** - There were many things coming out of the GDOP in Ballymena. However, what has been said over and over by us and the people who were there was the presence of the Lord was tangible. Praise God for how he touched so many lives. Comments like 'we have to take His presence out into Ballymena and everywhere we go.' There were about 500 people and although the venue moved indoors due to the weather, it was fantastic. There was a mix of ages, young and old, and men and women present, and taking part. This too, was special. A lady had a picture that we were filling the bowls of incense over our town and land. A scripture given was that of Ezekiel where he is looking for a man to stand in the gap and the people on the 27th May were doing exactly that, standing in the gap, especially for unity in our town.

Prayers will continue that the unity experienced that day, will continue to spread all over the Ballymena and Ireland. The worship dance, lighting of the candle and trumpet call ushered us into the presence of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Personal stories too were told. One example, when praying in small groups a wife heard her husband pray out loud for the first time. Praise God he is a personal God too. May we, and all those involved on the GDOP, continue to carry our candles into the darkness and 'Go Light the World'. Piercing the darkness with the light of Jesus was evident. Worship Ireland led us all in worship to our God and King in a way that everyone felt enabled to praise and fellowship together and to enjoy the presence of our God. It was a magnificent day. We are all looking forward to next year.

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**Ballynahinch** - 'More...' (Ballynahinch United Prayer and Presence Initiative) had a weekend of events culminating in the GDOP event on the Sunday evening. The events included a 48 hour prayer room, detached street work on the Friday and Saturday nights, social action and a coffee morning on the Saturday.

Approximately 210 people attended the GDOP event in the local leisure centre, mainly from the town and from the traditional denominations (Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Anglican, and Roman Catholic). It was felt that there was a new level of unity attained as we met together to worship and pray. GDOP gave us a perspective much greater than our own little town and sense of belonging to something much bigger.

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**Bangor** - Around 700 people met in the Castle Grounds from 3.00pm to 4.30pm. We had expected more people but we were pleased to see that there was a very good mix of age groups and a wide spectrum of churches represented. The weather was windy and very cold. Although there were heavy clouds in the area we only had a few spots of rain and we didn't need to use umbrellas at any stage.

All the technical things for sound and stage worked without a hitch and everyone involved in organisation played their part. They worked well as a team and there was a great sense of unity of heart and purpose. An offering was lifted and some will be given to mission here and overseas.

We believe that we are entering a time of harvest in Bangor and so we had a team of prayer counsellors available. They prayed for one person who was coming back to faith, and for another who had just come to Christ the previous day and who sought prayer and guidance. Another man came under conviction at the event and his family led him to the Lord at 3am at home.

We used flags of the nations and these meant a lot to a number of people. One overseas person was so moved to be carrying his nation's flag. Another was reminded of family members in other countries. Another felt the flags enabled us to think of global links.

Along with the 15 other venues, we lit a candle especially made for the day symbolising our desire to be a beacon of hope, a light in our community.

There was a strong sense of connection between the people leading the prayers and the crowd and the worship was powerful. We believe that God was honoured in it all and that His agenda for the day was accomplished.

Hallelujah!

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**Belfast** - *"AMEN, AMEN glory in the city, glory in St. Pats.... Really felt today was powerful. The worship band was so-o-o good, they did a great job and the dancers were a great start. The programme seemed flawless to me and I want to pass my thanks to the committee and all your families for standing in the gap and encouraging us all to pray. It was really good also to look around and see so many young people there to pray."*

This is a quote from an email by someone who was at the Global Day of Prayer Event in St Patrick's Church of Ireland, in East Belfast; where more than 200 people met in the afternoon of 27 May joining in prayer with 202 nations around the world. Although a detailed check was not made, we were thrilled that more than 15 local churches had members at the meeting and about half of those that gathered were under 25. Thanks to the Rev Colin Hall-Thompson for his generous loan of the church on the day.

We had a programme of praise and prayer including a dance presentation by a group of young girls. There was a great sense of engagement overall and whilst the church could have accommodated more, the folks who came fully participated in the prayer - both individually and in small groups throughout the building.

Part of the planned programme was a time of repentance, this year with a particular focus on the "alien and strangers" in our midst. We prayed particularly for those from Eastern Europe who have come to Belfast in significant numbers looking for better lives. As part of our repentance, we invited people to

exchange a piece of red cloth for a piece of white cloth at the cross, representing receiving forgiveness of sin and were surprised to see the degree and depth of response from people to this opportunity.

People were very moved by the statistics and information regarding the four areas of prayer that the police and social services had highlighted as areas of need and concern. As we gathered in small groups - adults, young people and children joined together and prayed with a desire to see God move and transform the lives of those caught up in addictions, family breakdown, domestic violence and self harm and suicide.

Then, at the close of proceedings, we lit a candle along with folks at the 15 other venues in Northern Ireland to represent our unity and our prayer to be a light in our communities. People were then invited to take a small candle with them from the meeting as a remembrance, along with a prayer of blessing for our city specially written for the day.

Although the preparation for the day had been hard work it was well worth it and an encouraging foundation to continue to build on next year.

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**Coleraine** - About 500 people gathered in the Diamond, in the town centre, on a wonderfully sunny afternoon. We prayed and worshipped for 90 minutes, spending time giving thanks for all that God had been doing over the last few years - especially through the Global Day of Prayer. We also had a time of repentance, where we focused our failure to pass the love of the Father down through the generations, and prayed especially for the return of the many "Prodigals" back to Father God. This section was especially moving, as 2 men from different generations, repented publicly on behalf of all that were there. We also prayed for various sections of our community led by representatives from the areas of politics, the police, education, community work and business.

The day was hailed as a success by all. It was especially significant that 5 generations were represented in leading the event with many young people especially finding a way of engaging in prayer and worship. It's always a big sacrifice for people to worship so publicly, but there was an incredible expression of adoration and intercession that took place.

It was an amazing day - we have much to thank God for.

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**Lisburn** - Windy and cool but NOT wet! Elijah-like we met on a hill in a local park in mostly sunshine. Over 300 people from many local churches came together to enjoy a picnic, to praise God and to pray on Pentecost Sunday.

Welcomed by the Mayor and led by church leaders representing different denominations, there were contributions from a dance group and a Gospel choir, as well as singers, readers and pray-ers plus children's activities in a carnival-like atmosphere.

Despite the threat of poor weather, the event passed off without a drop of rain. It was a joyful and positive event in our city and a real sense of being part of a movement globally. Plans are already being made for next year's event.

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**Newry** - Every weather forecast predicted rain for the Global Day of Prayer held in the city of Newry, N. Ireland, but the Intercessors battled against the cold and the wind and there was only one short light shower which took place when people had broken into small groups to pray for the needs of the community. As everyone was prepared up went the coloured umbrellas and the prayer continued. There

were about 200 present, representing a large cross-section of the community including two Bishops, one Roman Catholic and one Church of Ireland (Anglican) under one umbrella..... a prophetic sign perhaps?

Worship was very well led by a local Worship Group and many individuals took part in the event by saying the prayers. The repentance was in two parts - corporate and individual - the four corporate failures which we felt needed repentance were represented by four heavy stones which were carried from four different points to the foot of a large cross in the centre of the all-weather pitch. After this people had the opportunity to carry a small stone representing personal failings to the cross and then take up a bulb to bring home and plant and wait for it to grow, representing new life.

The event ended with a response praising God by two people, one from South Africa and one from Poland in their own language, and a prayer of blessing for Israel and all the other nations of the world in Irish and English.  
We found favour with many people and we are grateful for all their help and support.

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## SCOTLAND

### **Edinburgh - Gathering for the march....**

Scotland's Global Day of Prayer event was truly a thrilling experience! The day started with the gathering of around 1,000 people at the top of Edinburgh's historic 'Royal Mile'. These people were gathering to complete the final prayer walk of the 50 days of prayer walking in our nation, under the "Connecting Scotland" banner.

The cross, fashioned in Shetland, lead the whole way through the 50 days walk. The group was wonderfully colourful with Pipers near the front, dancers in the middle and drummers bringing up the rear - and lots of banners flying high! The weather forecast had been for heavy rain but God rolled back the clouds and the sun shone all afternoon, with just enough wind to unfurl the banners and flags, so they could be easily read. Lots of them were the Scottish Saltire but with JESUS in red right across the centre. Jesus at the heart of Scotland, King of Kings and Lord of Lords!

### **Some testing moments.....**

All the hard work in organising the event paid off as it flowed seamlessly and seemingly without effort. Behind the scenes there were a few of us running about trying to get our generators for the finish of the march sorted out. Both the main generator and back-up broke down as we were setting up! However, no-one panicked and after some swift phone calls a dear man from a hire company agreed to drive 30 miles into Edinburgh to open up his hire shop and give us another generator. It duly arrived in the nick of time and we were able to have sound for the Global Day service in the park!

### **The march begins.....**

The march kicked off at 2.30pm and as it progressed there were eight points on the route where specific prayers were read out. Each point was marked by someone holding up a number so that those on the walk knew which prayer to read out. The effect was that for the whole 45 minutes as we walked the route the same prayers were prayed over and over again.

### **Into the Park and the Global Day link up.....**

As the march finished in Holyrood Park a group of young drummers on our "Asda Lorry stage" drummed the marchers in. Then it was over to Godfrey Birtill to lead us in worship. He and his team were with us on their final day of an 8 day city tour as part of "Prayer Week". It was lovely to see how all the different prayer initiatives were coming together in the one event. As we joined in praise and worship, our "Movement in Worship" dancers filled the space in front of the stage with movement and colour. They danced with the flags of many nations, and as Godfrey led us in "For God so Loved the World" a huge circular flag with the map of the world on it was brought out and swung up and down 'parachute style'!

The reading of the Global Prayer together was a very powerful moment. Our 7 'prayer leaders' represented just some of the diversity of the body of Christ in our nation. Between them they represented

3 generations, 5 different countries and many different spheres of Community work and Christian service.

The Chairman of 'Pray for Scotland', shared a short message from Psalm 126 encouraging us to go now 'from a place of dreaming to a time of harvest' in our nation.

The day was closed in a very poignant way by the singing of the Aaronic blessing in the language that Christianity first came to our shores. A beautiful peace descended as people stretched out their hands to receive the blessing from the Lord, ready then to take it with them into the streets and homes of our land.

#### **Some quotes from the day.....**

*"Turning round at the foot of the High Street and seeing the road behind filled with people and banners was amazing - in bright sunlight too! On Sunday morning at home as the rain poured down outside I just gave the day over to the Lord and quick as a flash He said: 'Stand, and see the salvation of the Lord!' I knew then He was going to come through for us, and He did! One image that will stay with me was that every onlooker appeared to have their camera pointing at the march - especially at the banner folk. Before the march started there were a throng of tourists in Castlehill clicking away like mad as the 3 pipers posed for them in front of Bert at the head of the column! So photos of the march will be seen around the world, I guess!"*

*"I was one of the stewards for the event and, along with my friend, was stationed right at the back of the walk behind the final group of drummers - a group from Brazil who are working with a Baptist church in Leith here in Edinburgh. The march was just great - a real carnival atmosphere! I believe that the fruit of the 50 days walk will continue to be seen in the coming weeks and months as we continue to work together to advance God's Kingdom here in Scotland and further afield."*

*"I feel certain that a significant breakthrough in our Christian witness was made and the call to repeat it next year was correct and well received. A Pentecost to celebrate and thank God for!"*

*"I have sensed God with us right through the process (and sometimes, the great faith of others carrying my own little faith on their wings!); even the break in the weather was a further sign of God's favour. I look forward to next year's event with anticipation."*

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#### **ENGLAND**

**Ipswich** - About 200 people gathered last Sunday evening at St Peter's in Ipswich to take part in the GDOP, and we had a really exciting evening. Everyone went away really enthusiastic and many are keen to see this built upon with a bigger event next year. There was a real sense of open heaven as we prayed, beginning with a local focus, then extending outwards to pray for the nation, and the world. We showed the DVD from 2006, which really inspired people, and used the Prayer for the world, as well as praying in small groups, being led in prayer by Church leaders, and praying in prayer corners for different continents. We also had a powerful time of worship, led by our 'Ipswich in prayer Youth Band', who are all very spirit-filled young Christians, and are fantastic. This also led to a time of prayer for young people.

There has been a definite move forward in this town, in terms of faith building prayer and unity. From the Leaders prayer morning during prayer week, the main verses were at the beginning of Philipians 2 where we are called to be like-minded, united in Spirit and purpose.

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**Luton** held a 10 day, 24 hour prayer vigil for the first time this year, in preparation for GDOP. Nearly every hourly slot was signed up over the 10 days, and many attended the prayer room without booking. The room was filled with a tangible sense of peace and the presence of God, right from day one. Youth groups came - and came back. Old and young posted their prayers, verses, visions and pictures on the papered walls, and we read and added to one another's prayers. A sense of anticipation was building up for the event on Pentecost Sunday.

Luton's GDOP event took place in St Matthew's church. 150 people flocked in - many more than we have had at previous prayer concerts - despite the atrocious weather that evening. We welcomed people from over 15 nations, showing the rich diversity of cultures in our town. Our speaker, a Nigerian CMS missionary resident in Luton, urged us to serve one another and be open to learn from each other's traditions. Many responded in the prayer time that followed, calling out and asking God to reach out and touch all the different groups of people.

We felt led to focus on identificational repentance on behalf of our churches, for our sins of division and rivalry. Large numbers participated, putting red finger-marks on a map of Luton and then symbolically wiping one another's dirty hands. We prayed in groups based on the areas of Luton that we represented, sharing with each other the problems and the hopes for change in our localities and asking for God's transforming power to flow. The River Lea was in full flood that night and we felt that was significant having prayer-walked along it from the source in the past, praying for God's Spirit to flow through Luton.

There was a very positive atmosphere and the evening ended with vibrant praise and worship led by a local black church choir who had led sensitively throughout the whole event. Praise God for the response this time - we hope for more in the future!

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**Medway - "Awesome!" "Stonkin'!"** - just two adjectives from different generations to describe this year's Global Day of Prayer...

This year we moved the venue to the sporting heart of our area, Priestfield Stadium, Gillingham, the home of Gillingham Football Club. Numbers attending would not yet warrant using the main stadium, so we gathered in the new Conference Centre, which was made available to us for no charge. We expected about 250 on last year's numbers, and the Great Hall was set out for 350, in cabaret style around tables, but we were delighted that there was, throughout the three hours from 2.00pm to 5.00pm, an average of 400-500, with people standing at the back and sides. Rain and cold wind was not a deterrent. 50 different congregations registered their attendance there on the day - that is 16 more than last year - a 47% increase! Surely God is moving here one more time. There was even an excess in the offering!

We focused essentially on praying for revival in our area amongst the denominations, the generations and the nations. Virtually every denomination was represented, as well as many new independent congregations, particularly of ethnic minority background. The Bishop of Rochester was unable to come in person, but sent a message of greeting and support. The Archdeacon of Rochester Cathedral closed the gathering in prayer. The Mayor of Medway, the Member of Parliament for Gillingham, and a number of local Councillors also attended, and were publicly prayed for.

Many congregations invited and encouraged their people to fast and pray during the 10 Days prior to Pentecost Sunday, following the guidelines provided. The 90 days of blessing is as yet too great a challenge for us logistically, but we are developing a successful initiative along the same lines called "Love Gillingham", during which Christians join together for a week at the beginning of the school summer holidays to engage in social action in the neighbourhood. Medway Council is extremely supportive and contributes generously with finance for the various projects. This year we are focusing on clearing the arterial roads of rubbish, a practical and prophetic act.

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**Northampton - 10 Days of Prayer (19 – 28<sup>th</sup> May)...**

24/10 prayer with 4x 6-hour Prayer Watches each day. 17 Churches/groups involved on the rota which was hosted on the *Churches Together Northampton* website. Prayer Guide issued for churches/groups to use. Pocket Guides issued for individual use.

**Faith on the Streets (25 & 26<sup>th</sup> May)...**

Two days when from 10.00 – noon and 2.00 – 4.00pm each day we had teams of people out on the streets using Pentecost 2007 questionnaires to prompt conversations about faith. Special tracts were

prepared for use. On the Saturday a Market Stall was also used as a place of contact and prayer. Between 15 – 40 people from different churches took part during each of the four sessions.

### **Praise in the Park (27<sup>th</sup> May)**

This was arranged as an outdoor event based at the Bandstand in the town's main park. Due to adverse weather conditions, a last minute diversion into the Anglican Church in the park saved the event. We had 350 people crammed into every nook and cranny. If the weather had been good I'm sure we would have reached 1,000.

Participation reflected a broad churchmanship. Nine leaders took part in the service. The worship group had people from 4 – 5 churches. The Gospel Choir, mainly African, had people from another 4 -5 churches. All in all some 20 churches had involvement, many other churches had people attending and the occasion went terrifically well.

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**Norwich** - It was like a winter's day as the wind blew and the rain came down in torrents, but it did not deter approximately 550 people from coming to the Global Day of Prayer evening at the Anglican Cathedral organised by Prayer in the Park.

In 2004, a group of ministers from different denominations and backgrounds came together to organise the first united Christian prayer event in Norwich to be known as "Prayer in the Park", 2 events were held in 2005 and 1 in 2006. For the 5<sup>th</sup> event to be held in 2007, the decision was made to organise the event as a part of the Global Day of Prayer and for the first time it was held in the magnificent Norwich Cathedral, where we were made most welcome by the Dean and his staff.

As people were gathering, prior to the actual start of the event, scenes from the 2006 Global Day of Prayer were shown on a large screen accompanied by beautiful music, softly played by the Cathedral organist. A silence descended over the congregation as they were called to prayer by the sound of the Shofar being blown from a vantage point high in the organ loft. Then all joined in a rousing rendition of "Praise My Soul the King of Heaven" as the organist was joined by musicians playing keyboards, guitars, trumpet and drums.

In this beautiful building, where for nearly four centuries until the 15<sup>th</sup> century there was almost continual 24/7 prayer, we sensed the presence of God as we joined with millions of Christians in the 203 nations taking part across the world, singing praises to Him and exalting His Name far over all, our love and worship mingling with prayers and proclamations.

The Dean of the Cathedral welcomed all to the evening reminding us of the first Pentecost when Christ visited His people, all were aware that we were indeed "together in one place and in one accord". The Chair of Transforming Norwich shared from Revelation 8 about how our prayers and proclamations that evening would rise before God mingling with the incense from the altar.

All then had the opportunity to watch the 5 minute video clip from the 2006 Global Day of Prayer and catch a sense of the enormity of what we were participating in this year. No longer were we standing alone as a small but united group, but we were linked in to a global event, and many sensed the strength and unity of this as we joined in the Spirit with millions around the globe. The Prayer for the World was said in unison in seven sections and led by local Ministers from a Salvation Army Major to a Baptist Minister to Anglican Vicars to Pentecostal Pastors to a Methodist Minister.

Lively praise and worship, led by different people was accompanied by young people expressing their heart and love for God in dance. We prayed together as a congregation, we prayed in small groups and we prayed by name for every nation of the world.

The evening closed with all ministers and pastors of congregations being asked to make their way forward to the front where they assembled together and joined in declaring the Aaronic Blessing from Numbers 6, followed by a trumpet voluntary played from the organ loft.

People lingered and shared together for some time sensing that it was a unique night in the history of the city, county, nation and the world.

It was, if all that is in the heavens and under the earth, had to take notice of what was happening; the biggest prayer meeting in all the earth. For 24 hours across the globe, Christians gathered in homes, churches, cathedrals, public places and football stadiums, from the rising of the sun in the pacific islands in the east to its setting in the west. We came together with one purpose - to proclaim His greatness, repent of our sins and to ask God to fulfil his promise to heal our lands.

There was a sense too that on this Pentecost Sunday, remembering the first Pentecost of the early church, we were gathering in a new unity, mobilizing as a great army, across the world, united in His love.

*"We in Norwich and Norfolk were thrilled to be part of this great day and are very grateful to all who cancelled their services to be with us. We believe that people came from at least 28 different churches. The feedback we are receiving is very positive and we look forward to the next Global Day of Prayer on Pentecost Sunday 2008."*

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**Redditch** - The weather followed the forecast and the skies emptied themselves virtually continuously for the day. The temptation to cancel the event or hastily rearrange the venue was strong. As there were an unknown number of people coming from an equally unknown range of locations, this would have caused chaos so we decided to press on with what we believed God had called us to do. However, we did have to hastily re-organise the way we were going to lay things out at the stadium. The stand we had intended to use as the backdrop to the sound-stage was being systematically drowned by the driving rain.

The day consisted of a praise and worship session followed by a symbolic altar building exercise: All Church Leaders, Ministers, Elders etc were invited to come forward and place a stone on the 'Stone Altar'. The Children of Israel brought stones up from the Jordan and built an altar where they entered the Promised Land as a testimony to God's faithfulness in bringing them to their inheritance. This was done as a symbol that we wanted to make a marker that former day and difficulties are behind us, and that we desire to move on in humility and unity towards our inheritance in Christ.

This was followed by a time of prayer when many prayer leaders spoke into the following topics: The Church, Revival, The Persecuted Church, Our Town of Redditch, The Region, The Nation, Youth and Drug Addiction. The prayer for the world was also shared amongst a group of leaders.

Despite the weather, upwards of 170 people were at the meeting. Visitors had made the effort to travel from, Lincoln, Tenbury Wells, Worcester, Bidford, Bromsgrove, Birmingham and Erdington - an average radius of 30-40 miles. Everyone came determined to tough out the weather and be part of a global prayer meeting! What an awesome day.

It was a privilege and a blessing to be at this event. Even though everyone was cold and wet, the atmosphere was warm, the worship was joyful, and the prayers from the heart. The presence of God was truly manifest in our midst. One lady came from Birmingham, on her own, because she wanted to be part of the Global Day of Prayer. She commented on how good it was to see so many different churches standing together. Another lady came from Worcester by bus, not even knowing if the buses would enable her to do the return journey. We were honoured to have such people with us.

Several people have shared with us a picture of the Stadium full of people. This year it was by no means full of people, but it certainly was full of the Spirit, who is calling to prayer those with ears to hear. This was a real breakthrough in terms of unity in the town. There has been a long history of disunity and it was wonderful the way so many leaders eagerly took part in this day. We have already booked the Stadium for next year and we have received an anonymous donation of cash which covers all the costs!

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**Southampton** - About 750 people gathered in Central Hall, home of the New Community Church, Southampton, on Sunday evening, 27<sup>th</sup> May 2007. We watched the 5 minute DVD presentation of the Global Day of Prayer 2006 which encouraged us all that we were a part of a much bigger, worldwide prayer meeting. We then read 3 passages of Scripture from Colossians 1 and Revelation chapters 5 and 7 out loud together, declaring together the supremacy and glory of Christ. This provided a great springboard for our worship time, led by a team of 7 or 8 musicians, all under 30 years of age, from different Churches across the city. Then followed the Prayer for the World with each of the 7 sections read by a representative of a different country. As we came to the end of another song, spontaneous worship broke out and we all knelt together before the Lord and asked his forgiveness for the sins of our city.

We prayed in small groups for our world, for the unity of believers, for peace, for freedom from poverty and disease and for those not yet reached with the Gospel. We sang a song interpreted by a dancer as we cried out "How long till there's justice on the earth... till we hear the victory roar...come Lord Jesus, we are desperate for you here!" Then we prayed in groups again for Southampton, for education and for the police and for the things that God has put on our hearts to do for Him here.

There is a definite feeling that the presence of God that we experienced was due not only to the unity and prayer of the Churches in Southampton, but also that we were tapping into the Global Prayer on Pentecost Sunday and reaping what others have sown in prayer globally.

**Some comments from the day...**

*"God exceeded my expectations and has certainly expanded and extended my vision of what church together can be. It was a privilege to be in the awesome power and presence of God, and we still only just started to scratch the surface. Glory to God."*

*"Praying together - worshipping together - and generally sharing together as we did last Sunday helped tremendously to cultivate a new depth of unity in the 'body' in the city. Following on from the advent of S.C.N. [Southampton Christian Network] the timing seemed to be right. Certainly we got the impression that it was not just another gathering because it was expected at Pentecost Sunday to do that....there was a different feel about last Sunday and I think good things will follow...."*

*"Sunday evening was an amazing and very significant time for the church in our city. I feel that it reflected the new momentum of prayer for our city that is steadily gathering pace. I believe that increasingly the church in the city will become the head and not the tail and that Sunday evening was a moment where God the Holy Spirit drew us together by birthing something in unity and togetherness that was right from God's heart.*

*The offering of over £2000 also reflected a new spirit and I believe that this will speak positively to the mayor of the church's willingness to give of herself for the good of the city.*

*Sunday night was like laying more bricks into the foundation of a new unity that the body of Christ is experiencing here in Southampton. This unity is that of Psalm 133 and is the key to God's blessing upon our city."*

*"It was great to see different churches not pushing their own identities but identifying themselves as part of the greater citywide church. Also there is now a realisation that it is time for the churches to not only worship together but also work together for the good of the city."*

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**St Leonard's** – Ten Days of Prayer were held in Wellington Square Baptist Church in Hastings and Prayer Week at Ashburnham Place held from 20-27 May, with three planned events in Hastings for the 90 days of blessing. The event moved from an outside venue to a church building due to bad weather. About 220 people attended including the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Hastings, and more than 12 Churches and 20 nations were represented.

Worship was led by a local Nigerian Church and dances were led by members of several churches. We prayed for: Hastings, Our nation – Hope 08 / Government / Monarchy / Cinque Ports, Twin towns of Hastings, Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Israel, Hong Kong and China, India, Sierra Leone.

There was significant blessing to the Vicar of the Church where the event moved as a result of the weather.

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**Sunderland** – We met in the Conference Suite in the Stadium of Light. Numerically we were similar to last year but were affected by the holiday weekend. Our gathering was divided into sections with a lot of group prayer covering: The 27 other UK locations; The Queen and Royal Family re 1 Tim 2; The Government; The Youth of the city led by two teenagers and a Youth worker re Mal 4 ; Unity in the Church. This gave a real focus for us to embrace here in North East, with regional leaders present

**Testimony from one of Sunderland's leadership group...**

*"For me it was particularly encouraging because of the variety of people who attended and the significant representation from overseas. Among the latter were French speaking people from the Congo and Angola who were fully and actively involved in the sessions of small group prayer around the room. It was for me, a privilege to be able to respond to their French prayers in French. After the meeting I met a young man who was visiting his French girl friend in Sunderland. She attends a church while she is working in a hotel here. They are clearly committed Christians and belong to an AOG church in Lyons. They were obviously very encouraged by the meeting and remarked on the absence of such occasions back home. I was also told of an African pastor who had brought a Muslim contact to the meeting. The pastor's contact with the man had first come about when, the Muslim was seeking asylum and was very afraid that he might be summoned for deportation. The pastor suggested that he pray about this to his God. He said he could not do that so the pastor replied that he would pray about the matter to his God. Shortly afterwards the man received word that he did not have to attend for interview. As a result he decided that he wanted to follow the Christian's God! He is clearly seeking and is now attending a local church."*

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**London, West Ham** - Following the success of the Global Day of Prayer London held at West Ham United FC on May 27th 2007, Britain's Christian community are being encouraged to book their place for next year's event scheduled for May 2008. Over 20,000 Christians from across the denominational and cultural spectrum braved the rain to attend the four hour ecumenical prayer extravaganza which celebrated Pentecost.

The service kicked off with worship and artists performed for the crowds of Christians from diverse background, cultures and streams. Using the Lord's Prayer as the key theme for the event, there were readings and reflections; an international prayer for the world in different languages; special prayer for persecuted Christians across the world and there was a prayer of repentance for the transatlantic slave trade and a plea for reconciliation.

A representative of the Peace Alliance led prayers for an end to violence across Britain. A poignant call for peace was given as a woman shared how her son was stabbed to death last year. There was a general sense that the service, the congregational mix of different races, the use of different styles of church worship traditions and the spirit behind the Global Day of Prayer London event reflected the Spirit of Pentecost which ushered in the birth of the church over 2000 years ago.

The Global day of Prayer London Steering Group were pleased with the strong support churches across the UK gave this groundbreaking ecumenical prayer initiative. The Bishop of Barking was thrilled by the wide range of Christian traditions represented at the event. He said, *"One of my main interests in chairing the steering committee for the London Global Day of Prayer was around encouraging a new expression of ecumenism... It was exciting and very productive to work with such a dynamic group of mixed ethnicity and denomination - the leaders of many of our black majority churches collaborated across the whole range of church life from Roman Catholic to Independent churches. This broad-based collaboration worked well for the Global Day of Prayer - we all worked hard to ensure the West Ham event was representative of a wide variety of worship and prayer styles - and it may provide a model for achieving much more together in the future – not least a united and influential engagement with the 2012 Olympics and much else besides. "I see this as a hopeful 'new look' ecumenism, which seems to be reaching parts that our traditional ecumenical instruments have often failed to reach."*

It is hoped that the Global day of Prayer has encouraged believers to get involved in other Christian initiatives. *"There's a number of worthwhile initiatives that deserve the support of the Christian community such as Stop the Traffic, Soul in the City as well as A Year for London, where churches are being invited to spend 24 hours praying for the needs of London."*

*"I hope Global Day of Prayer 2007 has encouraged churches to work more closely with other churches and strengthen their relationships with each other. This event has proven it is possible for Christians of different races and traditions to unite together with a common aim. We now want that sense of faith and commitment shown by churches in their support of the Global Day of Prayer to be demonstrated by churches working to transform their communities with acts of kindness and social action."*

The organisers hope that following the success of this year's event, they'll be able to host a Global Day of Prayer event at the new Wembley Stadium by 2010.

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**York** - After a ten day period of prayer, primarily taking place in York's Central Prayer Room, many churches from York and the surrounding area, joined together in York Minster for One Voice York's third Global Day of Prayer. Some 35 young people started the evening off by responding to the "Summit 07" challenge to the youth of the world to go to the highest point in their region to pray for their communities. In our case, this meant climbing some 275 steps up to the top of York Minster's tower, York's "high place". The wind and rain did nothing to deter their enthusiasm as they moved around the tower, praying out north, south, east and west, and in each direction the trumpet blasted out over the city, claiming it for the Lord.

Despite it being very cold and wet, a crowd of around 800 people braved the elements to fill the Nave of the Minster and join together in prayer. We were particularly delighted to welcome the newly elected Lord Mayor of York, together with the new Sherriff of York, and their spouses, who all participated enthusiastically. Once again, the trumpet together with the worship band played an important role in leading us through worship into prayer throughout the evening.

After being officially welcomed to the Minster, the first part of the evening was dedicated to praying for our nation. After a time of public heart searching and repentance, the theme of 'the Wind and the Waves' was used to pray over the winds of change and the waves of secularism in our land. Particular prayer was made for 'Prime Minister-in-waiting' Gordon Brown, for all those Christians who are holding the line against secularism, and for the upcoming initiative of Hope 08.

The middle part of the evening, dedicated to praying for the world, offered people the opportunity to experience different ways of praying, using many of the lovely spaces available in the Minster. There was a sense of anticipation and common purpose as people moved around the Minster to their selected venue – whether it was Worship and Dynamic Prayer, or its antithesis – quiet contemplative Taize Prayer (in the appropriate setting of the Crypt.) Others chose to find out about Drumming Prayer, whilst there was also Reflective Prayer, using sounds and senses to motivate prayer. Alternatively there was a type of labyrinth "Walk through the Nations" with a series of photos, statistics and descriptions to prompt prayer, and for those who preferred to stay in their seats and pray on their own, a silent video had been prepared featuring three different nations, with bullet points to assist prayer.

The last part of the evening was led by young people. To aid prayer for our community, they had prepared a video where people on the streets of York were interviewed and asked "What one thing would you ask God to change about York?" They then prayed briefly and gave us specific prayer requests for each section - Education, Local Government, Services, and the Church. The excellent contribution they made was proof indeed of the vital part our young people play and of the dedication of our many youth workers, groups and organisations. Particularly moving was the moment when the Civic Party was invited to join one of the young leaders on the platform. She prayed blessing on them, on behalf of all the church, and that they would receive strength and guidance during their term of office.

The outworking of the third part of the vision of Global Day of Prayer in community transformation is something the churches are eager to demonstrate. To this end, as they left, each person was given a pack containing a black bin liner ("clean up a street in your neighbourhood, for example, as an act of Christian service"), a bookmark with ideas as to how they might start to engage with their community, and a booklet about Hope 08. With Hope 08 fast approaching, plans were briefly outlined, in particular the Half Night of Prayer in York Minster on New Year's Eve to launch Hope 08.

As the evening drew to a close, few will forget the powerful imagery as the Civic Party carried flaming torches down through the Minster to the back where they handed them on to young people who then lined up outside forming a symbolic "Fire Tunnel" for people to pass through as they left. The atmosphere all evening was engaging and there was a real sense of the presence of the living God in the historic venue. Comments ranged from 'a very special evening' to 'a real meeting with God'.

Initial feedback suggests that the great variation in styles of prayer not only kept everyone interested but made a deep impression on many Christians. The sense of 'being part of something bigger' was also evident. We pray that not only will this event be a stimulus to continual prayer in the lives of Christians in our area and beyond, but also the beginning of a true 90 days of blessing in our streets.

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**For more information, photos and updates on other venues in UK go to**

[www.globaldayofprayer.org.uk](http://www.globaldayofprayer.org.uk)

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## **FRANCE**

### **Lyon**

Echoes of global prayers hit the city of Lyon in France for the first time this year 2007 on the day of Pentecost.

Glory be to God. Lyon is the second largest city of France with roughly 2 million inhabitants and the "spiritual" capital of the country! For the first time, when the day of Pentecost came on 27th may 2007, we in Lyon were together with millions of believers' across the nations in repentance and adoration before the Almighty Jehovah God. An estimated 600 believers gathered in about 11 local churches to celebrate the first ever GDOP in our city. We could hear the Son after a whisper of a mighty angel saying to the Father: Look! Daddy, Lyon is returning back to You through repentance and worship. Then the Ancient of days commanded to myriad of angels: let there be joy in Heaven for Lyon has repented and is now being washed by the blood of the Lamb. Yes, there was joy in Heaven as it was in our midst as waves of global prayers reached us and mounted to the throne of grace and mercy. Lyon has returned back to God.

God is about to transform this city. Praise the Lord! To us, it was just a miracle that all this happened. Only the Hand and a gift from our Abba Father can do that. As local coordinator, we are thankful to the Holy Spirit for enabling us to contact pastors, most of them for the first time having been living here only since some 9 months ago. Pray with us for a common larger gathering for all denominations of the city next year and for lasting fruits that people may become more sensitive to the kingdom of God.

Finally, let me share this most encouraging testimony. About two months ago I shared the GDOP vision with a niece of mine living in the USA. She was moved by the Holy Spirit and decided to mobilize her own town. By the grace of God, this city of West Virginia had the single registered successful event this year for the first time. Praise be to the Lord. Thank you all for your valuable prayers.

Committed to advancing the kingdom of God across the nations of the world,

His servant  
Pastor Nestor Pakasa, Lyon France

## Saint Etienne

We dedicated a special evening towards the *Global Day of Prayer*, in the premises of our community A.B.R.I. in the city of **Saint-Etienne, in France**.

Members of several Christian communities of the city, represented mostly by women, were led by the Spirit of God to join us in praying for Africa.

Each of these members represented not only their community, but also an African nation namely those of **Togo, Cameroon, Ivory Coast** and **Algeria**, of which Ivory Coast and Algeria had male representatives.

We began with a session of heartfelt repentance among the brethren. Each of the African women present, were able to bestow forgiveness regarding the perceived offences, differences and mistakes committed during the colonisation of their peoples by the French rulers in the past. Racism, the indignation, resentment and anger that it causes even to this day in our society was one of the transgressions that were forgiven graciously. Some of the members expressed sincere repentance on behalf of the French people, regarding their behaviour towards the events that took place in the Ivory Coast.

After this time of repentance reciprocated and acknowledged by both sides, we shared a wonderful time of visitation by the Holy Spirit, a time of healing and deliverance, when the African women present were healed of their lifetime of servitude.

A woman from **Togo** and another one from **Guadeloupe** were freed of the bitterness and the pains of rejection in their lives. A lady from **Cameroon**, who had brought her 25-year-old son along with her (it happened to be his birthday), confessed the pride that was in their family. This woman who was formerly bound by customs, traditions and familial witchcraft was powerfully freed from the ancestral sorcery in her life and also from the depression caused by slavery and servitude.

The genuine repentance and forgiveness resulted in the reconciliation and healing of the souls present.

The washing of the hands and feet of the Africans by white men and women allowed great deliverances to be witnessed.

Tears of joy streaming out of sincere love touched and healed every one of their hearts. One of the women testified that she literally felt liberated in her body. We were able to break the words of condemnation that bound them, by the Name of Jesus Christ and thereby proclaim : dignity, abundance, and prosperity into their lives.

Considering that every person represented her nation, we perceived an enormous reconciliation between France and the peoples of Africa.

We made a human circle around these representatives of Africa with the worship leader in their midst, and as we started a powerful song in tongues, we believed the rhythms of Africa were released.

Through the powerful manifestations of sounds and dances that followed, we apperceived the liberation of these arts that had taken place, and we prayed a prophetic prayer that what had been freed in this locale and in this city, be freed all over France, our nation.

This event took place on the eve of Shavuot [Pentecost according to the Jewish calendar]. At the end of the worship session that followed, the laughter and the joy of the presence of the Lord came upon many of us, along with His Fire oh so powerful, to refresh, restore, and to prepare us to stand on His side in the times ahead !

Every person has been re-established and renewed in their identity, and we believe that the African nations have opened up their doors to us.

A desire purely from God is borne in our hearts : to go into the nations, our inheritance, to bring them to our Lord and Saviour Yeshua HaMashia'h, Jesus Christ the Messiah!

**Glory to God for His manifest Presence oh so powerful, and Glory to Jesus the Perfect Lamb who paid the price with His life and with His blood, so that all is accomplished... through Him,with Him and in Him**

### **Mont Blanc**

We went up by cable car from Chamonix. At the bottom of the second stage, we repented before God for the arrogance, pride and sins of the people of France. We repented of broken covenants, bloodshed, immorality and idolatry. We put on the armour of God. We thanked God that we can clothe ourselves with righteousness through faith and that He is gracious to forgive us of our wrong doings through the blood of Christ. We confirmed our unity with one another and with Him.

At the mid section of the second stage, we released praise and worship. We asked God to come with compassion to bind up and heal. France has received double for her sin. The red and white flags were waved that symbolize the Blood of Christ and the purity that gives us free and easy access to the throne of God. We prophetically released a UPFSA business card to tumble down into the snow below the lookout point - as a reminder of all the requests and prayers made for France by intercessors for France.

We declared Ps 144 and Ps 145 "Faithful France, lift up your head and receive your king." We prayed for the unity of the churches across all denominations in the Name of Jesus Christ. We did a prophetic action calling the angels to go to the north, south, east west to shift the spiritual realm in this country, to release the people from bondage and to let the army of God march forward. We spoke to the army and said: "Arise and go forth".

Half of the team went up to the highest part of the second section and the other half stayed at the middle station. We read Rev 15 and blew the Shofars: 12 Blast was done on the two shofars on the two levels: 3 (the trinity) x 4 (four directions) = 12

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### **MOLDOVA**

Praise the God we could organize & lead the GDOP, by His mercy. We have gathered about 400 people at the biggest assembly hall at Khishinev (the capital of Moldova) this year. Moreover at that day at Faleshti town (North of Moldova) gathered about 250 people from the North, West & East of Moldova. Altogether 19 Churches participated (these only those we know, but it is possible that their quantity were over). We were especially happy that brothers & sisters from some Baptize Churches joined us that time! We believe that next year we'll succeed to get not only believers from other denominations but also their pastors. At the 24/7 Pray took part about 250 people. For us it is a greater victory. Even in comparison with the last year it is an obvious progress and growth. We were very much helped by video data. We have translated some of them in Russian, and could show at our prayer conference which has been lead in the middle of April, 2007. One of the services we dedicated to GDOP - we told people about the vision, we shared the plans, motivated believers from all Moldova to take part at this important project. We were glad to participate at Guards arousing! We need some resources which would help us to improve children's prayer; besides this we would be glad to take your advice & experience to build interdenominational relationships. Unfortunately non Baptize not Pentecostal Churches don't wish to collaborate. But we believe that the situation will change. With God's love,

Pastor Pozdirka Semion - GDOP's coordinator in Moldova

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### **GREECE**

It was the first for the nation of Hellas (Greece). We also know that it is the beginning of something more spectacular than we can imagine, so we look to the day that the full plans of God for the children and youth of this nation are manifested—amen!

We gathered in the "Panathinaiko Stadium" where the torch to Zeus was lit.

So we first gathered near the entrance of the stadium. We were unable to obtain a permit to hold an "official" event, so we had to be a little quiet and ensure we didn't block the gates where people like to take photos. There I was led to wash the feet of three young people. The Lord wanted us to repent on behalf of this nation for child sacrifices in ancient times, teen prostitution, and present day abortion. There were so many kids wanting to volunteer, that I ended up washing several little feet! I washed the feet of a 5-month old baby, several children, some teens, and a Greek mommy with child! The others gathered around and repented and prayed while I washed the feet. Then I had two youths lead the prayers in Greek, as the "church" read along in either Greek or English, and then we answered with the congregational part. After this, we crossed the street to the open square where we had snacks for the kids and we had a couple of hours of praise and worship. We had a group of kids from one of the Greek churches sing in Greek, the Athens African Children's Choir, and a group of young Africans called Heavenly Peace Ministries. We also had a few groups from churches who led some songs, a couple from the Filipino churches, and a group of Bulgarians.

Here are the statistics: Approximately 130 people in attendance, 20 churches, five pastors, and 14 countries were represented. The countries are: Greece, Cyprus, Bulgaria, Finland, Ghana, Holland, Hungary, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Russia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and USA. We had both Evangelical and Pentecostal churches represented—praise God!

The whole event really opened the eyes of the pastors and leaders, and of course the youth. We are excited about next year, and the youth are determined that next year, the Lord will open the gates of the Panathinaiko Stadium for us.

We give God all the glory for what He is doing in a nation so torn by disunity, legalism, and of course humanism. Surely the next generation will bring about the necessary changes to see God's glory fill this nation!

Lori J. Garcia  
Director/Founder of K.I.D.S.  
Global Day of Prayer Coordinator for Hellas

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### **CZECH REPUBLIC**

At 27th May about 230 people gathered on the top of the hill ŘÍP, where by legend in the 7<sup>th</sup> century the ancients lead by Czech forefathers, decided to live in that area therefore the foundation of Czech nation. From the top of hill you can see almost the whole central part of the Czech Republic.

We worshiped the Lord most of time. We also proclaimed the victory of Jesus Christ and the desire of the Czech Church to spread God's kingdom in Czech Republic. We asked for grace, mercy and forgiveness of our sins.

Some prophecies concerning calling spiritual wall keepers into Czech and pouring the oil of desire for Jesus into Church were spoken.

A very strong moment of the gathering was, when we all made a big circle, grasped each others hands and sang a unity song together. There was a very big presence of the Holy Spirit seen in this prophetic act!

We believe, what had happened at GDOP at ŘÍP will have influence on Czech nations in other months...

In the middle of gathering I've almost physically felt the presence of the Lord is coming! It was really strong! God wanted to speak to us, to be with us, to encourage us.

Vit Skala  
Prayer-house Senozaty  
Member of organization team

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## RUSSIA

This year Russia participated on a greater scale.

Two big Pentecostal denominations (Association of Churches of Christians of Evangelical Faith and Russian Joint Council of Christians of Evangelical Faith) called their churches to take part in the GDOP.

Prayer meetings and church services were held in 8 cities of Russia, including Moscow, St.Petersburg, Krasnoyarsk, Yekaterinburg, Samara, Tula, Kislovodsk, and Vladikavkaz.

The meeting in Samara lasted for 7 hours. In Krasnoyarsk God's people prayed on the hills around the town. God has done many things like healings and deliverance. Thank the Lord for His mighty works and His amazing grace!

Abundant blessings,  
Mikhail Kuznetsov

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## MACEDONIA

Greetings from the Republic of Macedonia! Thank you for praying for us and including us in the Global Day of Prayer 2007! This was the first year ever for Macedonia to be involved in this world-wide movement of prayer!

God has certainly been moving the Church forward in prayer during these last several years. This was yet another step of growing in prayer and unity!

The pastors of the city of Skopje began to meet in February to discuss, plan, and pray about participating in the GDOP. There was great interest and energy to make this happen. In fact one Pastor, when hearing about this, said "I have been waiting and praying for this".

### **40 Days of Prayer and Fasting and 3-day Macedonian Watchman Prayer Assembly**

In all the churches in Skopje, we announced 40 days of fasting and prayer from April 18- May 27. Some churches made a calendar and had at least one person praying and fasting on that day. Others were fasting for part or all of 40 days. In the middle of this 40 days, we had a first time ever 3-day Macedonian Watchman Prayer Assembly. The Lord gave us Isaiah 62 for raising up the Watchmen of Macedonia.

We were about 45 people gathered together from about 9 different countries, believers from Albania, Macedonia, Serbia, Poland, Germany, Holland, Norway, America, and England! Different languages, different cultures, different continents, BUT one Lord! We prayed and worshiped the Lord for 3 days, calling out to Him to meet us. We took one afternoon and prayer-walked in the 3 different areas of town where there are living the main people groups – Albanian, Macedonia, and Roma. We prayed in the city-wide prayer room which was established for the 10 days of 24 hour prayer.

### **First time 24 hours of prayer for 10 days in Skopje!**

This was all to prepare us for the season of 24 hour prayer. This would be the first time ever to establish in the city of Skopje a 24 hour house of prayer. We were blessed to have some members from [www.24-7prayer.com](http://www.24-7prayer.com) prayer ministry in England who came to teach us some things about 24/7 prayer. All the churches were asked to take responsibility for filling the house with intercessors and prayer teams for these 10 days. Even many of the pastors took the night shift. One night the "Teen Challenge" group from Skopje stayed and worshiped and prayed all night. The prayer room was filled with murals, pictures, written prayers, and scripture. There was indeed a real sense that people were waiting on and finding God in this place. It was encouraging to see how people from different churches and denominations came together to spend time in worship and prayer, each in their own way of practice. Elderly people, mid-aged, young people and even children were watchmen over the city of Skopje.

### **First time GDOP celebration in Macedonia!**

The day of Pentecost, the Global Day of Prayer, we asked all the churches in the city to close their church doors and come together REALLY as one church. We rented a room in the "Holiday Inn", and called it the Holy Day Inn! We planned for about 450 people and in the end we had over 600! This was a sign for us that the Lord was really working in the people, drawing them to himself. The meeting was lead by the unified pastors in the city. We had extended time of worship. We heard words of exhortation. We had representative of every major ethnic group who prayed for each other and for the country. We prayed the Lord's prayer in unison and one brother prayed a prayer of repentance for the church and the nation. In the end we broke into small groups to pray for about 30 minutes over many different areas. There was a great sense of joy and celebration in being together and lifting up Jesus as ONE BODY in the city.

### **90 Days of Blessing**

During these days of planning for prayer and praying, we also had pastors going to the local communities and mayors to ask how we could serve them and be a blessing to them. We received a donation of wheel-chairs from outside the country and we offered these to many of the communities. In addition we received a large shipment of clothing to give to the neediest in the city. In our city, the local church so far is including only people who are ethnic Macedonian or Roma. So we planned now a project to serve the Albanian Muslims in our city. We will demonstrate the love of Jesus by helping to paint and clean one of their schools.

Our participation in this season of prayer has STIMULATED us to greater level of desperation for our Lord. We are already planning future prayer gatherings in the city for the rest of 2007. Looking towards 2008, we believe that with even greater preparation and organization we can have 1000 believers mobilized for prayer. We also are making plans to see GDOP celebrations in all the major cities that have churches – for GDOP 2008.

All Glory to God,  
Bryan  
PrayMacedonia

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### **ICELAND**

Just up date you on the Global day of Prayer in Iceland. We were glad to be a part of this special time in the world. The main focus in Iceland was through the radio. Lindin covers 90 % of the population in Iceland.

We made an advertisement which encouraged people from all over Iceland to Pray on that Sunday. We put it on our Web-site and encouraged many of the churches to get involved. I haven't heard back from them. The prayers were prayed over the radio, several times on the Global Day of Prayer. We know as we pray God does His work.

We are thankful to be a part of what the Lord is doing in the world today.

Working in the Harvest field of Iceland  
Sheila Fitzgerald

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### **UKRAINE**

#### **L'viv**

For four years running in the city of L'viv, about 20 Churches from different denominations gather for the united service. This is the fruit of the joint monthly pastors' prayer-meetings for 6 years in a row. God blesses the congregation with His presence every time the churches gather together as one body.

This time, God had a surprise for us. We thought that we were going to have a unity service of L'viv's churches only, but we had a service together with the churches around the world. We found out that the 27<sup>th</sup> of May, the day that we planned the service, is the International Day of Prayer. Although we got the information two weeks before the service, all of the pastors were eager to change the form and

scenario of the service, and to take the program of the International Day of Prayer as its base. This event was an opportunity for the believers from other churches not within the pastor's unity, to join the International Day of Prayer. This was one of the factors that united churches in our city. Three more churches that did not work with our union before joined our Unity Service as well.

God really blessed us. As I took part in the organization, I testify that the preparation for the service was better and easier than previous years. Of course, the experience and skills played a big role too, but I think that the enthusiasm and desire of different people from the churches to actively participate and sacrifice their time, finances, and strength to this work played the biggest role. 2 months before the service, a huge preparation began. The rehearsals and practices took place, with about 90 musicians and singers taking part. Everybody got this principle: that unity is not when one does anything alone, but when everyone does his part for a common purpose. And I believe that it wasn't the service that was the most important for the Lord, but the preparation and mutual co-operation of the different churches. It was altogether pleasant to God, although there are some differences in the doctrines of the churches' teachings. In the process of preparation, during the hard weekdays, the love, sacrifice, humility, and mutual aid were present. As a reward for the mutual co-operation, the Lord richly blessed us with His presence and great joy to everyone present there.

The whole downtown could see and hear the Church of Christ worshipping God in love and unity. It was possible due to the large screen and powerful sound system used to broadcast the service to the square before the theatre. The government was usually against building the stage and placing the screen in the square, but God opened their hearts and the government granted us permission to do so. Thousands of people were able to join the theatre in praise and worship. Unbelievers and representatives of the orthodox confessions were impressed that during the service, so much was spoken about God and sung to God. Even the representatives of the government present at the service greeted us with warm greetings, thanksgiving, and encouragements.

The head of education administration personally thanked everyone present for the offerings that were collected in previous years. All of the offerings were sent to L'viv's boarding schools to provide for children's needs so that they could live there. This year the collected sum of money was bigger than the sum in previous years. This day became a real holiday for the Word of God, prayer, and praise. Starting at 10:30 A.M., the screen was working in the square. People were able to watch videos, movies, and music video clips sharing the good news with hundreds of people walking around downtown, spending their day off in the center, as downtown is the beloved place for L'viv's population to rest and fellowship. There was one united evangelism team that consisted of representatives from different Churches. People in T-shirts saying "Let's worship God together" along with scripture from John 17:21 handed out invitations to come and join the church in evening worship. The invitations listed all of the addresses of all the churches participating in this event. Dramas, pantomimes, and songs that teams from the churches were performing that day were also broadcasted on the big screen, and people could see and hear from far distances. That day, the square before the Opera House was the place to worship God as never before. People could simply go and pray on their knees; that was the way Jim and Sandy's children did. About 20 children and teenagers stood in a circle, grabbed each others hands, and kneeled. They prayed for the city and the government of Ukraine. They sang and praised the Lord right in the middle of the city without fear and shame. For some people, it was a shock to see all of this. But no one and nothing could stop the children's passionate prayer. On this day, one of the best Opera theaters in Europe, center "of the Ukrainian's soul" and the city of L'viv, belonged to God's children and their Heavenly Father. At the end of the day, thousands of people gathered in the Opera House and before the screen on the square for the Unity Service. The pastors were proclaiming the Word of God, one by one, and leading people in prayer. The joint worship team led people in praise and worship. During the song "We are God's nation," the rain poured down. However, instead of troubles, it brought freshness and uniqueness. People hiding under trees and umbrellas were grouped and joined. Youth remained standing in the rain, holding each other's hands. In a while, when the shower stopped, a huge rainbow appeared in the sky over the square. That was a sign from the Lord that He is with His Fiancée and He is pleased when His children worship Him in love and unity.

**Sevastopol**

We have been praying for a prayer ministry leader to take on the responsibilities for networking people in the church and connecting other churches' prayer groups in the city

We have had some progress in that culminating in May (May 27) when 13 of city churches joined together for joint prayer and worship on the World Day of Prayer.

Our weekly prayer meetings have been growing in attendance and in quality of prayer. Many individuals in the congregation are experiencing new love for prayer.

We are still to make efforts to start a coordinated interchurch prayer.

Andrey Yagin

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**IRELAND, THE REPUBLIC OF**

**Clonmacnoise**

The sun shone for most of our time, as about 80 Christians from various denominations gathered in the centre of Ireland, to pray as part of the Global day of Prayer. Clonmacnoise is of special significance in the Christian history of Europe, as over 5 centuries from the 6<sup>th</sup> century; Clonmacnoise was a major university for Christian study and a mission sending centre to evangelize Europe. Literally 100's of Christians trained in Clonmacnoise and left, never to return.

The first part of the prayer focussed on thanksgiving for the peace that has come to Ireland in recent years, and to pray for various aspects of Irish society which are under threat at the present time. Then we joined with the prayer around the world, with the Global Prayer.

Our hope is that this will be the first of annual gathering to pray for the world and our nation.

Tim Nichols

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**BELGIUM**

**UPFSA Prayer Team**

Our team of 5 South Africans travelled over the border from France to Belgium on the 27<sup>th</sup> of May 2007. We visited the region around Mons; the capital city of the Wallon province, southern Belgium.

This area has a flat landscape, we ascended a high mine dump. On this hill, overlooking the city of Mons, we had a powerful time of prayer where we prayed that Belgium and its people will once again be healed and restored back into the kingdom of God. The region had a bloody history during the time of the Reformation as the country and its people rejected the move of God's Spirit in previous generations. We pleaded for God's mercy to raise up new generations that would choose to follow Jesus.

After an hour and half of prayer, praying for the region we returned to the home of the local evangelical pastor that received us in the area. Here we worked through the Global Day of Prayer booklet, praying the prayers that were being prayed by millions of Christians across the globe, standing in for the nation of Belgium; that it too would see Gods kingdom come in full manifestation.

Praise God that we could represent this small nation before Gods throne as we added our voices to the petitions of millions that ascended to heaven from the nations of the world.

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## SLOVAKIA

In 2006 a small group gathered in Bratislava to join the Global Day of Prayer. This was the first meeting of our prayer group of different churches. After the prayers that day we felt that we would love to continue in prayers together and we began to meet on regular basis once a month.

We felt like the Lord's calling for us is to pray for Slovakia specifically in the context of Europe and the other parts of world. We starting praying mainly for the Body of Christ in Europe and the Lord made us focused on our neighbours – Austria and Czech Republic.

In between the years 2006 – 2007 we felt like the Lord's moved us on to a new form of meetings. He began to talk to us about marches of His love that would revive the joints in the Body of Christ in Austria and Slovakia in a way the Body would be able to function as a living organism (altogether) not just some closed systems of organisations and formations. We began to pray for the same process being fully released in all the Europe.

In January 2007 we started cross-boarder Slovak-Austrian prayer walks. And since that time we have been meeting twice a month. Once we pray together at home – in Bratislava continuing in prayers for Europe - mainly for the three mentioned above countries, and once we make a walk to nearby Austrian village Wolfstahl and a town Hainburg. We pray for specific places there as we are led to with desire to carry His banner of love over both of the lands.

We felt the same guidance also as for the date 27<sup>th</sup> May 2007 – the Global Day of Prayers. That time we had a feeling that the Lord led us to pray and clean the road between Wolfstahl and Hainburg. There was a mess being regularly caused probably by both sides – the Slovaks and the Austrians and also drivers from other nations. I think the symbolism of that is clear. Cleaning the road we proclaimed the Scriptures and prayed for healing and cleansing spirit to come to both of the lands, for protection for our brothers and sister in Christ in Austria and complete restoration of the Body of Christ in both of these countries. Except of other things we were praying over the three subjects: the first one is expressed metaphorically in the picture with the traffic sign at the bottom of the page. The second theme was about allowing Christ to be manifested naturally through us as His Body. The third one was about awareness and sensitiveness in the Body of Christ not only to hit the main big targets but to see also the little foxes running hidden from the first sight to destroy the harvest in the vineyard. It was easy to experience it practically – some of us in the group were very quick and diligent to deal with the big pieces of mess by the road and then there were some of us walking after them and cleaning the small details of “disorder”.

Timotea Vrablova