



METANOIA PROJECT

Proclaiming the Good News of God's Kingdom

December 2017 +

Registered Charity No. 1169470

www.metanoiaproject.co.uk

This is a really exciting time for Metanoia Project! In January we will celebrate our 7th birthday and when we look back over those years it is amazing to see all God has done, all the people He has touched and all the joys and struggles that have led us to this point. 2017 has been a very busy year so rather than bombard you with everything, here are a few highlights...



Last academic year we piloted a programme for young leaders called YOKE inspired by the scripture 'Shoulder my yoke and learn from me' (Matt 11:29). Five young people aged 16-18 came together to pray, reflect, train and of course become leaders within the Church and beyond. They also completed the CYMFed Faith in Action Award at either Silver or Gold level. They were wonderful and taught us so much along the way so this academic year we have built on that success and now have eight fantastic young leaders, including two who are continuing to grow in their leadership experience from last year.

The young leaders are involved in several of our ministries but have made a particular impact on our youth groups which are stronger than ever. One highlight of the year for all of us was the 'All Saints' retreat which took place in the autumn half-term break. We took 25 young people away with us all of whom are regularly involved in our youth groups. I think it is possibly the best retreat I have ever had the pleasure of leading. The young people were so open to everything God wanted to do with them and shared some fantastic testimonies with us at the end of how He had touched them. There is a wonderful write up on our website from a young leader and one of our youth group members.



Just over a year ago we began our Wednesday Drop-In for the Homeless where we distribute clothes, sleeping bags, underwear, toiletries etc. Although this practical assistance is hugely important, even more important is the time we spend chatting over a cup of tea, emphasising the dignity of each individual and finding opportunities to share the Gospel. One way we do this is by ending each session with a prayer time based around scripture and sometimes including singing, to which everyone is invited to attend. It is always humbling and inspiring to see the gratitude and honesty of their prayers. Please keep these men and women in your prayers too.

We've also had some great series of talks for our Adult group, a huge sold-out crowd for Rise Theatre, work in schools, conferences, our regular Adoration, Praise and Worship event and much, much more! If you would like to read more of our news then please visit our new-look website.

As we look ahead to 2018 there is the potential for so much more ministry and we feel, after much prayer, that God is asking us to step out even further in faith and trust in His goodness to provide.



Can you help us to employ a Volunteer Coordinator and a Children and Families team leader? Can you help us realise a central part of the Metanoia Vision to establish a residential community house? Please read on...



Metanoia Project has around 30 fantastic volunteers, without whom the many events, outreaches and groups for adults and young people could not take place. But we need more if we are going to do more! So we would like to employ a full-time Volunteer Coordinator to ensure that our volunteers receive the best possible experience and provide the best possible ministry.

One area of our ministry that is set to expand in 2018 is our ministry to Children and Families. We already have one group for age 8-11 with another beginning early in the new year and other local Parishes and schools who would love to work with us. There are also plans underway to reach out to families with young children and so we hope to employ a Children and Families team leader to make this possible.



Incarnation House will be the name for our Metanoia Community home as we truly believe that it will be a place where the Lord Jesus, God made man, will dwell with us and that He calls us to cooperate with the Holy Spirit where He is ministering. The purpose of Incarnation House will be for community members to live, pray and worship together and form the heart of a

Christ-centred community of lay people in Preston whilst we hope to continue to keep our work base at 1 Chapel Street, kindly provided for us by St. Wilfrid's. The formation of a team of Gap Year Volunteers will be a central part of the community so as to develop a new generation of Catholics working for the New Evangelisation!

Please see the back page for how you can help ...!

How you can help!

There are several ways that you can help us to move forward with our vision:

Firstly - Please pray without ceasing that God will bless us abundantly in accordance with His will.

Secondly - If you know of any potential properties for our Community House in the Preston area please let us know!!

Thirdly - Could you consider supporting us financially by:

1) Becoming a monthly donor? - This is most helpful for us as we can plan ahead knowing what income we have to work with

2) Making a one-off donation? - Also very welcome!

(you can do either of these by filling in the appropriate part of the enclosed form. **Don't forget to ✓ GIFT AID** if you are a tax payer)

3) Sponsoring our Metanoia Madness Team to help boost our fundraising? Four members of Metanoia Project have plucked up the courage to enter the Central Lancashire New Years Half Marathon on 7th January 2018. The training is well underway and you can show them your support by sponsoring them online.



James Ayathamattam Youth Team Volunteer
Tushar Jain Young Leader
Jonathan Lord Community Member
Joe White Project Director

metanoiaproject.co.uk/donate/metanoia-madness

4) Holding your own fundraising event?

You can make a free online fundraising page through 'Wonderful' by following the instructions on our website funding page.

Thank you for reading our news and for considering how you can help! An especially big thank you to all of you who are already so generously holding us in prayer, sending us words of encouragement and of course sharing your financial resources with us as we endeavour to help build God's Kingdom here in Preston and beyond. You are all so special to us.



Charity No. 1169470

METANOIA PROJECT

1 Chapel Street, Preston, PR1 8BU, 07957 566741