

we can make a difference ...



February 2009

Together

News for church representatives from your local area co-ordinator

God's kingdom thrives! Even in the midst of recession

What are you going to remember 2008 for?
The year when America voted for its first black president, the Beijing Olympics, Hull City reaching the Premiership?

For most of us we are going to remember this as a year when world economies, markets and financial institutions were thrown into turmoil.

For many people 2009 is likely to be a year of worry about jobs and finance. But how does God view these tough times for our consumer-driven society? He must despair at the outright folly and greed of so many of our financial institutions, which have recently been exposed.

We live in a world whose hunger for earthly wealth is never satisfied. Jesus tells us not to 'store up for [ourselves] treasures on earth' (Matt 6: 19), with all the worries and fears that are associated with



Our big financial institutions are facing darker days
Photo: FreeDigitalPhotos.net

them. Instead, he tells us to 'seek first His kingdom and His righteousness and all these things will be given to you as well' (Matt 6: 33).

You see, the economy of God's kingdom does not endorse the world's ways, which say 'take, take, take' and 'more, more, more'. Instead it urges us to give, give and to give without ceasing. It is the purpose of God to release finances to His people so that the love of Jesus may be taken around the world. God's bank is eternally solvent and will

never go bust! The Leprosy Mission has faced every financial trial and tribulation imaginable in its 135-year history but continues to thrive. Why? Because it exists to care for the sick, lowly and the disadvantaged. The more it gives, the more God replenishes and provides.

Likewise your account in God's bank will always be in credit as you continue to faithfully give and pray for God's kingdom work to be done here on earth.

Thank you for your support. God bless you!

FUNdraising ideas

The Leprosy Mission depends on you for vital prayer and financial support. Here are just a few more event ideas you might like to consider:

- ◆ Film evening
- ◆ Games evening
- ◆ Music / drama show
- ◆ Barn dance
- ◆ Special meal
- ◆ Garden party
- ◆ Guided walk / talk
- ◆ Sponsored challenges

These would all create excellent opportunities for fun and fellowship while you raise crucial funds for this life-transforming work.

We are so grateful to you for your faithful support. Please contact me for many more ideas and encouragement. *James*



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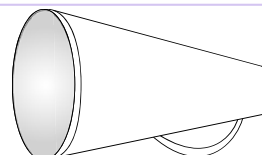
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Please share this information with other people in your church



Our vision: a world without leprosy

Let's make it an eventful year!

Warm greetings dear friends and supporters.

Phew! Where did 2008 go? It never ceases to amaze me how God completely transforms our lives. He has entrusted me with such a wonderful kingdom-building job with The Leprosy Mission, which I would never have dreamed of at this time last year.

I have had such a friendly reception to my new post from all my colleagues and of course from you, our faithful supporters. A big thank you goes out to those people who have welcomed me so warmly during my first days travelling around Yorkshire. I look forward to meeting



Pilgrimage to Bolton Abbey (20 June)

many more of you in the coming months.

This year we have some really exciting events planned. Please do encourage your family, friends, fellow church members and associates to join us. Your enthusiastic support of these events will help us greatly in our mission to eradicate this

terrible disease.

Try to mention the events to everyone you meet, circulate the leaflets and display the details on your church notice board. You'll be amazed at how many people will respond.

Don't hesitate to call me for help and lots of encouragement.

Bless you all!

Walk of Hope – 12 September 09 Leeds to Skipton Canal Walk

The banks of the historic Leeds to Liverpool Canal provide the backdrop for this sponsored walk of up to 29 miles.

Taking you through open countryside and industrial heritage sites, this walk is packed with beautiful scenery. Some interesting landmarks include the five-rise locks at Bingley and the World Heritage Site of Saltaire.

There are eight checkpoints and you can start and finish at any of them and walk in either direction:

Leeds – Rodley	6m
Rodley – Apperley Bridge	3m
Apperley Bridge – Saltaire	3½m
Saltaire – Cross Flatts	3½m
Cross Flatts – Silsden	6½m
Silsden – Kildwick	2m
Kildwick – Skipton	4½m

Checkpoints will open at 8 am. A free bus service will operate between Leeds and Skipton. There will be an entry fee of £7.50 per person (free for 13 years and under). Your entry fee will help us cover the costs of the bus service and first aid provision. Booking deadline: 21 August 2009.

Looking for a speaker?

My diary for this year is now filling up quite quickly. Please contact me soon if you would like me to come to your church or fellowship meeting to talk about the wonderful work of The Leprosy Mission. I look forward to hearing from you.

Watch out for The Leprosy Mission's new Gifts for Life leaflet, coming soon

Gifts for Life, which range from a child's education to a hospital bed, can be the perfect way to channel your donations or those of your church or group. They also make excellent alternative gifts. Contact me for more information.



Yorkshire events 2009

Saturday 23 May

Reach Out 2009!

The Leprosy Mission Open Day and Music Fest at

Halifax Piece Hall (free entry)

Spend an afternoon in the lovely grounds of this famous old open-air market. Support The Leprosy Mission and enjoy live open-air Christian-led music and short presentations of the Mission's work. TLM Trading goods will also be on sale.

Saturday 20 June

Steppin' Out 2009!

Pilgrimage to Bolton Abbey

Starting at 11 am with a short ride on the Bolton Abbey to Embsay steam railway. We will enjoy guided tours of the Abbey, have a picnic in the heart of beautiful Wharfedale and perhaps cross over the famous stepping stones of the River Wharfe. The day will end late afternoon with worship in the cloisters of the Abbey, led by our National Director, Rupert Haydock. Costs: from £17-£27 per person (dependant upon coach departure point).

Saturday 27 June

Splash Out 2009!

Morecambe Bay Walk

Starting at 10 am, join our North West supporters on this popular sponsored walk across Morecambe Bay from Hest Bank to Flookburgh (9 miles). Cost: £8 per person (includes return transport to Hest Bank).

Saturday 4 July

Bridge of Hope 2009

Humber Bridge Walk

2 pm-5 pm (free entry).

Walk just one or as many laps over the bridge as you can (approx. 2 miles) and raise vital funds for the Mission.

Saturday 12 September

Walk of Hope 2009

Leeds to Skipton Canal Walk

Please see details above-left.