

Tell the next generation...

Psalm 78:4 declares: "We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord."

In IFES Ireland: the Christian Unions, we are committed to ensuring that every student in Ireland has an opportunity to hear the good news of Jesus and experience God's grace, through the witness of their fellow-students. We resource local CUs with Staff Workers to guide and advise, with evangelistic and discipleship material to use with their peers, with conferences and opportunities to serve at home and abroad. In this edition you will hear of what God has been doing through some evangelistic initiatives put on by CUs throughout the island: some major campus outreaches, some smaller-scale events, but all communicating God's truth faithfully and creatively. We value the prayers of all our supporters and thank God for you.

As we approach our CU Annual Conference (see inside) we would ask you to pray specifically that this will be a time of commitment and renewal for many students.

David Montgomery/Director
IFES Ireland: The Christian Unions



TRINITY COLLEGE CU Has God failed?

ADAM WRITES...

From the 17th - 21st February TCD CU hosted their annual Mission Week, which this year revolved around the question "Has God Failed?" During the week we set up stalls on the main college thoroughfares and asked students to tell us how they think God has failed - in general, people were interested to stop and chat.

We also ran multiple events, all of which addressed the question of whether God has failed in relation to specific pertinent issues such as sexuality, suffering or society. These events took the format of open question panels, free lunches and main evening talks; speakers included Revd. Andy Carroll, several college lecturers and students, also Rico Tice, author of Christianity Explored. All events were encouragingly attended; people listened well

and asked pertinent questions afterwards.

During the week we encountered a certain degree of apathy towards the gospel message; people don't mind Christians doing their thing, as long as it doesn't affect them. Despite this mild discouragement, we have started a Christianity Explored course, to which eight people have already signed up!

Please pray that all attending the Christianity Explored course may come to know Christ. Please also pray that mission won't be limited to one week out of fifty-two.

Munster update

PETER WRITES...

I'm back in Tramore again for the first time since I was here for training with CIT and WIT committees last June. It's 8am and I'm walking the beach before a day's work and the sun's beaming down on my back. This brief visit to WIT CU has been greatly encouraging - it's not surprising that this year CIT CU and WIT CU have been growing both numerically and spiritually, engaging their campuses and having exciting stories to share of Irish students coming to faith and now settling into local churches. Last night there were around 6 new faces there as we discussed how God is

[continued overleaf]

Queen's Mission Week 2014

REBEKAH WRITES....

At the end of February, Queen's University Belfast had their annual Mission Week. Evangelist Michael Ots came over from England with his team and gave a series of talks during the week under the theme "Where is God?" Our lunchtime talks aimed to answer some of the issues people might have towards Christianity and evening events that elaborated on the gospel story.

I found the week really encouraging due to the attitude of service shown by many Queen's students and the CU Guests that came along, including over 40 people turning up each morning to pray for the events of the day. At many of the talks throughout the week, the room was completely packed out by people wanting to hear what we had to say.

Even though there were some challenges during the week; like effectively evangelising to international students coming from different religions and those people who were apathetic to our cause, I personally had some great conversations with one of my friends who has been investigating the claims of Christ for quite some time.

Please pray for continued interest from those who signed up for the follow-up sessions and sustained support for new believers who came to know Christ during the week. Also pray that the CU members would gain a greater understanding of the importance of living missionally throughout the year.

OTHER NEWS....

Many of you will be aware of the tremendous work done these past three years by **Catherine Read**. Cath is currently at home in Australia on deputation but has run into problems with her visa. Please pray that she will be able to have her visa extended so that when she can return for another three years.

New Belfast office address:

Sally has been hard at work packing up boxes from our current Belfast office. She will be moving to her new office at the Crescent Church soon! Please pray for Sally as she moves to a new location. Pop in and say hello to her. You can find our new office at: 6 University Road, Belfast, BT7 1NH

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relevant to our studies. One student said "I just feel that life without God doesn't satisfy and I need something more, so I came along today". In CIT, one student recently shared of how her housemate came to know Jesus for herself last year as she asked questions and then started to read the Bible together. Now she's graduated and settling into a church, although that hasn't been easy. Similar stories could be shared from Carlow and Waterford as God uses students, some of whom were surprised to find their friends coming to faith through them opening God's Word – praise God!



Ann-Kathrin Schewe

Personal story

NAME: **Ann-Kathrin Schewe**
NATIONALITY: **German**
UNIVERSITY: **DCU Dublin - now ESB Reutlingen, Germany**
SUBJECT: **Global Business**
ARRIVED IN IRELAND: **2011**

Thank God for the Associate Staff Workers, volunteering in Waterford and for His Spirit at work as His Word is opened. Why not pray with me that all the Munster CU committees would get the chance to attend training weekends at the end of exams this year?

OTHER NEWS...

IFES Ireland Summer Teams

Please contact Hannah in the office: hannah@ifesireland.org for more information about our 2014 summer teams; including a mission trip to Thailand, Cork and Dublin International Outreach and summer beach missions.



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pean General Secretary meeting in Germany. Praise God for the work of the IFES General Secretaries and pray for an encouraging and restful time away.

• **17th: IFES Ireland Board** meeting. Thank God for the work of the Board members and pray for wisdom and discernment as they make decisions for IFES Ireland.

• **26th- 30th:** Please pray for Munster CU new committee planning and training days.

• **Thank God** for the new CU committee members. Pray for wisdom and an enthusiasm for their new role on CU.

June

• **9th- 14th: Interaction** Debriefing Conference. Thank God for Jonathan and Kah Foon Gillespie; for all the work they have done with International Students over the past 5 years and the commitment to the team. Pray for them as they move on from the Team Leader position. Pray for wisdom for Pip Graves as she finishes her time as Interaction Team member. Pray for the future of the Interaction Team as we seek to recruit new Team Leaders.

• **10th- 14th: Relay 3.** Hannah, Tracy and Dan fly over to England for their last Relay training week. Pray that our Relay Workers will finish well and that God will guide them in their future plans after the Relay programme.

• **23rd+24th: All Ireland Team Days.** Pray for an encouraging time for the Staff and Relay Team as they meet for the last time before summer.

• **CU's summer planning** takes place throughout June and July. Pray that students use this time well to plan for their CU's term. Pray for a clear vision of what their CU is and for clarity as they plan meetings and events.

• **Pray for rest** and refreshment for CU members. Pray that over the summer God will continue to transform them through his word.

• **Pray for the planning** for our summer teams which include a mission trip to Thailand, Cork and Dublin Outreach and beach missions.

IFES Ireland THE CHRISTIAN UNIONS prayerdiary APR/JUN 2014

April

• **1st: Interviews for next year's Relay Team** take place this week. Pray that the right people will join the IFES Ireland team for 2014/15.

• **3rd: UUB** are having a Lunch Bar and evangelism talk. Thank God for this opportunity and pray that students will come.

• **9th: Belfast Supporters' Evening.** Praise God for our supporters who partner with us in the work. For more details please contact sally@ifesireland.org.

• **11th-13th: C.U. Annual Conference.** Pray for a great weekend of teaching and CU bonding. Pray that students will be transformed by God's word and equipped to share the gospel on campus. For more details of the weekend, check out www.ifesireland.org/cu-annual-conference/.

• **Queens, Trinity, Jordanstown, Cork IT** and **University College Cork CU** held Mission Weeks in March. Pray for the follow up opportunities and that God will continue to work in the lives of those who heard the gospel during the weeks.

• **CICE** have a vision to give every student on campus a NLT New Testament during the last week of lectures. Pray that students would read the gospel and be drawn to the Saviour as a result.

May

• **9th: C.U Annual Conference Review** meeting. Thank God for the conference and pray for the planning committee as they review the conference and start to plan for next year's conference.

• **12th- 16th:** Pray for safe travel as David Montgomery, our Director, travels to the Euro-

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From UK: Freepost RRJZ-TYZE-KCLL, IFES Ireland
21 Ormeau Avenue, Belfast BT2 8HD

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