



SARAH'S TONYPANDY UPDATE

It is an honour to be mission partner of the month and below I'll try and give you a flavour of how God's been working in the Rhondda. **I am always beyond grateful for the support I receive from St Michael's.**



Hope Youth

On Jan 27th we will be re-launching Hope Youth in our new building. We moved this to Friday night & we know this will attract different kinds of teenagers but we feel this is God's will! God has provided a really big team so bring it on.

The last few months have brought many highs but also plenty of challenges. I am learning so much about church planting, how churches work and how to 'do' church best in Tonypandy. We as Hope Church face the daily challenge of trying to introduce Jesus into a largely unchurched, poor, secular community.

We have great moments like when we are leading people to faith on the street this summer (amazing). Other times it feels like a slog, like when you invite people to church and they never come and it breaks your heart because you can see the trajectory of their life. I'm learning that this is part of what it means to be a disciple: you follow Jesus no matter what.

We have moved into a new building! Our first service is on the 8th of Jan. The whole process has been and continues to be quite intense but we have strongly felt God leading and providing for us and we know that this space will be a real light that points to Jesus in our community.

When Olly and Tali came to help run our kids club in the summer we had a great time and it was a joy to see them sharing Jesus with the kids. Foodbank continues to be rife with opportunities to share the gospel with people. Through work, social circles, and areas of church ministry church seems to be growing. Praise the Lord!

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SOME PRAYER REQUESTS

So we, though many, are one body in Christ - Romans 12:5a

THE LAUNCH OF ALPHA IN JANUARY

Please pray that lots of people will come along and hear about Christ, and be changed by Him.

HOPE YOUTH

Please pray for the new team, that we grow together as we serve God. Pray that I am able to lead in a way that models Jesus.

PEACE AND STRENGTH FROM GOD

It's always so tempting to rely on myself, but this doesn't work! Please pray I ask God for what I need.



The year ahead

I get married in May (wahoo!) Please pray that John and I are able to reflect Jesus to our community leading up to and after the wedding. Also prayer that we find the right place to live in Tonypanydy.

Relationships

Please pray that I continue meeting local people and am able to share my life and the gospel with them.

THANK YOU FOR ALL THE SUPPORT

Love, Sarah x



It's so helpful and encouraging to know that there are brothers and sisters in Christ who are praying for me on my team. Feel free to visit. It's only 1 hour from Stoke Gifford! **Link person at St Michael's: Olly Wicks.**