



CHRISTMAS 2019

“The virgin will be pregnant and will give birth to a son. They will name him Immanuel.”(Immanuel means “God with us.”)

Matt 1:23

Ashford Street Pastors wish you a joyful Christmas and peaceful 2020



Ashford Street Pastors need more volunteers especially Prayer Pastors, to help us with our mission of caring, listening and helping the vulnerable on our local streets. Now is the time to join us as our training schedule starts in March. Please email Lita for more information and an application pack: ashford@streetpastors.org.uk

This photo was taken on our recent training day that was held at Darvell Community in Robertsbridge. Our delightful hosts gifted us with a beautiful location and homemade refreshments while we discussed situations that had come to light during patrols, updates from partnership working and the topics being considered by our Management Committee. We also strengthened and deepened our relationships with one another through conversations and as we responded to our team building challenge.

We pray blessings on this Christian community as they practice radical discipleship in the spirit of the first church in Jerusalem, including welcoming friends and neighbours to join them most Saturdays for communal dinners.

Ashford Street Pastors



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Showing care to the homeless

During 2019, we have met many more people who have no permanent home and many of whom are under 30. Each of the people we meet has a different story as to how they have ended up without a regular roof over their heads. Sometimes we just have a chat and perhaps leave a bottle of water and some biscuits. Occasionally we buy a hot meal and give out a foil blanket. The most urgent situation was a person who had been recently discharged from hospital and was cold and wet on a stormy night. We found a set of dry clothes and a hot drink and helped them to settle in a more sheltered place.

The Ashford Winter Night Shelter is now open and we pray that the core team will be able to provide temporary relief for everyone who turns to them for help, even though the scheme is already oversubscribed. We pray that, through working collaboratively with other partner organisations, they will enable each guest to access support services for long term solutions to their situations.

We thank you Father God for the care and protection you show to each of us every day. Holy Spirit, we ask for your wisdom, discernment, unity and grace to inhabit the leaders and volunteers and your love and protection for everyone involved. Lord Jesus, we pray your Saviour's healing shield over each person involved in the project and that they will have a personal encounter with you. Amen

Friends of Ashford Street Pastors

Becoming part of 'Friends of Ashford Street Pastors' is a simple way to partner us, but it is also a very effective way of keeping the streets of Ashford safer on the nights we are out by setting up a standing order for a set monthly donation.

We are looking for 98 people to give £5 to £10 each month.

£5 = 400 lollipops
£5 = 30 bottles of water
£5 = 5 pairs of flip-flops

If you'd like a form, please email Lita using ashford@streetpastors.org.uk or ring 07511 816 621.

A few statistics...

Thanks to your support and donations, since January we have:

- completed 47 patrols, over 1100 hours with Street Pastors on patrol supported by over 640 hours of prayer from Prayer Pastors;
- engaged with almost 2000 people and assisted more than 200 people in vulnerable situations;
- removed 351 bottles and 51 glasses from the streets;
- handed out 237 bottles of water, 30 foil blankets, 78 pairs of flip flops and 1304 lollipops.