

## WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

Our work is impossible in human strength alone. Without the Holy Spirit going before us, empowering us and drawing people, all our efforts are in vain. That's why we need prayer. Together we can make a difference in our nation.

### WE NEED PEOPLE CALLED TO PRAY.

Our work is impossible without an army of witnesses. Those witnesses need trained evangelists to teach, encourage, support and lead them. Working together, witnesses and evangelists can make a difference in our nation.

### WE NEED PEOPLE CALLED TO GO.

Our work is impossible without money. Without adequate finance the work simply stops. We have a vision of an army of witnesses throughout the nation supported by commissioned evangelists. By the steady giving of the people of God we can continue to develop and grow. Our nation can see and hear the gospel. Together we can make a difference in our nation.

### WE NEED PEOPLE CALLED TO GIVE.

#### The Church Army In New Zealand

South Island Field Worker

**The Rev Captain Richard Dyer**

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### I can support this ministry

I will pray weekly / daily      Enclosed is a special gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me information about.

The Certificate in Evangelism        Other CANZ Ministries   

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Post to:** Church Army in NZ, PO Box 26-209, Auckland 1030.

**(SI Field Worker)**



The Church Army in New Zealand  
South Island Field worker

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2006

## Out and About

The month of March has seen me back on the road, attending a Transformations Roundtable in Waimate—a coming together of church leaders from around the South Island to pray and talk about the call of ministry and the power of collective prayer by church leaders and members. It was very encouraging.

Over the following two weekends I led a “You can do this” seminar in Waihao Downs and St Augustine’s, Cashmere, Christchurch and attended a group at St Nicholas’ Barrington Street Christchurch. Once again I get so encouraged by the way folk see and grasp something of what they can be as a living witness to Jesus Christ amongst his friends who don’t know him yet.



Perhaps one of the most exciting events was the launch of Canterbury Kid’s Coach and the commissioning of both Louise Weller, who leads CKC, and Alison Hankinson from West Melton as Associate Evangelists. Great to have them both on board and we pray for the contribution they will continue to make to the ministry of the church and community.

End of March there was a great Men’s Camp.

Over the past month I have been reading a challenging book titled “Why men hate going to church”. Many have bemoaned the absence of men in our churches David Murrow has made a real attempt to address this question. He is also quick to point out that the issue for men is the same for young adults—who are also strikingly absent from our churches. I have included a brief review of this book in this edition. At times you may be tempted to throw the book away but stick with it and consider the challenge that it presents.

Go well Richard

*“Before Constantine, the church was a subversive counter-culture operation. Since then it has had an authenticating role. The time has come for the church to become counter-culture, prophetic, developing a theology of resistance/insistence.”*

Robert Warren:  
1997 paper  
Towards an  
Anglican  
Theology of  
Change p.3

## CKC—A New Adventure

In Jan 2005, I applied to Church Army for training in evangelism, in order to be better equipped to reach children. Little did I know how fast God would work opening doors and windows of opportunity for a vision so close to my heart to become a reality. On 5 March the Bishop David of Christchurch launched the new Canterbury Kids Coach (CKC) ministry and we are now ready to lead the team into the next stage.

At the time of going to print, we only need \$6000 to purchase the bus. It has been so exciting to see the wonderful answers to prayer as God's people have responded in many wonderful ways. Working alongside the local church, CKC will become a bridge for families to the wider community and especially to the community of faith. CKC is not only prepared to work on the streets but help integration into local churches and we welcome invitations from

churches who would like to see this programme operating in their patch.

The programme focuses on empowering children to develop a balanced lifestyle, encourages their development of Christian values and faith, and equips them with life changing skills. We will have an open door for parents and preschoolers to come on board and share a cuppa with us before the school children arrive after school. Three years ago, I spoke to a young ten year old from a very disadvantaged background, who said he did not believe that God was real because no-one loved him. Two weeks later I had the privilege of leading him to the Lord. Present at the launch of CKC, I was reminded that Jesus does make a difference, even in the life of a child.

The future is exciting. The children are out there. Now it is up to us to go out and reach them.

Louise

Contact Louise at:  
Phone (03) 942 2483 or  
email:

[puppets@paradise.net.nz](mailto:puppets@paradise.net.nz)

## CONFERENCE ROUND UP



**Women with Focus Weekend  
26 to 28 May 2006**

**Registration Forms available  
Be quick to ensure you get a place.**

Details contact Kaye: [kaye@mightymessage.com](mailto:kaye@mightymessage.com)  
[www.mightymessage.com](http://www.mightymessage.com)



"I was just fine until you stood up in service and testified that golf was one of your spiritual gifts."



"That concludes my presentation on time-tested, sure-fired statements that will stunt church growth. Any Questions?"

## Can I be of assistance to you?

Two questions:

**What is God saying to you about your church and the direction he wants you to take?**

**How can we assist you in achieving some aspect of this?**

I run seminars—see page 4

Preach and teach on a range of topics—see web site or talk with me about the specific topics that would help develop and support the teaching of your church and/or group

I run parish camps, retreats, vestry retreats, men's breakfasts etc assist a church while the vicar/minister is away or during an interregnum

Consultancy  
Pastoral Supervision  
Conflict and Mediation issues

**"Come to the edge" he said  
"We are afraid" they said  
"Come to the edge" he said  
They came.  
He pushed and they flew.**

Guillaume Appolinaire



**Most people assume that men are just less religious than women, but this is untrue. Other religions have little trouble attracting males. Jesus was a magnet to men. But today, few men are living for Christ, even as many are dying for Allah. Why do rival faiths inspire male allegiance, while ours breeds male indifference?**

-WHY MEN  
HATE GOING  
TO CHURCH  
**David  
Murrow**  
Nelson Books  
2005

## Why Men Hate Going to Church

Murrow's purpose is not to call men back to church but to call the church back to men. A Presbyterian elder in Anchorage, Alaska, Murrow writes that the church has become a hostile environment to men, particularly "masculine men" who are uncomfortable in the feminized atmosphere of the typical church. From the décor to the rituals, the ministry opportunities to the language, churches are designed to appeal to their greatest constituency --- women. Though the top leadership is often male, women constitute the backbone of most churches, representing more than 60 percent of the membership and even more of the volunteer force.

Men, Murrow writes, want an authentic faith experience but find church services to be boring and irrelevant (and a whole lot of women say "Amen!"). As one observer noted, men have nothing real to do at church except serve as ushers --- which at least gives them a chance to move around. They want to be challenged, but they're only challenged to be good husbands and fathers.

One section provides dozens of practical steps churches can

take to make their facilities and services more welcoming to men. Among them, in no particular order: Ditch any activity requiring men to hold hands or share their needs with someone they hardly know; develop adventurous, risk-taking opportunities and hands-on projects; emphasize Jesus' aggressive, masculine attributes; become educated about the psychological characteristics and needs of men (an excellent portion of the book); shorten the length of the sermon.

I know, and I'm sure the author and publisher know, that some people will read the book through a sexist grid. But if you maintain an open mind and an appreciation for the enormous amount of research Murrow did, you may see yourself mirrored in its pages, whether you're a man or a woman. You'll also realize that sexism is not the issue. The issue is nothing less than the spiritual lives of many men and the future of many churches.

Few books genuinely qualify as a "must-read." This is one of the few.

*A condensed review by Marcia Ford*

## Calling cattle farmers and other interested folk

The Church Army is seeking to raise funds via a stock raising scheme.

Details are being worked out but if you would like to know more about this or help out in any way feel free to contact me or Head Office, phone (09)630 2282, fax (09) 630 2201 email: chrharmy@ihug.co.nz

### Church Mice



## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

*Giving thanks for:*

Praise God for the launch of Canterbury Kids Coach and for the money that has been given towards the bus—pray that all the resources needed for this ministry will be supplied.

Praise God for the seminars and contacts already made this year and the response to the seminars.

*Please pray for:*

Pray for the out working and the incorporation of things learnt at the "You Can Do This" seminars that we have run. 12 so far. Pray that those who have attended the seminar will return to the ideas, challenges and themes of the seminar and work to apply them in their daily life and church community.

Pray for future seminars, camps and conferences that we have—especially for involvement in the Christchurch Clergy School and for Ladies Camp at the end of May.

We give thanks for financial support that has been coming in and pray that this will continue and that a significant sponsor may be found for 2006.

**Way To Go!**

## Looking for something a little different!

How about one of these seminars?

### You Can Do This - being a friend to the friends of Jesus



A 6 unit

7 hours seminar

*That will challenge and excite you and your church. It has helped encourage and motivate people to live out their faith.*

### Building Bridges Finding Hope

- Radical Communities in a Divided Age
- Mediation and Conflict Resolution
- Building a Relational Church



### Home Partnership

*A seminar to encourage you in your marriage and family life.*



### Other events

- Leader's Retreats
- Camps

**The important questions are:**  
*What is God saying to you about your church and the direction he wants you to take?*

*How can we assist you in achieving some aspect of this?*

**Contact Richard Dyer for more details, cost and to book a seminar in your church.**

### The positive side of life

Living on Earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun every year.

**How** long a minute is depends on what side of the bathroom door you're on.

**Happiness** comes through doors you didn't even know you left open.

**Ever** noticed that the people who are late are often much jollier than the people who have to wait for them?

**Some** mistakes are too much fun to only make once.

**Don't** cry because it's over; smile because it happened.

**We** could learn a lot from crayons: some are sharp, some are pretty, some are dull, some have weird names, and all are different colours....but they all exist very nicely in the same box.

**A truly happy person** is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.

## Kaye's Corner

*Last newsletter I wrote about the need for a different style of training for missional leaders, the pioneers with apostolic, prophetic and evangelistic gifts. Thank you to those who have given me feedback.. It has been very encouraging.*

*This issue I will share with you a dream that has grown over the last decade. This concerns a resource centre for the body of Christ consisting of several training centres with different emphases.*

1. A Bible College that would provide a strong biblical foundation was taught.

2. A Mission Training Centre that would teach and model outreach and evangelism.

3. A School of the Spirit that would teach us to be confident moving in the Spirit including worship, hearing God's voice, moving in the prophetic, receiving

emotional, spiritual and physical healing for ourselves and learning to minister to others in the power of the Spirit..

4. A Healing Room that would be open to the public for prayer.

5. A House of Prayer that would be a centre for intercession.

*I see both short and long term courses for all ages, for the whole body of Christ.*



*We will need to take seriously these words to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the LORD Almighty. (Zech 4:6) I believe it is essential that we train all believers to operate in the Spirit.*

*The world is desperate for healing. We need many ordinary believers equipped and confident to pray for those in their homes, community and workplaces. We need many ordinary believers*

*who know how to grasp God's promises and move forward in faith. We need ordinary believers who are confident that they can pass on to new believers all that they have learned.*

*Imagine the difference it would make if every believer was able to share their own faith story, explain the gospel and pray with people who want to follow Jesus. Imagine what would happen if we all prayed for the sick*

*It was this dream that has motivated me to run an annual camp for women for the past six years. We have given practical teaching in topics I call "basic training" Next camp is May 26-28<sup>th</sup>?*

*P.S. Want some exciting Easter reading? Try "Megashift" by James Rutz. WOW!!*

*Remember the song, "God's not dead. He's alive.."?*

*Love Kaye*