

The Murfins - Serving with FamilyLife

February 14th, 2014



Growing the Network

During our time here in the UK, one of the things that we have seen repeated over and over is how an outpouring of the Holy Spirit results in social action. This has been our experience as we watch God grow the FamilyLife network in the UK and across Europe.

Towards the end of last year we hosted a speaker training session, not only for volunteers within our UK network, but also for seven people who are part of the FamilyLife network in Portugal. We were privileged to host one Portuguese couple, Marcos and Miriam, and fell in love with their heart for God and His children.

This past month, we held two major events. We were invited, again, to host an event at All Souls in central London, a church where John Stott was once cleric. This was our largest event to date with close to 50 couples in attendance. **We witnessed many marriages strengthened as well as 5 people seeking more information on becoming Christians.** Please give thanks to God and continue to pray for these families.

The following weekend we hosted our annual Vision and Equipping. As our purpose statement for this event says, this is a fantastic time to refresh the vision of FamilyLife in our hearts and in the hearts of our network; new and old. In our experience vision 'leaks' and we need to revisit it each year.

Even for those who've been involved with FamilyLife for many years it's a chance to gain new perspectives and encouragement from the Lord. This is aided by the teaching of various experts brought in each year to equip the network. This year Ed and Candace came from CRU City ministry in Florida. They led a workshop on the story telling approach to sharing your faith: Your Story, Their Story, and God's Story.

This year we also extended an invitation to our European FamilyLife friends and partners. **We saw over 100 representatives from the UK and 10 other countries come together.** Everyone left buzzing with excitement equipped to take new ideas back to their countries and communities and put them into action!

Thank you for partnering with us in this revival. We're excited at the opportunities we're witnessing and that you're part of what God is doing here.

Chris and Lisa



The team from Portugal holding a meeting in our living room.



Attendees at our All Souls event in London



Our European Partners' Day

Together

It was exciting to see our *Together* small group study translated into German. At the recent Vision and Equipping weekend, we walked through the Introductory Session with the German team... in German!



Ethan's Escapades!

I'm continuing to learn the guitar which is great fun. I am also eagerly awaiting and excited for it to stop raining long enough to go play some football. *"It's raining, we must be in England!"*



Special Guests

It is always exciting to host guests who come from near or far. We had the pleasure of joining up with our friends Drew and Kit (our speaker trainers) from Little Rock, AR in December, and in January were reunited with friends and colleagues Kirk and Lynn, also from FamilyLife HQ in Little Rock, who stayed with us for the Vision and Equipping weekend. Great times.

A Day Together

In between all the other happenings, Chris gets time to work on various technology projects for the ministry. We recently re-launched our "A Day Together" website (www.ADayTogether.org). This is the first of three websites that he's working on.



Kirk and Lynn (3rd and 4th from left) and Elizabeth and Brett (far right), also from Little Rock, but on assignment in Hungary.

Weekend to Remember

Please don't forget to contact us if you or someone you know would like to take advantage of a discount off the normal registration price for a Weekend to Remember getaway.



Praise Items

- Praise God for the way the network is expanding here in the UK and across Europe.
- Praise God for the work of His Spirit reaching more and more people.

Prayer Requests

- Please continue to pray for effective follow-up for all of the events held in the last month and for the FamilyLife network to grow as a result.
- Pray for our two upcoming day-events in March in Chalfont St. Peter and Cambridge.
- Pray for our health so we can continue to focus on the task in hand.
- Pray for our ability & strength to manage home-school, ministry, & home in a God-honoring way.