



Christian Music Ministries

24 Spadesbourne Road, Lickey End, Bromsgrove, B60 1JP
01527 576 440 office@cmm.org.uk www.cmm.org.uk

February 2017 Prayer Warrior Letter

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for all your support for us in the music ministry. We are so grateful that you hold us up in prayer.

SPIRIT WORKS

We had a really wonderful day on Saturday 18 February at the launch of our new book, **Spirit Works**. We were bowled over by the number of people who came - 125 in all! Many were our CMM Associates - people who come on our CMM teams as vocalists, instrumentalists, narrators, helpers, etc. But there were many others who came from local churches, from CMM Choir, and from north, south, east and west of the UK. All the members of EBRG led or helped with workshops and sessions (except Alan and Sue Walker, who were unable to be with us). It was astounding and humbling to see the level of openness to the Holy Spirit – something we seem to have lost in recent years in many churches where formerly there was more use of the gifts of the Spirit – my own church included.

Our prayer is that everyone will follow up the day by reading **Spirit Works** and by continuing to ask the Spirit to come – upon themselves, to equip them for all the Lord wants to lead them into, and for their churches, that we might all be renewed and know, as Revelation encourages us, 'what the Spirit is saying to the churches.'

We are wondering where we go next with **Spirit Works**. Will churches invite us to lead days, evenings, weekends? If so, we will need to find spaces in the diary and team members to help. Please pray that the Lord leads us.

BARRIE RENWICK

Barrie celebrated his 65th birthday with us at the **Spirit Works** launch on Saturday. He has recovered well from his fall last year, and was grateful for the prayers and practical support he received.

CMM OFFICE

We are very happy to report that **Lindsay Peniston** has been appointed as Administrator/Communications Manager in the CMM Office for 12 months, to cover Helen's maternity leave. Lindsay lives locally, in Catshill (half an hour's walking distance from CMM). She will be working three days a week. Lindsay attends Catshill Methodist Church. Please pray for Lindsay as she settles in to our CMM ethos, and uses her skills and experience to develop the communications and social media aspects of CMM's work.

WORSHIP WORKS

We have an exciting weekend coming up at Lee Abbey, 31 Mar – 02 Apr. Based upon our book **Worship Works**, there will be worship, teaching and workshops aimed at congregation members, musicians and leaders – with time for rest and reflection. We will cover topics like planning and leading praise, prophetic worship, learning new songs, freedom in worship, etc. **There are still places left.** Folk interested need to book direct: www.leeabbey.org.uk 01598 752621.

HELEN & 'BUMP'

Helen and James have about six weeks to go now until their son is born. Helen and baby are in good shape, though the medics were concerned about there not being enough amniotic fluid surrounding the baby. This has meant that Helen has been transferred from her local midwife to a consultant at the Women's Hospital for close monitoring. Helen is confident that the baby is well – there is a strong heart-beat, and she feels plenty of movement. Baby is due at the very end of March. Please pray for Helen, James and the baby in these last few weeks of pregnancy and beyond.

MARY

Mary requests prayer for her very painful joints. She is finding walking difficult at the moment.

ANDREW & GEMMA

The family are now in their new home, which overlooks a train line, much to Henry's delight.

Florence took her first steps on her first birthday at the weekend.

ANNIE

I had an absolutely wonderful birthday celebration in Weston-super-Mare. Over 200 dear folk came to play, sing or watch **Angel Voices**. Just before the musical, I spoke briefly about there being three things that have added enormously to my life since I was so ill 8 years ago: being appointed Musical Director of CMM Choir (we bussed them down the M5 *en masse* in a coach!), playing orchestrally again every week in The People's Orchestra (I showed an exciting film clip), and doing Adult Beginners Ballet twice a week. I then showed the film of the simple *pas de deux* I danced just before Christmas. [You can view this by going to YouTube and typing in 'Annie Routley and John Alexander – pas de deux']

The most wonderful thing of all, for me, was the email my brother Ian sent afterwards, saying that he had cried during the ballet video, and using words like 'redemption' and 'hope'. I praise God for the closer relationship I have had with Ian since my illness.

CMM CHOIR

We will be starting rehearsals at the beginning of March for **Jail Break**, with four productions during June and July. Please pray that members of both the choirs (Mondays in Harborne with Sylvia Whalley and Tuesdays in Ward End with myself) will continue to grow in grace, and continue to find the fellowship, Bible teaching and music-making each week a source of joy and strength in their walk with the Lord.

AMY BLOUNT (nee Carter)

Amy and Chris were married at Holy Trinity, Lickey on 14 January. It was a wonderful, happy day, with members of Jazz Church leading the congregational songs and hymns, and CMM during the signing of the register. The photographs were taken by Nicky and Andrew Hughes' son-in-law Greg. Very unfortunately for all concerned, their house was burgled when they were away, and the computer and external hard drive on which Amy and Chris' wedding photos were stored were stolen. Even though Amy went on BBC Midlands Today appealing for the return of the hard drive, nothing transpired. Happily, the wedding party – bride, groom, bridesmaids, etc – were able to stage another photo shoot somewhere beautiful so that Amy and Chris will have a wedding album of

photographs to enjoy and treasure. Please pray for Nicky's daughter and son-in-law Jen and Greg following the burglary; they lost a lot of personal possessions like jewellery, computer equipment, photos and videos.

CMM ASSOCIATES & FRIENDS

Please could you continue to remember the following in prayer: Sharon Collins & family, Catherine Brooke, Gill Walker, David Hall and Pat Woolridge. Also please pray for Beresford and Kate King-Smith: Kate's breast cancer has returned, and has now spread to her liver and neck. She was in Good Hope Hospital, but is now being cared for at home.

2017 DIARY

We have a full diary of CMM events in the coming year – and we will be back to just Roger and myself, as it was before Helen joined us about 12 years ago. Please pray for us as we adjust, and as we meet the challenges this year will bring. We are grateful to God that we were given many assurances at our annual EBRG retreat at Shallowford in January - both individually and corporately – and we trust that the Lord will be with us to strengthen and lead us on. This year's retreat was excellent, with inspiring and helpful input from Roger and Mary's vicar in Weston, Rev Andrew Alden, and then quality time together on the Sunday listening to God for each other.

With love in Christ,

Annie

If, when you are praying for us, the Lord gives you any words, pictures, Scripture verses, lines of hymns, etc for us, please do pass these on: office@cmm.org.uk

Thank you!