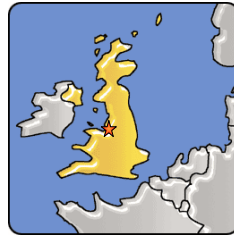


Leaving Liverpool

JUNE 2008, ISSUE No. 17



ELCA GLOBAL MISSIONS VOLUNTEER

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## THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF SARAH DAVIS

### GOSPEL FESTIVAL OPENS WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY

The international Gospel festival that consumed my month of June brought to the UK a group named Pacific Spirit. This group does ministry through the native songs and dances of New Zealand, Tonga, and Samoa. A highly entertaining and laid back group of blokes, I was captivated from the first time I saw them perform.

Later that week, they set up in front of Christ Church. In chatting with the leader of the group, he was fascinated in the fact that I am a university educated volunteer who is now completing two years of mission work and seeking where God is calling me next. Falani asked me to pray over doing communications for their group as a Youth With A Mission (YWAM) volunteer. Their work is based in Auckland, New Zealand, doing work in schools and churches, but they constantly have invitations to perform in many other countries. (The next ones they will be visiting are Singapore, Mongolia, China, and Japan.) Falani would like me to go on these tours with the group making arrangements for them and sharing in their ministry. (Falani also loved that I am a dancer, choreographer, and vocalist.)

I believe this is a once in a lifetime opportunity. The question is can this be what God is calling me to do next? My plan up until now has been to find a decent paying job within the United States. I come to you, my dear family, friends, and support network asking for prayers and advice. These past two years of ministry in the United Kingdom would not have been possible without you. What would you have me do? If I chose to do this self-funded volunteer work, I would need a lot of help from any and all who could offer it, whether financially and/or through your much needed prayers.

In 10 days, I will be back at home in Oregon. Many of you I hope to see in that time. This does not need to be decided tomorrow, but I would like guidance from you.



### ONCE AN ADDICT: THE STORY OF BARRY WOODWARD



Barry Woodward, former heroin addict of 19 years, has an amazing transformative story of his life from prisons, to hearing voices, to his freedom from it all through faith in Christ. His book tells his testimony from being the "chief of sinners" to now evangelist in prisons.

Having Barry Woodward come to Christ Church was a fantastic opportunity to invite those in the community to come to church. Many youth came, but I was particularly delighted to see a handful of people from Scouse in the House (our soup kitchen) come in and hear of someone who knows what many of them struggle with now.

The book, if you are interested, is a quick and excellent read. It helped me learn loads about the power of addiction and also the greater power of God and a few well-placed invitations to know his goodness.

# Letters from Liverpool



## Top 10 Lessons Learned in Liverpool

1. "Capitol of Culture" means little when it comes to completed construction for 2008.
  2. Never take bathroom showers for granted.
  3. Whenever visiting someone's house, be sure and check out their DVD collection... borrowing is brilliant for volunteers with five TV channels!
  4. Mind your rubbish bin. It will be nicked (stolen).
  5. Five hours of sun in a winter's day and five hours of darkness on a summer's day will challenge your sleep schedule.
  6. Walking is great! You don't need a Day Rider bus pass when you have decent walking shoes and time.
  7. Scouse stew tastes better with sweet chili sauce.
  8. English subtitles grow on you and can be very helpful.
  9. Beware of the Liverpool Football and Everton Football club Stagecoach buses... you never know when a brick will come through the window!
  10. *Beware of dog droppings on the pavement in Anfield!*
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## Giving Liverpool a Glimmer of HOPE

I have been so blessed to be a part of the Love and Joy Gospel Choir. Through this gospel festival, we made our mark on Liverpool. One of the first events was a Gospel Summit meeting and workshops with various people from Integrity (based in Mobile, Alabama), Europe, and from parts of the UK. The day concluded with a large concert with artists doing rap, hip hop, jazz, gospel, folk, and even dance.

A week later, Love and Joy sang in a large concert at Liverpool Cathedral where school children from all over Liverpool learned gospel favourites like "O Happy Day". The next morning we returned to the cathedral to sing a message of hope with many other churches as we processed down Hope Street (connecting the Anglican and Catholic Cathedrals) to start the Festival of Hope. With scattered performances throughout the day,

The next day, we walked under the Mersey River and ferried back across. It was the first time in 20 years the Queensway tunnel has been closed for walkers. Our choir sang on the stage for those who completed the two mile walk from Liverpool to Birkenhead.

It was brilliant to shine as a ray of light in this often dark city.

