



**Carol McFarlane**

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**Summer 2014**

Dear Fitzroy Family & Friends

Just to say a BIG THANK YOU to you all for your love, support and prayers over this past year. I am now off all treatment and there is no sign of the virus. My last check up will be in the Autumn, providing I get the all clear. My immune system is still affected and cuts etc are easily infected. However, I feel so much better and appreciate being well compared to how I have been this past year, as there have been some very tough days indeed.

Thanks to Tom our minister and team leader and to all of the team, I have been able to go at a pace I could cope with.

I have been very blessed with having Marlene, Helen and others to accompany me to hospital/clinic visits. This has made all the difference. We even had a lot of laughs. I think my nurse Louise enjoyed our visits. This has also given me understanding that this is part of ministry and hopefully I can accompany others in similar situations.

Our church, City of Peace, is bright and vibrant and we have a great worship team. Saj, a Muslim friend (who has 4 daughters) loves music so I invited her to come to church. I now hope to connect her with Stephanie, a neighbour who lives locally in the same block. Stephanie, who is a fine artist and originally from Moy, Co Tyrone is married to Peter the local CoE minister. Pray for development in relationships.

Christ Church, the local Anglican church, run art classes within the borough and I have really enjoyed the opportunity to call by and make art with whoever is there. These classes are run by Philip and are of particular help to those who are mentally ill.

We had a big fun day in Milwall Park in July. This is organised jointly with all the local churches, including Christ Church. The service on Sunday was a beautiful sunny day and it was lovely to be in the open air and accessible to the community. Pray for follow up opportunities with various folks.

I met Dave (originally from Belfast) in our local park. He was sharing how difficult it is to get off alcohol. I shared my testimony with him and gave him a gospel of Mark. During our chat he asked what I had done to Jo as she had changed. I explained that I had not done anything but also had a similar conversation with her about Jesus.

We have also had three weeks of summer programme in St John's Park, close by Café Forever. Lots of children attended and it was great to meet people. Tuesday and Thursday were craft sessions, with lots of help from others and was very enjoyable. There was great team work. This was the best ever!

I also really enjoy playing football in the Park with some Mum's. This is a good opportunity to get to know the mum's whose kids attend Cubitt Town Primary School. This is where another 'Fitzroyite', Karen McConnell has taught for over 20 years. Karen and I get together as often as possible for meals or cuppa's when we have time off. The School is just next door to Café Forever.

## Prayers points

- ✝ **Thank God for opportunities to share faith with others, especially those with addiction backgrounds. Please pray that those struggling (like Dave and Jo) might come to know Christ and the power of His resurrection**
- ✝ **For connecting the right people together for the sake of the Gospel**
- ✝ **To talk more about Jesus and not ourselves.**
- ✝ **For us all as a team to be loving and caring and an example to those in the community**
- ✝ **Give thanks for the Summer Programme**
- ✝ **For people to read the bibles we distributed all over the Isle of Dogs.**

Thank you all for your love and support and for all your prayers for me over this past year.

All my love in Him

Carol