



# NEWSLETTER

**BRINGING HOPE TO THE MARGINS: REFLECTING BACK THROUGHOUT 2024 AND LEANING INTO WHAT COMES NEXT IN 2025.**

Dear Friends,

As we embrace the New Year and step boldly into 2025, we reflect on the incredible journey of transformation and hope we've shared together. At The Homeless Pastors, our mission remains unwavering: to bring God's love to those living on the margins. Your partnership has been a cornerstone of this work, and we are deeply grateful for your support and prayers.

Through 2024, God's grace enabled us to expand into Halifax, Bradford, Leeds, Dewsbury, Blackburn, Accrington, Nelson, and Pendle, establishing street outreach programs and Light Groups in each area. Our team of employees and 30 dedicated volunteers received extensive training, including equipping them to lead 12-step life recovery programs.

We also laid the foundation for the Street Lights project, in partnership with Metro Relief in the U.S., which will "illuminate the way back home" for those struggling with homelessness.

Looking ahead into 2025, we're stepping into a new season of growth, expanding further across the North West and North East. We believe God is leading us into an Isaiah 54:2 era:



**'ENLARGE THE PLACE OF YOUR TENT, STRETCH YOUR TENT CURTAINS WIDE, DO NOT HOLD BACK, LENGTHEN YOUR CORDS, STRENGTHEN YOUR STAKES.'**

## **ISAIAH 54:2**

We ask for your continued prayers as we trust God for the provision to meet this vision. Together, we will continue to make a lasting impact on the lives of those in need.

## **THE STORY SO FAR...**

**What's Been Happening Across Our Towns**  
This year has been a remarkable journey for The Homeless Pastors, as we've firmly established our work and deepened our impact across several towns. Here's an update on what's been happening locally:

**Halifax** - Weekly outreach sessions have connected dozens of rough sleepers with essential services and warm winter care packages consisting of hats, gloves, water bottles etc. We have also delivered Light groups on a weekly basis at the Angels Rest café.

**Blackburn** - Our drop-in centers have become safe havens, providing a place for individuals to access support and explore faith. Hot drinks and soup have also been distributed on a Saturday afternoon to those out on the streets. Collaborations with local churches have allowed us to host community meals and Light Groups, fostering a sense of belonging and connection.

**Accrington** - Teams have worked tirelessly to deliver a Light Group and free lunch to attendees offering emotional and spiritual support to those in need.

**Nelson** - Outreach efforts have been enhanced with training for our volunteers and Light Group delivery.

**Dewsbury** - New partnerships with local organizations and key stakeholders who will be able to partner and support the work of The Homeless Pastors in that area are being developed as Sama continues to connect with associates from the Dewsbury Minister.

**Bradford** - We have been hosting twice weekly drop ins at The Immanuel Project enabling us to come alongside many who are caught in the clutches of addiction and are suffering from poor mental health. Our Homeless Pastors have been able to speak of their faith and share their own personal transformational journeys in Christ.

**Leeds** - We deliver 2 Homeless outreaches per week into the city centre, providing signposting into night shelters, housing and recovery groups, supplying essential Rough sleeper items including sleeping bags. We are shortly to be embarking on a partnership, in order to provide a Homeless drop in service, light groups and a 12 step programme in Leeds City Centre.

**WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT THAT ALLOWS US TO CONTINUE THIS VITAL WORK IN THESE COMMUNITIES.**



## A GLOBAL VISION FOR THE FUTURE “EXPANDING OUR HORIZONS”

This year marked an exciting milestone for The Homeless Pastors as our CEO Dave Fawcett travelled to the United States to build connections and learn from international partners. During the trip:

**Collaborations with Metro Relief** - We explored best practices in outreach and recovery programs, strengthening our shared mission to serve those on the margins.

**Vision for Growth** - Insights from this trip are shaping our plans to expand our services, deepen partnerships, and adapt innovative approaches to outreach and care.

**Developing Church Partnerships** - Covenant and Partnership Church Relationships with The Homeless Pastors. This is what this now looks like...

A covenant with The Homeless Pastors signifies a sacred, intentional collaboration between a church and the ministry. Covenant Churches deeply commit to aligning with our mission of supporting those on the margins, equipping volunteers, and providing spiritual and practical support through prayer, financial contributions, and hosting opportunities. In return, The Homeless Pastors offer comprehensive training, facilitate Light Groups and 12-Step Life Recovery Groups, ensure safety in outreach efforts, and provide spiritual covering. This mutual commitment is rooted in trust and shared responsibility, demonstrating the values of **Compassion, Commitment, and Community**.

Partnership Churches engage in collaborative support of The Homeless Pastors' mission without the deeper commitment of a covenant. These churches promote the ministry's work, provide spiritual and financial assistance as possible, and encourage volunteer participation. The Homeless Pastors reciprocate by offering resources, training, and support to establish impactful programs. Whether through covenant or partnership, churches play a vital role in advancing God's Kingdom by transforming lives, equipping volunteers, and spreading hope and healing to those in need.

# LOOKING AHEAD, WE ARE COMMITTED TO...

- Establishing new programs that address both immediate needs and long-term recovery for those struggling with homelessness, addiction and poor mental health.
- Expanding our presence in more towns both nationally and internationally as we enlarge the scope of our mission to include those experiencing poverty and long-term homelessness in countries where there is no welfare and therefore minimal provision.
- Creating training opportunities for volunteers abroad allowing us to equip and support the churches serving homeless communities ensuring safety for those who serve whilst providing a standard of excellence through our years of knowledge and experience of working with these vulnerable individuals.

**Your continued support is vital as we take these bold steps toward a brighter future for our ministry.**

## STORIES OF HOPE

**Lives Transformed Through Compassion, Community and Commitment so far**

### **Dalton's Story: Finding Faith and a Future**

Dalton was referred to Nigel by Mark Dyer, chaplain at the 180 Project in Darwen, after spending 12 weeks in a probation hostel. Upon release, Dalton faced the possibility of homelessness unless he could find a stable housing option. His life was radically transformed during his time in prison, where he came to faith in May. Before his conversion, Dalton was at a low point, even contemplating suicide. In that desperate moment, he called out to God for forgiveness, marking the beginning of a new life. Since then, Dalton has been free from drugs and alcohol, which amazed everyone around him, including police and probation officers. His keyworkers were also inspired through the total change in him. God changed him from an angry young man to one of full of love and compassion for the marginalised.

Dalton felt compelled to give back for the support he had received, so he approached Nigel, asking how he could help on the streets. Their partnership began, and Dalton secured a flat and completed volunteer training. He has since joined Nigel on outreach, including accompanying him to the police station to share their testimonies with 20 officers. Dalton continues to share the love of Jesus with everyone he meets. Now, Dalton just spent his first Christmas in his new home. He's hopeful for employment and remains focused on his bright future, inspiring others with his unwavering faith.



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# OUR CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Sharing the Love of Jesus and the message of Hope across the streets of Leeds.

A huge thank you to Matthew, one of our incredible Homeless Pastors for Leeds. In an amazing demonstration of dedication and commitment to the cause, he dressed as a Christmas cracker and set out to run 50 km through various towns to raise awareness about homelessness and rough sleeping while rallying support for The Homeless Pastors. For the Halifax stretch of the run he was accompanied by Chris our Homeless Pastor for Bradford. Together, they demonstrated the power of teamwork and compassion in action. Thank you both for your dedication and heart for this vital mission – you're an inspiration to us all.

If you'd like to support their efforts there's still time!!! Please scan the QR Code below.



# BECOME A

## HOMELESS HERO

### Support Our Mission Monthly

You can make a lasting impact by becoming a Street Light or Homeless Hero, committing to a monthly donation that helps us continue our vital work. Your regular support will:

- Provide essential resources and warm meals for rough sleepers.
- Fund Light Groups and other outreach programs that foster hope and transformation.
- Enable us to expand our mission into new towns and communities.

Sign up today and join a community of heroes bringing light into dark places.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP

Be Part of the Mission Supporting Our Work:

**Volunteer** Join our team in preparing and serving meals or hosting events.

**Donate** We have many exciting fund-raising events coming up in 2025.

**Pray** Keep our volunteers, staff, and service users in your prayers this season.

Thank you for standing with us as we bring light into dark places. Your support is changing lives, one step at a time.

With gratitude,

Dave Fawcett



**SCAN TO  
SUPPORT  
OUR WORK**

### STAY CONNECTED WITH US

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