

## Why Plant An Evening Congregation In NW8?

St. John's Wood and the surrounding area in NW8 and W9 is an area of very high population density. 10,000+ people live here for every square km of land. And yet I am aware of only one other solidly evangelical gospel preaching church with 1.5km of the front door of St. John's Wood Road Baptist Church.

To reach the next nearest evangelical church you have to travel west to Kilburn, north to South Hampstead or south into Mayfair and the centre of London. There are a number of Catholic and High and Low Liberal Anglican churches in the neighbourhood, but very little else as far as we are aware. (From our knowledge and some research).

Our morning congregation is currently growing in number and in maturity, for which we give God thanks. However we are aware that some friends and colleagues of our church members are interested to come along to church, but struggle to get up in the morning! An evening meeting would provide a great opportunity for them.

There is no gospel driven ministry in the evenings within NW8 or W9 that we know of, with the exception of an Operation Mobilisation church plant that is focussed on reaching people from an Arabic speaking background. That means we are in an area populated by 15-20,000 people where there is basically no Sunday evening opportunity to come and hear the gospel.

NW8 and W9 are very much dormitory postcodes. As the population statistics show and a walk around the area confirms, the area is a place where people live, but do little else. There is very little in the way of community centres; no major shopping streets or regularly used entertainment venues such as cinemas. NW8 is famous for three large buildings however. There is the Liberal Jewish Synagogue, the London Central Mosque and Lord's Cricket Ground. Our church building is a two minute walk from both Lord's and the Synagogue and about five minutes from the Mosque. Casting our vision forward, a strong evening and morning congregation would give us a wonderful platform from which to reach out more effectively to the communities that use these buildings.

For all these reasons, and as we have prayed through this possibility, we long to plant an evening congregation at our church and see it flourish into a strong evangelistically effective centre of gospel ministry.

## How We Plan To Begin

Our plan is to aim to launch the evening congregation in mid September 2012. It seems both a long way off and just round the corner! The time over the next year will be split into three main sections:

### **Part 1: September—December 2011**

A core group will meet to plan and pray through the way forward.

### **Part 2: January—March 2012**

Seeking to grow this core group through networking and evangelism.

### **Part 3: April—August 2012**

Solidify plans for the evening congregation ready for launch and continue to seek to grow the group who will make up the initial congregation.

### **September 2012—Launch the evening meeting!**

#### September—December 2011 Plan

Starting on Sunday evening September 18th, the initial core group will begin meeting to plan and pray through how we can best plant an evangelistic evening congregation in NW8. Using material adapted from the Redeemer Church Planter manual, as well as other sources, we will seek prayerfully to understand the direction this venture should take.

Specific areas we will discuss include:

- Clearing away our presuppositions
- Understanding what is foundational
- Understanding our culture
- Networking and evangelism
- Developing a longer term vision
- What the evening meeting should look like

Alongside these Sunday evening discussions we will be seeking the Lord in prayer and reminding ourselves of the truths of the gospel. We will also be seeking to develop a network of contacts that may begin to add to this core group.



## Will You Join Us?

There are **three main ways** that you can join us in this venture. Number one we would love you to be **praying** for us and with us. It is our aim to produce a prayer letter once a month specifically about this step forward. When God works he raises people up to pray. Will you pray with us for God to work and do wonderful things in this part of London? Please get in touch and let us know if you are willing to partner in prayer with us.

The most obvious way you can join us is to **commit to being a part of the core group**. If you live in the area and are willing to consider giving up your Sunday evenings to the gospel with us, please pray through whether the Lord would have you involved. We are keen not to take people away from ministry they are already involved in, or to weaken another fellowship in order to get this project started. But it may just be that you are able and willing to keep up your current church commitments and give your time and energy with us on a Sunday evening. If you would like to know more, or ask any questions then please get in touch. (Contact details are on the back).

The third way you can join us is to **point people our way!** Keep us in mind and if you come across anyone who may be interested in helping us, or would be willing for us to chat to about the kind of church our area needs then please point them our way. If you know a Christian about to move to this part of London encourage them to think about visiting us and getting involved in this new and exciting evangelistic venture.

**Find Out More**

If you would like to know more about this project please come and speak to us, fill out this form and send it to us, or contact us directly through the contact details on the right.

Thank-you for your interest and for taking the time to read this leaflet. May you know God's blessing and grace through the Lord Jesus Christ.

Chris Hawthorne  
Pastor, St. John's Wood Road Baptist Church

First Name.....

Surname.....

Address.....

Email.....

Phone no.....

Please tick as applicable:

Please send me a monthly prayer letter by

Email  Post

I am interested in being part of the core team

I am interested in finding out more please contact

me by;

Email  Phone  Post



Building a Christ Centred Community

St. John's Wood Road Baptist Church  
39, St. John's Wood Road  
London  
NW8 8QX

020 7286 3875

info@sjwrbc.org

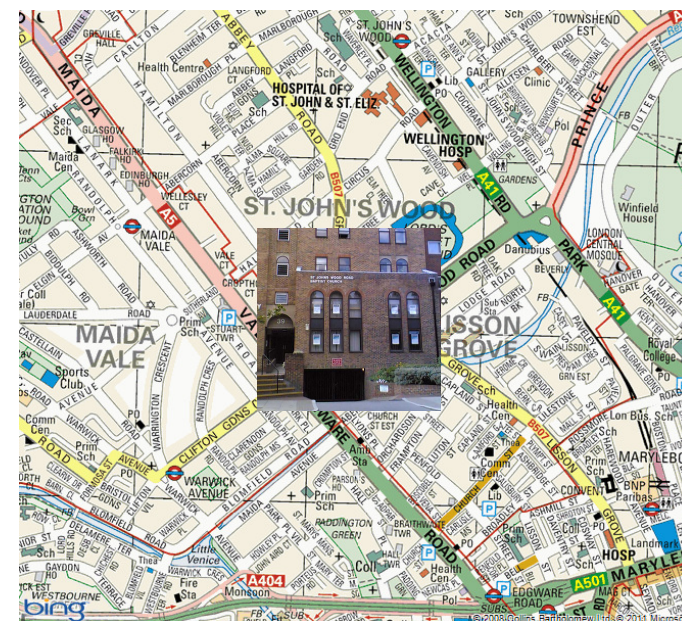
www.sjwrbc.org

Connect with us on Facebook. Search for "St. John's Wood Road Baptist Church". We have a page and a group.

*Planting A New  
Sunday pm Congregation*

*At St. John's Wood Road Baptist Church*

*NW8*



*Why a new congregation?*

*How do we plan to do this?*

*Will you be a part of this?*