

Protestant Truth Society

Prayer Letter for November 2011

E-petition against the registration of civil partnerships on religious premises

- HM Government has announced its intention to permit the registration of civil partnerships on religious premises from 5th December. It seems that, due to European Union equality legislation, this can be done without a vote at Westminster. The PTS e-petition against this move is still live, and is a way for concerned Christians and others to register their protest:
- *'This petition initiated by the Protestant Truth Society (PTS) calls upon HM Government not to pass any legislation to allow the registration of civil partnerships on religious premises. It affirms the biblical teaching that marriage can only be between one man and one woman, and that any civil partnership registration has no place in any church building or on any other religious premises. It calls upon HM Government to do everything in its power to support the uniqueness of traditional marriage.'*
- This e-petition has attracted a significant level of support. If you haven't yet signed and wish to do so, then visit our website www.protestant-truth.org and follow the link.

Protestant Truth Society @ Conservative Party Conference

- For the third year in a row, the Society co-operated with Church Society and Christian Watch to run an exhibition at this year's Conservative Party Conference in October. The theme of this year's stand and booklet was *Why the Big Society needs the Bible*. We also promoted our e-petition against the registration of civil partnerships on religious premises.
- This year's conference was markedly smaller than those of the last two years, but in many ways it was our best. We distributed a record 1,800 booklets, had numerous gospel conversations, and met many MPs and others who were sympathetic to our convictions. Pray for lasting fruit from these four days spent speaking into the ears of influence.

The 'Keep Marriage Special' campaign

- The Society hosted a meeting at Fleet Street on Wednesday 2nd, when representatives of various conservative evangelical organisations met to discuss the possibility of joining forces to mount a campaign against HM Government's avowed intention to "redefine" marriage to include same-sex unions. We praise the Lord that this meeting went very well.
- Duncan Boyd (PTS Council), Jeremy Brooks (PTS Director of Ministry) and representatives of various other groups are now hard at work behind the scenes preparing to launch a national campaign to be known as the 'Keep Marriage Special' campaign. Please pray for the Lord's blessing upon this vital initiative due to be launched early in the New Year.
- Pray particularly for Duncan Boyd in his role as Chairman of the 'Keep Marriage Special' campaign, and also for the right people to be willing to help in the various ways required.

The Churches

- Many churches are in the middle of a busy Autumn season of evangelistic activity, especially among children and young people. As this year draws to a close, let's pray that there may yet be a harvest of souls before the year's through, and that many will look back to 2011 as the year when they found the Saviour and were found by Him.

The Ongoing Work

- Next Council Meeting – Monday 14th at the slightly earlier time of 11:00am.
- Annual General Meeting – Monday 14th at 1:45pm, with lunch served from 1:00pm.
- Director of Ministry – Rev. Jeremy Brooks
 - Jeremy is due in Northern Ireland again from Saturday 19th to Thursday 1st December. He is booked to preach 12 times in 11 days, some appointments being revisits and others new contacts. On Lord's Day 20th Jeremy is due to preach at both the morning and evening services for Lord Bannside at Martyrs' Memorial Free Presbyterian Church in Belfast, as well as speaking to the young people at an after church Youth Rally.
 - Among other engagements, Jeremy is due to spend the afternoon of Thursday 17th giving three lectures on the subject of "Worship" at Crown College UK in Holy Cross, Clent, just a few miles from his home in the West Midlands.
 - Along with colleagues from PTS and other conservative evangelical groups, Jeremy is hard at work behind the scenes preparing to launch a national campaign against HM Government's attempts to "redefine" marriage.
 - Jeremy is also busy working on the January-February issue of *Protestant Truth*.
- Other Preachers – Stephen Holland, Gearoid Marley and Alisdair MacLeod-Mair
 - Stephen is speaking at midweek meetings in Liverpool (2nd), Parbold (23rd) and Preston (30th), as well as preaching at Lord's Day services in Borehamwood (27th). He asks for prayer as he makes a special effort to seek new openings for the Society across the North of England in the months ahead.
 - Gearoid began as our new full-time Wickliffe Preacher in the East of England on Tuesday 1st. Among other engagements, he is preaching at an evangelistic weekend at Scalpay Free Church (Continuing) in Scotland from Friday 11th to Lord's Day 13th. Gearoid, Elizabeth and the family hope to have moved house by the end of the year.
 - The Society has appointed Rev. Alisdair MacLeod-Mair to be our new full-time Wickliffe Preacher for Scotland to begin on 1st January, the Lord willing. Alisdair is currently the minister of Baillieston St Andrew's Church in Glasgow. Please pray for Alisdair as he makes this move, and for Baillieston St Andrew's as they look to the future without him.
- Fleet Street
 - Please remember to pray regularly for George and Sarah Rae in all their many labours.
 - The Tuesday lunchtime talk and discussion sessions are currently working through John Owen's classic book, *The Glory of Christ*. Numbers remain good, an excellent spirit prevails, and the Bible studies are greatly appreciated.
 - The monthly Fleet Street Prayer Meeting continues on 1st Thursdays at 1-2pm.
- Time Travellers Club (TTC)
 - We are grateful to Paul Austin for all that he does in co-ordinating the TTC, and are encouraged by the steady trickle of new boys and girls wanting to join.
 - Please continue to pray about negotiations to establish a distribution arrangement for the TTC materials with a publisher in North America.
- PTS Preachers Conference
 - The numbers were down somewhat this year, but different brethren who'd been to previous conferences said that they thought this year's was better than ever. Pray for the Lord's blessing upon plans for next year, for the right choice of subjects and speakers, and for many men to find it a source of challenge and encouragement.

If you do not receive this monthly prayer letter and would like to do so, or have been receiving it but no longer wish to do so, then please e-mail ptslondon@btconnect.com or telephone 020 7405 4960. These prayer letters may be copied and distributed freely.