

Get Involved: Pray



EMBRACE Prayer Group
February 2012

Nearly a year and a half ago I came to Northern Ireland, leaving behind my home and community. In leaving that familiar community I've realised how important it is to be surrounded by a supportive network of people who are concerned for your wellbeing.

My time here has been greatly enhanced by the community of people I have come to know; oftentimes this has been with other people who are also new to Northern Ireland. Together we share in each other's experience of navigating our way in a different culture. There are many others who have received me into their homes and lives and welcomed me into their communities.

I am grateful for my opportunity to be a "newcomer" and to grapple with the significance of community, while also being graciously and hospitably welcomed. I am also grateful for my other "newcomer" friends with whom I can share the experience with.

Throughout our lives we might have opportunities to "go" while at other times we have the chance to welcome those who "come." For me there is deep richness in this exchange.

Contributed by Peter Martin, Mennonite Volunteer with EMBRACE

We give thanks for...

- Those who have left their homes to make a new home in this country and the diversity and richness they bring to our communities.
- Individuals and families who open their homes and lives to people who are new, offering friendship and community.

We pray for...

- Ourselves, that we might find ways of extending welcome and hospitality to those who are lonely and in search of a friend.
 - Our churches, that we might seek to foster the type of community that reaches out to welcome people who are new.
 - Our cities and towns, that we might create a place where all people can feel at home, regardless of their background or nationality.
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Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and to pray with us throughout the month.

Do you have a topic and/or an item of concern or joy that you would like to share with the EMBRACE Prayer Group? If so, please contact jenna@embraceni.org.