

The Thatchers

Waterford, Ireland



- Ireland's population, 4.5 million
- 34% of population 25 years old or younger
- Dublin's population over 1.2 million
- Waterford's population over 46,000
- 85% still claim to be Roman Catholic

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Dear Friends,

July 2018

“The Emerald Isle has not been so green as of late; Ireland is currently undergoing a historic drought, with some areas of the normally damp island experiencing the least amount of rain in some 160 years.” (smithsonianmag.com) During the past year, Ireland has experienced extreme weather--A category 3 hurricane, Ophelia, struck Ireland on 9 October 2017. It killed three people and did huge damage. On 1 March 2018, the worst snow storm in 36 years hit the country. It led to a Status Red snow and ice warning being put in place because of blizzards in many counties. Now, a drought with little or no rain for nearly 8 weeks up until this past week. The ground is as hard as concrete. It is a point of interest to note that this heat wave settled in upon Ireland right on the heels of the historic vote to repeal the 8th amendment which protected the unborn from abortion. There have been several significant changes in Ireland over the past couple of years. The latest is a 52-page document outlining a LGBTI+ national youth strategy:

<https://www.dcyv.gov.ie/documents/20180709LGBTINationalYouthStrategyRev.pdf>

“I am delighted to present the first Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Intersex (LGBTI+) National Youth Strategy in Ireland and the world. It is informed by the views of thousands of young people and those who campaign on their behalf.”

Dr Katherine Zappone TD
Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Ireland

Jeremiah 50:38 says, “A drought is upon her waters; and they shall be dried up: for it is the land of graven images, and they are mad upon their idols.” Though we still have water available here in Ireland, restrictions have been put into place which will likely go into the Autumn. The effects of the dryness will not just impact the farmers but the population in general, ultimately, at the grocery store.

A spiritual drought has immediate and far reaching affects. There is dryness across the land of Ireland. Don't misunderstand me; God is doing some great things in the midst of it, but my heart's cry is with David as he cried out, “O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is Psalm 63:1.” Ireland needs a great awakening to the truth and salvation that comes from God. We as the saints of God need a good stirring and revival in our hearts to the truths of God. Today, we begin our revival meetings with Evangelist Bob Jones. Pray with us for the Lord to do a great work in our midst, and that we in turn, would be a greater impact on our city. Pray for another lost person to trust Christ. Pray for spiritual victory in the battle that is going on in the lives of some of our folks. Thank you for your continued prayer and financial support concerning our ministry here in Ireland.

May the Lord find us faithful,
Don and Lisa Thatcher & family