

# FREE PRESBYTERIAN VISION

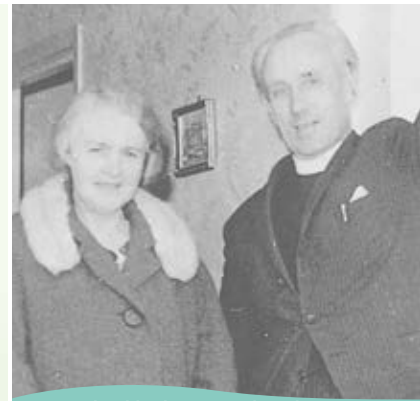


THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FREE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ULSTER



## WITNESSING TO MUSLIMS

July - August 2016 . Issue 22 . £1



1966: Should it be Remembered?



Youth: Taking & Trusting Christ



Congregation Call: Enniskillen



Missions: Visit to Nepal

## 07 History & Heritage: THE BISHOP'S TEXT



## 09 News: FIRST ELDERS FOR AGHALEE



## 04 1966: Should it be Remembered?

## 18 Summer Services

## 08 News

## 19 The Remarkable Life of "Father" Gavazzi

## 12 Youth: Witnessing to Muslims

## 20 College News

## 16 Congregation Call: Enniskillen

## 21 Missionary Vision

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### Editorial

**T**his is the editorial that was never meant to be written. A few weeks ago, sitting in front of the computer, with material for this issue well advanced, I contrived to lose the entire file! Twenty-first century technology is amazing, but it is often undone by the deficiencies of the one who employs it – and I am, by no stretch of the imagination, an expert in the field. And there is no false modesty here!

In the hours that followed I had the assistance of a friend who really does know how it all works. While, this time, we were not able to recover the lost file, my friend spent much of his Saturday helping me with the difficulties that are sent to try the novice. I was, and am, grateful for his assistance.

It is a blessing indeed to have the support of those who give of their time and talent, with no thought of recognition, to forward

the cause of God. They are the 'unsung heroes', those who work steadily behind the scenes, spurning fuss or fanfare – but without whom the work simply would not get done. If that is your ministry, then I say, 'keep on, your labours are not in vain'.

Those of us who have a more public role must never take for granted the endeavours of believers who are recognised by few beyond their own little circle. The Apostle was quick to acknowledge his debt to such as these. Take Romans 16. How many of those detailed there would be known to us without Paul's determination to give 'credit where it is due'? And so I salute all those dear believers who might now be described just as Phebe was, "*a succourer of many, and of myself also*" (Romans 16:2).

✉ Timothy Nelson, [editor@fpvision.org](mailto:editor@fpvision.org)

# PRECIOUS PROMISES

“FOR ALL THE PROMISES OF GOD IN HIM  
ARE YEA, AND IN HIM AMEN”

2 CORINTHIANS 1:20

**A**ll the promises of God are made to us in Christ and He Himself is the very first promise (Genesis 3:15). When He is promised, all is promised, for He ‘is all and in all’ (Colossians 3:11). Whatever blessing we enjoy it is in Christ first, and belongs to us when we by faith are made one with Him. All the promises are in Him and He is in all the promises. Simply stated, Christ is the Alpha and Omega of all the promises of God. He is the first heir of them all.

Adam was the heir of the promise of life while he continued in his obedience, but he lost that heirship to himself and all humanity when he sinned. Christ, in fulfilling the command of the first covenant and bearing its penalty for Adam’s transgression is the new heir to the promise of eternal life and of all that pertains to it. Our title to the promise comes in and through His life and death. We have the promise of eternal life and ‘this life is in his Son’ (1 John 5:11).

The Lord Jesus is the great blessing contained in all the promises. In Him are found all the treasures of grace and glory and out of His fullness we receive all the promised grace. The believer and the promise stand on the same foundation. Just as the weary traveller leaning on his staff finds support only as it rests on the ground on which he himself walks, so the staff of promise must rest on Christ or else it provides no support. But what is a promise? Surely nothing but a manifestation of love from the One

who promises and a conveying of goodness to the believing recipient. How then is faith to act upon Christ by virtue of the promises? By being more and more acquainted with the excellency of His person and the efficacy of His work.

When we rest in Christ we are trusting One who is clothed with prophetic, priestly and kingly offices; offices which He executes for the benefit of His people and in which He gives all the sure mercies of David - yes, all the blessings of His covenant of grace. He is made of God unto us (not to Himself), ‘wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption’ (1 Corinthians 1:30). Faith says: our God in Christ is One of infinite wisdom to lead us in a way we know not; One of infinite mercy to pity and pardon us; and One of infinite faithfulness who will honour His promises to us.

THE LORD  
JESUS IS THE  
GREAT BLESSING  
CONTAINED IN  
ALL THE  
PROMISES.

The promises of His word are but the thoughts of His heart toward us. We can and must frequently plead them in prayer. They are to be pursued at the throne of grace, for He tells us ‘I will yet for this be inquired of by the house of Israel to do it for them’ (Ezekiel 36:37). He cannot and will not suffer them to fail.

∴ Rev Leslie Curran, Associate Editor, is the Director of Let the Bible Speak radio ministry in N Ireland, and a regular preacher on its worldwide network of broadcasts.

# 1966

## SHOULD IT BE REMEMBERED?

**1966: TO MOST IN THE UNITED KINGDOM THE YEAR MEANS ONLY ONE THING: THE TRIUMPH OF THE ENGLISH SOCCER TEAM IN THE WORLD CUP - AN EVENT ALL THE MORE MEMORABLE BECAUSE IT HAS NOT BEEN REPEATED IN THE FIFTY YEARS SINCE! BUT FOR FREE PRESBYTERIANS, THERE IS SOMETHING MORE. 1966 WAS A SEMINAL YEAR IN THE HISTORY OF OUR DENOMINATION, THE YEAR THREE OF OUR PREACHERS FOUND THEMSELVES IMPRISONED BY THE AUTHORITIES.**

It happened before many of our readers were born. So, does this event have any relevance for today? Has it anything to say to us as we move ahead in the twenty-first century? Is there any point remembering?

### BACKGROUND

How exactly did three Free Presbyterians end up spending the summer of '66 in prison cells? Dr Alan Cairns, in his biography of the late Rev John Wylie, recalls that "the early 1960's were times of great unease among Protestants in Ulster. On the religious front there was an increasingly blatant attachment by leading churchmen to the ecumenical programme of the World Council of

Churches. Then on the political front there was a new Prime Minister who appeared to desire to take those same ecumenical principles and apply them to the affairs of state." It was against this backdrop, a series of contentious commemorations of the Easter Rising, and the Presbyterian Church's invite to the representative of the President of the Irish Republic, that the annual protest at the General Assembly was mounted. Having obtained permission to march to Assembly Buildings, the protesters found themselves under attack at Cromac Square. Relieved to escape without serious injury, they continued on their way. After two circuits of the designated route, on the third they

found their way blocked by police cordons to allow a group of dignitaries to proceed from the Assembly for hospitality at another location. In the wake of some extremely skewed press coverage and a pledge by Prime Minister O'Neill to crush 'Paisleyism', action was taken. "Summonses were issued against Paisley, Wylie, Ivan Foster and four other people, alleging unlawful assembly at the General Assembly protest. In court the police case was that the gathering of Free Presbyterians at the General Assembly constituted an illegal assembly. They had had permission to march; once they stopped they became an illegal assembly - despite the admitted fact



Rev John and Mrs Wylie on his release from prison

that what stopped them marching were ropes slung across the road by the police!" (Dr Cairns) The three Free Presbyterians were found guilty, fined, and bound over to keep the peace. They refused to pay the fines or to be bound over – this would have prevented their participation in further public protests.

And so, the due process of the law was enacted. On July 19 Rev Ian Paisley was arrested as he set out for the prayer meeting in Ravenhill church – so began three months incarceration in HM Prison, Crumlin Road, Belfast. The next day, prisoner 1271 was joined by his two colleagues, Rev John Wylie and Student Minister Ivan Foster.

We return to the initial question: What has all of this to do with us in 2016? Are there lessons to be learned as we seek to maintain the distinctive witness of Free Presbyterianism fifty years on?

### RESOLVE

Jude acknowledged a desire to write to his fellow Christians concerning their *"common salvation"*. But he felt compelled to change tack and to urge them to *"earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."* (v3) The intensity of the language indicates a severe struggle, and the context affirms the existence of enemies within and without. This is part and parcel of standing for Christ in a world that is ever more hostile to Him and to His claims – yet such resolution is not appealing. Indeed it is far easier to be 'men-pleasers', to take the path of accommodation, to stay silent, not to rock the boat. But is it right? If we believe this is the path to take, we must ask ourselves if it was wrong of Christ to confront the Pharisees or to cleanse the temple. Perhaps Paul's counsel is pertinent: *"Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong."* (1 Corinthians 16:13).

### REPROACH

Many have embraced the foolish notion that to receive Christ means we will be at peace with the world, that no-one will disturb us ever again. How different the verdict of the Saviour! *"Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you."* (John 15:20) If we are faithful to the Lord, we must expect to bear His reproach. We may never see the inside of a prison cell – though we have brothers and sisters in other lands in that very predicament, and it may come again in this realm – but there is a price to pay for following Christ. We will be scorned, mocked, vilified, ostracized, discriminated against – and more – for the sake of Christ. It is never comfortable *"outside the camp"* (Hebrews 13:13).

IF WE ARE FAITHFUL TO THE LORD, WE MUST EXPECT TO BEAR HIS REPROACH. THERE IS A PRICE TO PAY FOR FOLLOWING CHRIST.

### RE-DEPLOYMENT

Readers familiar with the life of the Godly tinker John Bunyan will know that much of his literary output can be traced to his sojourn in Bedford jail. In like manner, Rev Paisley's celebrated 'Commentary on the Epistle to the Romans' was penned in prison, together with a series of memorable letters to his waiting congregation. And there were other opportunities to serve. The three men had occasion to witness to many of their fellow inmates, and there is reason to believe that God blessed





# Messages from the Prison Cell

by  
**Ian R. K. Paisley**  
Prisoner No. 1271, H.M. Prison, Belfast

Crumlin Road Jail

some of these spiritual conversations. Thus God often takes us along a hard road so that we might find doors we would not otherwise enter. The wave of persecution after the martyrdom of Stephen compelled many believers to leave Jerusalem and to serve God in places they never anticipated (Acts 8:1,4; 11:19-21). Would they have gone if God had not thrust them forth?

## RESILIENCE

Prison was no picnic in 1966. It was a far cry from what inmates have come to expect in these days. It was difficult for the men themselves, and hardly less so for their families on the outside. They had the companionship of one another, the prayer support of an increasing number of fellow-believers across the world, the encouragement of visits – but, most of all, they had the Lord. They were sustained by the grace of a never-failing God. Paul knew what it was to see the inside of a prison cell, and he knew that even should he be forsaken by those from whom he might have expected succour, the Lord would never leave him! (2 Timothy 4: 14-18) In times of great need, we prove that we have a great God, even One who is *“our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”* (Psalm 46:1).

## REINFORCEMENTS

Those who believed that they would deal a fatal blow to the Free Presbyterian denomination by

imprisoning the protestors were to be disappointed. Such was the response in the land that numerous congregations were established across the province (the so-called ‘prison churches’; see, for example pages 16-17), and a record number of young men offered themselves as candidates for the ministry. Indeed more progress was made in eighteen months than in the previous fifteen years! And it has often been so. God has been pleased to use opposition and persecution to further His cause. The well-worn observation that ‘the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church’ is not without foundation. Only in relatively recent times have we discovered proof of this in those countries formerly under the heel of communism – that the church was driven underground did not hinder it, but rather prompted expansion, and a degree of commitment not witnessed in ‘better times’. Christ has promised to build His church despite all opposition, even that from the very *“gates of hell”* (Matthew 16:18).

## REFLECTION

Those who doubt the wisdom of remembering the events of the past might care to ponder the counsel of

the Lord in, for example, Deuteronomy, or the book of Psalms. Time and time again, God’s people are warned in respect of the folly of forgetfulness. True remembrance, of course, is not just about memory, but about meditation. There is little value in having the clearest recollection of events long past if we do not learn from them, and if they do not impact our lives here and now in any meaningful way.

**WE MUST REFLECT ON HOW BEST TO CONDUCT OURSELVES, AND TO REPRESENT OUR SAVIOUR, AS WE FACE THE PECULIAR CHALLENGES OF THIS AGE.**

We must be thankful for the courage of those who have gone before. We must reflect on how best to conduct ourselves, and to represent our Saviour, as we face the peculiar challenges of this age. We must be confident, not in the successes or the resources with which we have been favoured over five decades, but in the God who has bestowed them upon us. And we must recognise that, in a world given more and more to pragmatism

and expediency, there really are some things not negotiable, even those with which *“we were allowed of God to be put in trust”* (1 Thessalonians 2:4).

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∴ **Rev Timothy Nelson** is the Editor of FP Vision. He is minister of Ballynahinch Free Presbyterian Church and lecturer in Biblical Exegesis in the Whitefield College.

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# THE BISHOP'S TEXT



**T**his year – May 10 – marked the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of John Charles Ryle. He was the first Anglican Bishop of Liverpool, though he is probably best known today because of his writings, among them an immensely valuable work on the four Gospels and a powerful and practical treatment of holiness

Ryle's period as Bishop was dogged by conflict. A steady stream of controversies meant that he was attacked by liberals or conservatives, and sometimes by both. While there are many things with which we could take issue – not least his refusal to separate from a body that, for the most part, failed to live up to its Protestant and Reformed tenets – it would be churlish to deny the contribution Ryle made to evangelical witness in the second half of the nineteenth century.

We should remember that he did not become Bishop until the advanced age of 63. He was, first of all, a preacher. The greater part of his service was spent ministering in two rural Suffolk parishes. In the second of these, Stradbroke, he undertook extensive renovation of the building. When the pulpit was installed, he had the carpenter carve the words of a text so that it might be seen by everyone using the 'sacred desk': *Woe is unto me*

*if I preach not the Gospel'* (1 Corinthians 9:16). Ryle borrowed the chisel and cut a deep groove beneath the word 'not', emphasizing the solemnity of the preacher's task. Years later he gifted an exact replica of this pulpit to a church opening in his Liverpool diocese. He was a preacher to the end.

J C Ryle knew that the primary task of the minister was to **preach**. In the early days he aped the florid style of Melville, but quickly realized that would do his people no good. Effective preaching will always be understood, and so his preaching – and writing too – was thereafter characterized by simplicity. It was not only plain, but pointed, and urgent, pressing the claims of Christ upon all who would hear, a quality not so highly esteemed in some quarters today as it ought to be.

Ryle's theme was ever **the Gospel**. He was evangelical and evangelistic, believing in salvation from sin by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone. He made much of Christ, knowing that the preacher who makes little of Him can hardly be deemed a preacher of the Gospel! The Bishop was a committed Anglican, but his

commitment to the Gospel trumped his Anglicanism, and he was ever ready to recognize the faithfulness of 'dissenters' and to make common cause with them – an approach that did not endear him to many in the establishment.

And he realized a great **woe** would be upon the preacher who is unfaithful. It is a solemn thing to be an ambassador for Christ, and the only message of the said emissary is *'we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God'* (2 Corinthians 5:20). Woe betide him if he fails to deliver it!

And a greater woe upon those who, hearing the Gospel, fail to heed it! *'What shall the end be of them that obey not the Gospel of God?'* (1 Peter 4:17).

**HE MADE MUCH OF CHRIST, KNOWING THAT THE PREACHER WHO MAKES LITTLE OF HIM CAN HARDLY BE DEEMED A PREACHER OF THE GOSPEL!**

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∴ Rev Timothy Nelson

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## NEW HALL FOR MARKETHILL



A new church hall has been opened in Markethill by Moderator Rev T Murray, a former minister of the congregation. The service on Friday 8th April was

conducted by Rev Porter and included contributions by Revs McMillan, Elliott, S Murray and H Cairns, and Clerk of Session Mr M Spratt.

## FROM BALLYMONEY TO ROMANIA



Hebron Free Presbyterian Church launched a special Container Project for Romania a few months ago. The aim was to fill a 40-foot Container with clothes, bedding, kitchen ware, household utensils, and gardening equipment. The response was phenomenal!

Gifts came in to fill not just one container, but two, and a third is now to be sent. The first container arrived on Monday 4th April. We are thankful to all who contributed in any way, from many of our churches. The gifts will help the ministry of Deborah House and the poor children and families of Romania.

## PORTGLENONE CHILDREN SUPPORT UGANDA



The children and young people of Portglenone Free Presbyterian Church collected £404.54 from September to April to help the work in Uganda. Pictured are some from the children's meeting with the Mission Board representative Rev G Wilson and Rev D Stewart.

## FIRST ELDERS FOR AGHALEE



Mr Alistair Park and Mr Geoff Butler have been ordained and installed as the first elders in the Aghalee congregation.

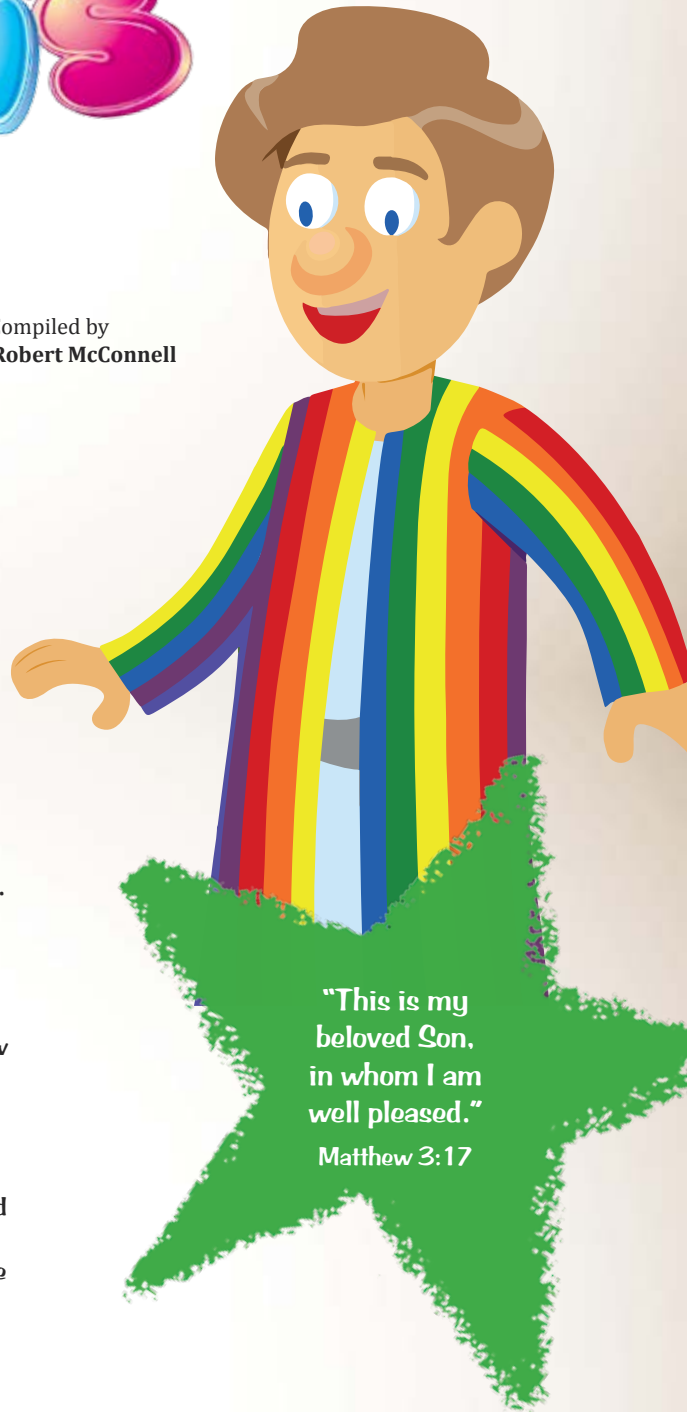
## FULL ATTENDANCE FAMILY STYLE



Alwyn and Iris Beck and their children, Alan, Emma, Adam, Laura and David are pictured with Rev A Patterson and Mr RG Graham, Sunday School Superintendent. Not one of the children missed a single day throughout their time at Mourne Sunday School.

# CHILDREN'S CORNER

Compiled by  
Robert McConnell



"This is my  
beloved Son,  
in whom I am  
well pleased."  
Matthew 3:17

**When I was small I was always getting into trouble over my coat.** Arriving home from school I would be met with the question, "Where is your coat?" In the excitement of getting out of school I usually forgot it. Then on Saturdays my coat would lie abandoned and bundled up on the ground – a forgotten goal post, as I headed home after football.

In the Bible a boy called Joseph was always in 'coat trouble'. His brothers were annoyed that he had been given a beautiful coat of many colours. In the end, their hatred was so great that they sold Joseph as a slave, tore up the coat, covered it in blood and presented it to their father, pretending that some wild animal had killed him.

In the Bible there are many pointers to the Saviour and this coat is one of them. First, it was a beautiful coat. The materials, colours and stitching were exquisite. And so it is with the Lord Jesus, He is a most wonderful,

beautiful person, indeed "the fairest of ten thousand to my soul". Do you see any beauty in Him?

Second, Joseph's coat was unique. There was no other like it. So it is with the Saviour. There is no one like the spotless, sinless Son of God! "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased" was God's verdict from heaven.

Third, Joseph's coat was taken, torn, covered in blood and destroyed. What a reminder of our sin and our wickedness, that which caused the Saviour's body to be torn as he bled and died upon the cross. Joseph's father was heartbroken when he saw the tattered coat. But there came a day when he was able to rejoice, for he saw Joseph again, and what men meant for evil God meant for good. And so it was at Calvary. Christ died there for our good and if we trust in Him, then one day we too will rejoice when we see Him again as our risen Lord and Saviour.

## Quiz:

Look up all the Bible references to find out which verse mentions each of the coats described. Then add up all the verse numbers to get this week's answer.

### JOHN THE BAPTIST

a coat (raiment) of camel's hair

Matthew Ch.3 v

### JOSEPH

a coat of many colours

Genesis Ch.37 v

### SAMUEL

a little coat made by his mother

1 Samuel Ch.2 v

### GOLIATH

a coat of mail weighing 5,000 shekels

1 Samuel Ch.17 v

All the verses add up to the number :

## PRIZES!

Are you 12 or under? Send your answer, name, address and church to:

Rev. Stephen Pollock

Email: [answer@fpvission.org](mailto:answer@fpvission.org)

15 Fernagreevagh Road, Loughgall,  
Armagh, BT61 8PN

### £5 WINNERS LAST TIME:

- |                               |                             |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| » Reuben Catherwood (Garvagh) | » Abigail Simpson (Garvagh) |
| » Jack Ferris (Armagh)        | » Abbie Magowan (Garvagh)   |
| » Jack Cunningham (Tandragee) | » Simon Condell (Coleraine) |
| » Isaac Breen (Portadown)     | » Luke Murphy (Portglenone) |



EVEN IF YOU DIDN'T WIN THIS TIME, PLEASE KEEP TRYING - MAYBE NEXT TIME!



# TAKING + TRUSTING CHRIST

**Y**ou may never have heard of Robert Sandeman but you may agree with his teaching about saving faith. He was a preacher in the 18th century who taught that the faith that justifies sinners is a faith that believes the gospel events, described in the bible, to have actually happened. He taught that if you believe that Christ lived, died and rose again then you are saved. Now undoubtedly, true saving faith does believe the historical events of the gospel. Thomas doubted that his Master had risen. The Lord appears to him and says: “*be not faithless, but believing.*” (John 20:27) Those who deny the history of the gospel are unbelievers and not saved.

But is that all? Is faith simply a mental exercise that agrees with the truth of the biblical record? That such a question must be answered in the negative should be immediately obvious to all. The devil and his angels are orthodox in their assent to the gospel yet are not saved. Moreover, when we examine the

biblical language we see that faith is described as a work of the entire soul of man. “*For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness...*” (Romans 10:10).

The various synonyms for believing in the New Testament all teach that belief is a movement of the soul in its entirety and not just our minds.

- » To believe is to **receive** Christ: “*But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.*” (John 1:12)
- » To believe is to **come** to Christ: “*And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.*” (John 6:35)
- » To believe is to **eat and drink** of Christ: “*Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.*” (John 6:54; cf. v40)

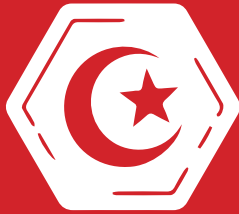
- » To believe is to **follow** Christ: “*And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.*” (Luke 9:23)
- » To believe is to **love** Christ: “*Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.*” (2 Timothy 1:13; also Philemon v5)

This simple bible survey shows that those who are saved by faith have taken Christ, trusting their souls to His safe keeping. Their minds believe the gospel; their wills choose Christ to be theirs and their hearts are captivated with love for Him. “*For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.*” (2 Timothy 1:12) Have you taken and trusted Christ? “*He that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.*” (John 3:36)

## FROM THE OLD TO THE YOUNG

Louis Berkhof in defining faith speaks of the use of the will: “*This is the crowning element of saving faith. It is a personal trust in Christ as Saviour and Lord, which includes a surrender of the soul as guilty and defiled to Christ, and a reliance on Him as the source of pardon and spiritual life.*”

- Louis Berkhof, Summary of Christian Doctrine



All Christians will have a desire to share the gospel of Christ with people they meet. As we rub shoulders with others in this world we discover that they have their own faiths and world-views. As such it is helpful to understand what they might think or believe in order to witness for the Saviour. This year we will consider the faiths of some of those you might meet.

This month **Rev Patrick Baker** deals with the challenge of **Witnessing to Muslims**.



# WITNESSING TO **MUSLIMS**

**ISLAM IS MUCH MORE THAN A RELIGION. IT IS A CULTURE, A LEGAL SYSTEM AND A POLITICAL ORGANISM ROLLED INTO ONE.**

**M**ost believers find witnessing to others something of a difficult experience. We wonder how our words will be received and what others will think of us. Despite these fears, we also know that our own salvation and Christ's love to us constrain us. How can we not speak about the things that we have believed? The child of God goes forward then by the grace of God and in the knowledge that *'faith cometh by hearing'*.

But what about when it comes to witnessing to a Muslim? After all we know that all people are the same regardless of whether they have religion or not. *All have sinned and all must be told.* Of course, this conclusion is true because it is biblical. However, it is also biblical to adopt a discerning mind. We should remember that the Lord Jesus Himself approached different people in different ways, albeit with the same saving message.

**HOW  
DIFFERENT IS THE  
GOSPEL OF CHRIST  
WHICH DECLARES THAT  
WITHOUT THE NEW BIRTH  
NO ONE WILL ENTER OR  
SEE THE KINGDOM  
OF GOD!**

Islam is much more than a religion. It is a culture, a legal system and a political organism rolled into one. Many of you will come into contact with a Muslim. Some will be broader and more liberal in their thinking. Others will take a conservative, stricter stance. Therefore, it can be a daunting and intimidating prospect knowing what and what not to say. Here are some helpful pointers:

### **1. ADOPT A CAUTIOUS BUT COMPASSIONATE ATTITUDE**

A couple of years ago there was a well-documented case of a professional in the National Health Service (NHS) who was suspended because of complaints made against her by a newly qualified Muslim worker. The NHS worker had given the other lady a Christian book and had prayed for her. The Muslim worker had agreed to both of these actions so the complaint that followed came as a great shock. The believer must be alert to such risks, not only from Muslims, but from anyone we study or work with. The natural heart is hostile against God and a backlash at times should not come as a total surprise. Christians should never neglect their work or study by setting out to 'witness' when they should be working. A good worker or a good student will speak volumes.

If occasion does arise and we find ourselves in conversation with a Muslim then we must heed the instruction of Christ, 'be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves' (Matthew 10:16). Jesus used the serpent in this instance to illustrate the need to be alert and wise to danger. By referring to the dove He emphasised the need for the believer to be one who does not provoke others by negative or unattractive personal traits. The only offence should be that of the cross of Christ.

Compassion is also vital. Tragically, many professing Christians engage in witnessing purely to win an argument and not to win a soul. What profit is there if we are able to confound a man's thinking and yet never speak about his need of the Saviour?

### **2. PREPARE YOURSELF BEFORE WITNESSING**

There must be spiritual preparation before God first of all. After all, to engage someone about his soul and the claims of Christ is no small thing. That sense of gravity is heightened when it comes to witnessing with someone who has a strong conviction about what he believes. Pray to God for the tongue of the learned so that you know how to speak a word to him that is weary.

Then you must do something else which is often overlooked - *know more fully the Gospel of Christ*. It is grieving when Christians struggle in their witnessing, not because of nervousness but because they do not know what to say. The Apostle Paul was not ashamed because he knew whom he believed (Romans 1:16-17; 2 Timothy 1:12). If all we know is some vague concept of God's love, and if our message is going to be along the lines of 'trust in Jesus', we are going to find ourselves struggling when questions are asked of us. We must know and cherish the key issues of the Gospel: Who is Christ? What did He do? How do we receive the salvation He has

accomplished? Believer, get to know the great doctrines of the Word of God! It is after all your sword for the battle.

Finally, it is worth taking time to gather a basic understanding of what Islam teaches. There are helpful resources on this matter. Muslims do use similar terminology to us. They speak of sin, salvation, heaven, hell, one God, law and punishment. However, it is their concept and explanation of these things which must be considered. For example, Islam teaches that a person is born sinless. There is no acceptance of original sin. On this basis a person does not have a sinful nature and therefore does not need to be regenerated. It is possible for such a person to contribute towards his own salvation by works. The Quran teaches personal salvation on the basis of good works outweighing bad in conjunction with faith. How different is the Gospel of Christ which declares that without the new birth no one will enter or see the Kingdom of God!

### **3. ENGAGE THE MUSLIM IN A SPECIFIC AREA OF CONVERSATION**

Endeavour to keep the conversation around the forgiveness of sin and the assurance of salvation. Muslims believe one must be sorry for sin and repent of it but there is no thought of a payment or ransom for sin. This means Islam is void of a Saviour. It cannot and will not speak of one who saves to the uttermost. The inconsistency here is that when it comes to dealings among men, Muslims will agree that one who breaks the law must suffer the consequences - the penalty of the law must be met. If that same person simply said he was sorry it would not be enough. But this is not carried through to the law of God. A person can be sorry and God will arbitrarily forgive, without any satisfaction being made to the law which has been violated.

The Gospel of Christ stands head and shoulders above Islam and all other religions. It declares that by the life, death and resurrection of Christ, God remains just in His nature when he justifies the believing sinner in Christ (Romans 3:24-26). The result of this is assurance and peace with God which no Muslim can profess.

# YOUTH COUNCIL EVENTS

## DELEGATES MEETING

Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Sept, 8.00pm,  
Randalstown FPC

## SEPTEMBER RALLY

Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Sept (TBC), Martyrs' Memorial FPC,  
8.00pm Preacher: Rev I Harris

## SUMMER WITNESS

### SUMMER OPEN AIR, PORTRUSH:

Sat 16<sup>th</sup> July

March of Witness from  
Ramore Head, 6:15pm

Open Air Rally, 7:00pm  
Preacher: Rev D Stewart

### AIR SHOW OUTREACHES

#### Newcastle

Sat 6<sup>th</sup> August

Meet at Beulah Bookshop, 10:30am  
Evangelism Training and  
Fellowship Evening: Annalong FPC  
22<sup>nd</sup> July, 7:30pm

#### Portrush

Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> September

Meet at Stall, East Strand, 10:00am  
Evangelism Training and  
Fellowship Evening: Coleraine FPC  
31<sup>st</sup> August, 7:30pm

## CASTLEWELLAN 2016

The 'Truth for Youth' Castlewellan Weekend was a familiar event for over three decades. Delegates inquired if the Youth Council would consider recommencing and running this event. Preparations began for a pilot weekend.

Young people gathered over the May Bank Holiday weekend and it was a great success. While keeping its long term future under review, we intend to organise another in 2017!



Rev and Mrs Creane, long time organizers of the 'Truth for Youth' Weekend, are pictured with current YC president, Rev D Brown.

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# A WORD TO WOMEN

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## A FEW LITTLE FISHES

(MATTHEW 15:34)

**T**here are two notable occasions when the Lord Jesus fed great crowds of people. On the first occasion, over 5,000 were fed with 5 loaves and 2 small fish, the lunch of a lad from the crowd. On the second occasion, recorded in Matthew 15, over 4,000 were fed from 7 loaves and a few little fishes. We are not told who gave up lunch so that the crowd could be fed. However the same could be said as before, *“What are they among so many?”* Humanly speaking, the food was enough for one, could be stretched to feed a few, yet Christ made the little fishes and loaves meet the need. The crowds were filled and satisfied and there was even food over. How great is our God!

There are many ways we can contribute to God’s work. Our time and talents may be useful to Him. We can also serve by giving our tithes and offerings.

The little fishes were given willingly. The disciples may not have seen the potential but the Lord Jesus was happy to use what was given. The Lord entrusts to us temporal blessings and expects us to be good stewards. Has the Lord given to you liberally? Then use that bounty wisely. The Scriptural principle is, *“unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required”* (Luke 12:48). Don’t give out of slavish obedience but out of a thankful heart. *“Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.”* (2 Corinthians 9:7)

The one who gave the little fishes was not rich. The lunch was simple. We may have little to spare and be struggling to make ends meet. This does not exempt us from supporting God’s work. Always put God first. Elijah met a widow about to cook her last meal. He asked her for water and bread

and gave her a wonderful promise, *“For thus saith the LORD God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the LORD sendeth rain upon the earth.”*(1 Kings 17:14) The widow did as Elijah asked and found the promise true.

What a blessing was experienced by the giver of the little fish and by all who witnessed the Lord Jesus give thanks and then miraculously multiply the fish and bread! None went hungry, there was plenty for all. The encouragement is given in

Malachi 3:10 to *“Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.”* Paul commends the church at Philippi for their giving, describing their gift as, *“an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well pleasing to*

*God.”* (Philippians 4:18) He goes on to say, *“But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”* (v19) We cannot expect God to provide for us if we do not bring in our tithes and offerings. The Lord will be pleased to bless and use ‘little fishes’ for His glory.

*Little is much when God is in it!  
Labour not for wealth or fame;  
There’s a crown, and you can win it,  
If you go in Jesus’ name.*

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∴ **Olive Maxwell** lived and worked for over twenty years in the city of Cork. She and husband Colin continue to serve with the Mission Board focusing primarily on the Republic of Ireland

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# CONGREGATION CALL: ENNISKILLEN

**L**ike a number of Free Presbyterian congregations in Ulster, the work in County Fermanagh can trace its beginnings to protest rallies held in support of the late Dr Paisley, the late Rev John Wylie and Rev Ivan Foster who were jailed in 1966 for protesting outside the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. One rally in Lisnaskea, addressed by Rev Alan Cairns and Rev John Douglas, is believed to have sown the seeds for the formation of the first Free Presbyterian congregation in County Fermanagh.

## EARLY DAYS WITH REV FOSTER

In the village of Lisbellaw a shop and store were purchased for £700, the money a gift from the ladies of Dr Paisley's congregation. After some hasty renovations, the first meeting

in Lisbellaw took place on Saturday 11th February 1967 with 180 people present. The constitution service was held on Lord's Day 2nd April 1967 and Rev Ivan Foster was placed as the student minister in charge. When he had completed his studies Mr Foster was ordained as the first minister of the congregation on 21st April 1968. Gospel missions were conducted in Springfield, Ballinamallard and the Clogher Valley with a great ingathering of souls. As a result a site in Chanterhill overlooking the outskirts of Enniskillen and the surrounding countryside, was opened by Dr Paisley on 19th August 1972. Rev Foster concluded his ministry in 1976.

## MINISTRY OF REV COOKE

In 1977 Rev Gordon Cooke was installed as minister. Five years later he commenced the Lough Erne Fundamentalist Convention in a large tent on the shores of Lough Erne overlooking Enniskillen Castle. The preachers at the first convention were Dr Paisley, Dr Bob Jones and Dr Stephen Scott-Pearson.

The convention continued each year in the tent until extremely wet weather meant that it had to be held in the church building. During Rev Cooke's 21 years as minister the congregation continued to grow. In addition, a manse at Laragh, Ballycassidy, was purchased along with a church hall in Brookeborough. Another hall at Tresna, Maguiresbridge was given to the church.



### EVANGELISTIC EXPANSION UNDER REV GRAY

After the retirement of Rev Cooke in 1998, Rev John Gray was called to the congregation, commencing his ministry in May 1999. Since then the congregation has further increased with a number of new families joining the church. Gospel missions have been held, including one in the church where every home in Country Fermanagh received a gospel tract and invitation. In addition, an outreach team was established which has engaged in door to door evangelism around the district. In recent years the church has been the main sponsor of the "Let the Bible Speak" broadcast in the west of the province on Radio Q101FM. The programme goes out at 9am each Lord's Day, with Rev Gray and other ministers in the south west preaching a month at a time.

### BETHEL CHILDREN'S CRUSADE

Enniskillen employs a full-time children's worker. Bethel Children's Crusade was established in 1974 with the late Miss Edna Weir appointed as the child evangelist. Under her faithful ministry many hundreds of children in County Fermanagh were reached with the gospel and she was affectionately known as "Auntie Edna." Following her death in 2003, Mrs Arlene Gray was appointed as the child evangelist. In addition to ministering at the existing children's meetings in Enniskillen, Lisbellaw, Maguiresbridge, and Tresna, Mrs Gray extended the work into primary schools, conducting

weekly meetings in Enniskillen Model School, Enniskillen Jones Memorial School, Florencecourt Primary School and Maguiresbridge Primary School. Annual children's missions are also held in the rural community of Letterbreen and the village of Lisbellaw. On a weekly basis over 180 boys and girls are reached with the gospel with the help of a faithful team of helpers.

The Session and Committee of Bethel are deeply grateful to Mrs Gray for her tremendous efforts in the gospel and rejoice in how God has worked, with many children saved by His grace. After 13 years of faithful ministry, Mrs Gray retires this summer. Her retirement is a great loss to the children of County Fermanagh. However, the congregation in Bethel is amazed at the goodness of the Lord in the provision of a replacement. Following the decision earlier this year by Miss Gillian Gillespie to return home from Kenya, Rev Gray approached her on behalf of the Session and asked her to consider taking over as the full time child evangelist. After much prayerful consideration Miss Gillespie informed Mr Gray that the Lord was leading her to the work. The congregation was delighted to learn that she will begin in October 2016.

The guiding of the Lord was further in evidence when the Committee decided in March 2015 to purchase a house lying into the church site. After a long and protracted process, the committee finally secured the property, completing the purchase



*Mrs Arlene Gray*

on Friday 6th May 2016, the very day it was announced to Presbytery that Miss Gillespie was moving from Kenya to take up the work in Enniskillen! At the time the Committee decided to buy the house there was no thought that it would end up as a residence for Miss Gillespie. The provision of the Lord has been humbling.

### LOOKING FORWARD TO THE CONVENTION

The next big event in the calendar for the church in Enniskillen is the annual Lough Erne Convention which will be held from Saturday 30th July to Lord's Day 7th August each night at 8pm and Lord's Day at 12 noon and 8pm. The convention will be opened by the Moderator, Rev Thomas Murray and the main speakers are Dr John Douglas and Dr Ron Johnstone. The convention is a source of much blessing to the congregation and many visitors from across the province. Rev Gray extends a warm invitation to all this year.

∴ Ian Moore



# SUMMER SERVICES

At the suggestion of a number of our readers we publish the following times of services, as advertised recently, for our congregations in the UK. It is to be hoped that these details will help visitors with attendance while on holiday in different areas.

## ⋮ Editor

🕒 10.30AM & 6.30PM	📍 Merthyr
🕒 11.00AM & 6.00PM	📍 Ballymagerney
🕒 11.00AM & 6.30PM	📍 Bridlington, Bristol, Liverpool, Oulton Broad, Rhiwderin, Tavistock (am only).
🕒 11.30AM & 6.00PM	📍 Gardenstown
🕒 11.30AM & 6.30PM	📍 Aghalee, Aughnacloy, Ballymena, Banbridge, Bushmills, Castlederg, Coleraine, London, Lewes.
🕒 11.30AM & 7.00PM	📍 Antrim, Armagh, Ballyclare, Ballygowan, Ballynahinch, Bangor, Carrick, Carryduff, Clogher Valley, Comber, Convoy, Coragary, Crossgar, Donaghadee, Dromore, Dungannon, Dunmurry, Gilford, Hillsborough, J Knox Memorial, Kesh, Kilskeery, Larne, Limavady, Lisburn, Londonderry, Lurgan, Markethill, Martyrs, Mount Merrion, Mullaglass, Mulvin, Newtownabbey, Newtownards, Portadown, Portavogie, Randalstown, Rutherglen, Sandown, Sixmilecross, Stranraer, Tyndale Memorial.
🕒 12.00PM & 6.30PM	📍 Cloughmills
🕒 12.00PM & 7.00PM	📍 Annalong, Ardaragh, Ballymoney, Cookstown, Garvagh, Magherafelt, Moneyslane, Mourne, Portglenone, Rasharkin, Tullyvallen.
🕒 12.00PM & 7.30PM	📍 Enniskillen, Omagh



## THE REMARKABLE LIFE OF "FATHER" GAVAZZI

**T**hat's the title I would give to a biography of "Father" Gavazzi. Unfortunately no one, either in the last century or this, has embarked on such a work. The life of Alessandro Gavazzi makes a fascinating story.

Born in Bologna in Italy 1809, he was brought up to be a devout Roman Catholic. He became a monk in 1825, attached to the Barnabite order in Naples. He was appointed Professor of Rhetoric. His "radical" approach to spiritual matters caused his removal to Rome where he was given a subordinate position. However the invasion of Rome by the French prompted him to seek refuge in London. There he launched a campaign against the Roman priesthood and the work of the Jesuits. With "Roman" eyes he could see the corruption of the system to which he had given years of his life. He also saw through the machinations of the Oxford Movement, which had a Romanizing influence upon the Church of England.

While the date of Gavazzi's conversion is uncertain, we find that by the 1850's he is preaching in Evangelical churches throughout the British Isles, Belfast included. He was also involved in organising exiled Italian Protestants in London and was identified as an articulate spokesman on the controversy with Rome.

In 1853 he travelled to Canada and addressed rallies in Quebec and Montreal. Opposition to him was engineered by Roman Catholic activists, and the church in Montreal where he was preaching was invaded by those seeking his life. He had to defend himself and used a chair to beat off his assailants. The disorder spread to the streets and up to forty people were killed in a shameful display of bigoted violence, in which the Irish lobby were prominent. Undeterred, Gavazzi continued his ministry.

In 1860 he returned to Italy and acted as army chaplain to Garibaldi, who campaigned to unite Italy. (Garibaldi testified to being a Christian.) Burdened with a love for his fellow countrymen, Gavazzi went on to organise the Gospel preaching Protestant Church of Italy. By 1875 he had established the Free Church College in Rome. His next ministry was to attach Christian schools to each of the churches. After his death in 1889, all his achievements weakened in the absence of a dynamic successor.

Gavazzi was honoured with burial in the Protestant Cemetery in Rome, now known as the British Cemetery. His grave is marked with a suitable sculpture.

∴ David Browne (Bangor)



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

**A**t the time of writing our students are taking summer exams, and our first year in the Martyrs' Memorial Jubilee Complex is drawing to an end.

Personally, the move to Martyrs' has brought back memories of lectures in the old Theological Hall in the church. Almost half of our existing lecturers were trained in the church building, prior to the commencement of the Whitefield College in 1979. Meeting in the premises of a busy church in our capital city carries a feeling that cannot be replicated in a college property set apart from town or city – although that kind of setting has its own attractions.

Our move involved using one of the students' outreach weeks to remove books, desks and chairs, and other equipment from Lawrencetown to Belfast. Shelves were removed from the old library to the new location. Happily we were able to find space for

almost all of 6,000 and more books owned by the college, and these are now more accessible.

The college year saw a slight increase in the student body. We now have 16 students, with just one young lady in the group. The students relate well to one another, to lecturers and to other members of staff. The minister, elders and caretakers of Martyrs' Memorial church have done everything possible to make us feel at home in our new surroundings, though our stay in Belfast may be a temporary one, pending the sale of the old premises and relocation to a new site.

This year our students have been kept very busy with the range of subjects covered and the many deputation meetings – in addition to individual engagements, summer ministry, and our outreach programme prior to college commencement.

Four young people graduated in September. Paul Hanna is now minister in Mount Merrion, Kyle Graham has gone to Australia for three years, Christina Logan is in Liberia on short term assignment, and Alana Stewart has married one of our new students – without having to change her name!

Please pray for all connected with our college. There is great pressure as well as great pleasure in this service and we appreciate the prayers and support we have received from so many. We anticipate a small increase in our student body next year and would be delighted to see more young men and women offer themselves for training for the service of the Master. *'Brethren, pray for us'* (1 Thessalonians 5:25).

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∴ Rev Gordon Ferguson (Principal)

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## WHITEFIELD CHRISTIAN WORKERS ACADEMY COURSE 2016-2017

**A** new course will be on offer for 2016-2017. There are two eight week terms, one evening per week, commencing at 8pm, Thursday 20th October 2016 and Thursday 19th January 2017, at Lisburn Free Presbyterian Church. The course is open to all and a diploma is presented to students who successfully complete it.

Closing date for application is Friday 7th October 2016. Contact: The Secretary, Whitefield College of the Bible, 356 Ravenhill Road, BELFAST, BT6 8GL; Phone 028 9045 6169; or e-mail [wboffice@btconnect.com](mailto:wboffice@btconnect.com). The cost is £96.00, payable on or before the first evening of the course.

# GRAHAMS ARRIVE 'DOWN UNDER'

**H**aving prayed and planned since September for the arrival of the Graham family, it was exciting to track their landing into Adelaide on Thursday night 5<sup>th</sup> May 2016. We praised the Lord for their safe arrival. All the planned transfers, overnight accommodation and the flight to Port Lincoln the next afternoon went smoothly, with the Grahams arriving to be welcomed by 19 folks from Port Lincoln. It was a happy occasion.

However the planned 6.00 pm arrival of Rev & Mrs Gardiner on Saturday night was postponed due to an intense weather event across South Australia. The three course dinner for the guests was shelved, with the Gardiners still in Adelaide and Kyle in bed with a virus. If the Gardiners were still weather-bound on Sunday morning, contingency plans would be needed.

The Gardiners duly arrived at 10.25 am, enabling the 11.00 am service to start on time. The "welcome" service was not quite what was intended, for although Eppie and Abiah were there, Kyle was still unwell at home. But the evening was a time of blessing, with Kyle present to give his testimony. Good numbers attended, and most stayed for a welcome supper.

There is a saying "Man proposes, God disposes". Proverbs 16:9 tells us "A man's heart deviseth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps". Classic missionary material! The weekend did not go entirely to plan, but the Lord had much blessing in it. Philip and Cherith's flight on Monday morning departed almost on time, and it was good to hear at the end of the day they arrived safely back to Perth. Their visit was a real encouragement.

⋮ Lloyd Glover



## SUMMER OUTREACH TEAM

**M**r & Mrs Eric Graham will lead a Mission Board team of eight volunteers on an outreach/work programme to Kenya leaving on Thursday 7th July. The itinerary includes Lord's Day services, conducting youth meetings, helping out in the new Book Shop in Kakamega, painting Kathy Walker's house and spending several days at the Christian Academy. A first-hand 'Kenyan experience' will be had at Lake Nakuru Safari Park, Victoria Lake and the Giraffe Park in Nairobi.

Mission Board believes it augers well for the future when young men and women

undertake short term missionary service. Pray that both they and the Kenyan people will be spiritually enriched and challenged by the visit.

Rev and Mrs McMillan will also accompany the group. Mr McMillan will speak at special Farewell Services for Miss Gillian Gillespie who has served faithfully in Kenya for 21 years, and at some Conference meetings. Please seek the Lord's help for this visit; for safe journeys, blessed meetings, good fellowship and times of refreshing.

⋮ Rev D Park





# VISIT TO NEPAL

**M**any will have heard reports of God being at work and souls being saved in Nepal in recent times. These things were in my mind when I, along with Mr George McConnell, left for Kathmandu on 6th April. We were to meet with Rev Wesley Graham and Rev David DiCano to see first-hand what God had done.

We visited seven village fellowships. Three new buildings were opened including one rebuilt following last year's earthquake. At times we doubt the

truth of Romans 1:16, but meeting young believers saved from darkness reaffirmed that the Gospel is indeed the power of God unto salvation.

There is a clear desire that the Word of God will be central in the developing churches. The annual Bible Conference was attended by 250 people with a hunger to hear the Word. Rev Thapa sees the Radio work as vital, understanding that it is through the Word that souls will be saved. 'Let the Bible Speak' airs over 100 programmes each week, covering 75% of the country.

Twice we visited the site of the new orphanage building. At present there are 28 children but the hope is that the new building will house 60. This is a vital ministry of the church in this land.

In a nation given to idolatry there are now pockets of Christians, raising young people and children under the gospel. We must pray that the generation to come will avail of their privilege and live, sold out to Christ.

∴ Dr Stephen Pollock

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# CHANGES

**2016 has been a year of unprecedented changes for the Mission Board. We have known the Lord's help and guidance. Pray that God will continue to lead us.** Many missionaries and fields are also affected by these changes, so please continue to remember them all.

- a. Mrs Alison Patterson required major surgery which was successfully carried out on Mon 23rd May 2016. Alison has known the Lord's grace and appreciates the prayers of God's people. Malcolm and Alison's return to Kenya has been postponed in light of these events.
- b. Good progress has been made with the registration process in Uganda and the legal transfer of the Emmanuel Christian School to the Free Presbyterian Mission Board. Please pray for a speedy and successful conclusion.
- c. Mr & Mrs Stephen Miller have been accepted as missionary candidates for the work in Uganda. Mission Board plans to send them out on a nine month placement to oversee the transition period of the school this autumn. In

2017 they will come home to raise finance and support.

- d. Miss Noreen McAfee has been accepted as a Missionary Teacher for the Emmanuel Christian School in Uganda. After sixteen years in the Christian Academy in Kenya, Noreen feels it is time to help further establish the work in Uganda. She will go to Uganda early in 2017. The Board highly esteems our sister's sacrificial service for the Lord in Kenya.
- e. Miss Gillian Gillespie is finishing her work in Kenya and will return to NI this August. Gillian has felt for some time that her service was coming to an end in Kenya, and after much prayer believes the Lord would have her return home. The Mission Board is very grateful for the last 21 years. We are thankful that the Lord has opened another door of service for Gillian working with the Enniskillen congregation in the Bethel Children's Crusade.

As the Lord continues to open up the door in Uganda He has not closed the door in Kenya. We believe the Lord is only asking us to lift our gaze higher

and broader to East Africa rather than just Kenya. The Bible Christian Faith Church needs our prayers and support. Please pray that it would be given help and grace to adapt to these changes. Pray with us for a new generation of missionaries to be raised up to go forth into this part of God's harvest field in East Africa.

- f. Miss Joy Gillespie will relocate to the work of the Nepal Free Presbyterian Church. She has spent the last eighteen years serving the Lord in Spain but feels that the Lord is leading her to work with the Ladies and Youth of Nepal. We are thankful for her years of faithful service in Spain. She will come home to do her next round of deputation meetings and seek to move next year.

So, God is stirring the nest, sending us further than ever before with the life changing message of salvation!

∴ Rev. Ian Harris

## SPECIAL PRAYER REQUEST: SUMMER CHILDREN'S WORK

**P**lease pray for every Gospel effort among boys and girls this summer. There are **Holiday Bible Clubs, Five Day Clubs and Meetings involving our workers.** Pray in particular for the Mission Board United Children's Camp, 1st-5th August. Rev R McKee, Director, and a faithful band of workers will be looking after the campers.

Churches requiring Children's Tracts should contact Mission Board office.

## 30 YEARS IN SPAIN

**T**he Mission Board has organised a special anniversary dinner and evening of fellowship to mark thirty years' service in Spain by Rev & Mrs Boyd in Tandragee Church Hall on Saturday 24th September at 7pm. Booking forms on our missionary web site ([www.fpcmission.org](http://www.fpcmission.org)) or from the Mission Board Office ([office@fpcmission.org](mailto:office@fpcmission.org)).



# DATES FOR THE DIARY

## JULY

**18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> BALLYGOWAN,  
SPORTS WEEK**  
Time: Mon – Fri, 9.00-12.00am  
Speaker: J Smith

**25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> BALLYGOWAN,  
HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUB**  
Time: Mon – Fri, 11.00am  
Speaker: R McConnell

**30<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> ENNISKILLEN,  
LOUGH ERNE CONVENTION**  
Time: Sunday, 12.00 & 8.00pm  
Mon – Sat, 8.00pm  
Speakers: Drs J Douglas & R Johnstone,  
Rev T Murray

## AUGUST

**8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> BALLYNAHINCH,  
HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUB**  
Speaker: Rev P Hanna  
Venue: Ballynahinch High School  
Time: Mon – Fri, 6.30pm-8.00pm

**15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> BUSHMILLS,  
CHILDREN'S MISSION**  
Time: Mon – Fri, 6.45pm-7.45pm

**28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> COLERAINE,  
REVIVAL CONFERENCE**  
Time: Sunday, 11.30am & 6.30pm  
Mon – Tue, 8.00pm  
Speakers: Various

## SEPTEMBER

**4<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> BANGOR,  
40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY MISSION**  
Various Speakers

**12<sup>th</sup> TANDRAGEE,  
WHITEFIELD COLLEGE  
GRADUATION &  
COMMENCEMENT**  
Time: Monday, 8.00pm  
Speaker: The Moderator

**19<sup>th</sup> DUNGANNON,  
LADIES PRAISE SERVICE**  
Time: Monday, 8.00pm  
Speaker: Mrs A Armstrong  
Special Singing  
Supper Served

**18<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> PORTSTEWART TOWN HALL,  
GOSPEL MISSION**  
Time: Sundays, 3.30pm,  
Mon – Fri, 8.00pm  
Speaker: Rev R Higginson

## OCTOBER

**16<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> MOURNE,  
GOSPEL MISSION**  
Time: Sundays, 7.00pm,  
Mon – Fri, 8.00pm  
Speakers: Revs J Morrow  
& D Stewart