

# FREE PRESBYTERIAN VISION



THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FREE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ULSTER

## CHRIST-LIKE CHRISTIANS

### WANTED: WORSHIPPERS

WHITEFIELD COLLEGE  
GRADUATE BECOMES PRINCIPAL

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### Editorial

**I**n his renowned book “The Sovereignty of God”, A W Pink asks, “Who is regulating affairs on this earth today - God or the Devil? What saith the Scriptures?” He went on to answer his own question: “If we believe the plain and positive declarations, no room is left for uncertainty. They affirm, again and again, that God is on the throne of the universe; that the sceptre is in His hands; that He is directing all things “after the counsel of His own will.” God’s sovereignty is absolute. He is always sovereign; perfectly sovereign; justly sovereign and wisely sovereign. He has not only created this world but He rules and reigns over all the works of His hands. God’s sovereignty extends to the smallest details of our lives. Nothing happens by chance; everything has a purpose. It is true that we may not always understand the ways of God - at times they are mysterious to us - but they are never mysterious to Him. He knows the end from the beginning. His ways may

be past finding out (Romans 11:33), but His way is perfect (Psalm 18:30). God is not a mere spectator on the throne - not an idle, helpless observer. Rather it is, “in Him that we live and move and have our being” (Acts 17:28). The truth of God’s sovereignty brings tremendous comfort to His people. He performs all things for them (Psalm 57:2) and therefore we are assured that “all things work together for good” (Romans 8:28). Since God is sovereign over all things we can trust Him and find our greatest encouragement in Him. Amid a changing world scene and personal trials and troubles, the believer can rest in the knowledge that his Heavenly Father is in control. He does all things well and therefore we have no reason to fear. Revelation 19:6 provides the perfect answer to Pink’s question: “who is regulating affairs on this earth today?” when it declares, “The Lord God omnipotent reigneth.”

✉ Colin Mercer, editor@fpvision.org

# CHRIST HONOURING THE LAW

‘...HE WILL MAGNIFY THE LAW AND MAKE IT HONOURABLE!’

ISAIAH 42:21

**T**he Lord has a high and holy regard for His own law and will have its honour maintained. He gave it to our first parents under the form of a covenant; a promise of life being made on condition of perfect obedience and also the punishment of death in the case of disobedience. Man transgressed the law of that covenant and in so sinning against God forfeited his title to life and came under the curse or penalty of death. Unless the holiness of the law is vindicated by a perfect obedience to its precept and a total satisfaction given for its breach, the grave offence done to the honour of the law and Lawgiver means the Lord can by no means clear the guilty. If His law is not vindicated and its honour repaired none can be saved. We can neither yield a perfect obedience to the law, having broken it, nor satisfy its penalty.

God in His unspeakable love and mercy has ordained and provided a Surety who could magnify the law in our stead and who in the fulness of time would assume our nature, repair the honour of the law and satisfy its justice. As our Surety and Representative He said: ‘Lo I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me, I delight to do thy will, O my God; yea, thy law is within my heart’ (Psalm 40:7,8). God’s holy law is no loser by Christ’s substitution in our room. The law demands perfect holiness and He is ‘holy, harmless and undefiled’ (Hebrews 7:26). It demands perfect obedience to its commands and our Saviour has fulfilled all righteousness. The law demands the execution of its penalty

and the Lord Jesus ‘was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities’ (Isaiah 53:5); ‘Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit’ (1 Peter 3:18). So the law has all it requires by Christ’s substitution. The law as magnified and made honourable by Christ means we can say that in Him alone we glory, as the Lord our righteousness.

**ASSURED THAT THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF THE LAW IS FULFILLED IN US THROUGH THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF CHRIST, WE SAY WITH PAUL: ‘FOR TO ME TO LIVE IS CHRIST AND TO DIE IS GAIN’**

Let us ever magnify Him who magnified the law on our behalf. With hearts enlarged in love and gratitude, His commandments are not grievous and we ‘delight in the law of the Lord after the inward man’ (Romans 7:22). Assured that the righteousness of the law is fulfilled in us through the righteousness of Christ, we say with Paul: ‘For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain’ (Philippians 1:21). Having honoured the law He has swallowed up death in victory. This means our clay tabernacle, laid in the grave at death, will be received again without the smell of death upon

it in the morning of the resurrection. Believers have a perfect and complete heaven of glory in Him who magnified the law and made it honourable.

✉ 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.



# CHRIST-LIKE CHRISTIANS

**S**o we are Christians – but what does that really mean? Followers of Christ, yes; devoted to His Word, of course; and having a desire to be like Him, absolutely; but is it so in your life and mine?

The children’s hymn sums up the character of Christ so well: “Gentle Jesus meek and mild...” It is easy to sing this hymn and in doing so dwell upon the wonderful person of Christ; but how far are we from exhibiting those characteristics in our lives? We can be orthodox in our doctrine; theologically dotting every “i” and crossing every “t” and yet fail miserably in resembling

Christ in our daily walk. Nominal assent to biblical doctrine is one thing, living accordingly is something else. True Christianity is practical and the outworking of our salvation must be in accordance with the law of God.

The spirituality of God’s law is often forgotten. It is possible that our actions towards the Lord, others and ourselves

can be based upon the letter of the Ten Commandments yet, at the same time, our hearts can be unloving - as cold as ice. Our observance of the law may be little more than unpassionately obeying a set of “thou shalt” and “thou shalt not.” Such actions, though appearing to fulfil the demands of the law, reveal a life that does not resemble the life of Christ. The Lord summarised the Ten Commandments when He said in Mark 12:30-31, “And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.” With these words, Christ clearly set out the attitude and motivation for obedience. These two summary commandments in no way water down or relax the veracity of the Ten Commandments, but it is remarkable that in both, Christ teaches that obeying them ought to

ACCORDING TO HIS TEACHING, “NEIGHBOUR” CROSSES ALL BOUNDARIES, REAL OR IMAGINED, OF CULTURE, CLASS OR CREED; AND ACCORDING TO THE COMMANDMENT WE ARE TO LOVE THEM AS OURSELVES.

a sinful world? In His parable of the Good Samaritan, the Lord answered the question as to who our neighbour is. According to his teaching, “neighbour” crosses all boundaries, real or imagined, of culture, class or creed; and according to the commandment we are to love them as ourselves.

We all love ourselves. We want the best for ourselves. We look out for ourselves. We treat ourselves well and have a good attitude towards ourselves, often quite willing to overlook our many faults and not subject ourselves to intense or incessant self-criticism.

The second Great Commandment teaches us to treat our neighbour, that is, those around us, regardless of category, in a similar way. However, some may argue, does the phrase ‘our neighbour’ include everyone, even those who mock, scorn and hate us? Yes, it does. The Lord demands that we love our neighbour as ourselves. To properly obey the final six commandments, encapsulated in, “thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself”, we must do so in love to our fellowman, regardless of their attitude to us, or their treatment of us. This is the standard which reveals the Christ-like life we say (and sing) we aspire to.

Think of those whom Christ encountered during His earthly ministry. Even as He dealt with those who hated and despised Him, He remained meek and gentle. He loved His neighbour. The rich, young ruler of Mark 10 is a very telling demonstration of the attitude of Christ to others. This young man was full of self and came to Christ wanting to know what he could personally do to inherit eternal life. He did not come in humility, begging the Lord to have mercy on him, rather he felt he already had all the ability he needed, he simply wanted to know how he could save himself. In other words, he was saying that he could have eternal life without Christ and His atonement. It is quite clear that the Lord was speaking to one who was His enemy. Consider the Saviour’s

reaction in Mark 10:21: “Then Jesus beholding him loved him!” Had you or I been in the same position, would we have “loved him”? It is clear that Christ’s attitude toward others, even His enemies, was characterised by love. This is what set Him apart, and it is only when our attitude to others reflects His character, will Christ be seen in us.

This love is certainly not natural. It is not the love of the world rather it is the fruit of the Spirit. It is a love only seen in the Spirit-filled life; a Christ-like love, an unconditional love, a love of enemies, a love for Christ’s sake. Only when we live in the Spirit, emptied of self and resigned to the Word, will we have the correct attitude to others and only then will Christ be seen in us.

Such Christ-like love does not ignore sin. Though Christ was full of love and compassion, he was not soft on sin. He spoke the truth in love. Indeed, a true love for God and others will result in a true hatred of sin. This Christ-like love for others will be seen in practical ways and especially as we seize opportunities to point them to Christ. It is the greatest act of love to tell our neighbours of the Saviour who alone is able to save them.

We live in an unloving world. Natural man does not love God and any love he has for others is overshadowed by selfishness. Sinners sin against God and against each other. There is no reverence for God and little or no respect for others. Christians are different. We love Christ because He has first loved us and, through His grace, He enables us to love our neighbour as ourselves.

The next time we sing, “gentle Jesus meek and mild” let us pray that we display the same gentleness and meekness as Christ and

“Weep o’er the erring one,  
lift up the fallen.  
Tell them of Jesus the mighty to save.”

That’s what it is to be Christ-like.

Dr Lindsay Wilson is the minister of Castlederg Free Presbyterian Church.



## WHITEFIELD COLLEGE GRADUATE BECOMES PRINCIPAL

**A**t its first meeting of 2018, the Presbytery of the Free Presbyterian Church of Ulster unanimously appointed Rev Timothy Nelson as the third Principal of the Whitefield College of the Bible. Mr Nelson, who is married with two children and two grandchildren, is the first Principal in the history of the denomination to have graduated from the College. He succeeds Rev Gordon Ferguson who retired from the position at the end of 2017.

Rev Timothy Nelson is well known within the Free Presbyterian Church family as a humble, talented and gracious man of God. He has ministered in churches in Counties Fermanagh, Antrim, Armagh, Tyrone and presently labours in Ballynahinch in County Down. In addition to his numerous pastoral duties, he has served in many Presbytery positions and is often in demand as a Bible conference speaker. As a young teenager, newly converted, he could never have anticipated the ministry that God was going to entrust

him with or the many lives he was going to impact with the Gospel.

Mr Nelson was born on the outskirts of Banbridge, but shortly afterwards his family moved to Lurgan. Although not born into a Christian home, he pays tribute to the goodness and kindness of his parents, remembering with gratitude the many sacrifices they made for him and his younger sister. His early education was at King's Park Primary School, Lurgan where one teacher instilled within

him a love for books and reading. That early investment of time and effort has paid handsome dividends and the love for books continues to this day. Following primary school, he returned to Banbridge for the next stage of his life and spent seven important years at Banbridge Academy. It was during this time that God worked in a powerful and merciful way in the young teenager. Timothy Nelson was raised in the Presbyterian Church and while attending services there, was converted to Christ. His conversion took place during an interdenominational crusade conducted by the English evangelist Dick Saunders. He recalls of that time, "I remember little of his message that night, but he spoke on Hebrews 9:27, with the power and urgency that characterised his ministry. My sister was brought to Christ that same evening." The young convert continued in the Presbyterian Church for some time but with an increasing sense of unease. Although young in the faith he became troubled about a number of issues. Prominent among them were the Presbyterian Church's links with the World Council of Churches, the ordination of women, and the promotion of modern translations of Scripture. These, among other things, raised questions and caused considerable disquiet. In the providence of God, two of his closest friends at school were committed Free Presbyterians and they were used to give valuable spiritual help. Mr Nelson notes of those friends, "I had known the late George Dawson since primary school, and at Banbridge Academy, we were joined by Ian Harris (now minister of our Annalong congregation). In their different ways, they introduced me to the stand of the Free Presbyterian Church. In due course I joined the Lurgan church, quickly becoming involved, teaching Sunday School, conducting outreach, and serving on the youth committee. Later, the remaining members of the family also came to associate with the work in Lurgan."

Subsequent to completing his 'A levels', Mr Nelson enrolled, or "drifted" as he describes it, into University. Attending Queens seemed to be the

thing to do in those days and so he started out studying English Language and Literature, Modern History, and the splendidly named Ancient Near Eastern Studies, which was vaguely Bible related. He eventually settled on English. As far as career choices were concerned he considered either journalism or teaching. During his first year at University, he recalls struggling with what God would have him do with his life, before finally coming to the clear conviction that He was calling him into the ministry. Jeremiah 1 and 2 Timothy 4 spoke to him powerfully, and he determined in his mind to leave Queens University and apply to the Whitefield College of the Bible. However, following a meeting with the then Principal, Dr John Douglas, who wisely dissuaded him from stopping his present studies, he agreed to finish his undergraduate work and then enrol in the Bible college. Although not initially impressed by Dr Douglas' counsel, he has come to understand the prudence of it and readily acknowledges the life experiences he gained in University have proved invaluable throughout the course of his Gospel ministry. Before commencing the four-year ministerial course in the Whitefield College of the Bible, he married Beth and together they set up home in Lurgan. God blessed them with a family. Their daughter Rachel is married to Richard and their two children, Jacob and Phoebe are much loved grandchildren. Stephen is drawing towards the close of his first year at 'Whitefield.' Rev Nelson does not elaborate on the dynamic of being father, teacher and Principal to one of the students!

The duties of a busy pastor have been a feature of Mr Nelson's life for many years. From the beginning of his ministry to the present time, and in the various congregations which he has served, there have been many challenges, happy times mingled with sad ones. But he has proved the sufficiency of God's grace. God has led

him to the right places, at the right times and for the right reasons. While serving as a pastor Rev Nelson has made vital contributions to various other aspects of God's work within our denomination. Early on, he taught classes in English and History at Ballymoney Independent Christian School, and for a little while at Newtownabbey too. In addition to his work in the Whitefield College he has held the editorship of the Let The Bible Speak Quarterly and until recently the Free Presbyterian Vision magazine. His schedule leaves little time for recreational activities, apart from walking the family dog.

As the newly appointed Principal of the Whitefield College, Mr Nelson is

**THERE IS MUCH TO DO, AND I VALUE THE PRAYERS OF READERS MORE THAN EVER - FOR ME IN PARTICULAR, BUT ALSO FOR OUR STUDENTS, ALL THE STAFF, TEACHING, ADMINISTRATIVE AND ANCILLARY, AND THE COLLEGE COMMITTEES.**

quick to acknowledge and give thanks for the grace of God in his life. He is a man of God and gives God all the glory for His mercy and goodness to him. He also is thankful for the tremendous support his family have been to him over the past years. From the encouragement of his parents and sister to the unwavering love of his wife and children, he readily acknowledges that he has been richly blessed with faithful loved ones. Neither is he slow to praise the congregations - officers and members - that he has been privileged to work with.

Rev Nelson is conscious of the great trust placed in him by the Presbytery. History teaches that denominations often go astray because there has been a failure in the training of ministers. Fatal heresy often creeps in through the classroom door. Therefore, he covets the prayers of God's people. He recently commented, "There is much to do, and I value the prayers of readers more than ever - for me in particular, but also for our students, all the staff, teaching, administrative and ancillary, and the College Committees."

∴ The readers of Free Presbyterian Vision will undoubtedly join with me in praying that Rev Nelson will know God's richest blessing as he serves in this new role. **Editor**

## OMAGH SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER RETIRES AFTER 39 YEARS



**M**rs Joyce McCormack recently retired from teaching at Omagh Free Presbyterian Church Sunday School. She served for thirty-nine years and has taught over 205 pupils during that time. The congregation marked her retirement by presenting her with a gift of appreciation. Mrs McCormack is pictured with Rev Colin Mercer.

## MR PHILIP KNOWLES MOVES TO LEWES



**A** service to mark the commencement of Mr Philip Knowles' ministry in Lewes, England was held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2018. Revs Patrick Baker, Nigel Smith, David Smith, Maurice McCaughey, and Garth Wilson participated. Mr Knowles was welcomed to the congregation by Mr Kevin Turrell.

## ELDERS RECOGNISED FOR FORTY ONE YEARS OF SERVICE



**T**wo founding elders from Omagh Free Presbyterian Church were recently recognised for their faithful service in the congregation. Mr Ernie Monteith and Mr Wilbert McCormack were presented with suitably inscribed Bibles. Both brethren have served for forty-one years. Mr Monteith has served as the Clerk of Session since his ordination. Following his retirement as Clerk, Mr David Aiken was elected to serve as the new Clerk of Session. Messers Monteith and McCormack are pictured with their wives and Rev Colin Mercer following a recent Sunday morning service.

## DR FRED GREENFIELD RETIREMENT SERVICE

**A** special service to mark the retirement of the Rev Dr Fred Greenfield, from the pastorate of Dunmurry Free Presbyterian Church, was held in Lisburn Free Presbyterian Church on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March. Those participating included Revs Alan Smylie, Thomas Murray, Graham Middleton, William McCrea, Samuel Murray, Stanley Barnes, Trevor Baxter, Thomas Martin and Mr Robin Eccles.

A packed church heard numerous tributes to Dr and Mrs Greenfield. Special mention was made of Dr Greenfield's pastoral care, evangelistic emphasis and ability to minister to young and old. Among many items of praise, Dr Greenfield and his son, two sons-in-law and twelve grandchildren sang, 'Thank you Lord for your blessings on me'. Presentations were made to Dr and Mrs Greenfield on behalf of the Dunmurry congregation and Presbytery. Supper was served afterwards in the Douglas Suite. He is pictured with his wife Jean and their son, daughters, sons-in-laws, daughter-in-law and grandchildren (across top).



**Above:** Dr Fred Greenfield with ministerial colleagues who took part in a special service to mark his retirement after 53 years of pastoral ministry. L to R: Revs William McCrea, Graham Middleton, Trevor Baxter, Fred Greenfield, Thomas Murray (Moderator of Presbytery), Alan Smylie (Interim Moderator), Samuel Murray and Stanley Barnes.

**Left:** Robin Eccles (Elder) pictured presenting a gift to the Rev Dr Fred Greenfield on behalf of Dunmurry Free Presbyterian Church.

## LISBURN SUNDAY SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS



**Pictured is Mrs Jacqueline Evans** whose 35 years of faithful service as a Sunday School teacher in Lisburn Free Presbyterian Church was recognised at the prize giving service.



**Daniel Edwards**, having perfectly recited the Shorter Catechism, was recognised at the Lisburn Free Presbyterian Church prize giving service.

# CHILDREN'S CORNER

Compiled by  
Robert McConnell

## CITIES

A city is simply a large permanent settlement where people work and live together. Some cities are so vast that they are home to many millions of people. With over 30 million inhabitants, the city with the largest population in the world today is Chongqing in China. In fact, 37 of the top 100 largest cities world wide are found in China. Some cities such as London, New York and Tokyo are also huge centres of finance. Others like Florence and Paris are better known for their arts and culture. There are also many ancient cities that lie forgotten in ruins. However, some of the oldest cities in the world that are still inhabited, even after thousands of years, include Damascus, Jericho and Athens.

Away back in Genesis Ch.10, Babel is among the first cities ever to be mentioned in God's Word. It was built by wicked men with sinful ambitions. The last city in the Bible is found in the book of Revelations. It is the heavenly city of

God, built by Him for all those who have put their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ. That "great city" is made of pure gold, garnished with all manner of precious stones and none that defileth will ever enter in. Now, between these two cities, many other cities are also mentioned throughout the Scriptures, cities like Sodom, Gomorrah, Jericho, Babylon and Nineveh. Such places were full of all manner of sin and wickedness. Many of these cities were utterly destroyed by God, because, despite His warnings, their inhabitants would not turn away from that which was evil, all that is, except Nineveh. The people of Nineveh, having heard Jonah preach, repented from their sin and were granted mercy and forgiveness from God.

However, an even greater measure of mercy was later shown towards the people of another city, indeed onto all men everywhere because in Luke 2:11 we read, "For unto you is born this day in the

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."  
Luke 2v11

city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." The outworking of God's plan of salvation was, in due course, going to take place just outside the walls of another great city, Jerusalem, where the dear Son of God would suffer, bleed and die for our sins on the cross of Calvary.

Boys and girls, there have been many great cities down through the ages, but there is only one great Saviour. Can I ask if you, as yet, have had any personal experience of His wonderful mercy and forgiveness in your life? Are you saved today?



Our quiz in this issue is all about various cities in the Bible...

1. IDENTIFY THE CITIES.
2. TAKE ALL THE LETTERS ASKED FOR AND RESHUFFLE THEM
3. COME UP WITH THE NAME OF THE GREEK CITY THAT PAUL VISITED AFTER HE HAD BEEN AT ATHENS

- This is the other name for the city of David - Luke 2: 4 (3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> letters)
- Philip preached in this city - Acts 8:5 (5<sup>th</sup> letter)
- Lydia came from this city - Acts 16: 14 (7<sup>th</sup> letter)
- Zacchaeus lived in this city - Luke 19: 1-2 (5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> letters)
- Nahum had a burden for this city - Nahum 1:1 (1<sup>st</sup> letter)

Answer:

Name:

Address:

Church:

## PRIZES!

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

Rev Garth Wilson  
Email: answer@fpvision.org  
39 Millreagh Ave., Dundonald,  
Belfast, BT16 1TZ

### £5 WINNERS LAST TIME:

- |                                   |                             |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| » Joseph Brown (Gifford)          | » Joe Mellroy (Moneyslane)  |
| » Jemimah Anderson (Mullaghglass) | » Faith McFarland (Omagh)   |
| » Rebekah Forbes (Portladow)      | » Adam Watt (Dungannon)     |
| » Kylie McKeown (Aughnacloy)      | » Bethany Hanna (Ballymena) |

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

# ALL HAIL

## THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME

Rev E P Scott, a missionary to India, one day saw a man who was very clearly a stranger in the city. He knew that this man was lost and unsure as to where he was trying to get to. Mr Scott approached the man and started to engage in conversation with him. It turned out that the stranger was a member of a tribe that lived in a very remote location in the mountains of India far away from any civilisation. After seeking to make further enquiries of the man, Scott realised that this tribe were heathen and had never been reached with the Gospel because it had been too dangerous for any missionary to do so. This burdened and broke his heart that there were still those in that land who had never been reached with the Gospel and so he was determined that he was going to carry the Gospel to them. He started to make his preparations for leaving to go into the mountain regions, but many of his fellow missionaries sought to discourage him and urged him not to go. They said, "It is madness for you to go," but Scott replied, "I must carry Jesus to them."

After some days of travelling into the mountains, he finally located the tribe he was seeking to reach. However very quickly they came out and surrounded Scott and pointing their spears toward

him, made to kill him. Expecting to die, he decided to glorify God with his last breath. So taking out his violin that he always carried with him, he began to play and sing, 'All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name', in their native language, as best he could. One verse led to another but when he reached the verse, 'Let every kindred every tribe, On this terrestrial ball, To Him all majesty ascribe, And crown him Lord of all', he opened his eyes and he couldn't believe what he saw. Every spear had fallen to the ground and this gathering of people stood with tears in their eyes. Scott's worship of the Lord had melted the hard hearts of those who sought his death. He was then invited by the tribe into their homes and for two and half years, he laboured and ministered amongst them.

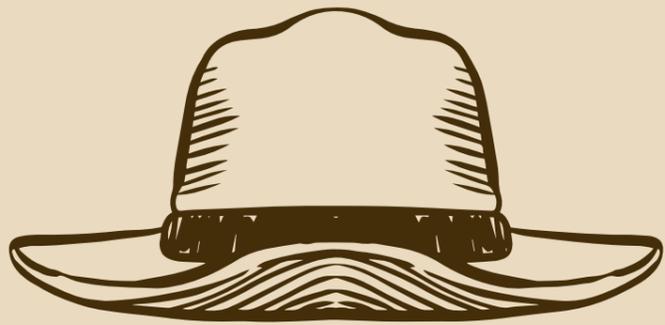
The hymn, 'All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name', that Scott sang and played that day was written by Edward Perronet, some 200 years previous. Perronet was a descendent of a distinguished Huguenot family, who because of their faith were greatly persecuted in their native France. As a result the family moved to England and Edward's father, who was an earnest evangelical, ministered in a church in Shoreham in Kent and became a close associate of John Wesley. Edward himself, after

ministering in a number of churches, went to pastor a small but strong evangelical witness in Canterbury. He was a man who was very passionate and desirous to glorify God in all of his life and through what he did.

He wrote a variety of hymns but perhaps the most well known is, 'All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name'; it is often referred to as the 'National Hymn of Christendom'. It sets forth very clearly Perronet's desire in worship and praise to exalt the name of his Lord. For him his life was to be a witness and testimony to the glory of God and surely even the account of how the words of this God exalting hymn, moved and melted the hearts of that tribe in the remote mountains of India, remind us again of the truth that "whosoever offereth praise glorifieth me." (Psalm 50:23). When our lives glorify God and when we offer the sacrifice of our lips to God in praise, then others will take notice, our lives will tell for Him. Through our worship of Christ and the exalting of His great name, lives can be impacted and changed for eternity and others can be led to worship Him also. This crowning jewel of a hymn commands our attention in worship, 'All Hail' and it calls for our adoration in worship, 'Crown Him'. May our lives as well as our lips, crown Him Lord of all.



# WANTED



WORSHIPPERS



**I**t's not too difficult to find worshippers. Worship, in a broad sense, simply speaks of placing something as the supreme object of your affections and adoration. We worship, in a sense, whatever we value as being most important. All men are created with an awareness of a greater being. They have an awareness of the created world from which they understand invisible things, even God's 'eternal power and Godhead' (Romans 1:20). The majority of people in the world regularly worship something they regard to be a Supreme being. Even those who deny the existence of God engage in a form of 'worship'. Their hearts are occupied with something they value as of great importance. They live for some purpose or aim. We all find meaning in something. We praise those things we esteem. The atheist might live for family or money or pleasure or fame etc. They give their

energy, time and money to those things and thus 'worship' them. Everybody has something, external to themselves, that guides how they live and the choices they make

Paul tells us that the unsaved '...changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator...' (Romans 1:25). It's not difficult to find worshippers. The issue is who or what we worship. Only one being is worthy of our supreme love. Only one being is of such infinite worth to merit worship. There is only one true and living God; one Lord of heaven and earth; one Creator of the Universe; one Saviour of sinners. No created thing can command the worship of creation. Only the uncreated God is worthy of all our praise and adoration. It is God's eternal purpose to seek out souls to worship Him. Christ speaks to the Samaritan woman: 'But

the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.' (John 4:23)

The Father seeks true worshippers by sending His Son to redeem sinners. Christ came into the world to live and die for the lost so that the lost would be found and when found would come to worship the one true God. The saved are described by Paul as those who '... worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.' (Philippians 3:3) The conversion of the Thessalonian believers is also described in terms of worship. They 'turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God.' (1Thessalonians 1:9) If we are to be true worshippers we must first be converted from our natural tendency to idolatry. True worship is only possible if we worship the true God. We will only truly worship the true God when we are born again by His Spirit. When we are clear that true worship is offered by the saved to the one living and true God then a number of things become very clear. At this point we'll consider the narrower area of public worship in the gathering of God's people. That is not to deny that our lives are acts of worship (Romans 12:1) or that worship is also a private exercise. However, the practice of public worship has seen significant changes in recent decades and so it demands a careful consideration by us all.

## THE APPROACH TO GOD IN WORSHIP

Realising that true worship is to a God who is awesome and all glorious governs how we approach Him. We are not praising one who is our equal. He is the Creator; we are the creatures. He is the Saviour; we are His saved servants. By grace, we are given the entitlement to approach God with boldness, literally with 'freedom of speech'. That boldness comes as a result of the access that we enjoy through the blood of Christ. (Hebrews 4:16 and 10:19) Some today point to the fact that the Spirit of God enables us to cry 'Abba, Father.' They point to the word Abba and note it is a term of familiarity. They observe the intimacy the Christian can have with God. Words are used in addressing God and musical genres defended on this ground. We must be so thankful for the access we have to God, in grace through Christ. However, familiarity and intimacy, have been emphasized to the omission, at least partially, of reverence to God. Our approach to God must reflect the One we are coming before in worship. He, in grace, bids us come but our coming must never be casual. We need grace so that '...we may serve God acceptably **with reverence and godly fear.**' (Hebrews 12:28) Solomon's wisdom is as relevant today as when he wrote it. 'Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear, than to give the sacrifice of fools... Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few.' (Ecclesiastes 5:1-2)

## THE ATTITUDE IN WORSHIP

The Book of Psalms is God's revealed worship book. As such it gives us examples of what our attitudes ought to be in true

worship. Again, our attitude in worship is governed by the One we worship. In our worship, contrition for sin should be present. There should be thankfulness for God's goodness and mercy. A prayerful dependence on God should be expressed. All these and more are revealed in God's songbook. Yet a dominant emotion and attitude seems to be joy. 'But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.' (Psalm 5:11) This joy is not opposite to reverence. Indeed, in the true worshipper reverence and joy will coexist. The same Psalm speaks of coming in fear (verse 7). Psalm 2 contains the vivid expression: 'Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.' (Psalm 2:11) Our reverence for God should never quench our joy and our joy should not lead to a lack of reverence. The God who demands our reverence also causes us to greatly rejoice. (Consider Psalms 9:2, 32:11, 33:1, 35:9, 35:27, 63:5, 64:10, 68:3-4, 71:23, 90:14, 97:12 and 149:2 as a beginning!) We rejoice in God Himself and we rejoice in His grace towards us. These things never change. Our circumstances might change so that we may at times be happy and at times sad but God never changes. He is the source of our joy and hence our joy abides in seasons of tears as well as in seasons of cheer. It is unwise to seek joy in how worship is conducted in terms of the music and atmosphere. Joy in the heart should not be controlled by the circumstances of worship but by our knowledge of the God we worship.

IT IS A MARK OF THE INCREDIBLE LOVE OF GOD THAT HE INVITES SINNERS TO WORSHIP HIM AND PROVIDES THE WAY FOR THEM TO COME.

## THE ACTIONS OF OUR WORSHIP

When we appreciate that true worship is offered to the Sovereign, Supreme God we will be cautious as to what we do in worship. God did not accept the offering of Cain (Genesis 4:5). Nadab and Abihu offered strange fire to the Lord and paid the price with their lives (Leviticus 10). Our God is a consuming fire and we must worship Him only as He has commanded us. Concerning the parts of our worship, the true worshipper will be zealous to do only those things commanded by God. The offering of prayer and praise; the reading and preaching of the Word; the giving of tithes and offerings; the celebration of the ordinances all arise from clear Scriptural precept or example. We have liberty as to incidentals around these elements (i.e. we might sing 4 or 10 hymns; meet at 10am or 11am) but we have no liberty to the elements themselves. God does not seek our inventiveness in worship but our obedience. 'Will worship' (Colossians 2:23) is an offence to God.

It is a mark of the incredible love of God that He invites sinners to worship Him and provides the way for them to come. We are not worthy but we are accepted in Christ. What a privilege to come, pray and praise and hear from God's Word. Yet, worship must not be entered into lightly or treated carelessly. Modern trends do not give justice to God's majestic sovereignty but formalistic ritual does not reflect the joy that ought to be present in true worship. Let us worship the true God in truth.

Dr Stephen Pollock is the minister of the Free Presbyterian Church of Malvern, Pennsylvania, USA.

# YOUTH COUNCIL EVENTS

## SUMMER OUTREACHES

**ISLE OF MAN OUTREACH**  
Date: 13<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> August,  
Cost: £220  
(10 places. Age: 18+)

**LONDONDERRY CHILDREN'S OUTREACH**  
Date: 21<sup>st</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> July  
Cost: £119 (residential)  
£48 (lunch & dinner only)  
(8 places. Age: 16+)

Event application forms available to download from [fpcyouth.org](http://fpcyouth.org)

## SEPTEMBER RALLY

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September  
Venue: tbc

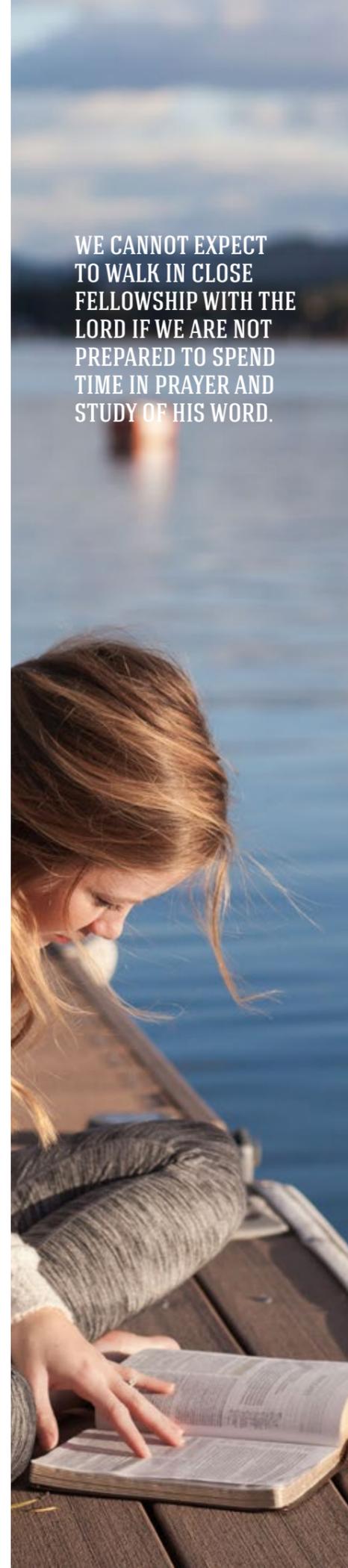
## DELEGATES MEETING

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May, 8pm.  
Venue: Ballymena FPC

## FREE PRESBYTERIAN INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS PHILADELPHIA, USA 30<sup>th</sup> July - 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2018



THERE ARE PLACES STILL AVAILABLE.  
INFORMATION NIGHT IN MOUNT MERRION ON MONDAY 21ST MAY AT 8:00PM



WE CANNOT EXPECT TO WALK IN CLOSE FELLOWSHIP WITH THE LORD IF WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO SPEND TIME IN PRAYER AND STUDY OF HIS WORD.

## A WORD TO WOMEN

### ANNA, LUKE 2:36-38

**Three verses of Scripture summarise all we know about Anna. Although we are given so little, the little reveals much.** The name Anna, like Hannah, means grace. Anna knew the grace of God in her life and she was also a gracious woman. Anna had been married for only seven years when her husband died. It would seem that from the time of her bereavement she gave herself to God's service in the temple. Widowed for eighty-four years, Anna was probably over one hundred years old. She was an example of the widow described in 1 Timothy 5:5, "Now she that is a widow indeed, and desolate, trusteth in God and continueth in supplications and prayers night and day."

Anna is one of the few prophetesses in Scripture. There had been a prophetic silence for several hundred years but now as the Messiah came, the Spirit of the Lord was once more poured out upon individuals such as Anna. Like Simeon, Anna was waiting for the appearing of the "Lord's Christ" (Luke 2:26). Anna's mind was saturated with the Old Testament prophecies e.g. "Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel" (Isaiah 7:14). Drawn into the temple she gazed on the Babe in Mary's arms and heard the words of Simeon as he rejoiced in the fulfilment of God's promise. Anna knew that the waiting was over and the Lord had sent His Son to redeem sinners.

Anna spent much of her days in prayer, often fasting as she prayed. Her life was one of self-control. She was always present in the temple for services, serving in the spirit and not the letter (Romans 2:29). We are not to suppose that this had been an easy life for Anna to adopt. We can only surmise what struggles she went through when

widowed as a young woman before discovering her calling. We cannot expect to walk in close fellowship with the Lord if we are not prepared to spend time in prayer and study of His word. This goes against the flesh and so often we find, "The good I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do." (Romans 7:19) It is only through the help of the Lord Jesus that we can conquer sin and grow in grace.

Anna was not a 'Pharisee' type person, craving the praise of others but rather she went quietly about her devotions. She was not a dull and dreary person, serving out of a sense of duty. The Pharisees had their reward when people admired and praised them - it was short-lived. Anna had her reward when she saw her Saviour and her words of thanksgiving flowed from a heart bursting with joy. That reward continues for she went at death to be forever with her Lord, in whose presence there is fullness of joy, and at whose hand there are pleasures for evermore (Psalm 16:11). Anna was not content to keep the advent of the Saviour to herself. No true follower of Christ should want to keep the gospel to themselves. The humble shepherds having seen the Saviour told the good news to all and sundry. Anna likewise, "spoke of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem." (Luke 2:38)

There are many Anna-like women in the church, older ladies, sometimes widowed, often unnoticed, but present at every meeting and supportive of God's work in prayer and in sharing their faith by lip and life. Let us both honour and imitate them.

∴ **Olive Maxwell** lived and worked as a missionary in Cork for over twenty years. She is married to Colin, who serves with the Mission Board, mostly in the Republic of Ireland.



## NEWS FROM THE CLERK OF PRESBYTERY

### PROPOSED PAPAL VISIT

“At a meeting of its General Presbytery in March 2018 the Free Presbyterian Church of Ulster unanimously approved the following statement regarding the proposed visit of the pope to Northern Ireland:

‘As reformed evangelical Protestants we totally reject the arrogant and, more importantly, unscriptural titles, claims and teachings of the pope. While, in obedience to Scripture and out of love for the souls of men, we cannot welcome this proposed visit, it will present us with a challenge to highlight the contrast between the teaching of scripture and the false doctrines of the papacy.

Our supreme aim and overriding concern is to exalt the only King and Head of the church, the Lord Jesus Christ. To this end, we continue to call all people, of all denominations and none, to a personal faith in Christ the Saviour as the only mediator between God and men.”

Subsequent to the release of the above statement, there has been confirmation that the pope will visit the Republic of Ireland in August, however, there are no plans for him to visit Northern Ireland.

Editor

### THE EFFECT OF DRINKING AT A CORRUPT FOUNTAIN AND A TROUBLED SPRING

When Rev Dr D. Roger Purce began to drink at the “troubled fountain” and “corrupt spring” that is Princeton Theological Seminary, it was inevitable that he would channel its poisoned waters into his own congregation.

Minister of Groomspoint Presbyterian Church, Northern Ireland, from 1992-2006 and now serving as its Minister Emeritus, Dr Purce received his Doctor of Ministry degree from Princeton Theological Seminary. This connection resulted in him mentoring a steady stream of interns from Princeton. Jennifer Barchi was one such intern, spending 2010/11 in Groomspoint Presbyterian Church. She has since become the minister of Dickey Memorial PCUSA in Baltimore.

In the Christmas 2017 edition of the Groomspoint church’s magazine ‘Eagle Wing’, a letter is published from this former intern along with a photo of two women. Jennifer writes:

“Dear Groomspoint family,  
I hope that you are all doing well. I have been thinking about you often, and my congregation in Baltimore sends greetings. It has been a wonderfully busy Fall. On October 14th, my fiancée, Lauren, and I were married at a beautiful ceremony on the Chesapeake Bay. We were delighted to have so many family, friends, and much of our congregation present with us. I’ll be sure to send photos along when I get them in the Spring.

Our prayers remain with you all. We hope that you have a lovely Christmas!

Best, Jennifer.”

For Groomspoint Presbyterian Church to support the position of its American friends in Princeton Theological Seminary – endorsement of same-sex marriage, even in the ministerial office of the church – is unscriptural and unconscionable. It is further sad evidence that the judgment pronounced in Jeremiah 23:15 is falling on both sides of the Atlantic: “Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts concerning the prophets; ‘Behold, I will feed them with wormwood, and make them drink the water of gall: for from the prophets of Jerusalem is profaneness gone forth into all the land’”

### WOE UNTO THEM THAT CALL EVIL GOOD AND GOOD EVIL

Currently on display at the Metropolitan Arts Centre (MAC) in Belfast is some hideously offensive ‘artwork’ by homosexual artists Gilbert and George. It travels under the title, ‘Scapegoating Pictures for Belfast.’ Even the MAC on its website acknowledges that “This exhibition contains language which some visitors may find offensive.”

Through giant photomontages, Gilbert and George issue repeated calls for the molestation and rape of religious figures, articulating the kind of depraved speech that would have been at home in the mouths of those sodomites whose vile actions are described by Scripture, admittedly with typical restraint, in Genesis 19:4-5: “But before they [the messengers from heaven] lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter: And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, ‘Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them’”

Whatever their medium of communication, statements of this nature should not only be deemed grossly offensive but incitements to commit criminal offences against persons and should provoke an outpouring of public revulsion. “Art” can never be summoned as a cloak to disguise this depravity.

While I note that the Senior Curator of the MAC has leapt to the defence of these expressions of debauchery, expressing the opinion that he, “cannot think of a better way to open our 2018 programme,” I also note that the MAC itself has hit a building and funding crisis. Expensive remedial work to the stonework on this award-winning building, which began to crumble a mere three years after it opened, is yet to be commenced. Emergency monies of £275,000 have been forwarded from the Department for Communities to prevent closure, complete with a demand to learn to live within its means.

A more pertinent warning is delivered by the words of Isaiah 5:20, 24: “Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Therefore as the fire devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, so their root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust: because they have cast away the law of the LORD of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.”

## BANGOR

Bangor School pupils are always happy when their learning involves hands-on experience! Pictured are Primary pupils measuring length, volume and weight as part of their Numeracy work. Recently Key Stage Three pupils took part in the Young Writers' Stranger Sagas competition which



encourages creative writing in U.K. schools. Esther and Solomon were delighted that their work was selected for publication and look forward to seeing their mini sagas in print. Their chosen subjects were "There was a noise coming from the basement" and "Who are my parents?"



## KILSKEERY

Kilskeery pupils had an opportunity for interesting and useful extra-curricular activities. Senior pupils were given training in CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation), the emergency procedure of manual chest compressions and rescue breaths performed to help a person who is in cardiac arrest. Other pupils are looking forward to planting flowers and vegetables this spring in the new polytunnel generously



given to the school. As well as improving necessary skills and affording healthy enjoyment, teachers and pupils find a wealth of spiritual lessons illustrated and presented by these activities. We continue to pray that the Lord will breathe new life and power into His people and that He will cause the seed of His Word to bring forth fruit abundantly in the hearts that receive it.



## MOURNE

Mourne School recently enjoyed the visit to the school of Mr Lyle Boyd, missionary in Spain. Key Stage 2 pupils are developing their programming skills using Sphero.



## PORTADOWN

Portadown Junior High School pupils recently competed in an Art competition. Each pupil chose a country linked to a Free Presbyterian missionary and completed a display representing their chosen country. The displays are now in the school corridor alongside the world map showing our missionaries. The winner of the competition, Ruth



Haffey, was chosen by Rev Ian Harris, chairman of the Mission Board. Portadown school raised finance through a sponsored Readalong for textbooks and classroom furniture in the Emmanuel Christian School, Uganda. A cheque was presented to Rev Stephen Miller on his recent visit to the school.



## BALLYMONEY

Ballymoney school recently had a new playground installed at school which the pupils greatly enjoy. The school is grateful to all those who gave of their time and used their talents to create a fantastic space for the pupils to enjoy. The pupils also recently enjoyed seeing and handling some amazing reptiles in school.



## NEWTOWNABBEY

Newtownabbey school pupils enjoyed their visit to the Reformation Room at Martyrs' Memorial FPC to learn of Martin Luther. One pupil particularly enjoyed dressing up as a monk. The pupils recently sang at the Education Regional Rally in Ballymena Free Presbyterian Church to encourage and extend the work of Christian Education.



## UPDATE ON UNSUITABLE ENGLISH LITERATURE GCSE TEXTS

After a year of asking repeatedly, CCEA officials have consented to have a meeting with representatives of the Education Board and several school principals concerning the unsuitable nature of English Literature GCSE texts. Please pray that a God honouring outcome will be brought about so that pupils may be able to sit CCEA GCSE Literature exams again, as at present we have suspended teaching the CCEA English Literature syllabus in our schools.

## WORLD BOOK DAY

World Book Day was held on 1st March this year. Children and young people have the opportunity to obtain and use book tokens to develop their literacy skills. Sadly this year the organisers have included writers, one of which has authored a book entitled, "The Girl Who Thought She Was A Dog" which involves a homosexual couple in the storyline.



# UGANDA: FROM THE DEPTHS

**I**n early February, Free Presbyterian Mission Board member Mr Barry Stewart and his wife Ruth travelled to Uganda. In addition to helping erect a fence to contain the school cows, Barry had the opportunity to speak at various assemblies in Emmanuel Christian School, conduct the Boarders' Bible studies, minister at the prayer meetings and conduct the Lord's Day services. Ruth spoke at the weekly teachers' Bible study and Sunday School.

A week later they were joined by a work team from Calvary Free Presbyterian Church (Magherafelt). The team was comprised of Mr Robert Bell, Mr Kyle Wenlock, Mr Robert Fleming and Mr Denver McGuckin. Their objective was to help resident missionary, Mr Andrew Foster, build a sewage tank in the Emmanuel Church and School compound. The sewage tank is an integral part of the proposed new toilet and shower block for the school.

The team wasted no time in beginning their work. The first two days were spent in preparing the foundations of the sewage tank. This involved levelling the ground at the bottom of the 15' deep pit, covering it in plastic and securing a steel re-enforced grid on top. Ready mixed concrete was transported to the bottom of the tank and levelled.

The following week the team were able to build the tank and

finish it to the sub-floor level. This involved hard manual labour in temperatures of 25 degrees each day. Each night the men enjoyed a welcome dinner prepared by Mrs Stewart, Miss McAfee and Miss Hannah Feddes (Andrew's future wife who was visiting the compound for the first time). God blessed the labours of the men with guidance, health and safety. Though working from dawn to dusk and seeking to do as much as time and materials would allow, they experienced times of spiritual refreshing as they fellowship in prayer with the missionaries. Mr Kyle Wenlock was also to speak at some school assemblies and give the children's addresses in the Sunday services.

On hearing their report, Mission Board chairman, Rev Ian Harris, commented, "It was humbling to hear their testimony upon returning home, as they spoke of their visit as 'a life-changing experience.' As a Mission Board, we are indebted to them for giving of their time and talents in helping to get the foundation laid for this important project." He added, "In the will of God, the Mission Board plans to send out other teams to help finish this building and to assist in other major development projects. If any reader senses the leading of the Lord to be involved, please contact any of the officers of the Mission Board, or forward details indicating how the Lord is leading, to the Mission Board. You can make a difference and your visit can be a defining moment in your own life."



# SENDING FORTH SERVICE: STEPHEN AND RUTH MILLER



**A**nother historic night in our missionary endeavour took place on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018 when Rev Stephen Miller was set aside for the ministry to which he has been called. The service took place in Portglenone Free Presbyterian Church and Rev Ian Harris (Mission Board Chairman) presided. Portglenone minister, Rev David Stewart, welcomed the congregation and paid tribute to the faithful labours of Rev and Mrs Miller in their local church. Rev Julian Patterson (Londonderry) led in the opening prayer, and Rev David Priestley, Ruth's father, read the Scriptures.

After a presentation on behalf of the Mission Board by Mr Alastair Hamilton (Treasurer), Rev Miller responded by thanking the various churches for their generous support and requesting prayer as he and his wife return to Emmanuel Christian School and Mission Station in Nsaalu, Uganda.

Rev David Park (Ballymoney) brought the message from Acts 13,

emphasizing 'Our Responsibilities to our Missionaries.' During his message Rev Park quoted the words of William Carey, who, when he heard the reports of India and how the great needs and opportunities were likened to a gold mine, said: 'I will venture to go down, but remember that you - you who remain at home - must hold the ropes.' The congregation was urged to pray daily for the Millers.

Rev McMillan (Armagh) led in prayer as Rev Miller was solemnly set aside for the work in Uganda by the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery. The ministers and elders then shook hands with Stephen and Ruth, wishing them God's blessing as they officially take up the work at Emmanuel.

Rev Brian Lorimer (Cloughmills) led in prayer and a sumptuous supper was served by the ladies of the congregation. The Mission Board would like to thank the Portglenone congregation for hosting the special service and asks all of our congregations to remember Stephen and Ruth as they travel to Uganda on 23rd April.

# UPDATE: JOY GILLESPIE



**I**am very pleased to report that after many signings of papers and waiting at offices, my work permit has been granted.

With this work permit granted, the extension of my present visa to a work visa should be quickly received. I do thank you all most sincerely for your prayers and ask that you continue to pray concerning this last hurdle. "Brethren, pray for us." 1 Thessalonians 5 v. 25

# MISSION BOARD CHAIRMAN COMMENDS CROSSGAR YOUNG PEOPLE



Rev Gordon Dane (Minister of Crossgar), Rev Ian Harris (Chairman of the Mission Board), Sam and Jack Strain on behalf of Crossgar Young People's Fellowship.

**“ I COMMEND THE YOUTH FELLOWSHIP IN CROSSGAR FOR THEIR VISION AND FOR THEIR WILLINGNESS TO REACH OUT AND HELP OTHER YOUNG BELIEVERS IN UGANDA REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL FOR GOD AND HIS SERVICE.**

**O**n Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018 I was greatly encouraged by my visit to Crossgar Prayer Meeting to take a Deputation Meeting on behalf of Emmanuel Christian School. It was a privilege to not only present the needs of the work but also to join in prayer with God's people to seek His further blessing upon it.

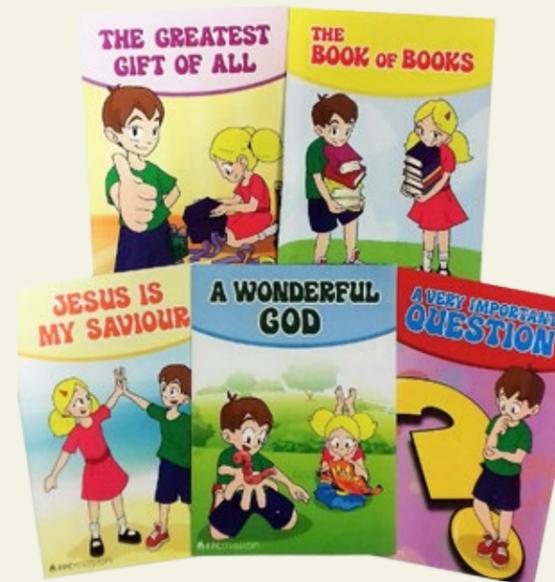
The Youth Fellowship, unknown to me, had already been involved in raising funds for the school and were well represented at the prayer meeting. Afterwards, I was presented by them with a cheque for £365.53. This was indeed very providential as at the Mission Board on the same week, we had just approved a grant to help pay for the fees of a young man who had finished his education

at Emmanuel and had gone on to teacher training college. The extra funding from Crossgar Youth Fellowship could not have come at a better time and will be used to help pay his fees. It reminded me of the verse in Isaiah 65:24 "And it will be before they call I will answer; and while they are still speaking, I will hear."

I commend the Youth Fellowship in Crossgar for their vision and for their willingness to reach out and help other young believers in Uganda reach their full potential for God and His service.

∴ **Rev Ian Harris**, minister of Annalong FPC and chairman of Free Presbyterian Church Mission Board.

# CHILDREN'S TRACT



**‘T**empus Fugit’ that is how the months are going in! In no time at all children's meetings will be finishing up for the term and I'm sure preparations are well under way for all the Five Day Clubs and Holiday Bible Clubs planned for the summer holidays.

Perfect to give out are the five tracts that were produced by our Children's Evangelists under the Mission Board. Each tract presents the gospel message in a way that children will find easy to understand. The tracts, along with 'Starting the Christian Race' (an excellent wee booklet to help any young child who has professed faith in Christ), are available to purchase. Please contact me at the Mission Board Office for further details.

∴ **Glenda Graham**

## MISSION BOARD DETAILS

website: [www.fpcmission.org](http://www.fpcmission.org)

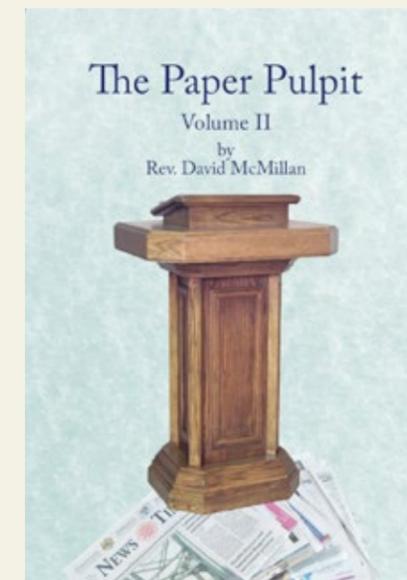
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**Treasurer:**  
Mr Alastair Hamilton,  
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[a.hamilton@fpcmission.org](mailto:a.hamilton@fpcmission.org)

# THE PAPER PULPIT



**T**he Mission Board would like to thank Rev David McMillan (Armagh Free Presbyterian Church), for using his talents and time to produce the second edition of "The Paper Pulpit".

This is a very encouraging collection of articles which have been used for local newspapers' "Thought for the Day" slots. They can be used not only to encourage the saints but also to evangelise the lost. To date, Paper Pulpit proceeds have come to £3,229 which have been designated for the support of Emmanuel School in Uganda. Further copies for distribution can be obtained by contacting Rev McMillan.





# DATES FOR THE DIARY

## MAY

**11<sup>th</sup>** **LISBURN,  
YOUTH PRAISE SERVICE**  
Time: Friday, 8.00pm  
Speaker: Rev Gordon Dane  
Singers: Stephen Kyle & Bethany Cummings  
Jenna Lormier  
Denver Wilson

**14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>** **RASHARKIN,  
GOSPEL MISSION**  
Time: Mon - Fri, 8.00pm  
Various Speakers

**18<sup>th</sup>** **LURGAN,  
MISSIONARY CHALLENGE**  
Time: Friday, 8.00pm  
Speakers: Revs I Harris, D Park,  
T Nelson, Miss K Walker

## JUNE

**1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>** **BALLYNAHINCH,  
40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
WEEKEND**  
Time: Friday, 8.00pm  
Saturday, 7.30pm  
Sunday, 11.30am & 7.00pm  
Speakers: Rev C Mercer, R McKee,  
T Murray, G Dane

**23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>** **ANNALONG,  
12<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
WEEKEND**  
Time: Saturday, 8.00pm  
Sunday, 12 noon & 7.00pm  
Speaker: Rev C Mercer

## JULY

**30<sup>th</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>** **UNITED  
CHILDREN'S CAMP**  
Cost: £130  
Contact: Mission Board

## AUGUST

**4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>** **ENNISKILLEN,  
LOUGH ERNE CONVENTION**  
Time: Saturday, 8.00pm  
Sunday, 12 noon & 8.00pm  
Mon - Fri, 8.00pm  
Speakers: Dr J Douglas, Rev D Erwin

## SEPTEMBER

**17<sup>th</sup>** **DUNGANNON,  
LADIES FELLOWSHIP ANNUAL  
PRAISE SERVICE**  
Time: Monday, 8.00pm  
Speaker: Mrs M Cameron  
Supper Provided

## OCTOBER

**6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>** **BALLYMENA,  
ANNUAL BIBLE CONFERENCE**  
Time: Saturday, 7.30pm  
Sunday, 6.30pm  
Mon - Fri, 8.00pm  
Speakers: Dr J Douglas, Rev C Mercer

## OCTOBER - NOVEMBER

**21<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>** **OMAGH,  
50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY MISSION**  
Speaker: Dr F Greenfield