Look on the Fields

January 2023

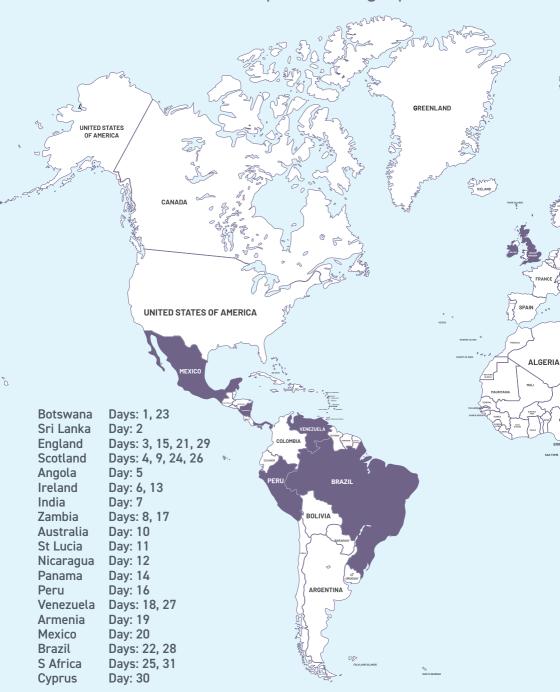


ITEMS FOR PRAYER AND PRAISE
With Daily Scripture Readings



LORD'S WORK TRUST

'Go into all the world and preach the gospel' Mark 16:15





BOTSWANA



Sunday School work: In the past year we all have been encouraged with the recommencement of the Sunday school work. Our children have returned in increasing numbers, and it has been a joy to see their interest in attending the various classes in Gaborone and the surrounding villages. It is the highlight of the week for many of them. We have almost completed the many prizegivings that mark the end of the year. We have just held a week of gospel meetings arranged especially for the parents of the children in Kopong village. These mother and grandmothers have attended throughout the year and seem keen to listen and learn. Please pray for their salvation.

Open-air work: This continues, one night a week, in the vicinity of the original Broadhurst

hall. We rotate around four sites and take along several benches so that interested neighbours may join us. During the Covid pandemic. were able to keep this going by sitting in the vehicle and preaching in the darkness through the open window using a loudspeaker. It helps that we are well known in the area, particularly because of the children's work stretching over more than 30 years.



Annual Conference: The Gaborone assembly managed to host the annual July conference this year in a modified form. Instead of the normal three days of meetings, we held a physical meeting on Saturday only and then had a Zoom meeting with overseas speakers on the Monday evening. We were greatly encouraged and also humbled by the support of the Serowe assembly who made the 400-mile round trip on the Saturday. Their number included some elderly and frail believers who had made a special effort. What a joy it was to see them again!

Literature work: The laminated pocket calendars with a short gospel message are very popular and 40,000 were printed this year. They find their way into all sorts of places and we have never found any one decline them or throw them away. We continue to reprint popular tracts in both Setswana and English. Translated material to help new believers is also freely distributed. At present we are using God's Call to Special Service during a Saturday morning Bible study for three young men who are attending university in Gaborone.

Monday 2nd

SRI LANKA



Colombo

The assembly that meets at Bethesda Gospel Hall in Colombo, Sri Lanka, organizes several meetings during the week.

On **Tuesdays** Bible studies are organized for believers in distant areas in Kandy, Yatiyanthota, I'llayakatchi, Kuliyapitiya and other areas. On **Wednesdays** the assembly Bible study and prayer meeting are held at the Hall in Colombo. On **Thursday** evenings, a Bible study for youth is held in the suburb of Ragama. Every **Friday** evening, a Bible class is held for young people who are interested in studying the Scriptures in detail at our assembly premises. Approximately thirty youth attend this meeting and they are currently studying New Testament assembly principles.

On **Saturday mornings**, from 10am to 12 noon, a gospel outreach for children is held in the suburb of Dematagoda. We have been spreading the gospel to the children in this area for over a decade. On average, approximately 150 children attend this meeting. Over the years, several youths from this area have repented of their sins and put their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ. For example, two weeks ago, a nineteen-year-old girl by the name of Sherine, who has been attending this gospel meeting for the last eight years, was saved and baptized and has since been received into assembly fellowship. Every **Saturday afternoon**, from 2:15pm to 4:15pm, a children's meeting for those between the ages of 6 to 16 years is held at our Hall. The meeting consists of some games, singing, a time for reciting Bible verses that the children have memorized during the week and ends with a Bible story time. Approximately 120 children attend this meeting every week. Every **Saturday evening**, from 4:30pm to 6:30pm, a youth gospel meeting is held. This youth gospel meeting has been held at our Hall for the last forty years. Approximately 65 youth between the ages of 15 to 25 attend this meeting every week. Several of the younger brothers in our assembly are given an opportunity to share the gospel at this meeting.

On **Sunday mornings**, the Breaking of Bread meetings are held at our Hall together with the Sunday School. On **Sunday evenings**, gospel meetings are held and recently the meetings have been well attended with over 200 present. On several occasions,



when parents of the children from Dematagoda have been invited, they have positively responded and attended these gospel meetings.

Our assembly is also continuing to be involved in the Literature ministry. We have translated and printed in the Sinhala and Tamil languages over 60 books to help the local believers. We are also continuing to translate, print and distribute Bible correspondence courses for those who wish to study the Scriptures in distant areas. Recently, there have been hundreds of youths that have been showing a lot of interest and wanting to study the Scriptures using these courses. During the crisis that Sri Lanka has been facing this year, our assembly has been helping provide food and other essential supplies to needy believers all across the country. Despite the shortage of fuel during the last several months, we thank God that He has provided ways for us to reach the needy. Please pray for the full-time workers from our assembly that are continuing to diligently travel to distant areas to spread the gospel.

BETHESDA GOSPEL HALL, COLOMBO

14/11/22

Tuesday 3rd ENGLAND



Gen 9-12

Bicester

With the Lord's help we continue in the preaching of the gospel and in the ministry of His word. Much of our time has been spent in open-air preaching over the past year. I have just finished four weeks Gospel Meetings in Coleraine, where I was sharing with Willie Fenton. We were encouraged that the Lord was pleased to bless at this time in salvation. We have open-airs in Oxford on Tuesday and Thursday each week unless I am engaged in gospel meetings in another area. We use the two roads chart in Oxford, and this leads to many questions from passers-by. On Thursdays I set up the bible stand beside me when preaching and many students, particularly, have taken bibles. The London open airs continue around the various stations, and the response is as diverse as the areas. We are grateful that we have total liberty to proclaim the message of the gospel on the streets of our cities. In September we had two weeks of Gospel Meetings in the Cowley Workers Social Club in Oxford. As far as we know there have never been gospel meetings in this part of the city. Each day we had open airs just outside a local shopping centre and distributed invitations to passers-by. A good number of local people attended including some contacts that had been made during our tracting in the nearby Blackbird Leys estate.

C. 2011

JONATHAN & JOY BLACK

1/11/22

Wednesday 4th

SCOTLAND



Perth

With the pandemic in retreat, 2022 allowed far more opportunities in the Lord's service.

The County of Fife was a sphere of activity, in harness with Brother Craig Munro, with tent meetings in Cowdenbeath, drive-in meetings at Lochore Meadows, and monthly follow-up meetings in the town of Kirkcaldy. Many heard the Gospel. Craig and I were also together in New Stevenston and Port William, and again, in both places, good numbers of sinners heard the Word. Harehills, Leeds, was another



place where I had a few Gospel meetings just on my own.

During the year, more assemblies were emboldened to arrange series of ministry meetings, so I was able to help here and there in that aspect of service.

Because of Covid, visits to Sri Lanka had to be put on hold, but in June, Leonard Currie of LWT went out with me, and then in October I was accompanied by Eric Baijal. Both visits were very encouraging, both from the point of view of unsaved people hearing the Gospel (175 one night at Colombo), and believers gathering in good numbers with an interest in the Scriptures. We witnessed a number of baptisms.

Looking to the future DV, 2023 is shaping up to be virtually



back to pre-covid intensity, with Gospel meetings arranged for some old stamping grounds and more assemblies trying to organise series of ministry meetings. There will be no visit to Sri Lanka in the early part of the year because our Tamil translator hopes to be in USA for the birth of his first grandchild, but a visit is arranged for September, accompanied by Paul McCauley. Series of Bible Readings are anticipated in Vancouver, Ayrshire, Lurgan, Bushmills and Applewood Heights (Toronto). Prayer for Gospel preaching and Bible teaching is greatly valued.

Thursday 5th

ANGOLA



Camundambala

We press on here in Angola, and really do appreciate the prayers of the Lord's people. This year, 2023 we will have completed <u>30 years</u> since we were commended by our home assembly at Helions Bumpstead, and we would never had thought then, that we were going to be involved in such a variety of work. Every step of the way, He has been faithful in keeping and providing for us, so we have much to look back on and to give thanks for.

The assembly here at Camundambala, after several years of evident blessing and additions is now going through a barren patch. I have begun teaching about the believers walk, as this seems to be what is needed at present. We



would value prayer for the assembly that we might soon see a reviving, lives being lived for the Lord and not just on Sundays.

The elders in the assembly are good men, and are a good example to the young people, in their marriages, caring for their families and in the local assembly. We are so pleased that they encourage the young men and give them opportunity to use their gifts. This



past week they took 4 of the young men away with them while they visited some distant assemblies for Bible teaching, which was a good experience for them all.

Since Ruth Hadley was called home, we have had to take on the responsibility for the Emmaus work in Saurimo. Thankfully the day to day running of it is in the hands of two national believers, who are doing a good work. The printing of these Emmaus courses is done within the country by two small printing works, both run entirely by national workers.

There is an incredible hunger for Bibles here that seems to be increasing and we are indebted to Crawford Brown in Brazil for his help and assistance in placing orders for us and overseeing the logistics of delivery.

The Angolan Literature Fund is shortly going to placing an order for a reprint (20,000) of the Chokwe Bible, it looks like this will be done in India this time, we would value prayer that these will arrive safely in Angola. We are having constant problems with the importation of containers, no matter what is in them, there is always some issue which creates added expense.

It's good to see a good proportion of children at the Camundambala School being able to read and write and leave the primary school with these basic skills and also having been exposed to the Gospel. We have Bible Time lessons with years 5 and 6 once a week, and for the majority this is the only time they get to hear the Gospel, so it is a tremendous opportunity to reach so many with the good news of salvation.

The humanitarian work we are involved never ends, it's a drop in the bucket but it's a massive help to so many. Whether its medicines for the medical post, or from our house, we are often the only place where the locals can find help.

This dry season we have employed a local man to build 3 mud brick houses for poor folk. We have also been able to supply roofing sheets for 22 homes in the village. So many come to us just asking for some work even for a day so that they can earn a bit of money to buy food. It's truly tragic to see so many young people unemployed.

C. 1993

BRIAN & DEBBIE HOWDEN

14/11/22



There is an incredible hunger for Bibles in Angola

IRELAND



Cootehill

The summer months are now behind us, but we give God thanks for His blessing on the work during that time. Around 30 children attended at the Newbliss Bible Club in a local Community Centre; we had 80 attend our Drum Activity Week; and we had a wonderful time at our residential 7-day camp for Postal Bible School students at Avoca in Co Wicklow. John Hewitt spoke each day on a different aspect of "John 3:16"; and I shared each day on the subject of "People Jesus Met". One teenage girl told us she had come to Camp as an atheist and was leaving believing in God.

Autumn has brought us a time of blessing in our little assembly in Drum. At the end

of September, we had the joy of baptising Arlene and Paul. Arlene trusted the Lord at our PBS summer camp some years ago, and Paul was first contacted at a Bible Club when he was around 8 years of age. He is now 24, and his only brother is a Roman Catholic Priest. Then on Sunday past we had further encouragement as we baptised three more young people. Pray for Joyce (who has also been a PBS student from early in life), and for Caleb and Chloe who are brother and sister. We remember the days when we had only 5 believers in the



assembly in Drum (including Liza and myself) and thank God for how He has blessed us.

We have been encouraged by our regular assembly outreach meetings: Monday evening is Children's Bible Club; every fortnight we have a Community Coffee Morning which is well attended by local ladies with their toddlers; we have regular Men's and Ladies' Bible Studies, each of which have been attended by around 12 assembly members and others from the locality; and we continue with "The SHED" outreach to teenagers on the last Saturday of every month.

Liza and I have also been involved in helping with around 40 Ukrainian refugees who are in Cootehill. Please pray that we will be an influence for the Saviour. We have offered to share our home with refugees from Ukraine. Our house has been inspected and we are awaiting news of who might be living with us.

At the end of August, I was in England to speak at a Bible Teaching Weekend in Northampton, and again in Helions Bumpstead, Essex for a weekend at the end of October. At the end of this month, I will start distributing calendars to around 4000 local homes. Please pray that God will give me the opportunity to share His word in conversation with many.

Saturday 7th

INDIA



Bethany Hospital, Mumbai

Work at the hospital is going well, with many opportunities; we have many patients with desperate physical and spiritual needs. God has so blessed us with a wonderful team, and I cannot be thankful enough for that.

We first opened our hospital to Covid-19 patients in the end of March 2020. We have treated more than 3,650 Covid cases as inpatients at our facility and around 5,200 as outpatients. Of these, around 96% recovered completely and were discharged.

During the same period, we have seen 10,910 non-Covid in-patients who were admitted and treated along with over 108,800 outpatients. Total number of surgeries that were performed was 2,365.

We decommissioned the Covid wing in December of 2021 and have been trying to function normally. The new challenge of seeing more advanced cases of malignancy coming to the hospital has increased.

The hospital continues to function well by God's grace, with many opportunities

to share the glorious gospel of our Lord Jesus.

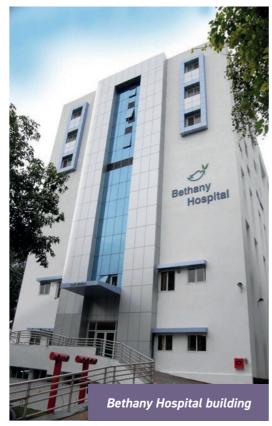
Another challenge we are facing now, is the increasing number of patients with severe anxiety and mental health

is the increasing number of patients with severe anxiety and mental health challenges. Please pray as the hospital is preparing to form a team to meet this need.

Construction work has started at SHILOH (our end-of-life care centre); we would like to complete it, God willing, by 2024 March.

This would house 40 terminally ill patients, in the first phase with a capacity of expansion to 200 beds as the Lord leads.

Shiloh is situated about 20 minutes from our present hospital in the same city of Thane. We would value prayer for the construction, staffing and all the logistics of getting this place ready. The aim is to show the love of Christ, both in action and in word, to people who are in their last stages of life.



Our community health projects at Dolkammb (50 miles from Thane) and the surrounding villages continues to flourish, along with a small gathering of first generation believers there.

JSK, our HIV/AIDS work and ministry in the community, is going well. Please pray for our 300 positive patients in and around the city of Thane. There are amazing stories of salvation in the lives of broken and marginalized people.

NEEV our centre for differently able kids from the slums is going well, post covid the numbers have fallen from 12 to 6, but we are slowly expanding our services in the community. God has just blessed us with a brilliant special needs educator a, few months back, which is an answer to our prayers.

While in the north of India recently, sitting among the Lord's people on the Sunday morning, the assembly was filled with first generation believers, worshipping our Lord. My heart was overwhelmed to see the redemption story, active in every person that was there



We went to the schools later on in the week, and the church gets converted to a school, bustling with activity from Monday to Friday, we went to one school in another place, and by God's grace things are going well. A total of nearly 250 students are taught to read and write.

Claire and I are keeping well by God's grace, enjoying friends visiting with us and privileged to be mentoring many young people who come and stay with us.

Thank you once again, for all your help and prayers for the work and ministry here.

DR STEPHEN & CLARE ALFRED

22/11/22

Sunday 8th

ZAMBIA



Kabompo

The work of the Lord at Loloma continues and the Gospel goes forth in many ways and places. Sunday School is back in full swing with many children but few teachers. This is a matter for prayer that the Lord will raise up others to take the place of those who are now aging. The few teachers we have are struggling to cope with the many children. Please continue to pray for the salvation of all these dear children. I also have a children's meeting every Thursday afternoon at my home and we have anything up to 150 children. These children are doing well in learning memory verses so please continue to pray that they too will trust Christ early in life and be saved from a life of sin. We thank all of you who send Sunday School Prizes for these children via Container. This encourages both the children and the parents. Before Covid 19 we were preparing Sunday Prizes for approx. 6,000 children each year, but it will take us some time to get back to that number again.

We have had many Conferences over the past months with blessing. Brother Kamiji and other brethren continue to be faithful in preaching the Gospel on the local Radio. This has been blessed of the Lord in the salvation of souls. We continue to have deaths almost daily and at each funeral there are opportunities for preaching the Gospel.

We are continuing with the repairs and rebuilding of Gospel Halls as the Lord provides. This is a lifetime work, but we keep plodding on. If any Assembly is changing their chairs, please remember the saints here as many are sitting on the floor. We are praying very much for the Assembly 50 miles from here who are God willing planning a Jubilee Conference next year. Preparations have already started, and your prayers are valued for them. This is the Assembly where we had a very Godly Evangelist who laboured there for many years until the Lord took him home a few years ago. The seed was sown, many were saved, and the assembly has grown. This is the assembly that brother Kamiji originally came from, so he is very much involved in the preparations. Recently he took Sunday School Prizes to this assembly for well over 200 children.

I will value your prayers personally as I have surgery planned for November God willing that all will go well and that I will make a quick recovery and not be out of action for too long. The work is great, but the labourers are few. Timothy Beer was with us for the month of October, but he is now back in America. The Anderson family are all well but exercised to move to Namibia if the Lord opens up the way. The need is great. I wonder, is God calling someone to join us in the work of the Lord here? Thank you so much for your prayerful and practical support in so many ways. May you too know much of the Lord's help, blessing and encouragement at this time.

C. 1972 WILMA GEDDES 17/11/22

Monday 9th

SCOTLAND



Perth

The past two years have been like a rollercoaster ride for our family. The two big C's of Covid and Cancer turned our life upside down and caused almost all of our service for

the Lord to cease. On 1st March 2020 Gordon was diagnosed with stage three bowel cancer and so began our long and difficult trial. Although it has been a difficult journey, we as a family have been so very encouraged by the wonderful practical and prayerful support of our brothers and sisters in the Lord from all over the globe. After three operations and rounds of radio and



chemotherapy Gordon is currently cancer free, for which we are truly thankful. Although the cancer itself has been dealt with, the journey back to full health is ongoing but in God's goodness Gordon has been fit enough to recommence some service in the Lord's work.

Since September this year Gordon has been able to conduct between twenty and thirty school assemblies, as well as preaching at a good number of ministry and gospel meetings together with various online activities. There is also to be a busy schedule over the Christmas season of Sunday school prize giving's and carol services. The schools work in Perthshire is very open allowing Gordon and other brethren in the assembly in Perth to visit around twenty-five schools throughout Perthshire on a regular basis.

Since being isolated during Covid and his illness, Gordon began work on a podcast called



Daily Jam (Jesus And Me) for primary school age children that will give them a thought for the considering dav different aspects of the Lord Jesus. We are hopeful that this will be launched sometime during 2023.

God willing Gordon hopes to gradually increase his activity in the Lord's work,

however perhaps, with slightly less emphasis on children's work. While our burden to reach children for Christ remains the same and the majority of his work will continue to be with children, because of the very physically demanding nature of children's work there will require to be a change in the balance of his service. He is expected to spend more time than previous towards adult ministry and gospel along with online activity.

Looking forward in the will of the Lord to 2023 there are plans in place to run a number of children's meetings and holiday clubs on behalf of various assemblies and to recommence work with his Bible Experience Exhibition. Also, God willing, hopefully increase the focus on gospel and ministry as well as continue to expand the school visitation.

We would like to thank all those who have remembered us during this difficult time and continue to uphold us before the throne of grace.

GORDON & ALISON MCCRACKEN

22/11/22

Tuesday 10th AUSTRALIA



Gen 31-33

Strathalbyn

After a pause of two years due to Covid restrictions, it was joy to hold our annual ministry weekend again. We enjoyed helpful ministry from Les Hills, Williams Alcala, Ian McKee and Roger Fraser. We were much encouraged that some requested baptism on return



to their home assembly. We had 50 interstate visitors, and about 20 from the locality who are not in assembly fellowship. At our weekly outreach Bible study here in Strathalbyn we have around 10 of these believers attending.

We are very thankful to see that God in goodness has brought in strangers to the monthly Gospel meeting in the community centre in Strathalbyn – this had not been the case since the time of Covid restrictions.

We are currently heading to Melbourne – Cranbourne West, for Gospel Meetings in the tent with brother Len Walker. We are also taking the Bible Exhibition with us

for during the day and have found this a good way to make contact with folks to bring them to the Gospel meeting in the evening, which is our priority.

On our return, we will have the Gospel Calendar drop in the local area. We also walk in the town's Christmas Pageant with a 3mx2m Gospel Banner – "the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world." We also distribute a little goody bag to the 1200 or so children with a verse pencil, Gospel tract, bookmark and some sweets enclosed.

In the new year, we hope to join with Clive Barber in the Gospel Tent in Tasmania. We deeply appreciate the prayers of God's people, particularity regarding testimony in South Australia.

Wednesday 11th

ST LUCIA, WEST INDIES



Gen 34-36

Ciceron

In the last few months of 2022 our time has been spent in a number of key areas. We are



thankful for the resumption of Saturday Bible Classes in our home with young believers who are associated with four assemblies near to us. This is planned to continue through 2023 and we ask for prayer in the teaching of these ones and for their continued spiritual growth.

A series of gospel meetings with the La Guerre assembly in November had unsaved to the meetings each night which was a real encouragement to the believers. We continue to pray for fruit in salvation to the glory of our Lord.

A large effort in outreach has been in the local printing and distribution of 20,000 International Bible House wall calendars. Assemblies are using them in their own neighbourhoods and

thousands have been received in the main city of Castries as well as small towns and villages around the island. Please pray that they will be used throughout the year and the Scriptures each month will speak to individuals. Calendars have also gone into the prison,

schools, businesses, and government offices.

Looking into 2023, we are considering returning to a few avenues of children's work that had been on hold due to COVID. Personal gospel work also continues in the village of Anse la Raye with street work and sharing the gospel in homes.

We have been encouraged recently with the salvation of a few individuals all stemming from a young



woman who God saved a few years ago. It has been wonderful to see God working in her first and then outward to her extended family. May the Lord continue to save many souls and that they will be receptive to continued teaching and discipleship.

Thursday 12th

NICARAGUA



Managua

Masaya is a small city about 45 minutes from the capital. An assembly has been



gathering there around 12 years. In the month of October, I shared a week of Gospel outreach with a commended worker from Honduras, Luis Gutierrez. We were encouraged by the nightly attendance and the reverence shown to the Word of God. Please pray for the seed sown at that time. Each Wednesday evening, I give teaching in the assembly, and most recently have been teaching through the gifts of the Holy Spirit. We often support and preach at their weekly Gospel meeting on Saturday evening.

Please pray for Marvin and Ivania, a shoemaker and his wife who often attend, but are not saved yet.

Managua, the capital of the country, with a population of 1.1 million people is where we reside. The assembly was planted 9 years ago and there are 40 believers in fellowship.

The Christians are growing and learning, but it is not without its difficulties and struggles. Yearly, we go out in the streets with calendars provided by International Bible House and use it as an opportunity to get the Gospel into the homes of nearby neighbourhoods. We have 8,000 calendars



to distribute and we started in November to deliver them on Sunday afternoons. We also enjoyed a time of singing and eating lunch together on those days! Lord willing, we plan to have a series of Gospel meetings in Managua at the end of January. Please pray that the Lord will bless and that souls will be won for Christ.

We appreciate your prayers for our family. Our children are growing up quickly, and we know that they will leave home before we can blink. All four have professions of faith in Christ for which we are so very thankful, and we pray that they would walk with the Lord and learn to follow Him always.

Friday 13th

IRELAND



Skibbereen

A visit in October to **Skibbereen, Co. Cork** involved two weeks of gospel outreach with the assembly. The first week was a series of children's meetings, and the second was

a "regular" series of Gospel preaching in the Gospel Hall. Interestingly, adults from the town seem more willing to attend a children's meeting rather than the Gospel meeting! Several parents were present nightly to hear messages concerning the Life of Joseph, along with the usual attendance of over 30 young people.

Brother Peter Sweetnam also enabled me to visit two primary schools. In Ballydehob, the whole school listened respectfully to a message from Acts 16. Strikingly, the clergyman/headmaster told us afterwards that on his journey to find God, he had recently discovered he was helplessly lost as a sinner and had recognized the death of Christ as being on his behalf. His joy was evident, and the community has started remarking on the difference in his



Your Invitation to hear messages from the Bible on:
'Certain Truths for Uncertain Times'
Venue: Skibbereen Gospel Hall, Townshend Street
Speaker: Mr. Elton Fairfield

Sun. Oct. 16th @ 4pm: God loves sinners but hates sin
Mon. Oct. 17th @ 8pm: Jesus rose again from the dead
Tues. Oct. 18th @ 8pm: Total forgiveness is possible
Wed. Oct. 19th @ 8pm: Salvation is not by doing your best
Thur. Oct. 20th @ 8pm: Jesus Christ is coming back
Fri. Oct. 21st @ 8pm: Heaven and hell are forever

If unable to attend in person, please join us via zoom
Meeting ID: 9748860015 Passcode: 02821108

preaching. Some parents are even removing their children from the school assemblies because of the content of his messages!

The other primary school was in Skibbereen itself, and the headmistress said I could speak to all the students, from junior infants to the most senior class. With Peter's support and presence, I spoke 15-minute age-appropriate messages from Romans 3:23 to each class. One of the teachers expressed surprise that the children knew me. Little did she know that, through the testimony of the believers, many had attended children's meetings over the past few years.

The door-to-door visitation was admittedly challenging. Brother David Sweetnam is well connected to the community, and he and I went to the many households along the coastline to give them tracts and invitations to the meetings. I marvelled at the diversity of the community, for in one luxurious mansion we spoke to a British lord, while at another home was an Olympic gold medallist. Even a known Satan worshipper took the Gospel booklet, causing David to marvel. But sadly, not one single person came to the

Gospel meetings through such efforts; only previous contacts in the town attended. The persistence of the assembly in Skibbereen is admirable.

Saturday 14th PANAMA



Vista Alegre

Here in Central America, we find ourselves playing catch up with the rest of the world in relation to returning to pre-covid norms. We are about a year behind everyone else, but thankfully we can engage in activities and outreaches as before.

We recently received renewal of permission to enter schools to give out Bible texts. In years past we were given permission to enter all the schools in the province, but this time we are limited to just ten specific schools chosen by the Ministry of Education and only until the end of this school year in December. The reason for the limitation being there have been numerous cases of violence, drugs and even murders in



the schools by people entering without permission or posing as someone they are not. We are very thankful to the Lord that the Ministry of Education has confidence in us. We were told that several other groups had asked for permission but were rejected.

After some time of uncertainty, we have also received permission to return to the boy's home (orphanage), where we have been for over 12 years, to have 3 Bible classes weekly.

We had the sad task of taking the funeral of a dear sister in the assembly. She was saved when she was around 80 years old and passed away at the age of 95. She was very faithful and a real testimony of God's grace. She was a lovely Christian lady and will be missed. Her large family have been kind and respectful to us over the years and asked if the assembly would look after the funeral service and burial. We gladly accepted and the family expressed their gratitude afterwards, some asking about where we gather and if they could come along to the meetings we have. We trust that the passing of this dear sister will open the door to her family coming to Christ.

Due to the pandemic, four couples from the assembly had to leave due to the loss of their jobs or businesses. That's a lot when you are already small, but the encouraging part is that they are now in happy fellowship in assemblies in three other countries and doing well spiritually. In their absence the Lord has brought along three new families, a couple of the adults are saved, and one has asked for baptism. They are very keen to listen and study the scriptures and appreciate that they get answers to their questions directly from the Bible.

"Thou art coming to a King, large petitions with thee bring, for His grace and power are such none can ever ask too much."

John Newton

Thank you for praying for the Lord's work in Panama, we very much appreciate it.

Sunday 15th

ENGLAND



Tyne & Wear

The pandemic, while it changed the way we work, did not interrupt the street work outreach to the street population of Tyneside. Instead of a static soup kitchen, we have now adopted a more mobile outreach around the city. I was greatly helped and encouraged by a young Indian couple in the assembly who gave invaluable help in this work. However, after a short time, they moved away for employment, and I was back to being alone. This limits the places I can go and the number and type of materials that I can carry. This situation continued for a few months until, wonderfully, the Lord provided another young Indian couple to assist me. They have now spent several nights "on the street" and they found it a tremendous challenge but proved to be well-equipped by the Lord for this ministry.

We have now changed our regular night to Saturday as the Sunday evenings were very quiet. Saturday is certainly much busier! However, the Lord has allowed us many additional opportunities to bring the gospel to a section of the population that we otherwise would not touch. It does pose some unusual challenges at times. Please pray the young couple will continue with this work alongside me as it greatly increases our effectiveness in the gospel when someone can minister to physical needs and free me up to witness. As a result of the continuing street work, we see a steady stream of contacts come to hear the gospel on Lord's Day afternoon. Each one continues to appreciate all the love of the local believers and listen well to the gospel. As well as street folks we continue to be encouraged as the Lord brings a good number of locals to hear the gospel on a regular basis. Once a month, on a Friday evening, we have an evangelical bible study in the hall. We use the "Stranger on the Road to Emmaus" course and the numbers are increasing month by month.



The second main area is the time spent in HMP Durham. The prison work continues to grow and develop in ways that cause us to continually praise the Lord. The two days of visitation are proving insufficient to cover all the openings with men who request bible study courses and visits in their cells. At the moment, I am praying about the possibility of a third day in prison and a second Bible Class as the waiting list for the class is growing weekly.

For the last year, a brother in the assembly (John) has been accompanying me into prison every Tuesday. John has been concentrating on encouraging the men to use the Emmaus Bible Study courses in their cells and this has been very successful. As a result, John and I have been visiting all the other prisons in the Northeast of England, encouraging chaplains to promote their use in their establishments. The initial response is good, and John has been asked to talk about the courses at the next regional chaplains' meetings. This is my 26^{th} year in HMP Durham and probably the most encouraging year yet. Please join me in praying to the Lord for this continuing opportunity and encouragement and pray for the continuing expansion of the work. It is not without opposition as the chaplaincy department now has a Humanist Chaplain. This lady is very vocal and aggressive in seeking equal standing and is vehemently opposed to the gospel, particularly the Emmaus Bible study courses.

As to personal matters we are facing some new challenges. Earlier in the year, Janet was diagnosed with a heart condition. Immediately on our return from Malawi she was recalled to the hospital and had a confirmed diagnosis of breast cancer. Already she has had two surgeries. Currently, we are awaiting a follow-up to decide about radiotherapy and/or chemotherapy to follow. In the goodness of the Lord, it has been found early although it is a little more extensive than first thought. The doctors are optimistic about treatment so we would appreciate your prayers for this matter. It means I must be more on hand here and so modifications to my regular schedule may be necessary for the next few months.

JIM & JANET McMASTER

23/11/22

Monday 16th



Gen 48-50

Lima

PERU

The work in Comas in the north of the city has not recovered after the pandemic. Previously we had around 30 attending the Gospel meeting each week, but this has reduced greatly to only 2 or 3 neighbours whose attendance can often be very sporadic. Many contacts have moved away, and 3 new Church groups have opened in the same area as the hall and seem to have large numbers. One is a large Pentecostal group, and another is a "prosperity church". We have been in the same area for over 4 years and feel that the time has come to find another area where there are no other Churches and begin to preach the Gospel. I have found a number of large markets apart from the one in which I have a "Gospel Cart" each week and the interest has been encouraging. We

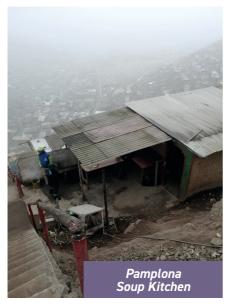
hope that after our visit to the UK, one of our contacts in Comas will open their home for Gospel meetings and we will see what the interest is. As in the days of the Acts, we must

go where the interest is and sadly this particular area of Comas does not appear to be the place. As Israel discovered, they must follow the cloud for guidance.

Whilst the work in the north of the city is rather discouraging, an open door in the south has brought us much joy. The children's meeting each Saturday morning in Pamplona Alta is growing slowly in attendance. We are glad to have around 30 – 40 children and adults each week. They are very keen for us to continue to bring them the Word of God each week.



For a number of reasons, we have now changed our meeting in Jicamarca from Tuesday afternoon to Sunday morning. A number of children had not been able to attend as their schooling had been changed to the afternoon. We were delighted to have around



65 children and adults attending on Lord's Day morning including 3 new families, who had never previously attended. One of the very encouraging aspects of this work is the number of adults that attend each week, usually between 15 – 20. Our weekly meetings at Alto Prialé, Las Americas and Coop Prialé continue with a good number attending each week.

A group of believers in the town of Tarma (around 6 hours away) have requested literature and help in studying the Scriptures. One elderly man travelled to our meeting on Sunday afternoon to ask for our help. He told us that many years ago a Baptist missionary from the USA visited their district with the Gospel, but they have been on their own since then and need help. He wept when he saw the Two Roads Chart and told us he had not seen it since he was saved in the 1960's. Please pray for this new contact.

After five and a half years in Perú, we hope to visit the UK from the end of December to February in the will of the Lord. Please pray that we will find continued interest on our return to Perú, as there is nobody to continue the various meetings in our absence.

Tuesday 17th

ZAMBIA



Kitwe

We have just returned to Zambia after a three-month furlough at home in Northern

Ireland. We were much encouraged and strengthened by the fellowship of the believers and it was good to be able to spend some time with our families there. We will miss our dear Sister Betty Magennis who served the Lord at Dipalata about 2 hours' drive from where we are



at Chitokoloki. Betty will appreciate prayer as she settles into life in Banbridge. Pray for Dipalata and the Speichenger and Heikoop families there. Pray for brother Jeff and issues arising from the serious accident he was involved in some months ago.

Dr Felix Chibwe, my colleague, had done tremendous work during our time away and it made our furlough much more relaxed knowing the surgical work was in safe hands. Doing the ward round with him this week it was amazing to see some of the many cases, of all ages, that he had safely operated on and whose lives had been saved. He is a busy man both medically and in the work of the assembly and he will appreciate your prayers. He gave a good word of ministry on Sunday and this coming Sunday, thanks to the technology of Zoom, to minister the word to an assembly in Canada.



It was good to learn of two young teenagers in the children's ward who professed to trust the Lord earlier this month. This morning our brother Gordan Hanna gave a message in the gospel to about 40 of the nurses and hospital workers. Pray for this short meeting held every Tuesday and Thursday.

At the beginning of December the believers at Loloma hope to have a little celebration of Sister Wilma Geddes' 50 years of service in Zambia.

We will appreciate your prayerful intercession for all of us here.

Wednesday 18th VENEZUELA



Palo Negro

It is a privilege to give an update of the work the Lord is doing in these parts. We are grateful to the Lord for His mercies; He is good and doeth good.

In mid-September we joined our home assembly for Gospel Meetings and were encouraged by the good number of neighbours and the believers' families who attended. A man in his sixties, who has attended meetings for years, professed to be saved, bringing joy to the saints.

On the second week of October, we pitched the tent in Valencia, in an area where one of the assemblies has maintained a Sunday School for a few years. The attendance wasn't as good as we expected but a number of unsaved from the area were present each night during the three weeks of meetings. The believers have bought a site and plan to slowly build a Gospel Hall, doing the work themselves.

Mr Jim Walmsley passed away last month after a long and fruitful life in the Lord's work here. He encouraged opening up new areas for the Gospel, contributed to the spiritual growth of the assemblies and encouraged younger believers in their study of the Scriptures. The Lord has graciously raised up younger labourers in recent years but "the harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few." On the 12th of November we travelled to La Ocho, in Yaracuy State, to share in the commendation of a young couple who have been working in the gospel in that area. Yordano and Ruth Linares along with



their three small children will appreciate your prayers for them.

The assembly in La Pica hosted the monthly ministry meeting of Aragua state last Saturday. We were encouraged to see the hand of the Lord providing spiritual food to nourish His people, and also a meal at the end of the meeting for the 420 believers who gathered. The ongoing adverse conditions in the country make everything more difficult but we marvel time and time again at the abundant grace of our God. Jehovah-Jireh.

The assemblies have returned to their normal activities and gospel outreach, so demand for Gospel Literature has increased. 540,000 tracts have been printed and distributed this year, and we have just ordered another 360,000 from the printers. A large amount of Gospel wall calendars and wallet calendars are also being distributed. We pray that the Word of God in the printed page will bring forth abundant fruit for His glory.

We ask you to continue praying for us as a family. We long to see our children saved and serving the Lord. Your prayers for this country and the Lord's work will be greatly appreciated, that in the midst of so many difficult circumstances, the Lord will continue to work and bless.

Thursday 19th

ARMENIA



Writing from Ireland

During the month of July, the assembly who meet at Artsakh Quarter Gospel Hall, Yerevan, held the annual camps in Stepanavan, Northern Armenia. They had 120 children attending over a 3-week period. The Lord greatly blessed in the preaching of the Word, and we trust there will be fruit for the glory of the Lord in due course. The last few days of the month the brethren brought some elderly believers for a little holiday, which has been the pattern over recent years. For many of the children and the elderly it's the only time they ever get to be away from their homes and be under the sound of clear Bible teaching.

Remember the meetings of the assembly, and the Sunday school work, both in Yerevan and the village of Dvin about 20 miles from Yerevan. The saints travel faithfully on the Lord's day to the village, and a number of young and older people attend the meetings.

Every year the assembly distributes 5,000 gospel calendars in the city, and they will be repeating the exercise again this year, God willing. We also help with material aid for the saints at years end.

Your prayers for Armenia are very much appreciated. Armenia still has many problems on the border with Azerbaijan, Nagorno-Karabakh claimed by both countries is still a hotbed of trouble. In May 12th 2021 conflict erupted between the two nations when many young Armenian soldiers lost their lives. Again, between the 12th and 14th September 2022, it is reported 204 Armenian soldiers were killed and dozens of injuries, plus 80 killed on the Azerbaijan side. Little is heard on the news about this ongoing war, as its completely overshadowed by the Ukraine war.



I would like to visit Armenia again in 2023, if the Lord opens the way for me, prayer for guidance is much appreciated.

Friday 20th

MEXICO



Xalapa

We have now been in Mexico for six months and continue with Spanish classes at the local university. We work closely with Timothy and Jenna Stevenson in the city of Xalapa and surrounding areas. The assembly is small, but there are encouragements here and there, and we are grateful for a good number who regularly attend the weekly gospel meeting. Currently, we are enjoying the visit of Paul and Barb Thiessen, who live and work in Guadalajara, and Timothy and Amy Turkington and family, who live and work in Cancun. Brother Paul has been having a few nights of ministry meetings in Xalapa, which have been a blessing to all who are attending.



Over the past weekend, our neighbouring assembly (1.5 hours away in the port city of Veracruz) held its first in-person conference since the pandemic. Quite a few believers from Xalapa were able to attend. They enjoyed ministry from six different brethren, and the time spent with fellow believers.

At the beginning of September, we rented an unoccupied house in La Joya (a small town forty minutes' drive from Xalapa) for twice-weekly meetings, for an initial period of three months. We are now deciding whether to continue for a further period. While few from the locality have come along, there has been fairly consistent attendance by those who did respond. Please pray that we might be guided.

In the past few days, we have taken delivery of 10,000 calendars which we aim to distribute over the next few weeks. Please pray that as the Word of God is displayed in homes in this dark city, many will be enlightened by the gospel and come to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour.

C.2021

SAMUEL & RUTH CHESNEY

25/11/22

Saturday 21st

ENGLAND



Exod 14-16

Birmingham

The Lord is good, and we have enjoyed His hand of blessing in recent months, all praise to His name. At the end of July, we had our annual Gospel effort in Small Heath, reaching Muslims. On the same day, Victor, who had never previously been in the area, 'happened' to be directed there by his barber to get a car wash. Having recently been restored to the Lord, Victor was in reality being directed by the Spirit of God to meet with the Lord's people. He duly came to the hall in the evening to hear the ministry of David Williamson, has continued, and it was a joy to receive him into fellowship a few weeks ago. In between times, we have also had the joy of baptising a dear Iranian sister P. Her story of salvation also bears testimony to God's providence. Do pray for P as she has since been moved by the Home Office to another location. Pray also for Donna, Dave & Divya who all come regularly and show interest in the Gospel. We continue in the open air. The other day in Kings Heath we met and had conversations with some Muslims, a confused relativist, a Rastafarian, a teenage Satanist, an Irish republican and his Jamaican wife who alone had a real interest in her soul. Pray for her salvation.

Sunday 22nd

BRAZIL



Santa Maria

Since arriving here in Brazil in September, I have been kept busy, sharing in meetings in different assemblies principally here in the interior of the state of the Rio Grande do Sul. Last week, the assembly in Santa Maria had an afternoon ministry meeting in the hall, and we were delighted to see all six of these small assemblies represented. The ministry given by four brethren was challenging, refreshing, and an encouragement to all. Later that evening, a 32-year-old man, who was saved just before the pandemic,



obeyed the Lord in baptism and this past Lord's Day was received to fellowship. His mother and late grandmother are believers and in fellowship in the assembly in Sao Gabriel. This past weekend, brother Roberto Ploia and I, started a series of Gospel Meetings in the Gospel Hall in Osorio. Over the past years, we have shared meetings in this town on various occasions and a number are in fellowship who were saved in these meetings. To date, we have had around 50 people each night to listen to the Gospel, and last evening at least 18 were unsaved. We very much value the prayers of the Lord's people that God will work in blessing and salvation. Over the past three weeks, I was delighted to have Christine with me here. Being alone in a foreign land is not easy, but due to Christine's monthly treatment, we have no alternative. We thank God that she keeps fairly well, despite her health problems. Please continue to pray that this may long continue.

During the last week of December, the Porto Alegre assembly plans to recommence the end of year Bible Readings. This year, there will be five readings over three days, studying the five chapters of 1 Thessalonians. Over these past two years, these readings were suspended due to the ravages of Covid 19. Brazil as a country very much needs our prayers. Presidential elections were held at the end of October and a large section of the population is unhappy with the result and are calling for a military takeover. An ex-president was re-elected who has been in prison for corruption. For several days, roads were blocked, and the country was brought to a standstill, and protests are likely to continue until the new president is installed on the first of January. As believers we keep apart from it all, but pray that God will over-rule and maintain the door open for the Gospel and the many liberties that we enjoy for the work of God. We remember Daniel 4v32 "The Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever He will". "Brethren pray for us" 1 Thess 5v25

Monday 23rd

BOTSWANA

Gaborone

Over the past few weeks we have had Prize Givings for the various Sunday Schools in Gaborone and nearby villages. To provide those prizes we are indebted to believers from home who send gifts in a container and we thank God for their right hand of fellowship. We started off the year with guite a few covid restrictions still in place but we were grateful to re-open 9 Sunday Schools. I was also able to resume teaching Bible lessons to 6 classes of 12 year olds in a nearby school. We are so blessed with wide open doors to reach children with God's Word. God willing next year we hope to open another 3 Sunday Schools, 1 in Gaborone and 2 in nearby villages. The children who attend my Flats Sunday School were reciting Philippians 2 verses 5 to 11 and even 6-year-olds and 8 year olds were saying the verses word perfect. My nephew had prepared a picture and Bible verse for me to print and frame and they were very happy to receive those.





I was thrilled to receive my Permanent Residence Permit with the help of an immigration agent named Prince. His family seem to have no clue about the message of the gospel and in a few weeks' time I wish to visit his village to take time with his children to have some Bible lessons with them. He has 4 children from 5 years to 12 years. It would be a great joy to see them trust the Lord as their Saviour. We are so grateful for your prayers.

Tuesday 24th

SCOTLAND



Dundee

A few years ago, Dundee unfortunately was labelled "the drug death capital of Europe" yet in the midst of that God in His faithfulness is still at work. Thanks to all who continue to pray for us on a regular basis. During Covid we were still able to operate out on the street as a Front-line service, however we had to curtail our evening activities for a short while. We also worked alongside the Parish Nurses and have continued to maintain strong links with them. Both the drop-in and Soup kitchen work has been back operating for a few years now. The number of folks attending these has certainly increased, as the effects of cost of living are felt across the country. However, our main purpose is not just to feed those who come physically, but to care for them and ultimately share the Gospel with them. The process of building relationships with individuals can take a long time; please pray for this. Regularly we would have 30 people attending the soup kitchen that is open for an hour each day Monday to Thursday. At the drop-in, we would meet between 40 and 50 folks regularly.

Please pray for a few of the folks we meet. I've changed names to protect individuals' identities. Evan is an elderly gentleman who visits us once or twice every week. When I first spoke to him about God, he laughed, and he regularly makes jibes regarding God. However, we have been able to have some good conversation too. Pray that seeds sown may convict. It's interesting to see how God can convict and challenge years later. That's the story with Matt. Years ago he would come down and chat to us. I remember him telling us that "all that God stuff is fine for you guys but not for me!" However, Matt left us and went back down south. Gradually over the years the Lord has chipped away at his life. He ended up in a desperate place with heroin and went to a Christian rehab centre where he trusted Christ as Saviour. A number of months later he was baptised. After completing the program, the Lord has brought him up to Dundee and it was a real joy to see him on Monday night free from the bondage of sin and shining for Christ. Pray also for Dan. He trusted Christ about 10 years ago and walked well with the Lord for a while. However, he gradually slipped back into addiction. He told me on Monday at the dropin that his biggest mistake was thinking he could do things in his own strength. Please pray for him as he goes off to rehab soon. Pray also for Peter, who I chatted with at the van last night. He knows very little about the Gospel and it was great to be able to share it with him. He is genuinely interested and wants to know more. There has been much encouragement and for that we give God thanks.

However, there have also been many discouragements and disappointments too. We have lost a good number of the men and women who we have grown to love due to addiction and suicide. It makes us aware that sometimes the people we are working with are standing on the brink of eternity. The quote by CT Studd rings true "Some want to live within the sound of church or chapel bell; I want to run a rescue shop, within a yard of hell."

Please pray for those who work alongside us, especially Alison, Tony and Rob. We are sad that Rob is leaving us. He has felt the Lord's leading for a few years to Berwick and recently the door has opened for him. We trust the Lord will bless him and use him in His service there. Thanks so much for your continued prayers for us all.

Wednesday 25th SOUTH AFRICA



Umtentweni

Twice a month for more than 20 years we had the privilege of preaching the gospel to a group of elderly people who lived in a small complex, something like a 'fold'. Over the years some professed faith in Christ, and many have passed into eternity. Covid put an end to that work. However, last week one of the elderly ladies who used to be in that complex passed away. She had attended the meetings occasionally and we knew her, but not intimately. She had been brought up in the Roman Catholic church but no longer attended. Out of the blue we were contacted by the funeral undertaker, to ask if I would speak at a memorial service for her, to be held in the little community hall in the complex. It was a privilege to visit there yesterday and to present the gospel to around 50 who had gathered, the majority of whom were unsaved. Everything was 'livestreamed' to family who live overseas (Australia, I believe), so the message went on YouTube for them. Please pray that some might respond to the message of the gospel. The reaction to what was presented was mixed; some were clearly uncomfortable, yet one man spoke to me afterwards and thanked me for a clear presentation of the gospel. He informed me that he was in the Lord's work; I suspect in a charismatic group.

The faithful core of believers in our little assembly is partly made up of Indian folk who have been saved out of Hinduism. They give us much joy. Some months ago, one Indian lady started to attend the gospel meeting. She tells us that she was brought up in a Christian home but had married a Hindu man. For 40 years she accommodated him as far as religion was concerned but 10 years ago she started attending a charismatic church. Her husband was happy about that and recently said he would like to attend 'church'. Before he had the opportunity to do so, he suddenly suffered from a ruptured aneurysm in the brain and passed away. We have heard of four other Indian men who recently were suddenly called into eternity. No doubt the Lord is speaking to that community. Please pray that we might have many opportunities to minister to these folks.

Thank you for remembering us in prayer. We need ongoing prayer support as the years take their toll and physical strength wanes a little. We take courage from the Word of God and remember that He has informed us through the Apostle Paul, "My grace is sufficient for thee: for My strength is made perfect in weakness." 2 Cor. 12:9.

C. 1968

PAUL & DOROTHY GRIEVE

9/11/22

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13

Thursday 26th

SCOTLAND

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Ayrshire

Hope by the Roadside now has billboards in Scotland, England, Wales, Ireland, Uganda, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Canada and most recently St Lucia. Each day it is estimated that in excess of 5.35 million people pass our billboards! We hope, with the help of God, to continue expanding the work throughout these countries but also into Ethiopia early 2023. We are continually looking for opportunities to further the work of the Lord here and elsewhere.

Throughout the summer we held drive-in gospel meetings near the town of Ayr for 12 consecutive weekends which I shared with various brothers.



In person attendance was a little disappointing but all the meetings were live streamed online.

In August/September I was presented with a unique opportunity to share the message of the gospel on BBC Radio 2 "Pause for Thought". Contributors are given 3 minutes to share a thought-provoking message. I was not allowed to present a strong gospel message but was able to leave the listeners with verses from God's word which pointed them towards Christ. Please pray for future opportunities in this area.

Each day at least 5.35 million people pass our billboards!



In October I was delighted to share in a 3-week Gospel series at the River Road assembly in Portage la Prairie, Manitoba. Two precious souls professed salvation and 2 others were baptised during this time.

Just a few days after my return home I had a short Gospel series with Craig MacKie in the community hall of our local village of Symington. These meetings were well supported by local believers. There were several children of believers present and a young man from the village attended each evening and has since came to the Lord's day gospel meeting at Elim Hall. Please pray that his eyes will be opened to the truth of the gospel.

I have recently been working on a number of poster designs that will be available to purchase, at cost price, to display on the outside of Gospel halls. These will fit into the generic snap-lock exterior frames that many halls currently have and we hope they will be available for purchase early in the new year.

In January I plan, God willing, to visit the saints in Uganda and Ethiopia again for Bible teaching and assisting in outreach work. Earlier this year I had a new, easy to store and transport, Bible exhibition made and took this out on my last visit to Uganda.

We greatly appreciate the care and support shown towards us as a family and cannot express how much your prayers are valued.

PAUL & RACHEL JENKINSON

23/11/22



Friday 27th

VENEZUELA



Los Altos

Our aged brother Jim Walmsley was taken home to glory on Friday, 21st October. We believe his work here in the northeast was amongst his best in this land. When Pentecostalism was in danger of seriously damaging the early work here, his steady hand and teaching saved the situation. Then he played a big part, by God's grace, in the planting of assemblies in Carúpano, Maturin, and Margarita before he returned to the central states, where he lived for years, making much appreciated visits from time to time. The aged saints in these parts loved him very much. He is now with Christ, which is far better.

On Saturday, 8th. October with Pedro, Lois and family we went over truly atrocious road conditions to Zaraza, Guárico State for a special meeting. Despite road conditions and hours travelled, a very large crowd gathered from different assemblies. Six commended brethren gathered to help in the ministry, including our brother and sister Stephen and Helen Redpath. It was a joy to see them and the way the Venezuelan Christians truly appreciate their desire to return here - proof of their love for the country and God's work in Venezuela. We had great joy seeing so many we know for decades going on for God. Sra Josefa is 86 and saved 32 years - hers is guite a story. Her niece Sra Isbellia invited her to come and stay with her; and to bring her daughter who needed major neck surgery. Sra. Isbellia's burden was that her aunt and cousin might be reached by God's grace and saved. We went for meetings just across the street from Isbellia's home. The aunt listened so well, but any time I glanced in her direction she dropped her head, causing me to think she did not like this preacher! Mentioning this to Isbellia she laughed and said: No brother, I think my aunt is under spiritual conviction. A few evenings later we got the great news Sra Josepha had been saved by the power of the Spirit of God. It would be about twenty years later that the girl who was successfully operated on was also reached by God's grace.

Before Zaraza, we were in our State Capital of Cumaná. The believers and even some unsaved were so happy to see the seven of us, and to be in special meetings again. The rains have been very severe, which hindered the numbers attending, some nights more than others. As there is still no hall, the meetings continue at Don Valentín's property. At fifty years of age, Don Valentin was reached by grace; the change was immediate and permanent; he's a trophy of grace, as is his wife.

On Friday 18th November our daughter Lois had gallbladder surgery; she has needed it for some time, but for several days very severe pain and other problems meant it could not be put off any longer. By God's mercies she came through safely, is now at home and we pray will make a full recovery, in God's will.

At the time of writing, we are presently in ministry meetings at Zurita down a dreadful mountain track. The Tropical Storms sweeping across the Caribbean lands are very severe, hindering many meetings. Pedro is speaking on Abraham, and I am in the beautiful little book of Ruth. Our joint exercise is to return to Cumana for another visit; and after Cumana, in God's will we plan to make another visit to Piñantal, way up the Sucre mountains. Other nearby assemblies are also asking for meetings, so 2023, in God's will, should be busy. The need for prayer for this land and God's people here is great.

Saturday 28th

BRAZIL



Pirassununga

Please pray for the preservation of the nine small assemblies in the area around Pirassununga, the city in which we live, in southeast Brazil. They were planted beginning in the early 70's, while the two youngest were established in 2015 and 2017. The furthest away is Ibaté (65 miles west from Pirassununga).

At the end of 2022 believers in this region had the joy of witnessing two baptisms. The first was of a young girl in her late teens, whose foster parents are in the assembly in Pirassununga. She was brought up among us, professed to be saved some years ago, and recently requested baptism. The other person baptised was a middle-aged man from a neighbouring town, Paraguaçú, where there is no assembly testimony — he was received by the assembly in Aguaí.



Pray also for the possibility of a tenth assembly being established in the near future, in a large town called Poços de Caldas (170 thousand inhabitants, 70 miles east from Pirassununga). A couple from that town, who meet with the assembly in Aguaí, opened their home for a Gospel meeting every Thursday some years ago. Souls have been saved, and the little group of believers in that town are seeking guidance from the Lord about assembly testimony. We plan to begin in November 2022 a series of ministry meetings dealing with assembly principles, and see how the Lord leads them.

Also pray for assemblies scattered throughout central Brazil, hundreds of miles from any other testimony. We visit them as the Lord enables.

We also appreciate your prayers for the literature work:

- We publish a 32-page ministry magazine, "O Caminho" (three or four issues a year), which is sent freely to around 230 localities in Brazil (the Angola Literature Fund also distributes it in Angola);
- For a number of years, we have been translating and publishing the Assembly Testimony "Glory" books, (roughly one book per year). We also print other books and booklets for our local needs.



• Most of our effort in this area goes into translating, printing, and distributing the Ritchie Commentaries. We have the whole New Testament series in print, and 12 volumes of the Old Testament (7 still to do). In December 2022 we hope to publish Job. During the year we also reprinted three of the NT and six of the OT volumes. In 2023, dv, we hope to publish Psalms. Please pray for those involved in this work (translators in Britain and Brazil, and Mum, who proofreads every volume), and for the spiritual benefit of these books for the Lord's work in Brazil.

Sunday 29th

ENGLAND



Datchet

We recently passed 10 years since leaving full time employment and are grateful to the Lord for His faithfulness during that time. The work we are engaged in continues to divide into 3 broad areas

Teaching and preaching: It was a joy to speak at a recent Young Peoples' Bible study day and see their interest in the Word of God. Likewise speaking at a baptism last month was encouraging and there have been several other good Bible teaching opportunities. We are looking to produce more written and video material in the new year and would appreciate pray in wisely presenting the truth in an engaging and relevant way for an online audience.



Schools work: In addition to the regular weekly school visits, we have opportunity at Christmas to take an exhibition we have produced into several primary schools. With the help of local believers, we anticipate around 1500 youngsters and staff hearing the Word of God through a series of age appropriate interactive workshops. Partly due to video work done during lockdown, the schools' work is growing and we are seeking the Lord's guidance as to the right amount of it to do. A school in a very multicultural area

where we have only had limited contact has asked us to do some RE lessons introducing the Bible to youngsters many of whom we anticipate will not have opened a Bible before.

Airport chaplaincy: We continue to spend time each week in Heathrow airport as part of the chaplaincy team, with good opportunities to balance practical help with spiritual conversations. The weekly staff Bible study is appreciated by the believers who attend. This Christmas the airport is anticipating being back to precovid levels of travel and this will provide opportunity to give help with the pressures both passengers and staff will inevitably feel and no doubt there will be God-given times



to direct them to the great journey the Saviour undertook in His incarnation.

Monday 30th

CYPRUS



Limassol

The last few months have brought so many changes in our lives, as we moved from

Ireland to Cyprus. We left Ireland with thankfulness for all that the Lord had done over almost 19 years, but also with sadness as we said goodbye to both physical and spiritual loved ones.

Since arriving in July, we are slowly adapting to life here and are thankful for the opportunities to serve which have already opened up. Our colleagues, Graham and Caroline Webb have worked faithfully for several years with a diverse group of young believers in their twenties and early thirties. It has been a joy to also get involved in helping them. We meet every other week for fellowship and Bible study. We also enjoyed two



residential Bible teaching weekends with them in September and November. These are believers with so much potential for the Lord and we would appreciate wisdom as to how to best move forward with them.

We have been privileged to be able to play a small part in the life of Logos School. Shirley spends a few hours each week teaching 'A' Level Maths and has also commenced an after-school group for those who need extra assistance. We are also helping with an after- schools group for Christian students every Wednesday. Recently we were also able to assist some of the teachers by taking a number of classes in the secondary part of the school on the subject of 'Forgiveness'. What a great opportunity to share the gospel! We also have weekly opportunities to share God's Word in school assembly with 300 students from a variety of religious and ethnic backgrounds. Please pray for the work of the school and for the urgent provision of Physics and English teachers.

In November and December, we ran a parenting course, which was offered to parents connected to the school. The course was aimed at helping them with parenting skills, introducing them to the practical wisdom of the Bible, and providing us with an opportunity to build relationships. We have averaged 16 in attendance and feedback has been positive. As a follow up to this, we are considering running a Beginners Bible Study in the new year. Please pray for wisdom and the Lord's direction into all He wants us to do.

We are thankful that Erin is settling well to her 'A' Level class here. Whilst the change has been hard for her it truly has been incredible to see how she has managed. Beth and Joel remain in NI. Both parents and children are doing their best, by God's grace, to adapt to the new family arrangements.

Tuesday 31st

SOUTH AFRICA



Durbanville

Looking back after 26 years, we can only thank and praise a faithful Heavenly Father for His unfailing care and provision.

In 1996 Hans, my late husband, left Education where he was a Biology and Bible Education Teacher in a large local High School. He also had the responsibility of being a Deputy Principal. We felt the Lord was calling us to work amongst prisoners. We had already been working since 1993 in a State Rehab for clients with substance abuse dependence.

In a wonderful way the Lord opened the door into a small rural prison and that is where we 'cut our teeth', Paardeberg Correctional Centre, where I still work each Friday. We moved to that region to be closer to the prisons. There were about eight prisons within a 10-mile radius from our house. Soon, we were working with about 500 men each week (Just to clarify - there are no women in our local prisons).

Today we have men that we are in regular contact with who have been out of prison for 16 years or more, and still walking with the Lord. The transforming power of God's Word!

We went on a road trip to visit some of them, our coming unknown to them. We arrived at the workplace of one of the men, Vuymile, and spoke to his boss. We asked if we could see him for a few minutes and explained that we had travelled 5 hours to find him. He led us to his office, and there on a double-sized whiteboard was a whole lesson we had taught the men in prison! Vuymile had taken the 'devotions' that morning for his boss and re-told what he had learned! What a thrill it was to meet with him. We were allowed to take him with us for a quick cup of coffee and a long chat!

In August I received a message saying 'Afternoon Mama, hope you are well. I have been looking for you for a long time. Its Lolo, one of your kids from Hawequa, can you send me your contact details'.

Well, I was stunned! I taught Lolo in 2008 in Hawequa prison which was then a youth prison. He came to me after one of the sessions on Forgiveness and asked if I would help him to ask God to forgive him. Putting his hand on his chest, he said, 'For there is much to forgive'. I had the privilege of leading him to the Lord Jesus. He went out on parole. I had some contact with him and then it seemed he changed his phone number. I have been praying for Lolo every week, but this year, I felt a real burden for him, and asked the Lord to lead me to him. Imagine my surprise on receiving this note! We met up at the airport as I was leaving to help my daughter pack up house! He brought his wife and daughter with him. His wife was brought up in a Christian home! He is now 36 and still walking with the Lord. They fellowship at a Church in the township. They are expecting their 2nd child in January, God willing. So, the Lord gives encouragement to keep us going!

It was a great blow to lose my dear husband, Hans, after more than 43 years of marriage at the end of the first week of lockdown. Then all the prisons and institutions were closed due to Covid. However, since August last year I have been able to go back to the Rehab and since January this year to the prison. I am so thankful for the opportunity to share the Hope we have in the Lord Jesus to be forgiven and freed from the enslavement of sin.



Revised Newsletter

We trust that you have enjoyed this first version of the updated 'Look on the Fields'. Although the Newsletter has changed in appearance, its objectives remain the same. We hope that the extended articles and photographs will help us to continue to remember and pray for the Lord's servants and the work they are diligently involved in.

Reading Plan

We have included a different Bible reading plan, which will enable the entire Bible to be read in one year. This means that each day, just over 3 chapters will be read, roughly the equivalent of 5 minutes reading in the morning and 5 minutes in the evening. Whether we use this or another personal preference, may we all be richly blessed as we read and meditate daily on the Word of God.



C=Date of Commendation

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42 Beansburn, Kilmarnock KA3 1RL Tel. 01563 521098 E.Mail: lwtrust@lwtrust.co.uk www.lordsworktrust-kilmarnock.co.uk Charity No. SC008740

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