

# Missionary Reports

## Home & Abroad

### Ballynahinch Mission



Noel Shields and Colin Maxwell were the two evangelists who preached at the two-week Gospel mission in Ballynahinch Free Presbyterian Church in October and November. The meetings themselves were preceded by a week of door-to-door outreach. The town itself and

some of the outlying districts were reached and members of the congregation helped in distributing invitations to the meetings along with Gospel tracts.

The meetings were well attended, and were noted for the infectious enthusiasm of the members of the congregation along with bright congregational singing. A number of soloists and other singers played their important part in the proceedings. Both evangelists were also given opportunity to give their personal testimony to the grace of God in their lives. George Whitefield used to speak about a 'felt Christ', and it provided an opportunity to show that the saving faith is about having that personal relationship and union with the Son of God. Unsaved attended every night and heard a variety of messages over the two weeks, which centred round the Person and Work of Christ and the way of salvation. One message was especially targeted at backsliders.

The meetings went in all too quickly. We are presently unaware of any professions of faith, but the good seed was faithfully sown, and we continue to look to the Lord of the Harvest to ensure that His word prospers in the thing whereto He has sent it. (Isaiah 55:11). ■

✍ Mr Colin Maxwell, *Home Missionary.*

### Liberia School Update



I know many of you have been praying for the Christian School Pilot Project, and I appreciate this. When I returned to Liberia in April 2022 after deputation in Ulster, we were working towards a possible start date of September 2022 – although, at that time, the building work at the proposed school site had already been delayed. Over the next months, even as we made progress with government documentation, preparing materials, and working on the curriculum, two main concerns emerged. Firstly, there was no further progress on the building work by the landlord, due to major road construction immediately adjacent to our rental property, the heavy rains in the summer months, and possibly other factors unknown to us. Secondly, during the summer of 2022, the global increase in fuel costs and general costs of living reached Liberia, and we realised that we need to rethink the budget and prospective tuition fees in this current economic climate.

As most of you have undoubtedly gathered, we were unable to start a preschool class in September 2022 as we had hoped, so our prospective start date has rolled on to September 2023. Please do continue to pray that God will open the necessary doors and that He will give me the wisdom to know His will and courage and faithfulness to do it. ■

✍ Miss Joanne Greer, *Missionary in Liberia.*

## MISSIONARY VISION

# Plans for two United Children's Camps

United Children's Camp began in the summer of 2014, under the Mission Board of the Free Presbyterian Church. The vision was to bring together children aged 7-12 for a week where they could make friends with other young children from our various churches, have a time of recreation, and most importantly, be taught the things of God. Since 2014, the camps have been a great blessing to our denomination. It has been of particular blessing to hear of children whom the Lord has saved at camp, and to see them grow in their walk with the Lord.

Over 2020 and 2021, our camp was not able to meet in person; however, we did have a Christmas broadcast in 2020, and we also held an online camp via Zoom in 2021. We were so glad when the residential



aspect of our camp recommenced in summer 2022. Over 75% of the group were first time campers, many being away from home for the first time. The Lord truly blessed at that camp, and many parents contacted us to say how much they appreciated the week that their children had enjoyed.

While we enjoyed that week, we were mindful that the camp was oversubscribed by almost 50%, meaning that many children didn't get the opportunity to attend. After prayerful consideration by the Mission Board, it was agreed that we would hold two children's camps in 2023, thereby doubling the number of children who will be able to attend. Both camps will have the same format and teaching, so

we encourage parents to see which of the weeks will suit you best and book for your child to come to that camp.

We really look forward to welcoming your child or children at Camp 2023. ■

✍ **Rev Ryan McKee**, *Camp Director*.

### CAMP DETAILS FOR 2023:

**MOYALLON CENTRE  
near Portadown**

*First Camp: 24 July - 28 July*

*Second Camp: 31 July - 4 August*

*Cost: £130 / person*

*Application forms:*

Available on [www.fpcmission.org](http://www.fpcmission.org)

## New Chairmen Appointed



Leadership changes took place last autumn in the Missionary work of our denomination as a new Chairman was appointed to both the Mission Board and Missionary Council. These changes came about because the ten-year term in office had come to an end for Rev Ian Harris as Chairman of the Mission Board and Rev David Park as Chairman of the Missionary Council.

At the Presbytery meeting in Armagh in September 2022, Rev Colin Mercer was appointed as the new Chairman of the Mission Board. Rev Mercer is the minister of Omagh Free Presbyterian Church and has previously ministered in the congregations in Castleterg, Mourne and Greenville (USA). While in America, Mr Mercer served for seven years on the North American Mission Board; and, for six of those years, he was the Secretary of their Board.

Rev Mercer has been a member of the Ulster Mission Board for just over five years, and during that period, served for three and a half years as the Secretary of the Ugandan subcommittee.

At the meeting of the October 2022 Presbytery in Crossgar, Mr Eric Graham, Clerk of Session of the Lisburn Church,

was appointed as the new Chairman of the Missionary Council. Mr Graham is a foundation member of the Lisburn congregation and was elected as one of the first elders of the church in 1977.

Eric's wife Mrs Mona Graham was appointed to the Missionary Council in 1970 and has continued serving on the Council faithfully since that time, and Eric then joined her in that role approximately twenty years ago. Mr Graham has also been a member of the Mission Board for approximately eight years.

Both new Chairmen have a great vision and burden for Missionary work, and they have wide experience in visiting the Mission Field. Please pray that they will both know the Lord's wisdom, guidance, and blessing on their term in Office. ■

# 2023 MISSION TRIPS



“Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature.”

Mark 16:15

## UGANDA

at the  
EMMANUEL  
MISSION STATION



**Dates:**

26 June - 7 July

**Led by:** Rev Garth Wilson

**Outreach Activities:**

- Conducting a VBS
- Open Airs
- Youth Conference

## KENYA

with the  
GLORY BIBLE  
CHURCH



**Dates:**

10 - 26 August

**Led by:**

Rev Paul Foster & Rev Garth Wilson

**Outreach Activities:**

- Conducting a VBS in three locations
- Youth Conference

**Cost of both trips:** £1,000 / person (subsidised price)

Application forms available on the Mission Board Website: [www.fpcmission.org](http://www.fpcmission.org)

The Kenya Trip is run in conjunction with the Youth Council

Places are Limited / Applicants must be 18 years old or over

More details can be obtained from the Team Leaders

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