

MEDICAL MISSIONARIES NEEDED IN NEPAL



Sarita



Isaac

Beyond the cities of Nepal medical centres are scarce. A sick person from a village may have to be carried for hours, possibly days, along dirt tracks to reach a clinic. Christian groups from overseas work with Nepali nationals in these rural areas, seeking to provide medical help and staff.

At present, there are young people connected to the Free Presbyterian Church in Nepal with a desire to study Medicine. One, Sarita, has already begun studying and shows signs of success, coming first out of 93 students in some exams. Her goal is to equip herself to reach her own people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, while demonstrating God's love and care for the poorest and most vulnerable people of the land.

Sarita writes of her first 6-month term: *"Thanks to God for providing me this opportunity to study medicine, which is a dream come true. People used to ask me what I wanted to be, and my answer was 'doctor' all the time! I am currently studying medicine in a medical college in Bangladesh. Your prayers have been the source of my motivation to do better and be a better person every day in God. Thank*

you so much. When I came to Dhaka, I was full of fears and wondering how I would adjust. I found company in my Nepali seniors who were kind enough to guide me. My roommate is a Muslim girl and my next door friends are also Muslims. Amidst the religious variation I am able to adjust nicely with them. Thanks to God for helping me through everything."

Another young person with the same objective is Isaac, who will be applying to medical schools later this year. Please pray that he will be guided regarding his future studies.

These young people need our financial help, as they could never hope to pay for the expensive student fees. They are prepared to give their lives to serve the Lord. Are you willing to support this important endeavour to reach out to the people of Nepal? You can – by contributing to our Medical Fund. Donations can be sent to our Mission Board office, details on page 23.

Thank you for your prayers and practical support for these young people thus far. Please pray that God will keep them true to Him and to His call.

A NOTE FROM GLENDA IN THE OFFICE



Iwould like to say a big 'Thank You' for all your messages of encouragement as Mr Hamilton and I settle into our new roles. Your kind words are much appreciated!

Regular covenanters should notify the office if any personal details change – new postal address, or if you now have an email address etc, please let us know! Details are on page 23.

INTRODUCING PASTOR ANDREW

Originating from Mubende District in Central Uganda, Pastor Andrew Ssewanyana was the fourth of eight children. His parents were subsistence farmers who produced maize and bananas. With their encouragement and support, Andrew completed his primary education, but had to drop out of secondary school due to lack of funds. He sought employment in the building trade. In 2004, this brought him to Kalungu District, where he now lives and ministers.

The son of a Roman Catholic mother and an Anglican father, Pastor Andrew recalls hearing the Gospel preached on the radio in his family home. He would often confess his sins and ask God to forgive him, but was still without a true understanding of God's salvation. While working as a builder at the Emmanuel Christian School in Nsaalu, he came to a better understanding of the things of God through the faithful witness of a colleague. He accepted Christ in 2005.

From that time, Pastor Andrew felt a compulsion to serve God. He

immediately got involved in the church at Emmanuel, interpreting the preaching of God's Word into the Luganda language. He was also busy witnessing to family and friends about his newfound faith and he had the joy of seeing his parents and some of his siblings come to Christ. Another young lady converted through his witness was Catherine, a teacher at Emmanuel Christian School. A short time later, they were married.

As a couple, they have proved the faithfulness of God and have been blessed with three beautiful children – Angel, Gideon and Praise. They both continue to serve God at Emmanuel where Pastor Andrew is Assistant to the Minister and the School Site Manager, and Catherine is the Deputy Head Teacher in the Primary Department. Pastor Andrew has also commenced a part-time programme of study under the Free Presbyterian Church Mission Board as he seeks to be better equipped for the ministry to which the Lord has called him.

Please remember the family in prayer.



SITUATION VACANT!

During a visit to Kenya in May, Members of the Mission Board visited the Beulah Christian Bookshop in Kakamega, now open for over eighteen months, pioneered and managed by Kathy Walker. Members were impressed by the range of books for sale, and the very pleasant environment in which business is conducted.

We met some customers and read of the appreciation of others. This ministry also organized the Pastoral Training Seminar in May which greatly impacted the lives of those who attended.

Miss Walker has served faithfully in Kenya for some eleven years, but she plans to retire in 2018. With the Mission Board, she is anxious that God will send others to labour in Kenya.

A unique book and literature ministry is up and running, and has been blessed of God, but it needs someone to take it forward, a worker with a definite call. Perhaps someone reading this will be burdened for the work and would be willing to give their lives to it? If, after prayerfully seeking the Lord, you would like to speak with the Mission Board, we would be very glad to meet with you.



THE MAXWELLS: THIRTY YEARS' MINISTRY

Thirty years ago this month, Colin and Olive Maxwell commenced work under the Mission Board in Cork. Colin continues to serve the Lord in the Republic of Ireland. To mark this anniversary, the Mission Board has arranged a Dinner and Evening of Fellowship in the Dungannon Church Hall on Monday 30th October at 7.30pm.

We encourage you to come and join with us for this celebration of thirty years' ministry in the Republic of Ireland. Countless souls living in spiritual darkness have had the opportunity to hear the Gospel, and we thank God for those who have trusted in Christ. Booking forms can be downloaded from www.fpcmission.org. Please return to the office with payment by Monday 23rd October. Places are limited and are offered on a first come first served basis. Please book early!



SENDING FORTH SERVICE FOR JOY GILLESPIE

A special Sending Forth service was held for Joy Gillespie in Armagh on Thursday 29th June 2017. Joy, who laboured faithfully in Spain for eighteen years, is to take up a new ministry in Nepal. Many of Joy's family and friends were joined by members of the Mission Board and Missionary Council and others from numerous congregations.

Chairman Rev I Harris conducted the service, read the Scriptures and led in the special prayer commending Joy to the Lord for her labours in Nepal. Missionary to Nepal Rev W Graham, Armagh minister Rev D McMillan, Mrs R MacRoberts and Mr D Aiken also participated. Board Treasurer Alastair Hamilton made a presentation to Joy, and Council Chairman Rev D Park spoke on 'the faithful servant of Christ' from Matthew 25. A very encouraging offering of £3063.00 was received for Joy's support.

PROSPECTIVE FIELD TRIPS 2018

Mission Board believes it has responsibility to introduce believers to fields where it is engaged. What better way to do that than to visit! In 2018 we are planning to take youth teams to Spain and Australia. Those travelling must be at least 18, involved in their local church, and be recommended by the Kirk Session.

Rev Andrew Patterson will lead the trip to Spain in early July to visit the Boyds at Cortijos Nuevos – an ideal opportunity for those learning Spanish, but open to all.

Rev David McMillan is assessing interest in a visit to South Australia to help in local church outreach programmes. If you feel lead to join one of these trips please contact the team leader before the end of October so that we can gauge interest.

We also plan to organise a two week painting trip to Kenya next year to help repaint some of the dorms at the Christian Academy. If you are interested please contact the Mission Board Office before the end of October and we will get back to you.

MISSION BOARD DETAILS

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