

# UGANDA: FROM THE DEPTHS

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

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

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

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

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

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



# SENDING FORTH SERVICE: STEPHEN AND RUTH MILLER

# UPDATE: JOY GILLESPIE



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# MISSION BOARD CHAIRMAN COMMENDS CROSSGAR YOUNG PEOPLE



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

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

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

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

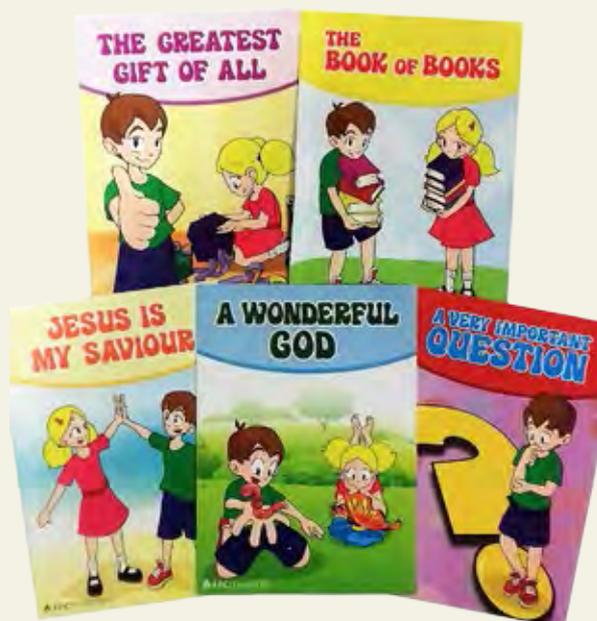
at Emmanuel and had gone on to teacher training college. The extra funding from Crossgar Youth Fellowship could not have come at a better time and will be used to help pay his fees. It reminded me of the verse in Isaiah 65:24 "And it will be before they call I will answer; and while they are still speaking,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

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

---

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

# CHILDREN'S TRACT

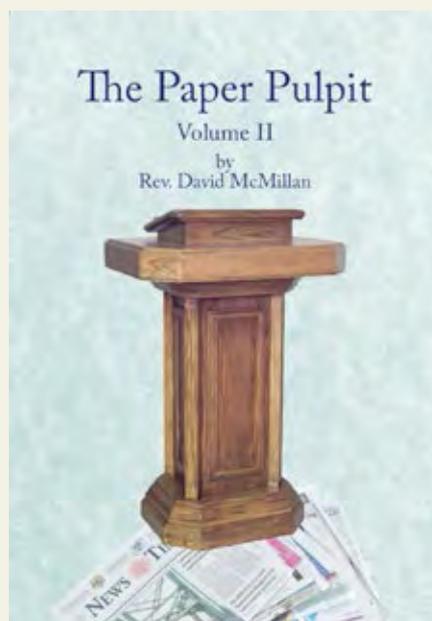


**‘Tempus Fugit’** that is how the months are going in! In no time at all children’s meetings will be finishing up for the term and I’m sure preparations are well under way for all the Five Day Clubs and Holiday Bible Clubs planned for the summer holidays.

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

∴ Glenda Graham

# THE PAPER PULPIT



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

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



## MISSION BOARD DETAILS

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

**Office:**  
Mrs Glenda Graham,  
3 Carrigenagh Road,  
Kilkeel, BT34 4NE  
T: 028 4176 5574  
[office@fpcmission.org](mailto:office@fpcmission.org)

**Chairman:**  
Rev Ian Harris,  
23a Moneydaragh Road,  
Annalong, BT34 4TY  
T: 028 4376 8040  
[ian.harris@fpcmission.org](mailto:ian.harris@fpcmission.org)

**Secretary:**  
Rev David Park,  
55 Market Street,  
Ballymoney, BT53 6ED  
T: 028 2766 2039  
[hebronfpc@btconnect.com](mailto:hebronfpc@btconnect.com)

**Treasurer:**  
Mr Alastair Hamilton,  
T: 078 6061 6302  
[a.hamilton@fpcmission.org](mailto:a.hamilton@fpcmission.org)