

PAINTING TRIP TO KENYA



then enjoyed the end of term assembly. The following day, with the pupils on holiday, the painting work commenced. A group of Kenyan young people, including some teachers, also joined in the work. Though many of them had never held a paintbrush before, they quickly adapted and enjoyed learning their new skill. During the trip the group had opportunity to visit Bible Christian Faith Churches in Kitale, Makutano, Siyoi, Kacheliba, Ortum, Karenger and Bendera. While some of these works are in remote locations, the journey was worthwhile as it proved a blessing to fellowship with God's people. Appreciation is extended to those who supported the trip prayerfully and practically.

A team from various Free Presbyterian congregations left for Kenya on 31st July. The purpose of the trip was to carry out painting work

in the Christian school in Kapenguria. On arrival at the school, a special welcome was extended to the visitors. We were given a tour of each class and

Photograph:

Painters who laboured in Kapenguria, July 2018, pictured with missionary Miss M Russell (back row, far right).

PRECIOUS CHILDREN'S HOME, NEPAL



In 2003, Paul and Mandira Thapa were burdened for the many deprived and orphaned children of Nepal. The Precious Children's Home, which was started as a result of that burden, not only gives young people a better environment but a place where they can be educated in spiritual things.

Opening with five children, it gradually increased to thirty, ranging in age from four to sixteen years old. In 2014, additional ground was purchased to construct larger premises, and, in 2016, work commenced and progressed until completion. This new home

will accommodate sixty children and will, God willing, be opened in October 2018. Through the generosity of God's people, the financial needs thus far have been met. However, as the new home is able to support more children and needs more staff, there will be an additional financial challenge to raise approximately £20,000 extra each year. Those interested in supporting this work can contact the Mission Board office. We are confident that the Lord who has faithfully provided for the need so far will continue to help this work.

Photograph: The newly completed Precious Children's Home in Nepal.



UNITED CHILDREN'S CAMP

This year, between 30th July and 3rd August, we enjoyed our 5th annual United Children's Camp. Forty-eight children, aged eight to thirteen years old, and eight leaders were present. We engaged in many onsite and off-site activities throughout the week. During each morning meeting, we considered the life of John Newton and in the evening meetings, the life of Daniel. For fifteen minutes every morning and evening, each leader led dorm devotions with their group.

One of the highlights of camp was the testimony time on Thursday night. The children were told that they had fifteen seconds if they wanted to testify of their salvation, simply stating where they got saved and what age they were. Over twenty of the children publicly shared how they were saved by God's grace. What a thrill to hear these young voices confess Christ as Saviour! Pray that the Lord will continue to

strengthen and keep these young ones and that they will be greatly used of God in the coming years. We thank God's people for their prayers for our

camp, and preparations are already underway for Camp 2019 which will run from Monday 29th July - Friday 2nd August in the same venue.



BUILDING PROJECT IN ALCORCON, SPAIN

In the providence of the Lord, the Alcorcón congregation recently was faced with a mammoth decision. For quite some time, we had been delaying major renovations in our church building; and, due to the Lord's blessing, we were outgrowing it. Therefore, it was decided to try and purchase the building that separates our church and hall. When we approached the proprietor with our proposal, he said he would not sell but would be very interested in buying ours. He offered us market price, €180,000. So began the dilemma. What would the Lord have us to do? The Session and Deacon Board began praying. Shortly after we commenced praying, we heard of the sale of a building on the same street. This building was on sale when we bought our present church building twenty years ago. At that time, the asking price was €900,000, far above the €90,000 we paid. However, with the financial crisis the price kept coming down until we have been able to purchase it for €450,000. The new building is over twice the size of our existing buildings.

WE ARE SURE WE HAVE REACHED AN EBENEZER. THE *HITHERTO* NOT ONLY INDICATES WHAT HAS BEEN, BUT WHAT THE LORD WILL STILL DO.

What we believed would be the least of our worries turned out to be our Red Sea experience. We needed a Bank loan of €250,000, something we never had a problem with before. But due to major internal changes, every bank we approached turned us down. Once again, in the Lord's leading, I was talking to a believer from another church about our dilemma, and he informed me of a Dutch Bank that had



recently given loans to evangelical churches. Thus, began the long tedious process; but finally, in the will of the Lord, our loan was approved. As we look back over this year, we have no doubts concerning the Lord's leading. That was finally confirmed two months ago when the church members voted by a 90% majority to move ahead with this proposal. As I write, we hope to sign the contracts over the next two weeks.

We are sure we have reached an Ebenezer. The *hitherto* not only indicates what has been, but what the

Lord will still do. The new building, as it now stands, is just a shell, so it will have to be completely refurbished at an estimated cost of approximately €150,000. We are grateful to the Mission Board for a very liberal gift of £10,000. But it is only a start. Thus, we appeal to the generosity of any church or individuals who would be willing to help us with this building project. If anyone is interested, please contact the Mission Board. Thank you for your prayers, we trust you will continue to remember us.

Photograph:
The new church building in Alcorcon, Spain.

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

“The Mission Board, without faithful, zealous missionary workers on the ground at home and abroad, would not amount to anything.”

As we look back on the work of the Mission Board in 2018, we give thanks to Almighty God for His rich blessing bestowed upon us.

The Board, as an administrative body, has had many meetings in which the burden of the whole of our missionary endeavour at home and abroad was considered and cared for. I pay a sincere tribute to my fellow office bearers; Rev David Park as Secretary and Mr Alastair Hamilton as Treasurer for their unstinting work in the missionary endeavours of our denomination. I thank also all of our faithful Board Members who attend our meetings, whose counsel and advice is pivotal in the month to month administration of the Board. Mrs Glenda Graham has settled well into her role as Secretary in the Mission Board Office in Killeel. Her work is deeply appreciated by our Board Members and all of our various Missionaries whom she serves in a gracious manner.

The Mission Board, without faithful, zealous missionary workers on the ground at home and abroad, would not amount to anything. I pay tribute to each one of our missionaries, as day by day, week by week, they seek to publish Messiah's Name. It encourages us to hear from their various fields of service of God's blessing upon their labours.

I want to thank all of our Ministers and Congregations for their continuing care and support of our missionaries and their work for the Master. The warm welcome in our churches and their generous support enables us to continue with our work of missions.

As a Mission Board, we are indebted under God to a whole host of dear brethren and sisters in Christ, young and old, throughout our congregations

who faithfully support the work of missions. Thank-you all for being rope-holders for the cause of mission in the

Free Presbyterian Church. Your grasp and hold on the rope is enabling our missionaries to go down into that deep and dark mine of lost humanity, and reach and win lost souls with the Gospel of Christ. We are all labourers together in this great endeavour. In spite of our weakness and smallness, God, in His grace, has given us many

opportunities to serve Him all over the world. Let our vision and prayer be moulded on the model of Psalm 67 v 1-2 as the old year draws to a close and another year of service in God's will opens up before us. "God be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause his face to shine upon us; Selah. That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations."

IN SPITE OF OUR WEAKNESS AND SMALLNESS, GOD, IN HIS GRACE, HAS GIVEN US MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE HIM ALL OVER THE WORLD.

MISSION BOARD DETAILS

website: www.fpcmission.org

Office:

Mrs Glenda Graham,
3 Carrigenagh Road,
Killeel, BT34 4NE
T: 028 4176 5574
office@fpcmission.org

Chairman:

Rev Ian Harris,
23a Moneydaragh Road,
Annalong, BT34 4TY
T: 028 4376 8040
ian.harris@fpcmission.org

Secretary:

Rev David Park,
55 Market Street,
Ballymoney, BT53 6ED
T: 028 2766 2039
hebronfpc@btconnect.com

Treasurer:

Mr Alastair Hamilton,
T: 078 6061 6302
a.hamilton@fpcmission.org