



# Behind the Scenes:

**L**ike the engine in a car or the mechanism in a watch, there is much done in the background of our missionary endeavour to keep the wheels in motion. Without this vital team of workers, this ministry could not function.

There are two main bodies taking care of our denomination's missionary work: the Mission Board and the Missionary Council, each having their own presbytery appointed chairman, Rev. Ian Harris and Rev. David Park, respectively.

The Mission Board is comprised of 17 ministers and elders and 2 representatives from the Council. It meets at least once a month and directly oversees the work of our missionaries and mission fields. There are three officers, the Chairman (Rev Ian Harris), Secretary (Rev David Park) and Treasurer (Mr Alastair Hamilton), who each carry heavy responsibilities. At present, there are three subcommittees looking after three major areas: Uganda, Kenya and Asia; each committee has its own Chairman and Secretary. Each missionary has a 'Contact Person' to help, encourage, support and be the direct link with the Mission Board.

The Missionary Council is the fund-raising arm of this ministry. Each Free Presbyterian congregation has the

opportunity of sending two representatives, appointed by the Session, to its monthly meeting. These representatives report back to the minister and congregation with updates, projects and missionary news. The Missionary Council raises 30% of our missionaries' salaries and often organises fund-raising projects. Along with the Chairman, the Secretary and Treasurer, the members carry out a labour of love and do a sterling work.

Then, there is Mrs Glenda Graham in the office! Our sister works every day to oversee the many responsibilities assigned to her by the Board. She is to be commended for her diligent and efficient labours, looking after the day to day running of the accounts and making sure our missionaries receive their salaries on time.

Finally, there is a host of other dedicated individuals from all of our churches who, with a deep love and concern for the great commission, also labour behind the scenes in prayer, fund raising and exciting others to take seriously, and be involved in, this great mission to the lost at home and abroad.

Please pray for those who work tirelessly in the background to keep our missionary work functioning, as efficiently and effectively as possible. ■

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## New Mission Board Office Equipment



The Mission Board has purchased a new computer and printer for the office in Kilkeel. The previous computer, bought by Mr George McConnell, had been in use for at least 10 years. Over the past years, it was running slowly and the Mission Board decided to upgrade. A new combined printer/scanner was also purchased. Appreciation is expressed to Mr Mike Crow for his expertise, time and help in setting up the new system. ■

## Mission Board: Bible Training Institute

It has been the burden of the Mission Board for several years to provide formal training for Pastors in developing countries. After much planning and prayer, a Bible Training Institute has been set up which will arrange and deliver training courses to students in areas where the Mission Board seeks to establish and develop churches. The two-year course will be completed in modules and delivered remotely. Twenty-two candidates interviewed successfully and started their studies in February 2021 (18 from Kenya, 2 from Uganda, 1 from



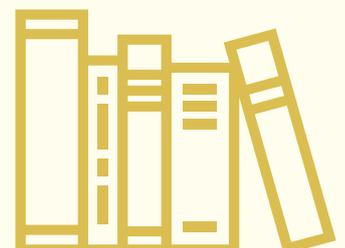
Guinea and 1 from the Philippines). A sincere 'Thank you' to the lectures who have committed to the training

programme. The screenshot shows a Zoom call with many of the students and some of the lecturers. ■

## Book Appeal

**CHRISTIAN BOOKS AND BIBLES ARE REQUIRED FOR THE BOOKSHOPS IN KENYA**

All books and Bibles (new and used) can be given to Missionary Council Representatives



# Progress in Uganda

✉ **Right:** The Mission Board Chairman, Rev Ian Harris, is pictured speaking via Zoom at a special Assembly for Primary 7 and Senior 4 pupils at the end of February, just before the commencement of their exams.



✉ **Left:** Some of the children and young people hearing the Gospel at the Emmanuel Sunday School.



✉ **Below:** Families associated with the Emmanuel School are pictured receiving training through the Orphan and Vulnerable Children programme, operated by the Mission Board, to help support those families in greatest need.



✉ **Circle:** The electrical switchboard that is soon to be shipped from Northern Ireland to Uganda to help complete the installation of mains electric on the Emmanuel Christian School compound.



✉ **Far left:** Miss Noreen McAfee and members of the Emmanuel Church engaged in their Sunday afternoon outreach programme – visiting the homes around the Emmanuel Church and School.



# Letter from Cortijos Nuevos



“ WE WANT TO THANK ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL SUPPORT AND PRAYERS; YOUR LABOURS ARE NOT IN VAIN IN THE LORD. ”

Dear friends and supporters,

Only five months ago we arrived at the church in Cortijos Nuevos (Spain). We are so grateful to the Lord for bringing us here. We have settled well and the church has welcomed us with a deep Christian love. We are thankful to God, for we have received a great heritage from Rev Lyle Boyd’s work over the past 30 years and it is a privilege for me to be able to learn from him.

Like many other churches, we had to do online services during the different lockdowns. Some unsaved ones are watching in, so we are trying to use these means to reach others. Also, the other ministries of the church have been able to continue, which include a daily 3-minute radio program, a twice-a-week market stall and a daily devotional for all connected to our congregation. I am also translating the Q&A videos made by Dr Cairns and we trust they will be a source of instruction for believers.

My wife, Vanesa, has been teaching online Sunday School since January and we are grateful to the Lord for this opportunity.

She took up a study on *Pilgrim’s Progress*. We know that many are benefiting from her labours.

Please pray for our daughter Abigail, who just started school in March. Our great desire is that God would save our children early in life and keep them from this sinful world.

Finally, we want to thank all of you for your faithful support and prayers; your labours are not in vain in the Lord. ■

✉ Alejandro Bernabeu

✉ Above circle:  
Alejandro preaching

✉ Right:  
Alejandro and family



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