

Missionary Council Weekend

19th - 21st November 2021



The annual Missionary Council Weekend took place in the Magherabuoy House Hotel, Portrush, from 19th to 21st November. Traditionally, the weekend begins on Friday night with a Fellowship Meeting and this year was no exception. Miss Joanne Greer, missionary to Liberia, reported on her burden to start a Christian School. The North American Board has agreed to sponsor a five-year pilot project in this endeavour. The Chairman, Rev Park, presented an overview of missionary work across the world, highlighting the wonderful opportunities given by the Lord to reach out to the nations of the world, including new openings into Asia: Pakistan, India and the Philippines. Rev Park gave a short talk on the words of Christ in John 4:35: “Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.”

Conference Meetings took place on the Saturday evening. Missionary reports were given by Miss Margaret Russell, recently retired home from

Kenya, and Mr. Noel Shields, Home Missionary. Dr John Douglas was the guest speaker and brought a very powerful and challenging message from 1 Thessalonians 3:11: “Now God himself and our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way unto you.” The presence of the Lord was very evident, working in hearts that which was pleasing in His sight.

The third special meeting took place on the Sabbath when those attending the weekend joined the congregation at Hebron Free Presbyterian Church for their Worship Service. Video reports were shown from Miss Noreen McAfee (Uganda) and from our new contacts in Pakistan. The sermon was preached, with the Lord’s anointing, by Rev Ian Harris, Mission Board Chairman, on ‘The Priority of Prayer.’

The Weekend was undoubtedly owned by the Lord, Who was pleased to set before His people those matters relevant to the Great Commission and Gospel work in general. The fellowship was outstanding, and the attendees left with a real sense of knowing the Lord’s presence and blessing, and with a renewed vision for the work of missions. ■



☒ Above: Dr J Douglas preaching during the Conference Meeting.

☒ Left: Margaret Russell bringing a report.

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Bring the Books

I am just one link in a long chain of missionary activity. After 'Book George' handed over the reins, I started packing books for Africa. Most of what I do happens in the church's loft, kindly granted by Mourne FPC. Most of the books are donated by God's people throughout our congregations. It is my duty to sift through them and discard any unsuitable material. Each box has to be well packed, taped, strapped, numbered and addressed for their long journey. We are very grateful to Every Home Crusade for transporting them most of the way.



☒ Above: Books packed and ready



☒ Above: Boxes loaded for transit

In more recent days, we have been able to provide good books for pastors in Uganda, some new children's books and over 1500 copies of Scripture, kindly

granted by TBS. God has provided and we certainly value everyone's support. Paul once asked Timothy to "bring... the books" (2 Timothy 4:13). Please

continue to bring the books. God is still using them in Africa. ■

☒ Rev Philip Kyle

Treasurer's Report

As we come to the end of 2021, I want to express thanks to all who have given so generously to the various works of FPC Mission. The past year has been unprecedented for us all, as the pandemic has created many difficulties at home and abroad. However, as always, our many loyal supporters have put the needs of others, who are in difficult situations, before their own needs. I would particularly like to thank those who give in a consistent way month by month, as the assurance of this regular income allows us to plan ahead. We do like to send an annual note to all regular donors, so to that end, can you please let us know if you move house so that we have accurate contact details.

Members of the Board are often amazed at how the missionary needs are met, and our prayer for you all in 2022 is in the words of 2 Corinthians 9:8; "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work." ■

MISSION VISION

A special conference to revitalise our missionary vision.

"And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us." Acts 16v9

8-12 MAY 2022

each night @ 8pm

Presentations & Challenging Messages

Sat 13 MAY 2022

Interactive Workshops

Put these dates in your diary

More information to follow



Sending Forth Service for

Rev & Mrs Malcolm Patterson

At last, with the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions, the Pattersons were able to return to the mission field in Kenya. A special Sending Forth Service was held in their home church, Coleraine, where Rev and Mrs Patterson were officially set aside for their next term of service. Rev Derek Erwin, the Interim Moderator, brought introductory remarks, led the congregational singing of 'To God be the Glory' and opened with prayer.



Rev David Park, Missionary Council Chairman, presided and other Mission Board members and friends took part. Rev McMillan read the Scriptures and special presentations were made by Mr Alastair Hamilton. Rev Patterson responded, thanking the Board for their kindness and setting various prayer requests before the congregation. The Sending Forth and Commissioning Prayer was led by Rev Leslie Curran.

 **Above:** Rev and Mrs Patterson are pictured alongside various Mission Board members

Rev Ian Harris preached a stirring and encouraging sermon, with Rev Wesley McDowell closing the meeting in prayer.

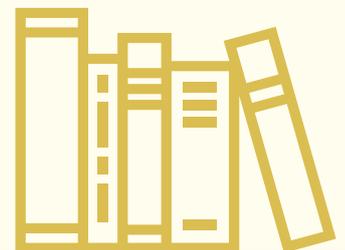
We are glad to report that Malcolm and Alison arrived safely in Kenya on Thursday 21st October and are settling in well. We covet your prayerful

intercessions for them, as they seek to labour for Christ in the many responsibilities of missionary life. They would say with the great missionary, the Apostle Paul: 'Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you' (2 Thessalonians 3:1) ■

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



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