

# Renewing our Vision



The word “vision” is used in many different contexts in the Bible. One of which was a supernatural method in which God the Holy Spirit gave fresh direction to his people through dreams and new revelations. Paul and his missionary team in Acts 16 v 6, when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, were forbidden to preach the word in Asia minor. Even when they wanted to divert and go into Bithynia, the Spirit would not allow them to proceed. It was not until they came to Troas that Paul and his team were given a new vision and heard what has become known as the Macedonian Call. God spoke to them afresh and directed them to travel to Greece and into Europe for the first time taking with them the Gospel.

In our Mission Board, after all the shutdowns and restrictions connected with Covid-19 over the past two years, we felt that it was time to renew the mandate that God has given to us in the Great Commission. Whilst we do not need new revelation to renew our commitment to go and teach all nations, we believed that we did need to reconnect with our congregations and recommit to what God has already revealed to us in His Word. Thus, the Board decided it was time to go back to the Word of God and seek to rediscover and reemphasise what the Scriptures teach us concerning “Mission”. The idea was born that we should organise a “mission conference”. Appropriately, we have called this mission conference – “MISSION VISION”.

Our Lisburn Church has kindly agreed to host the conference “MISSION VISION”, which we deeply appreciate. It will open, DV, on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May and will conclude on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May. We ask for your prayerful support for this special week of meetings, that it will be owned and blessed of God and that hearts will be stirred as we investigate what God has revealed to us in His Word about missionary work. We would value your presence with us each night. Local churches might consider sending their Y.P.F.’s along or bringing their prayer meetings to the conference. Please see the advertisement for the schedule of Mission Vision. We look forward to welcoming you along. ■

✉ **Rev Ian Harris**, *Chairman*.

## MISSION VISION

**Conference hosted by**  
**Lisburn Free Presbyterian Church**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May, 7:30pm** ▶ **Rev. I Harris**

Understanding Consecration in God’s Service  
*Light refreshments served afterwards*

**Lord’s Day 8<sup>th</sup> May, 11:30am** ▶ **Rev. R Higginson**

The Biblical Charter for Missionary Work

**Lord’s Day 8<sup>th</sup> May, 7:00pm** ▶ **Dr J Douglas**

The Importance of the Continual Infilling of  
the Holy Spirit for Missionary Work

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May, 8:00pm** ▶ **Rev. J Greer**

The Importance of Church Planting on the Mission Field

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 8:00pm** ▶ **Rev. D McMillan**

The Role of the Home Church in Missionary Work

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May, 8:00pm** ▶ **Rev. J Hanna**

Reaching out and over cultural and national borders  
with the gospel

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May, 8:00pm** ▶ **Rev. C Mercer**

Christ’s Charter of Success

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May, 8:00pm** ▶ **Rev. D Park**

How do I know I am called to Missionary Work?

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May, 10am-2.30pm** ▶ **Workshops**

FPC Mission Strategy and Training  
Opportunities for Mission Teams & Short-term service  
Q.+A. Session with Missionaries

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



## MISSIONARY VISION

# New Church Building in Nepal

Despite the restrictions of Covid-19, the church in Nepal marches forward. The pastors are able to go out again and preach the Gospel to the unreached in remote villages. Recently, in one of these villages, the Lord was pleased to bless the preaching of Christ, and souls were gloriously saved. Rev. Paul Thapa reported: 'God has opened up the door to start a new church in the remote village of the country. There were eight people converted through the preaching of the Gospel by one of our ministers. There are many other families in the village. Pray that the entire villagers may come to know Christ as their Saviour.'



In the background of the Omicron variant spreading rapidly, the testimony of Rev. Thapa is most encouraging: 'It is a time of hardship, but the Lord never stops His working. Please pray for these new babies in the Lord. One of our pastors is looking after them even though they are not so close; he has to make a trip of six hours walking. But the Lord is gracious and enabling him to serve Him, so that the Gospel should be spread.'

An appeal was made for funding to assist in the building of a new church in this village area. The Mission Board responded, and it wasn't long before construction was underway.

Pray that the new converts will continue steadfastly in the faith, and that many others will be added to the Church. ■

✉ **Alastair Hamilton,**  
*Mission Board Treasurer.*

## Thanks to the Fosters



We thank you for your ongoing prayerful and practical support for Andrew, Hannah and Rachel Foster as they have laboured for the Lord in Uganda. It is therefore with great sadness that we report that, after prayerful consideration, Andrew has resigned his position with the Mission Board, as he now feels the Lord is calling them home. As a Mission Board, we express our thanks and deep appreciation to Andrew and Hannah for their service in Uganda over the past four and a half years. During that time, Andrew has worked diligently and skilfully to improve and expand the facilities at Emmanuel Christian School, and Hannah has assisted in the development and management of our Orphans and Vulnerable Children's programme.

We would ask you to pray for Andrew, Hannah and little Rachel at this time, especially that the Lord would lead them for the future. The Mission Board wishes the Fosters God's richest blessing for the days ahead. ■

✉ **Rev Ian Harris**  
*Chairman of the Mission Board*

✉ **Rev David McMillan**  
*Chairman of the Ugandan Subcommittee*

# Mains Electric Project at Emmanuel



A very important project that the Mission Board has been working on for almost three years has been the installation of mains electric at the Emmanuel Mission Station, Uganda. They have relied up until now on solar power and a small generator.

The project has included the complete rewiring of the Mission Station to make it suitable for mains electric, and the manufacturing of an electrical switchboard in Northern Ireland, which was shipped to Uganda over the summer of 2021. The completion of this project has been greatly hindered by the restrictions of the Coronavirus pandemic. The electrical team first visited Emmanuel in February 2020 for the initial phase of the work. But it was only in March of 2022 that they were able to return to Uganda again to complete the project.

Kyle Wenlock very willingly took up the challenge of this massive job, and using all his contacts and experience, he put the team together and organised all the work. He was ably assisted by Richard Foster. The other members of the team were: Luke Dobbin, Paul Lennox, Timothy Monteith, Joel Patterson and Samuel Snodgrass. Elaine Wenlock was also a vital member of team providing hospitality for the workers.

To have the mains electric at Emmanuel has made a very significant difference to the lives of our Missionaries, and all that goes on at the Mission Station.

The Mission Board wishes to express its deepest thanks to all the members of the electrical team for devoting so much of their time and their talents to this vital project. Their ‘labour of love’ has helped the Lord’s work at Emmanuel to take a very significant step forward. The Board also wants to thank all who have given so generously to support this project financially. ■

## New Vehicle. Same Endeavour.

Olive and I returned to Northern Ireland from Cork in 2009 primarily to use the “bus” which Dr Paisley had obtained for evangelistic work. The Mission Board later replaced it with a smaller and more suitable camper van. We had two MOT extensions because of Covid-19 which gave us an extra year on the road, but after 11 years of constant use, the day to retire the bus (as we still call it) has come.

This bus was used in various parts of the country. It became a regular feature just outside the gates of Knock RC Shrine where it hosted a booklet display and a base from which

to reach the many pilgrims. More than one RC priest either sat in the bus or engaged us at its side door. We gave away plenty of gospel literature, CDs etc. Emptying the pockets of the bus showed how sometimes we got holy medals, relics and other trinkets in return. However, “an idol is nothing”, while the Gospel booklet may yet prove to be the power of God unto salvation.

I am grateful to the Mission Board for replacing the older bus with a low mileage 2015 Ford Tourne. A new vehicle, but still the same gospel endeavour. Pray for us. ■

✍ Colin Maxwell, Home Missionary.



# Aid for Ukraine

As we have witnessed the awful scenes in Ukraine over the past weeks, we are again overwhelmed by the generosity of God's people in providing aid support to those in great distress and need. Gifts continue to arrive with the Mission Board, and we have distributed these to our three partner agencies who have direct access on the ground, in Ukraine and the neighbouring countries.

## WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP



Faith  
In Action  
Missions



The team at FIAM are sending finances into the churches in the Kharkov region and surrounding areas, to allow them to reach out to their communities and provide vital assistance. Recently they have been able to rescue some elderly and sick people and bring them to the House of Hope. They have been feeding people in subways and rescuing refugees and bringing those who have lost their homes to live in the Christian school.

They have also been working with the families of believers there on a plan to bring Ukrainian refugees to Northern Ireland. ■



✉ **Circle:** A blind woman rescued by Pastor Pavel and his team from bombed Kharkov, she is now safe in the house of hope.

✉ **Far left:** The House of hope, many have been rescued.

✉ **Left:** The church supplying milk for families.

## MISSIONARY VISION



# Slavic Gospel Association

In Ukraine, SGA is providing aid for churches and believers who are taking care of displaced people in the west of the country. Getting aid to those who are in besieged cities and towns is a pressing need. However, believers in the surrounding countries of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia and Poland have already received funds to help provide food, hygiene, medicine, mattresses, bedding and transportation. ■

☒ **Top left:** Accommodation for refugees.

☒ **Left:** People coming to the church for food.

☒ **Circle:** Receiving aid on the border.

## Betania Baptist Church, Romania

Bethany, in Timisoara, was one of the first churches to open their doors to refugees fleeing from Ukraine. They turned part of their church facilities into accommodation to receive several families. Pastor Vali and two of his church officers travelled 500 miles to the Ukrainian border to provide direct support to churches in Odessa. A Ukrainian Pastor, his wife and 4-month-old baby travelled many hundreds of miles to meet up with these men who brought a financial aid package to help those struggling on the front line. ■

☒ **Right:** Ukraine border with supplies.



*Thank you once again for your sacrificial giving.*

*Please continue to pray that the Lord will bless these efforts, the needy will be supported, and souls will be physically and spiritually saved.*

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