



Mission Vision Conference

to Mark the Mission Board's 50th Anniversary

March 2024 marks the 50th anniversary of the formation of the Free Presbyterian Mission Board. Although its beginnings were small, God has graciously blessed the Mission Board's work and the Free Presbyterian missionary endeavour now stretches into numerous countries around the world. We are incredibly thankful to God for His sovereign purposes in raising up men and women and sending them into the harvest fields. Some have passed on to glory, others have transitioned into retirement, many are still in their fields of service, and a number are engaged in deputation meetings in preparation to leave home and serve in foreign lands. None of these developments would ever have been possible without the Lord's grace,

help, and provision. Our congregations continue to support the work faithfully by prayer and financial gifts. There have been 50 years of encouragement and giving which have enabled the work to progress.

To mark this Golden Anniversary, a series of special missionary services are being arranged from Wednesday 6th March to Saturday 9th March 2024. God willing, these meetings will be held in Lisburn Free Presbyterian Church. Please keep these dates free and plan to join with us: 'O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together' (Psalm 34:3). ■

✍ **Rev Colin Mercer,**
Mission Board Chairman.



A special conference to focus on Mission in Action.

Hosted in Lisburn Free Presbyterian Church

6-8 MARCH 2024 each night @ 8pm

- The Priority of Evangelism
- The Purpose of Discipleship
- The Pattern of Church Planting

SATURDAY 9 MARCH 2024 @ 8pm

- Special Anniversary service to recognise the work of the Mission Board over the past 50 years
- Special Speaker – Rev Samuel Murray (Moderator of Presbytery)

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‘An air of Youthfulness’ at the

Missionary Council Weekend



There was certainly an air of youthfulness as the delegates and friends of the Missionary Council met for their annual weekend in the Silver Birch Hotel, Omagh. Three families, with a total of eight children, joined us this year adding young voices and activity to the weekend. Jason and Danielle Boyle were there with their boys, Caleb and Jonathan; Glenn and Emma Hamilton with Holly, George, and Isabella; and David and Rachel McAuley with Eloise, Arthur, and Jude. The first meeting was held in

Omagh church on the Friday night. Rev Jason Boyle brought a personal word of testimony and Rev Mercer set the tone of the weekend, preaching on the subject, ‘Mission in Action’. The Omagh ladies provided a light supper.

The Saturday morning began with an informal meeting for the ladies, when they heard Danielle's personal story and about the family ups and downs of living in Mexico City. Then, after free time in the afternoon, the Saturday night meeting included Alastair Hamilton giving an update on the position of the mission strategy in our works across the world and an interview with both prospective missionary couples, the Hamiltons and the McAuleys. They discussed their backgrounds and told of their hopes and concerns as they prepare to go out to Kenya and Uganda respectively. Presentations were

made to retiring Missionary Council delegates, before Glenn Hamilton brought a closing word.

Everyone attended Omagh church for the Sunday morning service. Recently graduated missionary student, Elizabeth Edwards, gave a report on the summer outreach to Kenya and David McAuley preached a challenging sermon on being fellow labourers in the work. ■

✍ **Mr Eric Graham,**
Missionary Council Chairman.



MISSIONARY VISION

Uganda

Building & Vehicle Appeal

The sending out of new missionary families to Uganda is a cause for great thankfulness to the Lord, but also presents new challenges, such as the provision of suitable, safe accommodation and vehicles adequate for the circumstances. To address these needs, the Mission Board is planning to develop a secure compound and build two new houses on land adjacent to the Mission Station, and to buy a new 9-seater Toyota Landcruiser.

Accommodation for the McAuley family is an urgent need, as they move on to the field this year, so we plan to



prepare the compound and build the first house immediately. Then, as soon as possible afterwards, we will build the second house for the Carscadden family, with room left for another house in the future.

The total funds needed for the building project and the new vehicle are approximately £280,000. We are delighted to report that we have already received pledges of finance for these projects from a generous supporter and the Missionary Council to cover

the first £130,000, which means we need to raise a further £150,000.

We are, therefore, making an earnest appeal for gifts to help with this major expansion of the mission field in Uganda. If you would like to donate to these projects, please contact the Mission Board Office for bank details. Sincere thanks for your prayerful consideration of this matter. ■

✉ **Rev David McMillan,**
Uganda Subcommittee Chairman.

UNITED CHILDREN'S CAMPS 2024

MOYALLON CENTRE near Portadown

First Camp: 29 July - 2 August

Second Camp: 5 - 9 August

Cost: £140 per young person

Application forms: available on www.fpcmission.org

'Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth.' Ecclesiastes 12:1



MISSIONARY VISION

A Very Encouraging Trip to Nepal



☒ Above: The young ladies who graduated.

The 'eight-thousanders' is the collective name for the fourteen highest mountain peaks in the world and refers to the fact that each of those mountains is over 8000 metres high. That height is significant, in that 8000 metres is regarded as the maximum height at which a human being can survive for any length of time without an artificial source of oxygen. Nepal is unique in that it houses the world's top eight tallest mountains. It is impossible not to be moved by the breathtaking scenery of the place.

The Nepalese appear to be a very religious people. It is impossible to move about the country and fail to see the evidence of false religion. Hinduism and Buddhism seem to dominate the culture. Shrines, pictures, and images are to be seen at every turn. We saw numerous cars with little images and false gods placed on their dashboards. Cabs of lorries are adorned by paintings of the gods. The words of Psalm 97:7 readily came to mind; they 'boast themselves of idols'. However, in the midst of false religion, the truth of the Gospel is being proclaimed.



☒ The men who were ordained



☒ Above: The Youth Conference

The purpose of our visit was to engage with the work of our missionary, Miss Joy Gillespie, and the Free Presbyterian Church of Nepal. A special two-day Youth Conference had been arranged. Young people and some of the Nepalese Free Presbyterian church pastors travelled from different areas of the country to be in attendance. As is the custom, the congregation sat on the floor during the four services each day. We preached upon the early ministry of Elijah in a land that had largely embraced idolatry in the days of Ahab and Jezebel. The topic seemed most appropriate, with the audience listening attentively and appreciating the Word proclaimed.

We also had the opportunity to participate in an ordination service for three new pastors and three church elders. Further, Rev Creane preached at a graduation service, marking the completion of a Bible study course undertaken by a number of young ladies. Visits to two churches in the mountains, not far from Kathmandu, were also highlights. We greatly appreciated the generosity of the Mission Board in sending us.

We were privileged to be present to see the Youth Fellowship Teams engage for the first time in a quiz to win the newly established Rev Wesley Graham Memorial Cup. Five teams were questioned on the *Shorter Catechism* questions 1-38, general Bible knowledge, multiple-choice questions, and a sword drill. The team from the church in Kathmandu won. Rev Thapa presented the cup to the winning team, along with their medals and a certificate. All the other participating teams were also recognised for their efforts.

The Lord's people in Nepal were most welcoming and friendly. Miss Gillespie and Rev Paul Thapa, the Moderator of the Presbytery, are to be commended for their continued labours in faithfully presenting the Gospel. Your prayers for them and for all who assist in the work would be much appreciated. ■

☒ Rev John Armstrong,
Dungannon Free Presbyterian Church.

☒ Below: A team participating in the Rev Wesley Graham Memorial Cup.



2024 MISSION TRIPS



“Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature.”

Mark 16:15

ASIA

with LOCAL
CHURCHES



Date:

Oct/Nov 2024 for 10 days

Team: Maximum of 4

Outreach Activities:

VBS, Church Visits,
Youth Events

Cost:

£1,200/person (subsidised)

SPAIN

with CORTIJOS
NEUVOS CHURCH



Date:

July 2024 for 7 days

Team: Maximum of 12

Outreach Activities:

VBS, Open Airs,
Leaflet Distribution, Youth Events

Cost:

£500/person (subsidised)

Express your interest by completing the online application form available on the Mission Board website: www.fpcmission.org

Places are limited and applicants must be 18 years old or over.

More details can be obtained from the Mission Board Secretary – Rev D McMillan.

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