

Missionary Updates...



Nate & Rachael Heater

What a whirlwind! The Lord certainly opened the door for us to return to NI at a practical time! Nearly every week this summer we were involved in either a Hello Life, a camp, or other ministry – all a delightful (if exhausting) reintroduction to BCM NI. What a joy to see the enthusiasm of so many volunteers and the good response from young people in a dozen different contexts! We are excitedly looking forward to moving forward some work in Newry and Downpatrick, as well as the other things the Lord has prepared for us.

(Photos - Above: Rachael and Maureen Dundas celebrating their birthdays at camp. Below: Nate with Joel Parker involved in a drama at HL Belfast.)



Scott & Joanna Widman

Proverbs 16:33 - We may throw the dice, but the Lord determines how they fall.

It's always easy to accept the reality of God's sovereignty when things are going well. But what about when the coin is flipped? Over the last six months Joanna and I have been to America twice. Once for the birth of our first grandchildren. Twins! The second time was to experience the passing of one of those twins. A beautiful girl named Winnie. The mind floods with the questions of "why?" and "could God have done something?". But then I was reminded of the three boys standing in front of the furnace facing death. Our God can save us they said. But even if He doesn't. . .

As a family we are thankful for Winnie's life. But we are also thankful for a loving Heavenly Father who is sovereign in all things.



Jason & Gemma Hill

Summer 2021 was a blast and although we faced a lot of issues we felt God near and pushing us on through our trials and tribulations... and you know what if we had to do it again we would.

We are very blessed with an amazing team of faithful volunteers who rise to every occasion and are not afraid to face whatever comes their way.

Family camp was a real highlight for us and we had an amazing time as directors of the week and as a family attending.

Last year we have had Anna Hill come on staff to help with practical elements - we are so thankful for her help, patience and willingness to help wherever was needed. She has started a PGCE and we wish her all the best for the future.

Kate Maginnis has started as an intern: she will help with Bubbles, preparing facilities for groups and helping with the ministries we are involved with.

Ethan and Caleb are back at school (P3 and P1) and doing really well. Betsy is doing well too and starting to wean.

Weekend groups are starting back again and the new year looks busy - which is great. We would greatly appreciate your prayers and support through this.

NEWSLETTER

inform

BCM NORTHERN IRELAND

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A future and a hope

Campers, parents, volunteers, programme directors, Hello Life team leaders, the BCM Board and staff, all wrestled with feelings of disappointment, uncertainty, discouragement and worry this summer as Covid upset plans again and again, often at the last minute. Yet one of our camp memory verses was Jeremiah ch 29 v 11: "God says, 'I know the plans that I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a future and a hope.'" Does God forget His promises?!

Of course not. But both for the initial recipients of this promise, who were facing insurmountable difficulties, and for us in 2021 – the hope and future to which Jeremiah points is not an earthly one, but a place in God's eternal kingdom, where there will be no disappointments, uncertainties, discouragements or worries. What a joy to point children and young people to the future which God is preparing for those who turn to Him!

For many volunteers the challenges of Covid brought our primary objectives into sharper

focus: sharing the hope of God's kingdom with those who don't yet believe, and lifting the eyes of young believers to the future which awaits them. We are so thankful to have been able to share this message of hope with many, many children and young people over the summer, both in person and virtually, at Mullartown and in the various Hello Life venues.

Please pray with us for opportunities over the winter months to tell others this great news of future hope, found in God alone.

Judith Rogers CEO



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*** BCM NI NEWS UPDATES ***

MULLARTOWN SPORTS HALL LOAN PAID OFF

Thank You - If you would like to support BCM NI please get in touch

Oaks	(Yr 8+)	Mondays	8.30-9.30pm
Bubbles	(Yr 8-11)	Tuesdays	7.30-9.00pm
	(Yr 12+)	Wednesdays	3.30-5.30pm

Learning and serving in Lisburn

This year we had the opportunity to take part in the BCM Connect bible study and Hello Life team. The weekly bible study was a great encouragement throughout the year as we met with other Christians our age to study God's word. The bible study led to the great opportunity of doing the Hello Life team, where we went into

communities with the goal of spreading God's word. Even though we had a few problems with coronavirus we knew that God was always in control. To be able to go into these areas and take part in activities in the community centre was a great way to get to know the kids as well as spread the word about the bible clubs that we were

holding. It was great to see God working and how engaged the kids were with the story and games. They loved the daily clubs so much that when we had to leave they wouldn't let us go. All in all it was a great experience to grow our faith and to see God work in different ways.

Sophie + Ethan Hair (Age 16)



Amazing opportunities!

Over the past year I have had the pleasure of serving with BCM for my Bible college placement. Having volunteered previously with BCM I was very excited to get more involved. Throughout the year I had the opportunity to lead a Bible study group called Connect. This was a group of 6 young people led by my co-leader William Hill and myself. It was amazing as it was supposed to be a 4-week study, which soon turned into another 4 weeks, then another. In the end our study ran from the end of September to the start of the summer. It was such a blessing to see the young people so enthusiastic about studying the

Word of God. Even things like sword drills were amazing as they all wanted to be the one to read! It was then so amazing to see them volunteering on teams over the summer and having the opportunity to serve alongside some of them.

I also had the opportunity of co-leading my first year of Hello Life Lurgan alongside Emily Kane. We had an amazing turn out of kids in both our clubs, around 35/40 kids overall which was amazing. We had such a class team, everyone got stuck in and it was great to serve alongside each of them.

Throughout my placement year it has been amazing to see God

at work: I have learnt so much myself and want to say thank you to everyone whom I have had the pleasure of serving alongside. I cannot wait for placement to resume this year. What an amazing God we serve!

Adam Hanna



A new venture: Hello Life Downpatrick

At Hello Life Downpatrick we split the team in two and ran 2 bible clubs each. We had a good response from these and had increasing numbers throughout the week. One club didn't have any kids so the team took it in turns to do door-to-door with tracts and biscuits which also got a good response. The entire team did door-to-door with flyers one day and did a litter pick in one of the club estates; however the other community work plans were stopped by Covid. It highlighted to the entire team how God is ultimately in control of the week. The team spent the day planning for future clubs, praying and worshipping as we



waited for what thankfully were negative results and we headed into the rest of the week with the reminder of how God was in complete control.

James Maginnis



Partnership in the Gospel: Hello Life Exodus



One does not expect it to be too nice for Bible Clubs, but that's exactly what our joint Hello Life/Exodus team in Newry ran into. As the temperatures set new records throughout the week, the team adjusted their plans – when kids were unwilling to come out to the greens, we instead walked the estates and prayed and chatted with people,

even spent an afternoon picking litter. Not much of the week looked like we expected, but God provided abundant opportunities to share the gospel and have meaningful conversations with people young and old we never would have talked to otherwise!

Nate Heater

