

Missionary Updates...

Scott & Joanna Widman

Joanna and I are very grateful for signs of normal ministry life! Since December I've had seven weeks of SU in the primary schools and an online camp held in the south of Ireland. Ministry within the church has opened back up for BB, GB, choir and music group. For Joanna, bookings at camp have picked up giving her many opportunities to cook and serve in other areas around camp. We thank God for His many blessings!

Nate Heater

I am busy with the start of Hello Life planning; coordinating with team leaders, selecting dates, and beginning to sort out the practical elements. Pray for the team leaders as they recruit volunteers and plan programs. Praise the Lord for another summer of partnership with Exodus! Oaks and other discipleship groups are also running again, pray for each of the young people involved to grow in love for Christ.

Jason & Gemma Hill

Life is very busy but we are very glad to be returning back to some normality.

With regard to Ethan and Caleb, they enjoy every second of life - school, homeworks, learning to swim, BB, and running through the camp gardens. Betsy is trying her best to be on the move - bum shuffling her way into everything she shouldn't be in.

Jason has been voted in as an elder in Annalong Presbyterian Church and begins training for this during February and March. Pray for this time as he learns and takes on this new role.

At the end of October we had a Family Camp reunion which was amazing - we had 9 families and we looked at Philippians 4:6.

In December we had our Junior Teens and Senior Teens reunions - Juniors was a full residential and Seniors a day trip. It was fantastic to see campers and volunteers back in person at Mullartown.

Weekend groups are starting back again and we are fully booked from February to May - which is great and we pray there isn't any disturbance in this.

We are working through what summer 2022 looks like and have started writing lessons and preparing for camps in person.

In January we ran a Couples Enrichment Retreat - building on Christian marriages and looking at God's love for each of us. Alan and Pauline Wilson led the teaching of the weekend - everyone got on well and developed new friendships.



NEW STAFF MEMBER - Miriam Griffith

In December, I moved from working with a mission's organization in Germany to join BCMNI. I am working in Administration/Finance in the Lisburn office and also as Maintenance assistant at Mullartown. I am originally from California, and I'm getting married to Alex - a Canadian in February! I'm looking forward to how God will use me here in Northern Ireland.

NEWSLETTER

inform

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Serve, lead, sow

When Jesus wanted to teach his followers about **servant leadership**, he did so primarily by showing them what it looked like in action. As the Board and staff recently considered together the account of Jesus washing his disciples' feet in John ch 13, we were challenged by the **intentionality** behind his actions. Confident of his mission, and determined to re-dress his disciples' perspective on what leadership in the Kingdom of God looked like, he deliberately chose a posture of humble service - the Creator serving the Created.

Our desire for 2022 is that we, as BCM NI, might more intentionally strive to imitate our Servant King. We want to better **serve** each other, and our volunteers, by learning from Jesus' style of **leadership**, with



the end goal of **sowing** Bible seeds more effectively, and more widely, into the lives of children and young people across Northern Ireland. Our vision is for each generation of staff and volunteers to lead those in the generation below intentionally, demonstrating sacrificial service, so that each

generation in turn can do the same for the generation which follows them, and so on, and so on.

Please pray with us that 2022 would present many opportunities for us to **serve, lead, and sow**.

Judith Rogers CEO

Your chance to make a difference

Are you passionate about developing the vision of BCM International NI while maintaining our values and ensuring good governance?

BCM NI is seeking new Directors (aka Trustees) to join the Board. To find out more, visit www.bcmni.org/board.



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Bubbles

We have just loved being back in person at Bubbles this year, it has been great being able to welcome new girls and to reconnect our friendships with existing girls. Including leaders, we have 60 girls attending on a weekly basis; the girls are split into 3 sections: 1st and 2nd years, 3rd and 4th years and 5th and 6th years. Our talks before Christmas were looking at "Christian Girls Making Good



Choices" and our talks from now to Easter are looking at Identity in Christ, Journeying with Jesus and "10 Questions Every Teen Should Ask" by Rebecca McLaughlin. It's just a real pleasure to spend time with these girls and encourage them in their walks with God, some weeks I feel that we learn as much from them as they do from us.

Gemma Hill



Connect Discipleship Group

Connect is a Bible study in the BCM centre for 16-18 year olds that equips teens to study Scripture through unpacking and discussing passages together. This year, we have been studying Daniel and seeing how he and his friends stood strong in their faith when faced with opposition. The group has doubled in size from



last year: now 13! God has been good in bringing the teens consistently each week and allowing us to see each of them grow. Please pray that God would continue to teach and grow us through His word, and that the new additions to the group will become more comfortable in the studies.

Nathanael McIlveen

Oaks

Oaks started back on Monday 13th September - it was great to see so many of our members and leaders returning, along with some new ones. We meet each Monday night 8.30-9.30pm split into 3 groups (1st-3rd Year, 4th & 5th Year and 6th Year+). In our series of studies from September to December, entitled 'When God Speaks, We Listen,' we looked at the ways God spoke to Old Testament Bible characters and considered how this could be applied to our daily lives as we walk with, and listen to, God. Please remember us in prayer as we plan our meetings over the next few weeks for January to June.

Alastair Glenny

The Way

We've had an encouraging time with the teenagers at 'The Way' over the past few months. It has been great to see many new faces along with our 'regulars' continuing to attend. We feel that they listen well and we have great discussions, with the teens asking some deep questions. Some have admitted that they believe everything 'about' the gospel but as yet aren't prepared to commit their lives to Christ, stating 'enjoyment of sin' is the main obstacle. We average around twelve 15-18 year olds attending weekly. Thanks for praying!

Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come - Ecc 12:1.

Jonny Kelso Jr.

Stoneyford Bible Club

We started back in November and spent the run up to Christmas teaching the children about the Bible, how we know God exists, how God made people, their fall from the Garden of Eden, and how Jesus

was sent to the earth to save sinners. We finished our final week learning the Christmas story and enjoyed crafts and a party.

Julieann Chapman



Markets Bible Club

In November and December, we held a Kids' Club every Thursday evening for 5 weeks in the Markets area of Belfast, an inner-city community which has had limited exposure to the Gospel. The theme was "Jesus is God's Promised King". Over 30 kids turned up on the first night, and although the numbers were lower in subsequent weeks, the kids were very engaged with the activities, listened well and answered the story-time

questions enthusiastically. For the final night, we had a coffee/tea trailer outside and invited the parents. Those serving the drinks/treats managed to hold some good spiritual conversations. Our prayer is that we will continue to be a godly witness in the area, to build up relationships with the parents, and to see increasing numbers of children attending.

Stephen Cunningham

Candy Club

CANDY Club recently started back after an 18 month break of in-person meetings. A lot has changed in these 18 months and there was obviously a lot of anxiety over how many children would return and if we would be able to spark interest in CANDY club again amongst those who had been regulars. At the moment of writing this, we have been able to meet six times and

have recently started a long term study of Paul with the kids. We are so excited and every week we feel blessed that after such a long and hard 18 months we are able to meet with these kids and to teach them about the book that has influenced and changed every one of our lives as leaders.

Andrew Smith

Some photos from recent BCM Events



City Kids at Mullartown for a day trip



BCM Ladies morning tea



Lessons at Annalong Primary School



Nate speaking at Annalong YF