

Mission Focus – December 2020

Over the years the fellowship at Dunfermline West Baptist has supported various missions and charities. This is just to give you an overview of what they do and how we contribute to their work. Hopefully it will be informative and encouraging. You can find more information on their websites but if we have up-to-date news this will be shared each month.

In Our Community

Pray for the leaflets that have been posted through doors in our local area, the witness of Andrew's baptism, the Outside Nativity and the Carol Service.

View what's happening at West: https://dwb.church/events

trypraying:

TryPraying

https://trypraying.org

Their website says 'The desire to reach out to God is basic to many, many, people. Trypraying is a resource for people like that: no church connection or interest, but open to find out about God. The Trypraying booklet is a 7-day prayer guide and is now being used by many to pass on to friends and family with a few words of encouragement, 'Why don't you try praying for a week and see what happens in your life?'

We have used the booklets in the past and the Trypraying banner is visible on the church wall in Dewar Street. There have been meetings up and down the country recently as people are seeking to respond to how to get the message out to many people who have turned to prayer over this difficult time. A new initiative is planned for the Spring 2021 for churches to be involved called 'Let's do this together'.

Baptist Missionary Society (BMS)

https://bmsworldmission.org

'BMS works among some of the most marginalised and least evangelised people, in some of the most fragile places on earth. They aim to bring life in all its fullness through 7 key ministries: church, development, education, health, justice, leadership and relief'.

As a Baptist Church, our fellowship has supported this work for many years. We have supported their Harvest Appeal, and Relief Fund, and some individuals within the fellowship give a gift on their birthday to the Birthday Scheme, others still use the 'globe' collecting boxes, several receive the excellent 'Engage' magazine, and we have two 'link' missionaries working in Peru. Some of their recent news follows:-

Daniel and Regiane Clark are hoping to make it to the UK in February for Home Assignment, this having been postponed twice because of the pandemic. The church they attend in Lima reopened on 15th



November but the use of private cars is still not allowed on Sundays in Peru so that will be a challenge. There is a school attached to the church, but sadly the principal died of Covid-19.

Daniel has been very busy exploring the benefits of technology in his ministry. Instead of his usual November visit to the Training Centre at Nauta where Laura-Lee works, the Centre negotiated a spot for him on the local radio to do his sessions, he spoke at a virtual conference for Peruvian pastors and the Seminary's own conference was on-line. As Daniels said 'Love never fails' — where there is Zoom it will cease, where there are Windows, they will be stalled, where there is technology it will pass away but 'now these 3 remain, Faith, hope and Love, and the greatest of these is Love'.

Please pray for them as Regiane seeks to organize visas etc. for their travel. They may well have to travel through another Latin American country as Peru's international airport was still not permitting flights to Europe.

Laura-Lee Lovering working in the Amazon jungle at the Nauta Training Centre. Laura is praying that everything works out for some good friends to be able to go home to Nauta for Christmas. She has taken up some study again. Having spent several years talking to rural pastors and church leaders about the state of their local timber stocks and what might be done to half the decline, she has started a MSc Tropical Forestry with Bangor University. They are still experiencing power cuts at Nauta, sometimes lasting 12-48 hrs. A power cut managed to damage a component of the water project system so they are back to manually operating the timing of the pumps until they can get all the parts.

Thanks to the efforts of local colleague, Felix, the radio continues to be the principle tool of ministry just now. That has been a challenge for Laura as she has had to adapt her visual teaching tools to a different medium. She wasn't well a little while ago but after diagnosis of infection from two different types of intestinal parasites and medicine, she is feeling better.

A copy of their letters in full is on the notice board in the church hall and Laura also sent a Christmas video greeting, which can be viewed at www.bmsworldmission.org/loveringchristmas



Embrace the Middle East

https://www.embraceme.org/

This is a Christian Charity with over 160 years' experience of helping people of all faiths and none to free themselves from a life of poverty and injustice. They seek to partner with Middle East Christians as they bring healing and hope and see lives and communities transformed by the compassion of Christ.

They have just entered into a new partnership with Life Vision in Egypt which aims to empower children with visual impairments living in villages in Upper Egypt, fostering a safe community for them and offering education, vocational training and technology.

We have supported this charity several times by nominating it for our Christmas Eve collection and by using their Carol Sheets.





Platform 67

https://www.platform67.org/

Why the Name? 'A platform is simply a stage from which to proclaim your message – loudly and clearly! Psalm 67 is one of the great missionary Psalms. It shapes our purpose to: make God's ways known on earth, his salvation among all the nations'. They aim to send as many resources as possible to cross-cultural work. They link with gospel ministries around the world that share a common burden for the unreached.

We have an annual visit from Martin Dudgeon and ask the fellowship to contribute to their work at this time. We use their weekly prayer update at our Prayer and Bible Study group.



Bethany Christian Trust

https://www.bethanychristiantrust.com/

This is a national charity whose mission is to relieve the suffering and meet the long term needs of homeless and vulnerable people in Scotland Bethany supports almost 7,000 people a year across Scotland, including, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Bathgate, Dundee, Aberdeen, Dumfries and Fife. It's integrated approach consists of 3 core-streams of life-changing services: Homelessness Prevention, Crisis Intervention and Housing & Support.

We have sometimes had a speaker on Homelessness Sunday at the end of January and given a gift. BCT has also been the recipient of a Christmas Eve offering and some of the fellowship have collecting boxes.



Scottish Bible Society

https://scottishbiblesociety.org/

Since 1809 they have sought, under God, to put the Bible into people's hands and hearts. They work so that all people can have the Bible in a language they understand, a form they can access and at an affordable price, to aid genuine encounters with God.

In the past we have celebrated an annual Bible Society Sunday and given a gift following that.



Gideons International

https://www.gideons.org/

Gideons International is an Association of Christian business and professional men and women dedicated to telling people about Jesus through associating together for service sharing personal testimony and providing Bibles and New Testaments. While they are often recognized for their work in hotels, they also place and distribute Scriptures in strategic locations so they are available to those who want them, as well as to those who may not know they need them.

We have sometimes had local reps of Gideons to share in our services and given a gift following that.





Whilst we as a church have never given a gift to this charity, some individuals have supported it. It's mission is to enable people to offer their money, goods, skills, time and prayer and through this to provide effective help to those suffering the effects of extreme poverty in the world's poorest communities. They link a midday meal and education for over 2 million children every day around the world.

Our government is doubling every gift they receive until the end of Jan. 21 and they have a Christmas initiative whereby people can give by 'setting a place at the table' for a child.

Generosity

We would like to thank all of you for your generosity in continuing to give to the church, and the charities it supports, during this time. We appreciate that these are uncertain times and are grateful that many of us are still able to contribute to the mission of the Church.

You can find further information on how to give to the church via bacs (preferred), cheque or cash at: https://dunfermlinewest.org/giving/