



ufm
united for mission

4 CORNERS

MAGAZINE OF UFM WORLDWIDE | AUTUMN 2016



GOLDEN JUBILEE

Evangelical Church of
Papua New Guinea

BRINGING
HOPE TO THE
HOPELESS
PAGE 6



REACHING
STUDENTS IN
GRENOBLE
PAGE 14



UFM MULTIMEDIA
LIBRARY
PAGE 20



CONTENTS

02 Zealous Senders!

04 ECPNG Celebrates its Golden Jubilee

06 Bringing Hope to the Hopeless

08 "Should I Not Be Concerned About that Great City?"



10 Short Term and Summer Team Focus



12 International Church and Student Ministry in Torino

14 Reaching Students in Grenoble

16

17 New Operations Centre for 100Fold

18 Congo and Community

20 UFM Multimedia Resources & Mission Finance

22 News Bites

ZEALOUS SENDERS!

I am writing from the UCCF Forum where over 1000 CU leaders have gathered this week from all over the UK. It is an amazing opportunity to engage with students when they stop for a chat at the UFM stand. The questions that I have been frequently asked this week are, "So what is UFM?" and "What type of work do you do?" These are great questions and they lead to great discussions! Somewhere in my response I will let folk know that our priority in UFM is *"to take the gospel to people who have had the least opportunity to hear it."* This can lead to further questions!

John Piper, speaking on the subject of mission, comments, "There are only three types of Christians, zealous goers, zealous senders and disobedient!" It is an amazing privilege for us as a mission to partner with UK churches in this great task of sending!

If you and I are to be 'zealous senders' in taking the gospel to unreached

people how can we be better equipped for this task?

We should be informed

We often quote "a little knowledge is a dangerous thing." This is true in so many areas of life and also in relation to mission. It is important to understand what we mean by "unreached people." It is often stated that one doesn't need to leave the UK in order to "do mission" and to find folk who have never heard the gospel. This is true. However, it is important to define the difference between not having **heard** the gospel and not having **access** to the gospel.

Recently I read the following challenging statistics. A third of the world's population (33%) is 'Christian', through birth and tradition, but not necessarily through a personal relationship with Jesus. Slightly more than a third (38%) live where there is access to the gospel. However, almost a third (29%) remain unreached by

We should pray for more workers. When last did you hear someone at your church prayer meeting pray that God would send workers to unreached people groups?

the gospel – people groups that have no indigenous church and are, therefore, unable to evangelise their own people. In other words, some 2.4 billion people still need to hear the gospel for the first time! Only 3% of the so-called ‘missionary force’ is engaged with unreached peoples.¹

Paul underlined his priority to take the gospel to unreached peoples by saying, “I strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build upon another man’s foundation.” (Romans 15 v 20)

There are many resources available for us to be informed in relation to unreached people groups. Operation World and the Joshua project (www.joshuaproject.net) are good places to get started.

We should be intentional

As churches we should be looking to identify people with suitable gifts for cross-cultural ministry and a priority should be identifying some to take the gospel to unreached people groups. We see this pattern exemplified in the early church. Seeing his potential for ministry, Barnabas brought Saul from Tarsus. (Acts 11:25) Later the church at Antioch was led to separate Barnabas and Saul for ministry. (Act 13:2)

This doesn’t mean we should buttonhole folk and encourage them prematurely into mission; sadly experience has shown that much damage can be done when this method is adopted. However, many missionaries can testify to having benefited from words of advice and encouragement from mature Christians when seeking to discern God’s leading.

What type of person is suitable for cross-cultural mission? Here are some questions you could be asking in seeking to identify suitable candidates. Are they teachable and humble? Have they already proved themselves in serving in their home church? Do they show consistency in their personal devotions? Do they know with conviction God’s call to serve him in mission? We have recently produced a leaflet to help churches test the call of those to be sent, contact any of our offices for a copy.

We should be intercessors

Jesus said, “The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” (Matthew 9 v 38)

We recognise that, ultimately, it is God who calls workers,

however, we have been given the responsibility to pray. In UFM God has graciously given us people who pray daily for our missionaries and their ministries. We produce a bi-monthly prayer calendar to enable people to pray specifically and intelligently for the work. If you would like to be added to our mailing list please get in touch!

We should pray for more workers. When last did you hear someone at your church prayer meeting pray that God would send workers to unreached people groups? When you pray along these lines you are praying in accordance with scripture!

As we inform ourselves of the needs around the world, and seek to identify potential missionary candidates, this should naturally turn into intercession as we ask God to send workers to people who have had least opportunity to hear the gospel.

Who knows ... perhaps there will be those among the 1000+ students this week at Forum who will not only ask the questions, but will become “zealous senders” or “zealous goers!”

WILLIAM BROWN

1. <https://fiec.org.uk/news/article/why-overseas-mission>

ECPNG CELEBRATES ITS GOLDEN JUBILEE

On 10 July 2016 there was a celebration to mark 50 years since the nationally led Evangelical Church of Papua New Guinea was born on 10 July 1966. Great celebrations were held beginning in Moresby, going to Balimo, Erave, Lae, Rumginae – and on.

There was much rejoicing and celebrating as we remembered how PNG used to be when the missionaries first came to Balimo in 1931 – and how it is now.

I love this expressive song sung by one of our pastors at our Rumginae celebrations:

*Islands and mountains,
sunshine and breeze*

*Flowers and moonlight,
swaying palm trees*

*Jungles and rivers, white
coral sand*

*This is my country, this is
my land.*

*Dark were the days when
men lived in fear*

*Fear of the arrow, stone-
club and spear*

*Fighting and hatred filled
every hand*

*That was my country, that
was my land.*

*Then came the change that
brought peaceful days*

*News of our Saviour,
learning His ways*

*Darkness is fading out of
our land.*

*We know the peace of His
guiding hand.*



Dramas expressed how the Good News of Jesus Christ came to the Balimo area and then paddled up the River Fly, to Bike then up the River Wae Maeri to Rumginae. Great fear was felt when the first white men were seen and were assumed to be spirits of the dead!

Rumginae was a spirit land that people feared and was taboo. So Brian Tucker, the pioneer missionary to Rumginae, gave a gun to a national to shoot the spirits!

Then the people cleared the jungle – afraid, but willing. Axes and bush knives made clearing the bush so much faster!

God's Word, health care, 'chalk and dust', transformed their lives over the next years. Airstrips were built that enabled access to remote inaccessible areas. Grass skirts were abandoned in favour of clothes.

Pr Maroke (top right) walked many miles through the bush to share with other remote tribes the Good News of Jesus that had transformed him.

The Dahamo tribe presented a wonderful drama of how Pr Maroke brought the message of life to their area that was torn apart by pay-back killings.

Praise God for faithful men and women who brought the Good News to this far corner of the earth and spread it to the many tribes of PNG.



Praise God for all those who were changed by God's Word.

Praise God for those who then took the Good News on to others.

We were challenged to make a fresh commitment to this great task.

Please pray we will know God's direction as we seek to continue fulfilling God's commission to 'Go to all people everywhere, and make disciples'.

ROSIE CROWTER



What now?

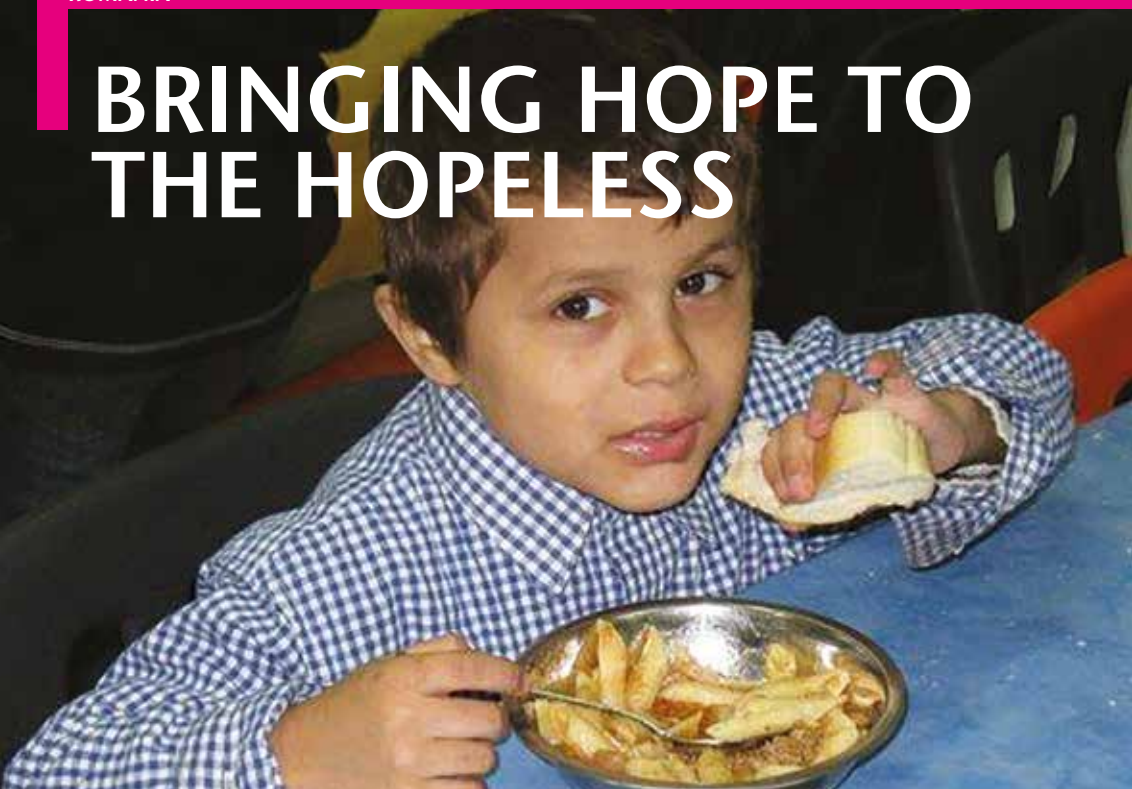
What will the next 5 years or 50 years hold for ECPNG?

What is the vision and direction for the church?



'But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ' Ephesians 2:13

BRINGING HOPE TO THE HOPELESS



I moved to Romania 4 years ago because I believed God had put it in my heart to serve there as a missionary. At first I lived in the historic city of Brasov in the beautiful Carpathian Mountains. All I had to do was look out of my window to see the wonders of our Lord's creation. After 2 years of working in a church planting role in Brasov, I felt God was moving me on.

I moved from the beautiful city of Brasov to Ferentari, a district of Bucharest, the capital of Romania. This district of the city is where the communist government had forced the nomadic Roma Gypsies to settle. The communists had built housing blocks out of

concrete panels with no insulation. There was no running water and, often, no electricity. Imagine a tiny flat with only a couple of rooms, no facilities, and little ventilation, when the temperature can be as high as +40C and as low as -20C. Understandably, this area soon became a squalid slum. Although running water and electricity have now been put into most, but sadly not all, of these homes, they are still not pleasant to live in. Many people want to minimise their time in these apartments and so spend their time on the streets. Because of this the streets have come to resemble a landfill site.

In May 2014 the Daily Mail

declared Ferentari to be the 4th worst place in the world to visit. Now when my wife, Anca, my 1-year-old daughter, Chloe, and I look out of our window we do not see the beauty of God's creation but instead the squalor of man's despair. But there is hope for the people of Ferentari in the same wonderful Person in whom we have found hope, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Nearly 25 years ago a missionary asked a local Baptist church what they were doing for the poor children of Ferentari and that challenged them. They decided to start a Sunday School for them. Realizing that the children could not read and write, the Sunday

School teachers took on the task of teaching literacy skills; from the initiative of these teachers a school has grown, which is where I now work.

The teachers noticed that the children would fight over the small pieces of bread and honey they were given as a snack. These children were underfed and suffered from the effects of poor nutrition. So it was decided to feed the children one meal every day. Without better nutrition the children cannot make the necessary progress in their education. It was also important to improve their bad hygiene and their poor health, so a training program for the parents was started and work began to get a doctor's office opened in the neighbourhood. About 8 years ago the school moved into its own building which also contains the surgery. Unfortunately, since the financial crisis it has become much harder to raise money, which means that today it would not be possible to establish a similar project.

Since the decision was taken in 1992 to 'make a real go' of Project Ruth and to start the school the project has grown and grown. Over the past few years many new aspects have been added to the work, including a women's work. The best way to improve the lives of the children is to help the mothers to learn how to get work which will give them a regular income. Sadly, if



the fathers get money they spend it on alcohol but if the women earn money they spend it on feeding and clothing their children.

However, all these projects to help the people of Ferentari, and improve their lives, do not give them the hope they really need. There is only thing that will

But there is hope for the people of Ferentari in the same wonderful Person in whom we have found hope, our Lord Jesus Christ.



give them that hope and that is the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This is where my focus is as I am the Chaplain at Project Ruth. Through teaching the Bible to these children, and telling them about the hope that can be found in Jesus, they can begin to experience the hope that is totally missing from this sad and hopeless place.

ANDY WORSOP



"SHOULD I NOT BE CONCERNED ABOUT THAT GREAT CITY?"

The book of Jonah deeply challenges me every time I read it. Here's Jonah, God's prophet, and he can't bring himself to take a message of "repent or be destroyed" to the wicked Ninevites. Then later on he gets all worked up about a plant! He is comfortable under its shade but God takes it away. As I write its extremely hot here in Madrid at the beginning of September. If I did not have any shade, well I think I would be pretty grumpy too. But the point is that Jonah is far more bothered about his own comfort than the salvation of more than 120,000 people.

Here in Madrid the student population is huge, between 250-350,000, but let me focus on one campus in particular. It's so big it has its own metro stop, and it's called Ciudad Universitaria (University City). I estimate that the number of students studying on this campus alone might be a similar size to that of ancient Nineveh.

Do I, like Jonah, value my own comfort above the eternal wellbeing of these students? What about the Christian students? Do they stop to think about the fact that their classmates face hell without Jesus? Because, for all their learning, in spiritual terms they are like

the Ninevites – they cannot tell their right hand from their left.

Well, yes, in many ways the Christian students involved with GBU can be timid. They often feel marginalised, and ill-equipped to speak the Gospel to their friends or explain their beliefs in an academic context. University City is their Nineveh. It's tempting to be like Jonah – OK you have physically to be there – but you don't have to come out of your comfort zone to share an uncomfortable message.

Imagine with me for a moment that Jonah had gone to Nineveh without the task of preaching to its

citizens. What would have happened? How would he have behaved? I think he would have had two options. He would either have walked around the city harshly judging them inwardly for their pagan ways, or little by little he would have started to imitate them, joining them in their idolatry. Those are reactions we perceive among the Christian students when they do not have a grace-centred, missional perspective of their time in university.

That's why the student movement here is so important. One of our priorities is encouraging and helping students to realise that they are called to live out the Gospel on campus, build friendships and to take opportunities to speak about the Lord Jesus. Another emphasis is on the students opening the Bible with their friends. So we train, encourage and challenge them to seek opportunities and to do so without fear of rejection. Through large one off events we seek to remove the initial stumbling blocks that students have to opening the Bible for themselves.

When the opportunity comes she asks a friend if they want to open up the Bible with her to see what Jesus is really like from the Gospel of Luke.

Ana is studying journalism in University City. She seeks to reach her friends with the good news about Jesus. But how? She finds it easy to make friends so she soon gets into deep conversations and shares her faith. When the opportunity comes she asks a friend if they want to open up the Bible with her to see what Jesus is really like from the Gospel of Luke. To reach more people, including those she does not yet know, she participates in a "Grill a Christian" event.

These are drops in the University City ocean of course. But let's stop a moment to consider the result of the preaching of Jonah, this wayward

and reluctant prophet to Nineveh. The Ninevites repented! The whole city!

It just goes to show that to shoot an arrow to the target, as a Spanish believer once said to me, "It's not the bow, but rather the archer that counts." That's a great comfort when considering the size of the challenge, the fragility of the work, the inadequacy of our efforts to reach not only University City, but the many thousands of students studying in this great city. May he continue to shoot his arrows straight to his targets, in spite of his fragile bows. And all glory to the Great Archer!

JON SHORT



SHORT TERM AND SUMMER TEAM FOCUS



SUMMER HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUBS IN IVORY COAST

My month volunteering with UFM this July was a very positive and encouraging time. I assisted Fidel and Yvette Tchoumou in Sassandra, a coastal town by the Gulf of Guinea. Fidel and Yvette work with the UEESO-CI, the national Union of Evangelical Churches, Services, and Works. I helped them in the organization and running of two summer holiday Bible camps for Ivoirian children. My responsibilities included preparing educational

material, organising and leading crafts activities, and teaching – all in the national language of French.

Each week was a unique and special time. Following a few days in the commercial capital Abidjan, my Ivoirian-Welsh host family and I travelled the bumpy 270 kilometres westward to the small town of Sassandra. The

first week was a productive time of adjusting to new surroundings, meeting local Ivoirians and finalizing the resources and schedule for the first camp. Week two began the 5-day Sassandra Holiday Bible Club focussing on the book of Jonah. Approximately 40 children attended aged from 7 to teenagers. After a weekend reviewing the next lot of teaching material and completing crafts resources, we travelled 150 kilometres westward to the Tabou region. The Tabou Regional Bible Camp was significantly larger, longer, and more rural than the previous one. We had 113 children, aged 7-17.

I can say while I may have been 'teacher' I certainly learned a lot as well.

Working with UFM in local Ivoirian contexts gave me valuable linguistic and cultural insights into the broader picture of the national churches.

Teaching at the camps boosted my confidence in speaking French in an, initially, unfamiliar context. It was also really special to see the children growing in faith as they learned about God's Word.

SARAH HICKEY



NURSING ELECTIVE IN UGANDA

At the end of my nursing training I went to Kiwoko Hospital in Uganda for a month to undertake a nursing elective. My time was spent working in various departments across the hospital including neonatal intensive care, maternity, paediatrics, community and HIV clinics. I worked alongside staff in the hospital who were really welcoming and keen for us to be involved as much as possible.

Seeing the similarities and differences in care and the

resourcefulness because of limited supplies was amazing. Outside of working in the hospital I enjoyed meeting up with other Ugandan staff at the hospital to share in local foods, explore the village and encourage one another in our Christian faith. Spending time with other visitors allowed us to process our experiences together.

During my trip I learned that no matter where you are in the world people need the same Gospel – that the blood of Jesus Christ is the only way

to know God. No prosperity gospel can ever give us the same hope. I would definitely recommend doing a short term mission. Although it can feel as though you don't have much of an impact long-term, I think it can change you more than you change things. Having the opportunity to partner with a long term project helped me to be better equipped to pray for other missionaries as well as giving me a bigger vision of God being at work in the world.

CATRIN GOODWIN

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY IN SOUTH AFRICA

My journey to South Africa on a summer team mission started only 2 months before getting on a plane with the team. After a meeting with UFM about the mission trip, I experienced God provide in an amazing way both the time off from work, for 3 weeks, and the additional funds that I needed to pay for the trip.

The team was led by Debbie from UFM. There were 6 of us with her: Chloe, Emily B, Laura, Morgan, Rebecca and myself. From the outset we bonded as a group, getting on well as friends and experiencing one of the most satisfying times of Christian fellowship in our lives. We stayed with Elaine and Gavin, a couple who run Musawe Nkosi, the charity with which we worked.

Our time was mainly devoted to running two children's Bible clubs. At both clubs there were around 100 kids attending each morning. We did this with Emily Young, a UFM short-term missionary, who works with Musawe Nkosi. We played outdoor games with the children, led a time of singing to God, told them a Bible story with a link to the good news of Jesus Christ, organised craft activities and had lunch together. In the afternoons we prepared for the next day

or visited the Musawe Nkosi children's home and spent time doing activities with the children. Our evenings and weekends were spent enjoying fellowship together or getting some free time to ourselves. Amongst other things we visited the beach and visited a game park. During my time on mission, I learned a lot about what Christian mission is and at the same time had a lot of fun with other people who love Jesus.

STEWART STEELE



INTERNATIONAL CHURCH AND STUDENT MINISTRY IN TORINO

In September 2011 we arrived in Torino with an initial commitment to work with the church here, God willing, for at least 5 years. It is strange to look back over those 5 years and to feel that in some ways we're just getting going! So we're very glad still to be here beyond that initial time commitment. As I write this, we have just returned from a visit to the UK and, while that still feels like home for Alison and myself, Turin is certainly home for our children. They were born here and, as they get older, they become increasingly Italian in their ways. For example, neither of them

are particularly keen on British food! Anyone who has ever taken a holiday in Italy knows that the weather and the food are hardly burdensome (except in the real heat of the Summer, perhaps) but there is much more to Italian culture that we have come to appreciate. We have learned to love the Italian way of life and, since getting off the plane from the UK a couple of days ago, we have been reminded how even the pace of life in a busy city like **Torino** is noticeably less frantic than in the UK.

Don't be deceived when we tell you that Torino is an industrial city. When we

were first told that, the images of Britain's industrial cityscapes came to mind, but Torino is a beautiful place, rich in culture, history, sport, art and, of course, food. It is home to a growing international community, some of whom are very glad to find a church where they can worship with other Christian believers from around the world – and in a language they understand.





So the International Church of Torino is a truly multicultural congregation. At the last count we had nearly 30 different countries represented in a typical Sunday meeting and more than 65% of the regular congregation coming from Africa. So we haven't just been learning about Italian culture over the last 5 years!

There are plenty of opportunities for ministry in the city. As the various international communities in Turin grow, so do the opportunities to reach out into them. The international student community in the city is growing steadily, and with many university-level courses now being taught in English, Torino is attracting students from across the world. Since September 2015, the IFES InterAction team, which we have been leading, has proved an exciting venture to reach out to the international students here, alongside

the Italian-speaking work of the national GBU group and fellow UFM-er, Paul Chatfield.

But the ministry here also has its challenges. Our congregation in ICT is transient – nearly all of our people stay in Turin for a year or two before being moved on for work or study. We feel as though we are almost constantly saying goodbye to some people and welcoming new ones to the church. This high turnover makes developing a church leadership very difficult. Of course, it also means that we have to hold a global view of the church, which is no bad thing! If we can encourage people during their time with us so that they then move on to strengthen churches elsewhere, we are happy that Christ's church is being built globally. That being said, we would also love to see just a few people remain

with us for the longer term and become leaders in the local church.

The economic crisis, which has hit Europe, is still being felt particularly strongly in Italy. Migrant workers are particularly vulnerable to redundancy and unemployment and many in our congregation are currently out of work. Financial pressures can bring their own pastoral challenges, of course, but, at the same time, we are also encouraged to see how people in the church here are caring for one another.

Like most British citizens living in Europe, we will be watching the developments of the Brexit closely. It remains to be seen what the implications will be for our residency and life here, so we look to the Lord and his good providence for the future.

HUW AND ALISON WILLIAMS

REACHING STUDENTS IN GRENOBLE



It's 5.30pm on a Wednesday evening and most French students are making the journey home from a long hard day at university. They are longing for those few minutes when they can simply sit down and chill out. Their academic day has drawn to a close and they are awaiting those few well-earned moments of blissful silence before they contemplate engaging their brain again for the evening.

Not so at the FEU in Grenoble! At 5.30pm every Wednesday evening things are just getting started! The doors are opened and a group of dedicated students are beginning the task of cooking dinner for up to 50 or so hungry students who

will soon be strolling through the doors in expectation of another hearty meal. And, like clockwork, by 7.15pm the lettuce is washed, the pasta is cooked, the dessert is prepared and we are ready for action. Noise levels gradually increase throughout the meal as cutlery clinks against plates and laughter resounds throughout the living room. The buzz is tangible as students, who have learned that the FEU is a place where they are welcome, share stories about their week across the table with both old and new friends. Once the bellies are filled the dishes are promptly dealt with and the room is set up for stage 2 of the evening. Seats are

set out in rows, couches are correctly positioned for maximum comfort and the announcements for the week are given. "Sports outreach next Thursday!"; "Food bank needs some chatty volunteers!"; "English language outreach night-bring your friends!"; "Forms are due in for the weekend away!"; "Prayer Breakfast in French on Tuesday and in English on Thursday at 7am – Be there!"; "Prayer and worship on Friday night!" Already, just from the announcements, we can all sense that the week to come is going to be a great week. As the announcements draw to a close our speaker opens up the Bible and a room full of students from all over the

world soak in the truths that are presented over the next 45 minutes.

Some are Christians, some are not, but both are there of their own accord because they are eager to hear what God has to say to them. The end of the talk sets the scene for stage 3. Everyone knows the drill and every room in the building is quickly filled with small groups led by our student leaders who are ready to spend the next 45 minutes chewing over the text we have just studied. Debates arise within the groups over this issue and that issue, truths are discovered and the practicalities of life as a Christian student in France are examined. As the evening draws to a close each group is knit together through the sharing of prayer points and the privilege of praying for each other on a weekly basis. Gradually, as the night wears on, the students filter out of the FEU one by one. The floors are washed, the shutters are locked and the lights are turned off. Those who attended may have gotten home a lot later than their classmates but week after week and year after year they keep coming back. They keep coming back because they know that on Wednesday evenings at the FEU they are renewed through God's Word and it's worth the late night.

I hope that above I have been able to give you just a little taste of what life is like at the FEU in Grenoble.



I count it a real privilege to be able to be a part of a great team of both staff and students who are committed to both discipling Christian students and reaching others with the Gospel. It has been really exciting to see lives transformed over these past few months with some students giving their lives to Christ for the very first time.

As we start this new academic year we are in no doubt that it will have its challenges but we are expectantly waiting to see what God is going to do in the lives of our regulars and who He is going to bring through our doors next to have the opportunity to hear the good news that transforms lives for eternity.

RUTH MCGARVEY

[illegible]

NEW OPERATIONS CENTRE FOR 100FOLD

OneHundredFold has been operating for just over 3 years and is growing rapidly. While we are a distributed team, mostly working from our homes across 12 time zones, we do produce physical technology for our mission partners. Up until now all that work has been done in spare bedrooms and on dining tables in people's homes. During these past 3 years we have been praying for a "place" that would be suitable for an Operations Centre and now we are pleased to say that these prayers have been answered.

In the state of North Carolina, in the USA, we have just leased a church building that no longer has a congregation. At just over 300 square meters of space we will be able to set up a production facility for our technology production team, handle shipping and receiving, have office space for programmers working in the area, have space for local volunteers to work on technology projects and a place to offer training on how to use technology on short-term missions trips. All of this will allow us to greatly increase our effectiveness in "making the message mobile."

While having a new Operations Centre is exciting, it is also daunting. We are faith-based so taking on extra costs was done with caution and prayer. We have already been encouraged to receive the Lord's supply for needs in the new facility. As soon as we took possession of the building we saw the need for office furniture, a significant unbudgeted cost, but within a week we received a gift of an entire lorry full of office furniture in near perfect condition. Then 25 volunteers from the local area came to unload the furniture.

Additional volunteers have done painting, plumbing, electrical work, and outside maintenance.

Now we are preparing to have the entire 100Fold global team come together the first week of October at the new Operations Centre. This will be a time for celebrating the Lord's kindness to us and preparing for a new season of growth and opportunity. Thank you for your prayers, they are being answered mightily.

ED UNDERWOOD



CONGO AND COMMUNITY

The Congo war from 1998 to 2004 destroyed more than the 5 million people who died. People also lost their sense of community. Many fled from their homes. Trust was lost as people saw fighting even between Christians of different ethnic backgrounds. Cities grew rapidly with all the usual lack of cohesion and identity. Whereas traditionally the Congolese were a very warm and connected people, after the war many felt separated and isolated. To help overcome this sense of isolation, many churches are forming church-based support groups. These groups are more than a Bible study or prayer group. They are accountability groups, discipleship groups, mutual support groups for all the problems that come up in peoples' lives. They bridge

across age, denominations, gender, class, ethnic group. They join the literate with the non-literate, mature believers with young believers, all to bring the love of Christ to hurting people. There are now more than 150 groups in northeast Congo which are helping to meet the deep spiritual and social needs of people.

In one group, they were reading 1 Corinthians 13. One lady, in learning the true meaning of love, made the decision to go to try to find her husband who had left her seven years earlier. With the encouragement of her support group, she set out on foot. After walking for two weeks, she found him. He was destitute and agreed to reconcile and come home. On arriving back at her village, the support group decided to

help them re-establish their life together by renting a suitable home for them and their children and paid the first 6 months of rent for them!

In another support group, the son of a woman was arrested. The mother shared her problem with her support group, and the group decided to go with the woman to the police office to see what had happened. Arriving at the police station, the group stayed outside while the woman went in to find out what her son had done. On seeing the many people gathered outside, the police chief was more curious about all the people who had accompanied her than he was about the accusation against her son. He kept asking "Who are all these people? Why did they come? Are they your family? Are



they from your church?" The woman explained that they were Christians from several different churches who cared for her and they supported each other in living life. Eventually the police chief found no valid reason to keep her son in jail and released him without even asking for the payment that is usually required. He was overwhelmed by the show of concern and solidarity by all her fellow Christians.

The groups have led to amazing cases of confession and honesty. One elder confessed that he really did not want to come to the group because he had been in conflict with another man who was in the group. But by coming together, he decided he needed to confess his grudge and forgive him. Another church leader, the grandson of a powerful witchdoctor, confessed that he had been using Satan's power to heal people even though he prayed in Jesus' name. He repented and sought forgiveness for the confusion he had brought into the church.

By acts of love and courage, many have found opportunities to share Christ with unbelievers. One group had an outreach to militiamen and went to their jungle hideout to share Christ. Over a dozen militiamen believed and proceeded to reconcile with God and the people they had been attacking. Another group decided to go door to door to minister to people and share the love of Christ.

One house they stopped at was a prostitute's. She said she was just going out to find a client and did not have time to talk to them. A man replied, "We were just like you, but God changed us and you can change too. Would you just walk with us for a while?" She agreed and at the next house, a lady invited the group in to pray for her. She shared how her life was a mess with her husband leaving her and her children in rebellion. As she shared her sorrows, the Lord spoke to the prostitute who later explained, "As the lady shared her heartache, I realized that I had been involved in destroying the homes of many people. I have been a prostitute since the age of 13

and now at 25, I will stop. I want to follow Jesus." She joined the support group and was reconciled with God.

There are still many needs in the Congo which God is able to meet through the ministry of churches, including church-based support groups. Pray that churches will grow strong in the Word, build good community together and remain faithful to the calling of Christ that has been brought to them through the ministry of UFM over the last 85 years. Pray that support groups would replicate themselves and bring even more people into community with God and other believers.

TED WITMER
Crossworld



UFM MULTIMEDIA LIBRARY

Have you ever visited our Vimeo Video Channel?
www.vimeo.com/ufmworldwide

Vimeo is simply a posh version of YouTube that hosts the videos we produce in a way that enables us to control how they are displayed and viewed. Over the past few years we have developed a library of videos covering a variety of mission related topics that provides information in a visual form about various countries where our missionaries are serving the Lord.

It's interesting that since we created the Channel in 2009 we've had views from 146 countries and a total of 91,617 videos played. A lot of viewing time!

Let me mention a few videos to you and suggest a few ways in which you could use them.



The Church's Responsibility
vimeo.com/175395657 is a 30 second video doing exactly what the title suggests. It is an excellent video to use during a church service to focus on how the local church can care for the missionaries they support.



Casa Mea

vimeo.com/130870837

tells the story of the special ministry in Moldova that rescues people from the closed institutes and provides a home for them and an opportunity to hear the Gospel.

Discipleship in Co Mayo

vimeo.com/129779561

at just over a minute long. Stephen Childs talks about what is needed to ensure new believers are grounded in the Word.

Mission as a mum

vimeo.com/130208056 is a great video for a ladies' meeting. Nikki Childs talks openly about how she seeks to serve the Lord as a mother.

Missionary Bios are short videos introducing you to missionaries and the main focus of their ministry vimeo.com/album/2613903



We also use YouTube to host some videos.

Hupla Bible Celebration

youtu.be/liuX_FElgt8 gives you a front-row seat at the dedication of the Hupla Bible in Soba in 2014.

MAF Soba Landing

youtu.be/a4aDaGTV4Zg puts you in the pilot's seat as he lands at Soba. It has been watched almost 7000 times.

Why not sit back and browse our videos on your mobile, tablet or laptop and see which ones you could use at your church, youth group, ladies' meeting, mission prayer group or simply with your family.

JONNY SANLON

MISSION FINANCE 2015-2016



We are very thankful to all the churches and Christians who support the work of UFM financially. Your faithful financial and prayerful support is vital to the ministries of our missionaries and to the work of UFM as a whole. Our latest accounts are for the year ended 31 March 2016. The charts set out below summarise the income and expenditure of the Mission for both this year and last year:

2016 2015

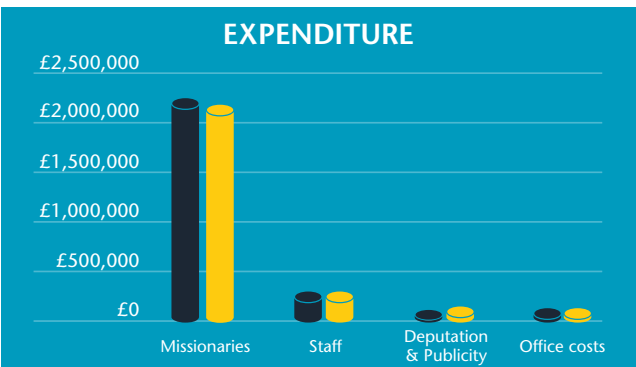
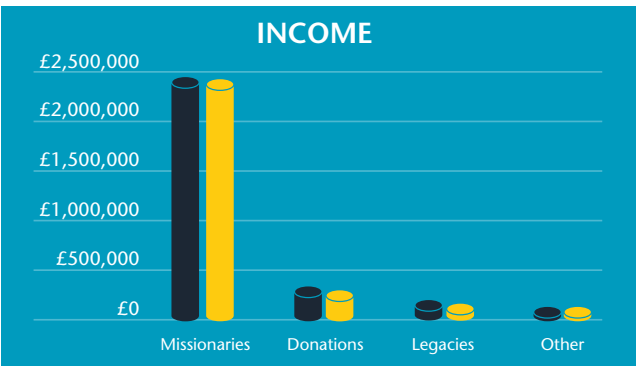
Donations to Missionary Support in the year amounted to £2,427,717. This represents a 0.63% increase on the previous year.

Income to our General Fund, which is used to pay the administration costs of supporting our missionaries, was £428,544. This compares with £365,717 received in the previous year. Whilst legacy income has continued to fall from the levels received in the recent years, there was a small increase during the last year. Donations and other income show an increase following last year's appeal regarding the needs of the General Fund.

Expenditure in support of our missionaries amounted to £2,215,783 compared to £2,150,476 in the previous year. Over the last year there has been an increase in funds earmarked for missionary support of £211,934.

Expenditure on the administration costs of supporting our missionaries amounted to £521,441 (2015: £534,350) for the year. Reductions in the costs of staff visits and conferences were achieved in the year.

Expenditure from Unrestricted Funds exceeded income by £92,897 (2015: £158,468) before adjusting for a decrease in the value of the Mission's investments of £40,290 and



writing down of the value of freehold properties formerly held in Brazil by £52,300. After adjusting for these write downs, the deficit on Unrestricted Funds was increased to £185,487. (2015: £133,633). The Brazilian freehold properties have been sold in Brazil and the proceeds transferred to charities in Brazil with similar objects to UFM Worldwide.

The balance on General Fund at 31 March 2016 was £299,541 (2014: £437,698).

The Council are continuing to consider ways to increase income to the General Fund and to reduce expenditure. The Council acknowledges the goodness of God in the provision of financial resources for the work of UFM Worldwide in past years. Please pray with us as we consider the challenge of ensuring that a similar level of income matches the administration costs needed to support our missionaries.

BRIAN MITCHENER
Mission Treasurer

WHATS ON

100Fold Conference

3-7 October in Waxhaw,
North Carolina

Scottish Annual

Thanksgiving Evening

7 October at Trinity Possil &
Henry Drummond Church,
Glasgow from 7.30-9pm

Irish Autumn Conferences

All at 7.30 pm

11 October at Harryville
Presbyterian Church, Ballymena

12 October at Emmanuel

Baptist Church, Lisburn

13 October at Omagh Baptist
Church, Omagh

N.I. Church Leaders' Seminars

All at 10-12.30pm – coffee
and lunch included

"Breaking down barriers,
reaching Muslims for Christ"

13 October at Adair Arms,
Ballymena

14 October at Orangefield
Presbyterian Church, Belfast

15 October at Corrick House,
Clogher

FAR FROM COLD (Our Stories)

by Gill Newham

Gill Newham's book is now
available from Amazon.



Paperback

£10.99

Kindle

£7.99

Operation Centurion Teams

Pete Nye is organising
Operation Centurion Teams
to go to Carcassonne and
Moldova. If you would be
interested in going on a team,
or would like more information,
please contact Debbie Fitch.
Email: debbie@ufm.org.uk

Acting Director

William Brown

Chairman of Council

Matthew Evans

Magazine Editor

Peter Milsom

145 Faringdon Road

Swindon, Wiltshire

SN1 5DL

☎ 01793 610515

✉ admin@ufm.org.uk

🌐 www.ufm.org.uk

Regional Director

based in Northern Ireland

David Morrow

Our Belfast office

has moved to

The Breda Centre

14 Glencregagh Road

Belfast BT6 0PA

☎ 028 9020 2222

Regional Director

based in Scotland

Iain Cameron

11 Newton Place

(Sauchiehall Street)

Charing Cross

Glasgow G3 7PR

☎ 0141 353 0666

UFM Worldwide (USA)

Suite 305,

400 Office Park Drive

Mountain Brook

AL 35223. USA

☎ (+1)205 802 5911

✉ admin@ufmworldwide.org

🌐 www.ufmworldwide.com

Design and Production

Adept Design

01263 734198

www.adeptdesign.co.uk

GOSPEL CARDS AND CHRISTIAN GIFTS

We encourage you to look at the excellent cards, calendars and books produced by **Gospel Cards**. Every year they distribute part of their profits to Christian missions, including UFM. You can find full details of the cards, etc. on their website www.GospelCardsEtc.com or you can ask them for a catalogue. Telephone **01656 647551**, or write to Gospel Cards, 15 Brackla Street Centre, Bridgend CF31 1DD



COMING

October

Mark & Gill Newham to UK

GOING

October

Ben Griffin to Burkina Faso

Michael Prest to Asia

Shirley Hough to Brazil

November

John & Gloria Wilson to Papua

William Brown to N.I. Prayer Groups

