



UFM Worldwide  
Annual Review  
2023/2024

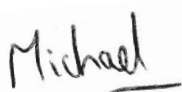


## Dear friends...

We praise God that he is the Lord of all the earth (Micah 4:13), that he's mighty to save (Zeph 3:17) and that our Saviour, Jesus Christ, is at work today, fulfilling his great promise that the gospel must be preached in his name to all nations (Luke 24:47)

What a joy to participate in this mission! We hope this short review will give you a helpful snapshot of some of the ways we've seen God at work in and through the UFM family over the last year. Thank you as ever for your partnership in the gospel.

With our love in Christ,



**Michael Prest**  
Director, UFM Worldwide

*Cover photo: International Community School, Bangkok*



# Review of the year



## New workers

Thank you for praying for God to send workers into his harvest field. What a joy to see answers to those prayers. During the year we had the privilege of serving 279 long and short term workers (2022/2023, 253), serving in 45 nations.

We were particularly encouraged by 15 new long term workers joining the UFM family, to serve in church planting, women's ministry, medical mission, discipleship ministry, Christian education and diaspora ministry.



- 9 leave of absences
- + **sensitive ministries**
- 2 Central Europe
- 4 Eastern Europe
- 6 Eurasia
- 12 Asia
- + **short-term**
- Asia, Austria, Eastern Europe, East Timor, Eswatini, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Mexico, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, South Africa, South Asia, Uganda, UK and USA*

\* UK: includes 26 dual-location UK/abroad  
 \* USA: includes 2 dual-location USA/abroad

### Mission sending from the majority world

As we rejoice in new workers being sent from the UK, we are also encouraged by increasing opportunities to support the sending of workers from parts of Africa, Asia and Latin America. Both through UFM's

history and the emergence of new relationships, we now have partnerships in place with churches sending cross-cultural workers from Côte d'Ivoire, Brazil and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

### Growing staff team

We're grateful for a growing staff team to support the growing work. This year we've been able to develop several new internal systems, appoint a systems development manager and strengthen the personnel team caring for mission partners.

# Mission Partners

 **200**  
long-term partners

 from **30**  
nationalities

 **79**  
short-term partners

serving in  
 **37**  
countries

 sent by  
**100**  
churches

in  **10**  
countries

serving in  
 **17**  
countries

with  **15**  
joining

and  **4**  
finishing

plus  
 **147**  
children



New workers appointed for Kenya, France, Nicaragua, Madagascar, Hungary, Scotland (from US), Eurasia, UK/S Asia, Middle East and Ireland. >

“ Bosco & Heidi Bukeera, Uganda

# Five years on

In March 2019 Ssenge Baptist Church formally began in our living room with just a handful of people. We sought to plant a church that would faithfully proclaim the gospel, uphold the truth of scripture, and demonstrate Christ-like lives in the community. In our ministry, we desire to preach the Bible, sing the Bible and pray the

**We have seen not only great numerical growth, but we have also rejoiced in many believers striving for spiritual maturity.**

Bible, and through being a Word-centred church we seek to glorify Christ and make Him known.

We had no idea how the ministry would grow, but five years on we look back and praise the Lord for his abounding goodness. We have seen not only great numerical growth, but we have also rejoiced in many believers striving for spiritual maturity.

This year we celebrated our five-year anniversary, and on this day we baptised eleven believers.

Although some would have claimed to have been Christians for some time, all expressed a clear understanding of what Christ had done on the cross for them, and their desire to live a life pleasing to him.

Our prayer from the beginning was that God would raise up more leaders, and this year we have appointed a second elder, along with two ministry trainees. We also have a gifted and capable team of other servant-hearted members, who



lead Bible studies, teach in the children's ministry, serve in the music ministry and deal with the day-to-day running of the church.

**Many have a deep hunger for God and his Word and talk for many hours**

We have been greatly encouraged this year by seeing the outworking of the gospel in the lives of many who come to Senge Baptist Church. In our small group Bible studies, we have seen men and women grappling with scripture, seeking to interpret God's word faithfully and apply it to their day-to-day lives.

Many have a deep hunger for God and his Word and talk for many hours, wrestling with scripture. Others have been convicted to formally marry having been living in a fornicating relationship. Some seek to speak of Christ in the community and many give sacrificially to support the church body.

Pray with us that God would continue to grow the body of Senge Baptist Church into his likeness, as we seek to know Christ and make him known.



# 100Fold – Making the Gospel Available with Technology

In the past year, 100Fold has used technology in several ways to advance the Gospel. Two examples of that are a new partnership in South Asia and our development of Trustworthy Gospel AI.

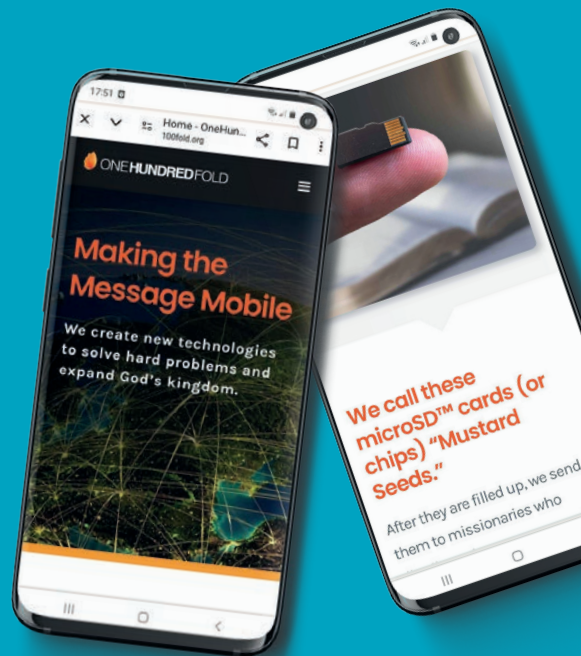
In South Asia, we were asked by a ministry that is facing serious persecution to help them. Our first project was to

**... it was no longer possible to send out hundreds of pastors with bags full of gospel books.**

help them distribute Scripture and a library of theology and discipleship books to 1,000 pastors. Previously, the ministry would have equipped pastors with a physical bag of Bibles and resource books; however, since receiving reports of pastors being arrested for carrying more than one Bible, it was no longer possible to send out hundreds of pastors with bags full of gospel books.

That is where 100Fold could help. We worked with the ministry to help them make over 50 digital books and then used new AI tools to make those digital books into

audiobooks. All of that work was done in just a few months. Then we created a custom Mustard Seed, a Micro SD card



with the MustardSeed app and all those digital resources, in their local language. Now 1,000 pastors have a 50-plus book library on their phones and can share copies with others without observation or hindrance. This is just the start of a new partnership that will greatly extend the reach of the Gospel in an increasingly resistant land.

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In November of 2022, ChatGPT was launched and the AI wave burst onto the world stage. Since 100Fold seeks to redeem technology to advance the Gospel, we took on the challenge of doing just that with AI. We wanted to create a Trustworthy Gospel AI that gave winsome and reliable answers to important spiritual questions. We launched [questionbot.org](http://questionbot.org) and the accompanying helpline, 07360 536695 (call or text) about a year ago. Since Easter, the tool has answered over 10,000 questions. The app has been tested and adopted by the iBible app and we are now

working with a partner in the Middle East to develop the tool in Arabic. Closer to home, we were asked by the Evangelical Movement of Wales to produce one in Welsh. We have no desire to replace people but rather to have a trustworthy digital tool for the Gospel that is helpful in building up the body of Christ.



“ Seth & Jessica Lewis, Ireland

# Easter event draws large Irish crowds

Carrigtwohill is one of the fastest growing towns in Ireland. It has everything a growing town ought to have, except for one thing: it has never, in all its long history, had a local evangelical church in it. That's why Midleton Baptist Church asked us to move here six years ago and lead their effort to establish a new church.

Over the years we've lived and worked here, we've seen God raise up a group of believers in Carrigtwohill – from us and one other Christian couple when we first moved to the town, now to a group of around 30 people (including children). This autumn, we will hold our first Sunday morning services in Carrigtwohill.

**God is also providing our group with growing opportunities to share the good news of the gospel with our community.**

We'll meet once a month to begin with, building momentum towards a full launch sometime in the new year.

God is also providing our group with growing opportunities to share the good news of the gospel with our community. One of those opportunities is an outreach Easter egg hunt

< *Easter outreach in Carrigtwohill, see overleaf*

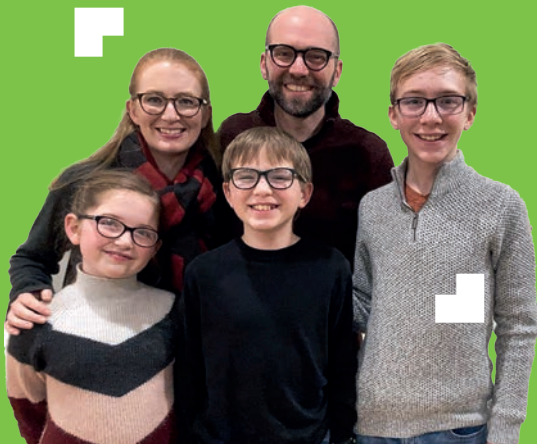


that we tried for the first time last year. We hoped 50 children would come (we thought that was ambitious), but we ended up having more than 250! This year, we doubled the number of eggs and tripled the space for the hunt, but we still had trouble accommodating the growing crowd.

We estimate that 350 children came this time, and roughly 500 people were there in total.

We got to share a gospel message with all of them, and had 96 gospel booklets taken on the day. We thank the Lord for his goodness in providing opportunities like this, and in building up a group of believers in the town.

Carrigtwohill is one of the fastest growing towns in Ireland, and now the impact of the gospel is growing here, too.



# Finances

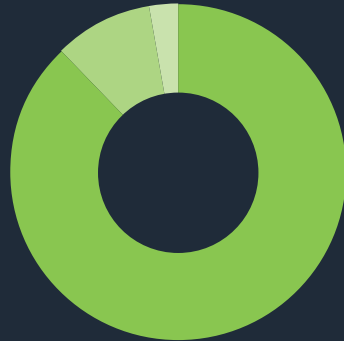
Annual Accounts 2023-2024

**We would like to thank all the churches and individual Christians who have given towards the support of His mission and supported the work in prayer. We are so grateful for this support of His work.**

## Income

→£ **£4.26m**

↑ Up £447k (12%) from 2022/23

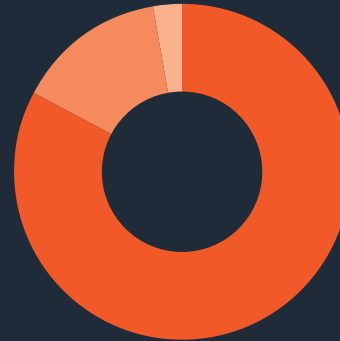


- **87.8%**  
Mission partner and project support
- **9.6%**  
General donations and legacies
- **2.6%**  
Other: Conference and Investment Income

## Expenditure

£→ **£3.87m**

↓ Down £233k (6%) from 2022/23



- **82.8%**  
Mission partners and projects
- **14.5%**  
Staff
- **2.7%**  
Other

Psalm 24:1 says “The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world and all who live in it;”. We are conscious that, like you, the money we have is not our own but the Lord’s and we are stewards of it.

**... we have a role that God wants us to fulfil and the money that he has provided through you is one thing which enables us to do that.**

However, we are also conscious that the “fields are ripe for harvest” and consequently we have a role that God wants us to fulfil and the money that he has provided through you is one thing which enables

us to do that. We would like to thank all the churches and individual Christians who have given towards the support of His mission and supported the work in prayer. We are so grateful for this support of His work.

Total general fund income, including both direct giving and transfers from mission support accounts, rose from £658k to £808k. This is a combination of an increase in legacy income, an increase in general fund giving and an increase in transfer from mission support as the numbers of mission partners continue to grow.

Total general fund expenditure also rose, from £717k to

£759k. Most of this is the result of increased staff cost to cope with the increase in mission partners and was fully anticipated in our budget.

As mentioned in prior years, we designated some of the 2022/23 surplus as being a development fund to help us support new initiatives such as support for sending mission partners from majority world countries and how to inspire a growth in mission amongst diaspora churches in the UK. It has been encouraging to see giving directly to this fund and we look forward to how we are able to use this for our Lord's work in future years.

**Graeme Powell**  
UFM Treasurer

# Supporting our mission partners

One of the privileges of serving at UFM is to support our growing mission family through practical means. We understand that equipping gospel workers requires more than just pastoral and spiritual care.

## **Connecting our mission family through the UFM portal**

This year we have introduced several new systems aimed at improving how we collect, process and report on mission and financial data. Mission partners now can log on to a secure microsite where they have access to up-to-date financial information as well as the ability to make financial

requests. In addition, to reduce some of the administrative burden on both support staff and mission partners, we have streamlined internal processes and centralised data collection.

Our long-term vision is to develop the UFM Portal into a mission-centric tool that manages the financial, resource and administrative aspects of serving cross-culturally. In the coming year, we'll expand its features, including enhanced financial reporting, administrative functionality, prayer requests, and various resources and creative assets which can be used in global mission.

## **TCK ("Third Culture Kids")**

As part of our support to families, we are keen to show good care to the children of our mission partners. Each month we hold a zoom meeting for our children around the world to connect together, sharing experiences and building deeper friendships as well as hearing how the Lord speaks into their situation.

We also have a separate group for the mums to connect together to share needs for prayer. This year we are hosting a series of webinars for parents on developing literacy.

## Local Church, Global Mission

UFM's core aim is to assist gospel-hearted churches in identifying, training, sending, and supporting cross-cultural mission workers.

Local Church, Global Mission is a day conference which UFM are able to run in conjunction with a local church. In early Feb 2024 a pilot LCGM was arranged together with Chalmers Church in Edinburgh.

The planning and the event involved personnel from both UFM and Chalmers. This joint ownership of the event was a real boon and seemed to stimulate a deeper interest from within Chalmers than might have been the case otherwise. The event also drew others

from nearby congregations. The level of engagement was really encouraging during the event, and the feedback from attendees and from staff at Chalmers afterwards was also very encouraging, with the feeling that it had been a day which would bear fruit in terms of interest in and support for cross-cultural mission.

Another LCGM has been scheduled for October 2024, hosted by Union Church Sheffield.



## Called to Serve

It was a joy to host Called to Serve events in both Swindon and Nottingham. We had the pleasure of welcoming individuals at various points in their journey in finding the next step in serving in cross-cultural mission. A number of those who attended were interested in working with unreached people groups as well as stepping into mission for the first time. Looking ahead we will be hosting Called to Serve events in both Swindon and Nottingham.

We are greatly encouraged by the way God continues to raise up workers to live out the great commission.

# Looking ahead

## Mission sending from the majority world

Mark & Gill Newham have returned from their service in Mongolia to join the UFM staff team. They will be working to help us think carefully about how we can learn from, encourage and support emerging mission sending movements in parts of Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Please pray as we work towards gathering some key leaders from across these groups we have relationships with, for a time of mutual learning, encouragement and developing vision.

## Changes in the US

At the end of 2023 our Country Director stepped back from his role leading the US side of the work. We're considering various options in order to best resource the work in the US, including adding additional volunteers to support the small staff team there. Currently, 19 of our 200 long term workers are sent from US churches and we want to serve those churches well.

## Week of prayer

We're excited to hold our second week of prayer, 'Stand with us,' 9th-13th September 2024. We'd love you and others from your church to join us if you're able. You can find out more here: [ufm.org.uk/week-of-prayer](https://ufm.org.uk/week-of-prayer)



UFM Worldwide exists to support churches in making disciples of all nations. Since 1931 we've had the privilege of helping churches to identify, train, send and support workers for cross-cultural mission. UFM workers are committed to making disciples of all nations, taking the gospel to the least reached, and supporting under-resourced churches around the world.



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