



## MISSION SUNDAY – MAY 28<sup>th</sup> 2023

**Today we are thinking about our mission partners overseas and local initiatives.**

Welcome to our Mission Sunday leaflet for 2023. Here you will find updates from each of our mission partners, as well as information about our guest mission for this year, the Bible Society. As you read these updates, I hope you will be encouraged by all that our mission partners are doing to share the gospel and to show the love of Jesus. Please pray for our mission partners and consider what you could give to support their work, using the form at the back of the leaflet. Thank you.

Stuart Cocksedge      Chair of Mission Committee

### **Bible Society**



It was the 26-mile trek of 15-year-old Mary Jones in 1800 to buy a Bible in Welsh that inspired the Rev. Joseph Hughes to set in motion the events which eventually led to the founding of the Bible Society. It was believed then that the Bible had something to say for the whole of humanity and that vision is still alive today. Many people think the Bible is irrelevant to them, so working across all sections of society the Bible Society is determined to change that. It brings the Bible to life in fresh, exciting ways in politics, the media, prisons for example. The Open the Book Programme brings Bible stories to life for primary school children. The Bible a Month Programme enables Bibles to be sent to places abroad which don't have easy access to it and to translate it into people's heart language. In the UK it has run the Bible Course which many of you will have participated in. So it is for these reasons that the Bible Society has been chosen as our guest mission partner for this year. Gareth Davies from the Bible Society is coming to preach at Lady St Mary's on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October (Bible Sunday).

## How are our mission partners doing?

### Ruth Guinness, with SIM (Serving in Mission) in Malawi

Re-forma, an organisation providing standards for non-formal theological education, says, “The biggest crisis facing the evangelical, global church today is the fact that most pastors, missionaries, and Christian leaders are undertrained or not trained at all.”



That is certainly motivation to be involved in the training of pastors and church leaders! As SIM International’s Ministry Point Person (MPP) for Theological and Missiological Education, I’m working with SIM workers around the world, building a network, connecting people, and encouraging those involved in Bible schools and in teaching in a non-formal environment. I was much encouraged in February to go to SIM’s Global Assembly and meet other MPPs. It’s great to feel part of a team, even though we are spread out globally. I’ve also been invited to work with an organisation that accredits theological programmes in Africa, and will travel to Zambia in June to visit a college there.

Here in Malawi, I’m working with a small group of missionaries, all of us interested in the training of church leaders, and with the on-going training and mentoring of pastors. Cyclone Freddy in March was devastating in Blantyre and the south, but has led to several opportunities. I’m delighted to work with former teaching colleagues with the aim of producing resources to help pastors think Biblically about disasters and our responses to them.



Give praise for:

- God opening doors to work with others, for example in accreditation;
- God giving opportunities to go to conferences and make connections;
- the encouragement of getting to know other MPPs.

Please pray for:

- building a team to work with me internationally;
- Malawi recovering from Cyclone Freddy;
- making the most of opportunities for training since Freddy.

Thank you so much for your support.

## **Mission to Seafarers**

We first started including the Missions to Seafarers as our Mission partner when former Team Rector, Canon Andy Bowerman joined them as their Regional Director for the Middle East and South Asia in 2018. Andy has now left this post to become the next Dean of Bradford Cathedral.

However, the need for support of this charity still remains and so for the time being it will remain a mission partner. 90% of world trade is conducted by sea, which involves 1.5 million men and women serving onboard ships of various sizes, types and seaworthiness. Often away from home for several months (sometimes years) at a time, life onboard can be very lonely, isolating and demanding as well as being very dangerous. The Mission to Seafarers play a vital part in providing spiritual, emotional and practical support for those who work at sea, and the families they leave behind.

## **Malcolm and Yanet Taylor with YWAM in the Dominican Republic.**

This year **Malcolm celebrates 30 years** of serving full time in missions. In 1993 he was sent out to start a six-month mission school with **Youth With A Mission** that has turned into a lifelong career as a volunteer missionary. Today, **Malcolm, Yanet, Patricia (9) and Samuel (7)** serve together with a focus of ministering to families in the **Dominican Republic** based in the heart of the city of San Pedro de Macorís. Called **YWAM Series 23**, their mission is to model and teach the character of God and, through media, missions, and ministry opportunities, to reconcile, restore, and raise up new generations of families committed to living according to God's designs and principles.



**Working together with the local Church**, their focus is the restoration of families through receiving missionary teams, construction of houses and Churches, street evangelism, courses for marriages, pre-marriage counselling, courses for parents, talks in schools with themes of identity of young people and self-worth, etc. With their desire to see San Pedro de Macorís transformed from within through the raising up a generation of people who want to see a restored and prosperous city, they have established prayer every month in the Provincial Government, National Police, at the Ministry of Women and other governmental agencies. With their

media platform 'Series23.TV' they have produced several prophetic prayer videos, motivational programs on social networks, radio and local TV, and with their live broadcasts of events and evangelistic campaigns they are reaching thousands of people all over the world.

Patricia and Samuel are developing their own teaching gifts and are actively participating in children's television videos with Biblical messages. Currently they are involved in a radio program through Radio Cielo 104.7fm called the 'Arca de los Niños' and every day their parents see grace and favour in the development of their children. With Malcolm's leadership and gifts in construction & administration, and Yanet's pastoral gifts as a teacher, skills as a communicator and a heart for evangelism and the family, they invite you to join with them in prayer and support, as they seek to raise their family, as a family dedicated to making a difference and for the kingdom of God.

*The Taylor family will be making a home visit this summer and will be available to visit from 12 July to 23 Aug 2023. If you wish to schedule a visit with them, please contact Eddie Taylor on 01929 556729*

For more information please visit: [www.ywamseries23.org](http://www.ywamseries23.org)

Email: [info@ywamseries23.org](mailto:info@ywamseries23.org)

### **Terekeka School in South Sudan by Mike Quinlan**

The parish of Wareham has been supporting Christians in Sudan for over thirty years as part of the Salisbury Diocese partnership. Since 2005 this has been focused on the Diocese of Terekeka in South Sudan and on St Stephen's School. The school provides education at Nursery, Primary and Secondary levels to around 800 children. Although the school is private and charges fees (£12 to £30 per year) about 50% of parents cannot afford to pay.

It was a particular joy to welcome Bishop Paul Modi (Bishop of Terekeka) and his wife Mama Edina to Wareham for four days in August 2022 after the Lambeth Conference. They visited four of our churches and spent some time at Sandford School meeting teachers, governors and pupils. We are trying to encourage closer links between our schools and St Stephen's School in Terekeka.



Bishop Paul was amazed at the facilities and resources at Sandford School. St Stephen's has virtually nothing apart from desks, chairs, blackboards and four shelves of textbooks.

While Bishop Paul was here, he told us about a project to build a new classroom block for four primary school classes. This would be well built with blockwork walls, concrete floors and steel doors and windows. This would replace one of their mud-built classroom blocks that has timber posts, doors and windows which are ravaged by termites, and has a life of only about five years. The total cost of this project is around £59,000.



South Sudan continues to suffer from communal violence, political instability, famine due to failure of harvests and flooding, which can be attributed to the effect of global warming. There is also a chronic shortage of medical facilities and access to clean water. About 70% of the population are illiterate.

Please continue to pray for South Sudan, for a lasting peace settlement and an end to tribal violence. Pray too for the Diocese of Terekeka, Bishop Paul Modi and St Stephen's School.

### **What about our local initiatives? How are they doing?**

#### **Not Just Sundaes, in South Street**

There is nothing in Not Just Sundaes that is immediately or obviously Christian – apart of course from the fact that it is an old church building. Despite that, it is amazing how much mission goes on there. Our strap line has always been “to be a demonstrable expression of God's love for all,” and that happens in many different ways.



It happens when someone asks you to pray for them there and then on the steps into the café with people coming and going around you: it happens as people serve one another be that with coffee and cake, a chat and a hug, or an offer of practical help. It also happens when someone steps into the café, stops with a slightly bemused look on their face, and says "wow. There's something here isn't there? What a feeling of peace," and we smile and say "yes, we think so too."

Hilary Bond, Trustee

## The Wareham Blessing Fund

This year marks the eighth year that the Wareham Church Family Blessing fund has functioned. Together we have been able to help many people and we thank you on behalf of those you have never met.

We are so grateful and cannot adequately express our thanks to the folk that have sacrificially donated so much to help others who are having a tough time managing, as the cost of living has increased at an almost unprecedented rate.

Our aim has been to provide a quick and “without strings attached” solution to desperate need for people within our community. The last twelve months has been a very active time for us and we have seen a considerable increase in the number of requests, often for quite basic things.

During the last twelve months, through your generosity we have been able to spend £6,687, the range of help has included provision of: washing machines and fridges, a television for an autistic child, beds, help with dental treatment, the cost of a car repair to enable the owner to continue to travel to work. Additionally, we have had many requests for help to cover the cost of food, fuel, coal and logs and help with gas and electricity and on occasions food for a pet cat and dog.

The Blessing Fund was the brain-child of a Wareham family and was originally hosted by Stoborough Baptist Church(SBC). This allowed us to claim Gift Aid through the finance team at SBC and meant that we could operate without having to become registered as a separate charity. The burden of running the fund has changed over the last few years and, although the Blessing Fund remains a resource for all of Wareham’s churches, we have now agreed that finance should be managed by the parish office and we will therefore be migrating the fund to the Parish of Wareham. Debs Barclay has kindly agreed to maintain the account and claim the gift aid on our behalf. New Gift Aid declarations are now available for those wishing to give to this work. Available from the Parish Office or at the Service on Mission Sunday.

Thank you all so very much.

Barbara and Steve Wells and Jean Dixon

## **How can you help?**

**Firstly**, please use the updates in this document to help you to pray for our mission partners overseas and locally.

**Secondly**, if you are able to give financially to support our mission partners, donations can be made through the online giving page <https://ladystmarywareham.myknowchurch.co.uk/giving> using the drop-down bar to select your chosen Mission Partner.

You can also use this QR code to access the giving page



If you would like to give to more than one, please use the 'Mission Sunday 2023' drop-down bar and send an email to Debs Barclay at [parish.office@warehamchurches.org.uk](mailto:parish.office@warehamchurches.org.uk) to let her know the amounts to go to each of your chosen Mission Partners.

If you are not able to give online, you can use the attached response form and put your donation (cheque or cash) and the form in an envelope marked 'Mission Sunday'. This can either be placed in the collection bowl or delivered to the Church Office, which is now open from 9am to 1pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. It would be helpful if donations could be received by Sunday 19th June.

If you would like further information about any of the people or organisations mentioned please also contact the Parish Office on 01929 550905 or Email: [parish.office@warehamchurches.org.uk](mailto:parish.office@warehamchurches.org.uk)

**Thank you for supporting God's church in mission, both overseas and locally, during this challenging time.**

This bulletin comes to you from the PCC's Mission Committee.

# Wareham Parish Mission Sunday May 28<sup>th</sup> 2023

## Partnership letters for news and prayer

(Please tick the appropriate boxes)

I would like to receive the newsletter by e-mail/hard copy from:-

Malcolm and Yanet Taylor with YWAM in San Pedro

Ruth Guinness with SIM in Malawi

## Giving to our partnerships

Please fill in below the amount of your gift.

If you do not specify how you want your gift to be allocated, it will be divided equally for each partnership.

Please make your cheque payable to “**PCC of Wareham**”

- use a special envelope at the back of church to return it to the Office or place it in the Collection by June 19<sup>th</sup>.

I enclose £                      (cheque/cash) to support the mission work of:-

St Stephen's School, Terekeka, South Sudan                      £

Malcolm and Yanet Taylor with YWAM in Dominican Republic   £

Ruth Guinness with SIM in Malawi                                      £

Mission to Seafarers    £

Not Just Sundaes    £

The Wareham Blessings Fund    £

Guest Mission: Bible Society    £

Full name.....

Address .....

Post code .....e-mail.....

## Gift Aid?

**YES/NO**

If you are a taxpayer, by 'Gift Aiding' your donation, you increase its value by 25% at no cost to you.