



MISSION SUNDAY – MAY 23rd 2021

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

Our Preacher is Dr Wonuola Nwisi from Tear Fund.

How are our own Church Mission Links doing?

Andy and Ali Bowerman, with the Mission to Seafarers

As we type this, we are in Cyprus looking across the Mediterranean towards Alexandria. We are delighted that within the last six months we have been able to commission two chaplains in Egypt and are now looking at how we can connect them with our teams in Cyprus and Israel.



Please pray for this new group. The Suez Canal and Israel have been much in the news of late and we ask you to pray that in some small way we might contribute to bringing restored relationships.

Andy joined a small team from the Province in visiting Aden, Yemen after Easter where the Mission has had an historic base since 1885 but due to the civil unrest in the region this has been empty for almost ten years. We are prayerfully considering re-opening there in the latter part of 2021. It was a short but moving visit with the chance to meet and support local believers from the majority population alongside public work with the Mission.

Across the wider region our public ministry has been maintained, though often virtually, through the pandemic. Do please remember our teams across India. All these teams combine leading churches with their seafarers' ministry in these very distressing times for India. In Sri Lanka we now have operations in Galle as well as Colombo. Our wonderful lead Chaplain, Rev Chandran Crispus sadly died very suddenly at the beginning of May. His loss will be deeply felt across our team but do please be praying for his wife Violet and their two children. We will need wisdom going forward as to who leads the work in the future.

In the Gulf, we have been facing a significant increase in the number of serious injustice issues. We have seen some success in getting repatriations, but it is often slow and frustrating work. Patience and persistence are required. Do give

thanks for the repatriation of the five crew of the MT Iba, some of these men have been away from home adrift on a ship for four years!

The more private side of what we feel called too has seen significant opportunities since we last communicated. We are sure that this is in part down to your praying! Ali is seeing great opportunities to minister within our compound where several women have come to her for advice and help. We are now being asked to teach some of the compound children basic bible knowledge. She also plays a key mentoring role with women from our small group.

Andy has been able to speak at churches and on several longer bible schools with the YWAM and OM discipleship programmes and the Alexandria School of Theology. He has also had a few more intimate meetings for those from local countries seeking to follow the way . There are potential opportunities in Qatar, Saudi and Bahrain in the coming months. This has helped to confirm Andy's calling to be engaged in church planting and disciple making. If the region re-opens, the coming months should see Andy in Jordan, Jerusalem, Egypt and potentially Iraq.

We hope to be back in the UK in the summer and to be able to come and share more fully with you.

(A longer version of this report is available from the Church Office.)

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

Ruth has been in Malawi since 2000, teaching at the Evangelical Bible College of Malawi. Last year she took the decision to leave this full-time ministry so that she could be involved in pastoral teaching in a different way. She remains passionate about teaching and building the capacity for Bible teaching and preaching in the Church in Malawi.



She is now on a six-month sabbatical in the UK which will be followed by Home Assignment, visiting her supporting Churches in the autumn.

Terekeka School in South Sudan by Mike Quinlan

Wareham Parish has had a link with St Stephen's School in Terekeka since 2005 and I was privileged to visit the school in March 2020 and meet Bishop Paul Modi and senior staff. South Sudan is one of the poorest countries in the world and has the highest rate of illiteracy with only 27% of the population able to read and write.



St Stephen's School provides education for over 800 children at primary and secondary levels. All schools were closed in April last year apart from those sitting public exams (Primary class 8 and Senior School class 4), but they have recently re-opened. In March this year we received this message from Bishop Paul: ['I want to inform you that 101 candidates from St Stephen Primary sat for Primary 8 exams and 41 candidates sat today for Secondary certificate exams for the first time, this is a credit to you all in Wareham.'](#)

On 12th May 2020 a storm blew off part of the roof from the Primary School Block, but following donations on our Mission Sunday in 2020, we were able to send more than £3,000 to pay for the roof repairs and to support the school in paying teachers' salaries.

South Sudan has been badly affected by the lockdown and closure of borders as many people rely on daily cash income from manual work to buy food and much of their food is imported. There has also been serious flooding which has damaged their harvests. About 60% of the population suffer from food insecurity and need urgent support to avoid starvation.



Despite the difficulties, Bishop Paul has been very active in the Diocese. This has included the ordination of 26 deacons and priests in October, launching a 2-year diploma programme in Theology and taking part in peace conferences in cattle camps and other communities. They are also building a new church and two rooms for the Diocesan Office in Terekeka.

Malcolm and Yanet Taylor with YWAM in the Dominican Republic.

Malcolm & Yanet Taylor along with their children Patricia (7) and Samuel (5) are leading a YWAM ministry in San Pedro de Macoris in the Dominican Republic. With a passion for ministering to families, the Taylor family are reaching out with an expanded vision for 2021 and beyond.



The Covid-19 pandemic placed them into a season of existence, trusting in God for his provision, and placed many of their ministry activities on hold. God has been faithful, and they have been able to reach out through different virtual ministry opportunities including running their marriage course online to 35 couples.

As they look to the future, God has placed on their heart to establish a long term YWAM ministry centre to be called a 'Centre of Family Restoration'. Their vision is to see a city-centre based facility where they can have a classroom for their different courses, counselling rooms, a TV studio, ministry office and to be a facility where they can receive visiting teams.

Through this centre their desire is to be able to offer:

- Christian based counselling services to troubled teens, singles and couples.
- Conferences – to be able to run educational conferences with focuses ranging from missions and evangelism to marriage and parenting.
- Seminars & Courses – to be able to run marriage preparation, marriage, parenting and teen focused courses (purity teaching).
- Production of video materials & live programming to support their ministry.

Please pray with them as they seek the Lord's guidance on these exciting ministry opportunities, how to resource them and continue to be a blessing to the people of the Dominican Republic.

For more information please visit: www.ywamseries23.org

Email: info@ywamseries23.org

What about our local initiatives? How are they doing?

Not Just Sundaes, in South Street

Unfortunately, as with all of us, the café has been massively impacted by the pandemic. We closed our doors in March last year just prior to the national lockdown in order to protect our staff and customers.



Following much hard work behind the scenes to meet all the necessary Government guidelines we re-opened late September, only to closed again in the October due to the second lockdown. During these times our youth consultant continued to provide support to local students.

We are now hopeful that we can start to welcome folk back once stage 3 of the roadmap is reached, provisionally on 18th May 2021.

We look forward to once again becoming a place where people can meet and talk over good coffee and cake!

The Wareham Blessing Fund

The Blessing Fund came into existence in August of 2015 with the intention that it should be a resource for all the churches in the Wareham area to bless anyone in the community in which we live. Since its inception, the fund has been supported through regular giving and donations large and small. To date you have raised and we have spent some £16,435. And, in the last twelve months alone, we have spent a little over £4,780 providing items such as: Washing machines, Cookers, Carpets, Spectacles, Debt Relief Order, Training Course, a motion triggered Camera and the cost of services like Supervised Visiting provisioned by the YMCA.

We cannot thank you enough for your enormous generosity without which many in our community would struggle just to keep going. The Blessing Fund is a tremendous witness showing that the Church still cares. To maximise our effectiveness in sharing God's love, we also need you to be our eyes and ears. We welcome requests for help from anyone.

This message was sent to us from a grateful single parent:

"I just want to thank the kind people of Wareham that have helped me with huge support by getting an inside camera so that I can keep an eye on my three-year-old daughter who suffers with epilepsy. It means that I can relax more and sleep a little better knowing that if anything was to happen, I can show her specialist if needed. I can't thank you all enough. Thank you I am forever grateful."

Thank you all so very much. Barbara, Steve and Jean

We also want to add a 'guest mission' – which this year is Tearfund.

Tearfund is a Christian charity that partners with churches in more than 50 of the world's poorest countries. We tackle poverty through sustainable development, responding to disasters, and challenging injustice. We believe an end to extreme poverty is possible.

Thousands of people needlessly suffer and die every day because of poverty. But that's not God's plan for the world. And God is calling you – all of us – to reach out to people in greatest need. We partner with local churches and organisations who have a crucial role to play in the places worst affected by poverty.

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.

If you would like to give to more than one, please use the 'Mission Sunday 2021' drop-down bar and send an email to Debs Barclay at 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 Wednesday 16th June.



If you use the camera on your phone, or a QR code reader app, it will take you straight to the online giving page.

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

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 23rd 2021

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

Revd, Andy Bowerman, Mission to Seafarers

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 16th.

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 £
- Revd, Andy Bowerman, Mission to Seafarers £
- Not Just Sundaes £
- The Wareham Blessings Fund £
- Guest Mission: Tearfund £

Full name.....

Address

Post codee-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.