

## EXTERNAL MINISTRIES

### Newsletter

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The results of the questionnaire that was handed out prior to the July Congregational Meeting provided a clear opinion that folk would like a newsletter regarding the many and varied ministries that CCW supports locally and further afield. There was also a clear pattern regarding which ministries people felt they would like to be better informed. This is the first of such newsletters and hopefully it will address the issues raised! Given the massive support for the FI summer camps it does however seem appropriate to start there and to give some detailed feedback from the team!



### FUNDATIA INCREDEREA

FI held two very successful summer camps in July. The picture shows some of the teenagers enjoying the Romanian sunshine.

Here is some of Ligia's report:

"It was again the most beautiful week of the year. We are so blessed to have the opportunity to organise such camps and to meet so many new and different people what we could build in 7 days is beyond words can express. The accommodation was not the best – at least 6 in a room, it did not bother anyone. It was a week full of blessings. A week in which we gave but we also received a lot. We spread God's love and we saw again how God touch people's heart and mind. We will continue to pray for them and to meet them. We have already had a (follow up) meeting last Saturday in which we shared memories from the camp, we played some games, and we ate pizza. God is good all the time! Blessed be thy Name! "

42 teenagers attended the camp divided into 6 groups, each group with a name and a mascot. After breakfast, there were group meetings for 1 ½ hours and in the evening, there was a worship time and talks on themes such as the importance of having close and deep relationships, relationship with God, the recipe for a successful life, the veracity of the Bible, what faith means. Some mornings they had Q&A sessions and the FI team were surprised by the number of questions and by their profoundness. At the end of the camp this proved to be one of the most liked activities. In the afternoons they had volleyball, ping-pong, badminton competitions as well as a zip-line while some participated in handcraft activities. In the evening, they showed short movies with a strong message followed by one to one discussions. As in all other camps, some of the teenagers were taken by surprise on the first day finding out that it was a Christian camp even so no one wanted to go home!

## Children's camp report

There was also a children's camp this year called "Happy Lambs" based on Psalm 23. For one week the FI team tried to make them realize that our lives are in the hand of God, our shepherd, that we should not be afraid of anything, since life with Him has plenty of blessings in every area.

Every little one went home with the Psalm 23 in their mind and in their heart.



Here is some of Cristina's report, that's her with her youngest daughter Lisa on her shoulders



### Nelus birthday

It was Nelu's birthday during the camp and he shown here with his special "shirt and tie" cake!

*"20 children attended the camp this year with 10 more were on the waiting list. Every day the children could open their hearts and souls so we listened to their secrets, problems and fears and then we prayed for and with them. Half of the children came for the first time in the camp and we saw them change during the camp and we also talked to their parents after the camp who confirmed the fact that they are enthusiastic and that they have changed for the better. Let us pray for their lives and for their families, some of which are on the verge of falling apart making the children suffer a lot. One special evening we discussed about parents, how God placed them in our lives and how important it is for us to respect, honor and love them. Amazingly of the 20 children there only 2 did not have problems at home in their families. We talked about this and when we started to pray for their parents and prayed that they will get along, all the children started crying. God was present with us, the children were caressed and a lot of them started telling us how they want to run away from home out of reasons such as their mother not loving them anymore and is living with another man or their father beating their mother. We were shocked, amazed, we cried and we prayed. For 6 days we gave them our love, our appreciation, which encouraged them and made them feel good in our camp. Although we had a lot of fun and games in the forest we had rainy and cold days and a lot of work to do to watch after the children because of this. Some of them got cold and had fever, others had stomach aches because of the water which had impurities because of the rain. We had to bring a girl home because of this. Because of the storm at night we did not have power and the children were scared so we slept with them in the rooms. It was not easy at all this year but we are glad we all have nice memories and that we are all smiling now! We are keeping in touch with those new children and everyone can barely wait for the next camp. We thank you for all your prayers and thank you again for making the camp possible the children would not have been able to go to a camp if you were not as generous with us!"*

*Thank you! God bless you!"*

OTHER FI NEWS: On September 2<sup>nd</sup> Ligia's son Vini was married to ( another ) Cristina, congratulations to them both!

\*CAMPBELL, GLEN, FRANK AND VAL GOING TO ORADEA OCTOBER 12<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> to catch up with FI team \*



Martina and Tony's fellowship

## **MARTINA AND TONY (ICTHUS ANKARA)**

Martina and Tony visited CCW on the weekend of August 12/13th and after enjoying a meal out with some of the Fellowship on the Saturday evening on the Sunday they provided an update on their work and the realities of life in Turkey.

After last years attempted coup there has been an increased amount of tension with people being made redundant from their jobs, including teachers, for "alleged" allegiance to those in opposition to President Erdogan. There has however been no direct opposition yet to the activities of the church or the Christian radio station. In the morning they spoke about their different ministries in Anakara, Martina on her work with women and with the so-called "Journey Groups" and Tony on his work with refugees coming into the city with very little support or prospects. He is learning to speak Arabic to facilitate his interactions with these people and continues to help with food distribution. They also shared a little of how their first year of married life had panned out and in the evening (at 24 Green Park) Martina shared openly and passionately about the death of her father back in Germany at the end of 2016 and how he had been reconciled with Christ.



Tony's Arabic group



Wedding blessing in Ankara

## **YWAM UPDATE**

**SARAH OPPER**

*This Autumn YWAM are focusing on getting some words/phrases to describe our "Why" – what our purpose or vision are. What gets the collective "us" out of bed in the morning! We're using some material called "Start with Why" by Simon Sinek and spending some time listening to God and discussing as a group. Along the way we also hope to see a deeper understanding of our individuals "whys" as well. After we figure that out we'll take some time to sort out How we want to do our Why and then What we'll do specifically after that! Please pray for God's clear revelation, many good discussions and growing excitement for all God is doing in the nation - through the Church and through us YWAM Cymru/Wales.*

*Our next DTS is slated to begin January 2018 and will be co-led by Paul McKinney and Rachel Dexter. Other team members are involved in various local ministries and various YWAM things and one person is even away in Norway doing a YWAM school on Intensive Bible Study this term.*

*Several of our team are part-time – illness, parenting, re-defining season – so that impacts us significantly at the moment with more than half of our 10-person team have a focus that isn't strictly YWAM "work". We are all still full-time missionaries but our focus' are narrower for a season.*

*Many thanks for your support and prayers. We love Christ Church!*

## TEAR FUND CONNECTED CHURCH: September news from SAGOAL

**Thank you very much for your faithful prayers and support. We are forever grateful to God our Father for your partnership with Sagoal in the building up of His kingdom.**

The love you have shown towards us in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ has been a great source of blessing and encouragement. Grace and peace to you from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ! September marks the start of the biggest festival season in Nepal. Though mainly Hindu festivals, everyone looks forward to the public holidays at this time of year. Even churches celebrate, organizing seminars and meeting together. September also marks the beginning of the tourist season, with people arriving in Pokhara from all over the world to go trekking. Exceptionally heavy monsoon rains have led to severe flooding across Nepal, with 15 districts affected. Over 120 people have died and thousands have been displaced. The flooding destroyed many houses and swept away many people's crops. Many are now beginning to return to their homes, but food shortages will be a problem. In Kailali, one of the churches we work with was affected by the flooding, but we are thankful that no lives were lost. Unfortunately, many people lost livestock and crops. Not only will this cause a shortage in food, this will affect their ability to earn a living. In Bardiya, the effects have been worse. Five people have lost their lives and more than 9,600 people needed rescuing from the floods. In total, over 74,000 people were affected in the district, with many losing homes or the Rice paddies that were supposed to sustain them over coming months.



### Programme Highlights:

47 pastors and leaders from 20 local churches in Kailali district took part in an Envisioning workshop that was organised by Sagoal. The aim was to impart the vision of what Sangsangai can do, and they left keen to make that vision a reality in their own churches. Sagoal's Field Officers and Sangsangai coordinators; Kalpana, Khim , Ram and Tik took part in a training course for Sangsangai trainers. It focussed on improving facilitation skills when running a Sangsangai course. Our field officers (Kalpana and Khim) and programme staff from Pokhara have been able to conduct field visits this summer to see how churches have been getting on with the Bible Studies that were shared with them previously. It has been great to encourage the churches we work with and build relationships with them. By speaking to the churches that were struggling begin the studies, we were able to encourage them that starting them soon should help them.

### Challenges:

Many of the churches have been slow to begin the Bible study course. Churches are often small, with high levels of illiteracy so the idea of running a Bible study is both alien and intimidating. What with the rainy season, flooding and local elections too, many of the churches had found it easier not to start running the studies. In an attempt to find work, some of the Sangsangai facilitators, who are receiving training to run the Sangsangai course in their local churches, are leaving their homes and moving to other towns. This is making it hard for their churches to finish the training that these facilitators were supposed to lead.

***WE ARE CONSIDERING A VISIT TO NEPAL NEXT SEPTEMBER (2018) TO VISIT SAGOAL AND ANOTHER CHURCH LED PROGRAMME IN KATHMANDU PLEASE LET CAMPBELL & GLEN KNOW IF YOU ARE INTERESTED***