



in partnership with local churches
as they engage in mission

Newsletter



February 2020



P2: New staff



P5: Calling Team Members



P6: Gathered In mission



P8: Tenerife mission

Tim writes ...

*Always give an answer for the reason...
1 Pet 3:15*

Perhaps you may notice a bit of a theme going on with TFM this year... the verse for the year card, the annual conference (please book in for that – it's going to be superb!) And now this letter...

But here is the thing. We are surrounded by information, overwhelmed by information – it shapes who we are, it governs what we do... and yet so often the information we accept as true is anything but, and therefore our lives are governed and shaped by.. lies?

We dropped into our local hotel – we know the staff there - and ended up talking to a guest. To our surprise he said he hadn't been out of the hotel after 9pm 'because of the dangerous streets'. In Wisbech? But then we realized who he had been talking to – and were able to set his mind at rest as to the beauty and tranquillity of Wisbech.

In Turkey we went along to a valley where there are a series of cave churches, their walls adorned with Biblical pictures, still vibrant after all the

centuries – it's a busy place, with lots and lots of tourists and their guides. And so we couldn't help but overhear some of the tour guides explanations – truly incredible and far from the truth, indeed we couldn't leave some of them, but interrupted to suggest a better alternative!

I was recently challenged as to why we get people to go 'door to door' as part of the training weekend. Good question.... But, I said, apart from the actual mission work, the greatest thing achieved is the change in mindset. So often we believe that people are not interested in faith, that they will get angry and shout at us – and going door to door proves how false that is – proves how open people are to questions, to gentle conversation, to an offer of prayer.

For far too long we have believed the lies that faith is a private matter, that it shouldn't be mentioned, that there is no place for God in our world. When you go out with a mission team, talk to people, see the hunger for meaning, for forgiveness, for hope, for God – then you realise the truth and the need to be prepared to 'give an answer'.

I believe that is why TFM is incredibly busy: many churches now want help in 'giving an answer'. TFM has so many opportunities. We need prayer partners, we need finance, and most of all we need mission team members. Could you promote TFM in your church? We have a new video, we have leaflets, we could find a speaker for you.... And if people want to come and experience a training day before they sign up for a team that is fine – it's a great day!

One of my greatest memories from Gathered In mission was a healing service: - I was at the front, praying with

people when two girls walked into the church. They had been on their way to a night out, and had paused to ask a team member what was happening in the church – when they had heard that it was prayer for healing, they didn't hesitate but came straight in.

And both girls independently told the same story – that their lives were not going well, and when they had talked to the team member outside the church they had remembered their grandmother, who had attended church, who had something about her - a peace – that actually they wanted in their lives.

We may not know it, we may not see it, but how we live – the 'answer we give' in our lifestyle as well as our words matters absolutely.

So as we set out on this New Year, I hope this theme will resonate within each of us:- and that each of us will live lives and speak words that 'Give an answer to the reason for the hope we have'.



Tim Hall
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New Staff introductions

We are delighted to introduce you to 3 new members of staff, Daniel Holland, Evangelist, Georgina Hall, Missioner and Tao Hu, our new Secretary for Mission and Prayer.

Daniel

There is a blissful moment, when climbing a mountain, as my head breaks through the low-lying clouds and I am rewarded with a panoramic view. I can trace the uphill path zigzagging below and the rocky ledge where cold sweats accompanied a determination to summit the mountain. In front are the harvest fields and promised land where I am about to go.

A wise person said that God does far more behind our backs than he ever does in front of us. My arrival at Through Faith Missions in September is the culmination of a huge journey with Jesus, not always understanding what He was doing, but trusting that He knows where He is taking me.

God's preparation has been meticulous; I am staggered by His attention to detail. I have served for 10 years in pastoral ministry, which can be a mixed brew of blessings and buffetings. I have seen the world from a pastoral perspective, and I bring my experience into this role. Jesus is thrilled when pastors and evangelists work together and share a complementary vision, meanwhile hell trembles! But before this happens, we must walk a mile in someone else's shoes to understand them.

I prayed for years for a Christian youth worker in our old home town, only to realise God had selected me. I took Christian assemblies into 10 schools. But in my heart, there always pulsed the great commission and a missionary call to preach to wider audiences and see countless souls saved. Short mission trips to India and Mexico scratched this itch and increased my appetite for souls. A year in London working itinerantly for Ichthus Christian Fellowship further strengthened this vocation to travel and preach.

This was the point I discovered God's 'secret weapon', Through Faith Missions. Meeting



stalwarts like Tim and Georgina, George and Sue, and Paul and Paula I was overjoyed to see how closely my heart chimed with the vision, values and history of TFM. I am delighted to be appointed to the role of evangelist. TFM is the long-lost family I never knew I had, but I am very pleased to find, almost by 'accident' – nothing in the Kingdom of God is by chance! So, what do I bring to the table, already laden, at TFM?

PRAYER - the great evangelist John Wesley noted 'God does nothing except through believing prayer'. I do not claim to have a brilliant prayer life, but I do try to submit everything to God. Nothing invigorates me like praying for the lost and for revival in this country. Prayer must precede and ensue everything if there is to be lasting fruit.

PASSION - I have passion in spades, it is the fuel that keeps us moving when the enemy presses in hard. Passion for the name of Jesus is what sends us out over, and over, again to tell people about Him, to (re) evangelise this nation. He is our only hope!

PROCLAMATION - I live to preach the gospel and do so in season and out. However, there is also preaching Jesus with our whole lives; every big and small action, in order to get the maximum amount of Jesus to the maximum amount of people. This is my aspiration.

PRAISE - Jesus must get all the glory. For every salvation, healing, deliverance and provision, I praise the one from whom every good gift comes. Praise is the sanctuary where we apprehend our victory and strength.

I am excited and humbled to take up this mantle and follow in the Godly footsteps of evangelists like Revd Dan Cozens. What a legacy, such a bright future! For such a time as this..... together may we 'Serve the Lord with gladness.' (Psalm 100v 2a)

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Georgina

Firstly, may I just say what a privilege it is to be working for an organisation that I wholeheartedly believe in. My dealings with TFM go back 25ish years when Tim, my husband was administrator in the Rectory in Coton. I had no role, other than his wife and yet I was always welcome at the office, would be included in conversations and felt very much a part of the TFM family. So, this really is a sense of coming home and I am loving it.

Since those days our two children have grown up and flown the nest and I have had opportunities to serve the Lord in so many ways, not least in the complicated world of 'Vicarage Life'!

So much life passes through the Vicarage and it has been a varied and exciting journey. I have been given the task of preparing families for their babies' baptism, a wonderful Gospel opportunity, preparing couples for marriage as part of a group, leading various Bible Study and prayer groups, children's ministry and working with some of the beautiful homeless and struggling folk who live amongst us. I have spent many hours in prison with lovely brothers who are doing time for various reasons, and I have been fed and nurtured spiritually by those very people that I wanted to serve.

I have enjoyed being on the leadership teams of various churches and learned to love so many different genres of worship, leading and preaching and teaching in the parish and working with others from different denominations.

I can tell you some beautiful stories of how I have seen God at work in unexpected places and in unexpected people.

I love to travel and to see where God is working and, more interestingly, How he works! I am becoming more and more aware of the fact that the more I know of Him the more I know I don't know, which is something that we all see as we grow but now and again it becomes so obvious...

I guess God is so much more than any of us can imagine and as a result, he surprises us sometimes by appearing in a place

that we perhaps think he 'isn't' or he 'won't'. And this is when we see that nothing, absolutely No Thing, can contain God - which means that love, forgiven-ness, life and hope are, through his beautiful grace, always within reach.

This is the Gospel of salvation that we are called to share with others, It is not ours to divide out or share with the select few but it has been given to us in trust that we will give it out as freely as Christ himself gave his life.

Look at this....

"Teacher", said John, "we saw a man driving out demons in your name and we told him to stop, because he was not one of us."

"Do not stop him," Jesus said. "No-one who does a miracle in my name can in the next moment say anything bad about me, for whoever is not against us is for us. I tell you the truth, anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to Christ will certainly not lose his reward!"

This is our Beautiful God, free to work, even in those we believe to be 'not one of us'..... Scary eh?

This is the God that I serve and look forward to serving in my role as Missioner with TFM.

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Tao

I was born in China and came to the UK in 2000 as a student and have since stayed and settled here. I'm a single mum of two children. I have a 17-year-old son called Yan-kang and a 12-year-old daughter called Huan-yu. Despite a 'winding' journey God by His great mercy and unrelenting love brought me to Jesus in 2010 and continues to bring restoration and growth into my heart and mind. I'm a member at Christ Church, Cambourne and my desire is to continue to grow in confidence and boldness in sharing the good news of Jesus with others.

Since 2003 I have worked as a freelance English/Mandarin interpreter in hospitals, GP surgeries, police custodies and courts. Over the past ten years I've also worked as a midday supervisor at a local school, a family support worker for a disabled girl and a part-time admin assistant at a mental health organization, Lifecraft. I have been very blessed by various opportunities to witness Jesus to others through all these different roles and I look forward to being part of TFM in the work of advance of the gospel. And my prayers are that 'whatever I do, I would do it heartily, as unto the Lord'. Amen.

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Missions in the North

A report from David Robbins

Following 24 hours of prayer some few years ago in Cumbria, TFM based activity began in working with local churches in a slightly different way to normal TFM missions. We felt that if we could encourage a local church or church community to build and train a mission team, we could support them and take them to another church community where they were not known. In this way the outgoing church team might be blessed in the same way that TFM team members are blessed by seeing God at work. The aim being that the church community visited would return a team and again receive that blessing, thus strengthening both church communities in ways that only God can do.

We recently supported 2 church communities in this way, firstly Ulverston to Blackpool in September

With a team involving 13 people, some from Ulverston and some TFM supporters, we had a most blessed week in the outskirts of Blackpool at St Marks Layton and St Luke's Staining. We had no program, and simply took each day as it came. Some church events we joined in with and did doors, street ministry with survey forms, school assembly (and invited back to do 'Ethos' interview), much prayer, a healing, deliverance, eviction of a ghost from a council house while on the doors!, encouragement of churches and several people invited the Lord Jesus into their hearts. The parish we worked in had a wonderful ministry to the lost and homeless on the streets with a Cafe service involving feeding and ministering to 50 - 60 people twice a week. Also a new cafe church on a large estate. Our thanks to Rev. Peter Lillycrap and his churches for welcoming us in. The parishes are now looking at a return mission to Ulverston next year.

Secondly, a 4 day mission, when Blyth returned a mission team to Ambleside late October to 3rd Nov.

In March this year Ambleside sent a TFM supported team to Blyth to mission with Blyth Community Church. Blyth C.C. is a very small church but with a huge heart. From 9 regular worshipers we had a team of 8 (the 9th did not come as she had to look after their 6 month old child, although she did allow her husband to come) return to Ambleside! We supported them with people who had visited Blyth from Ambleside and 4 TFM missionaries. 18 people were on team at one time and we did lots of the usual stuff, but majored on street praise, worship and bible reading as there were many tourists on the streets due to it being the last week of half term. Some team members also went and joined with the mob in a sports pub to watch and witness at the England v South Africa game and later went to Ambleside football ground to mix with the teams and locals at a match there.

It seemed that God had young and very young children in His sights for this mission with many being attracted to the singing. One particularly wonderful moment, a child, probably about 2 - 3 years old stopped his dad near us while we were praising God in a park to watch and listen, and when his dad finally persuaded him to move on, the child turned as he passed and said to the team (the child said!), "that was beautiful" which reduced a couple of the team to tears!

This mission also was without program or organised events and though I had been expecting 4 from Blyth to attend and had been asking for 4 to support them, you can see God had it all under His control and got just the team he wanted, twice and more what I had expected. All were fed and housed as only God can do in these situations.

Praise God and thank you all for your prayers.



Giving an answer

TFM Annual Conference

Saturday 27 June 2020

The Bridge Church St Ives
throughfaithmissions.org/conf2020

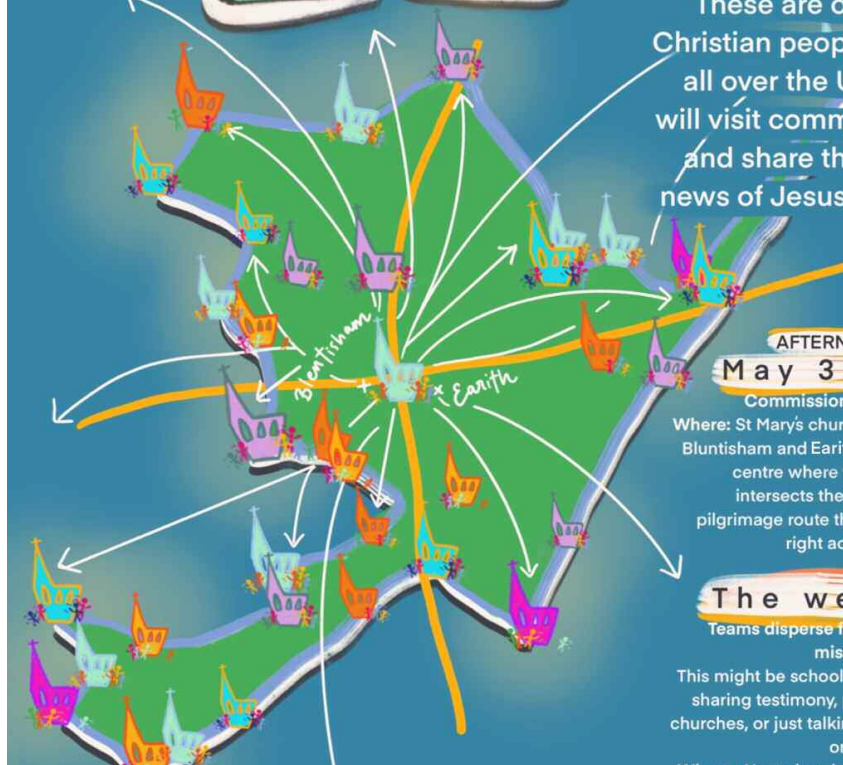
New Trustees

We are also delighted to welcome Jeremy Borton, Carol Richards and David Robbins to the TFM Board of Trustees. They join Kevin Granville, Val Jacobs, Paul Preston, Peter Sammons, Mike Saunders and Donna Searle. We recently gathered for our annual retreat of staff and trustees; always a very special time of sharing and listening to God.



Calling
all

LIGHT 2020



30 MAY
- 7 JUNE

From Saturday 30th May until Sunday 7th June churches within a 10 mile radius of Bluntisham are invited to welcome some walking witnesses. These are ordinary Christian people from all over the UK who will visit communities and share the good news of Jesus Christ.

AFTERNOON OF
May 30th :

Commissioning Service
Where: St Mary's church, between Bluntisham and Earith. This is the centre where the Meridian intersects the Via Beata, a pilgrimage route that stretches right across the UK.

The week :

Teams disperse for a week of mission activity. This might be school assemblies, sharing testimony, preaching in churches, or just talking to people on the streets.

Where : Host churches, churches extending an invitation for teams to come in and help share the love of God with neighbours and friends.

AFTERNOON OF
7th June :

A Service of Celebration

Calling all Team Members

Lots of opportunities coming up to join us on mission.
Is God calling you to serve once again?

Mission programme for 2020

Carlisle	28 March - 5 April
Peterborough	9 - 12 April
Light 2020 mission	30 May - 7 June 2020
London City mission/Dagenham	19 - 27 September
Barnsley	3 - 11 October
Wiggenhall St Germans	8 - 11 October
Tenerife	Jan/Feb 2021
Anglesey	8 - 23 May 2021
Walk the Way	June - Aug
Torbay	19 - 26 Sept 2021

Plus New Haw, Hungerford, St Austell, Busbridge and Wednesbury in discussion.

Training events

St Austell	8 - 9 Feb
Torbay	14 - 16 Feb
Carlisle	29 Feb - 1 March
Basingstoke	22 March
London City Mission Stratford	25/26 April
Barnsley	2/3 May
Anglesey	4/5 July and 17/18 Oct

Team
Members



Kilmore, Elphin & Ardagh
CHURCH OF IRELAND DIOCESES

Gathered In Mission 21 September to 6 October 2019

In rural Ireland harvest celebrations are one of the highlights of the year in many parish churches.

The Diocese of Kilmore Elphin and Ardagh which straddles the western part of Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland organised and partnered with TFM in a harvest mission.

Some ten teams of TFM evangelists were hosted by around 80 parishes across the sprawling diocese.

They typically spent up to half the week in a cluster of parishes before moving onto a fresh cluster. The evangelists shared in traditional harvest services, special events around the harvest theme and door to door and street work in towns and villages. Feedback from Gathered In was positive; there were responses to faith, healings and renewal among those inside the churches. There was incredible openness outside the church to the Gospel. Those parishes that took part in the venture of faith have followed up with Alpha Courses, Christianity Explored and mentoring taking place across the diocese.

Bishop Ferran remarked that, "the Lord provided additional workers for the harvest fields in Kilmore Elphin and Ardagh through TFM and for that we rejoice and are glad".

This was Daniel's first mission with TFM. Here are his reflections.

'by the power of signs and wonders, through the power of the Spirit of God. So from Jerusalem all the way around to Illyricum, I have fully proclaimed the gospel of Christ.' Romans 15: 9

Challenges

- Very long days. Arriving back at hosts late at night but needing to socialise with them.
- Particularly wet and windy weather (even for Ireland). Door-knocking not much fun.
- Some churches dragging their feet having been 'encouraged' to host by the Bishop.
- Completely different churchmanship to that which I am used to, need to adapt...all things to all people to win some.
- Unabashed free-masonry and Orangeism in the church.
- People were guarded - insisted we give our affiliation (i.e.. Protestant). Some Roman Catholics withdrew from us.
- The logistics were horrendous, we kept getting lost. There are precious few street names; postcodes aren't recognised and satnavs do flips because new roads aren't registered but impassable roads are.
- Old school model of preaching a gospel of salvation which is great but not complete gospel of the Kingdom.



Highlights

- We prayer walked around a Buddhist retreat. Three of us then went in and talked to some people there. Finally we offered to pray and one lady sobbed while we ministered God's healing. Another young woman observed this and gave her life to Jesus; all of this observed by a German occultist and two American women. Talk about snatching brands from the fire!
- Our host who had been tormented for decades came to peace as the glory of God (such as I have rarely experienced) descended in his front room late at night as 4 of us prayed.
- I was given an Irish history lesson by Bishop Ferran, the man responsible for inviting us all and a wonderful evangelical Christian.
- Witnessing to 4-5 day-drinkers in a pub where two of us took refuge on a rainy day. It turns out it is/was an IRA pub. Talk about sheep among wolves.
- Vicars who were guarded in their welcome, embraced us by the end of the mission.
- Dozens of decisions for Christ over the two weeks.

What's impressed me about Through Faith Missions so far.....

- Ichthus-like work ethic. Boy did we work hard!
- It's Jesus-centric. The main thing is the main thing - saving souls.
- I was in teams with at least 4-5 denominations represented. I never detected any partisan spirit.
- Although I might have been the only one to do so I could express the gifts of the spirit without any censure.
- It's very 'sharpening' to be with teams of highly motivated evangelists.
- The vision is relational in the long-term - some of the people we met on mission will be invited to future missions wherever they may be. I may be visiting churches around Belfast in follow up.



Contact Us?

Please tick a box below and complete your address details.

I wish to become a Prayer Partner

Please note my address change or email address below (need old address also)

Please remove my name from the mailing list

Please send me the weekly email Prayer news (need email address please)

I enclose a gift to support TFM's ministry (Cheques to Through Faith Missions Ltd or go to www.throughfaithmissions.org/giving for online giving options).

I want to gift aid my donation

I would like to remember TFM in my will. Please send details.

I authorise TFM to contact me as I have selected below

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Email

Phone

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Address:

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By supplying the information above you are authorising Through Faith Missions to hold the data supplied and contact you as selected. You can change these preferences at any time by contacting us at the address below.



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Callao Salvaje Community Church, Tenerife –

David Culhane writes;

Pastor Ken Cummins and his wife, Caroline, run this small church in the south of Tenerife. The regular congregation can be numbered on the fingers of two or three hands but numbers are swollen by visitors on holiday and swallows – people who arrive in the autumn and leave in the spring.

A small TFM team of eight, Georgina Hall, Claire Robinson, Christina Hayhoe, Robert Parker, Peter Ivers, Gary Slack, Bill Getty and myself went to help them reach out to their community from 2 to 10 Nov. Ev Tate, well known and loved TFMer and her husband, John, are swallows there and were heavily involved in the programme.

Door to door was quite tricky because life there was outdoors rather than indoors and lots of different nationalities lived there. However the church had come up with the brilliant idea of printing an A5 sheet with the four main points of the KGP plus the prayer in six different languages and these were invaluable in many, many conversations.

We had a great time, prayed with scores of people and left them some 20 folk to follow up. Please pray particularly for Ken and Caroline and Ev as they tackle this crucial task.

E: david@throughfaithmissions.org

And Pastor Ken writes;

It was a privilege to have David and the team here. Despite months in the planning, we were not sure how it would work out in this unique situation.

We were delighted with the enthusiasm of the team and amazed at the energy that they had, despite both the heat and the age of the team members. Age was not a problem as everyone was so young at heart.

We knew that door to door work was going to be a challenge, but with Ev's multi-lingual leaflets, this seemed to achieve a solution.

We have had good feedback from many of the village people who were spoken to and nothing negative has been said to us.

I believe that your visit has ploughed up more ground for us to plant in.

I believe that the mission dates were planned by the Holy Spirit and the team who came were just the right mix, with lots of experience, to face some unique challenges with language, heat, siestas and hills.

The culmination was amazing, with a packed church for Remembrance Day service and many hearing the gospel for the first time.

We thank you for your service to the Kingdom and only time or eternity will tell the whole story of what was achieved, not just for the village but also for our church and their family members.

Please pray that the Lord will give us the strength and the workers to continue and grow what you have started.

With grateful thanks and every blessing to you and the team.

Your servant in Christ Jesus,

Pastor Ken Cumming
Callao Salvaje Community Church.

