



Through Faith Missions (TFM)
 Training evangelists
 Equipping churches
 Partnering in mission
 Preaching the Gospel
 Reaching the lost

TFM Newsletter August 2024

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. (John 15v 5)

I teed off our recent mission to Wolverhampton preaching from the beautiful passage above. How apt to kickstart the week with this passage describing fruitful mission – resulting from staying attached to the true vine, Jesus.

All that is required of us is that we remain attached to Jesus, the true vine, and allow his sap/Spirit to flow unhindered through us. He produces the fruit; we abide in Him. It sounds so easy and yet we need constant reminders. We learn to do our part, which God won't do, and to let God do His work, which we can't do! One aspect of this for me is learning to delegate to experienced TFMers who carry so much wisdom and expertise. When interviewing for the TFM evangelist role some 5 years ago, Paul Preston asked me what my favourite verse was, this leapt unsolicited into my mind,

“This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,’ says the LORD Almighty. (Zech 4v 6)

Perhaps it still is, my favourite verse that is! Since our last newsletter the branches of TFM have spread far and wide, from Kenya to Download, Peterborough, Streatham and lastly Wolverhampton. There are many irons in the fire, and many weekend visits to churches around the country where the TFM banner is raised. The Spirit of God has been flowing through us, our staff, trustees and volunteers, producing fruit. Inevitably we would like to see more but God is teaching us, and developing new vibrant channels for evangelism.

In particular the new chaplaincy at Download festival is an exciting and cutting-edge place to share our faith. It's fresh and adventurous, but we shouldn't become too familiar and comfortable with it. We are quickly learning new skills as chaplains, operating differently than in other settings. We let people come to us, 100,000 of them! 'He who wins souls is wise' (Pro 11v 30)! We have the privilege to help shape and develop a young ministry. Jesus is pruning and sharpening us. It will suffer many enemy attacks and attempts to capsize it, but it also spreads branches into a subculture that might otherwise be abandoned by evangelical Christians.

One (rather unfair and inaccurate) comment from a 'metalhead' was 'You guys have come a long way from standing at the gate screaming at us that we are going to hell'. Now while I am personally not guilty of that, I take the point that evangelists have become much more culturally engaged and therefore accessible. The contingent danger is that we lose our saltiness! We must stay attached to Jesus, above all else.



Please stand with us. There are changes and turns ahead but if we abide in Jesus, He will direct our growth into places that desperately need the gospel, preached through the power of the Spirit. Thank you for all your prayers.

God bless you mightily with power by His Holy Spirit.

Dan Holland Lead Evangelist

TFM Training Day in Woodbridge, Suffolk- 18 May 2024

Well, what a day. I sometimes picture God with a gentle smile and that is the case with this. I moved to Suffolk last year and joined St John's church, Woodbridge. After hearing me mention TFM, two guys expressed an interest in coming on mission. When I signed up for the June Peterborough mission they agreed to come along too. But as they had just missed a training event what was to be done? I felt prompted to organise a full training day even though there was initially just two people. With George Martin and Bill Thompson helping to lead, in the end we had thirteen came. Four came through TFM and the remaining nine from church members. The St John's Evangelism

leader had for some time felt a need to visit some local flats, which we did in the afternoon. Trainees came back inspired, with forty-eight conversations and four homes requiring follow-up. Interestingly, there was some confusion over which flats to visit, so there are plans for St John's to go back again (and again?). Eight trainees completed interviews, so that they could be ready for future missions and some have requested to receive TFM information. In response to the interview form question "Why do you want to come on a mission?", one St John's trainee wrote "I was so inspired by the training today". God is good. Let's pray that this is the start of something bigger for East Suffolk.

Chris Watts

3 Day Peterborough Mission



Over recent years there have been several short, usually one day TFM missions at St Paul's, New England, Peterborough. It's always great to work with Reverends Ron and Val at St Paul's, themselves old TFMers. The team for this 3-day mission comprised Celia Tayler, Jo Ridpath, David Pickavance, Bob Huddleston, Martin Roberts, George Martin and me. Everyone got stuck in and each had an opportunity to speak at events and did so clearly and well. Ron and Val had come up with a good programme including Prayer walking, Family BBQ (with enjoyable conjuring and puppet show performed by Chris, Jo and Martin), Ladies and Men's breakfasts, a Home Dinner, Organ Concert and Sunday Eucharist. It was great to know that the church had committed this mission to prayer. We had hoped to do some pub evangelism but only one of the twenty local pubs now remains (something to think about for missions) and this had a live band on. Sadly, the events were poorly attended particularly in terms of non-Christians. But door to door visiting went well with some amazing conversations taking place including one man giving his life to Christ. As

a result of this visiting, a couple came to the breakfast, one man came to the BBQ that evening and a family came to the Eucharist. At this, the Bishop confirmed a member of the church and Martin gave a powerful sermon. However, a past member of the church attended who had converted to Islam and after a post-service conversation started shouting and became abusive to Ron in church. Some of us were outside and decided to enter loudly singing "When I survey the wondrous cross". The young man soon left and upset church members came to us, hugged and thanked us. This was a clear illustration of the spiritual battle we are all in.



The team felt the mission went well overall. In addition to the door-to-door work, a Muslim lady thanked George for litter picking. Members of St Paul's were encouraged particularly one couple who came on the doors with us. Scores of KGPs were given out. So, despite the setbacks and bearing in mind the mission was just 3 days not the usual 8 for a full mission and the team was 7 rather than the usual 10 then it should be regarded as a success.

One TFM 'newbie' wrote "The most amazing thing for me now sitting at home reflecting, is that I have some people to pray for who I would never have met had I not gone on that mission.... Can't explain why this feels important but it seems to be."

Chris Watts

Kenya 2024

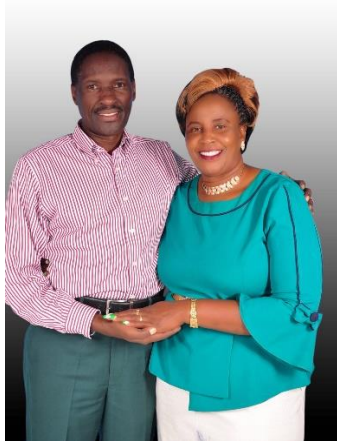


See the 2024 mission report on our website here <https://www.throughfaithmissions.org/kenya24>

Kenya 2025

TFM has a history of partnership with church leaders and evangelists in East Africa. You may remember - or perhaps participated in - mission trips to Massailand in Kenya and to rural Uganda in the early 2000s.

We are pleased to report that a new partnership is emerging between TFM and Pastor James Gikwa of the Deliverance Church network. He is based in Nairobi and leads two congregations in the city alongside his wife Margaret. Dan and I had the privilege of working alongside the churches in February 2023 and again in late January and early



February this year. The first trip involved outreach in a suburb of Nairobi (Rosegate) and a rural town up the rift valley (Kinamba). This year's trip included a GP and nurse from Evangelistic Medical Missions Abroad, a charity that Tony has been involved with since 2010, so that we were able to combine health care with spiritual care!

Plans are underway to recruit a team from TFM to join James, Margaret and their church members for evangelism in both urban and rural settings, in the streets and in schools, using our respective gifts and combined experience for the Kingdom of God, in 2025. Dates have yet to be confirmed at the time of writing but we are aiming for two weeks in July or August. Please contact the office if you are interested in joining this mission.

Tony Males TFM trustee

Pastor James from Nairobi sends us this calling

Beloved brothers and sisters in the TFM team. I bring much love and greetings from Kenya. through the name of our father and father of our lord Jesus Christ. He chose us in him before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight in love (Ephesian 1:3,4). My name is Rev. James Gikwa, I am 61 Years old, I am a born-again Christian, Jesus Christ is my lord and saviour and married to Margaret Gikwa. We are

blessed with 3 adult children who are serving God with us. Our 2 sons are married. we are grandparents to our grandson and others are coming. We give God all the glory.

I got the call into the ministry after I gave my life to Jesus Christ at the age of 26 years, through advice from the Lord, this was confirmed through words of prophecy by different servants of God.

The lord made it clear; he had called me and my wife to reach the unreached people, tribes and communities in our nation and beyond – with the gospel of salvation through faith and by grace of our lord Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2: 8-9)

In 1994 we moved to a place called Kinamba, Laikipia District of the rift Valley Province where we started our ministry by person to person evangelism , Open air crusades, reaching children in primary and secondary schools etc. that's where we planted our first church , the lord enabled us to reach far wide and for the 18 years we were able to plant 47 churches , raised many pastors who are taking care of the churches which have continued to multiply .



The lord relocated our ministry from Kinamba 15 years ago, the lord gave us a fresh mandate to reach and plant churches in some unreached communities in the outskirts of Nairobi and Rosegate where we are located of where we are now serving with many souls serving with many souls coming to the kingdom of God

We are thankful to God for bringing Evangelist Daniel Holland and Dr Tony Males into our lives and ministry. for the last 2 years, they have visited some of our churches the lord has enabled us to plant at Kinamba, Dagoretti and Rosegate. They have preached in

various open-air crusades, held prophetic seminars, preached in school assemblies, witnessed to many and many souls have come to the kingdom of God. This year we held a very successful medical camp outreach, both in Rosegate and in Kinamba areas where over 900 people got treatment from various ailments and free medical drugs. We are very thankful to our God and to this team.

Allow me to invite you to the Glory Mission 2025. We are trusting God to hold more outreach programs in other parts of the country where the need for the Gospel is enormous. Our vision is to build a ministry training school at Rosegate where we will equip young people who have a calling to reach their tribes / Communities with the gospel. We will then support them in planting churches and reach their people in their own language and culture. I request you to pray for this vision and also partner with us as TFM.

God bless you.

TFM Evangelist Associations

(EAs) link local supporters together into a group, usually meeting monthly, to pray for and offer other practical support to TFM.

EAs include active TFMers from both mission and prayer teams, past TFMers and other individuals who share a passion to see the Good News shared and people saved.

EAs will pray for all aspects of TFM, guided by the weekly prayer email to,

- actively advertising TFM events
- asking local churches to host events
- volunteering where there is a need
- go 'scouting' - for new mission opportunities
- encourage others to join TFM
- support local mission work and evangelistic activities

Members of EAs support, encourage and sharpen each other wonderfully. Perhaps you would consider starting one in your own local area? Starting with prayer....it only takes two to start.....

Contact the office if you want to start or join an EA.

Feedback from two EA members

'It's Good....!'

Good fellowship and encouragement, good for TFM updates, good for feeling connected to TFM, good context for evangelistic prayer, good for those new to TFM, good for sharing other evangelistic opportunities (e.g. healing on the streets), good for sharing stories of evangelistic conversations, good organising and coordinating of involvement in TFM training and TFM mission, and good for communication to and from the TFM office.'

'There seem to be only a few evangelists in each church fellowship so a local EA group is a place to be amongst like-minded believers. It's a place to give and receive encouragement, share local outreach activities and support each other and TFM in prayer.'

Download 2024

And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?"

(Jonah 4v 11)



Before any mission I seek some kind of prophetic input from God. Every mission has its own 'personality' and unique challenges even if it is in the same location as a previous one. This year God drew my attention to this verse from Jonah.

It's so appropriate, Download is like a pop-up city and if everyone is counted it's probably not far from 120,000 people. Unusually for us at TFM it is not a case of having to find people, they are everywhere. Tall, short, big, small, pierced, tattooed, covered in black death heads or wearing virtually nothing at all. We cannot afford to be shockable. If festival goers don't know their right hand from their left, they need someone (ie. us) to help them. If God has mercy on them, so should we!



Eight of us from TFM (sadly one withdrawal through sickness) joined the wider chaplaincy of around 40 people. We are getting to know each other, especially Rev Roy, Rev Andrew and Pat Cooke-Rodgers and building a stronger relational

foundation every time. The team did exceptionally well with so many variables, including the terrible weather conditions and things being not the usual TFM structure. I also had the opportunity to give a short radio interview with West Midlands BBC which you can find on our website.

Once again, the Sunday morning communion service was a focal point. Sadly because the gates didn't open until 12pm we started the service and festival goers were literally running past us slipping and sliding in the squelching mud to get to the big stage for the first act. If only they were racing to get to the communion service!

Once again, we were admirably supported by Tao and the prayer warrior team and I am excited to take a team back next year as this ministry builds and develops.



Office Announcement

A new chapter

Dan writes

'The TFM office has served us well and we are grateful to Sawston URC for making it available. However from the beginning, Sawston was considered to be a stopgap and that God would graciously open up a different future for TFM in His perfect timing. TFM will vacate the Sawston office permanently on Monday 29 July. Note that contact details remain the same.

We very much want now to step out in faith (through faith) to see where God leads. TFM has secured a storage facility at Little Stukeley church – the Beacon Centre linked to Godmanchester Baptist Church. We have already utilised Little Stukeley as a training venue in the past. The location is convenient and relatively inexpensive for storage. It is much closer to me and, as you may know, we hope shortly to buy a house in St Ives, some 7 miles away.

Office support continues uninterrupted and David and Tao are very much at the centre of things. We shall continue for the time being with a mixture of home working and team meetings at ad-hoc venues. Whilst finance was not a deciding consideration, today's change reduces expenditure at a time of financial constraint. We feel the present move is timely and prudent and cements a growing friendship with the pastor of the Beacon Centre, with some great mission opportunities there.

At a time of international uncertainty, TFM finds itself more agile and responsive without a central location, and we trust, better able to respond quickly to God's present and future leadings. Join us in giving thanks to God for His leading and in seeking His perfect will for our future direction and location. All glory to our Lord Jesus. And do go on praying for TFM as we focus on this year's missions, many exciting opportunities await us!

Bushbury, Wolverhampton



The mission was greatly blessed, with many prayers answered. We had three partnering churches: Saint Mary's, the Good Shepherd, and Saint James'. In the two mission teams deployed we were very much aware of faithful support from the TFM prayer network, and in particular we noted a general peacefulness which, perhaps, we had not anticipated. In addition, there were many good and fruitful discussions about faith matters with the general public – about 500 we think – usually based around the TFM standard survey questionnaire. This year there were just over 450 completed survey forms and quite a few professions of faith, plus requests for local church follow-up.

Public worship and witnessing was also greatly blessed, there being street safety, and blessed weather conditions, especially at crucial moments.

Hitting the target

Partnering churches hosted us wonderfully, and provided clear mission objectives. This was really helpful and reminds me of that old saying: “if you don't have a target - you won't hit it”. Having clear objectives gave us a real sense of being in partnership with, and servants of, our hosting churches.

Softer ground

The spiritual ground seemed softer this year than in 2023. We believe that God graciously blessed and honoured our work in 2023 and that some fruits from that mission were gleaned in this 2024 mission. We repeat, this year there seemed to be more Shalom, with people more open and more relaxed, leading to fruitful and open exchanges.

Survey responses reflect further drift towards secularism. So, in response to ‘what do you believe about God’, those who describe God as ‘just a force’, increased from 5% to 8%. Those who see God as ‘a personal God’ declined from 48% to 44%. Those responding ‘non-existent’ increased from 14% to 16%.



The most heartening result was that amongst those who answered the question 'if you could know God personally, would you be interested?', with a marked increase from 40% last year to 57% this year.

Conclusions

Our conclusions? Firstly, that people we engaged with are more open, and perhaps more honest or relaxed than last year. And also accurate in answering, in the sense that they are being direct and feel more comfortable about



responding.

Secondly, it is the young and foreign-born, who appear to be more open than the older, indigenous, white and British-born, who are more 'set in their ways', and so resistant to God's offer of love and acceptance.

We praise God for a happy mission, many really useful conversations and the associated encouragement for people to think seriously - and to seek seriously – concerning their relationship with God.

Peter Sammons Team Leader and TFM Trustee

TFM Annual Conference- Will you join us?



THROUGH FAITH MISSIONS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

INTO ALL THE WORLD

SATURDAY 14 SEP 2024
9AM-4.30PM

A CELEBRATION OF WHAT GOD HAS DONE WITH TFM & WHAT HE WILL BE DOING IN THE YEARS TO COME

Special guest speakers via Zoom Pastor James and Margaret Gikwa from Deliverance Church, Dagoretti Junction, Nairobi.

We will also hear from lead Evangelist Daniel Holland, TFM staff & local pastors.

REGISTER
Book in on the TFM website:
throughfaithmissions.org/conf2024
07434661697
£20 per person. Refreshments provided but please bring a packed lunch.

VENUE
Wessex Christian Fellowship,
Wessex Close, Basingstoke,
Hampshire, RG21 3NP



Over recent years, the numbers attending our annual conference have fallen. This is a real shame as it's such a great day to catch up with friends from past missions, meet the staff and hear what is coming up

Can we break this trend this year?

For the second year running, we are holding the conference at a mission centre church. It's such an encouragement to everyone especially the locals to see they are part of something so much bigger.

Please come and share this day with us.

