

November 2014

ARMAGH The theology books were put to one side (for most of the week) and it was fancy dress time for the Armagh evangelism team. The 'Amazing Journey' was in town and our college team were able to assist the members of Armagh Baptist Church as they brought the Bible's story to numerous primary schools throughout the city. A busy schedule ensured that over 1,400 boys and girls heard the gospel story explained during the week.



Team members also participated in other aspects of the churches work. From testimonies at Stauros (addiction centre), to gospel meetings in elderly residential homes, each team member took part in sharing the message of the good news.

The privilege of being part of a week assisting Armagh Baptist Church was compounded by an awareness that this work continues. This was not a week simply put on to accommodate a college team, but rather a week in which the college team participated in assisting a work that is already moving.

So far, since the Amazing Journey, a number of children from the schools have written to request their own Bible. Please pray for the work in Armagh as it continues, long after our team have returned to their studies. (Stephen Cassells)



CAVAN Our first involvement with Cavan Baptist church was at their Sunday morning service. A number of team members participated in the service. Other regular church events allowed the team to be involved in the women's meeting, the kids TNT club and the midweek discipleship classes.

Every morning we had the opportunity to share a devotion at the assemblies in the Royal School in Cavan.

The rest of the mornings and afternoons were spent between St Patrick's College, Breifne College, Loreto College girl's school and Moyne Community School.

At each location the team shared 'What Baptists Believe' with different Religious Education classes. At the end of each class the team answered questions from the pupils and teachers about issues relating to what had been said. We also had an invitation to Crubany National School to take five RE classes and Scripture Union in the Royal School.

Door-to-door evangelism also formed a major part of our itinerary for the week. It was great to be able to participate in this work with members from the church. There were

many opportunities to share the gospel and challenge people from many different backgrounds about their view of God. Our week in Cavan was a real blessing for all.

(Paul Hackett)

CASTLEDERG Team arrival paralleled the first opening of Connect, a community drop-in centre that would characterise and define our week; our arrival was to a church driven and passionate about connecting with their community. Castlederg can sometimes be a forgotten place, or we identify it for the wrong reasons, but it was so evident God had been working long before we had arrived. It was inspiring to see a church small numerically, and with few young people, pursuing the Kingdom of Heaven for families, parents, teenagers and children who attended the Connect Centre throughout the week.

Our time in Castlederg consisted of sharing the burden of the local church and supporting their daily responsibilities within the Connect Centre which was open four days of our week – a lot of demand for a small church! Alongside of which we helped raise awareness of Connect through doing door-to-door work and within the local schools; primary school classes and assemblies, even some rewarding Q&A sessions in secondary schools. Cross border travel was a privilege too!

Our time in the west was an incredible experience learning from Pastor Fyffe and a church that is together faithfully pursuing relationships that will lead to opportunities to speak of Jesus. If you saw it you would be incredibly excited, certainly we as students are – pray for Connect. (David Neill)

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COLERAINE A team of nine from the college made their way to Coleraine for a week of ministry alongside the church. The experience of street work enabled many contacts to be

made that will hopefully result in people visiting in an attempt to find a spiritual home. There is a significant number of Polish workers and Hong Kong students attending weekly, giving the church a more international feel.

We took services in three elderly homes and on Tuesday one of the team was able to lead a woman to the Lord making every effort more than worthwhile. Three primary school assemblies were taken and another highlight was the apologetic theme of the RE classes in three secondary schools. On the Friday night two evangelism events were held concurrently, a desserts and jazz night

for adults and a discussion and acoustics night in Ground Café for the more youthful.

On the Tuesday evening, after the midnight hour, something different was planned. We were given an address and arrived on a dark suburban street with little street lighting. At what we thought was the correct house there was a what could probably be best described as a house party. Some of the team then wandered next door and were greeted with a sign 'Doorbell broken please knock'. As the attempts to knock for attention failed, we gingerly opened the front door, aware of the bizarre nature of what we were actually doing at this late hour.

As we made our way through the door we were relieved to find thirty five young people praising God to the sound of a single guitar. This was the Christian Union from the University of Ulster and we were joining them for outreach at a popular student night at a bar in Portstewart. The wind was howling from the tail end of a hurricane, so the soup and tea served from the boot of a car were most welcome to many. Some fruitful conversations were had about important spiritual matters. This is not a one-off event and the Christians have a very strong name and witness among the students. Please pray for them as they show the love of Christ long after many of us have drifted into sleep.

We thank particularly Richard Blayney and the Coleraine church generally, for all their efforts, hospitality and organisation. (Richard McCord)

DUNDALK We arrived in Dundalk on Saturday, 18, October 2014, and settled in relatively quickly. After tea we got down to some song practice for the Sunday Services.

On Monday morning, Paul, Elisha, Johnny and Jamie were taken by Kevin Marley (Dundalk Baptist liaison manager and all-round great guy) to appear on Dundalk FM100's Town Talk radio show. Each one of the participants negotiated some tricky questions with expertise, while managing to advertise The Ark Encounter - the main event of our week.

Later on, some of the team travelled to Dundalk Institute of Technology to hand out flyers. It was surprising how many people were willing to listen to what we had to say, regardless of their interest in the subject. Richard and I remained behind with Kevin to attend a talk on the value of life. There we met a girl who seemed heartbroken and this encounter would remain with us throughout the week. In the evening, Alvin, John, Stephen and I were special guests on the church radio show, Heart of the Matter, on which we all managed to share the glorious gospel.



We began Thursday with a puppet show, developed and directed by master puppeteer Alvin, which taught the children the story of Noah.



The Ark Encounter was held on Thursday evening. God, in His great mercy and faithfulness, ensured that the place was filled to the point where we almost ran out of chairs. Testimonies were given by Elisha and Denver, and Johnny gave an insightful presentation, punctuated by music from Dundalk Baptist Church worship band. All was freely broadcast across Dundalk on Dundalk FM100.

This event was based around a remarkable scale model of The Ark. This was built by a member of Dundalk Baptist Church while recovering from illness. The model was displayed throughout the day for all to see what Noah's Ark actually looked like.

Reflecting on this week, the words of John 11:40 (NASB) seem perfect '...If you believe, you will see the glory of God'.
(Joshua Hyde)