

Jonathan & Nicola McCracken, Claremorris

Praise

- Thankyou for praying for Sarah's camp at New Year with BCM. It was good to connect up with other young people and have time together.
- The kids club went well in January. A Syrian lady came along with her three children. Pray as we continue this ministry monthly in the Town Hall.
- We give thanks that we have been asked by the local radio station to do a 10/15 minute slot on their live morning show about our church, which could lead to something more regular.

Prayer

- Pray for wisdom about the radio opportunity. It would be great to hear someone locally from our church, share about why they come each week or give a short testimony about their Christian faith. It is also a good opportunity to explain who we are and what we believe.
- We are planning to use the **Community Bible Experience** in our Wednesday night group. This is an initiative aimed at getting people to read the Bible for themselves and then come back and talk about it in a group setting. Pray as we advertise this outreach widely around the town.
- Pray for our monthly kids club and the next one on 15th February.

Charis Tully – Ferrybank

Thanks for your continued prayers for my mum and I - Mum got out of hospital on New Year's Day and has been recovering slowly from her operation.

She also got good news that the growth they took out was benign and so she needs no more treatment for it. She still has to be very careful for a minimum of 3 more weeks, please pray for her continued recovery.

I was to move house by the end of Feb but yet again the landlord has said he isn't selling just now and so I don't have to move at the moment - I know he will probably change his mind again in another 6 months but I am glad of the reprieve (for now) as it means I can breathe a little after a hectic and stressful few weeks and I can get ready for home assignment.

I am going in home assignment in March running into April, hopefully I will then see many of you in person - thanks for your continued support and prayers

Peter and Anna Crawford Portugal

Preparing to lead **ECM's Foundations Course** for new missionaries. This will take place **February 4th to 9th** in Germany, and we have a large group of adults and children coming from many countries. Besides teaching many of the sessions, we are also responsible for logistics, making sure everyone arrives safely, and that the children are well looked after. **Please pray for our participation and management of this course.**

Office in Lisburn

Everyone has been busy in the new year in the office.

Cosmin has been getting videos and leaflets ready for Queen's CU at the end of Jan and also for the Bosnia Trip at the start of July. Please ask God to use these to build interest.

Lourdes has been sorting end of year accounts and Miriam has been busy with getting ECM Ireland registered with the Charities Commission the Rep of Ireland. Praise God we are almost there - It can seem mundane but this work is vital to keeping missionaries affairs in order, here at home, so they can continue their ministries in Europe.

Please remember to send your 'Pound and a Prayer' donations to the office for the Refugee Centre Vimal and Louise work in, in Germany. We look forward to being able to help and support these people who have suffered so much and are isolated by lack of family, friends, money and language in Germany. Praise God he has given us the opportunity of helping them through Vimal and Louise.

Miriam Office/ Membercare

Praise God it was a joy to be at the commissioning service of David and Samantha Gilkinson along with Maria as they were sent out from Windsor Baptist on 6th Jan. Pray for them as they continue to find their way.

Membercare has been difficult since the office work has been very time-consuming but I am thankful that I have been able to do some calls and its a privilege to be able to chat to folk and pray for them.

Could I ask for prayer please for my Dad - Harry. He is due to go through heart surgery on Thursday morning if all goes to plan. We would appreciate your prayers for success and also for Mum who will be glad to see him through over it all. Thank you.

Charlie Anderson (ECM Int. Field Leadership)

January has been a welcome break from travelling and an opportunity to catch up with some office work and preparations for events coming up in the Spring and Summer which leads to the following prayer points.

- *Last week of Feb, I will be helping to facilitate a Course called ECM Essentials for a group of about 15 workers from Central and Eastern Europe. This training will help ECM and our partners make the most of working together.*
- *'Pastors to Pastors' Vision Team. We are currently recruiting a team of Pastors/Ministers and other interested Leaders to visit Slovenia at the end of May, with a view to encouraging and making partnerships among workers connected to the South East Europe Network (SEE Network) Please pray that the right people would come forward.*
- *Bosnia Team - Please pray that we would be able to put together a good team for Bosnia in July see the leaflet below which was prepared for Queen's CU and pass the word to anyone who might be interested.*

Stuart Rowell

It is now time for the first trip of 2019 so I will soon be visiting most of the usual countries and spending time with many of the colleagues who are a big part of my life.

February

1 Fly Dublin / Graz and drive to Ljutomer, Slovenia with Alen & Lila Kerckmar

- 2 Ljutomer
- 3 Zilina, Slovakia with Tibor & Tania Mahrik
- 4-6 Mikolow, Poland with Szczepan & Kamila Cackowski
- 6 -8 Krakow with Sazko & Ania Neznamutdinov
- 9-10 Rabka with Lila & Philip Groth
- 11-12 Drive to Serbia - 12 hours (o/n in Hungary 11th)
- 13-18 Zajecar, Serbia with Tihojevic & Srbulovic families (17th preaching)
- 19 Drive to Bosnia - 6 hours
- 19 -20 Novi Travnik with Trajkovski family
- 21-22 Not yet organised
- 23 Ljubljana, Slovenia - lunch with Sarah Deacon, evening & o/n Radovljica with Sebastian & Gloria
- Forjan
- 24 Radovljica church. Evening and o/n Cakovec, Croatia with Damir & Damira Pintaric
- 25 Cakovec and o/n Ljutomer
- 26 Ljutomer
- 27-1 Attending the ECM Essentials course in Jeruzalem near Ljutomer

Sebastian and Gloria

On Sundays we are seeing new faces. Praise God for that. Pray that God will stir their hearts and that they will respond to the Gospel.

One of the couples in our church are going through some hard marriage problems. Pray for restoration, healing and new start that has foundation in Christ. Pray for direction and wisdom as Gloria and I are helping them in this process

Our youth is more and more involved in the life of a church (discipleship, evangelism, leading, serving, etc.) Praise God. Continue to pray that they will be rooted and build up in Christ on a daily basis.

On the 5th of February we will have big meeting with our team to plan out the year 2019. Please pray for God's guidance and His wisdom.

Pray for me and Gloria that in the midst of business we will invest in our children, disciple them well and tell them about great God we serve.

And finally pray for Gloria and her complete recovery after burn out 3 years ago. We are working a lot on it and the Lord is teaching us a lot during this season. Thank you for standing with us. We are so grateful for this!

Colin and Ally Holmes in Ferrybank, Waterford

- We had a few health struggles at start of year with Ally and kids down with hand, foot and mouth disease and Conor needing tooth extracted in Cork Dental Hospital. We give thanks we are doing better now. Pray for continued strength to 'expand our circle' in serving others again.

- Please pray for Colin as he has taken on the role of Field Leader for ECM in Ireland. We give thanks for Jonathan McCracken's leadership over the past 12 years and for a good transition. Pray for Field Council Meeting on 31 Jan as we discuss current workers and how we might recruit more to the work here.

- From 3 Feb - 9 Feb Colin will be in Madrid for a Coaching Course- please pray this would be a helpful time in learning new skills to serve others. Pray too for Ally and the kids at home.

- We give thanks for a couple of new families coming to church recently. Please pray they would settle in and we would get to know them.

As we travel through Luke's gospel pray for messages which help win over the sceptic and deepen the faith of the believer.

- Continue to pray for our co workers on Ferrybank team- for Charis as she raises support and for Simon and Dani Ball as they continue to seek God regarding their future.

- We will be on Home Assignment up North from 21-25 Feb. Pray as we share with our home church- Cuningham Memorial Presbyterian in Cullybackey on Sun 24 Feb. ***You would be welcome to come and hear more on Sun 24 Feb at 6pm in Cuningham as Colin will share more about ECM work in Ireland / taking on Field Leader role.***



Bosnia Team 2019

● 29th June - 8th July

Where?

ECM Ireland is taking a team to Bugojno, Bosnia, to serve alongside a small church plant of Bosnian believers.

What?

The team will lead English classes for children and young people in Bugojno. There will also be an opportunity to help with a 5 Day Club and to pray for the town and region.

Why?

Because evangelical Christians make up about 0.05% of the population (that is only 5 in every 10,000) they need help. Bosnia is probably the least Christian country in Europe.

Who?

We would like young (or not so young) people who are mature believers and can talk freely about their faith but who also see the need to pray and can cope with a programme which might not be tightly scripted.

**Interested in joining this team?
Contact Charlie Anderson
on 07782561208**

