

No.91 MAY 2019

## Charis Tully, Ferrybank

Praise God for an encouraging home assignment and Praise God that some new people have signed up to support me financially since and whilst I was on home assignment. Please pray for a few more people to sign up so that I can continue here in Waterford.

My nephew age 16 months needs an operation for a hernia on 21 st May - please pray for it to go well.

Date for your diary: [Sat 8th June](#) my friends Jenni and Robert will have a coffee morning/ fundraiser for me in east Belfast (specific details next month)

Thanks for all your support Charis

## Charlie & Tania Deering Madrid.

- We thank God for our brief trip to N.I in April. Although most of the time was spent with Charlie's parents, we managed to meet up with some supporters during the first couple of days. We returned to Spain once again feeling blessed by the faithful team behind us and also with a better idea of the needs of Charlie's parents.
- Thank God for the many conversations had by the team from our church who served in the Agape hostel on the Camino de Santiago. Pray that God will continue to work in the lives of the pilgrims who stayed there during their travels.
- Pray for ECM International board of trustees as they continue the search for a new International Director. Chris Wigram, who currently holds that post, steps down next year.
- Pray for Tania as she is one of several deacons recently appointed in our church. Deacons are a new concept to the Camarma church so much wisdom is needed as we work out what their roles will be.
- Pray for our friends Isaí and Daniela as they get married on 17th May. It will be a relaxed quiet affair and we are hosting it in the ECM centre....I know a first for us!! Pray for Tania and the team as they cater and organise the reception. May it be a day of great joy and blessing.

## Peter and Anna Crawford Lisbon

Thank you for praying for the Nepali Sunday school meeting. It is a privilege to see how motivated and intentional the Nepali Sunday school teachers are and how strong a faith they have. While I felt I didn't have much to contribute, they said that the meeting had been encouraging and very helpful. Please continue to pray for this growing fellowship and in particular for the need of an extra 'classroom' for the children. At present all the children of all ages meet in one very small room. The leadership is waiting to hear from those they rent the premises from ( every Sunday from 9 am to 3pm) whether they can use another small room.

Thank you for praying for my (Anna) talk on 'Resilience' at the Alta Crista church-plant on Saturday 27th. The response was encouraging, and the talk seemed to be helpful. Continue to pray for the growth of this church-plant. Peter continues to co-lead the Wednesday evenings with Rui Ribeiro (the church plant leader) on the Book of Acts. It is encouraging to see how responsive people are and the desire to grow in their relationship with the Lord.

May 9 - an important event is taking place here in Lisbon organised by the Evangelical Alliance is to understand the needs of the city and to develop a strategy to strengthen churches and reach out to others.

Pray for Peter as he travels to Greece in a week's time with an English couple who are beginning the process of being candidates for Greece. Another couple working in Athens at present are also considering joining ECM too. There is the beginning of a team being formed. It is fragile and open to attack. Please pray for the Lord to safeguard these couples.

Both of us will be visiting our Australian ECM family, the Borgs, in Malta in mid-May to help them evaluate their ministry plans. They are the only ECMers in Malta. Pray for others to join them.

From 25th May we will receive 25 (yes 25!) Christian leaders and prayer partners from Brazil wanting to learn about the needs of Portugal. This will include the ECM Brazil director, Elecir Brito, and another couple who hope to join us full time later in the summer. They will be here for about 10 days visiting various ministries. Pray for our interaction with them as an ECM team and for their participation in the events they will attend.

## **Jonathan & Nicola McCracken, Claremorris**

### ***Praise***

- We give thanks that we had an encouraging Easter weekend and a good Easter Kids Club. It was great to see some of the children back again including the 5 sisters. We also had two ladies who came along and stayed with their five children from a town close by. They had received an invite to the kids club at the St Patrick's day outreach. Thankyou for praying.
- We give thanks that for those who are coming along on Wednesday nights to the Community Bible Reading. A small group mostly from church but encouraging as we read through the New Testament.

### ***Prayer***

- Pray as we look ahead to the summer months and make plans for outreach with the children and community.
- We will be speaking at a Mission Sunday in Newmills Presbyterian church, Portadown on 19th May, 6.30pm. Pray as we share about the work in Claremorris and that God would raise up other workers and interest for Ireland.
- Pray for those of us who meet up to read the New Testament on Wednesday evenings. It would be encouraging to see others come along to join us.

## **Miriam Office and Member Care**

### Praise

- We are thankful to God for some time off over the Easter period.
- Lourdes and I were both ready for it as the workload has been busy enough over recent months.
- It was good to enjoy the beauty of God's creation in our lovely coastlines of Ireland.
- Vicky one of our possible short termers has recently been offered a permanent job at home, so we praise God for his guidance and provision although that takes her out of ECM circles for now. This is an important part of our role to help any enquirers as they seek God's will for their lives.
- We are in continued conversations with other folk about long term and short term service and we have a couple making plans for being involved in Portugal in the summer. It is encouraging to be part of these processes.

### Prayer

- Our final Council Meeting before the summer break will take place on 21st May, please pray for God's guidance as there are important discussions taking place and decisions to be made.
- We are having some training as a staff during May on computer and office security, pray that we will be able to take in all that is required of us to be good stewards of what God calls us to do and manage as an office.
- We are preparing to send out the job description, and person specification requirements in relation to Cosmin's job please pray for these preparations and for God to provide to a suitable person who could carry on this important work.
- Lindsay hopes to return for a few days in May in preparation for her formal return at the start of June. Please pray for her as she settles into her new home and works towards taking up responsibilities again. Pray also that I will be able to make that handover as smooth and easy as possible for Lindsay and that all of us will be able to settle quickly again into former roles.

## **Charlie ECM International Field Leadership**

Thank you for your ongoing prayers especially for safe travels. Before Easter I had encouraging visits to Slovenia, Poland, Romania and later Albania. Praise God for how the ECM teams in each of these countries are growing and learning how to work together.

I am grateful too for the opportunity to have had a break over Easter and now I have a 4 week period before I am travelling again. I hope to use this time to get caught up on much need desk work and a lot of skype calls and emails.

Pastors to Pastors Slovenia 2019 A group of 12 will be travelling out to Slovenia on the 29th May to spend 5 days with partners working in ministry building relationships and encouraging one another. Pray that firm foundations and friendships will be laid down by God so that we can support one another as we honour Him.

We have finally been able to confirm that the Bosnia summer team will go ahead at the start of July. Please pray that the team members will be able to fully commit now and that we can work out a program within God's will to touch the lives of children and young people in Bugojno through English classes and a Bible Club.



## **Aislinn Duffy**

Thank you for praying over The Mark Drama! It has been such an eye-opening experience, memorising the Gospel of Mark and then performing it. We held the drama at two churches and then also in one of the universities in Barcelona. Attendance to the performances surpassed what we were expecting, the venues packed as people came along and invited their friends to see the gospel acted out. Thank you for all the prayers for us as a team and for those who came along.

We really felt God going before us and protecting us during the various rehearsals and performances.

Please continue to pray for those who came along to see the drama; that the Holy Spirit would awake a real curiosity in them, that they would want to know more and that they would be seeking Him.

Last month I visited the group in Zaragoza and it was so encouraging being there and seeing the group flourish. Two of the three girls in the committee are finishing this year. Please pray that God would raise up new generations of leaders in Zaragoza; students with vision, who are willing to learn and who have a heart to see people around them being reached with the gospel.

On the 6<sup>th</sup> of May I am back up in Zaragoza to present GBU in a meeting where pastors from all over the region of Aragon come together. Please pray that I would be able to communicate well in the meeting, that the church leaders would be inspired with what God is doing in the campuses in Zaragoza and that more Christian university students would become involved as we seek to be salt and light in the university there.

From the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May I am back in Belfast on home visitation, visiting a few churches and meeting up with supporters. I would appreciate prayer over this time as I still need to raise quite a bit of my financial support for next year

## **Allison & Colin, Ferrybank**

Simon and Dani Ball will return to Australia at the end of July. Praise God for their 10 years of serving here in Ireland. Join us in giving thanks for them and in praying for God's strength and help as they pack and make preparations to move on. Pray for the Ferrybank church as they adjust to this and the remaining ECM Team. Pray God would continue to build up team here.

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> June (bank holiday) we plan to do a leaflet drop in Ferrybank. In the next few weeks we will be designing the leaflet to include info on who we are as a church, what we believe and how the Bible connects with everyday life. Pray that this would be received well and read and bring people to consider Jesus. We are asking others to come down and help get the leaflets out on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you would like to join us please get in touch, we'd love to have your help and support.

Pray for the church AGM as we discuss and decide "how to use what we have together to connect with others". The AGM is planned for the next month.