



Autumn 2024, ISSUE 39

“I will praise thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will shew forth all thy marvellous works. I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most High.”

Psalm 9Vs11

## I WILL PRAISE THEE WITH MY WHOLE HEART.

There is something a little bit mysterious about the job and role of the conductor of an orchestra. To the untrained eye they stand on a podium and wildly flail about their arms in front of a group of musicians who already have an intimate knowledge of the music scores they are performing. They are the only member of the orchestra who has no instrument and makes no sound throughout the full performance. It surely causes us to ask the question: what is their contribution to filling the auditorium with a euphony of sound?

At a basic level conducting is very simple. It keeps an orchestra in time and together. But that's just the starting point. Most importantly a conductor serves as a messenger for the composer. It is their responsibility to understand the music and convey it through gesture so that the musicians in the orchestra understand it perfectly. Those musicians can then in turn transmit a unified vision of the music out to the audience. It is the purpose of this prayer letter for us to try and show forth “all thy [God's] marvellous works”, throughout Armagh, in various ministries this past summer to give you cause for praise.

**JUNIOR CAMP:** This is the beginning of summer ministry as it begins only days after children finish school. Armagh Baptist church kindly hosted our 35 children and 17 leaders for the week. There was kite flying, Lego workshops and clay modelling but it was the teaching that impacted lives. Throughout the week many questions were asked and answers given right up until the parents came to take their children home; with a young girl coming to faith on the Thursday evening after getting her questions answered.

**INTERS CAMP:** The final note of the summer came from the teens residential, ran by Andrew and Claire McNabb. 57 teenagers filled the faith mission centre, Portadown as they settled in for the week. Listening to teaching on “Encounters with Jesus” and “Connections” sparked many impromptu discussions. The clarity of the answers enabled a teen girl to call upon the name of the Lord after returning home on Friday afternoon.

**5 DAY CLUB MINISTRY:** 5 Day Clubs begin as soon as early May, with faithful groups of volunteers who year upon year brush off their tarpaulins, order a few bits of literature and knock on doors to round up groups of children to teach them the Bible in the open air. You might expect any number of children to attend, from 3 to 55. With the involvement of Christian Youth in Action, led by Neil and Amy Verner we recorded 54 5 Day Clubs in total reaching roughly 1,500 children. This ministry is proving to be a little bit more difficult year upon year as we search for potential venues that wouldn't . . . *continued overleaf*



Armagh Junior Camp 2024, Armagh Baptist

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**HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUBS:** Some parents perhaps look upon this ministry as free child minding facilities, as their children could be away from the house for a few hours; that gives a bit of peace and quiet and allows parents to get a few things done around the home. But we love to welcome children into churches across the area; this year we recorded 12 clubs with 625 children enjoying the blessing of it. With this being an Olympic year it wasn't too hard to figure out a theme for the clubs with "Ready, Steady, Go for God" being the newly created pack for 2024. What a delight to hear that at the end of a busy HBC season there were 6 children who began the race as a Christian by putting their trust in Jesus as Lord and Saviour; with 5 of those children being at one club.

face objections through housing management companies pulling the plug on proposed plans. At the end of the summer we always have the task of phoning around all the various club leaders to get a little update on the ministry. What a delight it was to hear from a seasoned club leader that they had the opportunity to counsel a child for salvation, out in the open air in the middle of the "grey estate" in Lurgan. What a delight to a team in the middle of a week of very difficult ministry.

### THE WAR ROOM CEF ARMAGH:

It's not too difficult for us to understand why there has been such great blessing throughout the summer of 2024; and why we are praising the Lord with our whole hearts. We believe it's because there are dedicated people who are faithfully teaching the whole Gospel to children and many people who are praying regularly, such as you. If you haven't already maybe you could join our WhatsApp prayer group where we put out a short video message every few weeks or as necessity requires it for immediate prayer. Drop me a message on 07720836620 to request to join; the group is closed for commenting and can be left at any time. We are now also putting up weekly prayer posts onto Facebook and Instagram at "The War Room CEF Armagh" – please come and join us if you haven't already.

### PRAYER AND PRAISE

**Pray for** the 9 children who came to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ this summer. Pray they might be strong, bold and courageous in their faith.

**Pray for** the winter ministries such as school assemblies, Good News Club, Junior Youth Challenge and Senior Youth Challenge which are all due to recommence in October.

**Pray for** the plans to recommence the monthly teacher training classes in October as well as the promotion of a Teacher Training Effectively level 1 course for January 2025.

**Praise God** for 12 churches running Holiday Bible clubs this year reaching over 625 children.

**Praise God** for 54 5Day Clubs this year reaching over 1500 with the truths of the Gospel.

**Praise God** for 2 summer residential camps reaching 92 young people and offering discipleship.

**Praise God** for children saved through every summer ministry; what a blessing.

If you would like your details removed from our mailing lists email your full Name and Address to [garethgw@cefireland.com](mailto:garethgw@cefireland.com) with the words "REMOVE ME" in the subject line.

### Help us reach full support!

We are still quite far from being financially buoyant. The cost of living increases, ministry expenses increase, motor and milage costs increase yet our support numbers have remained static for a quite a few years. The result of this is that the County Armagh area is now running at a deficit in the region of £800 per month. If you, or your church, have benefited from any of our ministries in past perhaps you could consider requesting a standing order form to help stabilise our account. One off gifts are a help, but guaranteed monthly support offers stability. Could you commit to offering £10 per month?

Perhaps you cannot commit to giving on a monthly basis, but maybe you would consider a one-time gift made payable to "Child Evangelism Fellowship" marked for Co. Armagh and sent to the National Office.

Yours in His Service

*Gareth, Lindsay & James Gwynne*

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