

Dear all

The summer is advancing quickly but the activities in which TCF family members are involved is seriously impressive! Not only in the domestic - house moves, new babies and the like - but also the spiritual. The updates from Tekumseh have been helpful for prayer and also Bodvaszilas. There are others involved in leading SU Camps (Alex McIntyre, Rachel Henderson and others) and also Holiday Camps (Mike Allnut). It is a time for relaxation for many but also for reaching out to others. However, I am enjoying a different pace to life as I'm not so involved in the teaching and preaching and I have been able to enjoy visiting some in the TCF Family - and if you are particularly free or have a preference, remember you can contact me to visit you (07784 702876) and not wait on me getting round everyone! Remember too that one-to-one times are very special and I like to do that with a cup of coffee in hand - my treat.

Romania

In late June I paid a visit to the churches and work in Romania with whom I have been involved since 1990. Having a long-term relationship with people is far more effective than short term interventions (though these are very often needed too). It was thrilling to see how God has blessed the work of Mobel (a garage) and to see how He has used this to support indigenous practical programmes in the Ploiesti area and also to support full time workers in Romania. The company are still employing over 40 people in total but also give substantial resources to supporting 'Shared Hope' which is an agency involved in practical programmes in support of the Gospel in the 'majority world'. The testimony of Mircea and Jana who have led the work in Ploiesti - and very sacrificially too - is exemplary. I have been trying to persuade them to visit Perth for ideas on a sustainable work on their newly acquired farm and vineyard in which they will run new Christian ministries but especially a retreat centre. Pray for them and their ongoing diverse ministry and the company.

Echoes

As you know, I maintain my interest in global mission through the work of Echoes of Service. I have been a Trustee since 2012 and presently we are going through a merger with another Scottish mission group, Interlink. The work is demanding on the Executive Team but as a Board we have also been heavily committed to the process to ensure we have a mission support group that will be relevant to the changing face of mission in the 21st Century. Our own Janey and Evans have been very involved in the process of being listed by Echoes which will bring them much wider prayer support and also, God willing, financial support. Please pray that the process for having them listed will go smoothly - it is reaching a critical stage. Through Echoes they have also had access to others of a like-mind in Zambia and in the UK. For example, the team from a support agency called Brass Tacks is currently assessing practical ways of helping the building process in Zambia (draughting drawings and the like).

Church Strengthening

Another activity in which I was engaged before TCF was Church Strengthening. This was a support mechanism available to churches and through which TCF has also been helped (not least financially in support of a church-based worker). I have now been able to relinquish all but one of my involvements and the remaining one should be down to an annual review of one or two days. Being involved in the development of other similar churches has been both encouraging and informative. I have been given a broader insight to how God is working in other locations and other fellowships. It is a cause for thanksgiving though as I see how he is working among us at TCF and blessing us very particularly. I am deeply thankful though that TCF has a lot of gifted and committed people who share so much in the work. God is blessing us all as a consequence of this joint enterprise, *3 John 8: 'Therefore we ought to support people like these, that we may be fellow workers for the truth.'* As we approach a new teaching series on Spiritual Gifts at the bible teaching sessions in September, perhaps you may feel the challenge of doing more for God in and through TCF?

Bible Reading Scheme

I have been posting a daily reading schedule on the TCF Facebook page and also on the TCF Website. Presently we are reading jointly in Book 1 of the Psalms (from Psalm 1-41). The selections are designed to supplement the studies we are having at either the Family Service of Bible Teaching but also, as these series have tried to do, balance Old and New Testament readings. As I have been doing this I have been able to keep a brief record of 'impressions' from the readings and I have been reminded how much God's word is living and active as so much of what I am reading speaks into my life. If you would like any help at all, I also have a resource available to help bible reading and after an initial period of reading together, it is designed to get individuals to read and *think* about God and His word and how he speaks to us today. There are many who read the bible every day but there are some who find it difficult to do so and it is my prayer that the Bible Reading Scheme will help or that you will feel free to ask me for any support in establishing your own reading habits.



Thank you for...

your fellowship and ...

your labour in the gospel