

Dublin & Munster Presbytery

LINKUP

Autumn / Fómhar 2010



Lindsay Road National School, Glasnevin

Welcome to another Linkup, later than it should be. Thanks to those who have sent in material.

I hope the next edition will have a different editor. It has been a pleasure to be part of this process, but I apologise that I cannot offer the time commitment it requires.

John Faris

Abbey

Abbey's restoration project

“We were able to make major progress by restoring the three pinnacles at roof level on North Frederick Street.”

Robert Poynton reports in the Abbey magazine..Over the past two years we have been engaged in a major project to restore parts of our external stonework which had become dangerous. Thankfully we received several grants from Government agencies in 2009 towards the costs. In total we received €107,500 in the period 2008 to 2009. Using this grant money, together with several gifts and money under the care of our Trustees, we were able to make major progress by restoring the three pinnacles at roof level on North Frederick Street. We also restored one of the four pinnacles on the spire by year-end 2009.

Then in 2010, we applied for three grants and we are very pleased to report that we have received the following:

1. Dublin City Council - National Conservation Grants Scheme - We have received a grant of €25,000 for works to be completed before 31st August 2010.
2. Heritage Council — Civic Structures Scheme — Abbey received €37,500 in 2009. We have been awarded €20,000 this year for works to be completed by 5th November 2010.
3. Heritage Council — Significant Places of Public Worship Grant scheme — We received a grant of €90,000 having received €60,000 from this scheme in 2009. The works must be completed by 15th November 2010.

Overall we have been granted a total of €135,000 this year subject to some important conditions which include an appropriate level of funding from our own resources. We are confident that we can meet these obligations and work has already commenced to meet the deadlines set out above.

The first phase of this work is to complete the restoration of the three remaining pinnacles on the spire. The second phase will then move down the spire to restore other columns and broken stonework. The condition of this stonework is poor and repairs must be made as soon as possible. It is also hoped that some further cleaning of the stonework will take place within the budget available.

Thursday Fellowship

The Thursday Fellowship will run from September 2010 to May 2011. It will replace the existing house groups that meet on Thursdays and the prayer meeting that meets on Wednesdays. The intention is:

1. To roll out key aspects of our Mission Statement
2. To deepen biblically-inspired fellowship (as the house groups did)
3. To encourage communal prayer (as the Wednesday prayer meetings did)

Work on preparing the resources for the Celebration and Cell Group

aspects of our mission strategy will continue during this time and be informed by what takes place at the Thursday Fellowship.

Each evening will run along the following lines:

6:30	Gathering (tea/coffee)
7:00	Worship
7:30	Explanation (teaching on the topic)
8:00	Exploration (group exercises and discussion on the topic)
8:30	Prayer & Praise
9:00	End

Exploring Our Core Values

In this first Session we will explore the Core Values mentioned in our Mission Statement. Each week will take one Core Value and examine its biblical inspiration and its practical application. Our aim will be two-fold: (1) To explain where the value comes from in Scripture; (2) To explore how we might express this value in both congregation and community life.

The Abbey Weekend at Ovoca

Lindsay Nimmon reports in the Abbey Magazine..

The Abbey Weekend at Ovoca Manor, 3 – 5 September, provides a microcosm of what church life at Abbey can be all year round. It is just one opportunity to spend time mingling “with other members of Abbey and finding out a lot of things about them,” Samson and Sonya Kaber agree. The weekend is a great opportunity to get “to know others better and see how we all bond in our community,” says Kirsten Boal.

Community is, of course, more than a romantic notion about God’s people all getting along perfectly. True community requires recognition that it is the cross of Christ that binds us together, commitment to sacrifice for one another in the same way that Christ sacrificed for us on that cross, and desire to make sure that everyone in and out of Abbey has Hope for the future.

God brought many cultures and classes to Abbey Church, making each person unique. During one game played at the weekend, people mingled around asking various questions concerning the television shows people enjoy watching, locations people visit on holiday and how long couples have been married among other topics. The answers to these questions revealed that aside from the two people who enjoyed the same television show, very few answered any of the questions in the same way. While it is beautiful that “God created everyone in their own uniqueness”, according to Samson and Sonya, it is also true that it takes the kind of grace we were given on the cross to love and accept such uniqueness.

Abbey’s Sabbath year was concluded and the new mission and vision plan was introduced during the three days spent fellowshiping and worshipping our God. As these two things happened, there was opportunity to celebrate that cross that binds us together and worship our God who gives us hope. The lesson emphasized throughout the weekend was that, whether resting or working, our lives are to be lived in worship of and to the glory of God. And this lifestyle takes commitment!

“Community is, of course, more than a romantic notion about God’s people all getting along perfectly. True community requires recognition that it is the cross of Christ that binds us together”

During a celebration service on Saturday evening, David Colvin gave a reminder of the death and resurrection of our Lord. The torture of the cross was endured for us, God's people, to the glory of our Heavenly Father. Jesus was obedient in life and even to death on a cross. Because we are joined with Him in that death and resurrection, we can now live obediently, assured of His grace, until our own death and resurrection.

It was to that life of obedience that Alan called us when he asked us to commit to the mission and vision plan of Abbey Church and, as Kirsten Boal learned, "that doesn't necessarily mean just helping on a Sunday." Rather, it means continuing to pursue relationship with our Saviour, Jesus Christ, pursue one another and pursue the specific mission God gave Abbey.

In conclusion Samson and Sonya commented, any time spent together tends to "deepen a sense of belonging together, and, as we get to know each other better, we will be able to serve the Lord better and also serve one-another better."

John Leeson

“During a celebration service on Saturday evening, David Colvin gave a reminder of the death and resurrection of our Lord. The torture of the cross was endured for us, God’s people, to the glory of our Heavenly Father.”

Adelaide Road

Our autumn programme began with the good news story that Luke has been telling us of the life of Jesus. The big idea in the next section of Luke's story is Jesus as God's rescuer. The pivotal chapter is Ch 15 and the aim of Jesus is to find people who have distanced themselves from God and deserve his judgement, as we saw in Ch 10:13-15; 11:13-32 and 13:22-30, He wants them to return home and he offers them a fresh start. This God is a wonderfully active and generous God.

This theme of rescue or mission was very much in our thinking when Session presented the results of our thinking on Mission facilitated by the Discovery group. So this will be at the forefront of what we are seeking to think about and become more active in doing within our Church Community.

The other task we have set ourselves is to examine a model of Church Community that has been used by God particularly in the City of Sheffield. The leaders Tim Chester and Steve Timmis have written a book about their experience and its underlying theology which is forming the basis of our Home group midweek studies and reflection within our leadership. It is called "Total Church".

A term time evening service with the purpose of providing biblical teaching and worship relevant to our students commenced in October. Please support this in your prayers, thinking particularly of Andrew Gill our youth worker who will be responsible for co-ordinating this.

This term will see us learn and explore options for Mission that will in-

evitably require us all to change. Change always throws up challenges, particularly in leadership and we all would value your patience and support as we together explore the theme of Mission and Rescue in Adelaide Road Presbyterian Church (ARPC).

We have had a very enjoyable overnight stay at La Mon Hotel in October. We worshipped and enjoyed the hospitality of Bloomfield Congregation & Frank Sellar on the Sunday morning.

Please pray for Karen Morgan who has taken a career break in Chile with YWAM (Youth with a Mission) to do a school of counselling.

Congratulations & Every Blessing to Ronan Plant & Denise Carroll on their recent engagement and to Chris & Jenny Watson on the birth of their son Jack.

Forthcoming Dates:

28th November	Open Doors	Rev. Douglas Mark
5th December 6pm	Advent Carol Service	Right Rev. Norman Hamilton
12th December	Sunday Special	Carol Service
14th December	Community Carol Service	David Boyd
19th December	Christmas Reflection	Rev. Sam Mawhinney
25th Christmas Day 10am	Family Service	Rev. Sam Mawhinney
26th December	Christmas Reflection	Rev. Sam Mawhinney

Our Webpage is www.adelaideroadchurch.ie

Aghada and Trinity, Cork

A team from Liberty Christian High School, Argyle, Texas tidied Trinity Church on 16 March inside and outside with great vigour and a servant heart. Their choir gave a beautiful concert in the church that evening. I heartily recommend this group for their singing and serving should they make another missions trip to Ireland next year.

We had two American choirs visiting us in April, from Grace First Presbyterian Church Long Beach California and also the 'Singing Men of Arkansas'. Rev John Faris did not manage to hear either group having gone to Brazil with Robson, Emma and Aaron to visit churches in and near Cabo Frio (100 miles north of Rio) and to get a sense of the mission project they hope to set up there. Churches there seem to be more vibrant than in Ireland, in part reflecting a more demonstrative, volatile culture and a younger Christianity. A mission partnership could be mutually beneficial.

“Please pray for Karen Morgan who has taken a career break in Chile with YWAM (Youth with a Mission) to do a school of counselling.”

Linkup

We were glad in Aghada to celebrate with John & Esther their becoming grandparents in May, with the birth to Alex and Imelda Jeffery of Craig, but his birth coincided with the funeral arrangements for Mrs Edna Tait of Hermitage, for many years Aghada congregational secretary and organist. She is much missed as is one of our elders, William Tait of Buckstown who died at the end of August. Bill's memories of Aghada went back to before the opening service in our present building in 1925. We share the sorrow of families and friends, though not without hope.

It was useful to produce a Mission Plan for Aghada at the request of Presbytery and the Board of Mission in Ireland. The plan is brief but practical and we hope to develop it once the process has been completed of ordaining some new elders in the coming months. As a first step in our reflection on mission, the winter bible study has resumed after a year's gap. We are looking at the text of Trinity Cork's 150th anniversary booklet which deals with main themes in Christian faith and life.

A team from Trinity Bangor again visited Cork this summer for a week's outreach with children and teenagers. Douglas Church of Ireland provided hall accommodation for the activities this year which was much appreciated. We hope to join up what this team does with other ongoing outreach and activity in the Mahon area.

The great theme of this autumn has been preparing for 'Trinity 150' the anniversary of the church building (1861 - 2011) We are honoured (and a bit scared) to have a visit from the President Dr Mary McAleese on Friday 26 November to launch the year, when she will be presented with the first copy of the anniversary booklet.

At the same time there are three building projects going on: refurbishment of the back rooms, work on the old Carmichael School and on the famous crooked spire. The steeplejacks left the spire with its crook but have repointed it and replaced the lightning conductor. Their work against some clear blue skies attracted much comment and publicity as the photo shows.

The other major development of this autumn has been the coming of Richard Patton for a year as our intern or 'ministry assistant to try and develop work among our young adults. Richard has just graduated from



“It was useful to produce a Mission Plan for Aghada. The plan is brief but practical and we hope to develop it once the process has been completed of ordaining some new elders in the coming months.”

Queen's Belfast and is considering ordained ministry in the long term. We are very grateful to his home church High Kirk Ballymena and to the Youth and Children's Board for making this year possible.

The election slogan 'a lot done, a lot still to do' has a very hollow ring these days but it well describes Trinity Cork. One of our people has produced a huge 'to do' list of many things needing attention to in our fabric. We have been blessed in the past with summer work teams from Northern congregations and would be delighted to receive such from within our Presbytery bounds. Do let us know if you would like to help or if you have contacts with people (even from as far as Texas) who would like to come and help.

Rev John Faris www.corkpresbyterian.org

Christchurch, Sandymount

At this season of remembrance we reflect on an unusually large number of deaths in our congregation in the past year, amongst them our two longest-serving elders. All were valued members of our community and are much missed. As we mourn their passing we also celebrate their unique contribution to family, congregation and community over a long period.

Despite our sadness at these losses, the congregation of Christ Church Sandymount remains in good heart. The preparation of our Mission Plan in the early part of the year gave us the opportunity to re-assess our place in church and community, and to set ourselves goals for future development. Our Methodist Census return showed that the age profile of the congregation is more balanced than many would have expected. Sunday worship continues to attract a good number of occasional visitors as well as our regular and faithful members, and special services such as Harvest Thanksgiving have been particularly well attended.

We have also been developing a more active programme of social events in the church hall, including regular craft fairs/car boot sales and a convivial congregational lunch following Sunday service roughly once a quarter – Christmas, Easter, summer (Pentecost), and Harvest. All of this reminds us that even in the midst of these challenging times we still have many reasons to offer thanks and praise to God.

CONFIRMATION

On Sunday 11th April Hannah Blair White was received into full membership of the church, having completed a course of preparation in the preceding months. Words of welcome and encouragement were expressed by Steven Smyrl and June Brookes on behalf of the Church Council, and the Rev. Katherine Meyer presented Hannah with a book on prayer as a memento of the occasion and an aid to her ongoing Christian witness. After the service of worship the congregation was invited to lunch in the church hall.

“At this season of remembrance we reflect on an unusually large number of deaths in our congregation in the past year”

“In view of our heightened consciousness of natural disasters, it was appropriate that our invited speakers at both Harvest Thanksgiving services on Sunday 26th September were Alan and Helen Shiel, who introduced us to the growing Eco-Congregation Movement”

MISSION PLAN

A steering group comprising members of the Church Council and of the general congregation took on the task of preparing our Congregational Mission Plan in the early months of the year. Its members carried out considerable research both within the congregation and in the wider community around Sandymount. The group met regularly to analyse their findings and consider the implications for the future direction of the church in this place. Finally a document was drafted for submission to Presbytery, and this was presented to the congregation at a special service on Sunday 27th June. The document focuses on ways to develop and deepen our relationships within the wider community, proposing a number of practical, attainable goals which will help to bring this about, including: improving our visibility and identity in the local community; reviewing the strategic use of our church halls and outdoor spaces; and offering support to ongoing initiatives both within our congregation and in conjunction with other local church and community groups. The congregation is very grateful to members of the steering group for their commitment and effort on our behalf.

PAKISTAN FLOOD APPEAL

This year has seen more than its fair share of natural catastrophes, of which the Haiti earthquake in January and the Pakistan flood disaster in July were the most serious. In response to the latter, a fund-raising coffee morning was held in the church hall on Saturday 21st August, organised by James Bailie and the Hospitality Committee. This event was very generously supported by the local community. A craft fair and car boot sale held a month later during our Harvest Thanksgiving weekend raised some further funds, and in total €4461.88 was donated to the Christian Aid Pakistan Flood Disaster Appeal. We were delighted to receive a visit from a representative of the Embassy of Pakistan, who wished to pass on the Ambassador's gratitude for the contribution of our community to the relief effort.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING

In view of our heightened consciousness of natural disasters, it was appropriate that our invited speakers at both Harvest Thanksgiving services on Sunday 26th September were Alan and Helen Shiel, who introduced us to the growing Eco-Congregation Movement and improved our understanding of some of the urgent ecological issues facing today's world.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Deaths

Elsie Oliver – 12th January 2010

Elsie was a most faithful member of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland throughout her life, always willing to make sure things were done, events organised and issues publicised. An elder in our congregation for over forty years, she was a truly redoubtable character. She spent most of her working life with insurers Lloyd, Armstrong & Ramsey and in the little recreation time she reserved to herself she was an ardent member of the Sandymount Dramatic Society, serving for many years as its treasurer.

Born in Dublin in June 1923, she was the daughter of the late John Eakin Oliver and Harriet Molly (nee Winter). We extend our sympathies to her cousins, nephews, nieces, grandnephews and grandnieces. Elsie's body was interred in St. Fintan's cemetery, Sutton, Co. Dublin.

Diana Mary Patton – 11th March 2010

Since transferring her membership to Sandymount, Diana was a regular attendee at Sunday services and other congregational events. Even in the final weeks of her illness she made every effort to join with the congregation in Sunday morning worship. A quiet and somewhat reserved person, she nevertheless quickly became known to the congregation and to those who lived in Brabazon residential home, Sandymount, where she lived with her mother, Evelyn. Born in Dublin in July 1946, she was the daughter of Evelyn A. Patton (nee Carson) and the late John Dawson Meredith Patton. The family were originally from Co. Monaghan. We extend our sympathies to her mother, Evelyn, brother John; sister-in-law Goretti, nephews David and Jack, Aunt Helen (Larminie), aunts and cousins. Diana's funeral service took place in Christ Church, Sandymount, and later her cremated remains were interred at Ballyalbany Presbyterian Church, Co. Monaghan.

Mildred Vera Jones (nee Richardson) – 18th April 2010

Before coming to live at Northbrook House, attached to Brabazon in Sandymount, Millie had resided at Artane, on the north side of Dublin. Mildred Vera Richardson was born in January 1923, the daughter of John W. Richardson and Ellen (nee McCarthy). She married Charles Jones in 1949, who predeceased her by about thirty years. A very regular attendee at Christ Church, Millie was a quiet and shy person and her sudden death in April this year was a shock to all who knew her. Millie was mother to Glynis (Pickett) and Ivan; grandmother to Jonathan, Karen and Hannah; and sister to Joyce and Ronald. We offer our sympathies to all her family and friends.

Phyllis Lorraine (nee Weldrick) – 14th July 2010

While a lifelong Methodist, Phyllis was also very happy to join with her neighbouring Presbyterians in the Sandymount, Irishtown and Ringsend area to form the united congregation of Christ Church, Sandymount, in the early 1970s. Born in October 1928 in Dublin, she was the youngest child of Thomas Weldrick and Frances (nee Atkinson). Her mother died within a few years of Phyllis's birth and she was afterwards raised by her uncle Dick and auntie Kate, who lived in Park Cottages, Irishtown. The family were members of Ringsend Methodist Church and when that closed they moved to the Sandymount congregation. Through Church Phyllis met Duncan Lorraine and they married in 1951, enjoying very many years of happy marriage together until Duncan's death in 2001. Both Duncan and Phyllis served for many years on our Church Council and were both extremely active members in all congregational events and activities. We offer our condolences to Phyllis's daughter Hazel (England) and son Duncan (Sydney, Australia); brother Michael; sisters Peggy and Maria; daughter-in-law Toni; grandchildren Kieran, Eamonn, Domhnall, Darren, Roisin, Ian; and great-grandson Liam. Phyllis's remains were interred with Duncan's at Shanganagh Cemetery, Co. Dublin.

“A very regular attendee at Christ Church, Millie was a quiet and shy person and her sudden death in April this year was a shock to all who knew her.”

Florrie Taylor (nee Bagnall) – 24th August 2010

Originally a member of Christ Church Rathgar, Florrie began attending Christ Church, Sandymount, after she moved to reside at Brabazon House some years ago. Florence Mary Bagnall was born in Rahugh, Co. Westmeath, in February 1913, the daughter of Robert Bagnall and Catherine (nee Battle). The Bagnalls had been resident in the Rahugh area since Cromwellian times. In September 1947 Florrie married Kenneth McDonald Taylor in Dublin, where they subsequently raised their family. In the 1960s Kenneth worked with O'Dwyer & Ticher Ltd, electrical installation importers, and was later a director of Fuji Ireland. He died in June 1997 and in a notice in The Irish Times was noted as "one of the world's gentlemen". Sometime after Ken's death Florrie moved to Brabazon House, Sandymount. Florrie was a wife, mother, grandmother, sister and aunt; and we extend our condolences to all her family, neighbours and friends. A service of thanksgiving for Florrie's life was held in Christ Church, Rathgar.

M.M. (Lenny) Hugentobler – 27th August 2010

Lenny Hugentobler was an incredibly elegant lady, always well turned out. She had an amazingly sharp insight on life, but was not a person who took herself too seriously. An enigmatic person, she is thought to have originated in Germany, the daughter of an Irish father and a German mother, leaving there at the outbreak of the last war. She would tell a story about fleeing through the Black Forest with her parents to return to Ireland. She was known throughout the congregation for her generosity, always willing to contribute to one cause or another. She was the daughter of Albert Byrne, who was a restaurateur in Liffey Street, Dublin. Marie Magdalena (Lenny) was born about 1917 and in August 1947 married the late Otto Hugentobler. Lenny and Otto had one daughter, Maeve. She will be greatly missed by family, cousins and her friends at Brabazon House.

“We will remember her by the regular postings she made to the church lobby noticeboard about mission events right across the island”

Muriel Gallagher (nee Hyman) – 24th September 2010

Irene Muriel Gallagher was born in October 1921 in Leicester, England, the daughter of the late Edwin Marshall Hyman and Irene (nee Bull). She married Ernest W. Gallagher, a Methodist minister, who went on to have great influence within both Irish Methodism and Irish society in general. Together they served the Methodist Church in Ireland in Knock, Belfast, and the Methodist Missionary Society for 20 years in southern India. Muriel's scholarly nature always gave away the fact that she spent many years as a teacher, latterly at Rathgar National School, Dublin. After Ernest's death, she came to reside at Margaretholme, Sandymount, and rarely missed a Sunday with us until illness prevented her. She was always a very happy person, with a kind word for everyone she met. We will remember her by the regular postings she made to the church lobby noticeboard about mission events right across the island. Muriel was the mother of David, John, Janet & Ruth; and grandmother of Ernest, Musa, Neil, Victoria, James, Vanessa. She will be greatly missed and we offer our condolences to her family and friends.

Irene Gray (nee Calder) – 25th September 2010

Formerly of Dun Laoghaire and Greystones, Co. Wicklow, Rene was a member of Christ Church since she moved to live at Tritonville Close,

Sandymount many years ago. She was the widow of the late Joseph Leland Gray, whom she had married in 1948. Irene Agnes Calder was born in Dublin in July 1918, the daughter of Donald Bruce Calder and Edith (nee Nichols). Always very sincere and measured, Rene was a very capable and dependable person who placed a high regard on duty to family and friends. Her daughter Alison, who had gone to live in Australia, died 10 years ago and although this was a blow to her, Rene was quick to state that she was still mother to her remaining son, Ian (Holland), and daughter Lois (also in Australia) and had much to be thankful for. Shortly before Rene died Lois returned to Ireland to be with her mother and attended each Sunday at Christ Church. Ever vibrant and lively, since Lois recently returned to Albany, Western Australia, our Sundays have seemed a little less exciting. Our sympathies go out to Rene's son Ian and daughter Lois, her daughter-in-law, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, relatives and all her friends at Tritonville Close.

“The work of our annual Overseas Teams is one of PCI’s Best Kept Secrets.”

Kenneth Arthur Ernest Rhodes – 22nd October 2010

As an elder of our congregation, Ken Rhodes had served for more years than anyone can recall. Certainly, he was one of the Presbyterians who in 1975, along with the local Methodists, negotiated the uniting of the two local Methodist and Presbyterian congregations to form Christ Church, Sandymount. He had lived in the Sandymount area all his life and had known his future wife Betty since they were both aged about 16 years. Kenneth Arthur Ernest Rhodes was born in Dublin in November 1931, the son of Henry James Arthur Rhodes and Madeleine Lydia (nee West). Ken married Elizabeth (Betty) Oliver in 1954 and they went on to have four children together. Betty, always a positive and jolly person and a real asset to the congregation, died suddenly in February 2006, after over 50 years of happy marriage to Ken. Despite ill health in more recent years Ken always took his duty as an elder seriously and until this year rarely ever missed a Council meeting. Ken was father to Audrey, Neville, Hilda and John and to them and the entire family circle we extend our sympathies at their loss.

Roy Stanley and Steven Smyrl

Missionary Mindset Dublin & Munster

October has been a busy month for the Presbytery rep. to both the Board of Mission Overseas and the Irish Mission Agencies Partnership (iMAP). On Tuesday 12th I attended the BMO meeting in Church House in Belfast. This is a good way for me myself to keep up more closely with developments. Even as (originally) a Northerner I find the mental distance from Dublin, never mind Cork or Kerry, can seem tremendous. Let me take you there.

Rev John Hanna, known to many of us, was unable to be present or deliver the Report on the Steering Committee due to ongoing ill-health. We

“Be glad about the work being done in your name, even if it seems far away. Enthuse your people to take the 2011 Points for Prayer Handbook.”

should be praying for him and his family at this time.

An appreciation of the service of Mervyn and Raing McCullagh (Adelaide Rd) was warmly endorsed and they were wished well in their new work. Mervyn has been appointed Executive Officer to both The Irish Council of Churches and the Irish Inter-Church Meeting, based in Belfast.

The work of PCI's annual Overseas Teams is one of PCI's Best Kept Secrets. Feedback will be given at the Autumn Celebrations of Global Mission in Carnmoney and Kilfennan churches and recordings should be available on DVD for use in your congregation. See www.pcimissionoverseas.org for further details. Keep an eye out for next year's plans, particularly pre-2012 Olympics community work in London and an exciting new venture with an indigenous Italian Christian publishing company CORAM DEO in Mantua in Sept 2011. Encourage anyone in your congregation you think might be interested to go on one of these trips.

Updates on various projects were extremely positive. The Boys' Brigade have sent £11,000 to help blind and deaf boys in Kandahar and the Junior BB have been responsible, appropriately, for funding the anchors on the Bridge of Hope in Kenya. Youthlink on the Springfield Rd, Belfast, have sent £50,000 to Nepal. Sat-7, an exciting satellite broadcasting service for children in the Middle East and Africa has been set up. PW had already handed over £30,000 to Livingstone Hospital in Malawi and at the meeting handed over the same again personally to a representative of the work amongst women there. She was speechless and simply repeated 'thank you' quietly.

Rev Dr Mark Gray prefaced his World Development report with a reference to the international recession. The Japanese banks say it all: the Origami Bank has folded, the Sumo Bank has gone belly-up and the Bonzai Bank has cut all its branches! But, PCI so far has raised £872,000 for the Moderator's Haiti Appeal. To date £155,000 has come in for the Pakistan Floods situation, £35,000 has gone to Tearfund and £35,000 to Christian Aid. What good news!

Prof Gordon Campbell updated us on all existing and evolving PCI partnerships, naming those currently studying in Belfast and invited prayer for all involved and for wisdom for PCI in knowing whether and for how long to pursue existing partnerships and if and when to pursue new ones. Finally, the Mission Involvement Committee are developing a training resource 'Do It Well', a toolkit for congregations aiming to send a team abroad in the near future. It should be available in early 2011 at the latest.

Be glad about the work being done in your name, even if it seems far away. Enthuse your people to take the 2011 Points for Prayer Handbook available soon from Church House and keep updated weekly by taking the Prayerline emails every Wednesday available online or from overseas@presbyterainireland.org or by phoning Belfast on (048)9041 7308. On Friday 22nd I attended the twice-yearly Advisory Meeting of iMAP (Irish Mission Agencies Partnership), the umbrella organisation for an increasing number of Missionary Agencies of all kinds working out of Ireland. This was held in the Irish Bible Institute in Dublin. iMAP has five

objectives:

1. To promote missions at home and abroad
2. To announce service opportunities, prayer points & regional events
3. To be a clearing house for mission agencies who send personnel overseas
4. To assist mission partners to network effectively
5. To provide Biblical and practical resources to engage Irish churches in mission

Clicking on to www.imap.ie will bring you up-to-date with missionary vacancies and forthcoming events and allow you to Gift Aid donations to Irish Missions which as yet do not have charitable status within the State. Events so far have been held all around the country. Of particular interest for your diaries are the YOUR MOVE events in Cork (Douglas Baptist Church) on Jan 29th 2011 and Dublin (The Redeemed Church of God) on Feb 12th.

This partnership enables Missionary Organisations to pool resources and enhance their profile and is currently seeking to raise awareness of its services amongst leaders and members of the established and emerging Churches in Ireland. Hence my report.

While I have been typing an email from FEBA Radio went out to all of us present at the last meeting to pray together wherever we are on Oct 29th at 9am for the YOUR MOVE Galway event on 6th Nov. How good it is when we can work together! Can we as Presbyterians swing in behind this organisation?

Heather Moore
heathermoore@eircom.net

Mountmellick & Tullamore

This has been an encouraging few months for Mountmellick. Together with the local Methodist Church we are running an after school club for National School age children. This is well attended and the children clearly enjoy the Scripture Union based material that takes them through the Bible's "Must Know Stories." Please pray that this work will continue to grow and flourish.

In Tullamore we were saddened by the recent death of one of our elders Mrs Kathleen Field.

Kathleen was born on 3rd March 1920 whilst in the Manse at Grey-stones, to William and Constance Kirkpatrick. She had a very cherished early childhood, however her father went to WW1, as a chaplain and returned an ill man. Sadly he died in 1927 and this was the start of a number of upheavals in her life. Kathleen moved with her Mother to live with her Grandmother in Terenure in Dublin. She attended Alexander College in Earlsfort terrace in Dublin.

“We are running an after school club for National School age children. This is well attended and the children clearly enjoy learning the Bible’s “Must-Know -Stories.” Please pray that this work will continue to grow and flourish.”

Kathleen and Herbert were 'courting' during the War years and married in 1947. They both became very involved in Clara Presbyterian Church and later Tullamore Presbyterian Church. Kathleen became an Elder in 1987 and took over as Session Clerk after Herbert's death in 1990. During her 86th year, Kathleen found living on her own difficult despite her highly supportive neighbours and church friends and so moved to Palm Court Residential home in the Wirral near to her son John. After coming to terms with living in England, she settled in very well and became quite a character within the home. After a long period of illness Kathleen died on 7th November 2010.

Kathleen will be remembered as a loving Wife, Mother and Grandmother, very fond of her garden, dogs, cottage and most of all as a lady whose example as a follower of Jesus made her loved by all. She will be greatly missed.

Lindsay Road National School

is a small primary school under the Patronage of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. It celebrated its Centenary year in 2010 and published a book "The Lessons we learned and games we played: 100 years at Lindsay Road National School" in June. The PTA have a limited book stock left and are hoping to contact alumni and friends who may be interested in purchasing a copy.

Below are some of the Photographs from the book.

