

2021



IRISH METHODIST  
**WORLD MISSION**  
PARTNERSHIP

# ANNUAL REPORT

TOGETHER, SHARING CHRIST  
AROUND THE WORLD

 **The Methodist Church**  
In Ireland





## A MESSAGE FROM LAURENCE



God sent His Son to reach out to the world in mission. Now the Spirit of Christ calls and equips us to partner in God's ongoing mission. Furthermore, we in Ireland rejoice in the fact that we join in this mission with Christians from all over the world.

Last year we launched a period of focused partnership between each of our three MCI Districts and a church in another country (Ghana, Poland and Togo). As you can imagine, the COVID 19 pandemic has delayed the implementation of some of these plans. However, in other ways, the relationships have grown because due to increased communication of prayers, concern and support in both directions.

In Romans 1, v11-12, the Apostle Paul expresses his desire to see the Roman Christians

*"...that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith".*

These words of Paul express exactly what has been happening between us in Ireland and our partner churches in various places. Within the next 12 months, these relationships will start to grow at congregational level.

In this Report, we include testimonies from a member of each church. This reminds us that these relationships are not just about projects and facts but

about meeting people. In Ireland, District Champions have been appointed who will help facilitate activities. Prayer Cards both here and in the congregations of the Methodist Churches of Ghana, Poland and Togo will enable us to pray for each other regularly.

Methodists have a long heritage of mission across the world. May we enthuse in our global church family, be challenged by the mission still needed in the world and be engaged through our praying, giving, learning and serving.

*Rev. Dr. Laurence Graham  
General Secretary for WMP*

## METHODIST CHURCH TOGO

Linked with MCI's Southern District

### Meet Tele...

"I'm a member of the Methodist church in Togo and also a Sunday school teacher. I used to think that the Lord Jesus wanted to use me only as a mentor of Sunday school children and young people in my church but I was wrong.

In July 2018, I fell seriously ill. After all the treatment, I was still ill and on the night of the 17th, like a dream, I saw someone take me outside and show me the bad things that were going on in the world. After that, he took me to a peaceful place where I saw a lot of people and they seemed very happy. I decided to stay at the peaceful place but the one who was guiding me refused and took me to Earth where I saw distress. I heard a voice telling me

"Go and tell them I'm coming soon". I asked, "Where should I go to tell this?" and the answer was to go into schools and tell this to the youth.

My Pastor suggested I go to schools and talk to headmasters, telling them I would like to come during lunch break and talk to the pupils about Jesus. I was wondering how could that be possible as the school close to my office place is a public one. However, to my great surprise, the principal agreed. Today, he gives me a classroom where I gather adolescents of the school and talk to them. I have noticed that those children were facing challenges and needed to speak to someone they can trust.



By the grace of God, I'm doing this work and we have a club of young people that accept Jesus as their Lord and Saviour and my good news is that they have been successful in their different exams this year.

Glory be to God!"

**Act:**  
Pray for Togolese Methodists by using your new prayer card.

# UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF POLAND

Linked with MCI's North Western District

## Meet Robert...

"I'm 52 and have been married to Marzena for 27 years. I was born into a family where we went to church only on holidays. I had a happy childhood, a rebellious adolescence and hard first years of marriage. I hadn't thought much about God's existence although I think I believed in 'something'. By relying on my own strength, I was a frustrated, nervous and explosive person with low self-esteem. How our marriage survived its early years - was a miracle of God. We got used to the nuisance of the other person's character and that's how we lived our lives.

Our son grew older, we both had jobs and so we started "seeing the world". In Egypt, we noticed a man spreading a rug,

kneeling and praying. SHOCK! Not in the church and with no neighbours watching. He did it for his God. I couldn't believe it. How much faith did this man have? What about my faith? It was a turning point. I decided to seek God with my wife. The church where we had both been baptised left us saddened. The ceremony was more important than God's word. My wife tried reading books. We never thought to read scripture; we thought we may not understand it. By coincidence, we had been renting a garage from the Methodist church and had only said a casual "Good morning" to the pastor. We decided to try it. I don't remember much but after attending, we realised that it was our place.



I waited impatiently for each service. We started reading God's Word. I felt joy inside and started telling everyone how wonderful it is to believe that Jesus loves me.

That was five years ago. Much has changed. I am calmer, can admit a mistake and apologise. I know that I am guided by God every day. My wife and I now try to show light - God's light to others with our lives."

### Act:

Pray for Polish Methodists by using your new prayer card.

# METHODIST CHURCH GHANA (Northern Accra Diocese)

Linked with MCI's North Eastern District

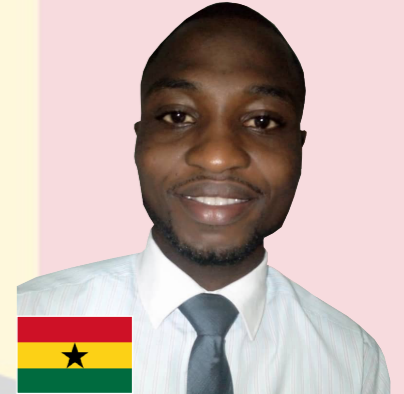
## Meet Ibrahim...

"I am 30 years old and from the Upper West Region of Ghana. I was born into a dedicated Muslim family. In 2010, I had an encounter with the Lord at the Mosque. During Ramadan fasting, I spent eight nights in the mosque and, on the ninth night, I started feeling uncomfortable and could not concentrate. I saw a Holy Bible descending from heaven into my hands and began to see visions. From that night, I heard the Lord Jesus Christ audibly but I was not convinced enough about what was going on.

In 2011, I started my secondary education and was even the organiser for the Ghana Muslim Students Association. I had many experiences of God in that time

such as praying in tongues and visions but I still did not believe. Eventually, the day came when I first prayed as a Christian. No one had evangelised to me. The Lord told me through the Holy Spirit that the church he was giving me was the Methodist Church so I joined the Ghana Methodist Students Union (GHAMSU).

After my schooling, I joined the Methodist Church and was confirmed and baptised. I was admitted to university and became a member of the evangelism wing of GHAMSU. I spent my four years evangelising and many souls were won for Christ. The Lord healed and performed miracles in the community.



On coming back to my mother church, the Very Reverend Kwame Amoah-Mensah sent me to a mission field where there was a young congregation. That is where I am now. I have been a believer of Jesus Christ for the past seven years and I thank the Lord Jesus for saving my life."

### Act:

Pray for Ghanaian Methodists by using your new prayer card.



## JMA - ENGAGING CHILDREN IN GLOBAL MISSION

Through JMA (Junior Mission for All), children and young people throughout the Methodist Church in Ireland continue to learn about and support mission around the world.

Our 2019/20 JMA resource focused on Zimbabwe and the King George VI School and Rehabilitation centre. In total, £19,078.56 was raised for KGV! Due to Covid-19, the school has remained shut for many months in 2020. However, the closed building did not stop staff from continuing to support their pupils at home. As well as providing educational materials for the students, many KGV families also receive food parcels to help them through extremely challenging times.

Our 2020/21 JMA resource takes us to Europe as we learn about

Germany and the INSPIREKids organisation in Chemnitz. INSPIREKids is a safe space for children to come and find community. The team run a busy weekly schedule offering homework clubs, sports, crafts and girls and boys groups. Irish Methodist Mission Partners Barry & Gillian Sloan help lead the INSPIRE movement and also make an appearance in JMA this year.

The JMA resource has Bible teaching, crafts, games, activities and a drama script for you to use with your group.

### Act:

Get your children involved! Visit our website to download the resource and help the youngest members in our church to understand that God invites us all to be part of his mission.

## BIBLE SOCIETY NI

We continue to work with the Bible Society NI in their mission to reach everyone with God's Word. Funding for 2018-2020 supported the Bible Society's work with refugees in Austria, teaching through audio Bibles in Togo and storytelling with migrant workers in the Gulf States.

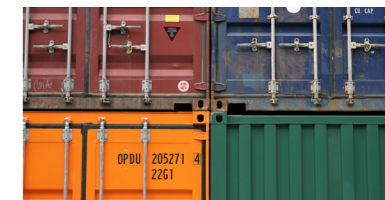
For the next cycle of funding, Irish Methodists will be supporting two new projects, both of which have strong links to the Methodist Church in their country. Each project will receive £15,000 over three years.

In Portugal, we will be supporting Bible translation which will have a major impact on all Portuguese speaking countries. This project will update a popular Portuguese translation which was last revised in 1898.

By the end of 2021, the goal is to have completed the revision of the four Gospels and the Psalms and then have the New Testament completed by the end of 2022.

In Cuba, plans are in place to reach every province and municipality with Scripture and engagement tools by working through a network of groups to equip leaders, increase sustainability and strengthen the church in Cuba.

*Front cover image:*  
Bible Society Cuba



## CONTAINER MINISTRY

In April, a forty-foot container was sent to the Methodist Church Ghana. The container was packed full of items requested, including educational materials and agricultural supplies. Wenchi Methodist Hospital, a Covid-19 response centre in Ghana, also received much needed medical equipment. Due to Covid-19, the warehouse was closed for the much of the year.

### Act:

Visit our website for up-to-date needs

## SERVING OVERSEAS

The Methodist Churches of Britain and Ireland send mission partners to work with partner churches around the world. **Please pray for them as they serve:**



Jonathan & Isabel Hill  
♥ Zimbabwe



Jenny Featherstone  
♥ Zambia



Keith & Ida Waddell  
♥ Zambia



Hans & Mary  
Van Den Corput  
♥ Nigeria



Michael & Joanna  
Tettey  
♥ Togo



Claire Smithson  
♥ Kenya



Freddy & Dee  
Takavarasha  
♥ Southern Africa



Angleena Keizer  
♥ Palestine/israel



Sheila Norris  
♥ Japan



Barry & Gillian Sloan  
♥ Germany



STEPHEN MCCANN  
♥ 24-7 Ibiza



THE FARMER FAMILY  
♥ South East Asia

### Act:

Sign up to receive bimonthly prayer requests from those serving



Daniel & Grace  
Pratt Morris-Chapman  
♥ Milan, Italy



Fiona Kendall  
♥ Rome, Italy



John & Sharon Harbottle  
♥ Haiti

### CALLED TO SERVE?

Encounter Worldwide: 6-12 months, 18+  
Global Fellows: 2years, 20-30 year olds  
Mission Partner: 3years, 18+  
MEET Teams: 2-3 weeks, 18+

Through WMP, the Methodist Church in Ireland also support Mission Associates - those who serve overseas with other organisations but receive a financial contribution and prayerful support from WMP.

## HOW TO GIVE (UK)

### MONTHLY DONATION: STANDING ORDER MANDATE

Complete all 8 boxes marked \*

To: \*Your bank name:  Branch Address: \*Your bank address:

Please pay:  First Trust Bank (AIB Group)  Branch: University Rd, Belfast  SC: 93-84-24

For the credit of:  World Mission Partnership  Acc no: 22382013

The sum of: \*Amount in figures  \*Amount in words

Commencing: \*  Frequency: Monthly  Date of final payment: \*

**Please cancel any previous Standing Order in favour of the Beneficiary above.**

Name of account to be debited: \*  Acc no: \*

### For Gift Aid and Standing Orders, all the below details MUST be completed:

Title:  Name(s):

Signature:  Date:

Address:  Postcode:

Telephone:  Email:

Please tick this box if you would like to receive our bimonthly newsletter via email.

### BOOST YOUR DONATION BY 25p FOR EVERY £1 AT NO COST TO YOURSELF

*giftaid it*

I want to gift aid my donation of £  per month and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past four years.

**Name of Charity: Irish Methodist World Mission Partnership (of the Methodist Church in Ireland)**

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less income tax and/or capital gains tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signature(s):   Date:

### When completed, return form to:

World Mission Partnership, Edgehill House, 9 Lennoxvale, Belfast, BT9 5BY  
For Standing orders, a copy will be kept and the original forwarded to your bank.

**Queries:** +4428 90767969 or worldmission@irishmethodist.org  
**Charity reference number:** XN69890

# HOW TO GIVE (ROI)

## MONTHLY DONATION: STANDING ORDER MANDATE Complete all 8 boxes marked \*

To:  Branch Address:

Please pay:  Branch:  SC:

For the credit of:  Acc no:

The sum of:

Commencing:  Frequency:  Date of final payment:

**Please cancel any previous Standing Order in favour of the Beneficiary above.**

Name of account to be debited:  Acc no:

### For Tax Reclaim and Standing Orders, all the below details MUST be completed:

Title:  Name(s):

Signature:  Date:

Address:  Postcode:

Telephone:  Email:

Please tick this box if you would like to receive our bimonthly newsletter via email.

If you pay income tax in the Republic of Ireland and donate more than €250 in a tax year to the Methodist Church in Ireland and its departments, then the Methodist Church in Ireland (Irish Methodist World Mission Partnership) could claim tax relief on your donation and boost the value of your gift without it costing you a cent.

I wish tax to be reclaimed on my regular giving of  per month (standing order)

Signature(s):   Date:

**When completed, return to:** World Mission Partnership, Edgehill House, 9 Lennoxvale, Belfast, BT9 5BY.  
For Standing orders, a copy will be kept and the original forwarded to your bank.  
**Queries:** +4428 90767969 or worldmission@irishmethodist.org

**Bank Transfer Details:**  
Swift/BIC: AIBKIE2D  
IBAN: IE63 AIBK 9312 6811 3450 09  
Charity Tax Reference: CHY 253

# YOUR GIVING TO GLOBAL EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHIP IN 2019

	STERLING			EURO		
	CONGREGATIONS	JMA		CONGREGATIONS	JMA	
Southern District	90			22,742	787	
NW District	26,656	1,496		1,180		
NE District	30,569	11,383				
MWI			95,800			12,513
Dividends & Trust			64,272			
Other			27,286			5,283
	<b>Total Sterling:</b>			<b>Total Euro:</b>		
	257,552			42,505		

MCI statistics suggest that congregational members give less than £10/€12 to World Mission Partnership on average.

The Methodist Church in Ireland urges Methodist people to fully support mission alongside their global partners: outreach to new people, training of Christian leadership and planting of new churches. The most effective way is to give by Standing Order.

### EXAMPLES OF FUNDING IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS:

- 'COVID Solidarity' grants for Methodist churches in Haiti, Myanmar, Sierra Leone, Poland, Ghana and Togo.
- Support of Mission Partners and Mission Associates
- Evangelist support and training in Myanmar
- Bible distribution and translation in Togo
- Evangelism in Austria amongst migrants
- Training and resourcing the underground church (Middle East)

**BANK TRANSFER: STERLING**  
**Payments made to:** World Mission Partnership  
**Account No:** 22382013 **Sort Code:** 93-84-24

**BANK TRANSFER: EURO**  
**Payments made to:** World Mission Partnership  
**Bank:** AIB Bank **Account No:** 11345-009  
**Sort Code:** 93-12-68 **SWIFT/BIC:** AIBKIE2D  
**IBAN:** IE63 AIBK 9312 6811 3450 09

**ALL DONATIONS**  
(payable to 'World Mission Partnership')  
**should be sent to:**  
WMP Treasurer, 9 Meadow Dale,  
Newtownabbey, BT37 OUT

**Act:**  
Set up a Standing Order



IRISH METHODIST  
**WORLD MISSION**  
PARTNERSHIP

TOGETHER, SHARING CHRIST  
AROUND THE WORLD



**The Methodist Church**  
In Ireland

## OUR MISSION:

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Enabling Methodist people in Ireland, and friends, to join with partners around the world to proclaim Christ's love and offer of salvation & to promote church growth. We do this by giving and receiving, teaching and learning, praying and being prayed for and serving and being served.

World Mission Partnership,  
Edgehill House,  
9 Lennoxvale,  
Belfast,  
BT9 5BY

**T:** +4428 90767969

**W:** [www.methodistworldmission.org](http://www.methodistworldmission.org)

**E:** [worldmission@irishmethodist.org](mailto:worldmission@irishmethodist.org)