

FCC CONNECTION

The official newsletter of
The Fellowship of Churches of Christ

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WELCOME TO PORTGORDON COMMUNITY CHURCH



We are delighted to report that the Portgordon Community Church has asked to be a member of the Fellowship.

The Strategic Board have approved the application and we look forward to formally receiving them at the second part of the Connect (AGM) later in the year. In the meantime, they are afforded all the normal privileges of membership.

The church is led by Willie Aiken and his wife Sharon (see photo). You might wonder where Portgordon is located.

The answer is that Portgordon is just 2.2 miles from Buckie in the North East of Scotland – a

name that some of you will recognise. Many of you will remember Sam Burton, the minister of the Buckie Church of Christ bringing a report to our recent conference of the recent life and growth at Buckie. We are glad to report that Sam and Willie know each other well and enjoy a good relationship. The church at Portgordon was established around 7 years ago following the closure of a Methodist church. Some of the younger parents wanted a fellowship to continue and asked Willie to lead a new fellowship. In their application to FCC, Willie says:

“Portgordon Community Church exists to be an all-inclusive community where we reach, teach, and equip people to become lifelong followers of Jesus Christ. We desire to see those far from God and those who know God and those who know God draw closer to Him. The vision of the church is to expand God’s Kingdom.”

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We are also pleased to be able to report that FCC has assisted two applications by workers from the USA to serve in the North East of Scotland, in conjunction with Portgordon and Buckie. We believe there is scope for more church planting in the region.

FCC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Following on from the very successful first part of the FCC Connect (AGM) meeting on 13th February, the Strategic Board have agreed that the second part will be held on Saturday 24th September 2021. This is a little later than we had originally hoped. The thinking is that we want to be able to gather in person safely. Please put a note in your diary! A Zoom recording of the first part of the AGM is available to anyone who would like to access it. Please email Lynda Robinson to request a copy Lynda.robinson@the-fcc.org

MISSION TEAMS

Greater Europe Mission send short term teams and individual workers to the UK every year.

Most of the workers (though not all) are from the USA. It maybe that your church would benefit by receiving a team or a worker. If you want to enquire about a team, please email Martin Robinson: martin.robinson@mission4.uk



gem
greater europe mission

Greater Europe Mission UK is part of a global mission to multiply disciples and grow Christ's Church. We mobilise missionaries to serve throughout the UK and Europe.

BRIAN AND COMFORT JENNINGS SEE BARNABAS HOUSE BEGINNING

Many of you will know Brian and Comfort, who serve as FCC missionaries in Ghana. FCC has contributed to the building of Barnabas House. Brian writes:

"Barnabas House will be a centre for adult learning – a 'safe place' where Christians can have room to discover what God is doing in their lives and in their communities and be encouraged and equipped to keep in step with the Holy Spirit's initiatives in demonstrating the Kingdom of God. To date our building has reached lintel level and we are gathering the materials to construct the first floor. We already have the iron rods we need, and we are seeking resources for the sand, stones, and cement for the next stage."



Disciples Fellowship Ministry, Leicester

One of the great features of our congregation that meets in the Salvation Army building, in the middle of the shopping centre in Leicester, is their youth work. We heard recently that Blessing Chitapa who is one of the young people in their youth programme recently was a winner of THE VOICE UK. Congratulations to Blessing Chitapa!



Kirkby in Furness

It's always good to hear of churches beginning to meet again for worship even if in a carefully socially distanced way. We recently received a newsletter from the Kirkby in Furness church – one of our smallest and oldest churches (in terms of the building).

Sunday Services to Resume!

7th March 2021

10.45 a.m.

“With many hopes that this will be the last of the lockdowns, we will gather together on the first Sunday in March for worship and fellowship at Wall End. However, until the recommendation is rescinded, masks and social distancing will still apply. There will be masks available at the chapel, if anyone needs one. The antibacterial gel is also available. It will, indeed, be good to gather together again at the chapel. Psalm 149.1”

Welcome to Mark and Andrea Michael



Some of you will remember Mark Michael and his wife Andrea. Mark is a Christian Church (Churches of Christ) Minister who led a church plant in Florida for a number of years. They also lived for a time in Edinburgh working with Greater Europe Mission. For family reasons they had to relocate to the USA for a number of years and now they have returned using an FCC visa. They are working with a mission organisation (not Greater Europe Mission this time) to recruit workers for the UK. They are helping to recruit someone to work with the Buckie church amongst other initiatives. They are living in Edinburgh once again.

We look forward to working closely with them and will be exploring church planting opportunities, particularly in Scotland.