

Foundation in Christ Ministries 2012 Annual Report

“For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.”—1 Corinthians 3:11



“God ... will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them.” —Hebrews 6:10 NIV

It is a privilege to bring you this year's report of the many opportunities to share the Good News through Foundation in Christ Ministries, Ltd. Thank you for your continued prayerful support to this work.

Life in the Spirit Teen Summer Camp

“Behold I am doing something new, now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.”—Isaiah 43:19

We ran our first ever Teen Summer Camp in July. We were approached earlier in the year by a group of families who participate in a local prayer group to run a camp for their teens and others in the city. Thirty quiet and reserved teens soon became boisterous and outgoing as they attended the camp. Over the course of a week they heard the Good News shared through lively presentations, honest open personal stories, loving friendships and creative drama, and all had a good time. We have had follow-up sessions twice since and there is a real desire to continue to meet and grow in friendship with one another and the Lord. Here are a few comments from some of the young people who took part in the camp:

“It gave me a sense that I’m not alone. There are other young people that love Jesus too.”

“Very interesting and inspiring.”

“Very good! Their stories really moved me.”

“It was a brilliant experience and I felt so welcome.”

“It was great, good crowd of youth, life changing.”



Relationship Evangelism

An Tobar Nua café exists ultimately to do one thing, to point people to Christ to consider His message and make it part of their life. We do this in the café by building friendships with the student and adult customers who come in for our delicious food, and warm welcoming environment. Our kitchen manager shares her perspective on this:

“I have seen what both sides of relationship evangelism looks like in An Tobar Nua. I have been working here these past 8 years. I have also been the student coming in with my friends, from the high school around the corner. I am so thankful for that because it helps me see the beauty in the simplest of things; learning someone's name, making a point to say hello and goodbye as they come and go, asking how school is going, etc. All of it plays a huge part in building relationship, which ultimately allows us to share our lives, and our relationship with Jesus with them.

Over the last three years a young man called Todd started coming into the café. He would come in and sit by himself, and his head would often be bowed down. You could tell he was going through a hard time; it was as if he had the weight of the world on his shoulders. Staff befriended him and would often sit and listen to his very passionate/heated views on different topics and whatever was on his heart. He was rather cautious to begin with and it took quite some time to build trust. Since Todd's first venture into our café we have seen big changes in him. He now runs through the café door with a big hello. It is a rare thing to see him hang his head low. He has become such a source of joy to us. He has an incredible sense of humor and is a fantastic poet. This past April, after two years of sharing our lives and conversations about who Jesus is, Todd made a decision to ask Jesus into his life. He has been journeying with Jesus since. It has been such an amazing gift to see him grow in his faith as he encounters the highs and lows of life. I asked him if it was okay to share his story with you. Upon reflecting on his years in the café, Todd said I know God brought me here in October three years ago! For the food, friendship and Himself. “*

**Name changed*

School Retreats

One of our primary ways to reach inquisitive high school students is through our dynamic Passion Retreat Programme. This year we had the great privilege of connecting with twenty-three groups during the school year. Over the years we have developed trusting partnerships with local high schools so that they encourage and schedule time during the school calendar for their students to participate in a one day retreat either, here at our welcoming facility, or at the school. Students frequently comment that taking the time out for the retreat is one of the highlights of their year. Everyone ultimately asks the questions of life; "Why am I here?" "What gives meaning to life?" "Is there a God?" "What happens when I die?" "How can I be happy?" We seek to give informed and reasoned answers to these questions through sincere personal stories, captivating multimedia presentations, and a loving atmosphere that welcomes dialogue. It's always a source of great encouragement for us to read the comments from students at the end of the retreat.

"Keep up the brilliant work. Best retreat I've had. I truly realize now that God is real and he does love me and everybody else. Your speeches are so inspirational, and I thank you so much for coming today."

"Talking about Jesus and what his purpose was really opened my eyes to letting God into my life more because he'll always be there to listen and to guide."

"I really enjoyed the whole experience. I was never really religious but today I feel like I understand what I believe in and feel close to God. The food was awesome too and the staff are really friendly and nice."



Student Discussion DVD's

A wonderful freedom we enjoy in Ireland is been able to go into high schools to speak about Jesus in the religious education classes. We have found that lively, visually and audibly stimulating DVDs are an effective means for generating passionate discussion about the Christian faith. The format is simple; a 10 minute DVD followed by a 30 minute discussion on the topic covered. This year we were pleased to facilitate 30 classes during the school year. Here are a few comments from the younger students when asked if the sessions had changed their views on God:

"Yes, before it was to get my parents off my back but now I know where to turn when I am depressed"

"Now I want to believe in him"

"I would like to become more in touch with God overall"

"Yes. I view God as more of a friend now"

"I never knew why Jesus came and now I do and it makes me grateful"

Christian Counseling Ministry

We now have two qualified Christian counselors, and another who has completed their first year of training working for the ministry. Life can be a tough, battering, and bruising experience. We have been gifted to be able to offer counseling free of charge to those in the community who would like to speak about their difficulties in a confidential environment. This summer, one of our counselors was contacted by a local high school counselor, asking if we could take one of her clients for the summer period. This conveys the message that parents and teachers alike believe in what we are doing here at An Tobar Nua. We believe the Lord is opening up the door for us to be able to take on more pupils from this local school and others.



Emmaus Scripture School

We believe in the life transforming power of the word of God. For the last six years we have been blessed with eager students from different nations that have heard about us through the nearby university, and also local people

who are curious or passionate about getting to know God better by studying the Bible. A truly unique gift to our ministry from the Lord is to have both Catholic and non-Catholic Christians reading, praying, and studying the Scriptures together. Jesus prayed that we would be one (John17:21). We believe that Emmaus Scripture School is an image of that oneness. This year we had 22 students.

Our primary source of revenue, the café and book shop, supply about 30% of our annual financial needs and we depend on God's provision through donations for the rest. Without the kind and ongoing support we receive, we would not be able to continue this work in Galway that is bringing a positive influence to young people, hope to persons in hard circumstances, growth in God's Word to eager students, and God's power to change lives.

Our commitment is to serve God in fulfilling His call to ministry in Ireland and to practice integrity and wise stewardship in the use of all funds and resources provided.

With best wishes for God's blessing,

Rev. Kelly E. Curry
Chairman and President

All gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law and may be sent to:

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*If you have any questions, please contact us at
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