



Foundation in Christ Ministries

2015 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. Thank you for your continued prayerful support to this work.

School Retreats

It has been a phenomenal year for our high school retreat program! Since last September, we led 77 dynamic retreats at our facility and on-site at various schools, with over 1,500 students participating. We are delighted with the continued growth of this aspect of our ministry. So far, we already have 89 retreats pre-booked for the upcoming school year. It has been an incredible blessing to share the Good News with the teenagers of Galway via these interactive days. The feedback from the students has been overwhelmingly positive, even from those who have a different worldview. Here are some comments from anonymous surveys completed by students who participated this year:

- *"I found it to be an enjoyable experience despite being fully atheist."*
- *"Today has been good. I feel more close to God and that if I pray I can be helped by God. I met a lot of nice people who really inspired me to get closer to God."*
- *"In all honesty, this was a great retreat. It was well coordinated by the organisers and huge credit to them for inspiring us to believe in Jesus and God. Personally, I feel more determined to grow closer to God than I already am because I agree that he has a plan for me to live life to the best. Thanks again for the experience."*
- *"I really liked this retreat. It made me think of God especially because one of the most important people in my life has passed away so I doubted God but this day really showed me God at work in the different lives. I really liked Andrew's singing, overall I really liked it, and I would like to work here."*



Counseling

An Tobar Nua continues to be a place of refuge for those struggling with various debilitating issues. Many in our culture are afflicted by depression, anxiety, addictions, fear, childhood trauma and relationship struggles. It is an incredible privilege to see people grow and heal as they begin their therapeutic journey with us. At this time, we have 38 clients, which is a substantial schedule for our two counselors. We also have a weekly support group for those who need a caring setting to share their struggles and receive communal encouragement. Here is a sample of the comments we have received from those seeking help:

- *"I feel very comfortable coming here to unburden."*
- *"The fact that you are Christian counselors makes me feel very safe in this place."*
- *"I came in here full of fear and having panic attacks. I'm no longer having the attacks and am free from fear."*
- *"I'm having fewer bad days. The dark times are less and less."*
- *"You have no idea the difference it makes having a place to come and talk."*
- *"I've tried a lot of different counselors over the years. You have been the most help."*

Street Evangelism

We ran four Night Fever outreaches over the last year, in collaboration with other Christians in the city. The idea behind Night Fever is simple: open a city center church at night, fill it with candle-light and prayerful live music, and invite passers-by inside. Once inside, guests are invited to light a candle, write out a prayer, and/or take a scripture verse to reflect on and sit in silence before the Lord. It is surprising how open modern people are to this style of non-threatening atmospheric evangelisation. We had many opportunities to engage in conversation, share our testimonies and pray with people for God's blessing on their lives. On one of the nights, a known drug dealer was reconciled to God. These nights are a real blessing also for the team of evangelists who go out on the street to invite passers-by to come in.

Youth Alpha

We were blessed to be able to lead four Youth Alpha courses over the last year, three in local schools and great follow-up to our school retreat for those seeking to further pursue their faith journey. The course covers the following subjects:

Life: Is This It?

Jesus: Who is He?

Cross: Why Did Jesus Die?

Faith: How Can I Have Faith?

Prayer: Why and How Do I Pray?

Bible: Why and How Do I Read the Bible?

Follow: How Does God Guide Us Into Full Life?

Spirit: Who Is the Holy Spirit and What Does He Do?

Fill: How Can I Be Filled With the Holy Spirit?

Evil: How Can I Resist Evil?

Healing: Does God Heal Today?

Church: What About the Church and Telling Others?

We are very grateful for the opportunity to go into the local schools to run these classes. We are praying to be able to continue to expand this area of ministry, through both in-school sessions and sessions at our facility.

Bookstore

We support all of the local churches by being a comprehensive source of Bibles, Christian books, music, cards and tasteful gifts. The friendly atmosphere of our bookstore lends itself to customers feeling comfortable to come in for a chat or to ask for prayer.



Emmaus Scripture School

The Emmaus Scripture School is in its 9th full year of in-depth Scripture study with 32 students from a range of faith traditions and nationalities. We are passionate about encouraging people to prayerfully study the word of God. We taught the following engaging classes: How to Read the Bible, Romans, Luke-Acts, Jesus and the Gospels, Hebrews and General Epistles, New Testament Survey, Old Testament Survey, and A Beginner's Introduction to the Bible. We received this testimony regarding one of our students from someone who attends a Bible study with them: *"She had a richness and in-depth knowledge of the Word and an analysis of the Old Testament which was intriguing and made me want [to know] more [about the Bible]."*

*"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."
-Psalm 119:05 (ESV)*

Café

The goal of our café is to provide a warm, clean, welcoming environment with great food at reasonable prices so that people will want to return. Over time, our staff can develop genuine friendships with customers and are available to share their faith or support the customers through personal difficulties with prayer or practical help. Although our busiest times are during the school year, as our lunch crowd is primarily high school students, but our quieter summers give us time to train new staff, develop and update our school retreat curriculum, as well as more conversation with our customers. A repeat customer provided these words to describe how much he appreciates the café: *"[It is an] Oasis of Encouragement."*



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. Through volunteer help in our USA offices, we maintain a minimum of administrative costs so that every available resource is dedicated to the Good News message.

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:
Foundation in Christ Ministries
2014 Edgewater Drive, #241
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