Prayer Letter from the Underhills
2026/5, 4th. November

Dear Brethren,

Thank you for your fellowship in prayer. The Lord continues to be merciful to us, giving us stable health, a local church where we can worship and serve Him, and many opportunities of usefulness especially with the social media. I have my website with many Biblical resources, and I write a lengthy Facebook post weekly to instruct and encourage reading.

SWITZERLAND (16-21 Sept)

It was a very encouraging time of fellowship and ministry in Payerne (north of Lausanne). The meetings of the French-speaking Reformed Baptist Network were hosted by the Eglise Réformée Baptiste de la Broye. It was the first such gathering and there was much anticipation and excitement. Nine local churches were officially represented, two in Switzerland and the rest in France. There were more than 20 delegates and it was my responsibility to centre them on the great means of church planting in preaching and specifically preaching of the gospel. I did this in two sessions from Romans 1:16-17. I also spoke to them about the importance of our lives as preachers, taking indications from Acts 20:17-35. This seemed to be most helpful. [I spoke through translation, only managing two small sentences in French from my school days!]





Hearing the reports from the various churches was stimulating. There is a great desire and opportunity for church planting, which is the main practical aim of the Network. Many of the church leaders were on the younger side. Some of the local churches reported more than 100 in attendance, with many young families. This is quite different from many of the churches where I preach here in the UK. From my experience of having an Association of churches in Kenya, I exhorted them to keep up contact and not just wait until they gather next year. The need for the gospel in this French-speaking part of Europe is overwhelming.

ENGLAND

(1) Stanley Park Baptist, Liverpool (6/9 and 15/11). The large and rather old building is very near to Anfield. It is tough for them when there is a game on Sunday. There is even a mural opposite of the 'holy trinity', three football players. What blasphemy! The church had seen better days until covid came and, because they stayed open, many sought them out so that now there is a thriving church of 30-50. They are also members of the newly formed ACBC (Association of Confessing Baptist Churches). On 3/10 I went with the pastor to a meeting of the Association which I find so encouraging. No tension, just joy together.

(2) Kingston Evangelical, Hull (27/9). The other side of the country from Liverpool, this church has been without a pastor for a few years. Three deacons are running the church of about 30

members most of whom are elderly. They are finding it a struggle, and most of the time preachers are visitors like me.

(3) Aughton Park Baptist, Ormskirk (morning 4/10 and 1/11). This church is similar in makeup to Kingston, perhaps slightly larger, but having a 'retired' pastor in their midst. With so many such churches seemingly looking in vain for a pastor, they have just agreed on one to come early next year, to their great joy. What does one preach? The big themes. The other day it was on the Providence of God from Paul's shipwreck in Acts 27.

(4) Belvidere Road, Liverpool (11/10). This is the local church. There is always a weekend when many have a time of fellowship and ministry away at a conference centre. We choose to stay behind to minister to those who do not go for one reason or another. We had about 25 in the morning but hardly any in the evening!

(5) Cowley Hill Free, Borehamwood (29/11). Just north of London, this is a small church that has been very supportive of the work in Kenya over decades. It is always a joy to be with them for the weekend. There are two elders, retired men, but they also pray for a full-time leader.

(6) Ashton Baptist, Preston (13/12). It is only recently that I have started preaching here a couple of times a year, about an hour's drive north of Liverpool. They are small, certainly not more than 20, and faithfully led by a brother in his 80s. Sadly, like so many churches they suffered a big split some years back, which makes things difficult for the church.

There have been a number of other meetings that I have attended. How privileged we are! There was the annual day conference of 'God's Glory Our Joy' in nearby Warrington for churches in the Lancashire Reformed Fellowship. It was on the theme of Cultural Christianity, both the opportunities it gives for the gospel and the dangers it poses. I much appreciate such topical subjects being dealt with. The first session helpfully looked at John 6:15 and Jesus' reaction to those who wanted to make him king. The background was of large marches where the slogan has been 'Christ is King'! Then there are 4 churches in the city of Liverpool and sometimes meetings are arranged under the banner of 'Listen Liverpool'. On October 31st. we heard about the life of William Tyndale, it being the 500th. anniversary of the first printing of a New Testament in English. We were made to feel our sense of privilege to have faithful translations in our own language, and to ask what we have done with this privilege.



I continue to be much involved with the charity TRAIN(Kenya) as we seek to help churches and brethren in Kenya. We now have a monthly Zoom prayer meeting. There are 7 of us trustees and we meet at least twice a year to discuss what we are doing in seeking to promote the gospel through financial support. We must meet in person at least once a year and have to find a convenient venue to where we can come from various parts of the country. The Lord has entrusted to us many resources and we thank Him for the unity we have.

My book on ‘Grace’ is going through the final stages of editing and hopefully will be published around the end of the year.

KENYA

(1) Pokot. The famine situation gets worse. With no harvest last season, nothing from the gardens is expected until September 2027 in the main growing areas where there is one crop a year. With little or no pasture the animals are weak at best and so little money is gained from selling. Many of the men have taken off to the gold mining area of Romos some 30 kms. north. Please pray for the church leaders that they may lead God’s people with godly attitudes of humble submission, faith and responsibility. As always such situations bring gospel opportunities. With many people flocking to Romos from even outside the country there are thoughts of starting Sunday meetings.

(2) Meru. There is an analogous situation with brother Geoffrey Muriuki who has been seeking to start a church at Githongo. As a government employed teacher he has been transferred to Kulamawe Secondary in Garba Tula sub-county. The journey back home to Githongo is long and he is trying to make it back to be with his family each weekend although there is no direct route. Because Kulamawe is among the Boran people, who are Muslim and much unreached, I have encouraged him to see this as a ministry opportunity for as long as he is there. [The photo is of Geoffrey with a brother in his 90s. who was part of the East African Revival of the 1940s and 50s.]



[A note about South Sudan. Many of you will know this was the place I was interested in serving when I became a Christian in the mid-1960s. In 2010 and 2012 I was able to visit the group of churches there that call themselves the Trinity Baptist Church of South Sudan. I have kept up contact with a few of the leaders. One of them is going through my book, Becoming a Christian, which I trust will be a great blessing to him. He reads a chapter and then answers questions I set. There is lot of the Christian religion in the country but I don’t think that the gospel of God’s grace in Christ is much known. In God’s providence he social media is such a blessing in bringing God’s word to people in all sorts of places.]

In Christ’s service

Keith & Priscilla

- kunderhill@digitalsavannah.co.uk
- priscilla.underhill@gmail.com
- +44 7842698151 (Keith)
- +44 7912079482 (Priscilla)

Other websites:
https://www.keithunderhill.com
TRAIN(Kenya)—https://www.trainkenya.com
Trinity Grace Church, Ramsbottom—
https://trinitygracechurch.net