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CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP® OF IRELAND

Newsletter

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Autumn 2009

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Momentum

Many young people today are taking a gap year – be it before they start university, or they have completed their degree and want to see the world before they commence employment, or they are already working and just want to take a year out.

In CEF® of Ireland we're offering a Gap Year Programme – we've called it "Momentum". We want to give young people the opportunity to serve the Lord among the boys and girls, both at home and abroad. We offer them a challenge – to move out of their comfort zone into a totally different climate and culture, to see what God can do through them in a different country. But going overseas is not for everyone – so there's plenty for them to do in good old Ireland. Why "Momentum"? Simply because we want young people who are already serving the Lord here at home to continue to do so, to keep the momentum going, but to stretch themselves and their faith at the same time. And then to keep on serving the Lord when their gap year is over.

CEF Headquarters in America run a Summer Missions programme and have sent young people to various countries of the world. Because these countries are accustomed to having English speaking young people, these are the countries we will offer initially, though as "Momentum" develops we hope to add more to the list. They include Australia, New Zealand, USA, Canada, Ghana, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Uganda, Zambia, Guyana, Barbados, Romania, Great Britain and Ireland. Obviously if a young person can speak another language, other countries open up to him. CEF works in over 159 countries around the world, so hopefully we should be able to work something out!

The young people are responsible for raising all the support necessary for their gap year – both prayer and financial. As part of their year we encourage them to take the Children's Ministry Leadership Course (CMLC) at Kilchzimmer, both for the training aspect and for the experience of living with those from different countries and cultures.

So far two young people have completed their gap year. Cathy McMath spent six months in New Zealand after CMLC, then finished her time in the Mourne area and is now in full time employment. Heather Meenagh worked in her local North West Ulster Area with Rona Taylor, and has been accepted as a Candidate with CEF and starts Bible College in September.

At present three young people are getting ready for the start of their gap year and the CMLC in the autumn – Ashley Stewart, Jayne Stewart and Alison McConnell. Ashley hopes to spend her time in Dublin and Romania, Jayne in Romania and Alison in Kenya. (At time of writing nothing has been finalised for Alison so please pray everything will be sorted in time

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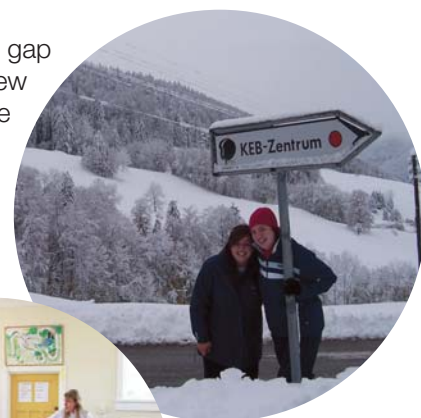
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Momentum contd.

for her going out in January.) Pray for these young people, that their gap year will be a time of challenge and blessing for them, and their faith in God will be strengthened as they rely on Him to help them.

“Momentum” is a work in progress, and it will be for a long time yet. Every young person is different, every country is different and matching the young person to each country is different. Not a lot can be set in stone! So pray that with each application we receive we will be able to meet as closely as possible the desires of the young people.

So if you're a young person and you're thinking about taking a year out, why not consider spending it with CEF? It doesn't matter what country they live in, children all over the world need to hear about the Lord Jesus and their need of Him.

Why not get involved in bringing the good news of the Gospel to them? Taking a gap year will stretch you. It will challenge you. But it will be worth it. Just go for it!

Angie McKee

New Challenges

Summer 2009 has been one filled with new challenges, mainly because it was my first summer as a full-time Youth Challenge worker. In July I led Armagh and Mourne Inters camp, where we had 55 young people of ages 11-15. I was surrounded by a super group of counsellors who proved to be a great help and support throughout the week. It was obvious that God was at work at the camp. Many young people came to us with deep spiritual questions which God had put on their heart. It's so encouraging to witness young people with a desire to learn more about our amazing God!

Earlier in July I was involved in teaching at the Junior Summer Outreach Training Course. One word which comes to mind is 'potential'! 21 young people, aged 14 and 15, took time out of their summer holidays to study and learn about how they can be used of God to reach children with the Gospel. This was my first time teaching at the course. It was nice to be at the other side of the desk!

At the beginning of the year Youth Challenge (YC) was approached by Ladywell Baptist Church in Livingston, Scotland to consider bringing a team of young people over to help with their children's ministry for a week in the summer. YC believe strongly in providing young people with opportunities to serve God and so we jumped at the chance. After a lot of planning and preparation I, along with a team of six young people,

headed off for Livingston on Sunday 2 August. Throughout the week we ran three 5-Day Clubs® in various housing estates and also a Holiday Bible Club in the church each afternoon.

Many of the children we reached each day were from a Roman Catholic background and had no knowledge of God's grace and love. Some of the children when asked if they knew what the Bible was or who God was, sadly answered 'No' to both! We saw a great need and are thankful that God chose to use us that week for His glory. We were taken out of our comfort zones on many occasions, but felt God's help and presence in a very real way. A huge thank-you must go to the team who volunteered their time and talents. Reports from the church were very positive and we are encouraged that interest is being shown for next year.

Marcus Somerville

We read in the book of Nehemiah that the people had a mind to work, when it came to rebuilding the walls. They were equipped for, and dedicated to the task. We are so thrilled to have Marcus Somerville and Chris McCune as part of the Youth Challenge team. They have been trained and equipped to work with young people and they are so dedicated in their ministry. They are currently engaged in deputation seeking to raise prayer and financial support, and we want to recommend both of these young men to you. Maybe you could support them or arrange a meeting for them to share about their ministry. Please do contact the National Office for more details, I know this would be a huge encouragement to both Chris and Marcus.

Philip Annett





A Fantastic Summer

Summer, a time when you relax, go on holiday, chill out, enjoy the sunshine... I wish! This summer for me was the

busiest I've ever had but probably the best summer I've had in years! "Why?" you ask. Well it's simple, this summer I've been involved in seven camps, six in Northern Ireland, one in Scotland and one Christian Youth in Action week in Armagh. It's been brilliant to spend time with many different young people, teach them from God's Word and see some of them get into their communities and tell the children about Jesus and what He has done for them!

The summer started with the Junior Summer Outreach Training Course where, among other things, we taught the young people how to teach a memory verse and how to do the quiz. It was cool to see these young people passionate about doing something for God in the summer! North East Ulster camp was followed by two inters camps, Mid Ulster and Mid Antrim where I was teaching lessons on the Tabernacle. God really spoke to the young people in both camps and it was a privilege to teach the young people from God's Word! Christian Youth in Action week in Armagh was a new experience as I was helping to lead the team this year along with Phil Annett. Watching the thirty young

people being passionate for the lost children was a massive challenge to me and my ministry.

Next up was a teens week with Davy Edwards in Ballycastle. It was great to teach these young people and help develop their understanding of God and the Bible and point them towards a great relationship with God. The Youth Challenge Scottish Camp and Teen Camp came next. God used the teaching, witness and friendship of the leaders to impact the young people and help them see that living for God is the best life!!

So all in all summer was fantastic! I had to rely on God for so many things - one of them staying awake all summer! As I have already said it was an honour and privilege to be so heavily involved this summer in teaching the young people the truth of the Gospel!

Chris McCune



A Multiplying Ministry

You have probably heard the saying, "Don't try to do the work of ten men – get ten men to do the work!" That is what we try to do in Youth Challenge. Even with five of us now in the Youth Challenge team we are still limited in how many young people we can reach directly with God's Word. We need to try to multiply our work. One way we can do that is through literature production.

Over the past few years we have been involved in a project headed by the team at Kilchzimmer to revise all our Junior Youth Challenge teaching manuals. We have worked closely with Gary Cousins and Brent Hautle to reproduce all five JYC manuals in an up-to-date format with completely new visuals. This has been a time consuming project,

but very worthwhile. Youth Challenge now has an excellent series of materials suitable for teaching God's Word to Junior Teens. The manuals have been translated into many European languages, and are being used to teach young people from Ireland to Russia! As well as providing a teaching syllabus for our own Junior Youth Challenge groups, the manuals are now also available for sale through the CEF shop, allowing church groups to access good Bible-based teaching materials for their young people.

Other literature projects have included revision of the teaching cycle used at CEF Inters Camps, and the updating of the "Ten Talks for Teens" publication. Work is ongoing on a second "Ten Talks" series, and we have plans for a series of Bible Studies aimed at the senior teens age group.

As Youth Challenge teaching materials are used far and wide, many more young people are hearing the good news of the Lord Jesus Christ and young Christians are being encouraged in their walk with Him. Please pray for the Lord's continued help in this vital aspect of Youth Challenge ministry.

David Crutchley



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Family News

Congratulations to David & Margaret Adamson and David & Rosemary Edwards who have recently become 'doting' grandparents! Pray that God will keep His hand on these new little lives and in His time bring them to Himself.

We praise God for the following new candidates and pray God's rich blessing upon them:

Heather Meenagh and Tanya Clarke have just started Bible College; Laurna Nolan is working (and also studying) in Dublin; Jennifer McNeill is due to begin her practical period in October; and Mark & Cathy Donnelly are studying at the Autumn CMLC in Kilchzimmer.

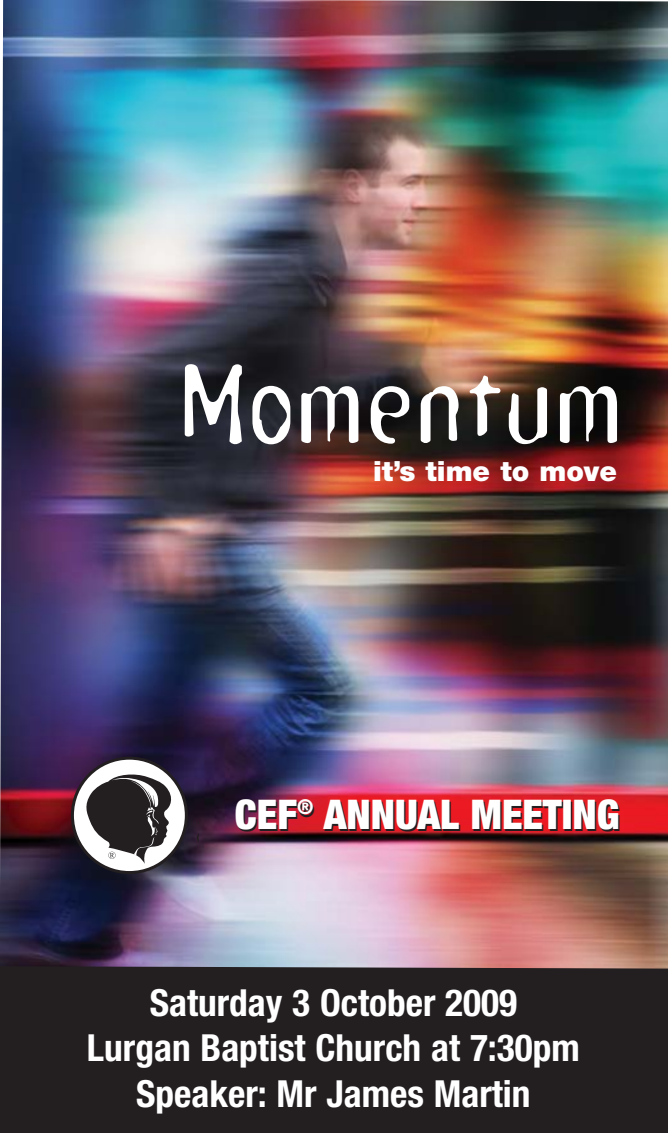
As we welcome new candidates we have also said good-bye to others: John & Joan Nixon have 'retired' after 40 years of ministry in Cork (although they will continue a tract ministry and assist the mission in other ways). Many workers and friends enjoyed a great evening of fellowship with John & Joan over a delicious meal back in June in the Dublin area. We wish them God's richest blessing as they adjust to a change of pace!



Johnston Conville also retired from the National Office. The office staff enjoyed a lovely meal and time of fellowship with Johnston and his wife Florence in the early part of June. We pray that God will richly bless them as they continue to serve Him in their local church and as they spend a bit more time with their grandchildren!

We offer our sincere sympathy to Joe Kennedy whose brother passed away recently, and pray that Joe and the family circle will know God's sustaining grace daily.

Congratulations to Adele (Beamish) and Matt Corke who 'tied the knot' on Monday 31 August. We wish them God's richest blessing as they return to Bible College to finish their studies and then seek God's will and direction for their future.



Momentum
it's time to move

CEF® ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday 3 October 2009
Lurgan Baptist Church at 7:30pm
Speaker: Mr James Martin

The poster features a blurred image of a person in motion against a colorful, abstract background. The text is overlaid on the image.

Thank you

Kenneth & Mary Martin and their daughter Judith wish to express their heartfelt gratitude to the Irish CEF family for their prayers, love and concern during their recent bereavement, the death of their beloved daughter and sister Jan. The cards, telephone calls, letters, visits to their home etc all proved a tremendous encouragement to them. Do continue to remember them in your prayers.

Autumn Week of Prayer

This will be held
Week beginning
Sunday 18 October (DV).

Please come and join us as we
intercede on behalf of the
children.

Further details of venues,
days and times will be available
from the local areas.

