Welcome to our E-Mail Newsletter!

We are delighted that more and more of you are opting to receive our newsletters by e-mail. This really does help to keep our printing and postages costs to a minimum. This E-Newsletter, sent out mid-year, is only sent by e-mail, which is why you may be receiving it even if you normally get a paper copy posted. If you would like to go ‘paperless’ for all future newsletters, just reply to this e-mail to let us know and we will update our records accordingly. However, if you would rather continue to receive our other two newsletters by post as usual that is fine.

If you do go for the e-mail option, please remember to update us if your e-mail address changes so that you don’t miss out on the latest news and information.

Thank you for all your support!

We are delighted to announce that a date has been arranged for our 3rd Charity Shop Fashion Show in Northern Ireland. The last two have been amazing – so don’t miss this one!

Save the date for now, and watch out for further details on the shop Facebook page nearer the time. [https://www.facebook.com/AACCharityShop](https://www.facebook.com/AACCharityShop)

Many thanks to sponsor and supporter Stephen Black for giving of his time and talents again to organise this event for us.
The Chixocol Programme in the Quiche Mountains of Guatemala was the site of our original Adopt-A-Child programme back in the early 1980s. All the meals for the 6 mountain programmes are prepared in the kitchens there. As well as the feeding centre itself, there are also rooms for the Bible classes and the ‘El Refugio’ youth group to meet and a medical clinic.

Over the last few months, two exciting new projects have been started on our ground adjacent to the programme buildings.

The first of these is an evangelism project utilising some rough ground next to the medical centre. The land has been ploughed up and, with the help of the leadership, some of the young people who attend El Refugio have cleaned the ground, sown corn and are now watering and tending the growing crop. Once harvested later in the year, the corn will be shared with the families of these young people and other needy families in the area.

Steve McDaniel, LWI Director in Guatemala, writes: “We are excited that we can take advantage of the resources that God has given us in this way, to give the young people work and help out needy families in the area”

Check out this facebook live post to see the start of the project: https://www.facebook.com/stevo.mcdaniel/videos/10211866791763153/

The second project is to directly bless the children of the area, who have little chance to just be ‘kids’, as many have to work or look after siblings from a very young age.

Steve McDaniel again:

“There remains one lone tree on the property in Chixocol and it is a beautiful one. I shared a devotional under that tree and shared the vision the Lord had given me for a playground. It seemed such a stretch at the time. Some doubted, as this equipment is so expensive. But God touched the heart of one man to provide the funds, as he ‘saw’ the vision as I had shared it.”

Last month, after the equipment was thoroughly ‘tested’ by big kids Steve and Martin, the playground opened to the children. I think their smiles say it all really!
The photograph above is of St. Paul’s Bridge, built by the Romans. Tradition says it was crossed by the Apostle Paul when he brought the gospel to Albania, then the Roman province of Illyricum. In Romans 15:19 Paul says “so that from Jerusalem and round about to Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.”

Our recent visit to Albania in April, which included not only myself but Buford Lipscomb (int. Director of LWI/AAC); Steve McDaniel (LWI/AAC Director of Guatemala) and Mark Stuckey (Chairman of the Albania Board of LWI/AAC), had as its aim the renewal of our gospel vision for that country as first envisaged by Ron & Pat Kelly in the mid 1990’s, when LWI/AAC opened its first programme in Albania. Our ministry in Albania has recently gone through a period of consolidation and the goal of this visit was to provide the Albanian team with support and encouragement, and for the whole Albania ministry to catch the vision anew for the way forward from this point. The core task of any Christian is, of course, to proclaim Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, and that remains the central plank of all that we do, and will continue to do, in Albania. In that respect the vision never changes.

The way forward involves reaching out with the gospel to new villages like Proptisht, which is close to St. Paul’s bridge. Our Albanian team have already been building relationships with some of the local people, and that good work seems to be bearing fruit and opening doors for the gospel. Likewise, opportunities for furthering the gospel in a large town near Pogradec, called Prrenjas, are being investigated, possibly in partnership with another ministry based in Pogradec……..Nehemiah Gateway.

A new Albanian Board of Directors has been appointed to oversee the work in Albania going forward. In addition to Mark Stuckey, the Chairman, other Board members include Pat Kelly, Malo Palla, Ilir Gora and myself. Please pray for wisdom and for the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit for this new Board as we seek to find the right strategies for advancing the gospel. Pray for cohesion and unity amongst the members of this new Board, and the Albanian team as a whole. Pray that the name of Jesus will be exalted in this gospel needy nation, to the Glory of God!

Scott Ballantíne
AAC Area Coordinator, Ireland
**Last Chance!**

There are still some spaces left on this year’s trips to visit the work of the ministry, the feeding programmes and your sponsored children in Guatemala and Albania. The dates are:

16th to 23rd August – Albania  
18th to 26th September – Guatemala  

Contact us on trips@lwintl.org for more information AS SOON AS POSSIBLE if you would like to consider going – you will be blessed!

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**Refuel 2017**

Join us at Refuel 2017, a brand new family friendly Christian festival taking place this summer at Gordon Castle Estate in Moray, Scotland from 23rd to 29th July. This festival replaces the former CLAN Gathering and promises to be a great week, with lots of inspirational speakers and worship leaders. We will have an Adopt-A-Child stand in the marketplace, so please do come along and say ‘Hello’ if you are attending during the week. For more information on the event and how you can be part of it, check out their website:

[www.refuelscotland.org.uk](http://www.refuelscotland.org.uk)

Look forward to seeing you there!