



New Year Update - January 2020

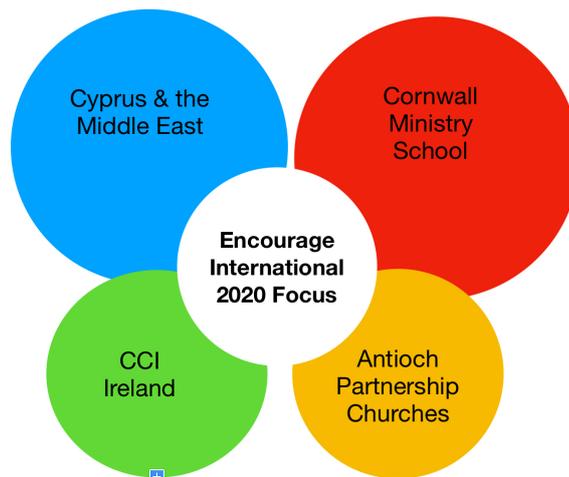
Dear Friend,

We are honoured and blessed to have you as one of our dear partners in the ongoing ministry of E.I. Your friendship, prayers, generosity and wisdom have been a constant source of strength to us. This past year has been an incredible year and we have seen the Lord's hand of favour in so many ways as we have sought to serve Him in bringing support and training to churches in many great places.



As we consider all that the Lord has laid before us in this season, our prayer is that God will first and foremost help us to keep ourselves spiritually fresh in Christ, that we might be a holy channel of His Spirit and Word and grant us the wisdom to use our time wisely for His kingdom and His purpose.

Encourage International: 2020 Focus

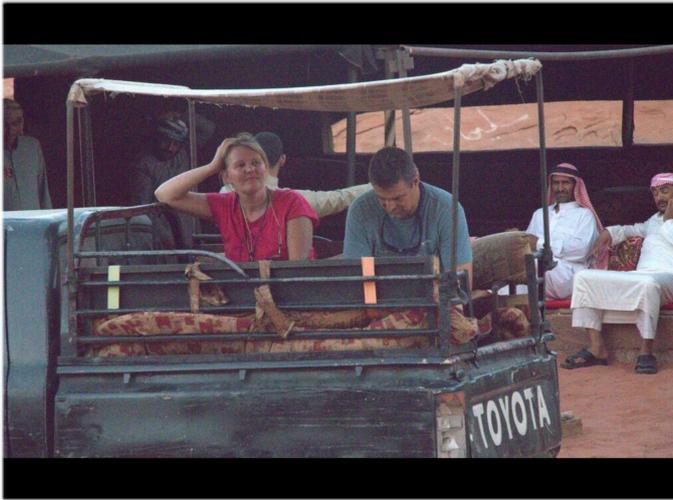


Winter Schedule: January - February 2020.
 Below are a few of our main dates and highlights for the next two months:

DATE	PLACE	EVENT	
3rd - 15th Jan	<i>Ministry in Paphos (Cyprus)</i>	<i>General ministry / Church Development</i> <i>Book & Audio Book</i>	K & M M
16th - 17th Jan	Liskeard - Cornwall (UK)	Planning Meetings / Preparation	K & M
18th Jan	Exeter - Devon (UK)	AOG South West Area Leaders Day	K & M
19th Jan	Redruth - Cornwall (UK)	Ministry / Preaching	K & M
20th - 22nd Jan	Andover - Hampshire (UK) Dorset (UK)	Military Chaplains Conference Website Development	K M
24th Jan	Ilkeston - Derbyshire (UK)	Lecturing @ Arena Church Ministry Academy	K
26th Jan	Rushden - Northamptonshire	Ministry / Preaching	K & M
27th Jan	Birmingham (UK)	Teaching / Leading AOG Central Training Day	K
29th - 30th Jan	Dublin (Ireland)	Lecturing @ CCI Leadership Academy	K
1st - 2nd Feb	Macclesfield - Cheshire (UK)	Teaching @ Church Development Wkend	K & M
3rd - 4th Feb	Cornwall (UK)	Teaching / Academy Development	K & M
5th - 6th Feb	Dublin (Ireland)	Lecturing @ CCI Leadership Academy	K
7th - 11th Feb	Cornwall (UK)	Teaching / Academy Development	K & M
12th - 13th Feb	Dublin (Ireland)	Lecturing @ CCI Leadership Academy	K
14th - 26th Feb	Cornwall (UK)	Teaching / Academy Development	K & M
27th Feb	Ilkeston - Derbyshire (UK)	Lecturing @ Arena Church Ministry Academy	K
28th Feb	<i>Paphos - (Cyprus)</i>	<i>Fly back to Paphos</i>	<i>K & M</i>

Cyprus & the Middle East

We are delighted to have seen God's hand of favour upon our beautiful church, PCFI over this past year. It's been great to see our new leadership team take shape and begin to flow in the unfolding vision of developing further as an international church of influence. Michelle and I are honoured to bring the senior oversight to the team at PCFI, but are now blessed to have Carol Skene as our new Congregational Minister to lead on a day to day basis. This allows Michelle and I to focus more on partnering with others in establishing a new 'ministry and mission training centre' for Cyprus and the wider Middle East region.



We are excited to be developing a strategic partnership with John Carlock and his AoG (USA) Middle East Missions Team in delivering leadership development to Arabic speaking leaders. We recently visited Bethlehem and Gaza with John, which was both an amazing but humbling experience, as we sought to bring much needed encouragement to leaders serving on the front line. We look forward to developing the ministry across the Middle East as this new decade unfolds and are marking this as one of our priority areas.

Cornwall Ministry Training Centre

In this past year we have been blessed to commence a great partnership with Greenbank Community Church in Cornwall (UK), following an invitation from the church to research into setting up a new training programme.

As a result the **'Influence School of Ministry and Mission'** will hopefully be launching in Spring 2020, which eventually will include a 12 month internship programme combining class room learning with practical hands on ministry experience. We are excited about this partnership with the county of Cornwall and are already building great relationships with amazing churches in the area. This ministry will be another of our priority areas for 2020 and we plan to spend some quality time down in Cornwall, not only developing the training strategy but seeking to be an encouragement to the great pastors we are partnering with.



Antioch Partnership Churches

Our Antioch churches, are the fellowships we have committed to serving with over a longer period of time. Whilst these each require different levels of input and varying time requirements, our heart is to seek to bring a consistent voice of encouragement, practical training, mentoring and vision planning into each leadership team and fellowship.

2020 will see us continue to build on the solid relationships we have formed over this past 12 months and continue to see the health and growth of each of these amazing churches. These include:

The Hope Centre - Dublin,
NTCC - Cyprus,
New Life Church - Coalville,
Kirkby Community Church - Kirkby
in Ashfield,
Calvary Church - Macclesfield.

We pray God's favour upon each of these great churches, and believe for amazing blessings as this new year unfolds. We thank each of them for their willingness to partner with us, we go to them to be a blessing but always come away with a blessing - praise Jesus.



CCI Ireland

One of the highlights of my year is the privilege of lecturing at the CCI Academy. Christian Churches Ireland (Formally AOG Ireland) are an incredible group of churches advancing the Kingdom of God right across their great nation. Over the past few years their national training academy has assisted in the development of whole host of a new generation of church leaders; each one passionate for Christ, hungry to grow and ready to live life as kingdom advancers. Headed up by Sean Mullarkey and Brian Somerville, both great and inspiring men of God, it is an honour to partner with them. These next two semesters will see me teach Hermeneutics (Jan / Feb) and then Paul's letter to the Romans (May). Excitingly this year also, through the wonders of technology, we will be teaching not only to the 'live class' in Dublin, but also simultaneously linking to three separate 'training hubs' across the country via an interactive live stream.



It was a good few years ago that the Lord began to speak to me about the nation of Ireland. Since that time the Lord has placed a passionate burden upon my heart for this land, a land steeped in so much Kingdom of God history. As this new decade unfolds we are excited and full of expectation of all that the Lord will do in local churches across Ireland and we are incredibly blessed to be able to play our part.



In
addition ...

Grace Publications

Michelle is in the process of completing her third book which she has also recorded as an Audiobook. *'Driven by the Wind - Led by the Spirit'* is a book of poetry and prose following the life of the Apostle Paul whilst inspiring readers with the sheer magnificence of God's sovereign plan for our lives.

In this unfolding year and into this new decade our vision is to see develop a whole range of written and multi-media resources available for our partner churches and leaders. Including more practical study books, video teachings and inspiring devotional helps. Please join us in prayer for this unfolding vision, especially on the technological side, as it's way out of our comfort zone!

New Website

A big thank you to A.J, a very kind and generous lady who is currently developing our brand new website. Watch this space as this unfolds, but AJ you are a blessing, thank you.

Assemblies of God Ministry Training

We love our AOG family and feel blessed to be part of such an inspiring and faith filled movement. For the past 14 years now I have had the joy of serving the AOG ministerial training team. It has has been a sheer delight and blessing to have been a part of the training journey of so many great leaders. As we commence 2020 I'm honoured currently to serve as the Central Area Training Leader, although with many vision inspired developments in the pipe line for AOG training across the country, I'm sure there will be some great changes afoot as the year unfolds.

We pray for all those currently involved in their training journey to become AOG ministers. We pray Gods grace and favour upon all they seek to do as they keep in that place of hunger to learn, grow and develop into the Christlike leaders Gods called them to be. Finally I give thanks for those who serve on the Central Area Training Team; Mark, Mike, Susan and Sian, whose commitment has been amazing.

United Board of Military Chaplaincy

Another exciting part of my commitment to our AOG family is the privilege of serving on the United Board of Military Chaplaincy. This is the board that oversees the selection and pastoral cover of Free Church chaplains serving in the British Forces. Having come from a Navy background, this is a world and culture I know well and feel at home in. There are some incredible military chaplains serving Jesus all over the world, often in difficult and demanding situations, we honour them and it is a privilege to continue to serve them and AOG in this way.

Prayer needs:

We are blessed to have so many committed prayer partners covering the ministry of Encourage International. Below are specific prayer requests as we enter this New Year:

Team: We Pray for wisdom and strategy in building the right extension team as the ministry continues to grow. We plan to put pen to paper in the early spring to articulate a few possible options for team growth.

Administration: It has been such a blessing to have AJ working on the Website, but this has highlighted even more the need to have a strong administration base.

Health: We pray that for both of us, that God would keep us strong, fit and healthy in this coming year. We specifically pray for Kevin's 'back' situation. Following an accident when he was 21, this has left Kevin with recurring back pain, we are trusting and pray for healing, especially in the midst of a busy schedule with lots of travel.

Home: The beautiful little apartment we rent in Derbyshire, has been our 'go to' home and retreat over the past seven years. Increasingly, we are spending less and less time there, with most of the UK ministry falling outside of Derbyshire. We continue to be blessed by Maggie our Landlord in Cyprus for the use of her apartment when we are there...this has been such a great blessing and one which we thank the Lord for. In addition to this, our prayer is that the Lord would open the door for some accommodation down in the Cornwall area where we could relocate our UK base to.

A Big Thank You to our Encourage International prayer team; Andy & Sarah, Alan & Andrea and Simon & Helen. Your prayers, your kindness and your wisdom have been so precious to us. Finally, to you all who so kindly and willingly journey with us ...we could not do this without you. We thank the Lord for each and everyone of you. We pray that this new year will be one of increase of anointing and grace in all you seek to do with our great Saviour. Please do get in touch if you have any questions.

With love, Kevin & Michelle

