

REPORT OF THE EVANGELISM COMMITTEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2007

It is evident that many in our congregations have a desire to see the Gospel of Christ Jesus changing the lives of those around them; but how do we reach those who are lost?

EVANGELIST

The committee has given much time in exploring the possibility of using the gifts of an Evangelist who would help to unlock the doors of opportunity that are in the areas surrounding our congregations. The committee has identified a number of very important issues that have a bearing on the person best suited for this position:-

- A person who understands and will be sympathetic to the values of the United Free Church.
- A person who would identify the gifts and opportunities within individual congregations.
- A person who would encourage individuals and congregations to reach out with the Gospel.

Such a person would not just be an Evangelist but also a teacher. In the light of this we are in joint discussions with the Christian Education Committee to explore the best way of both educating congregations of the need and also the possibilities of reaching the lost.

APPRENTICESHIPS

The committee also explored various 'Apprenticeship' Schemes. These are placements that allow for training within a congregation but also give time to learn the theology of Evangelism. These have proven to be of value in parts England and Wales. The Drumchapel congregation benefited from two young men on such a scheme working in the Living Room.

I.C.C. DISTANCE LEARNING

Distance learning requires discipline and one young man is plodding on with the International Christian College Evangelism Module. The committee still has two copies of the course and if anyone would like to do this Module please contact Church Office.

JOURNEYS AND STORIES

The committee participated in a research project conducted by [The London Institute for Contemporary Christianity](#). The question before them was 'How do people in Scotland come to faith today?' and 'Why would anybody become a Christian today?'

The committee asked Mr I. Shering to be the interviewer from the United Free Church. The team of interviewers met with 41 people who had come to faith in the past two years and were still continuing within the Church. The result of the research can be found in the book '*Journeys and Stories: Finding Faith in Scotland Today*'. The committee expresses its appreciation to Mr I. Shering for undertaking this work for us.

THE LIVING ROOM

Consideration was given to the ongoing work in the Living Room at Drumchapel and the committee provided funds for six months to employ Mr James Haram for two days a week. This assistance was very much appreciated by the Drumchapel Congregation. The

Congregation is encouraged by new premises which have been provided for the work to continue for a further year.

BOOKS

Last year various books were made available to Kirk Sessions to assist them within the area of Evangelism. The committee is encouraged by the positive feedback and we, along with the Christian Education Committee, would continue to encourage the reading of Christian books that would help us in Christian understanding development.

In the name of the Committee

ROBERT O OWENS	Convener
GRAHAM G BROWN	Vice Convener
JOHN O FULTON	Secretary