

Belfast City Mission ANNUAL REPORT 2019/2020



BELFAST



Greetings from the President



In 1st Chronicles we are reminded to give 'thanks to the Lord for he is good; His love endures forever'.

2019/2020 has undoubtedly been a very challenging year, not least because we have faced the unprecedented challenges presented by COVID19. Who would ever have imagined that we would be unable to meet together for worship? Who would have thought a day would ever come when society would have to close down? Yet despite all the trials and the hardships, the pain of loss that many families have endured, our God has been steadfast in His faithfulness, His mercy and His love. We in the Mission have much to be thankful for as we look back over the year. God has again blessed us spiritually as he answered our prayers, encouraged us in our faith and challenged us about our walk with him. He has blessed us financially as He has continued to meet our needs and He has blessed us with opportunities, opportunities to explain His Word as Missionaries have worked in their communities demonstrating compassion and love as they have shared the truth of the good news of the gospel.

I commend the staff of the Mission to you, ably lead by Bobi Brown, for their dedication and hard work often in the face of apathy and indifference. I pay tribute in particular to Billy McCullagh who retired from Island Street and Lloyd Watson who retired from Kilburn Street. Both men gave outstanding service and we are grateful to God for their commitment and loyalty to their Master and to the Mission. During the year we also commenced a process that will lead to the appointment of a replacement for Bobi who is due to retire shortly. More will be said about Bobi and the service he has given in due course.

If we look back with thankfulness then we look forward with expectation. 2020/21 will be a very different year. There will be many challenges as we continue to fight COVID19 and like Nehemiah we will face a massive rebuilding exercise but as we look to the future, let us remember those words from Philippians Ch4 v 6: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God". And as we do so, let us take confidence that

We have an anchor that keeps the soul.
Stedfast and sure while the billows roll,
Fastened to the Rock which cannot move,
Grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love

Ronnie Armour
President

MISSION HALL SUPERINTENDENTS

- Ronnie Armour Fairview Road
- Vacant Mountcollyer
- Vacant Sandy Row
- John Douglas Kilburn Street
- George Dunbar Island Street
- Vacant Canton Street
- Tommy Irwin Jersey Street
- Vacant Ballybeen
- Vacant Bloomfield Drive
- Vacant Kimberley Street
- Evan Rice Glencairn
- Vacant Rathcoole
- Roger Thompson Great Northern St
- Bobby Woods Shore Road
- Fred Teeney Mayo Street
- Vacant Ballysillan



*President
R Armour*



*Vice President and Treasurer
R Thompson*



*Honorary Secretary
Rev D Bannerman*



*Executive Secretary
B Brown*



Office Bearers

President:

Mr Ronnie Armour

Vice-President:

Mr Roger Thompson

Honorary Treasurer:

Mr Roger Thompson

Honorary Secretary:

Rev Denis Bannerman

Executive Secretary:

Mr Bobi Brown

GOVERNING BODY

The President, Vice President, Hon Treasurer, Hon Secretary, with the following:

Rev S Castles
Rev I Fleck
Rev D Johnston
Rev J M Maddock
Rev G F McKeown
Rev B McManus
Rev D Rankin
Rev A S Smyth
Rev B Smyth
Rev W M Smyth.
Rev B Stevenson
Mr G Dunbar
Mr J Douglas
Mr T Irwin
Mr N Jackson
Mr E Rice
Mr R McMenemy
Mr F Teeney
Mr R Woods



Honorary Secretary's Report

Rev D Bannerman

As I write this report based, as always, upon the work and experiences of our Missionaries throughout 2019, my mind lingers on a verse of scripture upon which I have given much thought recently. I have found words, written by the Apostle Paul, probably from Corinth, to be challenging; particularly for those who would profess to be followers of the Lord Jesus. In Romans 12:12 he writes: **Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant [faithful] in prayer.**



The context of the verse is in a passage where Paul reminds those to whom he writes, in the vast city of Rome – many of whom would have been recent converts - just what the marks and characteristics of a Christian are; and there is a whole list of them. Verse 12 struck me because while all the other characteristics that he lists are equally vital. Nevertheless, it struck me that the words ‘**rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer**’ seem particularly applicable not only to the age and situation in which Paul lived, but also to the age and situation in which we are living, and not least to the work and witness of the Belfast City Mission in 2019.

The Missionaries reports paint a graphic picture of what it is like to work and witness for God in the City of Belfast at the end of the second decade of the twenty-first century. The attributes required to shoulder this responsibility and carry on the work required could be described and illustrated through the words of that text of scripture.

REJOICE IN HOPE

The hope that Paul speaks about is not something that is of the nature of a dream that is mingled with uncertainty – something that might happen. Hope, in this context, refers to something that is sure and certain. It is the reality of salvation and the certainty of eternal life, obtained through saving faith in Jesus. In that certainty Christians are called to rejoice.

To the glory of God, there are those who are rejoicing today because in 2019, or over past years, they have found faith in Jesus – in many cases through the courageous and timely witness of our Missionaries. Some of our staff report on the many varied situations in which people have come to faith – some in hospitals or care homes, others in their own home or in the mission hall, and especially through special missions or outreach events. Those who have found faith in Jesus over this past year cover all ages, from children and young people to those on the edge of eternity. A Missionary tells of a young mother who died from cancer who came to trust in Jesus within weeks of her death and who witnessed to her family to the very end. Others have come to faith because a Missionary was in the right place at the right time. Here is one example recorded by a Missionary: I was requested to go and see a lady from the district who wasn't well.... I went to her home and she was in bed. I sat down beside her with her husband on the other side, we talked for a while then I got the opportunity to share the scriptures with her and I challenged her; and this lady put her faith in Jesus. I continued to visit the home

and got to know the husband better, sadly the lady died a while later but I still go and visit her husband. It is to the glory of God that there are those in the city of Belfast who, over this past year, have come to rejoice in hope because of contact with a Missionary – in the right place at God's appointed time!

PATIENT IN TRIBULATION

Of the many gifts and virtues required in a Missionary, patience is surely at or near the top of the list. Ministering anywhere today is more difficult than at any other time in history. Working the streets of Belfast as a City Missionary is particularly challenging. Let me give some examples.

A number of Missionaries report that there are homes these days where the first thing you see when approaching a door is a sign that says no cold callers! That effectively stops a missionary in his tracks so far as making new contacts is concerned. If a missionary does succeed in addressing someone who opens the door he is often confronted with the remark I don't want anything to do with religion! Apathy and indifference are widespread in 2019 and many missionaries refer to it in their submissions. A member of staff speaks of being asked to conduct a funeral of a lady who died within six weeks of being diagnosed with lung cancer and the family requested that it not be religious and that there be no preaching!

Most members of staff report falling numbers at meetings and in Sunday Schools as families are finding other ways to spend the Lord's day which doesn't include religion. Some once loyal attenders are becoming restricted by reduced mobility due to advancing years. Of course churches are having a similar experience. A Missionary reports that even a soccer school, arranged at an Irish League ground, had to be cancelled as only two or three turned up. A number of others highlight a shortage of helpers to run youth organisations, making life difficult if any fall sick. Even the clear nights are an increasing problem as children prefer to play outdoors instead of attending activities in the mission hall. In addition, those willing workers who have shouldered responsibilities in the work, maybe for the best part of a lifetime, are less able now due to advancing years and health limitations. Sadly, there are few coming forward to replace them.

Other problems being faced increasingly by our staff are substance related – drug and alcohol dependency are on the increase and is causing carnage in many lives and families in many parts of our city. A Missionary speaks of meeting a man whom he had known since school days, who had been a capable footballer and a good tradesman, whose body is now severely damaged by years of alcohol and drug dependency. Another Missionary recalls the heartache of conducting the funeral of a young man who once attended the youth organisations in his hall but who suffered an early death due to drug abuse. Addiction to gambling is a longstanding problem which is still destroying lives and breaking families. A conversation with a young girl who shared her hurt that her parents had broken up and her father has a new partner with a new child. Another young girl cannot have a relationship with her grandparents because her mother and grandmother are estranged. These situations, into which our Missionaries try to bring something of a loving Saviour, illustrate the kind of pressures that they face on a regular, if not a daily, basis. Door to door visiting is more often frustrating than exhilarating – promises made are more often broken than kept; yet missionaries continue to knock the doors and offer the Good News where permitted to do so – they are PATIENT IN TRIBULATION!

CONSTANT IN PRAYER

There is much good work being done across our city. Mission staff are innovative and creative in the methods they employ in order to reach people of all ages with the gospel. In a couple of areas the teaching of English to foreign nationals is usefully employed – as is providing facilities and activities for people who, in recent years, have made Belfast their home. Funding has been obtained for a part-time language tutor and translator who is invaluable in assisting with contacts with statutory agencies.

Children are being reached through homework clubs, often staffed by retired teachers who are Christians and who volunteer their time to help children who struggle with the pressures of school work. Some of our staff are fortunate to have the voluntary service of Christian students from QUB and Stranmillis, and in one case, Victoria College, who help with Good News Clubs and Children's Clubs. This help is invaluable, especially where local expertise is thin on the ground and is greatly appreciated by those Missionaries fortunate enough to have secured such help.

Practical assistance is greatly valued. A number of Missionaries have expressed appreciation for items of furniture kindly donated by church members in PCI congregations throughout the country. Missionaries speak highly of the links they are able to maintain with the congregations from which they themselves come and from those contacted through deputation and pulpit supply opportunities. One Missionary, with links to a hostel for the homeless, has been able to provide some essential items of furnishings for individuals who have been successful in obtaining permanent housing. One hostel wrote to the Mission, and the local Church, commending them for the practical assistance provided during the year which had contributed significantly to the rehabilitative work of the hostel. One congregation's ladies provided personal hygiene kits for all those in the hostel at Christmas. Gestures of this nature are a great help to Missionaries and are also a great encouragement to them as well.

The most valuable activity, in which Missionaries and those who support them both in the halls and throughout the country, is prayer. Committed Christians in the halls realise the importance of prayer and all who are able, engage in it regularly; but even more valuable is the fellowship that the Mission shares with believers in congregations of PCI, and others, throughout the country. Missionaries are strengthened and encouraged when they know that they are being prayed for, even by people they have never met and probably never will meet this side of heaven. To know that Christian students in QUB, Stranmillis, Victoria College, and probably other similar institutions, are praying for the Mission is a tremendous encouragement to Mission staff. To learn that in Church prayer meetings in many PCI congregations the work of the Mission is brought before the Lord regularly, is heart-warming and spirit strengthening. The Belfast City Mission is grateful for it all! The Apostle Paul had it absolutely spot on when he encouraged believers in his day to - **REJOICE IN HOPE, be PATIENT IN TRIBULATION and continue FAITHFUL IN PRAYER!**

Rev Denis Bannerman
(Hon. Secretary)

Office Staff/Retired Missionaries



Angela Magill



Martha Brown



Bobi Brown
Secretary



George Ferguson
Retired



Sam Morrow
Retired



Jim Lawther
Retired



Eddie Kelso
Retired



Harry Creighton
Retired



Ernie Shooter
Retired

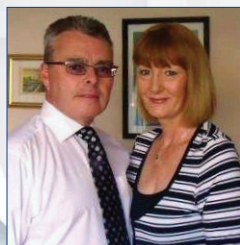


Roy Graham
Retired

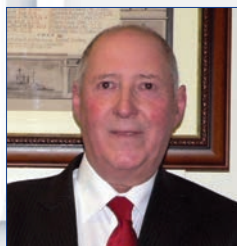


Arthur McClland
Retired

Missionaries and Wives



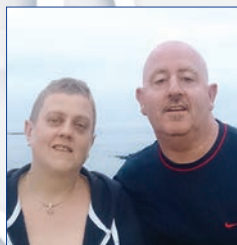
Executive Secretary
Bobi and Martha Brown
Commenced Service
Dec 1985



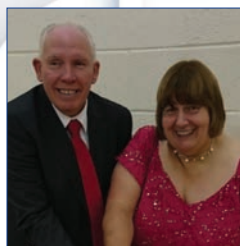
Bloomfield Drive
Tom Marshall
Commenced Service
May 1993



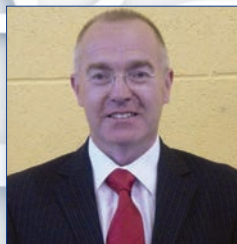
Kilburn Street
Lloyd and Carol Watson
Commenced Service
Jan 1985



Kimberley Street
Willie and Beverley Cowan
Commenced Service
Nov 1999



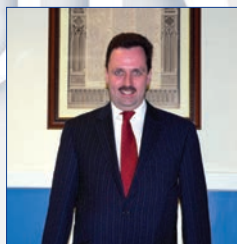
Glencairn
George and Cassie Lunn
Commenced Service
Nov 1986



Island Street
Billy McCullagh
Commenced Service
April 2000



Jersey Street
Tom and Deborah Gamble
Commenced Service
Jan 1988



Canton Street
Michael Waddell
Commenced Service
Jan 2005

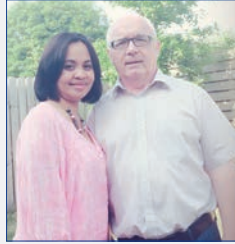


Fairview Road
Alan and Grace Martin
Commenced Service
Sept 2005

Missionaries and Wives



Great Northern Street
Ivan and Belle Patterson
Commenced Service
Sept 2005



Mountcollyer
Walter and Jenny Simms
Commenced Service
March 2010



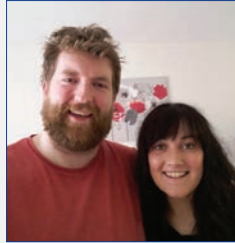
Kimberley Street
Stanley and Ella Kyle
Commenced Service
Sept 2009



Shore Road
Gary and Sharon Bingham
Commenced Service
Oct 2010



Ballybeen
David and Janice Bisset
Commenced Service
Jan 2010



Rathcoole
Jordan and Elaine Neill
Commenced July 2015



Ballysillan
Andy and Iris Williamson
Commenced Service
July 2015



Sandy Row
Willie and Aurea Logan
Commenced service
Feb 2010



Mayo Street
Paul and Lorraine McCaw
Commenced Service
July 2015

New Executive Secretary Appointed

Just after I received the news of my appointment as the new Executive Secretary of the Belfast City Mission I reflected on the familiar words from Jeremiah 29:11, 'For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end'.

As I look back over my life to this point, it's truly amazing to see how God has directed my path down through the years.

I was born in Ballymena but grew up in Randalstown where I still live. My background is in finance and for a number of years I worked for Barclays Bank in London before returning home to continue the same career.

However in 2002 my life changed forever. Under the faithful preaching of the Rev Robin Brown, I was once again exposed to the wonderful message of the gospel. The words of John 3:16, which I had learnt as a five-year-old boy in Clonkeen Gospel Hall suddenly became very real.

After returning home from attending church one Sunday evening in early September, I accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as my own personal Lord and Saviour.

From that moment onwards, the Lord placed a strong desire within my heart to serve Him. I wanted to tell others about this gracious gift of salvation. Following my training in Bible College I spent some time working with London City Mission before returning back home to commence my work with Belfast City Mission.

About 18 months previous to starting my work with BCM I had spoken to Mr George Ferguson one evening after he had concluded a mission in Randalstown. I will never forget what he said to me that evening, "You are in the right job but the wrong city". How true Mr Ferguson's words proved to be because very soon after that, I took up the role of Missionary in the Sandy Row district of Belfast, a position I held for ten years. To be given the opportunity to help lead and guide the Mission through these difficult days in which we live is both a great honour and privilege. However with privilege comes great responsibility. The work of the Mission is the Lord's work and as such we depend on His guidance but we also depend upon the prayers and support of other Christians.

I would therefore ask you to continue to pray for myself and the rest of the staff as we embrace the future with great expectancy and hope. Just as the Lord doesn't change neither does His work in the city of Belfast. "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. (Mark 16:15)



William Logan

Secretary's Swan Song

It was 1956 when I was first introduced to Belfast City Mission as a child of 3 years of age. My family lived in Templemore Street which ran parallel with Lord Street where there was a Mission Hall and Mr James Leetch was the Missionary. I attended Sunday School, children's meetings and Junior Christian Endeavor in the hall and also the Boys Brigade into my mid- teens in 1st Ballymacarret Presbyterian Church which the hall was connected to. I commenced work in August 1969 in Mackies



textile company as an apprentice fitter and sadly my life took a downward turn for the next 9 years as I lived life far from what I had been taught at Sunday School and Church. I left Mackies in 1974 due to the downturn in the textile industry and I was fortunate to get a job in Short Brothers as an aircraft fitter. In the providence of God, the Lord put in my path a straightforward talker regarding the Gospel. His name was Ronnie McCullough and he invited some friends and I to a Gospel Mission in his church in December 1978. The preacher was a Mr Harry Andrews and after the service in Ronnie's home the Lord opened my heart to believe the Gospel and put my faith and trust in him. I started attending Lord Street Mission Hall after all those years of sinfulness and selfishness. In the hall there was a young Missionary called Tom McLaughlin who greatly encouraged my wife and I in the things of God from his Word. After some years I got involved in the work of the Sunday school, children's meetings, junior C.E and youth fellowship and I continued to grow in grace and in the knowledge of God. Working alongside the Missionary and the other workers in the hall for 7 years and gaining valuable experience, I felt the clear call of God from his word to go full time into God's work and through the help of the Missionary I had a chat with the then Secretary of the Mission, Billy Cooke. I was interviewed, spoke on trial in the old Island Street hall and then appointed as Missionary in the vacant Kimberley Street Hall in South Belfast in December 1985. I served in Kimberley Street for 7 years then transferred to Canton St in east Belfast and worked there for 11 years before being appointed as assistant Secretary of the Mission under the leadership of George Ferguson. George retired at the age of 65 and I was interviewed and appointed Executive Secretary on 1st June 2008. As I look back over my life and see the hand of God upon me, from a child in Lord Street City Mission Hall to this day as I retire as Secretary of this great old Mission, I am still dumbstruck of what the Lord has done for me. The Belfast City Mission was in the D.N.A. of my Grandparents, my Godly Mother and certainly in me and will be until I die. It has been a great privilege and a total honour for me to serve the King of Kings through the vital and indispensable work of Belfast.

I want to thank the Board and Staff and all of our supporters in the halls who work tirelessly and voluntarily for the Lord and for those across the country who pray and donate to our work but most of all I want to praise Almighty God for his patience, grace, faithfulness and favour down through the years. God bless you all.

Bobi Brown

RETIREMENTS

Over the past twelve months three members of our staff have retired. Between them they clocked up an incredible 90 years faithful service to BCM.



Mr. Bobi Brown

Bobi's 35-year service with the mission began back in December 1985. After serving for a number of years as a missionary in several halls, Bobi took up the position of Assistant Secretary to Mr. George Ferguson before becoming Executive Secretary himself in 2008. In July this year Bobi retired from his work with BCM. We thank God for Bobi's long service to the mission. Along with his wife Martha, who continues to work in our office, we wish both of them God's richest blessings in the days that lie ahead.

Mr Lloyd Watson

It would be safe to say that when you mention BCM in a church or mission hall somewhere across the Province, someone will always ask about Lloyd Watson, such is his popularity. Having spent a period of time with the Faith Mission, Lloyd began his service with BCM in January 1985. He worked in Jersey Street hall for 25 years before moving to Kilburn Street. In December 2019 Lloyd retired after 35 years serving as a missionary. We would like to thank Lloyd and his wife Carol for their faithful ministry over those years and trust they will continue to know God's blessings in the days ahead.



Mr. Billy McCullagh

Billy commenced his 20 year service with BCM back in April 2000. Along with the help of his late wife Elizabeth he faithfully served in the Island Street district for his entire time with BCM. Billy was known for his personal approach to the work and was highly respected by the people in the district. He built up good relationships in the area and was welcomed into many homes. Sadly, the past few years have been difficult for Billy with a decline in his health and in September 2019 Billy decided to retire from the work on health grounds. We wish to acknowledge Billy's contribution to the work of the Mission and wish him a happy retirement.



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2020

Every year we usually insert an article in our report reminding churches and individuals about our upcoming Christmas Appeal. Unfortunately because of the current restrictions placed upon us, this year's appeal will be different.

We have decided that for this year only, we are not accepting any toys as gifts. Instead we have compiled a list of alternative gifts which we believe are easier and safer to handle.

As always our Missionaries will be available to come and speak at churches and to collect these gifts if required. The dates are Sunday 6th & 13th December. Churches can also leave their gifts at our Glencairn Mission Hall on Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th December and the following week on Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th December between 10am -12:30pm.

I trust you will understand the reasoning behind this decision. Hopefully we will be able to get back to our normal collection of toys next year.

May I wish everyone a very happy and blessed Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Gift suggestions (unwrapped please)

- Selection Boxes
- Tins of sweets (Roses, Quality Street, Haribo etc.)
- Boxes of biscuits.
- Monetary gifts
- Gift Cards (£5, 10, 15, 20)
- Supermarket vouchers
- Toy stores (Smyths)
- Groceries (non-perishable)



STAFF NEWS

During the past twelve months there have been a number of changes amongst our staff.

Mr David Bell moved from his position in the mission office to take up the role of Missionary in Kilburn Street in January 2020.

After serving for almost six years in Ballybeen Mr David Bissett moved to Island Street in January 2020.

Mr William Logan moved from being Missionary in the Sandy Row district to take up the role of Executive Secretary in July 2020.

We wish all three men God's richest blessings in their new positions.

OBITUARIES

Rev David Johnston

It is with regret that we formally announce the passing of our highly esteemed Board Member, Rev David Johnston on 4th September 2020. David joined the Mission staff on 1st May 1955 and served in the Old Lodge Road district before resigning in September 1957 to train for the ministry with PCI. He continued to maintain a strong link with our work, serving on the Governing Board for over forty years. His wisdom, discernment and dedication were very much appreciated by all who had the privilege of working alongside him. We continue to remember David's wife Carol, daughters Claire and Jane and the wider family circle.

Mr. Norman Jackson

Mr. Jackson was called home on 8th July of this year. He served as a Superintendent in our Ballybeen hall over many years and was also a regular attender in Island Street. Norman was known for his honesty and integrity and was respected for having forthright views. He was very dedicated to everything that he got involved in and always was willing to help, very often going the extra mile. He will be missed by all the staff in the Mission and the people from the halls that he was closely connected to. To Norman's wife, Constance; daughter, Barbara; sons Alan and Adrian, and the wider family circle we continue to remember them in prayer.

FINANCIAL REPORT 2019/2020

Normally on this page the Honorary Treasurer's report would appear showing the financial position of the Mission. Unfortunately, the accounts were not received back from the auditors in time to be included. It is hoped that the figures will be included in our Exchange Magazine which will be posted out before the end of the year.

Like all charities the Belfast City Mission has been hit hard by the effects of COVID19. With the halls remaining shut from March until the beginning of August and churches also closed, donations were very low for this period. Although this isn't reflected in the accounts for 2019/20 it is important to highlight this as we move forward.

As always, we are truly thankful for the financial giving of churches, mission halls and individuals over the past year. Your giving ensures that the Mission is adequately resourced, allowing missionaries to go into the highways and byways of Belfast with the life transforming message of the gospel.

Ways to support BCM.

- Regular prayer support
- Inviting a Missionary to speak at your church about their work.
- Leaving a Legacy to the Belfast City Mission
- By Gift Aiding your donation
- Regular giving by standing order
- One off gift.

If are interested in supporting the work of Belfast City Mission and need further details please contact our office staff who will be glad to assist you. All our donations are used solely for the furtherance of the Gospel in the Belfast area.

He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. (2nd Corinthians 9 verse 6)



This year 2020 marks the 193rd Anniversary of the formation of the Belfast Town Mission to reach the people of Belfast with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In 193 years, Belfast has seen many changes and has been through many experiences.

For example in 1829 a railway was built to Lisburn; in 1842 Belfast is made a borough; in 1843 the Queens Bridge is constructed; 1844 St Malachy's Church is built; in 1859 Christian Revival breaks out; the Harland and Wolff shipyard opened 1862; 1869 the Albert Memorial Clock is built. In 1888 Belfast is made a city; in 1890 Belfast Public Library is opened; in 1895 the Grand Opera House is built.

In 1901 Belfast has a population of 349000. In 1904 electric trams replace the horse drawn ones; in 1906 Belfast City Hall; the Titanic is launched in Belfast in 1911; 1941 saw the Belfast Blitz; 1965 Kings Hall Conference Centre is built; in 1966 the Queen Elizabeth 11 Bridge is built.

Then in 1969 "The Troubles" begin; Castle Court opens in 1990; in 1997 the Waterfront Hall opens; in 1998 the Belfast Peace agreement is signed; in 2000 the Odyssey Arena opens and in 2008 Victoria Square opens. The Titanic visitor centre opens in 2012 on the centenary of the sinking of the ship.

In September 2014 former First Minister Ian Paisley dies aged 88. On 23rd June 2016 the UK votes to leave the EU, with 42% of voters from N Ireland voting to leave. The term Brexit takes hold.

In March 2017 former Deputy First Minister Martin McGuinness dies after a short illness. DUP and Sinn Fein hit a political impasse and NI Assembly shuts down. Then on 11th January 2020 MLA's return to Stormont. DUP's Arlene Foster and Sinn Fein's Michelle O'Neill are reinstated as First and Deputy First Minister. 31st January 2020 sees NI officially leave EU.

Yes there have been many changes over the year, yet we serve a God who never changes. We trust in Christ who is "The same yesterday, today and forever". We still believe in a Bible that is Immutable, Inerrant, Infallible and Indestructible and that the Word of God we preach as a staff is an unchanging gospel and an unchangeable gospel and that whoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

*Unchanging God, who livest enthroned in realms on high,
to men the power thou givest, thy name to magnify.
We raise the bells for ringing with ready mind and will,
and come before thee, bringing our hearts, our strength, our skill.*



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