



## Recently, our ordinand, Karen Wheatley, visited Lille (home of mission partners CENTRE DE LA RÉCONCILIATION)

Lille is a large multicultural city in the very north of France, close to the Belgian border. It was here, just a 1 hour 20-minute train ride from London, that I spent a week in August. Lille's *Église La Réconciliation (Baptiste)*, pastored by Christian de la Roque, has a significant social justice ministry with young under-age migrants. St Paul's Church began to build links with them back in 2017. They are hugely grateful for the financial and prayer support that we have given them over the years. Many of the young people arrive with no papers and are therefore not taken in by the French authorities unless they are either clearly children or clearly adults. Those in the 13-17 age-bracket can sometimes fall through the net and this is where the work of the *Centre de la Réconciliation*, comes into its own. The young people are supported in lodgings and given education and advocacy services to obtain the necessary paperwork for France.



I took the opportunity while in Lille to visit the *Centre de la Réconciliation's Maison Esther*, which is a hostel lodging around a dozen young people, mostly of sub-Saharan African origin, who would otherwise find themselves undefended on the streets. *Maison Esther* is an old farmhouse, undergoing major renovations to upgrade it to modern standards. All the while the boys are living there. They have been helping with the renovations during the

summer holidays, learning new skills. I took the opportunity on my visit to do a few hours gardening, clearing away a hedge that was blocking access to a door.

But aside from the work with the refugees, I was mainly in the city to engage in a mission with the local Churches Together. It was all based around offering the citizens *Barbecues Géants* (Giant Barbecues) for 4 days. Well established for more than 20 years, this annual event makes the most of the long-lunch culture of the French people to reach citizens for Christ. Whilst there would be few restrictions to this in the UK, in France the culture is spiritually quite different. There is a strong philosophy that public life remains secular, with religion reserved purely for the private life.



This understanding of *laïcité* (secularity) impacts on schooling, workplace dress codes, the way churches are allowed to operate and how public spaces and buildings are used. Having built up trust with the local *Mairie* (Town Hall), our group had obtained all the permissions necessary to allow



a singing group on the street, people to approach and invite passers-by to the BBQ and then to offer to speak about Christ with them as they sat and ate their free BBQ lunch in a fenced-off area. KW





**St Paul's World Church Team invite you**  
**to Relax & Enjoy!**  
**Music Evening**  
**Sat 18<sup>th</sup> November**  
**Doors open 7 pm**  
**Our talented St Paul's**  
**musicians will**  
**entertain us all and**  
**there will even be**  
**a fun mini quiz!**  
**Nibbles & soft drinks**  
**provided.**  
**£10 per head, in aid of**  
**Great Lakes Outreach**  
**Burundi &**  
**Casa Cruzeiro Brazil**  
**Booking Essential**

More details in next month's Updates and Horizons and sign up soon via the church's Friday Email.  
Put it in your diary now!

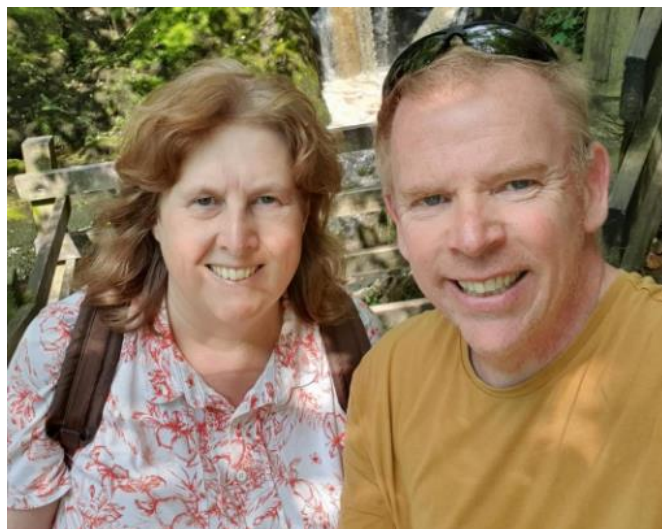




**Update from our Mission Partners, Jenny and Stuart.** After 15 years working in Argentina, Stuart and Jenny and their boys, Daniel and Matthew, returned to UK in 2012. Here they moved into international roles. Stuart has trained as a counsellor and has a private practice and well as serving in pastoral care roles with mission workers sent from the UK and Latin America

Dear St Paul's family,

We are writing on Day 4 of our 10 days of Prayer and Fasting at Gold Hill Baptist Church at Chalfont St Peter, and already there is a sense of change and expectation amongst us as we intentionally come together to seek God and wait to listen to what God wants to say to us as a community of believers. The 10 days meetings are part of 387 other physical gatherings registered across 68 countries. The 10 days virtual (on zoom) has over 300 registered with prayer leaders representing 30+ nations, with 120 hours out of the 240 hours with children leading the prayers.



We are also very encouraged to have had time last week to share with Rev'd Alex and learn more about how God is leading St Paul's into "new things" and ways that we haven't travelled before. God is clearly encouraging His church to make disciples that multiply across our communities and to take us out of our comfort zones to use the gifts He has given us to share the love of Jesus with our neighbours.

Jenny is getting ready for the long-awaited *Ethne Global Gathering\** to be held in November. They last met in December 2018. This meeting will be equipping and envisioning local pastors, mission leaders and partners to support and implement disciple making principles amongst the remaining peoples and places around the world who still don't know who Jesus is. Jenny will be leading the prayer teams (onsite and virtual) together with the local national prayer network that has hundreds of prayer groups and towers of prayer for the nations. (Let Jenny know if you would like to join the virtual prayer team\*).

Stuart had a busy August attending an International Conference, where he was helping coordinate sessions on staff care and wellbeing. He was part of a team coordinating a group of 80 psychologists, counsellors and pastoral coaches. It was a joy to see some workers' families receive care from a multidisciplinary team of counsellors and psychologists. Stuart is now involved in working through the outcomes of various meetings. He is also returning to his private counselling practice as well as being involved in supporting Latin Americans and others who are involved in some of the most challenging parts of the world.

Thank you for your continued interest and support as we work to further God's Kingdom around the world amongst people who have limited or no access to know about Jesus. /...

Please pray for:



- 1) Preparations for the worship and prayer groups before Ethne 23. Pray for the logistics of a multi-cultural and multilingual team to come together and lead in the plenary times and nights of prayer and worship.
- 2) The delegates who attend Ethne 23 to take away concrete steps to implement and facilitate church planting and disciple making amongst the least reached people groups.
- 3) Our son Matthew who has just finished University (Film Production) and is going to Australia to further his studies.
- 4) Follow up work for Stuart after the international conference as well as meetings to set goals and budgets for 2024.

Blessings

Stuart and Jenny

\*Note from WCT, please get in touch with [Worldchurch@stPaulsdorking.org.uk](mailto:Worldchurch@stPaulsdorking.org.uk) if you want more details



### **Prayer Reminder**

North Africa has experienced two horrendous disasters in the last few weeks: a huge 6.8 magnitude earthquake, which struck the Atlas Mountains and Marrakech in Morocco on 8 September, and catastrophic floods in Libya,

following Storm Daniel, hitting north-eastern Libya on 10 September, causing strong winds and sudden rainfall, resulting in devastating flash floods. Please pray for those bereaved, the many thousands made homeless, and all those involved with rescue attempts and helping with rebuilding.



## KUKI-ZO CHRISTIANS NEED HELP!

SINCE MAY 3RD, 2023, THE INDIAN STATE OF MANIPUR HAS BEEN EMBROILED IN AN UNPRECEDENTED WAVE OF ETHNIC VIOLENCE. THIS TURMOIL HAS RESULTED IN LOSS OF LIFE AND INJURIES AMONG INNOCENT INDIVIDUALS, LEADING TO THE DISPLACEMENT OF THOUSANDS, WITH A PARTICULAR IMPACT ON THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY.



BANK ACCOUNT NAME: UK ZOFATE  
SORT CODE: 30-98-97, ACCOUNT NUMBER: 80793368  
BANK: LLOYDS BANK. PLEASE USE REFERENCE -"MANIPUR"

UNAU WELFARE UK: KAILEAN /07747551651/KAILENH72@GMAIL.COM

## 359 CHURCHES VANDALISED & BURNT OVER 6,600 HOUSES BURNT

### MANIPUR IS BURNING



## OVER 700 INJURED OVER 140 DEATH

## OVER 41,420 DISPLACED

THE UNAU WELFARE UK, REPRESENTING THE KUKI-ZO CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY OF MANIPUR, IS ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN FUNDRAISING ENDEAVORS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE VICTIMS IN MANIPUR.

**WOULD YOU CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION TO AID THE VICTIMS?**

### STOP PRESS

This ethnic violence in Manipur, north east India, has only just been brought to our attention. Karen Wheatley was at a study weekend with Kailean Khonsai who was until September 2022, reserve manager of Wolf Fields, an urban nature reserve at Southhall, owned by A Rocha. We have had several visits to Wolf Fields – a truly amazing multi cultural and yet Christian area abounding with wild life. Kailean is now an Ordinand on the same course as Karen.

His homeland of Manipur has suffered devastating violence against the local Christians, with many killed, homes and churches burnt to the ground and thousands displaced. Kailean's wife's parents have escaped to the UK, but his own family is scattered.

He gave Karen the poster (left) to pass on to St Paul's family. While of course he is raising funds for humanitarian aid, what he has specifically asked for is prayer.

For information about any of the above, please contact **St Paul's World Church Team**: Carlton Beasley, Annabel Blanch, Sally Hulbert, Jonathan Papworth and Elizabeth Shaw [worldchurch@stpaulsdorking.org.uk](mailto:worldchurch@stpaulsdorking.org.uk)  
More information about our Mission Partners: [Dave Bookless A Rocha](#), [Centre de la Réconciliation - Lille](#); [New Hope Children's Centre - Kenya](#); [Jenny and Stuart O](#); [Oasis, Mumbai - India](#); [Open Doors - Syria](#); [Penny and Juan Carlos Marcés - Peru](#) those