

NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2022

In light of the past few years, I think now is a good time for us to lift our eyes above the daily grind and to revisit the basics of what a church is and does. This is why BFM is airing more encouraging teaching ministries over the coming months in support of the local church and leadership.

It is essential for local believers to gather together as God designed humans with a need for Him. He designed us with a need for each other; meaning corporate worship lifts us to the peak of all blessings in this life. There's nothing like Gods people assembling together in worship to seek Gods face. Together His presence deepens, our joy increases, our burdens lighten, and our convictions strengthen us.

Yet while gathering together is essential it isn't sufficient; God's people must gather together for God's purpose and in God's way. His Word clearly teaches that church must be His. Acts 2:42-43

'All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer. A deep sense of awe came over them all'.

Without a clear vision grounded in this passage and others like it, a local church risks straying from its divine calling and forfeiting its very identity. Glad times, sad times - the circumstances don't matter.

Thankfully however our Lord will always honour and bless any local congregation that faithfully gives itself to the Bible's directives. For that reason, it's vital for you the listeners of BFM personally to have a crystal-clear vision of God's plan for the church.

We simply want to strengthen Jesus' local assemblies by strengthening His followers and at BFM we are trying to accomplish this purpose by modelling biblical preaching, teaching what to look for in church leaders and supporting our local pastors.

Sponsored Walk 2022

On Saturday 7th May in lovely sunshine a posse of 9 set off from the Littleborough area to do the annual sponsored walk. We were blessed by good walking weather and had a good time of fellowship as well as exercise after completing the 18km hike. It was good to take in God's beautiful creation across the wild moors, green pastures and woodland and thank Him for allowing us the opportunity to enjoy and appreciate it. We hit

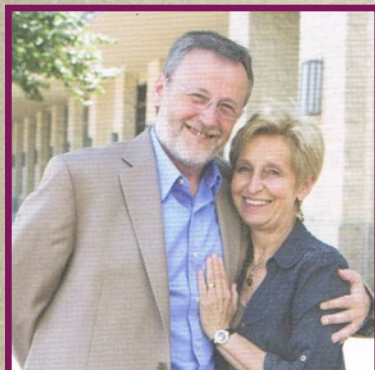
our target of raising £1500 (£1750 so far) and thank everyone who donated towards this and blessed the station with finances and prayer.



Support for the Ukraine

For some time now, we have had the opportunity to air Insight for Living daily broadcasts in both Polish and Romanian languages at 11pm and 11:30pm Monday to Friday. This has been possible through Pastors Zygmunt Karel and Ben Mogos allowing the opportunity for our Polish and Romanian community to hear the Word of God in their own language.

Considering what continues to happen in the Ukraine and the impact upon the surrounding area, this is a very much needed ministry to encourage all the people who are suffering or affected by it, not only in that area but all around the world.



Zygmunt Karel, pastor of IFLM Poland, and his wife, Maria

“We are supporting their ministries where possible through prayer”

We are supporting their ministries where possible through prayer and by receiving regular updates to broadcast on the current

situation and developments as they tirelessly work to care for the needs of the refugees that continue to pour into their towns and cities.

Partnerships with churches and on the ground aid organisations have proven critical. The UK Office along with the USA Office continue to allocate funds to their Polish and Romanian teams to help ease the

physical suffering and offer spiritual comfort in the love and power of Christ our Lord.

If you know of anyone from these countries, please direct them to Branch FM and encourage them to tune in to the weekday broadcasts so they can be blessed by the Word of God in their own language.



Ben Mogos, pastor of IFLM Romania, and his wife, Anda, executive director of IFLM Romania

Branch Christian School: Convention Work

BCS is our local Christian School based at Dewsbury Gospel Church in Dewsbury and each year students attend their Christian Schools Convention which is a gathering of all Christian Schools from all around the UK and Europe who compete against each other in various competitions.

Before summer a group of students from the Branch School with the assistance of BFM staff worked on the production of a radio show that they were going to enter at the summer schools convention. When

they attended the convention the show was well received and ministered to everyone that heard it and was a real credit to the students involved.

This has given them the ‘hands on’ opportunity to work within the studio of a radio station but also experience God’s Ministry in action daily through what happens at BFM. We shall be praying for them when they attend the convention in July and that God will have His hand on their work and minister to everyone through it.

Featured Interview

Wendy Duckworth part 2

Q. Would you share some of the other ministry work that you have done in the past or are doing now?

I am always busy about the Lords work as a local preacher. I speak at least once every Sunday at different Churches. I also take special church meetings as and when required, as well as ladies meetings, midweek meetings, weddings, funerals and christenings. I run a house group and we have two meetings a week, one is an in depth bible study the other a prayer meeting. We have an ongoing prayer group and pray for people all over the world. I run a Bible Teaching Conference at Grange over Sands once a year for a week. I raise funding for a ministry in the Philippines I speak to various groups about their ministry and am very involved with them and have been for 15 years. I am also a speaker for Release International, up until recently I edited their women's magazine. I help the new volunteers to settle in and help at conventions. I am part of the prayer group for the Eternal Wall Project, also involved with a group of people praying for Mongolia once a week.

I do voluntary work for the NHS I am the Chair for the Patients Participation Group as such I have to attend lots of meetings and pass the information on to my surgery and the group. I also run a knitting group for patients in my surgery, as well as a 'Carers Count' meeting on a regular basis. I help out at the Branch Christian School twice a week and have set up a new library system at the school. I have been known to help out at a Christian charity shop whilst the management are on holiday or otherwise indisposed.

Q. Any funny moments at Branch FM or in your other ministry work that you could share?

There are so very many 'Funny Moments' in my life that I find it almost impossible to say one is funnier than

another. As a true Yorkshire person I always find any situation funny and tend to laugh at adversity. There are so many funny moments at Branch FM, often the bell rings downstairs and Barnabas has to run down to open the door leaving me to man the station. I try to continue as though nothing is happening and when he appears again we both look at each other and laugh as he's often breathless and that will no doubt sound strange to the listeners.

One of the churches I speak at has no running water and only a chemical toilet, it is way up in the hills above Haworth. I am often asked to take Saturday neet [night] meetings but expected to produce a hot supper with a team of willing people to help, as well as the pianist [my long suffering husband]. Next door to the Chapel is a row of houses and if the owner of the first house has been happy with my previous sermons he will attach a hose pipe to a pipe coming out of the kitchen window which then attaches to a tap over the sink in the so called kitchen. An old boiler is filled up with the water, put on to boil before the meeting starts to make the tea and for the washing up and it gaily fills the chapel with steam throughout the meeting. In fact a member of the congregation once came up the stairs into the pulpit to tell me 'Do you know the Chapel's on fire?' when in fact it was just steam!! However, if the next door neighbour doesn't like my sermon he will not attach the water supply. That means water has to be carried from the well 500 yards down the road. There are no street lights only the moon to guide you and on one such night after taking a meeting the water ran out.

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GOOD NEWS

We have just received another 5 year extension to our licence. This is a great blessing and will allow us to continue to broadcast the Gospel until at least 2027.

PRAISE THE LORD!

Featured Interview - Wendy Duckworth cont ...

It was well after 11pm and the hose pipe had been turned off as he hadn't liked my sermon content. There would be no reasoning with him so I sent one of the trusty helpers to the well. He hadn't been asked to go before so it was his first time. He was gone for at least 15 minutes and when he came thundering in bucket in hand, he went downstairs and poured the contents into the boiler to warm. When I opened the lid to take a look to check if it was ever going to boil all I could see was dirt, grass, slugs and spiders. Needless to say he was never allowed to go to the well again!!

Then there was the day the Pianist disappeared in the middle of a hymn, all went quiet as I looked over from the pulpit and there he was sprawled out on the floor being attended to by an elderly lady. The termites had eaten their way through the piano stool leg which fell off depositing my long suffering husband on the knee of the elderly lady. Who was so shocked she fell off of the pew and landed on top of him. It was a wonder she didn't have a heart attack!!!

BranchFM
RADIO FOR LIFE 101.8FM



Once again many thanks for your continued stance with us in faith on this mission along with your prayers and financial support.

Lives are being changed and the 'darkness' driven back each and everyday with God's Word broadcast through the airwaves, locally, nationally and worldwide, hallelujah praise the Lord.

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