

The Gambia Partnership

Supporting Gospel work in the Gambia

2024 Winter Update

A recent committee trip to The Gambia had the focus of exploring new opportunities for partnership working. The Charity's present focus is on supporting, encouraging and equipping Christian families and ministries. Through working with our local partners, we facilitate the spreading of the gospel through a proactive approach to evangelism, emphasizing the engagement of local contacts to widen impact. Key engagements for our local committee have included the distribution of Bibles, gospel tracts, audio bibles in the local dialects and building relationships.

Recently, we had ended our long-time financial support of Faith School in Kabekel and had agreed that our focus would be on supporting Christians with the aim of equipping and encouraging them to enable them to be a light in their own community. Over the summer we had a volunteer spend 3 months in The Gambia breaking ground in new geographical areas for the charity, we are very thankful for the time, effort and energy of Daniel Moore.

Our committee which represents our interests in the Gambia is called the Grace Charity. They are made up of Christians based in The Gambia who work with us to progress the charity's principle aims.

At Kerawan, we visited the Amos family, the only Christians in a Muslim village, facing considerable opposition. They started a school for nursery children after being sold a piece of land by a sympathetic neighbour who recognized the good work they were doing, despite pressure from other Muslims in the community. WE aim to meet their immediate housing needs and propose to build them a house at a cost of £1,500.

They also have a very effective media ministry which utilises social media to reach Muslims with the gospel. Stephanie from our committee has been involved in acting in some of their work and they showed us evidence of muslims requesting more materials, this is something we plan to support with further media equipment.

Binet, who lives in Memmeh recently lost her husband who had been working as a welder, and in the evenings, he was building their family home. Binet is a believer with 6 kids, we hope to assist in building her a home.

We visited schools, churches and individual compounds listening to stories of how God is at work, with Muslims coming to faith, mass baptisms being planned and details of how people are living out God's command in Matthew 37-40; "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Loce your neighbour as yourself",

One school we were introduced to was Amazing Grace, a lower and upper Basic School, who have nearly 400 kids, 21 teachers and undertake a lot of mission work in the remote parts as far away as Senegal, whereas most ministers shy away from going to the provinces. Pastor Moses and his wife, Margaret, are very mission minded. Moses is a landscaper and gardener works very hard as well as pastoring the local dialect Wolof church, which he's established. We encouraged them to work with us in partnership, to assist them in their work.

At Kunkujang we visited the Royal Seed Ministries, a young church in a predominantly Catholic area. The leaders are in their 30s and are Catholic converts. They currently meet under a mango tree on the prayer meeting day, and also on Sunday. They're building a church at present, every month they add a little with their own funds themselves and have a monthly vigil prayer. They started a school as a day care as an outreach and as a building block for the school. They have had a lot of opposition, people are waiting for them to fail and have expected that they wouldn't have got as far so as yet, however, they continue to work well and are seeing people coming to faith. Papis is the pastor, evangelism, they say, is the heartbeat of God, and they aspire to raise men for God. They have 25 children, coming regularly to their services, and their focus is on training and discipleship and running programs in the community to reach other people. We look forward to working with them,



We visited some poor compounds and are looking at opportunities to assist in developing income streams and educational longevity.

In Kubuneh village we visited Sally who has made a success of her baking business and is keen to expand, She is teaching apprentices and we will do what we can to assist her. We're also looking to support families who are oyster fishing by providing kayaks so they can go further and safer into the mangrove.

Whilst in Kubuneh, Pastor Faboreh brought us to the church and showed us where they wanted to lay water pipes from the bore hole to benefit the community so that the church could be more of a light in supporting the wider community.

We visited a Christian orphanage in a village called Siffoe with Stephanie from our committee, run by Ebrima and his wife. Ebrima was in the military but was discharged for sharing the gospel. As their family grew, they took in a boy who had been orphaned, they then became known as a place where people in need could go. Now they have 37 children living with them and they live by faith. They have built a church at the side of the house, it is clear they are very gospel orientated in what they do. They have some support but could do with more. They also take in adults who have nowhere to go and have recently taken in a lady who was at death's door, by prayer she is now recovering and people are so surprised, they are coming from the community to visit and see her. Fellowship is compulsory for all, they have a mix of Muslims and Christians living with them. Ebrima and his wife are enthusiastic infectious characters, they do an amazing work, we left £300 with them to assist with their short-term needs.



We are currently considering assisting with a further room to the side of the house to provide a kitchen and a dining space which they do not presently have, there's also a young girl known as 'Joof' who is very bright and a big sister to many of the younger girls, she will need support to go to college or university, this should be considered.

We handed out loom bands to kids as we went, these had been made by a primary school girl in Stornoway Primary and it was a nice tangible link, providing the pictures of the Gambian children gleefully receiving these.

We visited Brikama and the committee assessed what evangelism items were available to them for distribution to Christian families and fellowships to share the gospel. These items have been sent in pallets in recent days from Scotland and area as follows; 443 Audio Bibles in various dialects, various mobile phones to assist communications, lots of theology books, projectors to assist in showing evangelisation materials, many boxes of tracts, bibles and books all for distribution and to build up the believers and reach the Muslims.



Our committee suggested we look at running some courses for people in the community on how to save money, he is involved with a financial institution. In addition, we discussed running enterprise courses and business start up courses to encourage and equip people to support themselves.

The Kabekel Friday night bible study continues and is great to see the people coming and learning God's word.

Please keep the work in prayer!