

*The McPikes to*  
**SCOTLAND**

AND THE UNITED KINGDOM

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January was our first full month working on our own here at West Hill Baptist Chapel in Brighton. Already we have grown to love the people so much! The small congregation here are lovely people who have a real burden to see the Lord work in their church and their city. We are praying that we will be as much a blessing to them as they are to us during our time here.

As was mentioned in our last letter, we (and the church as well) are particularly burdened for the children and young people of Brighton. The Sunday School has dwindled, and there had been no children in attendance for some time. We praise the Lord that in January we had our first Sunday School, with Eliza plus one other child! We have had children every week since then in varying numbers. We are encouraged to see the young people who used to attend slowly coming back!

We have also been encouraged by our Friday youth rallies, which are also slowly growing. Some of the teens who attend grew up in the Sunday School here, but have yet to put their faith in Christ. Please pray with us for their salvation!

We have also been thrilled to see the adults in the church get involved in ministry. Some come to the Sunday School and participate with the children, which is encouraging to them and to us! Additionally, some of the young men in the church have expressed interest in serving, and have gone out on door to door visits with Chris.

This Sunday as we began Sunday School, a young man slipped in the back who we had never met before. He stayed the entire time through a lesson that “just happened” to be about Creation and evidence for a Creator. Chris was able to speak with him afterward. He is a university student, and has a roommate who is a believer and has been witnessing to him. He wanted to learn more, so as he was walking past the church he decided to come in and listen. After hearing the lesson, as well as the history of the song “I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”, he asked Chris, “What do you have to do to follow Jesus?” Please pray that the seeds that have been planted in his heart would take root, that he would keep his promise to return to church, and that he would make the decision to follow Jesus!

Each year, the Crown Christian Heritage Trust hosts a Winter Retreat at a Christian conference center in Wales. Almost like camp for adults, the 5-day retreat is a wonderful time to come away from distractions, hear from the Lord, and fellowship with other believers. The theme this year was “What a Friend We Have in Jesus.” We were encouraged all week by messages on this topic, particularly from our theme passage in Matthew 11: “Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest...” How good God is to take our burdens! We were challenged to get in the yoke with Christ and learn of Him! Even the fellowship after the meetings was edifying, and many came away with a new or renewed desire to follow Christ. Please pray that the effects of the Winter Retreat would be long-lasting, and that we would continue to see fruit from it!

**Praises**

- Growth in the youth rally & Sunay School
- Our church family’s burden and desire to serve
- An encouraging Winter Retreat

**Prayer Requests**

- An open door into Scotland
- Continued growth at WHBC
- Salvation of the young man who visited Sunday School

