

I didn't know it was a place! Isn't that a dog?

Julia Reeves has been teaching in Chihuahua, Mexico, with New Tribes Mission. Here she looks back at her first year, and forward to a second year that started at the beginning of August.

Julia works at Colegio Binimea, a school of 15 staff and 48 students. The parents of many students are missionaries to previously unreached people groups. She describes the school as a Christian community where the students are nurtured in their faith.

Julia teaches English, Music and Drama. One of the things she particularly values about her time there is getting alongside, and praying with the children. (Julia thinks being a young teacher is a significant advantage!) Please pray she will be a godly example. During her first year she has needed to become familiar with the American syllabus of the school. (Did any one hear a touch of an American accent when she visited?!), She even produced the musical Mary Poppins -something that allowed non-academic children a chance to shine. The school has made a link with the outreach to tribes through collecting and sending packs of school equipment such as paper and pencils to help the tribal children with their school work.

Outreach to the tribes is at an exciting stage. A translation of the New Testament into the Tepehuan tribal language is nearing completion. "By this time next year I might hold one in my hand", Julia says. Meanwhile the mission team has started a Spanish-speaking church using translators whilst they learn the language. Please join Julia in praying for successful printing and distribution of the Tepehuan New Testament.

In her second year Julia is keen to spread her wings and get involved with the Christian community outside the school. She has been moved by the large number of orphans in the city and is planning to give some of her time to helping in a local orphanage. A project called 'Familia LightShine' (which Julia has named 'Orphaned to Adopted') offers hope for some of these children by encouraging Christian families to foster and give children a loving home, where they grow up learning about Jesus.

Julia is thankful for the provision of an apartment on the school compound -her own space to retreat to after busy days. Chihuahua is a big city and it is not advisable for a single woman to leave the compound alone. Julia has prayed about making contacts beyond the school gates and persevered in membership of a local Spanish-speaking church - not easy given language difficulties. She has recently started helping in the church creche.

There have also been challenges. One is living in a foreign country a long way from home. Another is the loss of freedom because of safety concerns; she's very thankful for staff members that include her in their trips out for groceries and exercise. Being in a school community doesn't mean there aren't lonely moments - leaving parents, family and friends isn't easy. It's great that some have managed to visit her in Mexico.

Please pray for Julia as she returns for her second year at Colegio Binimea. She needs to stay strong physically, emotionally and spiritually to play her part.

PS. (from Julia): if you're a teacher and think you could spend time working at Julia's school she'd love to hear from you. Her love for where God's put her is likely to be infectious!

Along with praying for Julia please be praying for Paul Hunter as he awaits his work permit coming through so that he can return to Mpanda in Tanzania to finish off some work there, hand over projects and say goodbye properly.

SEND Task Team

Our resident 8:30am organist, Frank Ellison, is retiring from playing the organ at BCP as from 7th October. We would like to express our gratitude to Frank for all the years of service he has given so if you would like to contribute towards a retirement present please let the Church Office know.

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Worry, Worry, Worry

I've been chatting in recent times with a number of people at our church who struggle with doubt, worry and anxiety. Here is a short snapshot and a way forward. (Don't worry, names have been changed!!) - Tracy worries about the kids all day long as they are at school. Tony never seems to put the issue of his finances down. Sasha fears that she will never get married. Betty dreads the pains of getting old. Al constantly worries about what the people around him are thinking about him. Victor worries he won't make the team. Stacey is never free from worry about her weight. Susie has spent many sleepless nights worrying about her relationship with Dylan. Janine admits that she is a bit of a germophobe! Terry avoids big crowds, but he doesn't want anyone to know. Leah is afraid that God doesn't love her, but she rarely speaks about it. Wayne knows he spends too much time worrying about losing his job, but he can't seem to keep his mind from going there.

What about you? How much does anxiety shape what you do and don't do? Anxiety and doubt renders us timid, passive, and paralysed even though the Bible tells us we have every reason to be courageous, active, and confident.

Defeating worry is not about simply hoping tomorrow will be better. No, defeating worry is about being a good soldier in the deeper war for the heart. It is about fighting the temptation to attach the peace of our heart to things that are temporary and not designed to give us lasting peace (see Matt 6.19). It's about daily grasping the promises of our heavenly Father, and giving the love and concern of our heart to King Jesus. The kingdom of self will never give us rest because it does not have the capacity to satisfy the cravings of our heart (see John 4.1-26). Only Jesus can. Jesus is always with us and battles for us by His grace. Take some time this week to pray for yourself and others at church that we all may rest confident and assured in Christ. Go well in His amazing grace, David Gibb

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own. (Matt 6:33-34)



The **DISCOVER Evenings** run over 3-weeks (Wednesday 17th, 24th & 31st October 8- 9.15 pm) and is an introduction to St Andrew's Church. We'll discover the history, vision, beliefs of St Andrew's and, most importantly, how you can get involved and make St Andrew's your spiritual home. Each week there will be a different emphasis on what we'll be discovering. On the first night we'll **DISCOVER a bit about us** - understanding St Andrew's mission, vision, purpose, and basic beliefs of the church. On the second night we'll **DISCOVER a bit about God** - understanding how we can know God and he can remain central to our life all our days. On the final night we'll **DISCOVER a bit about**

You - understanding how God has gifted each one of us, given us talents, and how you might be able to feel you belong and can contribute, as well as receive. willingness to serve, and responsibilities of membership – every member involved in an appropriate ministry. The DISCOVER Evenings are led by our Vicar, David, and his wife Claire in their home. If you are new to St Andrew's, thinking about joining, or even if you've been here for years you will find the DISCOVER excellent! There are no costs involved and no expectation that you have to join our church afterwards. If you'd like to come along or have any questions please email vicar-pa@standrewsleyland.org.uk

Equipped & Growth Groups

Equipped

We've started a new group this term to help train up new Growth Group leaders, called 'Equipped'. This fortnightly meeting seeks to equip people who might be willing to serve as Growth Group leaders. We're thinking together about how we can lead effective Bible studies, ensure loving pastoral care takes place, and how we can help our Growth Groups to thrive. Talk to Duncan if you want to know more!

Growth Groups

Our Growth Groups have restarted for the autumn term. We're looking at the first four chapters of John's Gospel in our groups, which our morning services will be looking at from mid October onwards. John writes at the end of his gospel: "Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." (John 20:30-31). We're praying that as we dig deep into John's gospel we would believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing have life in his name. We want our Growth Groups to be places where we not only study the Bible, but are also supported in living for Jesus. If you're interested in joining a Growth Group, please talk to Duncan.