



# Flame Trust

- education
- supporting disadvantaged people and the voiceless
- local and worldwide community involvement
- mentoring and social development in a variety of cultures and situations
- tours and events bringing insight and challenge to audiences in the UK and overseas

## NEWS & PRAYER UPDATE May 2022

*Dear Prayer Partner*

**For anyone involved in ministry, relevance and ability to address the times in which we live is critical, if we are to avoid the risk of being 'drowned out' by the doubts, fears, confusion and disillusionment that abound.**

Glib clichés and even resorting to well known Scriptures will fall on deaf ears unless we take steps to show that the walk of faith is seen to be practical and relevant, and that God's truth makes sense in uncertain times.

It has been some while since I have sensed the proliferation of unease that is apparent in our society today. Not helped by areas of poor leadership – and that is not intended to be a political statement – but certainly inclusive of disappointment with Whitehall at a number of levels, it is evident that questions are being asked of many, and no answers are forthcoming.

The war in Ukraine, the rising cost of living, the plight of refugees, and many other mitigating circumstances have created an air of uncertainty which in turn has fuelled a distrust in authority and a cynical disregard for anyone whose words don't match their walk.

In my 52 years of ministry, working with various organisations and associations, I have seen God at work in many difficult situations. In the slums of India, in the Aids hospices in South Africa, in the care facilities for abandoned children in Thailand, in the orphanages of Romania, not to mention the challenges here in the UK, God works His purpose out through those who are committed to calling on His strength for when the going gets tough.

And when the mist of mystery descends, when questions don't

seem to generate answers...or when, as a former colleague, Ron Dunn once commented...'when Heaven is silent', you hold on tight for what is often the white knuckle ride of faith and trust. May that be an encouragement to you at this time.

So what's happening in and around Flame? Let me give you an overview:

## ACADEMY DEVELOPMENT

My involvement with the Academy in Langley continues and the Q3 family has just formally merged with the Mercian Trust, a wider association of Academies that embraces the same Christian ethos. I am very content with this development.



I do remember the early days when I was privileged to be the lead person for the Academy initiative but spurred on by so many of you in the Flame family who gave prayer cover for every step of the way, and I am pleased that it has grown and been a means of adding so much to the lives of countless numbers of staff and students. The journey continues.

## CHAPLAINCY MINISTRY

A few days ago, I attended a meeting which was convened to bring together all of our volunteer chaplains who are working with the student community.

Recognising the uncertain times in which we live, my introductory comments in this letter were apparent as we shared together, but there was an air of expectation and even excitement with what is being achieved.

**Gerry Denston continues to represent our commitment to this work, and we are currently planning another 6th form conference for the Summer, based on the theme of climate change.**

Another exciting development has been the alliance between a local church community and a challenged group of students who have been 'embraced' and given provision for the adjusted system of teaching and learning.

**Visit [www.flametrust.org](http://www.flametrust.org)  
for the latest news, event  
information and details on how to  
make a donation online**

## A SECOND PLAYGROUND IN ROMANIA

Many of you gave amazing support for the building of a playground in the town of Sighet, Northern Romania, at a facility that looks after children with profound physical and learning disabilities.



Calin Rezmuves, my practical assistant here at Flame, pioneered this development and it was wonderfully achieved – on budget and with appropriate facilities for the children (*pictured above*). It was so successful that it was covered on Romanian T.V.

**Consequently, several Flame prayer partners encouraged us to think about a second project and we have therefore agreed to address the needs of a kindergarten in a small village near Bacau. Calin will be working on this project and recently visited the town and met the Director of the Kindergarten.**

Habitat for Humanity has worked in the area, helping to meet the needs of a very deprived community and so we shall be



*Calin, (pictured far left), discusses the project with Gianni Sichin, Kindergarten Manager and Andrei Chirila, Habitat for Humanity Manager in Bacau*

working alongside their involvement, building a recreational playground for 128 children....all from 'challenged' backgrounds and many with disabilities.

The school has systematically been excluded from investment by the local municipality over many years, and the building itself is very old. It used to enjoy a playground facility but this was dismantled as it was considered to be very unsafe for the children to use. There is a piece of land, adjacent to the school, which provides the space for recreation and external therapy, so we are just on the cusp of beginning to design what can be accomplished. Our budget is £15,000.

**If you are able to help and donate a gift for this initiative, then your kindness will be deeply appreciated. (You will**



The piece of land which will be the site of the new playground

**find the full detail in the brochure that comes with this Newsletter together with detail as to how you can make a difference).**

**FLAME FAMILY DAY:  
OCTOBER 15TH 2022**

Many of the Flame Family have asked if we could meet together in the not too distant future, particularly as the annual Flame Holiday Conference – Time Out – drew stumps in October of last year.



We have therefore decided to arrange a 'Flame Family Day' to be held on **Saturday October 15th 2022, here in the West Midlands.** It will be based at Kingsway Church

in Wombourne – just halfway between Dudley and Wolverhampton, and will comprise a day of fellowship, news reports, worship and updates on all that is happening in and around Flame.

Wombourne is very accessible, and we are also researching overnight accommodation in local hotels, with the invitation to join Kingsway for the morning worship service on October 16th.

John Price (right), well known to many of our prayer partners, will speak at the Family day



event, and he is the Senior Pastor at Kingsway.

We would commence with coffee mid morning, lunch would also be available and we would look to conclude in the early evening for those who wanted to travel back home on that same day.

**DO PLAN TO GET THIS DATE INTO YOUR DIARY AS IT WOULD BE GREAT TO RENEW FELLOWSHIP, AND ALSO MEET THOSE WHO WERE NEVER ABLE TO COME TO 'TIME OUT'.**

### **FLAME SPRING BREAK 2023**

Our early Spring Break this year found us in Madeira, with 47 people (see picture below). A glorious time indeed where we enjoyed great hospitality at the Vidamar complex. We were blessed with good worship and teaching and we also appreciated the work of a young local pastor in his ministry with children.



We are currently working on plans for 2023 ... probably mid April and post Easter, with the possibility of a visit to Malta or Majorca.

**Watch this space ... or rather the website ... for further detail, but do tick the box on the attached Response Form if you want to be kept in touch as plans emerge and develop.**

### **BREAKING NEWS!**

At the request of several of our partners and friends, we are planning to take a party to Israel in November 2023. It has been 10 years since our last visit. If you would like to register your interest, please contact Jackie by email – [jackie@flametrust.org](mailto:jackie@flametrust.org) – or by phone on 01384 232786, or tick the box on the attached Response Form, and we will send you further details.

### **PERSONAL JOTINGS**

I am increasingly appreciative of my Prayer Partners, and it is always good to hear from you.

I continue to be helped and assisted by 'Team Flame' –Jackie, Calin, Jen, Clare, Gerry and Stewart . Not all 'full time', but all associated in different capacities enabling us to fulfil our calling.

Many of you are very generous in your support ... and I think it is true to say that there are those of you who have stood with me for the past 52 years. Thank you so much, and in this particular season, it has been such a blessing and encouragement to know that you have been alongside all that we have been commissioned to do.

Inevitably, there has been challenge. My health has been excellent – most of the time – and of late, I have been appreciative of the input of the NHS in helping me to understand that our bodies are not designed to keep on going without due care and attention! However, I'm currently doing well with the discipline prescribed by the medics and the prayer fuel from many of you....not to mention other means of encouragement.

I am attempting to be more 'measured' in what I take on in terms of responsibility and workload, and I am now more effective in planning 'downtime' than ever before.

I am increasingly being called upon to have input into other ministries and share with those who are wanting to be involved in service. I love doing that of course, as well as responding to speaking opportunity as and when invitations come for me to share in the life of the local church.

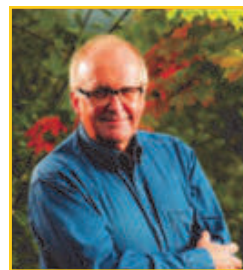
The ministry of Flame continues to energise my prayer life as I know it does yours.

I pray for you as you remember me, and as I draw this letter to a conclusion, I simply want to endorse what I said earlier in terms of my thanks and appreciation for your support and commitment.

Difficult days indeed, but God is working His purpose out.

May that be your assurance at this time.

*Dave*



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Registered charity no: 1134374 Company no: 06778011

If you would like to support me and my work with Flame, or would like further information about Flame and its activities, please complete the form, detach, and return it to the Flame office address below.

- I would like to financially support the work of Dave Pope on a regular basis. Please send details.
- I would like to adjust my existing giving to further support the work of Flame Trust. Please send me the appropriate forms to complete.
- I enclose a "one-off" gift of £..... to support the ministry of Flame Trust.
- I enclose a gift of £..... to support the **NEW Romania Playground Project**

**PLEASE SEND ME DETAILS AS INDICATED BELOW**

- I am interested in the **Flame Family Day: 15th October 2022**
- I am interested in the **2023 Spring Break**
- I am interested in the **Israel visit November 2023**
- If you wish to transfer your gift to a bank account the details are as follows:  
FLAME TRUST LTD., BARCLAYS BANK  
SORT CODE: 20-85-13      ACCOUNT NUMBER: 73536483
- I would like Flame to treat my giving as a Gift Aid donation (*please see declaration, below*).

***If sending a cheque, please make payable to Flame Trust and indicate the purpose of your money on the reverse of the cheque.***

*(You may wish to know that it is also now possible to make donations securely online via the Flame Trust website: [www.flametrust.org](http://www.flametrust.org))*

Name and title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Post code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Gift Aid:** I confirm that I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax for the current tax year that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities and community amateur sports clubs that I donate to will reclaim from my gifts for the current tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax for every £1 that I have given. Please inform us if you have any changes in your address details, want to cancel this declaration or no longer pay sufficient tax.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



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