

# Scotland

## EAST KILBRIDE MISSIONS SCOTLAND, UNITED KINGDOM



My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth. 1 John 3:18



# Scotland

**Richard and Mary Harp**  
Fourth St. church of Christ  
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Imagine a place where belief in God is regarded as a thing of the past. This is a reality in the country of Scotland. Despite this fact, my wife and I are well equipped with the tools needed to portray Christ and His gospel to the lost in Scotland. As has been our experience, door knocking and gospel meetings are not received with open arms to the general public until they see our arms opened up to them. Friendship ministry is the key to the kingdom in Scotland. We have enclosed an informative booklet containing our plans to carry out this friendship ministry.

The church of Christ in East Kilbride has invited us to come and lead a youth outreach program called the EK Youth Club. In this ministry, we will work with young people in the community who have either not heard the gospel, or have a wrong view of what it means. Our mission has several goals:

- To build relationships with young people and their families in the community through the Youth Club.
- To teach these young people about God and His Son through various activities that they enjoy.
- To help these families get accustomed to coming to the church building, which leads to interest in attending worship services.
- To evangelize youth and their families, showing Christ and teaching the truth through Bible study.

We are very excited about the opportunity God has given us and all the possibilities that lie ahead. As you can imagine, a commitment of this magnitude will require a great amount of financial obligation. The cost of living in the UK is very high, and we need to raise about £3,000/month for living expenses. To make this commitment possible, we need partners in this work to assist financially on a continued basis. One-time assistance is also essential to help defray the expense of moving overseas.

We are planning to leave the U.S. in the summer of 2010, and have pledged to work for five years with the church in East Kilbride. We solicit your prayers regarding the work that is so desperately needed in Scotland. Would you consider supporting this mission through prayer and/or financial assistance? We will be contacting you shortly to set up a possible date to meet with you. Regardless of the type of partnership you choose, we would love to speak with you. Thank you for your interest in helping to further the Gospel call!

**Because they haven't heard,**

Richard and Mary Harp

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# OUR MISSION IN EAST KILBRIDE, SCOTLAND

- Why Scotland?
  - A rare opportunity has been presented to us to evangelize here. For the average American, it is currently very difficult to obtain a work visa. Because I am a New Zealand citizen and a member of the commonwealth of Britain, Mary and I have the advantage to reside in the UK. We can get a 5 year ancestry visa since my grandfather was born in England.
  - Parliament has made a decree stating that Great Britain is a pagan nation. There is an urgent need for someone to reach the children of Scotland. In many cases, there is a lack of parental guidance, causing children to roam the streets and join themselves with gangs. This is where the church comes in to truly spread the gospel.
  - Four years ago, while serving in Cumbernauld as a preacher intern, I was asked to come and work full time with the congregation in East Kilbride. I met my wife Mary the following semester at Freed-Hardeman. She agreed to go beside me to Scotland and here we are, preparing to go. Last summer we went on a fact-finding trip, and have now discovered the needs of the congregation and the ways in which we desire to help.
  - The Fourth St. church of Christ in Selmer, Tennessee has agreed to be our overseeing congregation. We have worked with the youth here for over two years and were also able to take them on a mission campaign to Scotland. We know their involvement will be vital to the success of this work.
- Why East Kilbride?
  - East Kilbride (EK) is the sixth largest town in Scotland with a population of over 70,000. It is only twelve miles from Glasgow, Scotland's largest city.
  - We will be working with ministers Jack Strachan (who is close to retirement) and Jon Galloway, who have served in Scotland for many years. I will be an associate minister/evangelist with an emphasis on youth.



Meet the Macdonald family, pictured with Richard and Mary. They are now members of the church because of the youth club efforts.

- The congregation in East Kilbride is one of the largest in Scotland, with close to fifty members. They are also the only congregation at this time that has an eldership.
- Why a youth club?
  - One of the major ministries of the East Kilbride church is the community youth club. This will be our main outreach tool. It is similar to the Boys and Girls Club or YMCA, but it is run by the church. The EK congregation has been running the club for over 30 years now, but outreach and community involvement have declined in recent years. This is



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due to the fact that the same people who started the club in 1977 are still in charge of it today. At this time the members are struggling to do follow-up work with the families and have trouble directing the club itself. They are in great need of assistance through the involvement of younger people. We know that there are many seeds of Christianity that need to be cultivated in these children and their families.

- A number of the current members at East Kilbride were converted through this ministry, and we have seen the fruits of the program.
- The youth club is there for all children in the community. It helps them to receive a good Christian influence while playing games, etc. in a safe environment. The children enjoy it very much and often bring their friends. New additions we plan to bring to the club include art (Mary is a certified art teacher) and gardening. These activities will cater to the interests of more children, causing much needed growth. We also plan to introduce bible lessons through the activities we conduct. Currently the club meets once a week (Tuesdays), but we hope to increase this to twice per week. Attending the club gets the children used to coming to the church building and to being around Christians.
- How does the youth club evangelize?
  - The mission strategy of the club is relationship-based. The church in EK has discovered that in their society, door-knocking and tracts are not very effective. Effective evangelism in Scotland, just as anywhere else, requires a basis of friendship and trust in order for someone to listen to the Gospel. This strategy is organized and carried out very well through the youth club.
  - After a child comes to the club, we will visit their parents and family, informing them that we are there to help their children and to help them as well. This often leads to a family coming to church and having a Bible study. If you show someone you love their child, they will have a willing ear to listen. In fact, one of the elders at East Kilbride became a Christian because of his son's involvement in the youth club. His son is now a gospel preacher and runs the youth club in Cumbernauld that Richard was a part of in 2005.
  - The children in the youth club are able to participate each summer in a Christian youth camp called camp Heatherbell. It is focused on outreach and structured around these children. Throughout the year the children understand that if they exhibit good behavior, they can go to camp. Only



Rachael Macdonald was baptized into Christ in Cumbernauld, where Richard worked in 2005. Her children were part of the youth club, which was the catalyst for her involvement. Her husband, Stuart, and three of their children are now Christians.

those who truly want to be there are there.

The camp begins on Sunday and the majority of the children experience worship for the first time. They want to know why we “drink grape juice” and “eat crackers.” They don’t know the songs “Amazing Grace” and “Our God, He is Alive,” but by the end of the week they are singing along. The growth that is seen in just one week is enough to shock their parents when they come home. This is a great mission strategy because it introduces God into homes that do not know Him.



Richard speaks to a group of campers and staff at Camp Heatherbell in 2005.



# Scotland

To Whom It May Concern.

Dear Brethren, Christian love and good wishes from East Kilbride Scotland.

We have invited Richard and Mary Harp to come work with us for a period of five years. For a long time we have been searching and looking for the ideal couple to come and work in the mission field. The Lord has blessed us in the persons of Richard and Mary.

Richard came to Scotland for a summer period and was immediately taken into the hearts of the brethren here. He did a fantastic job working with the youth of several congregations. From the very outset we were so impressed with this young man and prayed that he would consider coming to be part of a mission team, working with our congregation at East Kilbride. Richard was a valued asset working with our "Camp Heatherbell". He has made several trips to Scotland. What a blessing when he got married and brought Mary with him. This is truly one of the finest couples we have had in the mission field.

We have asked them to make a five year commitment to come and work as Youth Minister. However, he will be not only youth minister but part of our team to spread the gospel in and beyond East Kilbride. Whilst working with youth he will be involved in teaching and preaching in the congregation so that he will develop into a well grounded and rounded preacher. What a blessing Mary is to him. She is totally committed to be the partner he needs as a preacher. Mary is also of great value in her own right. She has a wonderful way with young people and also well appreciated by our older members. As we said, for long and hard we have looked for the "right couple" who would be able to blend in and accomplish a good work. They are excited and motivated to be a part of leading many in Scotland to become Christians.

We are praying that you will see in this couple what we see. They are truly worthy of your support. Please prayerfully consider their appeal to you. You will not be disappointed in having them as part of your mission work.

Please feel free to contact us if you should have any questions.

Your yokefellows in the gospel,

Jack Strachan

Tel. 01355266616

Email. A6SDD@AOL.COM

For and on behalf of the elders, Adam Barr and Jack Strachan

... LET US NOT LOVE IN WORD OR IN TONGUE, BUT IN DEED AND IN TRUTH.

# Scotland

## To Whom it May Concern,

Greetings from the congregation at Fourth Street church of Christ.

As the elders, we want to take this opportunity to express our partnership with Richard and Mary Harp as they begin the work in East Kilbride, Scotland. Richard has been the youth minister here at Fourth Street since May 28, 2007. We have observed his ability to work with young people and his enthusiasm for seeking the lost, and are happy to recommend him to you. We believe in the work in Scotland and are confident in Richard and Mary's ability to help in the spreading of the gospel while there.

When Richard and Mary first arrived at Fourth Street, they expressed their plans to do mission work in Scotland and were already working toward that goal. Richard stated his desire to get our congregation involved in this endeavor. We not only plan to oversee his work, we sent eight of our young people to Scotland with both he and Mary last summer. The mission that Richard had in mind was not only for Scotland but also for our congregation, to help the focus of our members to be pointed outward rather than inward. This was one of the most significant undertakings during Richard's ministry and we hope to continue sending teams to Scotland, especially the next generation of our youth.

Since the return of the young people from Scotland, we have seen increase in the leadership of these young people and their excitement to spread the Gospel. We have seen great spiritual growth in our youth group as a result of this mission trip.

As the overseeing congregation of the Harps' work, we hope to keep our congregation involved with the Harp's as much as possible. The fact that we know them, we hope, will help spread a mission mindset among our members.

Thank you for your interest. We pray that God will bless you in all your endeavors. If you have any questions about Richard and Mary or this mission, please contact us at 731-645- 6101.

In Him,

Wilburn Gene Ashe

James Turner

Drew Eason

**Elders, Fourth St. church of Christ**



# Cotland

## 4th Street

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

142 N Fourth St

Selmer, TN 38375

731-645-6101 [4thstreetcoc@bellsouth.net](mailto:4thstreetcoc@bellsouth.net)

“Seeking, Serving and Sharing.”

August 18, 2009

Dear Eldership/Missions Committee:

I am writing to recommend your support for Richard and Mary Harp and the Scotland Mission. They are a wonderful couple whose hearts are set on serving the Lord in this capacity.

During the time I have known Richard and Mary I have seen a real passion for mission work in Scotland. In 2008 they led a mission campaign of young people from Fourth Street to Lomond, Scotland. This was the first time this congregation's youth had been presented with the opportunity to leave North America and engage in mission work. The change in the young people who participated in the campaign brought great blessings to our congregation in the form of desire to save the lost, leadership from within and the importance for evangelism. Richard and Mary have led us to understand better that our focus must not only be inward, but also outward.

The need for the gospel was evident in the short time we spent in Scotland. Richard and Mary's good rapport with the Scottish people was evident as well. Richard and Mary have a desire to help improve the lives of the Scottish people and I have seen the people's response to their passion. I believe they will be great harvesters for the Lord in an area where the fields are ripening.

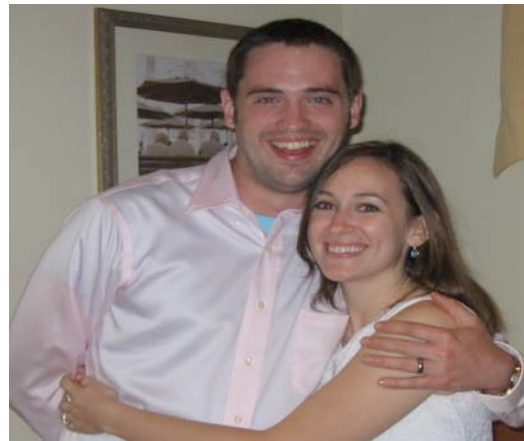
Richard and Mary have dedicated much of their time here at Fourth Street to working with our community. They are always willing to open their home, as well as the Bible with any and all they come in contact with in Selmer. This has shown me that the desire they have to work with families in Scotland will produce great results for the kingdom.

Your investment in the Scotland mission work will yield results. The Lord's name will be glorified because Richard and Mary are ready to bring in a great harvest. Please allow them the chance to change the world by contributing to this mission effort.

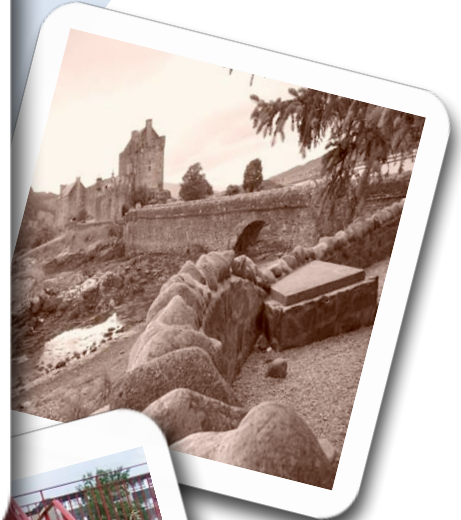
In Him,

Jeremy Weekley, Minister

# SCOTLAND



**Richard and Mary Harp**  
In a field ripe for harvest



4th Street

On the Web:  
[www.harpsinScotland.wordpress.com](http://www.harpsinScotland.wordpress.com)



## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### Minimum Funds Needed For First Year

\$1.63 to £1

Without Car	With 1 bedroom apartment	
Contribution	170	
Rent	350	E
Council Tax	130	X
National Health Insurance	50	C
Bus Fare (For 2)	200	H
Groceries	300	A
Miscellaneous	100	N
Gas	50	G
Electricity	75	E
Life Insurance/Retirement	200	
Accountant	20	R
Phone/Cell/Broadband	70	A
Currency Buffer	50	T
Church Expenses	50	E
<b>NO CAR</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>NO MONTHLY ROAD TAX</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 1,815.00</b>	
Plus Student Loans - USD	\$1,000	
<b>Total in USD</b>	<b>\$3,958</b>	
		1.63

In Scotland, the cost of living is high. Currently, the exchange rate is 1.63 American dollars to 1.00 British pound. This can be a challenge to our mission, but we have faith that God will provide. Since our fact-finding trip in 2008, the exchange rate has decreased 37¢, which is a savings of \$25 per 1¢ (\$975/month according to our budget). At the time of our survey trip, the exchange rate was about \$2.00 to £1.00. The current economic crisis is actually a blessing, resulting in a better exchange rate and lower priced housing in the UK. We have recently cut our budget to ensure that we leave as scheduled in June. We plan to rent an apartment instead of buy (a one bedroom if needed). We have also figured in a monthly bus pass instead of purchasing a personal vehicle. This results in a savings of \$2,312.00/month. To date, we have raised \$2800 toward our monthly budget. We have budgeted £1,815/month for living expenses and \$1,000/month allocated toward our student loans, which equals \$3,958. Along with our monthly budget requirements, we will also need one-time donations to help with initial costs such as moving expenses and also our visas for entrance into Scotland. Any assistance you can provide is greatly appreciated!

Our Budget is in (£ the British Pound)

Please make checks payable to Fourth St. church of Christ with "Harp Missions" in the memo line.