

MAY 2022 MWI ARTICLE

GOD MATTERS IN FAMILY LIFE!



It was a wonderful occasion in early March when our family could travel to Manchester for the wedding of our daughter Laura to Justin. Covid restrictions had opened-up and travelling was not a problem nor were there any restrictions to the numbers attending either the church service or the wedding meal. It was a precious family time and one we were very grateful to be able to share in after the lockdowns. We wish Laura and Justin God's blessing on their marriage.

Also, in March our daughter Zelda was nominated for a Families First Award in Education. We were thrilled when Zelda was awarded the winner of the Best Nursery School Principal in Northern Ireland and her nursery school, Steeple Nursery in Antrim was awarded the overall winner of the Best Nursery School in Northern Ireland too. Brilliant achievement for Zelda. We appreciate that all Principals, teachers and school staff have done a wonderful job these last two years in very difficult situations. We applaud them all!



As we celebrated these wonderful occasions, we are very mindful of families going through extremely difficult times. Happy occasions are very rare, or in fact don't happen at all.

We in MWI continue to bring our President's Project, "No Excuse for Abuse" to the attention of our Methodist community. We very much value your prayer support and if possible, contribute to any fundraising taking place in your community.

With prayer and fundraising we hope to make an impact in helping more women, men and children to live in a safe environment. We are grateful to the MCI in working alongside us in this extremely worthwhile project.

The MCI made the following statement, "Domestic abuse is an injustice in our society. An injustice that is at epidemic level. The statistics on this island, and across the world, are evidence of this. Advocating and protecting the vulnerable is part of the gospel message of Christ, and therefore, part of our mission responsibility as Christ's Church. We want to equip churches across our Connexion to positively engage in discussions and prayer around their reaction and response to Domestic Abuse." The plight of Ukrainian families is also very much in our prayers and we would all do well to support appeals for their health and well-being.

Jesus says in Matthew 25 v 40 says, "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me'.

In response to accepting Jesus as our Lord and Saviour may we, by our actions, show love and concern for all mankind. It matters very much to God how we respond, as a global family, to

those in need; therefore, it should be a God Matter to us, how we show our love in action towards our fellow man.

Joan Strong

MWI All-Ireland President