

# ANDREW & SHAWN CANAVAN

## Church-planting in IRELAND

These past two months have been blessed months of ministry as we have focused more on evangelism. The Lord has reminded us through being involved in evangelistic work and also through the encouragement of others, that joy is not only found in reaping (Psalm 126:5) but also sowing, as we “plow in hope.” (1 Cor. 9:10)

### EVANGELISTIC BIBLE STUDIES

The Lord has allowed some divine appointments flourish into Bible studies with some young men. One young Irishman, a coworker of Bran's, is being heavily influenced by muslims and has met with me twice. I have been able to study the Gospel and demonstrate how the Bible is truly inspired and can be trusted. Julius is a young Austrian man with whom a man in our church and I played football. John has witnessed to him and invited him several times to church. He seems very close to making a decision for Christ. Another man, Dylan, is South African and staunchly Catholic. I have met with him six times to share the Gospel as he also tries to convince me of Roman Catholicism - he even said the inquisition was a wonderful thing! Through these meetings we are learning to keep the conversations Gospel centered and scripturally based. We thank the Lord for these opportunities and pray that God will use the seeds sown.



Bible study with  
Julius



Bible study with  
Dylan



Passing out  
leaflets



Clare turns 3!

### STUDYING - WHAT IS A CHURCH?

As most of our current attendees do not come from a Baptist background, we have taken the spring to study in detail what a Biblical church should look like and why church is important before introducing church membership. Studying the pattern of the first church in Acts 2, we see that baptism follows salvation, how a biblical church preaches Christ crucified, thoroughly teaches doctrine, observes the Lord's supper symbolically, and how each believer is specially gifted for service. What a joy to be reminded that a church is not something you attend but a body to which you belong! Please pray those who are attending would decide to join and serve as Grace Baptist moves forward.

As to regular life - we are doing well! We have been enjoying a very cool and breezy Irish summer, that has averaged temperatures in the 50's (F). Shawn was able to take a quick trip back to the US in May to see her parents with Clare and Cian, and I was able to attend another seminary class in Dublin. We also have been able to fill in for a fellow missionary's morning services for several weeks whose mother is ill, as our services are currently in the evening.

Thank you for praying for our upcoming Holiday Bible Club that will be held in August. As we have passed out leaflets, we have had a miraculous answer to prayer. **Seventeen have signed up so far for Holiday Bible Club!** Please pray they come, and the Lord would bless in a special way for His glory. Thank you so much for your prayers and support. We truly appreciate being able to represent you in Ireland for the cause of the Gospel.

#### SENDING CHURCH

Heritage Baptist Church  
Woodbridge, VA

#### SERVING WITH

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### PRAYER REQUESTS

**SALVATION:** Julius, Brian, Emma, Karissa, Dylon, Roberto

**GROWTH:** Bran, Lars, Margaret, John, Jerry,

**SPECIAL:** wisdom, divine appointments, evangelistic Bible studies, upcoming Holiday Bible Club