

SUAREZ UPDATE

|| "For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given" || Isaiah 9 v 6 ||

WELCOME CHURCHES

Avisai continues in his role alongside Mark Kent, as Welcome Churches Co-ordinators for our church. This involves supporting newly arrived refugees to Portadown, referrals come from Welcome Churches offices.

WEC UK 2023

In October Avisai attended the WEC Annual UK Conference. This was over 6 days and a great time of fellowship and sharing with one another and discussion about future plans.

2024 PLANS ...

God willing in September 2024 we will be hosting a small Team from USA who will come to Portadown to see the ministries we are involved in and volunteer with us during the time they are here. It will be led by Mike and Bonnie Burnam, WEC Mexico leaders.

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE SUAREZ FAMILY!

It is hard to believe we are at the end of another year! The time has flown, and so much has happened. It has been a busy year. We are very thankful to God for his faithfulness and provision as we reflect on 2023. The trip to Mexico, Eliab starting school, both our ministries up and running. We praise God for it all.



Eliab started P1 in September and is doing really well. He loves the company of the other children and although he found it hard to leave me at the school gate for the first month, he is now very happy to go each morning. Though he is exhausted by Fridays. He also attends a speech therapy class on Saturday mornings run by a local charity for children with Down syndrome.



He really enjoyed the weeks in the summer with all the family together, and is loving having his Cuthbert cousins here for a few extra months too!

Ministry Update: 'SHINE CAFE'

Since starting back into our 3rd year of Shine Cafe in September we have had a very encouraging first Term. We have had 8 new ladies from Syria coming along on a regular basis, a lady from Albania, from Egypt and some new ladies from India. Most weeks there are about 8-10 ladies coming. Our theme this term has been 'I See Jesus' - stories from the OT which are a shadow of Jesus. We are able to tell the stories and demonstrate how they point to Jesus, who He is, and what he came to earth to do for us. Please pray for wisdom and sensitivity in these opportunities we have to share God's love.



CARPENTRY MINISTRY: (Tuesdays)

For anyone who needs to contact Avisai, he recently had to change his mobile number. His new one is: **07756 37725**.

It has been very encouraging this year so far. There have been 4-5 men regularly attending each week, from Iran, Afghanistan, Kurdistan and Sudan. There is a great atmosphere among all the men. We enjoy learning new skills, deepening relationships over coffee and lunch breaks, and using these opportunities to have meaningful conversations about faith. We continue to pray for God to reveal himself to these men and that we can be a small part in that journey.



International Meeting Point, Belfast (Wednesdays and Thursdays)

Avisai now goes 2 days a week, Wednesdays and Thursdays. He leads the Alpha course bible study with a group of 20 Iranians on Wednesdays. (There are approximately 80 Iranian people who come to the Bible study on Wednesdays and split into smaller groups). Avisai really enjoys this opportunity to share the gospel. Thursdays is a more 'practical' day, building relationships by chatting over coffee, discussions, playing pool, and so on. As well as helping to fix things as needed, for example recently going down to IMP a Friday and Saturday to lay a floor and skirting boards for a new office area. He loves these 2 days in Belfast meeting refugees and asylum seekers, however it is also exhausting for him operating in English all day and he comes home very tired physically and mentally. We appreciate prayer for him in this ministry.

Monday and Fridays

Avisai spends Monday in the shed preparing the projects for ministry on Tuesdays. Fridays and Saturdays are for his own part-time carpentry business, however often these days are also taken up with WEC meetings and ministry-related work, leaving him very little time for his own business at the moment. We thank God for the opportunities He has given us to serve him here in Portadown.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT

With much love, Avisai, Judith & Eliab

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