

# Vision

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. – Isaiah 9:6

Welcome to the last newsletter of 2023! Where has '2023' gone? As we look back over this past year at the Stauros Foundation, we are thankful for God's goodness, favour and provision. 2023 has been an eventful year with so much happening in the ministry. I pray you will be blessed and better informed as you read this latest edition of our newsletter. We are grateful for all your continued prayerful and financial support to Stauros.

*Roy Brown*

## George Macgregor's Retirement

I would like to take this opportunity to wish George Macgregor success and good health on his retirement from the Stauros Foundation. It has always been George's intention to retire from formal employment at the age of 66, and he reached that milestone on the 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2023. Although George has retired from formal employment, he will still remain with Stauros as a valued volunteer. Most of George's colleagues and friends had the privilege to be able to celebrate this occasion with George and his wife Valerie and their two boys, Timothy and Kyle, at a special retirement dinner back in September. George has been more to me than a co-worker; I have always enjoyed working with him and his support and encouragement to me personally over many years has been invaluable.

A list of George's accomplishments to Stauros over nearly 25 years would take more space than this article allows, so I will name just a few. George has served Stauros in so

many different roles. In November 1999, Stan Gowdy, who at that time was a member of our staff in Scotland, arranged for George to come over to Ballyards Castle as a volunteer for 6 months. During this time George got involved in doing some one-to-one work and teaching with the guys.

In May 2002, George joined the staff of Stauros as a full-time worker helping out in Ballyards Castle. When Stauros moved from Ballyards Castle, George's role changed to that of a Community Pastoral Care worker coming alongside and ministering to people in the community. This was a role that George really loved and embraced. George is faithful and committed to the people he would visit and often at times George visited these people for many years. George's strongest gift is prayer. George is a prayer warrior and only eternity will reveal the



extent of George's prayer life. It is impossible to express all that George has done in and through the ministry of Stauros and what he has meant to us all in the Stauros family over the last 21 years. We can only express our sincere gratitude to him and to say it has been a privilege and honour to have had the opportunity to serve the Lord together with him.

George's retirement is well deserved.

*Roy Brown*

# American Visit



On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December, we were blessed by the visit of five Americans from Stauros Ministries in America. John and Peggy Burghauser, Rock and Margie Stemple and Trina Johnson. John is one of our full-time staff members with Stauros in the States and has been since 2003. Rock is the vice president of Stauros Ministries, where Peggy and Margie are both on the Board of Directors. Trina has recently been brought on as a volunteer.



John had opportunities to share God's word at different events and venues while here. He shared at our Carol service in Vic-Ryn on Saturday night 2<sup>nd</sup> of December, preached at one of our partner churches, Bethesda Fellowship in Portadown, on Sunday morning 3<sup>rd</sup> of December and at one of our Stauros meetings in the Stables Enniskillen on Wednesday night 6<sup>th</sup> of December. Rock and Margie also shared at one of our Stauros meetings at Straidhavern Road Nutts Corner on Monday night 4<sup>th</sup> of December.



They also had opportunity for some sight seeing, they visited Downpatrick, Crumlin Road Gaol, Titanic Museum, Belfast Castle, Carrickfergus Castle and Belfast Christmas market. On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> of December they travelled down to Dublin to spend a few days before heading home on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> of December. It was a great joy to have them with us in Northern Ireland.



## Joy of Generosity Increase Our Mission As We Serve As One

Grow your giving to Stauros Foundation this year through our **JOY OF GENEROSITY 50% MATCH** fundraising initiative.

Thanks to some generous match funding from local trusts ALL new OR increased giving to Stauros Foundation this year will be increased by 50%, even after Gift Aid has been applied.

For example: a new monthly gift of £25 with Gift Aid is increased to £31.25 + **JOY OF GENEROSITY** will **GROW** to £46.88 per month, or a new gift of £100 with Gift Aid is increased to £125.00 + **JOY OF GENEROSITY** will **GROW** to £187.50.

Any gifts we can't claim Gift Aid on will still **GROW**. For example, a new monthly gift of £25 is increased with + **JOY OF GENEROSITY** to £37.50, or a new gift of £100 is increased with + **JOY OF GENEROSITY** to £150.

If you are an existing donor to Stauros Foundation, and you increase your giving, **the increase** will also be added to through our **JOY OF GENEROSITY**.

Everything you give to Stauros Foundation helps support us in our ministry to minister to people with problems of addiction by bringing the Gospel of Jesus Christ to them.

Partner with us this year as we: **'INCREASE OUR MISSION'**

For more information, contact [gillian@stauros.com](mailto:gillian@stauros.com)

### WAYS TO GIVE:

Stauros is grateful to the Lord for all His provision over the years. We have been truly blessed. In the past we have benefited from people's generosity in four ways.

#### Donation:

Sometimes individuals feel prompted to send a donation to the work. Cheques or postal orders are made payable to: Stauros Foundation. Please put the full name on the cheque or postal order as the bank will not accept Stauros on its own. These can be sent to us by post to: 29 Straidhavern Road, Nutts Corner, Crumlin, BT29 4SN.

#### Standing order:

Sometimes individuals wish to give regularly to the work, either monthly, or annually. There is a standing order form for this purpose. Contact [info@stauros.com](mailto:info@stauros.com) or phone our office: 02890825058.

#### Stewardship

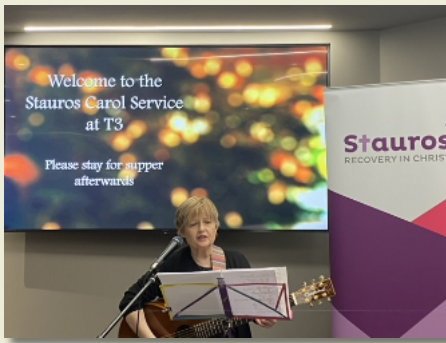
Search Stauros Foundation on Stewardship platform

#### Gift Aid

Sometimes people who pay tax fill in a Gift Aid form which allows Stauros to benefit from the tax paid on the amount received either as a donation or a standing order. For example, a gift of £100 with Gift Aid means that Stauros would receive £125. There is a form for this purpose. Contact [info@stauros.com](mailto:info@stauros.com) or phone office: 02890825058.



# CAROL SERVICE AT T3 LISBURN



Stauros had their annual Christmas Carol Service on 2<sup>nd</sup> of December at the T3 Conference Centre (House of Vic-Ryn) in Lisburn. We had a great time of singing, special music, ministry of the Word and fellowship. There was even a skit by some of our staff and volunteers.

The singing of carols was led by Ali Jackson which set the tone for the night. It was wonderful to sing of our Saviour in His incarnation.



John Burghauer from Stauros Ministries (our sister organisation in America) gave the keynote address about John the Baptist and his “untimely” death. John talked about our plans versus God’s purposes. Oftentimes, these are not the same and we tend to question the goodness of God in our lives. But God always does what is best for us.

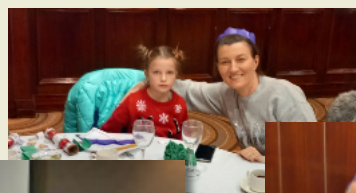


The service was followed by a time of supper and fellowship. It was great to see so many from different journeys in life sharing about the goodness of God in their lives.



## STAFF CHRISTMAS DINNER

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December our staff, volunteers and trustees met at the Dunsilly Hotel Antrim for our Christmas dinner. We started the afternoon with a lovely carvery meal. The meal was followed by the traditional Christmas games organised by Rachel and Graham Todd. We had lots of fun and plenty of competition (as you can see from the photos) The winning team was led by Ricky and Maggie Wallace.



*Winning Team*



# Stauros Meetings

Community support groups called Stauros meetings are held in:

- **Banbridge** on Alternate Thursday evenings at 7:30pm  
Discipleship Bible study every Friday at 12:15pm  
Contact *Woody Price* – 07824485435
- **South Belfast** on Alternate Thursday evenings at 7:30pm  
Contact *Ricky Wallace* - 07714736630 or *Maggie Wallace* - 07714736619
- **West Belfast** every Tuesday morning 10:30am  
Contact *Kim Cooper* - 07971633978
- **Bolton** on Alternate Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm  
Contact *Paul Murphy* – 07824 485437
- **Broughshane** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday morning in a month 10:30am  
Contact *George Macgregor* - 07824485436
- **Nutts Corner, Crumlin** on Alternate Monday evenings at 7-30pm  
Contact *Pamela Brown* – 07824485434
- **Dromore, Co Down** on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm  
Contact *Cheryl Eagleson* – 07875391824
- **Enniskillen** every Wednesday evening at 7:30pm  
Contact *Brendan Jones* – 07798660050
- **Isle of Man** every Tuesday in **Ramsey** at 4pm and every Thursday in **Douglas** at 6:30pm - Contact *Gordon Buist* - 07624453731
- **Lurgan** on Alternate Wednesday mornings at 9:30am  
Contact *Pamela Brown* – 07824 485434



## The Aims of the Stauros Foundation

1. To promote the gospel of Jesus Christ
2. To evangelise, help and offer fellowship to those suffering and recovering from addiction, to their families and to anyone else who feels they could benefit from our straightforward and practical approach
3. To educate society in general, and the Christian church in particular, about the dangers of all drugs used in a social or recreational way
4. To encourage a witness of abstinence from the social or recreational use of all drugs, including alcohol
5. To promote a society free from drug dependence

Stauros, with Gods help, seeks to befriend the individual and to identify the areas which keep him or her in bondage to their substance of choice.

## SPECIAL PRAYER REQUEST

Pray for Gods wisdom as we move forward. Stauros as an organisation are praying that God would raise up the next generation of workers who can testify to a sense of calling to our work and who see it as a vocation. We are currently praying that God would provide a person or persons who would have a burden for Scotland. Scotland is where the Stauros foundation was birthed way back in 1980. If you feel burdened or feel God is leading you in any way to the ministry of Stauros not just in Scotland please contact Roy Brown (07824485433) for further information.

# Thank you

We are so thankful to God in His provision that has allowed us to continue to fulfil our ministry through these difficult days, 'He is the same yesterday, today and forever'.

We want to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to you. Without your prayerful and financial support, we could not do what we do. May God richly bless you as you serve Him.



Want to know more? Please contact us:

Stauros Foundation, 29 Straidhavern Road, Nutts Corner, Crumlin, BT29 4SN  
Telephone: 028 9082 5058 Email: [info@stauros.com](mailto:info@stauros.com)

[www.stauros.com](http://www.stauros.com)

