

## North of Scotland Fundraising Newsletter September

I hope you all have had a wonderful and blessed Summer! I can't believe that we are this side of the holidays already. At Blythswood, September means the beginning of our annual Shoe Box Appeal. For the next couple of months we will be encouraging people to fill shoeboxes with fun and practical items that we will then transport to Eastern Europe, to our projects and partners to distribute to their and nearby communities in need. Thanks to the generosity of people all across the UK, last year we sent 85,515 shoeboxes.

For those of you that don't know what the Shoe Box Appeal is, it is a chance for us to send little packages of care and love to those living in desperate situations many miles away in Eastern Europe- such as Romania, Moldova, Serbia, and Ukraine. Each shoe box is filled with small, practical items such as toiletries, stationery, and clothing, and then the individually-wrapped boxes are transported across Europe and distributed in schools, hospitals, orphanages and care homes, and to households in very low income communities.

Each box also contains the Gospel message in the shape of either a children's book, a testimony, or bible verses on a calendar. It is our hope and prayer that these boxes will be an opportunity for people in need to hear and learn about the truth and salvation we can have and need through Jesus Christ.

The Shoe Box Appeal is a great way to engage the youth/children in your congregation and/or community, as it is a fun and tangible way for them to engage in an act of charity. If your church would like to participate visit our website for more details, or email me! I am also available to come and share about the work of Blythswood and the Shoe Box Appeal and would love the opportunity to do so.

Neill Prentice Fundraising Manager - North of Scotland neill.prentice@blythswood.org

