



THE BONAR TRUST

Gospel workers for the Church in Scotland
Funding—Development—Training—Partnership



"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6

Key Highlights - December 2022

Happy Christmas. We hope that you will be encouraged by this update.

Funding

Training grants awarded this year

Training grants continue to show a year-on-year increase. It is a huge encouragement that churches continued training through the coronavirus pandemic evidenced by an increase in the level of grants from £263,000 in 2021-22 to £304,000 in June 2022 (2022-23 grants).

Growing our financial support base

"The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest." Matthew 9:38

Our vision is "Gospel workers for the Church in Scotland". There is a harvest to be gathered in Scotland. Labourers are few. By God's grace the Trust exists to play a part in answer to this prayer – to see a generation of gospel workers called, trained and sent out in Scotland. We are so grateful to those who faithfully give to the Trust and enable us to give grants to those training for gospel ministry. Looking ahead to the next grant round (2023-24) we expect to see an increase in grant applications from quality candidates, reflecting the development of training in Scotland. The Trust anticipates making grants of around £350,000. We are looking to increase our donor base, since the amount of grant given to an individual may be constrained

in any year by the funds which we have available. We are seeking those with a heart to join with others in making a significant difference to the spiritual good of Scotland. We would be delighted to come and speak about the Trust at church meetings. If you know of others who you think may wish to give, please do ask them to contact the Trust Administrator at administrator@bonartrust.org for further details on giving.

Development, Training & Partnership

Training the Trainers Day: 14 November 2022

The Trust was delighted to partner with The Board of Ministry of the Free Church of Scotland in holding our first Training Day in early November at Edinburgh Theological Seminary. 29 church ministers/pastors and elders attended from churches currently or considering training people for gospel ministry. There was a wide range of churches, denominations and geographical locations. They heard presentations on a vision for training, developing training programmes and the practicalities of training. This was followed by an open discussion and Q&A session. Words used to describe the day included: eye-opening, inspirational, encouraging, helpful, very good and excellent. It is hoped that this will become an annual event bringing churches together for networking, sharing of experience and encouragement.

Conference Programme 2023

Looking ahead to 2023, the Trust will be running five preaching and teaching conferences in 2023. Two in January, two in June and one in August. We are extremely grateful to the leaders and co-leaders who give of their time and experience to help train up the next generation of leaders in training.

The Trust

Annual Report: This is available on our website here: <https://bonartrust.org/annual-reports/>.

Website: We aim to relaunch our website in late January 2023 in time for the 2023-24 grant application round.

Online Resources Hub: This has been pushed back into 2023.

New Director and Trustee: The Trust is delighted to announce that Dan McKinlay was appointed as a Director and Trustee as of the 2 December.

Praying for the Trust

Please would you pray:

giving thanks for God's faithful provision to the Trust of Directors, staff and project workers;

give thanks for all those who faithfully donate and enable us to fulfil our mission;

for our grantees and alumni;

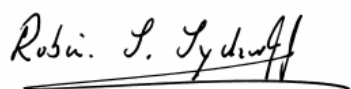
asking for an increase in donors in 2023;

for those churches involved in training gospel workers in Scotland;

for the 2023 conference programme.

Trusting and praying that you will know fresh joy and peace this Christmas time.

Warmly in Christ



Robin Sydserrff
Chair of the Trust