

**Please begin to share this exciting news within your congregation.**

**Begin the process of identifying possible hosts.**

**Approach possible drivers with transport available.**

**Further details from :**

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## Presbytery of Melrose and Peebles World Mission Group

**A Visit to our Presbytery of Young People  
from Malawi and Lebanon**

**10<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> August 2018**

## Outline

From 10<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> August 2018 we hope to have 6 young people staying and working with us here in the Presbytery of Melrose and Peebles.

The Presbytery Partnership Agreement with Zomba Presbytery signed in 2013 had as one of its aims to have youth visiting each country. We sent young people to Malawi in 2016 and now is the time to return the invitation. In recognition of other partnerships flourishing within the Presbytery, we are also planning to include two Lebanese from the Presbytery linked with Earlston church.

We are proposing to invite four young Malawians (aged 20 -25), one each from Luwatala, Naisi and Thondwe, the fourth to still be decided. We are also proposing to invite two young Lebanese from the Presbytery of Northern Lebanon, National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon, our Partner church in that area. We hope to have an equal gender balance from both churches. In addition, we wish to invite two adults from Malawi to accompany the young people. If possible one of these adults should be Geoffrey Matias our Midwifery student who should have graduated by the time of the visit. The other adult should be a lady.

## Aim and purpose of Visit

Whilst in Scotland, we are planning a programme which enables our visitors to experience Scottish culture, both inside and outside the church. We are trying to plan a variety of opportunities for young and old to meet with the group and build better friendship and relationships between the 3 countries. The timing of the visit has been planned so that the young people can attend and participate in the National Youth Assembly.

## We are looking for Host families.

*To host 1 or 2 young people for 3-5 days. To reduce any potential burden on host families, we are planning to make sure that all visitors are suitably equipped with appropriate clothing and footwear for our Scottish weather when they arrive. We also plan to issue pocket money at intervals during the visit to cover incidentals and also basic mobile phones with a prepaid sim card limited to UK calls to enable them to contact each other and the committee. A contact sheet will be distributed to hosts and visitors and the committee will act as backup hosts and transport when required.*

## We are looking for transport and drivers.

To ferry our guests to the various meetings and activities arranged across the Presbytery. For longer trips, we propose hiring a minibus so that all can travel together.

## We want a varied programme of activities.

- We are hoping to arrange:
- Participation in the National Youth Assembly
- A visit to St Giles and Urban priority church
- A visit to Scottish Parliament and Borders Region Council
- A visit to David Livingston Centre, Blantyre
- An overnight trip to Lindisfarne, possibly together with some of the youth from the presbytery.

What would be of interest to our young visitors in your Congregation's life?

What could they get involved with in your part of the Presbytery?

- Participation in Sunday services?
- Participation in Holiday Clubs?
- Visit to Secondary schools to meet with senior pupils?
- Could a group of neighbouring churches work together to plan a day where they can entertain a few of our guests within their parishes?

I/we would like to participate as indicated below.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I/we can offer 1 bed space .....

I/we can offer 2 bed spaces .....

I/we can offer transport .....

Please return this form to Helen Bruce