



The Burning Bush—Online article archive

“Burning Bush” is 37 years old!!



The first edition

Thirty-seven years ago this month, the first edition of “The Burning Bush” was published. I was then minister of Lisbellaw Free Presbyterian Church in Co. Fermanagh. The congregation relocated in 1972 to a new church building in Chanterhill, Enniskillen and changed its name to Bethel Free Presbyterian Church. The first issue announced plans for the new church building.

Because of the strong stand against ecumenism that was maintained by the church in Lisbellaw, very few press statements were accepted by the local newspaper and even some advertisements of church services were refused because the subjects were not acceptable to the newspaper’s management. For these reasons, I decided to publish a little bulletin which would be distributed in the local community.

It was not until 1988, just after the Enniskillen massacre by the IRA of eleven Protestants attending a Remembrance Day wreath-laying at the local war memorial, that the publication took on its present format.

Since that date, ten issues have been published every year. Over those years we have reported on some horrific massacres. It makes very sad reading to look back at many of the headlines over the 37 years of terror and apostasy.

We are thankful to God for this means of testifying to the gospel and standing up for the honour of the Saviour.

The enemies of the gospel have called on a few occasions for the banning of the publication but by God’s grace we continue to this day.

However, the time of my own retirement from the pastorate draws near. Since the business of the “Burning Bush” is conducted on an annual basis when the subscriptions for the publication are collected, it is necessary for me to give plenty of notice regarding our plans to cease the publishing of the “Burning Bush” in February 2007 (DV).

Memories

I will, of course, deal with the matter in more detail as that time draws near, for 37 years provide many precious memories and some sad ones too for there have been occasions when I felt it my duty to write on subjects that I would rather I did not have to.



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But, in the meantime, I would just like to let our readers know our plans for the future, in the will of God.

Naturally, I am full of gratitude to those who have supported the witness most faithfully and some very, very generously.

There are amongst our subscribers those who have subscribed beyond 2007. Should anyone wish me to distribute any surplus funds to some other organisation, they have but to contact me and I will happily do so.

As it is, the sale of the publication has aided us in the free distribution of tapes and literature to listeners to our radio broadcasts who contact us.

For now, let me in a preliminary fashion offer my thanks to all our readers for their encouragement and support for I will return to the matter later in the year.