

CHRISTIAN WORKER



**BIG questions
answered in
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**One new Christian!
(p.4)**

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speaks in
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Summer has now been in full swing for a while – at least as far as the weather has been concerned! It has been wonderful to have a summer of warm and largely dry weather. After the rigours of the past winter, a warm summer has been a welcome relief.

When this magazine began it was to serve as a means of exchanging ideas and share news among the congregations. I believe this issue exemplifies that goal. We have many news reports from several congregations as well as ideas to help spread the good news of Jesus. Of note are the brief reports of two new congregations who are now meeting, one in Nottingham and the other in Douglas on the Isle of Man. We give God thanks that there are more opportunities for people to learn about Jesus.

But, with more of the information that we are striving to share, there are areas we have had to cut back. We have had to limit the ‘Notices’ to those events taking place in August and September. For those in October and beyond, they will be included in September’s *Christian Worker* (and are listed in the ‘Diary’). We also received a late report from the Omonia congregation in Athens. Rather than try to squeeze it in, we will give it the attention it deserves next month, as well.

Bible study and fellowship. When we read about what was important to the first Christians in Jerusalem, these are two of the values that we find: *“They were devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer...And the Lord was adding to their number every day those who were being saved”* (Acts 2:42-47 NET).

Bible study, fellowship, worship, prayer, evangelism. The core values found in the first Christians. And should these not be our core values today, as well?

Yet it seems that many do not value these. We see this from low numbers at fellowship events, at Bible study events, even in our own local worship and activities. We praise God that we see a few changing their lives and putting on Jesus, but if we are living as we should as his disciples, should we not see more?

May we live each day for Jesus.

Jon

Spotlight on Livingston

We at Livingston are always looking for new and different ways to spread the gospel. An Evangelism Group is in place to devise any initiatives and take them forward. In recent years we have held gospel outreach meetings, published short gospel messages plus invitations to enrol in a free Bible correspondence course in the free Metro paper and the Daily Record (on-line version), preached the gospel at our Easter Sunday Services and Carol Services, held an Open Day and preached the gospel on the final day of the Holiday Bible School. Towards the end of last year, we decided on a new approach.

People in the world often have big questions they would like answered, so we decided to address some of those questions. Our starting point was to ask some of our friends who are not Christians if they had any big questions they would like answered. Their questions, along with some questions others in the congregation had been asked, were used in the series. We set aside the last Sunday of each month to address them and asked a different

speaker to cover one of the questions. Where possible, we asked the speaker to pick the topic they were happy to address.

In terms of advertising, from previous experience we found that personal invitations worked best. We therefore

created small invitation cards for the local Christians to share with their family, friends and others. The invitation was also provided in an e-mail for sharing, if they preferred that approach. Each invitation was also converted into an A1 size poster and placed on our external and internal noticeboards at the start of each new month. We also used Facebook to advertise each event.

The meetings were well attended by adults who are not yet Christians, ranging from three to eight each Sunday evening (the average

being five). It was a great opportunity to share the gospel through the big questions that people in the world have. It would certainly be interesting to hear of any other congregations adopting a similar type of outreach event.

Charles Harding

Big Questions Answered

The following big questions will be addressed at the Church of Christ, Garden Place, Eliburn at **6.30 p.m.** on the last Sunday evening of each month.

What is truth?

(28 January 18)

Why is the Bible interpreted differently by so many?

(25 February 18)

Were we created, or was it chance?

(25 March 18)

Why is there so much suffering and disease?

(29 April 18)

What will happen when Jesus returns?

(27 May 18)

I'm a good person, so will I go to heaven?

(24 June 18)

Congratulations!

Nottingham (Hyson Green): On Sunday, 15th July, **Marcus Yiadom** was immersed into Christ. This was a great encouragement for this new congregation.

Trevor Williams

Directory Updates

(all changes in **red**, the other information remains the same)

BRIGHTON (Sussex)

Christians: 11 Children: 5

Meeting place: 11 Oxford Street, Brighton BN1 4LA

Send post to: meeting place or info@brightonchurchofchrist.co.uk

Sunday meetings: Sunday School 9.30 am, Breaking Bread 10.30 am

Contacts:

Constant Coulibaly (w. Philice). ☎ (01932) 761773

💻 constantcoulibaly@hotmail.com

Ken Peters. ☎ (01323) 460945 📱 (07440) 607435 💻 kennethp2@talktalk.net

NOTTINGHAM (Hyson Green)

Christians: ? Children: ?

Meeting place: Hyson Green Youth Club, Terrace Street, Nottingham NG7 6ER

Send post to: pgyasiantwi@gmail.com

Sunday meetings: Breaking Bread 11.00 am

Contacts:

Philemon. 💻 pgyasiantwi@gmail.com

STIRLING (Stirlingshire)

Christians: 23 Children: 10

Meeting place: Crawford Hall, Colquhoun Street at Linden Avenue, Braehead, Stirling FK7 7PX

Contacts:

Mitch Vick. ☎ (01786) 816259 💻 mitchvick@gmail.com

Dick Carter (w. Anne). ☎ (01324) 820987 💻 carnbokids@virginmedia.com

ISLE OF MAN (Douglas)

Christians: ?

Meeting place: Finch Hill Bowling Club, Kensington Road, Douglas, Isle of Man

Send post to: isleofmanchurch@gmail.com

Sunday meetings: Bible Study 9.45 am, Breaking Bread 10.30 am

Midweek: Thursday, 6.00 pm (phone for information)

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/IsleOfManChurchOfChrist/>

Contacts:

Nigel White (w. Bertha). 📱 (07624) 355443

British Bible School Notes

“Your instructions are a doorway through which light shines. They give insight to the untrained.” (Psalm 119:130 NET)

The psalmist realised the need for instruction in God’s word and knowing what God said. God’s word is like a doorway through which his light will shine into our lives, giving us insight. As Christians, we should value God’s word in this way.

This autumn we have the opportunity to spend time looking deeper into God’s word. In September and October, over two weekends, Patrick Boyns, Jon Galloway, and Jack Paton will open up Hebrews at the East Kilbride congregation.

Hebrews is one of the most significant books in the New Testament in helping us understand the work of Christ in the context of the calling of Israel. In this study we take a thorough look at the arguments

presented for the supremacy of Christ, which are as useful today as when they were first written.

Over two weekends in November, the letter to the Galatians will be examined at the Wembley congregation. This letter is relevant for Christians today as we learn about some of the earliest conflicts the first Christians had to deal with. The dangers of legalism are never far away and always to be opposed. This module examines the text of this letter in light of its first century context and draws some important lessons from it for today.

Our second residential study week is planned for 5th-9th November. Getting a week of studying God’s word in the fellowship of like-minded Christians is not to be missed! This year we will be looking at the text of the Old Testament book of Joshua.

We will examine this book in the contexts of the history of Israel and of God’s purpose for the whole of mankind, considering also the relevance of its message in light of contemporary events and culture. Besides examining the text, we will discuss aspects of leadership, ethical questions that are raised, as well as look at the archaeology of relevant sites. This study will be led by Patrick Boyns, Jon Galloway, and Mark Hill.

We often decry the lack of Bible knowledge throughout this land and even among Christians. But what are we doing to better educate ourselves in God’s word? Come to one of these studies – you won’t be disappointed! More information can be found on our website: www.britishbibleschool.com.

HEBREWS

One of the most significant books in the New Testament in helping us understand the work of Christ in the context of the calling of Israel. Here we take a thorough look at the arguments presented for the supremacy of Christ – as vital today as when first written.

East Kilbride
Scholar's Gate
G75 9JL

Friday, 21st September 7.30 to 9.45pm
Saturday, 22nd September 9.00am to 5.00pm
Friday, 26th October 7.30 to 9.45pm
Saturday, 27th October 9.00am to 5.00pm

Teachers: Patrick Boyns, Jon Galloway and Jack Paton
www.britishbibleschool.com

Jon Galloway

God has given us an incredible opportunity to advance the gospel throughout the UK & Ireland (and the world!). In partnership with Truth.fm we are launching a UK content radio station. Truth.fm works closely with the Gospel Broadcast Network (gbntv.org) which produces 24/7 access to the gospel message through the internet. They are excited to be working with us for the cause of Christ here in Britain.

What is involved?

Our Truth.fm Internet radio station needs lessons in mp3 format. Lessons should have a decent recording quality and not exceed 55 minutes (up to 45 minutes is ideal). Lessons can be sermons or Bible studies, they can be recorded live during a meeting or recorded in your own home or office. Truth.fm have created a Dropbox account to receive lessons and they will handle further edits as necessary. No lesson integrity will be lost during that process.

How can I listen?

The radio station can be accessed via an app like 'TuneIn radio' which works on most smartphones and tablets. Alternatively, you can add a link to the website location on your own website or go direct to Truth.fm to listen. Content can be heard anywhere in the world where someone has an internet connection. It

hasn't launched yet. Details of its location will be released once content is ready.

What will it cost?

Nothing! Unless you want to contribute, that is. The Cumbernauld congregation has committed to getting the radio station up and running at a cost of £737, plus the ongoing contract of £3,000 over the next 3 years. You are under no obligation to help financially, but any financial help frees up our funds for other works we are doing in Cumbernauld and elsewhere. The *Christian*

Worker has agreed to let us promote the new radio station and it will include a regular update of what funds are donated.

When will it start?

Once we have the content. Remember, to broadcast 24/7, we need 168 lessons per week! The more content we provide, the more variety there is to the programming. Also, new content can be added at anytime to keep the radio station up to date and fresh.

How do I provide content?

If you have a sound system in your meeting place, you could consider adding a computer to the sound system and recording on an application like 'Audacity' (which is free to use). Alternatively, use a small handheld mp3 recorder that can use an external tie clip microphone. Record the lesson, download to your home/office computer, then upload



to the Dropbox folder. Please note that all recordings must be digital. Please do not post audio cassettes to us.

Can we advertise on the radio station?

As lessons won't last the full 60 minutes, some fillers are needed to make up the hour. Truth.fm can fill that with a cappella song content and promotions of the service they offer. In addition to that, congregations throughout the UK could use the station to promote their own regular worship times, special events (like socials, lectureships, youth weekends, etc.),

upcoming local events like gospel meetings. There are some details to work out for doing this, but it will be available and free of charge. Advertising for commercial purposes or personal financial gain will not be accepted.

We believe that this is an incredible opportunity for the congregations in the UK & Ireland. If you want more information or need advice on recording your lessons, please get in touch.

Graham McDonald

Gene West (1936-2018) – A Life Well Lived

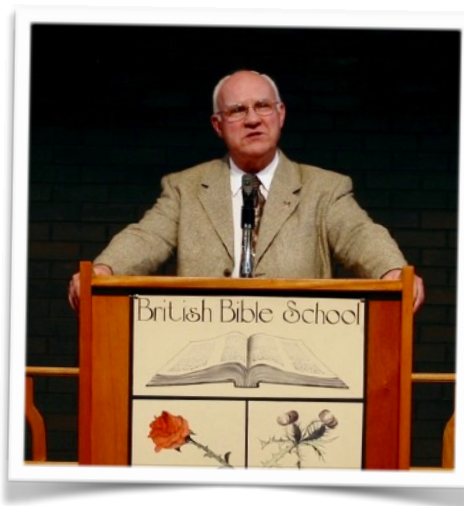
Many who read our pages will remember Gene West. For a period of almost ten years, from 2001 to 2009, he made frequent visits to the UK, often preaching special series of outreach meetings or teaching special lessons at various events or at the British Bible School.

Gene was always a part of my life. He met my Dad when they were students at Freed-Hardeman College back in the 1950s. As they were both from West Virginia, they got to know each other and formed a life-long friendship, which extended to my siblings and I, as well.

Gene loved God's word and he loved teaching it to others. In addition to preaching he also taught at Ohio Valley College (now University) and later at the West Virginia School of Preaching. During his later years he also began writing, eventually penning commentaries for his

students on Revelation, Hebrews, Philippians, Romans, Galatians and Acts.

Gene also loved history and had a good sense of it. I remember his telling how he skipped school so that he could watch the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II – he had enquired at his high school and was shocked to discover that they were not showing the broadcast live. So he stayed home so that he could watch history being made. His trips to the UK combined his preaching and teaching with visits to many historical sites.



Gene always wanted to make one last trip to the UK to “encourage the brethren.” Due to treatment for cancer and his diabetes this never happened. Instead, he travelled to his eternal home.

I will miss Gene. He was a wonderful Christian gentleman who lived a full life for his Lord.

Jon Galloway

Elders appointed for Edmonton

The Christians at Edmonton in London are grateful to the Lord for seeing them through the selection and appointment of elders. This was the result of over three years of teaching. We are thankful to have arrived at this conclusion.

The date for the appointment of the elders was Sunday, 1st July 2018. The programme was overseen by Trevor Williams, an evangelist who also helped the congregation through his teaching on leadership.

The two elders selected were Anthony Appiagyei and Charles Ofori Banin.

The occasion was graced by many brethren from congregations from within and outside of



the London area. The Christians at Edmonton wish to thank all those who attended the



programme and ask for prayers for the congregation to continue fulfilling its dreams in becoming organised as God wants it. There are several photos included of the occasion.

Please keep us in your prayers!

*Anthony Appiagyei and
Charles Ofori Banin*

Family News

East Kilbride: We have had a variety of events over the past few months to encourage more fellowship with each other as well as involving our friends and those in our community.

At the beginning of May we organised a 'Murder Mystery Dinner'. Over three courses of an Eastern-based meal, scripts were used to help us determine 'who did it', with Hercule Poirot making an appearance (via DVD) to ensure we weren't missing the relevant clues. It proved to be an enjoyable evening for both the congregation and friends from the community.

We held our first outreach meeting for this year the weekend of 12th May. David Murray, from the Aberdeen congregation, was our speaker and brought three excellent and thought provoking lessons on "Who is Jesus?"

Thanks to the lovely weather we are having this summer we were able to have a congregation BBQ in July. Several brought family members with them for an enjoyable time eating food cooked over charcoal (although often more resembling 'burnt offerings').

We are currently working through strategic planning as we seek to find relevant ways to reach out to those in our community.

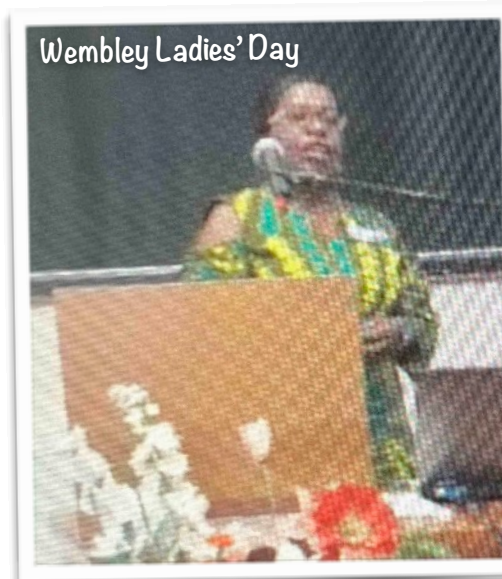
Jon Galloway



Wembley (London): We had over 75 ladies from sister congregations in UK who attended our Ladies' Day on Saturday, 2nd June. The focus was on "Love in Action." We had three wonderful speakers who provided us with spiritual food – their messages were very encouraging.

The singing was uplifting and inspiring. We also had fun and laughter and we would like to thank all the sisters from far and near who came and supported us.

Anne Airebarnen



Liverpool:

All Day Fellowship

Our annual All Day Fellowship took place on Saturday 23rd June. This year our speaker was Tony Coffey and he really did the assigned topics justice, with sound, clear and simple teaching. He was asked to speak on "The Love of God." This is the congregation's theme this year as we study

the Gospels, hear lessons and engage with our community using this as our motivation.

Tony prepared and delivered three lessons to our many visitors and local Christians in attendance. He spoke on: “The Love of God Constrains Us,” “The Love of God Gives us the Victory” and “To remain in His Love.” All three lessons were streamed live on our Facebook page (see this link for lessons www.facebook.com/liverpoolchurchofchrist) – we had online visitors from Christians in Australia and India at different intervals during the day. The lessons, fellowship, love and food were enjoyed by all.

Youth Weekend

Our Youth Weekend quickly followed our All Day Fellowship and we hosted just over 50 young people and adults from 29th June – 1st July. It was fun, encouraging, enjoyable, spiritually uplifting, sunny and dry and we all had a great weekend. Our theme this year, “Stand Up and Be Counted,” was well presented by the invited speakers from Northampton,



Birmingham and Scotland. Most lessons were presented outdoors as we enjoyed the really sunny weekend. We strolled down to

the local park and spent time on the local beach – it was quite funny at times over the weekend to hear a few young people saying “it is really hot” and “can we stay inside?”. The weekend meant

that our Sunday morning worship was full, with lovely singing and an encouraging message from our very own Mike Glover on “Standing up and being counted.” The Youth Weekend is growing each year. A special thank you to Mark Hill (Northampton), Paul Hill (Leicester), Graham McDonald (Cumbernauld) and Julie (Sheffield) for assisting us with the entire weekend.

Summer Workers



The Youth Weekend brought with it three young Americans from Tennessee (via the Northampton congregation) who shared Austin Grimes, Hannah Field and Mandy Ring with us for two weeks to assist us with our

youth and outreach programmes. They worked very closely with Mike Glover for two weeks in knocking doors, handing out

leaflets, visiting the local Christians, teaching our young people and “hanging out” with them, supporting our weekly activities and just being helpful and fun to be around. They taught the Sunday Youth Class after worship and also met with the young people on Saturdays for a Youth Class and activities in addition to supporting our outreach programmes with Mike. We really appreciated their presence and encouragement for the two weeks they were with us and we are extremely grateful to the Northampton congregation for their love and kindness in sharing these young people with us to bring glory and honour to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Charles Yankiah

Edmonton (London): On 14th July we hosted our 3rd Annual Men’s Workshop. This year’s workshop had the theme “Visionary Leadership” taken from Proverb 29:18.

The guest speaker was Gary Smith from the Leicester congregation. We had useful discussions on visionary leadership and the men were encouraged.

Frank Otchere from Edmonton then led us to discuss about men’s health, since statistics prove that men are less likely to discuss their health issues.

Patrick Boyns (Principal of British Bible School) briefed the men about the activities of the School and how we all can



participate in its work. The session ended with wonderful songs of praise. Ten congregations were in attendance. We give glory to our God.

Charles Banin

Nottingham (Hyson Green): A number of families are now meeting in the Hyson Green area of Nottingham. Meetings are held at Hyson Green Youth Club. We wish this new group well.

Trevor Williams

Isle of Man (Douglas): Nigel White and his wife Bertha have moved to the Isle of Man to begin a congregation. Originally from the United States, Nigel served American congregations before moving to Galway to work with the Christians there. Their details are in the ‘Directory Update’. They would be delighted to meet with brethren who visit the island on holiday.

Trevor Williams

Workshop in Bratislava: This year Christians will gather from all over Europe to strengthen each other and tell of the

hope and work they are involved in. Last year Pauline and I attended the meeting that was held in Mainz, Germany, and this year we have booked to go again to these meetings in Bratislava. We were richly blessed and encouraged to meet brethren from all sorts of backgrounds and to

hear of their walk with Jesus. The hotel is graciously paid for with funding from the States. Two representatives from

congregations are invited. Travel is paid by those attending. There will be encouraging speakers and Keith Lancaster will lead singing. Last year we laughed, we cried, we sang, we prayed. There was even time allowed for fun. God is doing amazing things though so many people. We all have a story to share.

Dates: 3-6 October. **Place:** Park Inn by Radisson, Bratislava, Slovakia. **Contact:** Doug Reeves via www.sibi.cc/evw. **Closing date:** 15th August. Contact me if you would like more information.

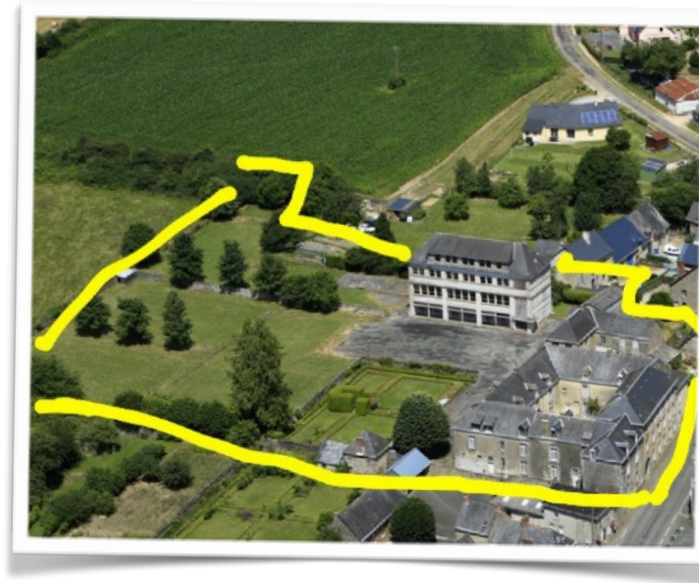
Trevor Williams

Appeals

France: An opportunity to serve!

We have bought a small, old boarding school in northern France. We hope to open this facility for classes, retreats and holidays in 2019.

We are looking for some helpers to come and help with painting, decorating, gardening and general repairs. The dates that we are trying to fill are from 20th August to 30th September – any period within that time frame.



Pakistan: Naeem Sabir is asking if the British congregations can help him at the Bible College. They have a great need for another bathroom for the students and this

will cost in the region of £700. They is also a need for more everyday utensils.

For those wishing to give please contact Barbara Fisher, 5, Portway, North Marsden, Buckingham MK18 3PL or (01296) 670568.

Barbara Fisher

We would house you and provide three simple meals per day in return for 25 hours of work per week, which can be organised to your own liking. We are two hours from Ouireham and a three hour drive from Paris. There are many wonderful places to see including châteaux, cathedrals and quaint little villages. With your own transportation you would be free to explore.

If this sounds interesting to you, please send us an email at: summerschoolfrance@gmail.com

Jerry and Caroline (ZooBi) Jones



EUROPEANCHRISTIANWORKSHOP.COM

DIGGING DEEPER

**16TH - 18TH
AUGUST 2018**

**For More Information
Contact us at
Registration@EuropeanChristianWorkshop.com
or on 01509 768789**

Summer Lane, Birmingham

Saturday 4th AUGUST

- 10.00 - 10.30 am Tea / Coffee.
- 10:30 - 10.45 am Hymns
- 10.45 - 11.30 am “Faith is the Victory”
 (Paul Hill)
- 11.30 - 11.45 am Hymns
- 11.45 - 12.30 pm “Victory in Jesus”
 (Mike Glover)
- 12.30 - 1.30 pm Lunch
- 1.30 - 1.45 pm Hymns
- 1.45 - 2.30 pm “When we all get to heaven
 What a great day of
 rejoicing that will be”
 (Graeme Morrison)
- 2.30 pm Tea / Coffee.

Have a safe journey home. God Bless.

**Aberdeen
Youth
Weekend
2018**

24th-
26th
August



ANCHORED

Speakers

Nick Wilson
Iain Cameron

Ages 12 and up

To book your place, or for more information contact:

jessica04f@gmail.com

Find us at:

393 George Street, AB25 1EQ



**Autumn Family
Weekend Retreat**

Friday, 14th to Sunday, 16th
September 2018

at Letton Hall in Norfolk

**I want
to know
JESUS**

... learning to know Jesus, not just about him



www.britishbibleschool.com

Thamesmead Ladies bring back to you
"An Afternoon of Songs"



Please join us as we speak to one another
with Psalms, hymns & songs from the
Spirit, making music from our hearts to
the Lord (Ephesians 5:19)

DATE: 15th September 2018

TIME: 11.30 am - 4.00 pm

VENUE: Slade Community Hall, Plumstead,
Erindale Road, London SE18 2PJ

RSVP: Esther - 07799 535 557; Ama -
07956 509 540; Tina - 07773 786 411

Diary

August

4th – **Summer Lane (Birmingham)**: Fellowship Day, 10.00 am-3.00 pm; speakers: Paul Hill, Mike Glover and Graeme Morrison. Contact: Trevor Ralph (trevor.ralph@sky.com).

11th – **Eastwood (Nottinghamshire)**: Quarterly Outreach meeting: “Jesus – the Way”; light refreshments at 6.00 pm and lesson at 7.00 pm; speaker: Jon Galloway. Contact: Adrian Limb (cofceastwood@aol.com).

16th-18th – **Lancaster**: European Christian Workshop – “Digging Deeper”. Contact: Stephen Woodcock (registration@EuropeanChristianWorkshop.com or 01509 768789).

24th-26th – **Aberdeen**: Youth Weekend – “Anchored”, speakers: Nick Wilson and Iain Cameron. Contact: jessica04f@gmail.com.

September

1st-2nd – **East Kilbride**: Outreach meetings with Niall Scobbie. Saturday: refreshments at 6.00 pm and lesson at 7.00 pm; Sunday: 10.00 and 11.00 am. Contact: Jon Galloway (ek.klesia@icloud.com).

8th – **Great Barr**: Fellowship Day – “Bearing One Another’s Burdens”, speakers: Jon Galloway and Patrick Boyns; registration from 10.00 am at Collingwood Community Centre, Great Barr, Birmingham B43 7NF. Contact: Sola (sola.adeosun@gmail.com).

14th-16th – **Letton Hall Family Retreat** in Norfolk (IP25 7SA). Theme: “I Want to Know Jesus.” Cost: £70 per person (children ages 4-12 are half price). Organised by the British Bible School. To book, visit the BBS website: <http://britishbibleschool.com/upcoming-events/letton-hall-family-retreat-2018>

15th – **Thamesmead (London)**: Ladies’ event – “An Afternoon of Songs,” 11.30 am-4.00 pm at Slade Community Hall, Plumstead, Erindale Road, London SE18 2PJ. Contact: Esther (07799 535557), Ama (07956 509540), or Tina (07773 786411).

21st-22nd – **East Kilbride**: British Bible School Study Weekend. Module: “Hebrews” (part 1), teachers: Patrick Boyns, Jon Galloway, and Jack Paton. Friday: 7.30-9.45 pm; Saturday: 9.30 am-5.00 pm.

22nd – **Loughborough**: Anniversary meeting, speaker: Mark Hill; refreshments: 6.00 pm, lesson 7.00 pm. Contact: Jason Hill (j.hill147@hotmail.co.uk).

22nd – **Bristol**: “A cappella Jam 2018: In Christ Alone,” 10.00 am-4.00 pm. Contact: Craig (07949 399828).

29th – **Peterhead**: Social Day. Speaker: Adam Barr.

29th-30th – **Sheffield**: Lectureship, speaker: Trevor Williams; Saturday – 11.00 am-4.00 pm, Sunday – 10.30 am-3.00 pm. Contact: 07508033534, 07809 719855 or 07577 938049.

29th-30th – **Tottenham, London**: Annual Bible Lectureship – “Growing a Healthy and Strong Church”; Saturday – 10.00 am-4.00 pm, Sunday – 12.00-5.00 pm, venue: Duke’s Aldridge Academy, Tottenham, London N17 0PG (behind Tottenham Spurs Stadium). Contact: Nyarko (07932 979748), Isaac (07525 777146), Ben (07424 075300), Osei (07535 035357) or tottenhamchurchofchrist@yahoo.co.uk



29th-30th – Brighton: “Fellowship in Spreading the Gospel,” speaker: Kyle Campbell; Saturday and Sunday – 9.30 am-5.00 pm at 11 Oxford Street, Brighton BN1 4LA. Contact: Ken Peters (07440 607435 or 01323 460945).

October

3rd-5th – Bratislava, Slovakia: European Vision Workshop; venue: The Park Inn Danube. Contact: Doug Reeves (dreeves@sibi.cc).

6th – Newtongrange: Annual Social Day, 1.00 pm.

12th-14th – Kincardine: Field of Refuge Women’s Renewal: “For Such a Time as This” at Tulliallan Castle, Kincardine FK10 4BE. Cost: £120 (£8 saving if you pay deposit before 1st June). Contact: fieldofrefuge@hotmail.com.

13th-14th – Stapleford: Weekend meetings with Ken Mullan. Saturday: 7.00 pm; Sunday: 11.00 am and 6.00 pm. Contact: Bob Eckman (bbobekman@aol.com or 07714 207279).

21st-22nd – East Kilbride: British Bible School Study Weekend. Module: “Hebrews” (part 1), teachers: Patrick Boyns, Jon Galloway, and Jack Paton. Friday: 7.30-9.45 pm; Saturday: 9.30 am-5.00 pm.

26th-28th – Peterborough: Women’s retreat – “What is your worth?” at Holiday Inn West Peterborough. Cost (for twin room): £140.00. Contact: Marsha Erysthee (01733 351192 or 07541 333908 or merysthee1@aol.com).

November

5th-9th – British Bible School: Residential Study Week at Bassenfell Manor, near Keswick. Module: “The Conquest and Settlement of Canaan – a study of the book of Joshua”. Contact: study@britishbibleschool.com or visit: <http://britishbibleschool.com/upcoming-events/autumn-study-week-2018-the-conquest-and-settlement-of-canaan-joshua>

10th – Eastwood (Nottinghamshire): Quarterly Outreach meeting: “Jesus – the New Beginning”; light refreshments at 6.00 pm and lesson at 7.00 pm. Contact: Adrian Limb (cofceastwood@aol.com).

10th – East Kilbride: An afternoon of praise, 1.00-4.30 pm (doors open at 12.30 pm).

17th – Northampton: Ladies’ Day.

January 2019

18th-20th – Bassenthwaite Family Retreat at Bassenfell Manor, near Keswick. Theme: “Good News is Jesus...” Cost: £60 per person (children ages 5-16 sharing a room with parents are half price, 0-4 are free). Organised by the British Bible School.

February

18th-24th – Gemünden, Germany: Advanced Bible Study Series. ABSS I Monday-Friday, ABSS II Friday-Sunday. For further information or to book your place, contact: Paul Brazle (brazle.paul@gmail.com or +32 488 481 082). (Follow group on Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/697781630273815/>)

The Final Word: "National Health Service at 70"



Last month we celebrated the diversity of our nation with people arriving in this country from elsewhere. July 1948 also saw the start of the National Health Service. For over 100 years many had talked about a better way of improving the health of the British people as many could not afford a doctor and when all else failed many ended up in workhouses separated from their families. Poverty was rife as was disease. William Beveridge (1879-1963), the British economist and social reformer, said that five "Giant Evils" should be slain – want, disease, squalor, ignorance and idleness.

The First World War had seen countless millions of people killed and mutilated but sadly, when military activity was over, many were crippled in body and soul. Within a generation the Second World War with all its atrocities brought another unaccountable onslaught to humanity. Many nations were torn apart and healing was needed everywhere. Eventually Aneurin Bevan, Minister of Health, brought in the NHS to Britain to be paid for through taxation. This new benefit was to be for all people of this country from the cradle to the grave.

The NHS was started 5th July 1948, just one month before I was born. It has been all too easy to criticise an institution that has developed and changed so much from its initial conception. So much research has developed amazing medicines and operations. Of course health costs the nation, but so many have received so much. Private medical help is still available for those who can afford it but the majority of people have never been able to have that sort of funding. My family and I have all benefited from medicine and operations without great individual cost. Yes, the NHS is often run on a shoe string. Yes, our nurses and doctors should be paid more. Yes, they are overworked and on rare occasions a few make mistakes. But I for one am constantly thankful and make a point of saying so every time I visit a doctor or see a medical practitioner. I am thankful for our brothers and sisters in Christ who work in the NHS in a whole variety of ways: doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, dentists, pharmacists, ambulance drivers, paramedics, medical laboratory scientific officers, cleaners, bookkeepers. Whatever the position is, accept the thanks of this brother and I feel sure of everyone else around you. You are invaluable and we love you. **THANK YOU.**

When we read the sacred stories of Jesus we often think of him as the healer and this generation needs healing in the body, in the soul and in the spiritual life. We may not all be able to work in the NHS but we can all hold out a hand of love and support, a comforting word and a kind gesture. When we do, we go alongside the greatest healer of all for when we reach out to others we reach out to Jesus.

Trevor

Father, thank you for those who have trained to work among us

For all who do their best to support and heal us

For those who surround us with care and offer a hand of love.