



the **Christian Worker** MAGAZINE

August 2026 • Vol 58 No 8

Four new Christians!

Thoughts on Mormonism

**Appeal for Ghana
Pacemaker Mission**

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All articles and news items should be sent to **Trevor Williams** by the 21st of each month. Late items may be accepted until the 25th. Publication is the first day of each month.

To receive *The Christian Worker Magazine* as a free pdf, send your e-address to jdgalloway@mac.com. Professionally printed copies are available at cost. Please contact Trevor for details – twilliams195@hotmail.co.uk.



Front cover and above: summer in Netherburn



Kernels from Corinthians

The message of the cross

The message of Jesus isn't a popular one today. Those of us who have spent our lives trying to tell others about him are aware that this message doesn't get a good reception.

It is the same in the first century. When Paul wrote letters to Christians there were two groups that they were struggling with: the Jews and the Greeks/Romans. Their reaction to the message of Jesus was different but they both rejected it.

"Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength." (1 Corinthians 1:22-25 NIV)

The Jews were looking for signs, something to confirm the message with God's power – to them a message of someone crucified would have looked like weakness. The Messiah ought to be defeating Israel's enemies, not being executed by them. This was a stumbling block to them in believing in Jesus as the Messiah, although a stumbling block of their own making.

Then there was the Greeks and Romans. They prized wisdom and those who were philosophers. They thought a message about a man who didn't have enough sense not to get executed was foolishness. How could someone who had been executed save anyone?

Yet the message that Paul brought to them was one of a crucified, executed Messiah!

This was his only message. Crucifixion, in that society, was regarded as so revolting and degrading that it would not even be mentioned in polite society. Despite the unpopularity of the message this was still what Paul proclaimed to them.

Add to that the other part of the message: yes, Jesus the Messiah died, but he came back to life! Do we realise how far-fetched that would sound to someone not familiar with the life of Jesus? People just don't come back to life after they die. Yet that is the message of Paul and it is also the message we have today.

It really is all about the power and wisdom of God. If God could create everything out of nothing – and he did – would it be any problem to restore life to someone who had died? If you are familiar with Scripture you will realise that God did that at various times throughout history. With Jesus there was a difference: he came back to life never to die again. This is what gives us hope (Romans 1:1-4). This is why Paul could write, *"For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God"* (1 Corinthians 1:18).

We have the same message and it is usually met with the same scepticism that Paul faced. But the message cannot be changed so that it is more acceptable to people – the message is that Jesus the Messiah was crucified but came back to life. The message may be foolishness to those who don't realise they need it, but to the saved it is the power of God.

Jon



CONGRATULATIONS!



Sarah Jane Patrick



Alan Bowie

Good News from Cumbernauld!

Sarah Jane Patrick was baptised into Christ after a few studies with Adam and Melanie Barr, as well as many discussions with others in the congregation. She has been worshipping with us since earlier this year, along with her son Thomas. Just a few weeks later her fiancé, **Alan Bowie**, was also baptised for the forgiveness of his sins. We are rejoicing with the angels as we watch this couple begin their journey with God.

Another young couple were baptised into Christ after just a few studies. Contact was initially made at work with Nicole Barr. They began attending worship and studied for several months with Nicole and Edwin Offin. Due to some serious threats made to them from back in their home country, as a result of converting from Islam, their names and photos are withheld – but we would appreciate everyone’s prayers as they begin their new life in Christ. Their fire for God is inspiring and we cannot wait to see how God uses them.

Nicole Barr



Our love and sympathy

We learned as we were finalising this issue that **Jim McGuiggan** has left this life for eternity. Here is what was published on his website by Aaron Cozort.

“It is with sadness, and yes, a bit of rejoicing, that we announce that Jim has passed from this life to go home. We were all blessed by his teaching, his humility, and his thoughtfulness. But we are thrilled that some kind soul convinced Jim years ago to set up a small studio in his study and start recording as he was able, with so much help from his daughter Linda and others, so that so many more can be taught by Jim in the future for years and years to come. God bless you, Jim, on your new adventure!”

We are planning to include more detailed information on Jim’s life and influence in September’s *Christian Worker*.

Jon



BRITISH BIBLE SCHOOL NOTES

BBS Residential Study Week

Our Residential Study Week at Bassenfell Manor is a wonderful time of study and fellowship each year. In recent years we have spent time studying the history of Israel, from Joshua and Judges, through the United Kingdom, the Divided Kingdom, and then last year the return from captivity. In addition to Old Testament studies we have also spent time in the Gospel of John and Acts. Spending five days looking at aspects within a section of the Bible helps us to see how it fits the overall context.

Our study this year will concentrate on “The Synoptic Gospels”. Over three full days of study we will look at Matthew, Mark, and Luke and examine how they are similar and also different. Although we can’t look at the entire text of all three of

these gospels we will examine some events they contain and how they fit together.

If you have never been able to attend a study week, or even considered it, these are open to anyone. The week is organised as follows: Arrival is on Monday evening. Bassenfell Manor has rooms to allow almost seventy to have a bed but for this week each participant can have a room to themselves (unless they wish to share). Part of the cost of the week covers our food which is prepared each day by Alice and Carol Whitehead. On Monday evening we have a simple meal together and get to know each other.

Each day, Tuesday to Thursday, has a similar schedule. After a devotional and breakfast, mornings are spent in three classes. Our teachers this year are Patrick Boyns, Jon Galloway and Steve Whitehead. After lunch the afternoon is free to explore this beautiful area of the Lake District, whether that be walking the fells, visiting coffee shops or even shopping. We reassemble for a fourth class before our evening meal with a fifth class after we have eaten. There are often group activities organised for the evening. On Friday morning we pack and clean and have one final class before departing for our homes.

If anyone is able to join us for this week, we are confident that you will benefit from both the study and fellowship. It is wonderful to spend a week around God’s word with others who are interested in following Jesus.

The dates this year are 26th-30th October and the cost for the week, which covers all aspects of your stay plus a book to help in your studies, is £195 per person. You can book your place on our website. We hope to see you in October!

Jon Galloway
britishbibleschool.com



WHEN THE 'ELDERS' COME CALLING

It is not unusual for Mormon "Elders" to knock on your door with a view to having a discussion about their faith. These "Elders" are typically young, unmarried men who are easily identified by their identical dress and pinned name badges. Their approach will not immediately inform you of their various doctrines, but rather soften you with appeals for their love and emphasis on the family unit.

Before you engage in a conversation, there are some points about their beliefs you might find revealing and helpful. They may start by mentioning the family. Why?

For the Mormon it is the 'vehicle' (my term), by which spirits are 'drawn from premortal existence into mortal existence.' The more babies a Mormon has, the more spirits can become mortal and then obtain the chance to be exalted to the highest level, a position where they too can become a god – just like the God of the Bible and also Jesus, both of whom were once men who became exalted to the highest level. This idea fits well with the practice of polygamy, no longer approved by

the main branch, because it was a way to help more women get into the highest kingdom; more women, more babies. Eternal life in the 'Celestial Kingdom,' with your family, is the meaning of salvation. Without being married, a woman cannot reach that 'Celestial' abode.

Even your dead loved ones can have that chance if you agree to be baptised (immersed) on their behalf. Your love of the family unit travels past, present and future. Maybe now you see why the family might be the starting point of their conversation.

Priesthood

In 1 Peter 2 the apostle speaks of the congregation of Christ as a 'holy priesthood' and later 'a royal priesthood.' The Mormons hold to the Aaronic priesthood stating: 'The Aaronic Priesthood is often called the preparatory priesthood. Those who hold the Aaronic Priesthood can prepare to receive the higher Melchizedek Priesthood.' Why the priesthood of Aaron? 'The Aaronic Priesthood was restored to the earth when it was given to Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery on May 15, 1829, by John the Baptist. In the Church today, worthy male members may receive the Aaronic Priesthood beginning in January of the year they turn 12.'

'Faithful male members of the Church can receive the Melchizedek Priesthood beginning at age 18...It was taken from the earth during the Great Apostasy, but it was restored in 1829 when the Apostles Peter, James, and John conferred it upon Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery...The offices of the Melchizedek Priesthood are elder, high priest, patriarch, Seventy, and Apostle. The President of the High Priesthood is the President of the Church.'

Baptism

Immersion is practised and is necessary to have eternal salvation. 'The Saviour revealed



When the 'Elders' come calling

the true method of baptism to the Prophet Joseph Smith, making it clear that the ordinance must be performed by one having priesthood authority and that it must be done by immersion.'

"After we are baptised and receive the gift of the Holy Ghost, much of our progress toward eternal life depends on our receiving other ordinances of salvation: for men, ordination to the Melchizedek Priesthood; for men and women, the temple endowment and marriage sealing [eternally married]. When we receive these ordinances and keep the covenants that accompany them, we prepare ourselves to inherit eternal life.'

Creation

Joseph Smith taught that the material world has eternal roots, fully repudiating the concept of creation *ex nihilo*. "Earth, water &c—all these had their existence in an elementary State from Eternity," he said in an 1839 sermon. God organised the universe out of existing elements.'

In 1844 Smith said, 'God "was once as one of us" and "all the spirits that God ever sent into the world" were likewise "susceptible of enlargement."' Joseph Smith preached that long before the world was formed, God found 'himself in the midst' of these beings and 'saw proper to institute laws whereby the rest could have a privilege to advance like himself' and be 'exalted' with Him. 'You have got to learn how to be a god yourself.' Joseph Smith also made 'inspired revisions' to the Bible as part of his calling as a prophet.

This is just a short taster to think about if you ever talk to such young 'Elders.'

Further research, with references, can be found on the internet. I will give one among many, apart from their official web site.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints/Mormons by Susannah Crockford, first published 2018, now at: <https://www.cdamm.org/articles/church-of-jesus-christ-of-latter>

A. Spicer

7th Annual Marriage Retreat - 28-31 August 2026

Join us for an extended weekend of a delightful Christian marriage retreat. Limited Spaces please book early!

Theme: Connecting With Purpose

Main Speaker: Evangelist Paul Hill

Venue: Holiday Inn Aylesbury By IHG
New Rd, Weston Turville, Aylesbury, HP22 5QT, United Kingdom

Cost: £600 per Couple

What's Included: Lectures, Workshop, Meeting Spaces, Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, Accommodation, Free Parking access to garden, swimming pool, fitness centre, hot tub, sauna, wi-fi and room service. Contact: Bro Dexter 07445 223 631 to register

Full Payment by 30/06/2026 to: Mercy Asiamah Sort Code: 20 53 00
Account Number: 135 65 009. Kindly add your name as reference.





FAMILY NEWS

EDMONTON MEN'S WORKSHOP

We would like to warmly express our heartfelt gratitude to all who encouraged and participated in this year's Men's Workshop, which was hosted on Saturday, 11th July 2026. The theme for the workshop was 'Baptism Saves', which drew its scriptural text from Acts 2:38.

Over fifty men representing fourteen congregations attended the workshop in person. Others outside the UK had the opportunity to attend via Zoom, and thirteen devices were registered on the Zoom.



for making this workshop a meaningful and enriching experience for everyone involved.

S. Ofori Dwumah



The main speaker for the day was Everett Chambers from France. After the speaker had delivered his thought-provoking lesson and the question session was completed, we enjoyed a time of fellowship over lunch.

In the second part of the programme, we split those attending into two groups for

discussion. There were two topics divided between the two groups. One group discussed "Baptism into Christ" and was led by James Obeng from Edmonton. The second group discussed "One Baptism" and were led by James Tambe from the Stratford congregation in London. The group leaders summarised what each group had discussed and participants were allowed to ask questions, give suggestions and contributions after each speaker.

In conclusion, we were all fed with spiritual renewal and fellowship. Once again, we thank you





APPEALS & UPDATES

GHANA PACEMAKER MISSION

We are seeking support for a Church of Christ funded medical mission to Ghana in November 2026. The mission will help provide pacemaker-related care and training, while showing patients and their families that this support is a gift from God through his people.

I would like to thank congregations and individual Christians for their support for the Africa medical project over the past few years. Your contributions have paid for the shipment of boxes of medical items to Africa and beyond. These donated items have been used to provide low-cost care for people who might otherwise struggle to pay for their medical treatment. While it may seem that this project has been on hold since I moved to Northampton a few years ago, a certain mid-wife working in Aberdeen Royal Infirmary has been keeping the project alive by sending the medical items to Ukraine, via Tayside and Strathearn Help for Ukraine, a Perthshire-based registered charity.

Current work with partner charities

I have also been working with UK and US-based charities to supply reconditioned cardiac devices and interventional items to

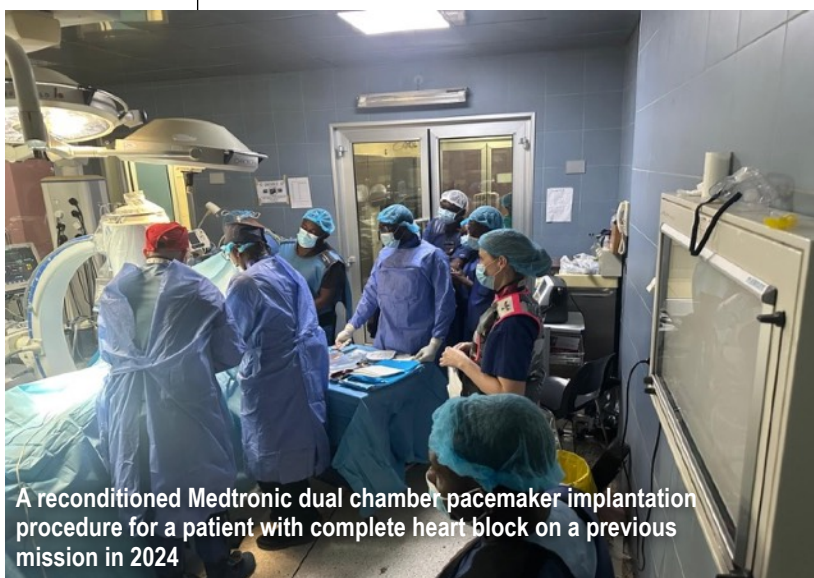
low and middle income countries. Partner charities include: Pace4Life–Arrhythmia-Alliance, the Cardiovascular Education Foundation, and the Dennis and Jane Reese Foundation. I currently manage the warehouse where these devices, leads, accessories and equipments are stored.

These charities usually fund overseas missions that provide training for local teams, helping them strengthen their skills in device implantation and follow-up management. A typical team includes a consultant cardiologist, a device physiologist, two nurses and a radiographer.

Volunteers and mission support

I am supported by: Nurses from the Northampton Heart Centre at Northampton General Hospital and Christians from the Northampton congregation, who help pack the items needed for missions around the world.

The countries we have supported include Ghana, Nigeria, Syria, the Gambia, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Cuba, Benin, India, Pakistan, Ethiopia, Venezuela and Haiti.



A reconditioned Medtronic dual chamber pacemaker implantation procedure for a patient with complete heart block on a previous mission in 2024



Julius with patient on a device follow-up clinic

Appeals

Current appeal

The charities are unable to fund this year's planned November mission to Kumasi, Ghana, leaving urgent patient needs unmet. We aim to implant 25 life-changing devices for patients with complete heart block (causing dizziness or collapse) or heart failure (causing severe breathlessness and fatigue). Some have endured symptoms for a long time simply because they cannot afford treatment, and without help, some may not survive. A dual chamber pacemaker with leads costs about £3,000, while a heart failure device (CRT-D – cardiac resynchronisation therapy) costs £14,000–£18,000, depending on the manufacturer. Procedure and hospital stay costs are about £400–£600. With support, we hope to implant around twenty pacemakers and five CRT-Ds this November, giving these patients a real chance of longer and better lives.

We are needing to **raise at least £6000** to cover the cost of flights and accommodation for five people. Donations from congregations or individuals to make this possible will be greatly appreciated. This would be a Church of Christ funded mission. We will involve local brethren in Kumasi or Accra, who will maintain contact with patients and families should they want to know more about the Lord.

I am taking the lead on this project, but the *Christian Worker* is managing the funds. **We would be grateful for donations to help this mission.**

How to donate:

Please send cheques payable to "The Christian Worker" to: 195 Hickings lane, Stapleford, Nottingham, NG9 8PJ

Bank transfers to: The Christian Worker HSBC account no.: 91058533; sort code: 40-45-03.

For further information, please contact me: 07495 154255 or jdonkor@gmail.com.

Julius Donkor

MALAWI NEW CONGREGATION

Through the generosity of our readers we were able to send £1,000 to gather preachers together to help begin new congregations in Malawi. This is the letter of thanks I received.

Trevor

We would like to thank you very much for the donations to the mission work and starting of the new congregation at Jandalara. An average of fifteen Christians are meeting every Sunday. The word of God has been widely preached in this area as it is a very strategic location, being a trading centre.

Future Plans: We are planning to open two more congregations in July and August. The places earmarked for these are the Chankhalamu Primary School and the Kavululanga Primary School. These places are ideal as they are far apart and surrounded with a lot of people.

Bible Schools: I have plans for the two Bible Schools, one the first week of August at the Mpherembe congregation and the other in early November. These are to help develop more leaders in the local congregations.

Requests: I would like to request more prayers because this is spiritual battle, and the evil one may not be happy about our activities. When we pray and work together we will bring glory and honour to our God.

We also requesting financial support, both for preaching campaigns and the Bible schools.

Finally: I would like once again to thank you very much for the support you gave us at Jandalara. May God bless you more.

Lungster C. Mlotha

KEEPING FAITH WHEN LIFE CRUMBLES

Job had lost just about everything – at least everything that would matter to most people then and to most people today. In just one day he lost his oxen, donkeys, sheep and camels, as well as his servants – in a nutshell, he lost his entire stock portfolio. All his wealth was gone in a day. But to make matters worse he lost all his children in a disaster that day, as well. His life had truly crumbled!

What Job did not know, but we know when we read the book is that Satan was behind this. God allowed it – he was in control – but God didn't do it to him: Satan did. It was all in an attempt to get Job to turn his back on God.

God's confidence in Job's faith and integrity was vindicated – through all of this, he refused to give up on God. So Satan tried again. He joined the "sons of God" when they came before the Lord. God once again asked what he thought of Job, especially since he still maintained his integrity despite what Satan had incited against him.



“‘Skin for skin!’ Satan replied. ‘A man will give all he has for his own life. But now stretch out your hand and strike his flesh and bones, and he will surely curse you to your face.’ The Lord said to Satan, ‘Very well, then, he is in your hands; but you must spare his life.’” (Job 2:4-6 NIV)

The problem, according to Satan, was that Job hadn't felt anything because it had not affected him physically. This tells us something about Satan: he does not know what it is like to be human. Yes, people can be self-centred, but there is pain that people experience that is worse than physical pain or even death. The pain at losing his children would have been far worse than anything Satan could do to him physically. When our children are in pain we, as their parents, are also in pain. To lose a child brings overwhelming grief. Can you imagine losing all ten children at one time? Job had already faced about as much pain as any person could endure.

God allowed Satan to do what he wanted to Job but there was only so far he would let Satan go – he couldn't take his life. One thing we see through all of this is that God is in control. Yes, he allowed Satan to give Job immense trials, but there were limits even on what Satan could do. This fact should give us comfort when we face trials.

“So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord and afflicted Job with painful sores from the soles of his feet to the crown of his head. Then Job took a piece of broken pottery and scraped himself with it as he sat among the ashes.” (Job 2:7-8)

What happens when a person is faced with severe physical discomfort? They look for relief. Sometimes it is physical relief, which Job attempted through sitting in ashes and scraping himself with sharp objects.

When going through a difficult period it can be more useful to have the comfort and

Keeping faith when life temples in

encouragement of those we love. Sadly, his wife and friends did not really help. His wife's reaction at seeing him in such pain was, "Are you still maintaining your integrity? Curse God and die!" (Job 2:9) – in other words, forget God and end your life. Job's response to her is priceless: "You are talking like a foolish woman. Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?" In all this, Job did not sin in what he said" (Job 2:10).

Job's "friends" weren't much better – when they arrived they were speechless and sat for a week without saying anything. Although it is good to be surrounded by people, silence can become very awkward. When they started speaking, all they could do was to accuse him of being a terrible, unfaithful person – they offered no comfort.

Even through the accusations of his friends Job remained faithful and reasoned that there was more to life than the here and now; he recognised he needed a redeemer who would transcend life and death. He knew this meant he had to rely fully on God and that is where he found comfort.

No matter how bad our life gets we need to remember Job and not turn our back on God – he is always there for us.

Jon Galloway

Notices in the CW

We love to hear about what congregations are doing for their special events and publish notices in the CW, **but** but we strongly encourage host congregations to personally invite others to attend. Unfortunately not everyone reads the CW and sometimes people forget.

Trevor

SHEFFIELD CHURCH OF CHRIST
INVITES YOU TO THEIR ANNUAL LECTURESHIP

MARRIAGE & PARENTING AS SHARED FORMATION

*Building Stable Homes and Shaping Future
Generations*

TOPICS

- MARRIAGE - GODS' WAY IN AN AGE OF REDEFINED VALUES
- BUILDING STRONG CHRISTIAN HOMES IN A RAPIDLY CHANGING CULTURE

10AM - 4PM

SAT 29TH AUG, 2026
411 BELLHOUSE RD, S5 0RB



RSVP: 07508033534 / 07809719855
07778518769



BRANDON CHURCH OF CHRIST
YOUNG ADULTS WEEKEND

2ND - 4TH OCTOBER 2026

GOD'S CHOSEN MESSENGER

THORPE WOODLANDS ADVENTURE CENTRE, SHADWELL,
THETFORD, IP24 2RX

18 - 40 YRS OLD SINGLES & COUPLES WELCOME.
UNFORTUNATELY NO CHILDREN PLEASE.

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST BY COMPLETING THE FORM
USING THE QR CODE.



£40PP TOTAL INC. ACCOMMODATION & FOOD. £15PP
DEPOSIT TO SECURE YOUR PLACE. FOLLOWED BY £25PP
BY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2026.

CONTACT - 07933279091 - TAPITARUVINGA@GMAIL.COM

NOTICES



WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

NEWPORT CHURCH OF CHRIST YOUTH DAY

Saturday 12th September 2026
10:30am - 4:30pm
For Ages 12+
Contact Ekow: 07477 969494

Newport Church of Christ, 1 Riverside, Newport NP19 7AG



More Evidences for God and Creation

East Kilbride
22nd-23rd August
5th-6th September

Saturdays, 9.30 am-4.00 pm
Sundays, 9.45 am-12.45 pm

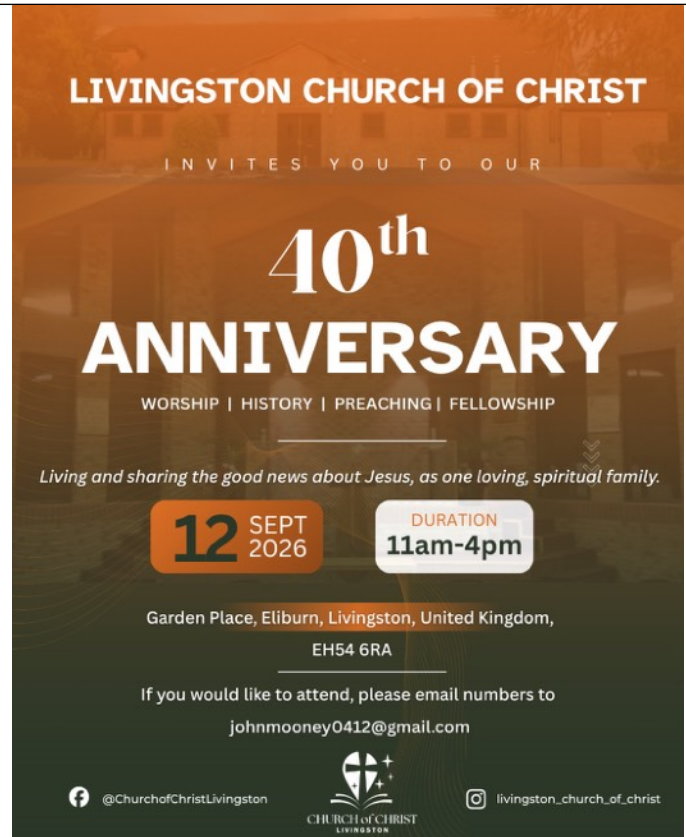
1 Scholar's Gate
East Kilbride
G75 9JL

Teachers:
Jon Galloway
Mark Hill

Two weekends examining questions often asked about God, Jesus, the Bible, and Creation

All are welcome at either or both weekends

A British Bible School Congregation Resource



LIVINGSTON CHURCH OF CHRIST

INVITES YOU TO OUR

40th ANNIVERSARY

WORSHIP | HISTORY | PREACHING | FELLOWSHIP

Living and sharing the good news about Jesus, as one loving, spiritual family.

12 SEPT 2026 **DURATION 11am-4pm**

Garden Place, Eliburn, Livingston, United Kingdom,
 EH54 6RA

If you would like to attend, please email numbers to
 johnmooney0412@gmail.com

@ChurchofChristLivingston  livingston_church_of_christ



HYVOTS BANK CONGREGATION

70th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD FOR 70 YEARS OF FAITHFULNESS

26TH SEPTEMBER 2026 **1:30PM**

FOR CATERING PLEASE EMAIL NUMBER OF ATTENDEES BY SUNDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER

VENUE
Faith Mission
 548 Gilmerton Road, Edinburgh, EH17 7JD
 churchofchristedinburgh@gmail.com



DIARY

August

2nd-7th – British Bible Camp: Camper application form: <https://tinyurl.com/3zs2crk2>. We are currently recruiting volunteer staff (age 18+ – staff dates 1st-8th August). Staff booking form: <https://tinyurl.com/4z6snftb>. Contact: Jason (07795 560990).

3rd – British Bible School evening class: “John’s Gospel, chapters 1-11” led by Jack Paton each Monday, 8.00-9.00 pm, for twelve weeks. Links to join the class can be found on the BBS social media and website: www.britishbibleschool.com.

6th – British Bible School evening class: “The Son of Promise and the Master Manipulator” led by Jon Galloway, each Thursday, 8.00-9.00 pm, for twelve weeks. Links to join the class can be found on the BBS social media and website: www.britishbibleschool.com.

15th – Livingston: Barbecue and Devotional Evening, 5.00-8.00 pm. Please send numbers attending by 9th August to fellowship@churchofchrist.co.uk.

22nd-23rd – East Kilbride: BBS Study Weekend – “More Evidences for God and Creation”; Saturday 9.30 am-4.30 pm, Sunday 10.00 am-12.30 pm. Contact: Jon Galloway (jdalloway@mac.com).

28th-31st – Marriage Retreat: “Connecting With a Purpose” (organised by Crewe congregation). Speaker: Paul Hill. Venue: Holiday Inn Aylesbury (By IHG), New Road, Weston Turville, Aylesbury HP22 5QT. Cost: £600 per couple. Contact: Dexter (07445 223631) to register. Full Payment by 30th June to: Mercy Asiamah (Sort Code: 20 53 00; Account Number: 135 65 009 – kindly add your name as reference).

30th – Liverpool: Praise and Harmony with Keith Lancaster, 10.00 am, at 1 Picton Road, Waterloo, Liverpool, L22 8QH. Contact: Charles Yankiah (cyankiah@hotmail.com or 07359 750645).

September

5th-6th – East Kilbride: BBS Study Weekend – “More Evidences for God and Creation, part 2”; Saturday 9.30 am-4.30 pm, Sunday 10.00 am-12.30 pm. Contact: Jon Galloway (jdalloway@mac.com).

5th – Peterhead: Social Day beginning at 1.00 with soup and sandwiches; speaker: John Mooney.

5th – Stratford (London): Singles Lectureship – “Building Love that Lasts), ages 18 and above. Speakers: Jason Snethen and James Tambe. Venue: St Francis’ Primary School, Maryland Park, London, E15 1HB. Contact: Stratfordchurchofchrist18@gmail.com, Pfunzo (07478 739081) or Alex (07869 682462).

12th – Newport: Youth Day – “What’s the Difference?” (For age 12+), 10.30 am-4.30 pm at 1 Riverside, Newport NP19 7AG, Contact: Ekow (07477 969494).

12th – Livingston: 40th Anniversary celebration, 11.00 am-4.00 pm at Garden Place, Eliburn, Livingston. If planning to attend please e-mail numbers to jmooney0412@gmail.com.

18th-20th – British Bible School Autumn Weekend Family Retreat. Venue: Letton Hall, Norfolk. For more information and to book a place visit our website: www.britishbibleschool.com.

26th – Hyvots Bank (Edinburgh): 70th Anniversary (an afternoon of fellowship and thanksgiving) at Faith Mission, 548 Gilmerton Road, Edinburgh, 1.30 pm. Could those attending please send numbers for catering purposes? Contact: churchofchristedinburgh@gmail.com.

26th – Bristol: Ladies’ Day – “The Joy of Suffering”. Contact: Heidi (07789 998042).

Diary

26th – **British Bible School** evening lecture by John Griffiths, 7.30 to 8.30 pm on Zoom. Links to join the lecture can be found on the BBS social media and website: www.britishbibleschool.com.

29th-2nd October – **European Vision Workshop** in Romania. Speakers: Wes McAdams (keynote), Claudiu Murtaza, Vasile Luhos, Albert Cook, Laura Boswell (*ladies sessions*), Emanuel Boateng, Marty Knight. Venue: 2 Hotel Sir Royal, Bucharest, Romania. Register at: <https://www.shelbygiving.com/App/Form/8a35e5d0-e139-4e31-9676-5488d2ed868d>. Contact: kristin.hagins@sunset.bible.

October

2nd-4th – **Brandon**: Young Adults' Weekend: "God's Chosen Messenger". Venue: Thorpe Woodlands Adventure Centre, Shadwell, Thetford IP24 2R. Ages 18-40. Price: £40 per person. Contact: Tapi O'Donovan (07933 279091 or tapitaruvinga@gmail.com).

3rd – **East Kilbride**: Devotional Evening, 7.00-8.00. Contact: east_kilbride_coc@outlook.com.

24th – **Liverpool**: Evening of songs, 6.30 pm, at 1 Picton Road, Waterloo, Liverpool, L22 8QH. Contact: Charles Yankiah (cyankiah@hotmail.com or 07359 750645).

26th-30th October – **British Bible School Residential Study Week** at Bassenfell Manor: "The Synoptic Gospels". Cost: £195 per person. For details and to book your place: www.britishbibleschool.com.

November

7th – **East Kilbride**: Devotional Evening, 7.00-8.00. Contact: east_kilbride_coc@outlook.com.

14th-15th – **Lewisham (London)**: BBS Study Weekend – "Evidences for God and Creation, part 1". Contact: Jon Galloway (jdgalloway@mac.com).

21st – **Liverpool**: Gospel meeting, 6.30 pm, at 1 Picton Road, Waterloo, Liverpool, L22 8QH. Contact: Charles Yankiah (cyankiah@hotmail.com or 07359 750645).

28th-29th – **Lewisham (London)**: BBS Study Weekend – "Evidences for God and Creation, part 2". Contact: Jon Galloway (jdgalloway@mac.com).

28th – **British Bible School** evening lecture by Mark Hill, 7.30 to 8.30 pm on Zoom. Links to join the lecture can be found on the BBS social media and website: www.britishbibleschool.com.

June 2027

11th-13th – **Field of Refuge Women's Renewal Retreat**: "Higher Ground – Rise" at the University of Stirling. Cost: £260 (£78 non-refundable deposit to secure your place). Contact or book your place: fieldofrefuge@hotmail.com.



Field of Refuge
Women's Renewal Retreat

HIGHER GROUND

Rise

"He lifted me out of the pit...
and set my feet on a rock."
— Psalm 40:2 —

11-13 JUNE 2027
FRIDAY – SUNDAY

UNIVERSITY OF STIRLING
A peaceful setting with breathtaking views

£260
Includes private en-suite room
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DEPOSIT REQUIRED
A non-refundable deposit of £78
is required to secure your place.

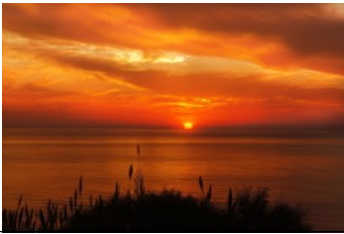
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A weekend to renew your heart, mind and spirit.

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Field of Refuge
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Come ready to rise higher in Him.



THE FINAL WORD



Parents and children

How well do our children know their parents?

I have reached a point in life where the past is greater than my time will be in the future. My children grew up and flew the nest a long time ago and now our grandchildren are doing the same to their parents. Time moves on so quickly.

When we read the Parable of the Lost Son in Luke 15, we find a story that resonates today with so many young people anxious to leave home and have fun doing just what they want to. They generally forget that their parents were also young and probably a bit foolish at times themselves. In the story that Jesus told there were five points that the young son did not know about his Dad.

1. His eyesight was not as bad as he thought – he was looking for his son.
2. His Dad could run faster than he remembered.
3. He thought his Dad was way past giving hugs.
4. He had forgotten that when he was a child his Dad would kiss him.
5. He did not know his Dad still loved a party. And most of all he knew what young people get up to.

Most young people cannot imagine that their parents were young, healthy, could act the fool, be romantic and fall in love. It seems that every generation thinks it has invented sex and it is quite unknown to their parents. The urge that is amongst maturing young people has always been there and needs to be

controlled in readiness for marriage and the start of a new family. Otherwise, we see a society of children growing up with only one parent and not knowing who their biological father is. Being able to procreate does not take a great deal of effort but being parents and growing older takes a lifetime.

One of the points that my children have told me is that there were certain things that they were never going to say to their own children – then they did. Each one in turn told me that they had turned into me. I laughed because I had said the same things to my Mother (my Dad had died by the time I became a Dad).

On a recent visit from one of our sons, who has lived in Australia for the past twenty years, he said he had forgotten some events in his life. He had also developed some thoughts that were far from the truth of his own history. I guess we could call it ‘misremembering’.

I wonder how many blessings we have had from our Heavenly Father that we have misremembered or forgotten about. How well do we know our God as a person? We may well study our Bibles and be able to quote Bible verses, but do we know our Father? Do we feel his care or his sorrow? I wonder if God has ever cried over me as I have cried over my children – and then my heart breaks because I think he has.

I believe my God constantly holds out his hand of mercy for his children because we do that for our own children. Our journey of faith may seem long but it is always worthwhile.

Father of all love help us to bless and so be blessed. Amen

Trevor

