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July 2022 • Vol 54 No 7

## Frank Worgan to celebrate 100 years!

Six new Christians!

**Graham Fisher remembered** 

Host families for Ukranian refugees needed

#### July 2022 Volume 54 Number 7

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#### Christian worker



Front cover and above: Frank Worgan at BBS graduations





#### **EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATION**

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

## CONGRATULATIONS!



#### New Christians in Northampton

We are delighted to tell you that **Tony Aigbidodia** was baptised into Christ on Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> June. Tony was invited to our Sunday meeting along with others at school. Having come along they have studied together using the "Story of Redemption" film series. Tony is so enthusiastic and in conversation is quoting scripture. We pray that he will mature and grow and the enthusiasm will remain and continue to be as contagious as it already is.

On Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup>

June, **Joyce Yaboaa** was immersed into Christ. Having moved into the

area of the church building she decided to



pay a visit to our meeting and kept coming along. She soon came to the conclusion that she needed to be united with Christ. We praise God for leading Joyce to us.

On Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> June, **Kerry Adu** gave his life to Christ. The

son of faithful parents who have been in Northampton for a number for years we rejoice that their nurturing and teaching of him has led to his baptism.

Joyce Yaboaa

Mark Hill

#### New Christian at Summer Lane

On Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> June, **Queenette Nwariaku** was baptised and gave her life to the Lord. Please keep Queenette in your prayer as she starts her Christian life.

Trevor Ralph



#### Congratulations!

#### A baptism in Colchester

Sometimes God's providential guidance and care astounds us. **Lexie Devine** lives in Colchester and, with a desire to know God's word more fully, came into contact with members of the church of Christ in the USA through Facebook. After some online conversations and reading a recommended book entitled, 'Muscle and a Shovel' by Michael Shank, Lexie decided that she needed to be baptised into Christ. With the assistance of Tim Hall of the Central congregation in Johnson City, Tennessee, she contacted us at Wembley. Lexie is unable to travel from



Colchester and could not come to Wembley to be baptised. However, she was able to arrange for her own baptism in the local swimming pool in Colchester. On 26<sup>th</sup> April, with the help of her friends Carolyn and Sylvie, she was baptised into Christ. Lexie has a heart that is open to God's word and is anxious to learn more to grow in her faith and knowledge of Jesus Christ. She joins us regularly on Zoom for worship and Bible study, and is a welcome addition to our assembly. We give thanks and rejoice that our God worked things out for Lexie to come to the knowledge of the gospel and to make contact with us. Please pray for her as she grows in her new life in Christ.

John Griffiths (Wembley)

#### New Christian in Portsmouth

I baptised the gentleman in this photo on Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> May, in Portsmouth where he lives. His name is **Roamel Critchon**.

Please keep this new Christian in your prayers.

Anthony Newman (Reading)





#### **Congratulations!**

Congratulations to **Mark & Kaitlyn Wilson** (Hyvots Bank) following their wedding on 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

Nick Wilson (Hyvots Bank)

## Happy 100<sup>th</sup> birthday!

My dad is Frank Worgan. This has its disadvantages. Someone once brought a visitor to me saying, "I must introduce you to Frank Worgan's son!". Seeing Maureen standing next to me, he added, "and this is Frank Worgan's son's wife". No names. Before anything else could be said, the guest was hustled away to be "introduced" to someone else!

Personally, I used to think dad's sermons were boring. As soon as he got up to preach, I would try to go to sleep. I would lean over and rest my head on my mum's lap. I was seven or eight years old and we were worshipping at Ince-in-Makerfield in Lancashire – a church plant.

As I grew older, I came to appreciate not just the content of dad's sermons – for, as a Christian, it now meant something to me – but also dad's oratorical skill: his incredible power of recall (which he retains to this day); his ability to knit passages and ideas together seamlessly; his use of his voice; the carefully considered selection of words; and his ability to connect with the emotions of an audience. Mum used to say that had dad not been a preacher, he would have made a wonderful Shakespearian actor! The late great Phillips Brooks (1835-1893), an Episcopal clergyman and influential writer and speaker on the art of preaching, offered what became regarded as the classic definition of preaching: "the presentation of the truth through personality". I'm sure anyone who's heard him would agree that, when behind the pulpit in "full flow", dad delivers his sermons with bags of personality!

Dad was born in Hindley, Lancashire, on 13<sup>th</sup> July 1922 to my grandparents, Fred and Annie Worgan. At that time, they worshipped with the church in Argyle Street, Hindley, which was strong and influential amongst the churches of Christ. As he grew, dad would pump the organ as grandad, a deacon, played. These were tough times for people. Grandad was a miner and dad tells of how, during and following the General Strike of 1926, grandad

and other unemployed miners were reduced to scavenging for bits of coal on the slagheaps, with the ever present risk of being chased and beaten by the mine's security patrols.

At school, dad was an able student,



diligent in his studies and excelling in English. My grandma told me that, before going out to play with other children, dad would be upstairs in his bedroom, finishing his studies. It occurs to me that his love of study, and the value he places on knowledge has never left him. In fact, I would say it greatly influenced me and many others.

Like others of his generation, dad left school at the age of fourteen, going to work at an iron foundry. Having experienced an accident underground, my grandad did not want dad to go down the mines. However, this experience was to be brief. Leonard Morgan, an elder of the church and local businessman, recognising dad's abilities, invited dad to work in one of his shops. This was pivotal in dad's life. Dad wrote, "if Leonard Morgan had not learned where I was working and invited me to work for him, I have no idea what my future would have held".

I've reflected on Leonard's intervention, and I see in it a message for us all: if we see a situation that concerns us, then we should act. Even a seemingly small act of kindness can change the course of someone's life.

Dad was baptised in 1937. Every Sunday evening, after the service, the teenage members of the Hindley congregation met in a home to hold a meeting of their own. The group included Albert Winstanley and Philip Partington. The young men took turns leading and presenting brief sermons. But dad's first "real" preaching opportunity came when he was invited to preach at the Lord's Day morning service in Leigh. It was 1937 and he was just fifteen years old. Invitations to preach elsewhere followed. Bob McDonald invited him to preach at Liversedge in Yorkshire – dad's first preaching appointment outside Lancashire.

What strikes me is these churches provided opportunities for "the leaders and teachers



of tomorrow" to learn and develop their skills.

One Wednesday afternoon, as they were working in Leonard's garden, Leonard asked dad if he'd thought about undertaking full-time evangelistic work? This came as a complete surprise to dad, who replied he had not! There followed a period of study after which, in May 1941 and sponsored by the "Old Paths Evangelistic Committee", dad was sent to Bathgate, Scotland, to study with the great evangelistic preacher, Walter Crosthwaite.

Following his training, every two- to three-months, dad would be sent by the Old Paths Evangelistic Committee to work in another locality. "My salary was 30 shillings a week", dad wrote, "with which I paid for board and lodgings, plus 5 shillings a week for all other expenses".

In November 1941, at the age of nineteen, he was sent to work with the churches in and around



Portknockie on the Moray Firth. He later learned one of the leaders of the church in Portknockie, Peter Geddes, had somehow heard about dad's preaching and had requested he might be sent to work with the churches in that region.

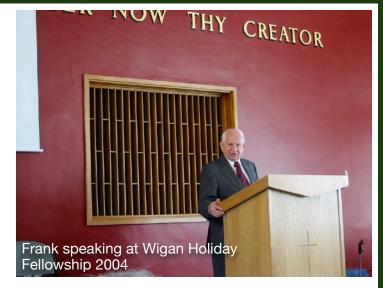
Dad's arrival as the only passenger at a deserted Portknockie station, a day earlier than his hosts were expecting, is a treasured family tale! He wrote, "I shall never forget the empty platform. No porter to meet the train. No one to meet me. The flickering gaslight. The blinding rain and wind, and the roar of the storm-tossed sea!" He managed to find the home of the church secretary, a surprised John McBoyle. Someone was sent for to collect dad and accompany him to the home of the family who would be his hosts during his placement. A young woman who worked at a nearby bank appeared at John McBoyle's door, and dad thought, "I'm going to marry you!". And he did, in Kirkcaldy in 1944. In fact, my mother, Isobel (nee Slater), was the first person my dad baptised in Portknockie.

Peter was born whilst mum and dad were working with the churches in East Lothian, Susan was born in Hindley whilst dad was working away from home with the churches in Lanarkshire, and I was born whilst mum and dad were working with the churches in the Netherlands.

Dad has now been preaching for more than eighty-five years and he's not stopped! In fact, I don't think he can stop, such is his feeling of responsibility and vocation. Space here does not permit me to talk about the over thirty countries in which he's preached, or the many states he's preached in across the USA.

Perhaps one of the best accolades to dad's effectiveness as a preacher, debater and teacher are





the words of the late Iain Paisley, the Northern Irish Protestant religious leader and loyalist politician who served as leader of the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP). Following the "Worgan-Kingdom" debate in Belfast in 1967, Paisley was heard to say, "If I could have got my hands on Mr Worgan, I would have strangled him!"

Happy 100th birthday dad!

#### Stephen Worgan

I first met Frank Worgan when I was eleven years old at the Bible week in Tunbridge Wells. It was the year of my baptism: 1959. I had never heard anyone preach like Frank and he frightened me! Here was a man who was eloquent, defended his faith and seemed to speak so I could feel the fires of Hell. Since then I know that the years of study, thinking, serving and directing and the incomparable love of Jesus has guided and sustained him. I remember as a student at North Ireland Bible School, Frank leading our morning devotional by quoting Isaiah chapter 6; he moved my soul.

At one fellowship when Frank's eyesight was not so good, he went to the front and asked someone to name their favourite book in the New Testament and then proceeded to preach and quote scripture for the allocated time without looking at his Bible. He didn't need to – his lifetime of Bible study had taught him all he needed. When there was a query on something Frank would always have a ready answer.

Thank you Frank for your encouragement to thousands, your guidance to so many and most of all your love for Jesus and his people. Happy Birthday from your brothers and sister in Christ from around the world.

July 2022



## BRITISH BIBLE SCHOOL NOTES

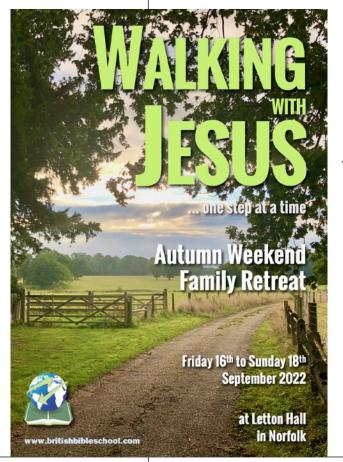
#### Walking With Jesus

What do you think of when you think of walking with Jesus?

Do you think of a pleasant stroll by the lake? Do you think of a merry band of men and a handful of women walking through the fields? Do you think of a more strenuous climb up the side of a mountain with a select handful of disciples?

Or do you think of having to sleep rough, rejected, under a cold, cloudless sky? Do you think of trudging through the streets with a tool of execution on your back? Do you think of taking deliberate steps – each step one step closer to your death?

Walking with Jesus was never to be a stroll in the park – it was always going to be a challenge.



About a week before his summit meeting with Moses and Elijah, Iesus had said to those around him: "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For

whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it."

To walk with Jesus is to go after him – to follow him in his steps. He's not talking about embarking on some sort of holy pilgrimage, as if we were to be simply retracing his journeys, but about walking in his shoes. It's not as if we've joined a spiritual ramblers' association, enjoying the views and looking forward to the tea and scones once we're done. The way of the Christ was always to be the way of the cross, and those who would follow him were to be in no doubt of that.

A little while later, as they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." And Jesus said to him, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." Yet another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home." Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Walking with Jesus was never a matter to be taken lightly. May we continue to grow in our understanding of what it means to deny ourselves, to take up our cross today, and to follow him.

May God bless us all on the journey.

Patrick Boyns britishbibleschool.com

## AT REST

## Graham Fisher remembered

Graham left this world in March 2021, aged 79. His church family at Buckingham Park in Aylesbury continue to miss him although, of course, not nearly so much as Barbara, his widow, and their children Sarah and Arthur. While many nationally and indeed internationally no longer have regular issues of his final project, 'The Voice' to enjoy, his church family miss his faithful presence at every meeting, his constant encouragement and wise counsel, his work as a servant and teacher, and his quiet efficiency in administrative tasks. Until last year it would be Graham who made sure our latest news reached the 'Christian Worker' in good time. His body was laid to rest in April 2021 but as it was a lockdown funeral numbers were severely curtailed and socially distanced and, while we did what we could, it was not what he deserved.

However, on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022, more than fifty friends and family were able to meet to join together to celebrate his life and works. This writer outlined Graham's biography with, at appropriate points, seven other speakers stepping up to fill in some of the details. Thus we heard about Graham's prowess as a wicketkeeping batsman as a schoolboy cricketer, his perseverance as a member of the 'Christian Union' at Keele University, his influence as a creationist apologist, his pastoral care of new Christians, his ministry as an author and editor, and his encouragement as a Governor of the British Bible School. And then we were privileged to hear



from those closest to him as Arthur, Sarah, and Barbara shared personal memories – many of which involved Liverpool FC – and with a closing rendition from all present in the club anthem of 'You'll Never Walk Alone' which he would have loved. And then we all joined in something else Graham loved – a convivial meal with much good conversation.

The fact that you are reading this report in the 'Christian Worker' is testimony to his twenty-four years of faithful service as editor and the fact that the Buckingham Park congregation continues to proclaim the Good News of Jesus without Graham is evidence that he laid some solid foundations in that congregation. We miss him but are so glad to have known him and to be certain of where he has gone. Please remember his immediate family as they continue to adjust to life without a husband, father, and grandfather and also his church family as we try to live up to the example he set us in the way in which he followed his and our beloved Saviour.

> Steven Whitehead Buckingham Park (Aylesbury)

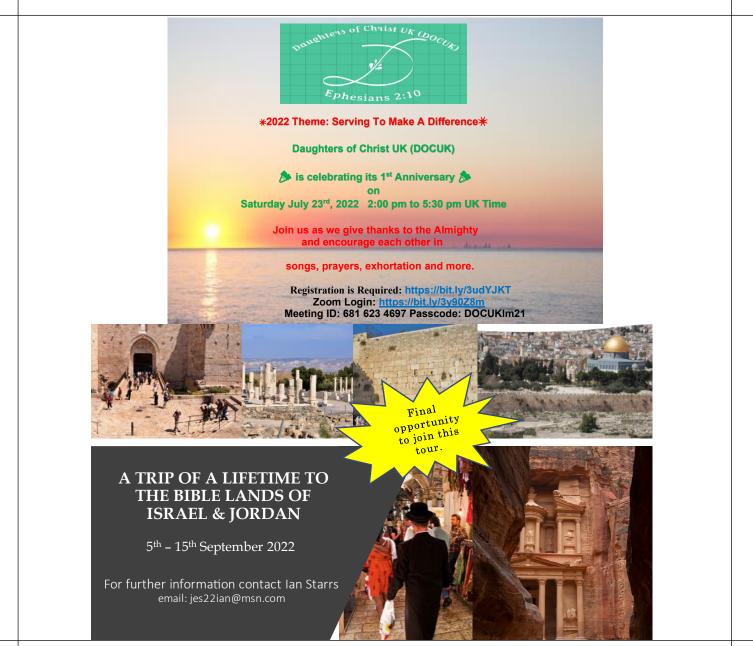
### Philip Hardy (originally from Summer Lane)

Philip Hardy grew up meeting with the Summer Lane congregation in Birmingham. He was the oldest son of Henry and Laura Hardy who were long term Christians and faithful workers for the congregation.

Philip was immersed in 1959 and studied Pharmacy at Loughborough College. After meeting his future wife Judy, who was part of a campaign group from America, Philip went on to study at the Sunset School of Preaching. After this time we worked together in Harrogate with the brethren meeting there. Eventually he and Judy, with their children, went to live in Montgomery, Alabama.

Philip was a faithful to the Lord until the day he suddenly passed away, on 5th June. He served as a preacher, teacher and missionary. Although perhaps not many will know him in the British churches he always had a heart for his fellow Christians here and for his homeland.

Trevor Williams





## FAMILY NEWS

#### NEWS FROM WEMBLEY

We resumed worship at our building in September last year and since then numbers gathering in person have steadily increased. We are also seeing the return of visitors who are passing through London on their holidays and joining us for worship. We have also had two visiting groups of students from Harding and Freed-Hardeman Universities worship with us.

Things are still a little different to how we functioned pre-pandemic, with a shorter Bible study and worship assembly, whilst continuing to broadcast the service on Zoom for those unable to attend in person. However, those returning to the building are enjoying the fellowship and being able to sing together once again. We are still using Zoom for our Wednesday evening Bible class which has enabled many more to attend than would come if we only met at the building.

Over the past two years we have been providing groceries each school holiday to local families referred to us by the nearby primary school. This effort has been much appreciated by the recipients, particularly in the current difficult cost of living situation that many people are experiencing.

John Griffiths

#### **STORY OF REDEMPTION Faith Sharing Seminars**



#### Hosted by Kirkcaldy church of Christ

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July 11.30am – 4.30pm Hayfield Community Centre, Kirkcaldy KY2 5DG Contact Alan Moyes: alan.j.moyes@gmail.com

Hosted by Northampton church of Christ

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August 10am – 4pm

Christian Fellowship Centre, Shadowfax Dr,

#### Northampton NN3 8DB

Contact Mark Hill: marks@uwclub.net

With James Nored Executive Director of Next Generation for Christ <u>www.StoryofRedemptionFilms.com</u> <u>www.NextGenerationforChrist.com</u>

Training will be given to share faith using the Story of Redemption (SOR) Film Series. Filmed in Israel and around the world, this is a series of short videos with discussion questions designed to lead seekers to faith and strengthen the faith of believers. SOR has Evangelism, Discipleship, and English Learning Tracks and is available in 40+ languages. During this seminar, participants will both gain familiarity with God's incredible story and practical, hands-on experience in sharing this story in groups and one-on-one.



## APPEAL & UPDATE

#### APPEAL FOR BRESCIA, ITALY

The congregation in Northampton has several Christians who moved here from Italy. Formerly they were part of the congregation in Brescia. This is a faithful and active congregation and they are reaching out to places where those have before, moved to make an appeal as outlined below.

If you can help please contact us at: <u>northamptonchurchofchrist@yahoo.co.uk</u> – or contact Mark Hill: 07434956692.

Dear Brethren,

Greetings, grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Due to the high cost of renting a place for worship, Brescia church of Christ have decided to purchase our current meeting place, where we have been worshipping for over fifteen years. Having considered this, we consulted our landlord, and he agreed to sell to us at the cost of €140,000.00. Our bank has pledged a loan of 70% equal €98,000.00. We are therefore to raise 30% equal €42,000.00 plus conveyancing fee, in a period of three months.

This opportunity is worth considering, and we hereby appeal to both individuals and congregations to come to our aid. We believe our God can do all things in accordance with His will. And God can make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed (2 Corinthians 9:8). We are looking forward to receiving your favourable response. May God richly bless you all in your labour of love.

In the Lord's service

James Abaka jamesabaka@libero.it

#### PHILIPPINES UPDATE

It seems that we are finally near the end of this lockdown. We still are required to wear masks but most everything is almost normal. However, people are still starving and just cannot seem to fully recover from this pandemic.

Our food pantry continues to thrive – now in its 59<sup>th</sup> week. We could use any help to keep it running for families with elderly folks, disabled persons and undernourished children.

While Taal Volcano is relatively calm, another volcano in the Bicol region (350 miles from Manila) erupted twice in a week's time. Please pray for the people there.



#### Appeal & Update

This past week was quite busy helping prepare for a mini-clinic in south Cebu. No feeding programme this time. Only a one-day medical consultation. I could not volunteer to join the trip as I have been struggling with walking for an extended period of time (joint pain mostly). I may have to take a trip to see my doctor.

Gigie Carranza



#### et s Start 1a

The Aughton and Hindley congregations warmly invite you to attend our weekend of talks with our guest speaker Gert-Jan Van Zanten (Holland).

7:00 pm Venue: Aughton. Topic: Lo.

2.00 pm Venue: Hindley. Topic: The be something missing from your life?

August 10:00 am Venue: Aughton. Topic: Stress. h August 6:00 pm Venue: Hindley. Topic: Why do g en to had people?

ldress: Anghton Village Hall, Winifred Lane. Aughton, mskirk, Lancashire, L39 5DH Contact: Tony 0747 397 0143

Address: 41 Argyle Street, Hindley, Wigan, Lancashire, WN2 3PH Contact: Fred 0742 314 4155

The Aughton congregation in association with the British Bible School warmly invite you to attend our weekend of friendly discussions about 'LIFE'.

lie About Life

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 10:00 am to 4:00 am Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September 10:00 am to 12:00

Address: Aughton Village Hall, Winifred Lane. Aughton, Ormskirk, Lancashire, L39 5DH

Contact: Tony 07473970143 / tonytyson66@yahoo.co.uk

Accommodation: If anyone would like to stay over on the Saturday night we have limited accommodation available. Please contact Tony for further details

Available On Zoom: 844 4710 9568



(Leviticus 18:22; I Timothy 1:10)

#### Men's Workshop 2022 organized by Church of Christ Edmonton, UK

Speaker: Evangelist Michael Stuart Canaan church of Christ

**Trinidad and Tobago** 

Date	Saturday, 9 <sup>th</sup> July 2022
Venue	ZOOM (ID:816 2087 8660 Passcode: Workshop)
Time	10:00 - 16:00
Contacts	Bro Maxwell (079-8343-5054) Elder Charles(075-0668-9396) Elder Anthony(078-4732-1141) or email info@edmontonchurchofchrist.org.uk



#### Notices



## **Rome, Italy**

October 4 - 6, 2022

**European Vision Workshop** 

"Those who were scattered"

#### Workshop Schedule:

#### **October 4 (Tuesday)**

Our scheduled activities begin at 18:00 Tuesday evening. You should plan to arrive earlier in the day if possible. Someone will be at the hotel the entire day of October 4 to assist you in locating your room but most rooms will not be available until after 15:00. At this time, there is NOT a meal planned for Tuesday evening, but the hotel has a restaurant and there are others options that are near the hotel.

#### October 5-6 (Wednesday thru Thursday)

- Each day will begin with a buffet breakfast then our first session will be at **8:30** with singing and Devotional.
- A special time each day is dedicated to an open discussion and sharing from the participants.
- Breaks and Meals will be served buffet style.

#### October 7 (Friday)

- Hotel check out
- Each guest will receive a ticket for a self-guided tour of Rome. This is a "hop on / hop off" style tour.

### <mark>\*</mark> Guest are responsible for all incidental cost and parking fees incurred during the workshop.

#### Registration will open soon for the 2022 Vision Workshop at: http://www.sibi.cc/evw

We encourage everyone to attend and to help European congregations we invite two representatives of their congregation to be our guests. Lodging and meals for these two will be covered by the sponsors. All guests are responsible for transportation. (All are welcome to come but we can only cover the lodging for two, sharing a double room).

For those not representing a European congregation, the fee will be \$350 per person. This is the total for 3 nights lodging and meals.

Douglas Reeves Sunset International Bible Institute dreeves@sibi.cc



## DIARY

#### <u>July</u>

4<sup>th</sup> – <u>British Bible School Evening class</u>: "The Saviour of the World" (part 2), 8.00 pm each Monday for twelve weeks. Teacher: Patrick Boyns. For further information and for login details: britishbibleschool.com.

**7**<sup>th</sup> – **British Bible School Evening class:** "Colossians", 8.00 pm each Thursday for twelve weeks. Teacher: Jon Galloway. For further information and for login details: britishbibleschool.com.

**9**<sup>th</sup> – <u>Edmonton (London)</u>: "The Church and Same Sex Marriage", 10.00 am - 4.00 pm on Zoom (Meeting ID: 816 2087 8660, Passcode: Workshop). Speaker: Michael Stewart. Contact: 07833 296396, 07908 725427, 07852 343010.

23<sup>rd</sup> – <u>Daughters of Christ UK</u> – 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary meeting on Zoom, 2:00 - 5:30 pm. Zoom meeting ID: 6816234697; Passcode: DOCUKlm21. Registration is required: see ad for details. For further information: Bernadine Wells (<u>BERN.WELLS@hotmail.co.uk</u>).

**30**<sup>th</sup> – <u>Edmonton (London)</u>: Singles Enrichment Programme – "Christ-Centred Marriage", 12.00-4.00 pm on Zoom (Meeting ID: 849 2443 9737, Passcode: marriage). Speakers: Patrick Boyns and Manny Ebong. Contact: Maxwell (07983 435054), Charles (07506 689396) or Anthony (07847 321141).

**30**<sup>th</sup> – <u>Kirkcaldy</u>: Story of Redemption Faith Sharing Seminar, 11.30 am - 4.30 pm. Speaker: James Noted. Venue: Hayfield Community Centre, Kirkcaldy KY2 5DG. Contact: Alan Moyes (<u>alan.j.moyes@gmail.com</u>).

**31**<sup>st</sup>-**5**<sup>th</sup> **August** – <u>**Camp Tayside**</u>. Douglaswood Scout Camp, near Dundee. For more information and to register: <u>camptayside.co.uk/register</u>. Contact: Aubrey Boyns – <u>a.boyns@gmail.com</u> or (07502) 220902.

#### <u>August</u>

**6**<sup>th</sup> – <u>Northampton</u>: Story of Redemption Faith Sharing Seminar, 11.30 am - 4.30 pm. Speaker: James Noted. Venue: Christian Fellowship Centre, Shadowfax Drive, Northampton NN3 8DB. Contact: Mark Hill (<u>mark@uwclub.net</u>).

14<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> – <u>British Bible Camp</u>: "Mapping Your Journey". Viney Hill Christian Activity Centre. Cost for campers ages 8-18: £120. Contact Jason (07795 560990) for details or to request an application form.

**26**<sup>th</sup>-**28**<sup>th</sup> – <u>Aughton & Hindley congregations</u>: "Let's Start Talking", speaker: Gert-Jan Van Zanten. Friday, 7.00 pm at Aughton; Saturday, 2.00 pm at Hindley; Sunday 10.00 am at Aughton and 6.00 pm at Hindley. Venues: Authton Village Hall, Winifred Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk L39 5DH and 41 Argyle Street, Hindley, Wigan WN2 3PH. Contact: Mike Glover (<u>mike97glover@gmail.com</u>).

#### <u>September</u>

3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> – <u>Aughton</u>: "Let's Talk About Life!" with British Bible School. Saturday 10.00 am-4.00 pm; Sunday 10.00 am-12.00 pm. Venue: Aughton Village Hall, Winifred Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk, Lancashire L39 5DH. Contact: Tony Tyson (07473 970143 or tonytyson66@yahoo.co.uk).

5<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> – <u>Trip of a Lifetime to the Bible Lands of Israel & Jordan</u>. Contact: Ian Starrs (jes22ian@msn.com). 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> – <u>British Bible School</u>: Weekend Family Retreat at Letton Hall – "Walking With Jesus…One Step at a Time", Norfolk. For details and registration: <u>britishbibleschool.com</u>.

#### <u>October</u>

1<sup>st</sup> – <u>East Kilbride</u>: 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary meeting: "Into the Future with God". Guest speakers: Patrick Boyns, Mark Hill, John Mooney and Ian Starrs. Contact: Jon Galloway (jdgalloway@mac.com).

4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> – <u>European Vision Workshop</u> in Rome. Theme: "Those who were scattered". Registration will open soon at: <u>http://</u><u>www.sibi.cc/evw</u>. For further information contact Douglas Reeves: <u>dreeves@sibi.cc</u>

22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> – <u>East Kilbride</u>: British Bible School Study Weekend. All day Saturday and Sunday class and worship. For details see our Facebook page or website: <u>www.britishbibleschool.com</u>.

31st-4th November – <u>British Bible School</u> Autumn Study Week at Bassenfell Manor: "Gospel of John". Teachers: Patrick Boyns, Jon Galloway and Steve Whitehead. Cost: £150 all inclusive. Further details and registration will be on our website soon, but make plans now.

#### <u>November</u>

25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> – <u>East Kilbride</u>: British Bible School Study Weekend. All day Saturday and Sunday class and worship. For details see our Facebook page or website: <u>www.britishbibleschool.com</u>.



## THE FINAL WORD



Learning to be still "Be still and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10)

In Sunday School many years ago my teacher gave me a text card to hang on a wall. That card hung above the head of my bed for many years and, yes, it was Psalm 46:10 – 'Be still and know that I am God'. I suppose it was one of the first Bible texts that I ever learned and am still learning from it.

We seem to live in a world that insists that we all go faster. We can cross the world to Australia in less than 24 hours. We demand faster Wi-Fi, we can order food to be at our home within minutes and take frozen food to boiling point in seconds with microwaves.

Few people encourage us to 'Be still'. On Sunday, 26th June, I felt ill and took a covid test and I proved positive. I could not attend worship. I had all the typical symptoms. I had time to spend, simply because I could not do anything else. I had to be still but did not enjoy it. Television was boring; I missed seeing people. Perhaps there will be one day sometime when my mind and body can 'be still' and I enjoy it.

The text, however, encourages stillness with knowledge that God is there, with me and for me – for us.

In a world that constantly disappoints



we must hold on. It is easy to say that God is not with us. Or be like the fool and say there is no God. We have offered thousands of prayers for

healing and there seems to be no response in our favour. How many tens of thousands of prayers have been offered for Ukraine and peace?

Yet out of all of our disappointments thousands of blessings are poured out daily. Individuals and churches have prayed more, given more, shared more. Many have gone beyond themselves, souls have been saved, the gospel preached and love shared. In the midst of sorrows and tears, the joys of new friendships have been made and hope shines out into the future.

In our rushing about, with anxious filled moments: 'Be still and know that I am God'.

Lord of all grace and mercy help us to be still so that we might see you, feel you and know you. Amen

Trevor

#### We are in need of homes for Ukranian refugees can you help?

We are still getting requests for shelter from Ukraine and some who are not yet part of the Churches of Christ. Frightened people who need a place to stay. We have two families who are requesting accommodation and we cannot offer them a place yet. If you could offer any accommodation and need to know more see <u>gov.uk</u> Homes For Ukraine Scheme and contact me at

twilliams195@hotmail.co.uk.