



the **Christian Worker** MAGAZINE

September 2026 • Vol 58 No 9

Remembering Jim McGuiggan

One new Christian!

Directory updates

**Appeal for Nepal flood
disaster**

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Front cover: Jim McGuiggan with Patrick Boyns at Gemünden; above: Jim teaching at Gemünden.



EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATION

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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.



Kernels from Corinthians

The mind of Christ

I often wonder ‘who is influencing whom?’ I’m thinking, of course, of whether we as Christians are influencing those around us or do we allow the world to influence us?

“What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us. This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words. The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.” (1 Corinthians 2:12-14 NIV)

Have you ever wondered why so many people whom we may consider intelligent reject God’s word? The description Paul gave here could be describing those living in the 21st century and not the 1st century. People still consider the message of Jesus to be foolishness.

Why would intelligent people arrive at such a conclusion? The real answer, Paul said, is because they have rejected what the Spirit has revealed as being foolishness. They don’t have God’s Spirit because they have also rejected the Spirit and what he has revealed. They don’t believe in a Messiah who died and came back to life and now requires us to change our lives to be like him.

How do we reach the world around us with the message of Jesus? Some have suggested that we need to change our message, to make it more acceptable to the modern world. But how can we change a message that comes from God’s Spirit? If

God’s Spirit cannot penetrate a hard-heart, why do we think we can by using human wisdom and a human message? Do we think we are wiser than God?

This goes back to my original question: who is influencing whom? I often fear that the world is having more influence on Christians than Christians on the world. Even though we have received the “Spirit who is from God” we don’t want to speak the “words taught by the Spirit”. Perhaps we are more concerned about not being accepted by the world than we are about not being accepted by God.

It really boils down to where our mind is. Are our thoughts fixed on the things of this world? Have we allowed the Spirit to change the way we think to reflect Jesus and his priorities? As Paul put it, “We have the mind of Christ” (1 Corinthians 2:16).

Do we have the mind of Christ? Do we spend time with God’s word so that we know the mind of Christ, so that we know what it is that he wants of us? We have a wealth of knowledge and information about Jesus at our fingertips – but we need to open the Book and read it to learn from what Jesus has revealed to us through his Spirit.

We need to develop the mind of Christ within us. When we do this our lives will change: we will change the way we think, we will change our priorities, we will change the way we live. Maybe someone won’t listen to us – but if they see our changed lives perhaps they will want to know more.

Jon



CONGRATULATIONS!



Antoinette Sonko

Exciting news from Edmonton!

We are excited to inform you that **Antoinette Sonko** has given herself to Christ through baptism. The exciting event occurred on Sunday, 2nd August.

Christians in Edmonton

The Book of Job

The book of Job is challenging in part because the book itself projects multiple voices that interpret Job's suffering differently. Job, the sufferer, never knows why he is suffering, so he interprets it as a divine misjudgment. His friends encourage him to plead with God for mercy, but he refuses their counsel as disingenuous. Finally, God speaks up, but his speeches seem to ignore Job's plight. In spite of the book's complications, it offers a glowing example of someone suffering faithfully. Moreover, it endorses being honest with God when we and our communities are hurting. We all hurt and we all experience undeserved suffering. Job is a book that helps us suffer faithfully.



This year's speaker for
the *Ministry of
Theological Education*:

Lance Hawley,
B.A., M.Div., M.A., Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Old Testament

Lance Hawley is an Associate Professor of Old Testament at Harding School of Theology (HST). His PhD (University of Wisconsin) is in Hebrew Bible, focusing on Wisdom Literature and the poetry of the Old Testament. He has two books, *Metaphor Competition in the Book of Job* and *Walking with Wisdom: A Study of Proverbs*. His teaching at HST covers all things Old Testament, including textual classes in Pentateuch, Isaiah, Wisdom Literature, and Psalms. Lance is married to Laura, who teaches freshman algebra. They have three children in their 20's, Sage, Clay, and Lydia. Before moving to work with HST eleven years ago, they were involved with church planting in Madison, WI. He loves his job and working with students who serve the Lord all over the globe. Outside of his work as a professor, he enjoys spending time with Laura, hiking, and tending to his backyard chickens.

Goldheckerweg 6
61276 Weilrod
Tel: 06083 - 941036

Bibelfreizeitheim
Gemünden
www.bibelfreizeitheim.de

Price: € 150
bedding not included, but
for € 12 can be provided

Zoom Participants: € 20

fall
conference
20 26

Faithful Protest:
Job's Journey with Suffering

"I had heard of you by the hearing
of the ear, but now my eye has
seen you." - Job 42:5

oct 12 - oct 16
2026





Jim McGuiggen

1937-2026

He was born on 22nd December 1937 – if you know your history, four years later in the year 1941, Hitler's army bombed Belfast and they called that the Belfast Blitz. It was a destructive force and that's where McGuiggen's family lived.

They created a programme where families could send their young children off to farms all around Northern Ireland. And the kids then would work in the farms and survive the Blitz and be able to carry on in the future. Jim was four years old when they shipped him off to a farm. The story that he tells very few people is that at 4 years old he wasn't big enough to work on the farm. His siblings did, but the farmer would lock him in a storage shed with no light. And he said rats crawled on him all day long. And there's a little bit of suffering for a four-year-old.

He grew up after the war in a home of a very mean alcoholic who abused all of them, including little Jimmy or James McGuiggen – that abuse carried on until they were big enough to kick him out of the family, which they did. This was a child who grew up knowing what suffering looks like. If you know anything about McGuiggen's teaching, you've probably heard him speak or write about suffering.

Suffering is a unique thing that shapes us. Nobody wants it. Nobody asks for it. But when you go

through it and look back on it, you realise you found a place in life that you couldn't have gotten to without that bit of suffering.

He became a young man in Belfast. He didn't know Christ. He worked at the shipyard where the Titanic was built. He was a riveter's helper – and he learned how to fight (McGuiggen called that 'pugilism' – he liked to use big words). So, he became a pugilist. He would fight his way on the streets and into the ring. He became a lightweight boxer and had some measure of success, they say. But, eventually he found Christ and Ethel Martin.

He and Ethel came together and started building a family – and Jim became a fighter of a different battle. There's all kinds of battles as you're raising children and you're moving across the country. He went to Sunset to school and then went back to Northern Ireland and was influential in starting a Bible School there. He taught there for a few years, and then went back to Sunset in Lubbock, Texas, and taught there for a number of years..

Ethel as a young girl contracted scarlet fever. It wreaked havoc on her heart for the rest of her life. She had open heart surgery when she was six months pregnant with George. Doctors said one of them or both of them wouldn't make it – but both

of them did. She later had another open heart surgery and several strokes. She had other health problems, as well. She had a blood clot in her spine that paralysed her from the waist down, confining her to a wheelchair as a paraplegic.

Jim stepped in to take care of her. He did all the physical stuff that goes with caring for a full-grown person with paraplegia – and it wore him out physically.

Stan Cunningham
(Jim's son-in-law)

Jim apparently liked to read. I heard someone say – I don't know who it was – that he read ten to twelve new books a week. I couldn't believe it. So I had to ask him. I said, "Uncle Jim, did you really read ten to twelve books a week?" And he said, "Yes, new ones." I responded, "Could you teach me how to read half a page a week?"

Billy McGuiggan
(Jim's nephew)

I thought it would be worthwhile to include a some information about Jim McGuiggan and have used some excerpts from his funeral service which took place in Nashville, Tennessee, on 7th August 2026.

Although I did not meet Jim until the 1990s, I was aware of him through the commentaries he wrote from the time I was in my teenage years. My dad very much appreciated Jim's writings and encouraged me to get his commentaries, as well (which I did and still have and use).

Many of us have used the Bible courses he wrote in the mid-1980s. When we began to reach out to the West End of Glasgow we used Jim's course on "God, Life and People" to introduce people to Jesus and the Bible. This led us to thousands who enrolled in the course in the Glasgow area, with many studying through the course and, after further study, a number of them became Christians.

It was during this time that I received a phone call – and it was Jim! He had learned of the success we were having using his Bible courses through the pages of the *Christian Worker* and asked if he could come to Glasgow to get some feed back from those who were using them. I arranged a day at our meeting place in the West End of Glasgow and many from various congregations joined us for a morning and afternoon session with Jim talking

about the courses and many of us giving him feedback as to how we were using them.

I discovered when he arrived that this was his first trip away from home since he had moved back with Ethel and she had become paralysed. Arlene and I could tell that he was jittery and finally asked him, "Would you like to phone home?" – which he did and his mind was put at rest.

I also learned that he was an avid reader. When we were travelling together he would turn to me and ask, "what are you reading just now?" I told him what I was reading and we then had a discussion about various books. I learned that if you were around Jim you had better be reading!

We stayed in frequent contact for many years. When the Holywood congregation hosted the Easter Fellowship in Belfast one year, he invited *Solus*, a group of Christians in Scotland who sing together, to come and be part of the weekend. He had earlier suggested we consider a song to add to our repertoire: "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord". I looked at it, liked it, but commented that it only had one verse. He immediately supplied us with a few more, to which Nick Wilson added more, as well – the song became a favourite.

It was while visiting with him and Ethel in their home that he gave me permission to reproduce his courses for any who wanted them, as well as donating many videos of his teaching.

After Ethel's death he eventually moved to be near his children and ended up in Nashville near Linda – from what I understand she and her husband Stan took care of him for many years in their home.

He continued to write and teach, and launched a website where videos of him discussing the Bible can still be found: jimmcguiggan.tv – hundreds of videos of his "McGuiggan Reflections" and a study of "Romans" can be found there.

I last saw Jim ten years ago when he was speaking at the Advanced Bible Study Series in Gemünden, Germany. We continued to send greetings to each other through family acquaintances.

He will be missed. But we are blessed that he has written so many books and articles so that we can continue to be blessed by his study.

Jon Galloway



BRITISH BIBLE SCHOOL NOTES

A time to recharge

A few days after Jacob left home he met God in Bethel. As he was sleeping that night he had a dream of a stairway to heaven, with angels ascending and descending on it. Above it stood the LORD, who gave the same promise to Jacob that he had given to Abraham and Isaac.

"I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." (Genesis 28:13-15 NIV)

Jacob quickly figured out that he was in the presence of God and that the LORD was in

that place – *"This is none other than the house of God"* he concluded. He set up the stone he had used as a pillow as a memorial of this event, pouring oil on it.

After spending twenty years in Haran acquiring wives, flocks and a growing family, he returned to Canaan and went back to Bethel. Once again God appeared to him and renewed his promise to give his descendants the land. Once again he set up a stone pillar and poured oil on it.

There are times we can feel closer to God. Although Jacob identified Bethel as "the house of God" we realise that God does not dwell in physical buildings but his dwelling place today is in his people. Together we are the temple of God!

"Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives among you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person; for God's temple is sacred, and you together are that temple." (1 Corinthians 3:16-17)

Times spent with God's people are special times – which is why retreats are special. Isn't it great that sixty or more Christians can come together for a weekend of study, praise, and encouragement – both being encouraged and giving encouragement?

If you are looking for a time to spend with those who are trying to live as followers of Jesus, join us in September at Letton Hall – booking forms can be found on the BBS website.

If you would like to spend time studying God's word with Christians, join us for one of our online classes (on Thursday evenings we are looking at the lives of Isaac and Jacob) – you would be most welcome!

Jon Galloway

britishbibleschool.com

"I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS"

Autumn Weekend Family Retreat

Friday 18th to Sunday 20th September 2026

at Letton Hall in Norfolk

www.britishbibleschool.com

Ishaby Tinarwo

BBS Graduate

Zimbabwe

I'm sure that many of you remember our dear brother Ishaby Tinarwo, who worked tirelessly as a preacher with the Stapleford church in Zimbabwe. He also attended the British Bible School when it was residential and was a great source of joy and encouragement to many.

Some of you may remember that a few years back he had to undergo some serious heart surgery, which went well, but he struggled with his health for many years afterwards. It's with mixed emotions that I inform you that Ishaby passed on to be with his Lord on Friday, 21st October.

He leaves behind his wife, Happiness, and three children: Rutendo, Tinotenda and Wengoni. Please keep his family in your prayers as they go through this time of mourning. If you would like to contribute towards the cost of Ishaby's funeral, please contact me on 0787 9444 267.

Although Ishaby lived thousands of miles away from us here in the UK, we have always kept in touch since our time together at the Bible School. He and his family are among the happiest families we've ever had the privilege to know, despite their struggling to make ends meet at times. He encouraged Funmi and me on many occasions and made us smile when he sent videos of the congregation singing praises to God.

The congregation here at Aughton supported him for many years, and



we will all miss him. We thank God for him and his family and look forward to seeing him again in heaven, in the life to come.

Mike Glover (Aughton)

The Synoptic Gospels

**British Bible School
Autumn Study Week**

Bassenfell Manor, Bassenthwaite, Lake District
Monday, 26th to Friday 30th October 2026

- Three full days of study and reflection away from the cares of life
- Delightful accommodation, good food and decent company
- All inclusive cost: £195 per person

This module examines the accounts of Matthew, Mark and Luke in their first century contexts with particular interest in their relevance to mission today. It considers some of their similarities and peculiarities and explores a number of key events.

For full details visit our website:
britishbibleschool.com

www.LumoProject.com



FAMILY NEWS

KIRKCALDY

Invitation to attend a Marriage Retreat at Balmule House, Kelty, Fife, KY12 0RZ

This retreat is designed for couples who want to intentionally invest in, grow, and enhance their relationship. Together, we will discover the unique behavioural qualities that make us different and explore how those differences can either cause conflict or become sources of strength.

What's included

- All-Inclusive Stay: All lodging, prepared meals, and amenities at Balmule House (KY12 0RZ).

The dates are **Monday 12th till Wednesday 14th October 2026** and the cost for attendees at the retreat (£80 per person).

- Retreat Materials: All workbooks, assessments, and class materials.
- Expert Facilitation: Dynamic group sessions and private couple reflection time.

A note on our approach

Your presenters are Christian believers; however, this course is intentionally designed to be universally applicable to believers and non-believers alike. We foster an environment of total respect, and no one will be made to feel uncomfortable regarding their personal convictions.

Retreat framework & daily schedule

Our core curriculum is built on the proven principles of Willard Harley's acclaimed

books, *His Needs*, *Her Needs* and *Love Busters*, combined with modern behavioural analysis.

Monday 12th: Understanding Ourselves & The Love Bank

Tuesday 13th: Driving Marital Happiness

Wednesday 14th: Protecting Your Investment

Should you require further information, please contact Alan Moyes: 07774 607483; Email: alan.j.moyes@gmail.com or David Chapman: 07984 149633; Email: david@d4d.me

Alan Hughes

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



APPEALS

GHANA PACEMAKER MISSION

Julius informed us that so far £3500 have been raised of the \$6000 needed – contributions can be sent through the BBS account (details on page 2). Many thanks to all who have contributed!

NEPAL FLOOD DISASTER

The poster features a dark background with a large, stylized text overlay on the left that reads "PRAY and HELP Nepal". Below this, in a yellow and red banner, it says "CATASTROPHIC FLASH FLOODS". To the right of the text is a photograph of a village in Nepal that has been severely impacted by a flood, with debris and damaged buildings visible. The Nepalese flag is in the top right corner. Below the main text, there is a quote: "OUR NEIGHBORS ARE SUFFERING. LET'S BE THE HELPING HANDS." followed by a paragraph: "Nepal is facing **CATASTROPHIC FLASH FLOODS** and landslides. Thousands have lost their homes, loved ones, and everything they own. Families are in desperate need." Below this, there are two columns of text. The left column is titled "PRAY" with a heart icon and lists four points: "For the safety of those affected", "For rescue teams and relief workers", "For comfort, strength and healing", and "For God's peace to prevail". The right column is titled "HELP" with a heart icon and lists: "Your support can provide food, clean water, shelter, medicine and hope to those in desperate need." Below this, it says "EVERY PRAYER. EVERY CONTRIBUTION. MAKES A DIFFERENCE." At the bottom, there is a quote from Galatians 6:2: "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." and a graphic of two hands holding a heart. To the right of this, it says "TOGETHER, LET'S BRING HOPE TO NEPAL. Pray. Give. Share. Care." and a footer with the text "PRAY FOR NEPAL | HELP RESTORE LIVES | SHARE HOPE" and a heart icon.

PRAY and **HELP** Nepal

CATASTROPHIC FLASH FLOODS

OUR NEIGHBORS ARE SUFFERING.
LET'S BE THE HELPING HANDS.

Nepal is facing **CATASTROPHIC FLASH FLOODS** and landslides. Thousands have lost their homes, loved ones, and everything they own. Families are in desperate need.

PRAY

- For the safety of those affected
- For rescue teams and relief workers
- For comfort, strength and healing
- For God's peace to prevail

HELP

Your support can provide food, clean water, shelter, medicine and hope to those in desperate need.

EVERY PRAYER. EVERY CONTRIBUTION. MAKES A DIFFERENCE.

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."
GALATIANS 6:2

TOGETHER, LET'S BRING HOPE TO NEPAL.
Pray. Give. Share. Care.

PRAY FOR NEPAL | HELP RESTORE LIVES | SHARE HOPE

Any help can be sent to Aughton church or to Tony Tyson (tonytyson66@hotmail.com).

Many thanks for your help and kindness.

Tony Tyson



CW DIRECTORY UPDATE

STRATFORD

Number of Christians – 30

Meeting place – St Francis' Catholic Primary School, Maryland Park, Stratford, London E15 1HB

Postal Address – 9 Plymouth House, Kier Hardie Way, Barking, IG11 9NB

E-mail – stratfordchurchofchrist18@gmail.com

Worship time – 10:00 am-12:45 pm

Weekday morning devotional – 6.45-7.30 am

Wednesday class – 7.00-9.00 pm

Website – <http://www.stratfordchurchofchrist.org.uk>

Contacts – Emmanuel Boateng (07852 343010)
Kwaku Twumasi (07932 237767)
James Tambe (07379 905463)

GRIMSBY (LINCOLNSHIRE)

Number of Christians – 13

Meeting place – The Crest Suite at The St. James Hotel, Grimsby DN31 1XZ

E-mail – cocgrimsby@outlook.com

Worship time – 10:00-11:30 am

Contacts – Michael Obi (07776 758881)
Timothy Okonta (07760 943339)

SHEFFIELD

Number of Christians – 66

Meeting place – 411 Bellhouse Road. Sheffield. S5 0RB (on the premises of the Church of St. James & St. Christopher)

Worship time – 10:30 am-12:45 pm

Wednesday class – 6:30-7:30 pm via zoom. ID 644 332 8158. Password Sheffield

Website – <http://www.stratfordchurchofchrist.org.uk>

Contact – Sheffieldcoc@outlook.com
07508 033534
07809 719855

DENMARKHILL (LONDON)

E-mail – cocdh@outlook.com

Website – denmarkhillchurchofchrist.org.uk

Contacts –
Kufre Inyang (07754 093372)
Philip Adu-Boble (07950 815993)

NOTICES

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



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

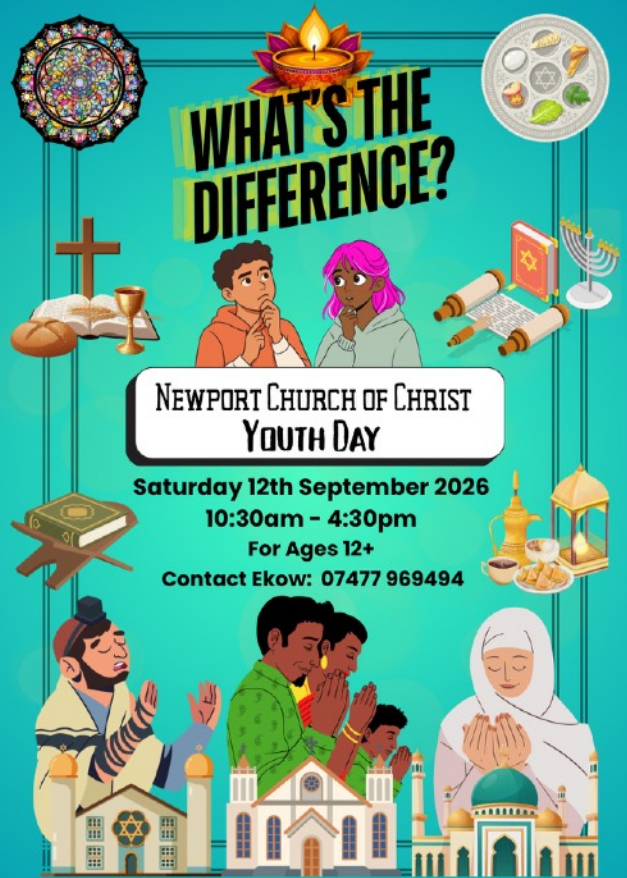
WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

**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

**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

More Evidences for God and Creation

Shepshed

10th-11th October
7th-8th November

Saturdays, 9.30 am-4.30 pm
Sundays, 9.45 am-12.45 pm

Shepshed Learning Centre
46A Charnwood Road, Shepshed
Leicestershire LE12 9QY

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



Evidences for God & Creation

Examining evidence for God, Jesus and the Bible
Examining the Theory of Evolution in light of the Bible & Science



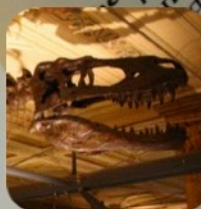
Nottingham (Stapleford)

Saturday, 17th October, 9.30 am-4.00 pm
Sunday, 18th October, 11.00 am-1.00 pm

Saturday, 31st October, 9.30 am-4.00 pm
Sunday, 1st November, 11.00 am-1.00 pm

Eaton's Road, Stapleford, Nottingham NG9 7EB

Teachers: Jon Galloway & Mark Hill



All are welcome to either or both weekends



A British Bible School Congregation Resource

ACAPPELLA MINISTRIES
PRESENTS

Praise & Harmony SongFest

Join us for a Praise &
Harmony Weekend!
Come experience
passionate worship led
by Keith Lancaster!



KEITH LANCASTER
President of Acappella Ministries

Location:

**Newport,
Wales**

www.acappella.org

Food &
refreshments
from: 4:00pm

Worship:

6:00pm - 8:00pm

Saturday 17th October

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
and all meals



DEPOSIT REQUIRED
A non-refundable deposit of £78
is required to secure your place.



Worship



Bible Study



Fellowship



Prayer



Quiet Reflection

A weekend to renew your heart, mind and spirit.



TO REGISTER OR REQUEST
MORE INFORMATION:
Fieldofrefuge@hotmail.com



Find us on Facebook
Field of Refuge
Women's Renewal Retreat

Come ready to rise higher in Him.



DIARY

September

3rd – **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.

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 (jdgalloway@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).

7th – **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.

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).

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.

12th- 16th – **Gemünden, Germany** – Fall Conference: “The Book of Job”, speaker: Lance Hawley. Cost: €150, Zoom: €20. Contact and register: Don & Cindy Roehrkas (donancindy@aol.com).

Diary

10th-11th – Shepshed: BBS Study Weekend – “More Evidences for God, Jesus and the Bible”, Saturday 9.30 am-4.30 pm, Sunday 9.45 am-12.45 pm (lunch to follow). Contact: shepshedcoc@outlook.com.

17th-18th – Nottingham (Stapleford): BBS Study Weekend – “Evidences for God, Jesus and the Bible”, Saturday 9.30 am-4.00 pm, Sunday 11.00 am-1.00 pm. Contact: jdgalloway@mac.com.

17th – Newport: Praise & Harmony Songfest with Keith Lancaster, 4.00-8.00 pm (with food and refreshments). Please let us know numbers attending. Contact: np197ag@hotmail.com or Heather (call or text 07812 070877).

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”. Contact: study@britishbibleschool.com.

31st October-1st November – Nottingham (Stapleford): BBS Study Weekend – “Evidences for Creation”, Saturday 9.30 am-4.00 pm, Sunday 11.00 am-1.00 pm. Contact: jdgalloway@mac.com.

November

7th-8th – Shepshed: BBS Study Weekend – “More Evidences for Creation”, Saturday 9.30 am-4.30 pm, Sunday 9.45 am-12.45 pm (lunch to follow). Contact: shepshedcoc@outlook.com.

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.

December

5th-6th – Nottingham (Stapleford): “The Land of Jesus”, presenter: Jon Galloway. Contact: bbbeckman@aol.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.



THE FINAL WORD



Pain

For years I suffered a great deal of pain from arthritis particularly in my knees. Last year I had an operation on one of the knees and then on 22nd July I had an operation on the other knee.

The first knee is better than what it used to be. The other knee is still healing; things are going well but the pains do not seem to end. I know some of our readers have already had knee or hip replacements and have been through the healing process.

Little seems to be said in Scripture about pain; the society we live in does not usually talk about it much. But those who have it can really struggle. Some days the pain is so intense that you want to cry out, tear up or even both. We are encouraged to keep on with the exercises as if they are a good joke. Some nights are horrendous – there is no place to find relief and medication seems a waste of time.

The last thing we want to do is to tell our loved ones that we hurt. In the middle of tossing and turning we cry out to the Lord, 'Dear God please give me release.' The prayer we offer seems puny. The sounds are made but seem to fall on the floor. We are not using the language of glorious Zion when we know it will be well with our souls: we cannot because we hurt too much. Pain seems to be in every part of our body. 'Take us home Lord, just get me out of this, just let me rest in peace.' Sometimes it happens – sometimes not.

Perhaps we look out of our bedroom window only to see one or two lights still on in other bedrooms and I wonder if someone there is ill or having a bad night. Pain can be physical or emotional. I know I am not alone in the darkness nor in the pain that just will not stop. 'Lord, will it make much difference if I leave this place a little bit before you call me to Heaven's door?'

But I know there are all sorts of people lying in their beds and having pains just like me.

There will be those weeping for their loved ones, young and old: where are they tonight? Will they get through the next stage of life? There will be those who find themselves in hospital tonight because of some accident they could not have imagined. Or those who went to see a doctor this morning only to end up with tubes all over their bodies and nurses checking their pulses and doing 'obs'.

We have pain because of past events and pain because of an unknown future. Pain is a burning sensation like the very fires of hell and we call out, 'Lord save me!' The nights are long and lonely; darkness and pain do not seem to be abated.

But sometimes joy does come in the morning (Psalm 30:5). We may take weeks before we are healed. Our patience is tried but we must keep on going. The crucified one still holds out his hands telling us not to worry for he is with us and holds us tight (Matthew 6:25-34).

Pain will hopefully ease, Jesus said I am with you for ever and for that we are thankful (Matthew 28:20). We can rest in the arms of the Saviour. Weep if you need but never forget the living Christ whispers to cast all your anxiety upon him (1 Peter 5:7).

Pain in all its multi-coloured power affects us all to one degree or another. When we feel we can, let us do good to all people to love, to help and at least for a moment help take away someone's pain (Galatians 6:10).

When we hurt O lord, we call upon you for comfort. Let the peace that passes all understanding be even in us. Amen.

Trevor