


# THE LINK



Glorifying  
God as we:

Listen  
to His Word

Pray  
to Seek  
His Will

Love  
His People

Serve  
His Kingdom

## JESUS CHRIST IS THE SAME YESTERDAY, TODAY AND FOREVER

Jim Turrent **LEAD PASTOR**



It's a privilege to introduce this latest edition of *The Link*. Once more, expertly edited and thoughtfully and prayerfully put together.

These are days of dramatic change. In our post-pandemic world, facing economic challenges and a new era in national life after the death of Queen Elizabeth, we are comforted by the reality of the never-changing nature of God. And because God's nature is unchanging, so are his promises.

The foundations are being shaken, but the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ remains the only hope in an uncertain world. Let's redouble our commitment to prayer, giving and sharing the life-changing message of Christ.

*"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever!"*

In Him

*Jim*

(HEBREWS 13:8)

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## EDITOR'S NOTES

We are delighted to present to you this latest issue of our church magazine *The Link* and hope that you will enjoy reading it. You will see that there is much to be encouraged by and thankful to God for as you read updates on several of our church ministries. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this issue.

If you would like to give us some feedback or have ideas for future issues, please do contact the magazine team by emailing [office@centraldundee.com](mailto:office@centraldundee.com). We would love to hear from you!

Every edition of *The Link* is available as pdf format and can be downloaded from [centraldundee.com/resources](http://centraldundee.com/resources) or click on the link on the Home page.

*The Link* has been compiled by our magazine team and designed by Ken Drysdale.

*The Link* Magazine Team | Katherine Belford, Fiona Mackay, Lindsey McCowan, Allison McMahon, Jane Scott, Tegwen Wallace and Kathryn Wright.

# GIVING

Jim Turrent LEAD PASTOR

Ask most pastors what they least like to talk about and most would put giving near the top of the list. We are hugely sensitive to the criticism of being too interested in money. Yet the Lord Jesus taught that our attitude to money is indicative of the condition of our hearts, He said:

*"Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also"* (MATTHEW 6:21).

Our giving should reflect God's amazing grace to us and be an act of worship (Colossians 3:17). Paul told the Corinthians that giving should be regular, realistic and proportionate to their income (1 Corinthians 16:1-2). He also tells the Corinthians (2 Corinthians 8) that the Macedonian believers gave out of their "poverty", demonstrating sacrificial Spirit-generated giving. Our giving is to be between ourselves and God (Matthew 6:3). A minimal number of people in Central know what is being given – and no pastors do!

God promises blessing to those who give in the above way. Jesus said:

*Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver"* (2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-7).

Prosperity hucksters have twisted this truth to excite greed and rip people off, but Jesus' words remain true. The blessing we receive may not be financial – but something more valuable – a heart less inclined to the idolatry of wealth.

Wealth is not sinful. God blesses. But the more we have the harder it is to give! The story is told of a man at a gospel meeting who gave his testimony about giving his last pound to God and that God had blessed his business abundantly. As he sat down a wee woman behind him whispered in his ear "Do it again!".

Let's pray, give and enjoy this participation in God's work! ▶

# WAYS TO GIVE

## DONATE BY CASH OR CHEQUE

**T**here are several ways to donate to Central – by cash, cheque, standing order, bank transfer or using a credit or debit card either regularly or one-off. Information on each of these ways is on our website at:

[www.centraldundee.com/giving](http://www.centraldundee.com/giving)

## DONATE BY STANDING ORDER/BANK TRANSFER

**T**his is the recommended option, as it incurs no additional charges. A standing order can be set up, or one-off donations made from your bank or building society account directly into Central's bank account.

For setting up any payments, Central Baptist Church Dundee bank account details are:

**Sort Code 82-44-04, Account No. 10175938**

## GIFT AID

**I**f you are a UK taxpayer and would like Central to be able to claim gift aid on your donations, please complete a gift aid declaration which can be downloaded from the church website at:

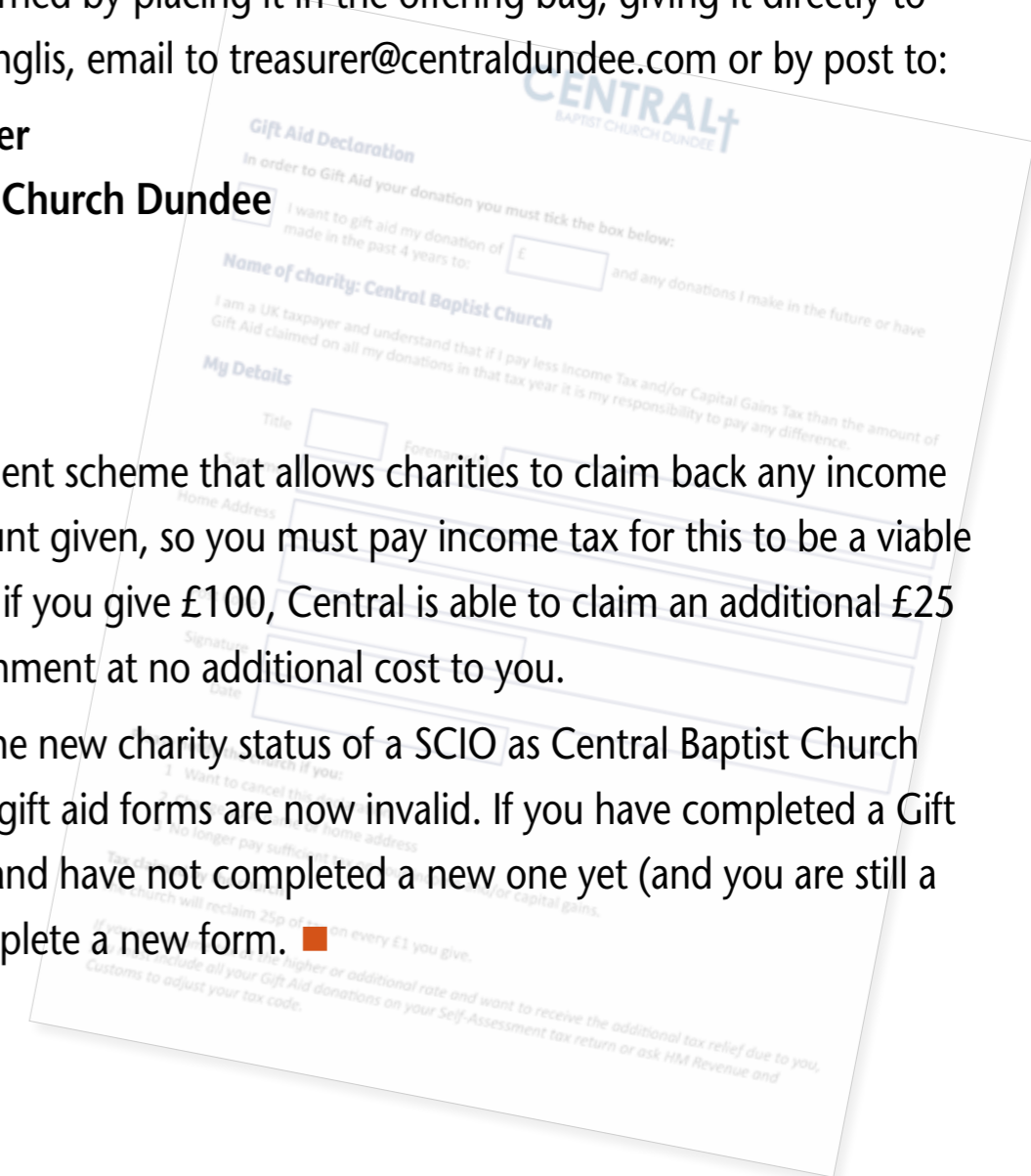
[www.centraldundee.com/uploads/files/1593885604GiftAidDeclaration.pdf](http://www.centraldundee.com/uploads/files/1593885604GiftAidDeclaration.pdf)

The form can be returned by placing it in the offering bag, giving it directly to Steve Latto or Peter Inglis, email to [treasurer@centraldundee.com](mailto:treasurer@centraldundee.com) or by post to:

**Church Treasurer  
Central Baptist Church Dundee  
9a Ward Road  
Dundee  
DD1 1LP**

Gift Aid is a Government scheme that allows charities to claim back any income tax paid on the amount given, so you must pay income tax for this to be a viable option. For example: if you give £100, Central is able to claim an additional £25 back from the Government at no additional cost to you.

Since we moved to the new charity status of a SCIO as Central Baptist Church Dundee, all previous gift aid forms are now invalid. If you have completed a Gift Aid form in the past and have not completed a new one yet (and you are still a taxpayer) please complete a new form. ■



# INTERVIEW WITH KATHRYN WRIGHT

## LEADER IN TRAINING

### What is the 'Leader-in-Training' scheme?

The role is similar to the Pastor-in-Training scheme and is designed to equip women for serving in church-based ministry roles, for example chaplaincy and pastoral work, Bible teaching and discipleship/mentoring, while undertaking degree-level theological education. While the apprenticeship position is one with the aim of aiding discernment for those considering a future in Christian ministry, the LIT role is a 3–4-year position designed for the focused leadership training of those, who in partnership with their church, have discerned a call to a specific area of ministry. For me, this is to be focused training on ministry among seniors within the church and also chaplaincy work within care home settings.

### What has most impacted you over the last year of training?

God is good, His faithfulness shines through the lives of many of our senior's, some of whom can recount 80+ years of walk with Christ. The testimonies of God's working in these lives has profoundly affected my own faith.

### What are you most excited about as this next phase of ministry begins?

It's definitely been a steep learning curve over the past year, but also an extraordinary experience as I've had opportunities to lead Bible studies, care home services, prayer meetings, to build relationships with some of the older members of our church family, and to share the love and word of God in some hard places. As I have grown during this time, so has this area of ministry and so I'm excited to see where the Lord is taking me and this area of service. ▶



### How can we support you in this new role?

I am deeply grateful for the prayers of my church family, and so as I move forward I would value prayers for my own walk of faith, for the growing opportunities to share Jesus within care homes, and for the Lord's provision and equipping as I continue studying and serving Him here. Above all else, I would ask for your prayers that both this training and this ministry would be a blessing to the church here and a way for the gospel to be shared.

For those who would like to keep updated with prayer letters please feel free to contact me or visit <https://rb.gy/x5vmtc>

*This position is partially supported by the church and Bonar Trust, but also partially through personal support. I am so very grateful for the generosity of God's people that has brought me this far, and so if there are any who feel that they could assist financially on this journey then you can contact either myself or the church office ([office@centraldundee.com](mailto:office@centraldundee.com)). ■*

## STUDENT MINISTRY



**O**ur student ministry is relaunching as Students & Young Adults in the new time slot of Sunday afternoon/early evening – starting October 2nd.

Open to all college and university students, those of a similar age who are working and those who are in the final year of school, we'll meet each week from 4.30–6pm for Bible teaching, fellowship, pizza and praise before going to evening service together.

Spread the word and hope to see you there! ■



## CLUB CENTRAL UPDATE

Colin Watson

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COORDINATOR

**E**pic Explorers is a version of Christianity Explored especially designed for 5–11 year olds. Five flexible sessions can be used for a Vacation Bible School, or for kids' groups at church. 'Epic Explorers' takes children through Mark's Gospel as they explore the life of Jesus together. On the way they will discover who Jesus is, why He came and what it means to follow Him.

The above is what I read on the 10ofThose website as I searched for a resource that might help support what we do at Club Central in the coming session. Those with a keen eye will

have picked out the key word 'explorer', which of course resonated with me with our Holiday Club having the theme Polar Explorers! I have ordered a pack and will see if it fits the bill!

On our website Club Central is described as:

"primarily an opportunity for relationship building through fun and food. Primary age children come and enjoy games, craft, snack and a short talk with a Christian message.' ▶

Over the past few years the building relationships aspect of Club Central has been fairly successful. This session our prayer is that the Christian message part would have a more prominent role. Many of our children have been 'fishers of kids' as they have invited school friends, neighbours and relatives along to Club Central. As we were reminded at our Holiday Club, you are 'Never Too Young' to be used by God. I can remember a little girl with no church background coming to Central with Rosie and Cameron, who were members of Central at the time. They had befriended their neighbour and suggested little Molly came with them to church. When Rosie and Cameron emigrated to the USA another family in the area, who were friends of Molly's

parents, stepped in and continued to bring Molly.

Although her parents had no interest in Christianity, Molly kept coming to Central and made good friends with Central kids. She became a Christian, was baptised as a teenager, served in missions in Scotland and South Africa and eventually left Dundee to study in Glasgow. I heard when she was at University she continued her mission trips, this time to Mexico. Now in her twenties, as far as I know, Molly continues to follow Jesus.

Let's pray that through Club Central, other Children's Ministries and the witness of our youngsters that many more 'little Mollys' will come to faith. ■



CHRISTIANITY|EXPLORED

WHAT'S THE BEST NEWS  
YOU'VE EVER HEARD?

**COMING SOON!**



## OVERSEAS MISSION FOCUS

### MISSIONARY SUPPORT GROUP

Matt Lock  
ELDER AND CHAIR OF  
CENTRAL'S MISSIONARY SUPPORT GROUP



In Matthew 28:18b–20 Jesus says *“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.”*

The Great Commission gives us the command from Jesus to make disciples of all nations and as a church that is what we want to be part of. As a church we are committed to supporting people who are called by God to serve Him in other countries and praying for missionaries across the world, who are helping to bring people to know Jesus.

CBC supports missionaries who are serving God in different parts of the world, in the Arabian Gulf, Peru, Europe and with Chinese diaspora in the UK. The Missionary Support Group (MSG) is the key connection between our missionaries and CBC, where we aim to update the church family on their news, to highlight key prayer points and to understand how we can support them in the best way possible as they seek to expand God's kingdom.

As a group, the MSG meet monthly, either in person or on Zoom, to pray for our missionaries, to consider how we can be supporting them in different ways, how we can be communicating their news to the church and highlight that we are part of a global family in Christ and how, as a church, we can be supporting and praying Christians across the world. ▶

As well as longer-term missionaries, CBC has also supported people going on short-term mission and although short-term mission trips were generally stopped over Covid, there are many opportunities opening up now, so if this is something you are interested in, please let us know!

Through the year there are some key times in the church in which there is a greater focus on overseas mission: at the end of January we have a mission weekend, where the emphasis is the importance of overseas mission and making God's word known across the nations; in September we celebrate harvest and do this through promoting the work of a gospel-centred organisation who work with people groups in need; and in November we remember the suffering church and pray for our brothers and sisters across the world who are persecuted because of their faith.

The MSG is currently made of seven people, but if this is a ministry you would like to find out more about being involved with, or if you are interested in supporting our missionaries and receiving regular news, please contact Matt Lock at [mission@centraldundee.com](mailto:mission@centraldundee.com).



Harvest is a time when we remember God's goodness to us. At CBC we choose to do this through supporting overseas mission work through a partner organisation. Our Harvest service was on September 18 and this year we supported BMS and their work with Christians across the world as they seek to make Jesus known, as well as helping people in practical ways.

To find out more about BMS and the gospel work they are doing please visit [www.bmsworldmission.org](http://www.bmsworldmission.org). ■

# WAYNE AND MIRIAM COWPLAND UPDATE



**H**i Friends, we have enjoyed a slower pace over the summer, although that still involved two trips to Switzerland and the usual weekly routine of Zoom meetings. Now as we move into Autumn the pace really picks up! We have a retreat coming up soon with the rest of our Area Team for Europe, to look ahead to the next 3 years and give vision and strategy for the work of WEC in Europe. We want to reach people who are coming to Europe from all over the world, including some of the hardest-to-reach people groups, but we also want to see a vibrant church re-established among indigenous Europeans. And we want to see those churches grasp a real missions vision and send out workers to the ends of the earth!

At the end of September we will be in Italy with our team who are reaching out to migrants in Turin, and then in October we visit Portugal, where we have a team partnering with local churches to reach into the north of

Portugal where there are very few evangelical Christians. Please pray that we will be able to encourage the workers in both these places, and that the Lord will give us the right devotional messages to share with them.

Every 4 years WEC holds a leadership conference for all its leaders around the world, so in November we will be going to Chiang Mai in Thailand for this conference. We both have several plenary sessions which we are responsible for, and together we will be presenting a review of the work of ▶

WEC over the past 4 years, including the impact of the pandemic. Pray that God would give us His insights and wisdom as we prepare these presentations. There will be around 300 leaders at this conference. On our way back to the UK we plan to spend a few days in Singapore to close up our bank accounts and say a proper 'goodbye' to our church there. Wayne will preach on the Sunday, which

will be very special, and we will both have the opportunity to thank them for making us feel so at home among them during our 10 years there.

Thank you CBC for continuing to be our spiritual home as we travel so often. We hope to share more about the needs in Europe in the coming months.

Bless you

*Miriam and Wayne* ■

## A BIBLE QUIZ

Gary Timmons

**T**he answers can be found by looking up the references:

- 1 What was the name of the village where Mary and Martha lived? (John 11:1)
- 2 What place name means Place of a Skull? (Matt 27:33)
- 3 Tabitha and Simon the tanner lived in which place? (Acts 9:36)
- 4 Barnabus and Saul sailed from Seleucia to which island? (Acts 13:4)
- 5 Where did Paul see an altar with an inscription to an unknown god? (Acts 17:16–23)
- 6 Where was Paul when he was bitten by a snake? (Acts 28:1–3)
- 7 Where did Paul live for 2 years at the end of Acts? (Acts 28 16–30)
- 8 Which island was John on when he was given a revelation? (Rev 1:9)

# IMPORTANT STEPPING STONES

Robert Hamilton



In a recent interview Robert was asked what the most exciting experience in his overall life has been. He replied, "It was being in partnership with the Lord in His mission to reach the lost with the Gospel message". Then came the following, "How did this come about for you? What were the important stepping stones?"



Robert had been a church attender for almost 20 years, but a more major step was needed. He needed to be saved, for God only uses those who are spiritually born again. This became a reality while reading the New Testament and after a spiritual struggle of some weeks.

Being a student in Belfast he became friends with John Holland, who led a men's Bible Class of over 100 in his church. John encouraged Robert to go to the Bible Training Institute (BTI) in Glasgow.

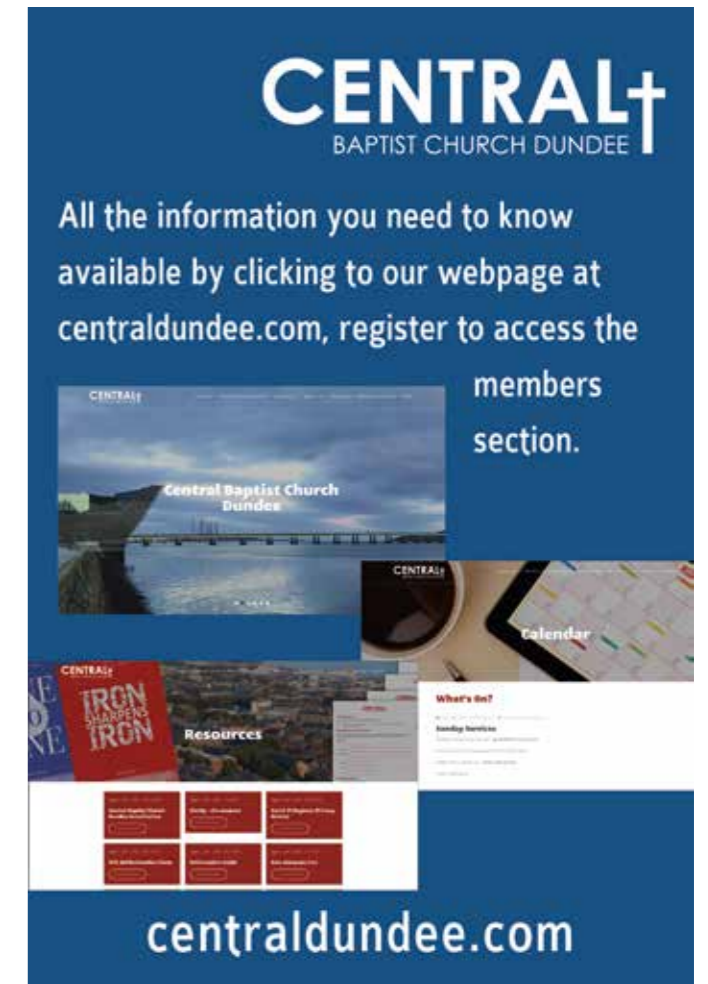
At Bible College, in an early morning prayer meeting, he heard a young lady pray, which impressed him. He peeped up to see who it was and thought, "If she can pray like that, she would make me a great wife in the service of the Lord". The rest is history!

Returning home Robert became involved in the ministry of his church. During ▶

that period three young men on three occasions requested him to help them re-open a Mission Hall which had been closed for many years. This led to the beginning of a children's ministry which developed into an evening service for the parents. It was this involvement that set the stage for a future ministry of church planting in Peru and Chile.

Together with Joan, Robert felt led to South America through the testimony and conversations with many missionaries, but very especially by the martyrdom of Jim Elliot and his colleagues. Eventually arriving at the Port of Callao, Peru, they were met by Jim Elliot's brother Bert, who also was a missionary! What an amazing moment of confirmation that way!

Robert says, "It has been a wonderful privilege serving the Lord in this capacity. It was the best decision of my life". ■





# YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATE

Michael and Abby Adamson



growing up in, and how much they need Biblical clarity. We intend to incorporate many of these topics in our plan for the year. Please pray for us as we prepare and deliver these sessions.

The overarching theme for our first term is the gospel. Getting the gospel right gives us a firm foundation from which we can approach these challenging topics.

So far, we have looked at the foundational question “What is the Gospel?”.

We have learned that the gospel is not just a one-off historical event, but it is something that is on-going in the life of every Christian, as we proclaim Jesus’ lordship over our lives. We have then gone on to look at what the gospel ▶

It has been an encouraging start to the new year of youth ministry at Central. Since starting back in August, we have seen good numbers attending Sunday night sessions, including a few new faces – but there is plenty of room for more! Overall, among both youth and their parents, we sense an enthusiasm for the new programme, and we have been encouraged by the feedback we have received so far.

As part of the ongoing youth ministry review, the youth were asked to suggest issues and topics that they wanted to cover in YF sessions. The result was an extensive list ranging from questions around church practice (such as baptism, worship and church leadership) to important cultural issues (such as gender and sexuality).

This has shown us just how challenging a context the youth are

**YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (YF)**  
Sundays 6:30pm - 8:00pm  
21st August • 4th, 11th & 18th September • 2nd October

**Evening Service**  
Last Sunday of the month 6:30 pm - 8:00pm  
28th August • 25th September

**Friday Night In**  
Fridays before the last Sunday 6:30pm - 9:00pm  
26th August • 23rd September

Small group Bible study starting in September

@centraldundeeyouth Central Youth

For more information please follow us on social media or contact Michael & Abby Adamson at michaeladamson15@gmail.com

*The gospel reveals to us a gracious and merciful God, who is also righteous and just. And, crucially, unchanging.*

*We pray that in a culture that changes so much, knowing the unchanging God would be a real comfort to our young people, and would set them free.*



story reveals to us about God, and why this is important.

The gospel reveals to us a gracious and merciful God, who is also righteous and just. And, crucially, unchanging.

We pray that in a culture that changes so much, knowing the unchanging God would be a real comfort to our young people, and would set them free.

Looking ahead to November, we are excited for the return of our youth weekend away.

We are heading to the Compass Christian Centre



in Glenshee for a weekend of Bible teaching, outdoor activities and the usual YF silliness!

We are delighted that our new pastor-in-training, Alwis Rajendran, will be leading our times of teaching.

We hope this is an enriching time where our youth grow in knowledge of their Saviour and continue to build meaningful Christian friendships with each other and the leaders.

Please continue to pray for us in the weeks and months ahead. ■

## GROWTH GROUPS AT CENTRAL

**A** key part of our church life is the small groups (known as Growth Groups) that meet throughout the week in various parts of the city and its surrounds. These are an invaluable opportunity for fellowship with each other, when we can learn, worship, pray and support one another in our walk with God and in His mission.

Our Growth Groups meet throughout the city every Wednesday evening apart from the first Wednesday of the month when there is a church prayer meeting.

We have groups in the following geographical areas:

- Group 1** - Carse of Gowrie / Longforgan | Link Elders : Gavin Callaghan and Iain Belford
- Group 2** - Liff / Birkhill / Muirhead / Fowlis | Link Elder : Pastor Stuart Keir
- Group 3** - Lochee / Ninewells / Invergowrie | Link Elder : David Roworth
- Group 4** - City Centre | Contact : Andy Holt (Pastor in Training)
- Group 5** - Downfield / Strathmartine | Link Elders : Colin Watson and Michael Adamson
- Group 6** - Arbroath Road / Craigiebank / West Ferry | Link Elder : Jacob George
- Group 7** - Broughty Ferry | Link Elder : Lead Pastor Jim Turrent
- Group 8** - Monifieth | Link Elder : Pastor Emeritus Angus Morrison

Contact details for each Growth Group leader are available at the Welcome Desk. ■



# ISRAEL TRIP

Isla Head

**H**ello church family at CBC! I hope you have all enjoyed your summer break. My busy schedule as a student nurse means I only have 4 weeks of summer holiday . . . not enough! For 10 days during my break, I visited Israel and Palestine. Some of you may remember I mentioned this during my baptismal testimony on Easter Sunday this year.

The trip was amazing and a once-in-



a-lifetime experience. I made super friends there and was able to explore places the Bible talks about.

During my time in Jerusalem, God challenged me through what I saw in the Jewish and Islamic quarters. I saw rituals and worship at the Wailing Wall, where it was disrespectful to turn your back on it. I learned Muslims sealed shut the Golden Gate to prevent the second coming of the Messiah, and similarly buried their dead outside the gate to deter his return too.

A deep sense of sadness fell upon me after seeing this and it revealed to me the need for the true Jesus Christ to be seen in Jerusalem.

I am reminded of Jesus' travels through Samaria in John 4. Asking her for a ▶

drink, the Samaritan woman questions Jesus' choice to associate with her. She was an outcast and sought to satisfy her thirst through worldly pleasures. In verse 13, Jesus tells the woman she won't find satisfaction in the water she drinks now, but to seek the gift of God where she'll never feel thirsty.

Just as this woman had unquenched thirst, so too do the Muslims and some of the Jews of Jerusalem. Please pray for the Promised Land.

This journey was eye opening and clarified their need for our prayer.

Please pray for Jews and Muslims, that they would find the true living water given by Christ that will allow them to be satisfied and free. ■



# LOCHEE BAPTIST CHAPEL UPDATE AND PRAYER POINTS

Cath Dickson



The summer months have been an eventful time in Lochee. During the last week of term, a group of Americans visited us on a mission trip. Since it was still within the school term, they joined in with our regular church activities, such as the end-of-term parent and toddler group party, including face painting, soft play and a bouncy castle! It was a wonderful week of fellowship, with church family meals each night. We prayed and studied the Bible together. The group reached out on Lochee High Street, speaking to people and handing out Bibles. They also helped to paint the fence and replace the gravel along the path. We held two social events, inviting our community to join in, including a ceilidh on the last night. The group left us feeling very encouraged. We're so thankful for their partnership in the gospel. Praise the Lord for new life! A couple from Iran has recently come to know Christ and were baptised in recent weeks. It is humbling to see the Lord's gracious work within their family.

The summer months also saw us say farewell to the Mathieson family as they moved ahead of the new school year. Sad and yet full of hope and thankfulness, as we sent them off to begin the process of planting a new church in Glasgow. The last 8 years of ministry together have been a gift for which we are very thankful. Please continue to uphold them in prayer, and for us too as we go through this period of change. Since we no longer have a Sunday evening service, we plan to join in at Central more regularly, so hopefully we will catch up with some of you there soon!

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for our community. ■



# CARNOUSTIE BAPTIST CHURCH UPDATE AND PRAYER POINTS

John Toller PASTOR



In my last update from Carnoustie, I wrote about the Manna Project, which is looking to provide food for people in the community – through various partners, we have been able to provide fresh and non-perishable food, as well as toiletries and so on when we have them. This has been an amazing way to build contacts within the community, both with those who have received food from us, and the other organisations we have worked with. Towards the end of October, we hope



to start the Manna Café, providing free light lunches and refreshments each Wednesday. We've been amazed at how God has provided for this, particularly with upgrades to our kitchen (and a Food Safe certificate);

we'd appreciate prayer as we seek funding for other equipment, and also because we only have a small team to run the café. Please also pray that as the Project grows, we would retain that distinctive gospel emphasis – we want to see people fed spiritually as well as physically!

The development of the Project has also highlighted again how valuable it would be to be able to do the work on our building, creating a much more welcoming front to the building as well as doing some much-needed updates inside. We're still a long way (around £17,000) from having the funds to be able to make a start, but are trusting in God's provision. Please keep praying with us!

On a personal note, thank you for your prayers for me, the family, and the church around my hip operation. This happened at the end of May, and although it was a little more complex than expected, it seems to have been quite successful. The recovery is going well and I am very grateful to God for His goodness through it all. ■

# STREET CHAPLAINS UPDATE

Andy & Marina Burns  
STREET CHAPLAIN CO-ORDINATORS



**T**hank you for the opportunity to update you on the work of street chaplains in Dundee City and Broughty Ferry as the city starts to return to normal at night.

The streets over the last year have been quiet at night as people slowly start returning to the bars and nightclubs in the city. This, to be honest, has taken longer than many in street chaplains thought, what with the threat of still catching Covid in bars and clubs and the current financial climate we have noticed the streets very quiet compared to what they were like pre-lockdown. That said, there is a small team of street chaplains still going out on a Friday night every weekend, walking around giving out Gospel leaflets, and chatting to bar staff and those who attend the bars and clubs. The team have had several very good opportunities to share the gospel and give their testimony to people they meet.

Gary Timmons still has frequent chats with the staff working inside the bars on Ward Road, while the ladies on the team walk around the city centre chatting to the homeless. Pastor Brian Talbot and others visit the bars in Broughty Ferry once a month. As for this coming winter, we look forward to the students coming back for freshers' week (this is always a great time for opportunities to invite students to church). Please remember the team of street chaplains as we regroup and prepare for our winter outreach in the city. Also, we need help as the city at night comes back to life again.

If you would like to get involved in our ministry and join the Street Chaplains team, please chat to Gary Timmons or contact Andrew Burns at ►

[chaplainandy57@gmail.com](mailto:chaplainandy57@gmail.com) or visit our website [www.dundeechaplains.org.uk](http://www.dundeechaplains.org.uk).

Thank you as a church for your prayers and support in these days.

May the Lord richly bless you all in the coming days.

Yours in Christ.

*Andy + Marina Burns* ■

**A**fter a few weeks off over the summer, the Street Chaplains returned to the streets of Dundee City Centre at the end of August. For various reasons, the team is low in number at the moment with two of the Chaplains usually going out for a few hours on Friday nights.



There has been a variety of responses and some interesting discussions with people this year as we try to share the gospel in the evenings with clubgoers, staff and those passing through the city centre. Making contact is usually by offering tracts, lollies and sweets, and further conversations can lead to opportunities of giving out Bibles and invitations to church.

The chaplains also give out flip flops, water and other aid as opportunity arises with the hope that people will recognise the love of God touching them and respond in a way that pleases God their creator.

Pray for the Chaplains to be faithful, focused and bold as they go out at night, and for people around town to hear, understand and believe the gospel and that God would be glorified in this."

*Gary Timmons* DUNDEE STREET CHAPLAIN



**O**ur vision at SU Scotland is to see every child and young person in Scotland exploring the Bible and responding to the significance of Jesus. Different wording than Jesus uses in Matthew 28:19–20, but the same sentiment, I think. When I began working for SU Scotland in Dundee and Angus, I felt overwhelmed by the size of the task:

*Every child and young person | All nations*

Of course, there would be something wrong with us if we didn't feel that way! In our own strength these mission fields are too great, but with God anything is possible and so dependence on him is a core value for us at SU Scotland.

Events of the past years (I refuse to use the dreaded 'P' word again!) saw a complete halt to our schools' work. At a time when children and young people were at their most vulnerable, it was hard to be on the wrong side of a locked door. The time away has also seen faithful volunteers retire or move on. We're so grateful for their service but, as we rebuild, we find ourselves with wide open doors to share the gospel in schools that we cannot walk through owing to lack of people power. Please pray God prompts the right people into this service.

While out of school, however, we've taken full advantage of other opportunities open to us, hosting monthly discipleship Connect Groups and Equip events for secondary pupils, and both day camps and residential for all ages. Pray God will keep His promise that His word would not return to Him empty, and there would be fruit from this work.

If you'd like to know more about the work of SU Scotland, to volunteer, give or join our monthly prayer meeting, you can visit [suscotland.org.uk/our-team/susie-ford](https://suscotland.org.uk/our-team/susie-ford) or email me at [susie.ford@suscotland.org.uk](mailto:susie.ford@suscotland.org.uk) ■

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

**W**hat's the big deal about 'church'?" someone might say. "Isn't the important thing that I'm a Christian? Does it really matter whether I join in or not? If I do join in, do I have to become a member as well? And why should I join this church in particular?" If any of these questions interest you, then membership classes are frequently held by the pastors. These classes will cover many of the issues you may have and will attempt to answer every question you might have about church.

As a relatively large gathered church made up of folks from a variety of backgrounds, we are conscious that newcomers will be curious and perhaps apprehensive about what the church is like. What do we believe, how do we operate, where do we hope to go in the future?

Hopefully, in the Church Membership class, we can answer some of your questions and give you an opportunity to discover what we are like, or at least what we aim to be like.

*For further information, please contact our pastors (contact details on back cover). ■*



# THE KESWICK CONVENTION 2022 – FIRST IMPRESSIONS

Grant and Lindsey McCowan



In the ongoing challenge to adjust to coming to faith in middle age, we decided to follow up on the numerous recommendations we had been given about The Keswick Convention. Someone on our first evening voiced the slightly

disconcerting feeling they experienced, on their first visit many years ago, of being in the



film 'Invasion of the Body Snatchers' when everyone got up and started walking in unison towards the mainstage.

If there was any misapprehension on our part, this conversation probably captured it. I'm glad to report, however, that we never experienced this at all. We just dipped our toes in really, arriving on Sunday evening and departing on the Wednesday morning, but we loved what we saw and felt. ▶



We felt comfortable and welcome by everyone we met and the warmth of the atmosphere around the convention. We attended two of the morning seminars by Glynn Harrison and two Bible readings by Alistair Begg, and managed an afternoon of kayaking.



The Keswick Convention attracts some 15,000 Christians from around the UK and the world uniting denominations under the banner: *'All one in Christ Jesus'* (GALATIANS 3:28). It is a wonderful thing to experience.

Keswick is a beautiful place that seems to be filled with the natural rhythm of God's grace while this convention is on. The opportunity to treat this as a holiday, where there is so much to do creates the chance to invite non-Christians who can

choose to attend or not. The seed is planted, and the rest is up to God. The Great Commission at work!

We hope to return

next year to experience more of the fellowship, preaching, teaching, worship and prayer that the convention offers, and more of Keswick town and countryside. ■





# RACHEL JONES

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*"O our God, we thank you and praise your glorious name! But who am I, and who are my people, that we could give anything to you? Everything we have has come from you, and we give you only what you first gave us!"*

1 CHRONICLES 29:13-14 (NLT)

Christians are always to be a confessing people: we confess Christ as Lord, we confess our sins before Him, our adoration of Him, and we confess our complete dependence on God as the upholder and sustainer of our lives. Prayer should be the most wonderful and natural outworking of this, a joyful privilege of coming before Him in humility and trusting dependence, and yet so often it is the most difficult task we face. William Cowper's words 'What various hindrances



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we meet in coming to the mercy seat!' hit home for many of us.

This short book helps to press the reset button for any of us who are struggling in our prayer lives as it sets out a structure for prayerful support of our churches and provides short, Scripture-based prayers that help us to hold our kingdom focus as we come before God.

It encourages us to remember each area of church life: health and growth of the body of Christ; personal service; church leaders, ministries and members; and our mission partners,

both home and abroad. This little book is a

great reminder that we're living our lives in union with the one through whom all things came into being, and that there truly is nothing more exciting than coming before God in prayer to see His kingdom come.

If you're finding it hard to come before Him, if prayer meetings have fallen off your calendar, or if you simply need some help in your prayer life, then this might just give you the encouragement you need. ■

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