

1 October 2017		
10am	Communion Service <i>Building Fund offering</i>	Chairing: David
11am	Coffee Team: Andrew, Emma & Esther Welcome Team: Charles, Ian, Peter U & Terri	
11.30am	All Age Service Leader: Fraser McLaren <i>Communion at end of service</i>	Speaker: Graeme Shanks Journeying to Jerusalem Luke 14:1-14
6:30pm	Evening Service Leader: Neil McAllister	Speaker: Ian Naismith Judges: Conforming to Canaan Idolatry in the Land (Judges 17-18)
8 October 2017		
10am	Communion Service <i>Missionary Offering for Jim & Irene Legge (Botswana)</i>	Chairing: Tim
11am	Coffee Team: Bruce, Fiona W & Sylvia Welcome Team: Alice, Andrew, Emma & Laurence	
11.30am	All Age Service Leader: Graeme Shanks	Speaker: Paul Johnston Journeying to Jerusalem Luke 14:15-24
CHURCH LUNCH – NO EVENING SERVICE		
15 October 2017		
10am	Communion Service	Chairing: Tim
11am	Coffee Team: Alice, Anne J & Zoe Welcome Team: Bruce, Klass, Luca & Simona	
11.30am	All Age Service Leader: Fraser McLaren	Speaker: Alistair Chalmers Journeying to Jerusalem Luke 14:25-34
6:30pm	Evening Service Leader: Tim Foster	Speaker: Tim Foster Judges: Conforming to Canaan Immorality in the Land (Judges 19-21)
22 October 2017		
10am	Communion Service <i>Second bag offering for Heber & Fiona Gallitto</i>	Chairing: Charlie
11am	Coffee Team: Andrew, Emma & Violet Welcome Team: Gina, Peter McG, Sylvia & Thane	
11.30am	All Age Service Leader: Alistair Chalmers	Speaker: Graeme Shanks Journeying to Jerusalem Luke 15:1-31
6:30pm	Evening Service Leader: Jamie Wilson	Speaker: Bruce Pass <i>No set subject</i>
29 October 2017		
10am	Communion Service	Chairing: Charlie
11am	Coffee Team: Esther, Sylvia & Tim Welcome Team: Neil, Charles, Peter U & Terri	
11.30am	All Age Service Leader: Paul Johnston	Speaker: Tim Foster Journeying to Jerusalem Luke 16:1-18
6:30pm	Evening Service Leader: Graeme Shanks	Speaker: Graeme Shanks What a way to make a living Work's Design (Genesis 2:4-17)

October 2017 Newsletter



THE PASTOR'S PEN *by Graeme Shanks* 'Compassionate Conviction'

I learnt a new word recently - Kakorrhaphiophobia. I say I learnt it; I really stumbled across it online. It's the term used to describe someone who suffers from the fear of failure. Mainly, this comes as a result of one having suffered some form of previous rejection that has led to one doubting the likelihood of future success. I don't fear many things in life. However, one thing that I so often do fear is talking to my non-Christian friends about Jesus. When it comes to sharing my faith, I think I definitely suffer from a little bit of kakorrhaphiophobia. How should I approach the conversation? What if I don't have the answers to their questions? What if they don't like what I have to say? What if they reject me and in so doing reject Jesus? Many of us I'm sure struggle with evangelistic kakorrhaphiophobia.

That's why I've been so greatly encouraged by our times in Luke's gospel recently. I've been reminded once again, that Jesus is not just the great subject of our evangelism: He is also the great model for our evangelism.

I think, in particular, I've taken great heart from Jesus as Luke presents him in Luke 13. What do we see in Jesus?

A man full of CONVICTION...

Jesus talked plainly with people. He exposed bad hearts. He challenged faulty thinking. He was fully aware of what was going on in the world. Throughout all his interactions with people, we never once find him shirking from telling people the truth. He knew his mission and he was resolute in speaking plainly to his listeners about the broken world in which they live and the broken hearts which they have. Sometimes, we forget that telling people the truth was the most loving thing that Jesus could have done. Jesus was a man full of conviction.

Kakorrhaphiophobia

THE PASTOR'S PEN (CONTINUED)

A man full of COMPASSION...

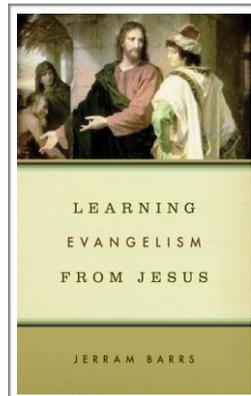
Jesus loved people. He answered people's questions. He listened to their concerns. He got involved in broken lives. He spoke into real pain. He went towards those who were marginalised. He was brokenhearted as he thought about the spiritual state of the people of Jerusalem. Amazingly, Jesus didn't just tell people about their sin, He was on his way to that City to deal with it. Jesus was a man full of compassion.

As I've thought about Jesus, I've felt prompted to ask myself two reflective questions;

1. Is there someone that God has placed in my life who needs to know the truth?
2. Is there someone that God has placed in my life who needs to know that I love them?

Jerram Barrs in his insightful book Learning Evangelism From Jesus writes;

"Jesus is the best example of how we are to relate to those we meet, whatever their views, whatever their way of life. He is the best example of how we are to live before unbelievers and how we are to love them, serve them, and speak truth to them."



If, like me, you struggle with evangelistic kakorrhaphiophobia, then take heart from Luke 13. Jesus is the great evangelist. A man full of word and deed. As His followers, let us seek to follow His example by striving to be people whose lives are marked by compassionate conviction.

CHURCH LUNCH

There will be a church lunch on **Sunday 8th October**. This will include a speaker from Tearfund and a time of prayer together as the finale to our week of prayer. There will be no evening service, so no need to rush away.

We need people to help with setting tables, serving, clearing up, doing dishes and provide home baking (shop-bought or home-made cakes/biscuits).

Please complete the doodle poll if you can help -

<http://doodle.com/poll/w4fxki9sup67pw87>

CHURCH DAY AWAY – Saturday 28 October at Barony Castle, near Peebles

Our church day away with guest speaker Bob Ackroyd is approaching fast.

The theme is 'Thinking Globally; Acting Locally', with lots of time to relax and enjoy fellowship and good food. You must sign up by Sunday 8th October.

For more details, and to book, please contact alistair.mackintosh@sky.com or gill.mackintosh@sky.com or speak to them at church.

VISIT OF RICHARD & ELAINE LEAKEY

Richard and Elaine will be in Edinburgh with their family during October.

We're planning a report from them on **Tuesday 17 October** at 7:45pm in the upstairs hall. Come along to find to more about their work in discipleship training with YWAM, in Africa and in their church in Switzerland.

Heart of the Matter October

1 Oct: Gabi Tapai, Romanian guest

8 Oct: Moira Henderson, *Founder of the Rings (accessible tourism in Fife)*

15 Oct: Jamie Saint, *grandson of Nate Saint*

22 Oct: Clau Tapai, Romanian guest

29 Oct: Rev. James Petticrew, EMMS Church Relations Manager

Black Diamond 107.8 FM: Sunday 9 am. repeat 8 am. following week. FM and online. Crystal 107.4 FM: Sunday 11 am. /Midnight and Tuesday 11 am. FM and online. Alive FM 107.3 FM: Sunday 10 am. FM and online. TD 1 106.5 FM: Sunday 8 am. FM and online. Heartsong live: Various times Edinburgh's first and only online Christian radio station.

Crèche October

1 Oct: 1. Margo, 2. Ellen, 3. Zoe

8 Oct: 1. Molly, 2. Peter McG, 3. Kirsty

15 Oct: 1. Margaret, 2. Simona, 3. TBC

22 Oct: 1. Karen, 2. Ally, 3. TBC

29 Oct: 1. Simona, 2. Zoe, 3. TBC

Roots October

1 Oct: 1. Simona, 2. Mike, 3. Joanna

8 Oct: 1. Ally W, 2. Susan, 3. Simona

15 Oct: 1. Esther, 2. Peter B, 3. Laura B

22 Oct: 1. Mike, 2. Alex, 3. Christy

29 Oct: 1. Bridget, 2. Hannah, 3. TBC

Flowers

Oct 1: Nan M

Oct 8: Audrey

Oct 15: Ann C

Oct 22: Lilies

Oct 29: Bridget

Student Lunch

Oct 1: Elizabeth & Paul

Oct 8: Church lunch

Oct 15: Fiona & Alasdair

Oct 22: Bridget & Ian

Oct 29: Pizza

Small Groups and Prayer

Small groups are on the weeks commencing 8 and 22 October. As well as the week of prayer, there will be a lunchtime prayer meeting on Thursday 19 October at 1pm in Room 3.



MISSIONS NEWS *by Sheila McLeod*

Michael in China has been teaching a cross-cultural training programme for Chinese Christians over the past two years. He was recently invited to visit Bangladesh to explore the possibility of sending folk there on an internship programme. He met some Chinese already in the country to learn from their experiences and to consider future opportunities. Only 0.4% of the population is Christian. Please pray for Michael as he begins to make plans for some of his students to be involved in this cross cultural mission in the summer of 2018. Ask God to guide in selecting those who feel this is the place where God wants them to serve.

Bangladesh is one of the poorest countries in the world, suffering from gross over-population and periodic devastating floods with enormous loss of life and property. Over 1,200 died in recent floods. In addition to such a disaster, Bangladesh has become host to 400,000 Rohingya escaping from 'ethnic cleansing' (UN quote) in Myanmar. Pray for these two countries that conflict in Myanmar will be resolved and that there may be wise decisions concerning the future of the Rohingya refugees.



BUILDING *by David Wright*

Our **quarterly building offering** is on Sunday **1st October**. We propose to use it towards the cost of replacing the flooring in the upstairs hall, which is showing significant wear and damage. The upstairs hall is amongst the most trafficked areas of the building hosting our own lunches, children's groups and prayer meetings, as well as the focus of our external users.

We have estimates of the work which are in the region of £4,000. Please consider what you are able to give to enable this work to happen. You can use a brown envelope on your pew for your gift, mark it 'Building' and put it in the box in the vestibule any time in October.

There will be a **work afternoon** at BEC on Saturday **21st October** from approx 1pm. The actual tasks will be established nearer the time, but will focus on small 'DIY' type tasks, some deep cleaning of various parts of the building, and hopefully, clearing parts of the balcony or basements. If you are able to attend, please speak to David Wright (david@bruntsfield.org.uk).

Introducing **ALISTAIR CHALMERS**

Although I have made an effort to meet as many of you as possible in these past two months that I have been here at Bruntsfield, there are still a few unfamiliar faces that I hope to meet soon. As the above title suggests – here is a small introduction to who I am, and hopefully I will get to know you all better soon!

Born and raised in Wales and later Romania it was of particular importance to my Glaswegian parents to raise me as a "true Scot". I'll leave it to you to decide if they have succeeded. More importantly, as Christians my parents had the desire to raise me as someone who knows and loves the Lord Jesus. At the age of 12 my family and I moved to Romania to work with street people initially, and then plant a church in a deprived village. During my 7 year stay in Romania I was involved in a lot of the church work, and specifically in translating. Though I had a good foundation to build on, it wasn't until I was 18 that I realised I couldn't inherit my parents faith but had to surrender my life to Jesus entirely. Around the same time I moved to Austria where I met my wife Sabine.

Four years ago Sabine and I moved to Edinburgh and I studied at the Faith Mission Bible College, before training at Chalmers Church for two years. The rest of my story is known to you as you warmly welcomed Sabine and I into your congregation in August.

Part of my role at Bruntsfield will include regular preaching and leading of services, leading the small group network, assisting Graeme in church Evangelism and working with 'The Embassy'. I look forward to what the Lord has in store for us in the coming years, and I look forward to getting to know you more and enjoying fellowship together.



Alistair Chalmers, Assistant Pastor



ELDERS' DAY AWAY

The Church Elders and Alistair Chalmers spent a day in prayer and planning at Charlotte Chapel on Saturday 23 September. Thank you for your prayers as we sought the Lord's guidance.

We started by sharing Scripture devotions and praying together, and then reviewed the past twelve months, recognising God's faithfulness in a year when we have faced many challenges. This was followed by discussion of how we work together as elders, and we will be taking some steps to help us be more deliberate in pastoral care, improve the effectiveness of our meetings and communicate better.

We also discussed the ministries of the church, giving thanks for the Ministry Team Leaders and others who serve sacrificially. We recognised that many of the teams would benefit greatly from others becoming involved and from meeting together regularly, and we identified some training opportunities to enable teams to serve even better.

We ended the day looking forward, and agreed that we should give increased focus to several areas of the church's work that don't currently have ministry teams. This would give the opportunity for others to serve as Ministry Team Leaders. In addition, we will be considering prayerfully over the next few months whether there are others who could join the team of Elders.

Looking further ahead, if the church continues to grow at the same rate as recently we'll eventually struggle to accommodate everyone at the All Age Service. That's a good problem to have! We briefly considered options ranging from increasing capacity to initiating a church plant. Any major change would however need more discussion.

Thank you again for your prayers. If you have any questions please speak to any of the elders. We will in any case keep you informed as plans develop further. We are also keen to understand the thoughts of church members, and we intend to invite you to complete a short survey in the next couple of months.



CHURCH WEEK OF PRAYER

From 2 to 8 October we're having a special week of prayer. Each day we'll pray for a group of people in our church and for some of our activities. We'll also pray for cities in Scotland and regions of the world. Please join us as often as you can to bring our thanksgiving and requests to God. The programme for the week is:

Date and Time	Meeting	Church Themes	Geographic Themes
Monday 2nd @ 8pm	Women's Prayer	Men Sundays	Glasgow Europe
Tuesday 3rd @ 1pm	Lunchtime Prayer	Women Outreach	Inverness Australasia
Wednesday 4th @7:45pm	Monthly Prayer	Prayer for our church	South America See below
Thursday 5th @ 9:30pm	Late Evening Prayer	Students Evangelism	Edinburgh Africa
Friday 6th @ 8pm	Early Evening Prayer	Workers Small Groups	Aberdeen North/Central America
Saturday 7th @ 11:30am	Family Prayer then lunch	Families & Children Youth Work	Dundee/Perth Asia
Sunday 8th @ 1pm	Church lunch then prayer	Seniors Mission	Stirling Tearfund (guest speaker)

At our monthly Wednesday prayer meeting we're praying each month for a country of the world where being a Christian is particularly difficult (this month Bulgaria), a local mission group (Edinburgh City Mission) and a new church in our city (Gracemount Community Church).