

1946 - 2023



**CHURCH IS NOT
SOMETHING YOU GO TO,
IT'S A FAMILY
YOU BELONG TO.**

Broxburn Baptist Church Newsletter

- The church on your doorstep for 77 years

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'We are ambassadors for Christ'

Some thoughts.....

Credit cards! For most folk these are an essential part of their financial planning. Managed and used correctly they can be a useful tool for budgeting but when used as a 'get out of debt' card can get folk into all sorts of trouble. Now – just in case anyone reading this is having financial problems and wondering where to turn can I suggest that you contact CAP (Christians Against Poverty). Check out their website at <https://capuk.org> If you hit the "GET HELP" button it will lead you to appropriate help.

We all know how credit cards work – we hand over the card when paying a bill (or just tap – scary!!) and at the end of the month we get a bill for everything we've bought and have to make the decision to pay that in full to Mastercard or Visa or whoever – or pay part of it in which case we get whacked with a large dose of interest. Just think how nice it would be if someone else cleared the debt that you had accumulated.

Some people think that's how God works – we can go through life ignoring God's laws and instructions, building up a backlog of spiritual debt and when it comes to the crunch God will simply pay our bill, clear the slate. But that thought is naïve and a distortion of what the Bible teaches. Christ gave his life so that we might know forgiveness, but that forgiveness comes through conversion. We acknowledge that we are sinners, we believe that Jesus died on our behalf, we change the way we think and live and we try to live in line with God's teaching and standards. Does that mean we never sin – no it doesn't – but it means our default position is not to sin but if we do - [If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.](#) 1 John 1:9.

Having difficulties with your finances and credit cards can be a worrying problem but is a problem that is solvable and limited to this life. Having problems with our debt of sin is far more serious and has eternal consequences. Sort it while you can.

Robert

19th August

Baptist Union of Scotland Prayer Calendar 2023

Here are the subjects for prayer this week..

W/c 20th August

Larkhall Baptist Church
Rev Roz Lawson (Assist.
Chaplain - University of
Glasgow's Interfaith
Chaplaincy)
Leith Baptist Church,
Edinburgh



You can sign up for prayer points via Facebook at

<https://scottishbaptist.com/prayer/>

Galatians 1: 3-4 '.....Jesus.....gave himself for our sins to rescue us.....'

Church This Week

Sunday 20th August

11.00am morning Worship – Rev Bill Murdoch

To join on zoom just click the link below.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85227893884>

Preachers

August

20th Bill

27th Donna

September

3rd Donna

10th Archie

5.30pm Family Fellowship

17th Donna

6.00pm Fellowship Communion

24th Rev Andy Scarcliffe



Think you know it all? 27 ANSWERS

Can you name the 6 chess pieces on a chess board?



Think you know it all? 28

What are the seven events in the women's heptathlon?

The Romans Course

This is a 10 week course on the book of Romans. It has been prepared by Andrew Ollerton who did the Bible Course that some of us enjoyed a couple of years ago. Anyone interested in joining a small group to have a go at this new course? Drop me an e-mail or text or speak to me so that I can assess interest. We would do it at dates and times that suits as many as possible.

Robert

Now into double figures. Brilliant!!

'We are ambassadors

Looks like Sunday evenings are best – times and dates will be forthcoming. If you're interested, get in touch.

BMS Prayer Guide 2023

There is a great need for audacious, wise and focused proclaimers of the gospel in every region of the world. BMS World Mission is committed to partnering with others to fulfil the Great Commission. Join BMS as we pray for disciple makers to be supported and sent into the least evangelised places.



SUNDAY 20

BMS supports a dormitory facility for students in Cambodia. Praise God that through the ministry of Pastor J, the students are experiencing the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and a newfound joy to share the gospel with their friends.

MONDAY 21

Many women are becoming disciples of Christ in North Africa. Pray for BMS partner Biglife to identify four women to be sent to mentor and disciple women coming to faith in Christ.

TUESDAY 22

Sharing the gospel through media is an effective way to reach people in closed countries. Pray for BMS workers Andrea and Ian and their communications team as they produce relevant and engaging gospel programmes for North Africa.

WEDNESDAY 23

In Bangladesh, many hearts are yearning to receive the good news of Christ. Pray for BMS-supported evangelists to be protected as they share the gospel in other faith communities.

THURSDAY 24

Pray for BMS workers Louise and Peter Lynch, who are faithfully serving the BMS partner in Bangladesh to train, support and send church planters and community workers into various mission fields.

FRIDAY 25

Praise God for the training of 10,000 evangelists in Asia. Pray for BMS workers Ben and Gill Francis – for strength and health as they lead Biglife teams to plant 10,000 house churches across the continent.

SATURDAY 26

Give thanks for the church plants Helen and Wit Boondeekhun are leading in Thailand. Pray that BMS-supported worker Areerat will find ways to share the gospel creatively with the youth in her community.

Bible Reading this week we continue our readings in Isaiah

August

20 th	Isaiah 45:8–25
21 st	Isaiah 46:1–13
22 nd	Isaiah 47:1–15
23 rd	Isaiah 48:1–22
24 th	Isaiah 49:1–13
25 th	Isaiah 49:14–50:3
26 th	Isaiah 50:4–11



Where, what and when 20. David dies, Solomon becomes King.

Where?

In Israel.

What?

David ruled Israel for 40 years. It was not always sweetness and light but despite his frequent failures it was said of David *the Lord has sought out a man after his own heart and appointed him ruler of his people.* At the end of his life David identified Bathsheba's son Solomon as his successor – read about it in 1 Kings 2

Read what Solomon asked for when God offered him anything he wanted 1 Kings 3:1-15

- Why did Solomon ask for? v9
- What did God promise him in addition? V13
- What other promise did God make in v14?

Read a story of Solomon's wisdom in 1 Kings 3:16-28

- What was the problem Solomon was faced with?
- What did he suggest should be done?
- How did this solve the problem?

Read about the building of the temple in 1 Kings 5 & 6

- Who supplied the juniper and cedar logs for the temple building?
- How did Solomon repay the person?
- Read 1 Kings 5:13-18. How do you feel about Solomon's use of 'forced labour'?
- Read 1 Kings 9:1-5. What did God promise Solomon? What were the conditions?
- Read 1 Kings 11:1-13. Do you think Solomon's reign realised its full potential?
- What does the account of Solomon's life have to say to us?
- Read of the death of Solomon in 1 Kings 11:41-43



When?

Solomon reigned from around 970bc to 931bc

Duty Rota Preaching Door Vestry Prayer Communion Prayer

August	20	Bill	Isobel	Jen	
	27	Donna	Phyllis	Eddie	
September	3	Donna	Linda	Linda	Jen
	10	Archie	Bill	Bill	
	17	Donna	Mark	Robert	
	24	Andy	Lindsay	Jim B.	

Are you amazed by Jesus? -1.

Over the next 2 or 3 issues I want us to ask ourselves a question - Are we amazed by

Jesus? There are several occasions where the word 'amazed' is used by the NIV to describe the reaction of people to the Jesus who walked and talked among them and I want to think about what was it that made these people amazed and what it can say to us today.

Reading: Mark 6 v 1-6

¹Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples.

²When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and **many who heard him were amazed.**

"Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him, that he even does miracles! ³Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" **And they took offense at him.**

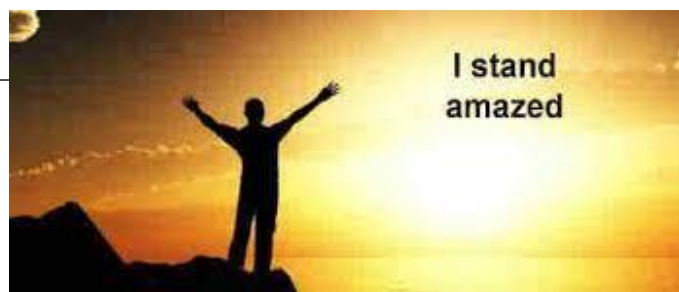
⁴Jesus said to them, "Only in his hometown, among his relatives and in his own house is a prophet without honour." ⁵He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. ⁶**And he was amazed at their lack of faith.**

In this passage the people were amazed - amazed at the preaching of Jesus yes - but also amazed that this level of preaching, these fantastic miracles could be done by someone they knew - someone from their own town and neighbourhood. This can't be possible - he's from round here, his father is the local joiner - he's got brothers and sisters we all grew up with and played with. He's got too big for his boots this one. He should know his place. As Mark puts it - they took offense at him.

But we also read that Jesus was amazed - amazed at their lack of faith. The people had heard preaching they had never heard before; they had seen miracles they had never seen before and yet they took offense. They didn't recognize God in this local man. And so, Jesus could do very little there - apart from a few healings.

Does God work through local people? Does God use the person you know? Does God work in your church and through people in the church? Or is God unable to work because of lack of faith?

Would Jesus be amazed by your lack of faith?



I stand
amazed



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Perfection. *By Maurice Dyson*

Earth and sea and sky so vast;
Manifest their perfect cast;
Now as in the distant past;
As the Lord has made them.

Sin and death shall not prevail;
Nor shall resurrection fail;
Hell shall be the devil's jail;
Time has just delayed them.

He has set His holy laws;
With a just and righteous cause;
Christ was perfect without flaws;
He alone obeyed them.

Creatures dwelling on the earth,
By the Lord who gave them birth,
Shall proclaim His highest worth;
Doing as He bade them.

God so loved us through His Son;
All salvation's work is done;
All the glories He has won;
Let us not evade them.

Songs of praise shall ring abroad;
Hearts and minds with one accord;
Praising our incarnate Lord;
As He well portrayed them

The Prayer Wall

Dear Lord,

As I look back over the past week I can see times when I have been true to what I believe and other times when I haven't been the person I should be. As I think over these times please forgive me and give me the strength not to make the same mistakes again.

In Jesus' name

Father, - I remember the work of the Trussell Trust today. Thank you for the vision of those who founded it, for the generosity of those who support it financially and for the many volunteers who work tirelessly on the front line. Amen

Father – help me to 'Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for I know this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for' me (from 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18)

Amen

*Lord God, help me to count my blessings today.
Amen*

Lord God, In a world which is broken help me to see beyond the disastrous results of sin to focus on my God who wants the best for me. Help me to play my small part in his great plan of redemption.

Amen

Father, thank you for availability of forgiveness for sin, the promise of life everlasting and the love of God which has made it reality. Amen

Lord – thank you for your promise that the gates of hell will never prevail against your church.

*In Jesus name,
Amen*

Lord God, sometimes I struggle, sometimes I have doubts, sometimes I feel alone, sometimes if feel I can't hold on to you. Then I remember that you are holding me and you will not let me go. Thank you for your unfailing love. Amen

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You
Every hour, I need You
My one defence, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n3t6CdeiN1M>

Father, as I look forward to another week help me to live for you, to tell those I meet about your love for them, and honour you in everything I do.

In Jesus' name, Amen

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NIV