

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.....

*It's anniversary time again as we celebrate tomorrow the 77<sup>th</sup> 'birthday' of this local church. It's a time to look back and remember all the good things God has done for us – for the many folks who through these 77 years have worked together, played together, prayed together, laughed together and cried together. We can all remember folk from the past – some who have inspired us and, let's be honest, some who have had the opposite effect.*

*Anniversaries come round annually but also in the news at this time is an event which comes round every 4 years – the Rugby World Cup – and, assuming the result tonight goes our way, Scotland are still in with a chance of getting through to the quarter finals. I'm writing this last night - Friday night - and its half time in the All Blacks v Italy game and, if you're an Italy fan, it's a hard watch. Being beaten by a much better, more professional team it will be interesting to see how Italy perform in the second half. It can go either way – they can just give in and let the opposition run over them or they can regroup, refocus and play as well as they can. They might still go down but go down fighting. Being a Christian in this age, being a church fellowship in this largely godless society can sometimes feel a bit like Italy feel. Everything seems to be against us. The opposition is strong and clever and there is no guarantee that in the short term we will emerge victorious. In John 16 Jesus tells his disciples that they will experience trouble in the world but he reminds them that he has overcome the world and urges them not to lose hope. He says the same to Broxburn Baptist Church – go into your 78<sup>th</sup> year, I am with you.*

*Robert  
30<sup>th</sup> September*

### **Baptist Union of Scotland Prayer Calendar 2023**

*Here are the subjects for prayer this week..*

#### **W/c 1st October**

Oxgangs Community Church,  
Edinburgh  
Paisley Central Baptist  
Church  
Peebles Baptist Church  
Fellowship  
Perth Baptist Church



*You can sign up for prayer points via Facebook at*

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

*Groucho Marx misquote –  
'I refuse to join any church that would have me as a member.'  
Maybe that would be a good attitude to adopt as we look forward to our 78<sup>th</sup> year of church life together and if anyone reading this feels drawn to be part of this imperfect local church, and you have a Groucho Marx sense of your own worth why not come along tomorrow as we celebrate 77 years with our never changing God.*

**John 16:33** "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

## Church This Week

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October

**11.00am Morning Worship – Andrew and Maria Hyde**

To join on zoom just click the link below.

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

**Communion then soup/savoury lunch**

**3.00pm Service at Broxburn Care Home**

**Thursday**

**10.30am Prayer Time – in church, on Zoom.**

**Friday**

**9.00-12.00 The Lighthouse Babies & Toddlers**

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October

**11.00am Harvest Worship – Rev Archie Young**

(Gifts to West Lothian Food Bank)

## Preachers

October

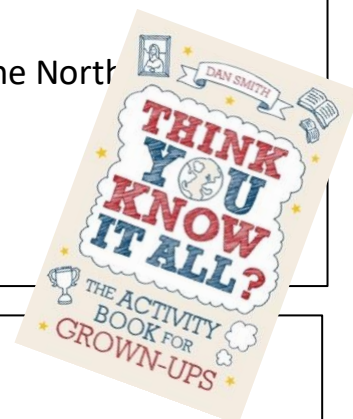
1 <sup>st</sup>	Church Anniversary with Andrew and Marie Hyde
8 <sup>th</sup>	Archie 5.30pm Family Fellowship
15 <sup>th</sup>	Donna 6.00pm The Romans Course 4
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Andy 6.00pm The Romans Course 5
29 <sup>th</sup>	Robert 'Bible Sunday' 6.00pm The Romans Course 6



## Think you know it all? 33 – Geographical Terms ANSWERS

**What do you call....**

- 1 A pair of points on opposite sides of the planet. **ANTIPODES**
- 2 A narrow strip of land connecting two bigger land masses. **ISTHMUS**
- 3 A stretch of lowland between mountains, hills or other uplands **VALLEY**
- 4 A narrow body of water connecting two larger water bodies. **STRAIT**
- 5 A chain or cluster of islands in an ocean **ARCHIPELAGO**
- 6 A pointed piece of land that sticks out into a body of water. **CAPE**
- 7 The imaginary line that circles the world at the midpoint between the North Poles. **EQUATOR**
- 8 A ring of coral forming an island in the sea. **ATOLL**
- 9 An area of land surrounded by water on three sides. **PENINSULA**
- 10 A river or stream flowing into a larger river. **TRIBUTARY**



## Think you know it all? 34 – Male and Female

**What do you call male and female....**

1. Deer
2. Donkey
3. Goat
4. Hedgehog
5. Swan
6. Duck
7. Peafowl
8. Sheep
9. Zebra

*Uganda is a beautiful country, but opportunities to grow abundant food have been stolen because of poverty, changing weather, cost of living crises, and knowledge lost during the civil war. Through our Days of Plenty Harvest appeal, you and BMS World Mission partners are coming alongside farmers to help navigate these challenges.*

**SUNDAY 1**

*BMS partners JLH and Cek Cam are helping Ugandan farmers diversify their farming, protect their crops, navigate changing weather and then store and sell their crops at a good price. Please pray for the strengthening of relationships in this season.*

**MONDAY 2**

*JLH are always looking to grow the number of their workers who can meet the spiritual needs of people in Gulu, northern Uganda. Please pray for the extra funding required to cover the wages of these workers.*

**TUESDAY 3**

*Cek Cam is a collective established to give farmers the chance to sell their crop in bulk as a response to rapacious buyers. Please pray for the prophetic imagination that leads to such initiatives, where the good of the people wins out against Mammon.*

**WEDNESDAY 4**

*BMS agriculturist Genesis Acaye has been key to developing relationships of trust with the farmers. Please pray for protection over Genesis and his family as he continues to build new relationships.*

**THURSDAY 5**

*Barbara and her family are at the heart of the appeal. Pray that this harvest, families like Barbara's in Uganda and across the world would experience the abundant life made possible by Jesus.*

**FRIDAY 6**

*Thank God that through gifts given at harvest time and the work done by Genesis and his team, generations in Uganda will be blessed.*

**SATURDAY 7**

*Ask God to protect farmers in Gulu from the threats of poverty and climate change, and pray that their children will grow up healthy and safe.*

**Bible Reading** .....\_this week we carry on the series focussing on women in the Bible, this week it's Sarah.

- 1<sup>st</sup>        Genesis 12    Sarah
- 2<sup>nd</sup>        Genesis 13
- 3<sup>rd</sup>        Genesis 14
- 4<sup>th</sup>        Genesis 15
- 5<sup>th</sup>        Genesis 16
- 6<sup>th</sup>        Genesis 17
- 7<sup>th</sup>        Genesis 18





## Macmillan Coffee Morning

'Coffee & Chat @ BBC' on Thursday raised £190 For Macmillan – thanks to all who contributed. Donations can still be given.



## SHOEBOX APPEAL 2023

Last year 252,022 shoe boxes were sent to seven countries across Eastern Europe, Africa and Central Asia. Read about it at <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/2022-shoebox-destinations/> This year Shoe Box Sunday will be on **19th November. I have boxes available.** All donations can be given to Hester or myself.



Lyn

## Anniversary Sunday – tomorrow 11.00am

We are delighted to have as our guests for Anniversary Sunday Andrew and Maria Hyde – some of you would have met them at the Women's Fellowship earlier this year. They will be talking about what God is doing amongst the Kurdish people in the Middle East and sharing God's word.



Where Kurdish people live in the Middle East.



Communion will be part of the service and we will finish off with lunch. Please try to be there as we celebrate God's goodness over the 77 years of the existence of this local church.

<u>Duty Rota</u>		<u>Preaching</u>	<u>Door</u>	<u>Vestry Prayer</u>	<u>Communion Prayer</u>
October	1	Andrew & Marie Hyde	Doreen	Donna	Jim B.
	8	Archie	Kevin	Mary	
	15	Donna	Isobel	Jen	
	22	Andy	Phyllis	Eddie	
	29	Robert	Linda	Linda	
November	5	Archie	Bill	Bill	Donna
	12	Andy	Lindsay	Robert	

## Enjoying God in Prayer – 1.

*This week we start a series looking at prayer. My thanks to Kieran, the Pastor at Dedridge Baptist Church for allowing me to share this.*

Only God truly satisfies; that is the witness of both the bible and believers in every age. Ps. 16:11: *"...in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore."* Ps.73:26: *"My flesh and my heart may fail but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."* Ps. 84v1: *How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts! My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God. Or 107v9: "For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things."*

History too testifies that nothing satisfies the heart like God. Some knowing that it's so, have prayed for it. Here's a prayer of 13thC Monk, Bonaventure: *Lord Jesus Christ, pierce my soul with your love so that I may always long for you alone, who are the bread of angels and the fulfilment of my souls deepest desire. May my heart always hunger and feed upon you, so that my soul may be filled with the sweetness of your presence. May my soul thirst for you, who are the source of life, wisdom, knowledge, light and all the riches of God our Father. May I always seek and find you, think upon you, speak to you and do all things for the honour & glory of your holy name. Be always my only hope, my peace, my refuge and my help in whom my heart is rooted so that I may never be separated from you.* The question must therefore be, what in prayer helps us enjoy satisfaction in God.

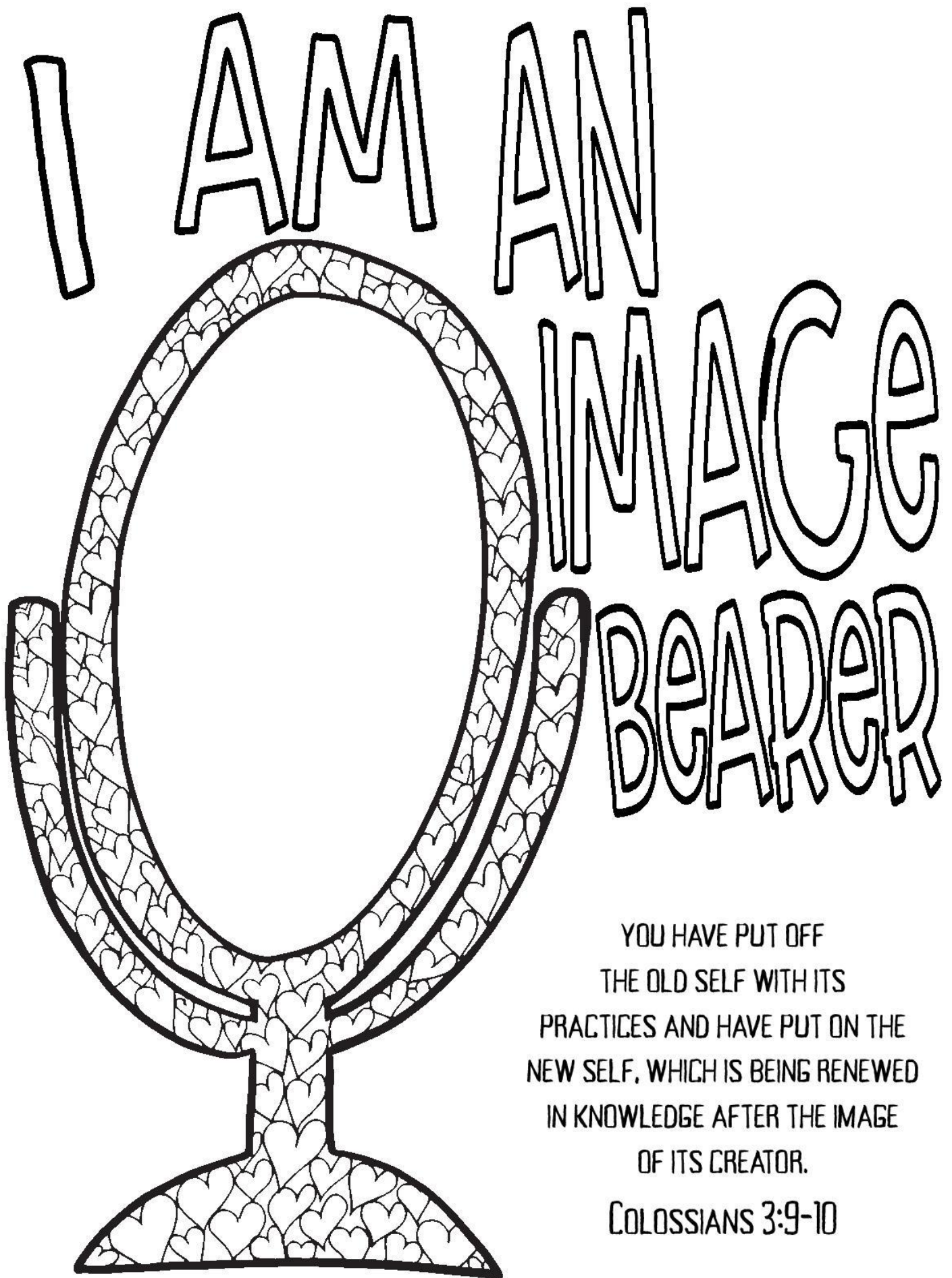
### **1. We enjoy Him by resisting self-absorption**

That is to say, we don't rush into prayer, with ourselves foremost in mind. Today, we live in the most narcissistic age ever. Narcissus was a figure from Greek mythology who fell in love with his own reflection in a pool of water. Our culture of self-love and absorption lies behind many of the neuroses of our day; it's the sickness behind many others. God's revealed word however, gives us, not merely another way to look at ourselves, but someone far greater and infinitely more satisfying to gaze at - God!

When we come into prayer, the first challenge will be to resist self-awareness and say *Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name.*' Satisfaction with God begins here; not with us. If we must mention ourselves then like the Psalmist we cry *"Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name be glory because of your love and faithfulness."* (115.1)

One writer who knows how easily we dwell on "us" advises that even in prayer, when thoughts wander back to ourselves, we should take them captive and make them obedient to Christ. It's this focus on God that not only rights our worst tendencies, but leads us into God's presence!

We enjoy God by forgetting ourselves!



YOU HAVE PUT OFF  
THE OLD SELF WITH ITS  
PRACTICES AND HAVE PUT ON THE  
NEW SELF, WHICH IS BEING RENEWED  
IN KNOWLEDGE AFTER THE IMAGE  
OF ITS CREATOR.

COLOSSIANS 3:9-10



# 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 – as we celebrate 77 years of this church we thank you for all the good things that have happened over these years, we thank you for the blessings you have showered on us. But we also remember the difficult times when we have not been how we should be, when we've acted in ways that were not glorifying to your name. when people have been hurt and discouraged. Lord in your mercy forgive us.

Amen

Father, I pray for all those who have heard the good news of the gospel in this church through 77 years. Lord, work in the hearts of those who have not yet responded to your call.

Amen

Lord God, I remember those I know who used to follow you and no longer do. You still love them Lord. Challenge them again Lord with your love and faithfulness. Draw them back to you.

Amen

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3MZgXXUW08Q>

Father – sometimes I look at this world and feel so depressed. In these times remind me that you are in control, that you have not forgotten us and that you are bringing to completion the work of salvation.

Amen

I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart;

I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. I will be glad and rejoice in you;

I will sing the praises of your name, O Most High.

(Psalm 9:1-2)

Amazing grace how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost, but now I'm found  
Was blind, but now I see  
My chains are gone, I've been set free  
My God, my Saviour has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy reigns  
Unending love  
Amazing grace

*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*