

1946 - 2024



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

Broxburn Baptist Church Newsletter

- The church on your doorstep for 78 years

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'We are ambassadors for Christ'

Some thoughts.....

This week we took advantage of a price reduction to do a Monday-Friday visit back to the Lake District – same village, same lodge – no imagination! Then we saw the weather forecast.....so I'm starting to write this on Tuesday morning and this is the view

Now, we like to walk – not too far and not in bad weather so today looks like it will be indoors watching Australian Open tennis.....



.....it's now Thursday evening and we're packing up. Despite the snow we had some nice walks – on Wednesday we took the car to Wray Castle and, after a light lunch at Joey's Cafe - I can heartily recommend the vegetarian winter stew, - headed down the side of Windermere. It wasn't too icy underfoot and the boots and walking poles meant there weren't too many slips on the way. But I found myself watching the path rather than enjoying the gorgeous scenery. It made me think that so often in church we focus on making sure we don't slip up, get it wrong, offend anyone, that we forget to look up and thank God for all that he has given us and has done for us.....and really enjoy our walk as Christians.

Robert

20th January 2024



Psalm 121:1-3a I lift up my eyes to the mountains— where does my help come from?
² My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. ³ He will not let your foot slip—

Baptist Union of Scotland Prayer Calendar 2024

Here are the subjects for prayer this week..

W/c 22nd January

Bearsden Baptist Church
Rev Graham Bell (Chaplain,
HMP Glenochil)
Bellshill Baptist Church



You can sign up for prayer points via Facebook at
<https://scottishbaptist.com/prayer/>

Church This Week

Sunday 21st January

11.00am Worship Service – Donna

To join on zoom just click the link below.

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

6.00p, The Romans Course Session 8 (Coffee at 5.50pm)

Thursday

10.30-12.00 Coffee & Chat @ BBC

Friday

9.00-12.00 The Lighthouse

Preachers

January

21st Donna

6.00pm The Romans Course 8

28th Donna

6.00pm The Romans Course 9

February

4th Donna

6.00pm The Romans Course 10

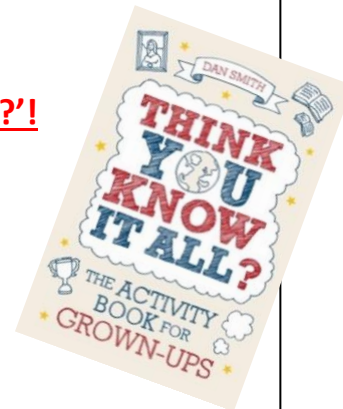


Think you know it all? 49.

I've reached the end of the book so this is the last 'Think you know it all?!'

What are the nautical terms for:

- The front of a vessel – **BOW**
- A unit of speed equal to one nautical mile per hour – **KNOT**
- A unit of length usually equivalent to three nautical miles – **LEAGUE**
- The left hand side of a vessel when facing forward – **PORT**
- The right hand side of a vessel when facing forward – **STARBOARD**
- The system of lines and masts on a sailing ship – **RIGGING**
- A ship's kitchen – **GALLEY**
- A measurement (principally of depth) equivalent to six feet – **FATHOM**
- A line to show where the level of water should reach when a ship is properly and fully loaded – **PLIMSOLL LINE**



Some Christian quotes

"Our greatest fear should not be of failure but of succeeding at things in life that don't really matter." - **Francis Chan**

"What gives me the most hope every day is God's grace; knowing that his grace is going to give me the strength for whatever I face, knowing that nothing is a surprise to God." - **Rick Warren**

"Relying on God has to start all over everyday, as if nothing has yet been done." - **C. S. Lewis**

"There is not a single thing that Jesus cannot change, control, and conquer because he is the living Lord." - **Franklin Graham**

BMS Prayer Guide 2024



Help for the journey is what BMS World Mission desires to offer people in our world who are forcibly displaced: refugees, asylum seekers and others who have had to flee from imminent danger. It is also what God offers to us in our journey of faith. We therefore pray for hope in our journey and hope for all journeys.

SUNDAY 21

Pray that no matter where an asylum seeker is on their journey, God's people will welcome and walk with them. Pray too that we can all be 'welcome' and 'home'" for each other on our journeys.

MONDAY 22

Pray that people who have had to flee from home because of danger will find strength for their journey. Pray for God's strength for us in our journey in this new year.

TUESDAY 23

Pray for forcibly displaced people who get stuck in refugee camps and similar settings, sometimes for years or decades. Lift up those in your life – including yourself if appropriate – who feel stuck in their journey of faith.

WEDNESDAY 24

Pray that forcibly displaced people will receive physical, spiritual, emotional and social care to sustain them on their journey. Pray that we too may receive and give this care (Matthew 6: 11).

THURSDAY 25

Pray that asylum seekers will receive help from those they meet on their journey: governments, churches and individuals. Pray that we will offer and receive help on our journeys.

FRIDAY 26

Pray for protection for asylum seekers from those who would harm them, and for the ability to trust those who will help. Pray for discernment for them and for us.

SATURDAY 27

Pray that forcibly displaced people will experience God's love, guidance and presence on their journey, and will know deep hope as a result. Pray this also for yourself and your community.

Bible Reading_this week we continue reading the NT through in 92 days

Day 85	21 st	2 Timothy 1-4
Day 86	22 nd	2 Peter 1-3; Jude
Day 87	23 rd	1 John 1-5
Day 88	24 th	2 John; 3 John
Day 89	25 th	Revelation 1-5
Day 90	26 th	Revelation 6-11
Day 91	27 th	Revelation 12-18



A Thought from Charlie

“What things soever you desire, when you pray...BELIEVE...” (Mark 11:24)

We are to pray in times of adversity, lest we become faithless and unbelieving.

We are to pray in times of prosperity, lest we become boastful and proud.

We are to pray in times of danger, lest we become fearful and doubting.

We are to pray in times of security, lest we become self-sufficient.

Sinners, pray to a merciful God for forgiveness.

Christians, pray for an outpouring of God's Spirit upon a wilful, evil, unrepentant world.

Parents, pray that God may crown your home with grace and mercy.

Children, pray for the salvation of your parents.

Christian, saints of God, pray that the dew of heaven may fall on earths dry thirsty ground, and that righteousness may cover the earth as the waters cover the sea.

When you pray.... Believe!

<u>Duty Rota</u>		Preaching	Door	Vestry Prayer	Communion Prayer
January	21	Donna	Mark	Robert	
	28	Donna	Kevin	Mary	
February	4	Donna	Isobel	Jen	Mary
	11	Robert	Phyllis	Eddie	

Who do you worship?

Henry Ward Beecher, the famous pulpit orator, once had to be absent and his brother was invited to speak for him. The church house was crowded, but when it became evident that the eloquent Henry Beecher was not going to appear, many started to leave. Beecher's brother was not disturbed. He stood up before the murmuring crowd, called for silence and said, "All who came this morning to worship Henry W. Beecher may now leave. The rest will remain and worship God."

What are we doing in our assemblies? Some, like the Athenians, come only to hear the preacher say something (Acts 17:20-21). Is it relevant? Is it positive? Are mental guidelines used in judging sermons? Some attend to judge the singing, the prayers, or the friendliness of the congregation. These go away with a host of criticisms.

Why do we gather for worship? Some are here to get it over with for a week; to get their tickets validated once more. But those who are here because they need strength in carrying their crosses know the value of worship. Worship has nothing to do with the song leader or the talent of the preacher. It has to do with you and your God.

Norman Easter

(From Bulletin Digest)

'How to Survive Almost Anything'

I think it was last birthday when this post-it note graced a book Fiona gave me for my birthday. The book, 'How to Survive Almost Anything', was written by a former UK Special Forces soldier Ollie Ollerton (don't think he is related to Andrew Ollerton who devised The Romans

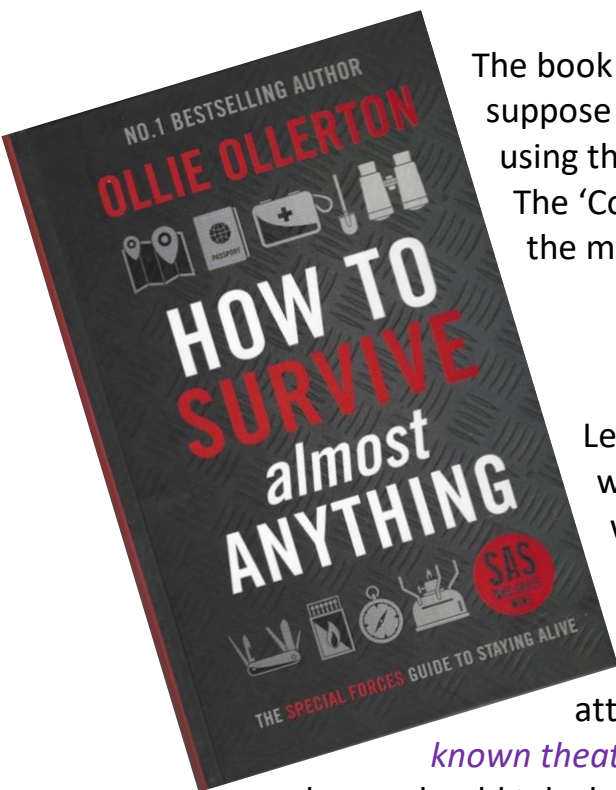


Thought you may get some newsletter inspiration from this!?!?



Course and The Bible Course which we've used in the church).

At first look I wasn't sure how I could use it and put it aside to come back to when I had finished the 'Think You Know it All' series. Well that time has now come so here goes.....does anyone really need to know how to kill someone with a paper clip? (Just kidding! – nothing as useful in the book!)



The book is sub-titled 'The Special Forces Guide to Staying Alive' but I suppose it could equally well have been 'The Special Forces' Bible' so using that slightly tenuous link let's see what we can learn.....

The 'Contents' page lists three sections before you really get into the meat of the book.....

- A note from the author
- Introduction
- How to use this book

Let's just look at the 'Note from the author' this week to see if we can learn anything from 'this bible' which may help us as we compare it to 'The Bible'. In this half page the author introduces himself (*My name is Ollie Ollerton*) and explains his experiences (*I am a survivor, a former UK Special Forces soldier...51 years of experience on this planet.*) and attributes (*I have been trained to fight and survive I every*

known theatre of operations..) which qualify him to write the book and why we should take heed of it. He goes on to say he is 'self-aware', that he has *'the knowledge and experience to handle any given situation'* and that he wants to share that knowledge and his reason for wanting to share it ...' *The last thing anyone wants to die of is ignorance..'*

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ...³ And God said, "Let there be light," From Genesis 1-3

Not much different from 'The Bible' then – in the first verse the author introduces himself – **God**; gives his qualifications – **Creator** and length of experience – **In the beginning**; And the purpose of the book to bring **light** into a dark world.....**more next week.**



I
AM
SALT

YOU ARE
THE SALT
OF THE EARTH
MATTHEW 5:13

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 , Thank you that you are my shepherd. Help me Lord to follow you as you walk before me. Help me to trust you and rely on you to supply all my needs.

Thank you, Lord, for the times of rest and refreshment in green pastures.

Amen

Lord – bless and guide Donna as she prepares to lead worship tomorrow. Guide her thinking so that the words she speaks and the ideas she conveys will be from you. Be with each one who will hear her words, prepare our hearts that we might be sensitive to what you have to say to us as the Holy Spirit works in our church.

Amen

Lord, when I think about what is happening in the Middle East there are so many evil things happening that I almost despair. But then I remember that you are Almighty God and that the future is in your hands and I relax and pray that your will will be done.

Amen

Lord, help me to be the person you want me to be and give me an opportunity this week to share my faith with someone.

Amen

Lord, as our politicians wrestle with the problems of government give them wisdom.

Amen

**You turned my wailing into dancing;
you removed my sackcloth and
clothed me with joy,**

**that my heart may sing your praises
and not be silent.**

**Lord my God, I will praise you forever
(Ps. 30:11-12)**

Amen

**Boldly I approach Your throne
Blameless now I'm running home
By Your blood I come
Welcomed as Your own
Into the arms of majesty**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xx94Fg4qZr8>

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