

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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No. 193 27th January 2024

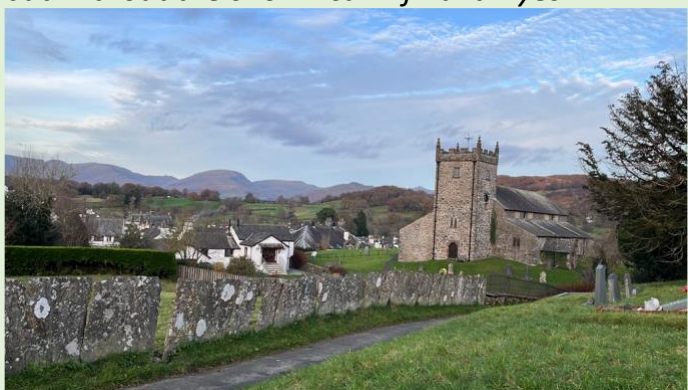
'We are ambassadors for Christ'

Some thoughts.....

Last week I was writing these thoughts from a lodge in the Lake District – this week we're home – no snow, just rain and wind. But just to prolong the break I've changed the desktop picture on the computer I'm using – this is it now....



It's probably my favourite view in the Lake District, in fact I think I've used the same picture before – but without the snow...can I find it....yes...



These pics remind me that what I'm looking at – the basics, the landscape, the buildings, - don't change but the things going on around them do - the weather, the seasons.

Life is like that isn't it, our lives as Christians are like that – the seasons of life we go through change – childhood when we're coming to terms with being who we are and where we are, developing our character, through the teenage years to young adult and on..and on..; the things (the 'weather') we experience changes – sometimes warm and sunny when everything is going well, sometimes we experience the storms that life can throw at us, sometimes everything seems cold and still, sometimes we might experience periods when it seems the sun is going to shine forever. But, as Christians, what doesn't change is God's promise to be our God, to be with us, to strengthen us, to uphold us. When the weather changes let's never forget what doesn't change.

Robert

27th January 2024

Baptist Union of Scotland Prayer Calendar 2024

Here are the subjects for prayer this week..

W/c 29th January

Rev Nick Blair (Chaplain,
Merchiston Castle School)
Bo'ness Baptist Church
Bourtrees Hill Baptist Church
Bridge of Don Baptist Church



You can sign up for prayer points via Facebook at

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

Isaiah 41:10 So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Church This Week
Sunday 28th January

11.00am Worship Service – Donna

To join on zoom just click the link below.

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

6.00pm The Romans Course Session 9 (Coffee at 5.50pm)

Thursday

10.30 Zoom Prayer Time

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81347026860?pwd=Tk1RQm5ldDIRTk5tc0dEOUIZVEtDUT09>

Friday

2.00 Women's Fellowship – Speaker Mr George Petrie

9.00-12.00 The Lighthouse



Preachers

January

28th Donna

6.00pm The Romans Course 9

February

4th Donna

6.00pm The Romans Course 10

11th Robert

5.30pm Family Fellowship

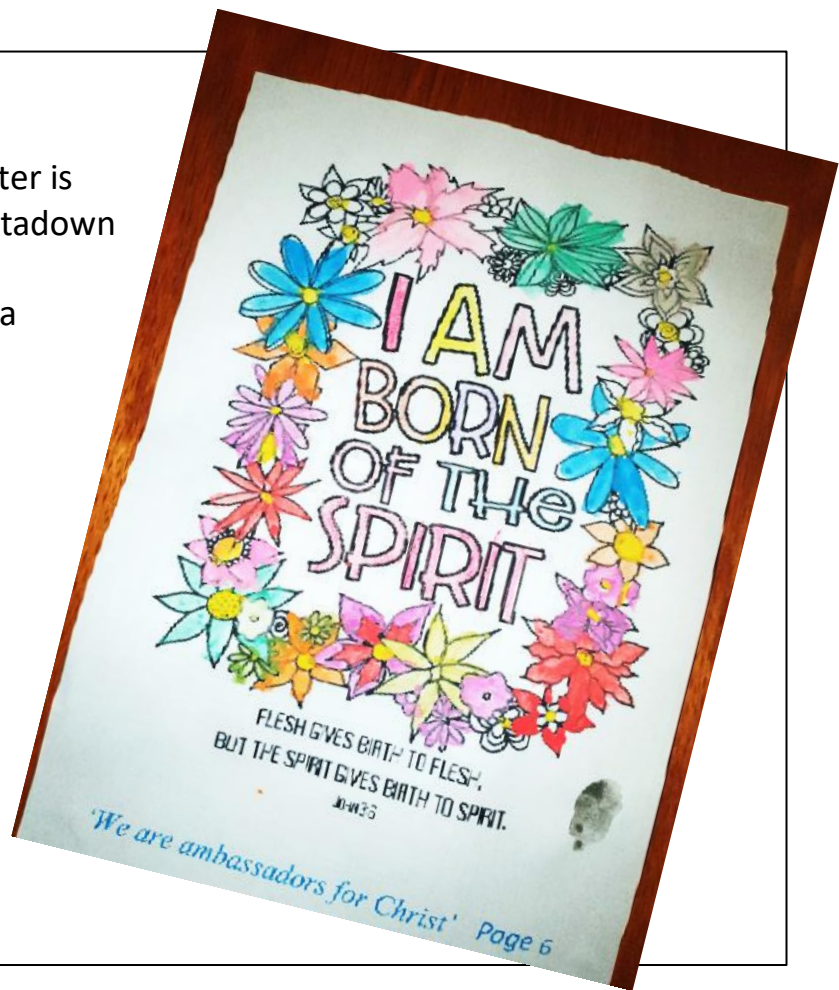
18th Donna

25th Archie

Congratulations

It's always good to hear that the newsletter is useful....Deborah, a proud Gran from Portadown in Northern Ireland, sent me a pic of her Granddaughter's coloured in sheet from a previous newsletter.

Well done Marion – that's brilliant, certainly better than most of us could do. You will need to get Gran to let us see more of your work.



"If you believe in a God who controls the big things, you have to believe in a God who controls the little things. It is we, of course, to whom things look 'little' or 'big.'" – Elisabeth Elliot

'We are ambassadors for Christ' Page 2

BMS Prayer Guide 2024



Chad continues to belong to the group of the ten least developed countries in the world due to its unstable government, widespread poverty, lack of access to health care, poor education, low income and high birth rate. These challenges combine with frequent natural and man-made disasters and the political instability of neighbouring countries.

SUNDAY 28

BMS worker Lucia Bastos moved to G2 Hospital in N'Djamena at the beginning of January. Please pray that she settles well and establishes good relationships with the hospital staff, church and community members.

MONDAY 29

Pray for the identification and partnership of a group of local and international organisations or individuals who would like to offer their talents, counsel and support to G2 Hospital. This will enable staff to continue being light to those they serve.

TUESDAY 30

Please continue praying for the construction and expansion of the Emergency Department facilities at G2 Hospital. This project is supported financially by Guernsey's Overseas Aid & Development Commission.

WEDNESDAY 31

Pray for doctors Mark and Andrea Hotchkin in Bardaï and their relationships with the hospital director and staff. May they use their medical skills to bring health benefits to those served, and to promote justice.

THURSDAY 1

Pray for the prompt recruitment of at least two doctors at G2 Hospital, plus other healthcare workers, HR staff and administrators. Ask our Heavenly Father to call the right candidates clearly.

FRIDAY 2

Pray for the long-promised democratic elections in Chad. Pray for leaders of integrity who will govern with justice, compassion and responsibility.

SATURDAY 3

Praise God for the installation of solar panels at G2 Hospital, which are providing clean energy for 90 per cent of the hospital's needs, dramatically reducing the consumption of diesel.

Bible Reading*read* Revelation 19-22 to finish the NT in 92 days. Now we'll start a mammoth – the whole Bible in 2 years. This comes from Bible Study Tools and you can register and get additional info if you want at <https://www.biblestudytools.com/bible-reading-plan/busy-life-plan.html>

28 th Jan	Genesis 1:1-31;	Genesis 2:1-10	
29 th Jan	Genesis 2:11-25;	Genesis 3:1-24	
30 th Jan	Genesis 4:1-26;	Genesis 5:1-29	
31 st Jan	Genesis 5:30-32;	Genesis 6:1-22;	Genesis 7:1-22
1 st Feb	Genesis 7:23-24;	Genesis 8:1-22;	Genesis 9:1-17
2 nd Feb	Genesis 9:18-29;	Genesis 10:1-32;	Genesis 11:1-20
3 rd Feb	Genesis 11:21-32;	Genesis 12:1-20;	Genesis 13:1-13



A Thought from Charlie

“ The LORD your God is with you, He is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing.”

(Zephaniah 3:17)

When my heart is restless and my soul is downcast, I often surround myself with the calming strains of a favourite hymn. Sometimes when I want to express sheer praise, I'll pick a happy Psalm and just put it to any old tune that comes to mind. Thankfully for everyone else, I sing and play my guitar or accordion to myself.... I sing to God! But I am astonished to think that God sings to me.

God sings!!! Do you think He sings all four parts at once? Maybe His music, so celestial and heavenly, resounds like a great choir. No doubt He has invented chords and discords, major and minor keys, that our ears have never heard. I am touched that He rejoices over you and me with an actual melody. What's more, He quiets us with His loving soul.

I have often thought of this when a beautiful hymn keeps rolling over and over in my mind. Always, it's tune lifts my spirit, and carries me through the day. No, I am not playing a broken record in my head, the song, I am convinced, is God's melody to me. Direct from his heart. He is rejoicing over me with singing, Hallelujah, and all I need to do is listen... And be inspired.

Our prayer should always be: “Put a song in my heart Lord, a praise song or a hymn that you wish to sing to me. May I enjoy your melody and may I remember throughout the day that it is your song. It is your singing. My, You sing beautifully!!!

Can you sing the Songs of Salvation today?

If not you must come to Him seeking salvation – then He will put a new song in your heart.

<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	

Women's Fellowship Dates – for your diary from Lyn.

1st February	Guest speaker:	George Petrie
7th March.		Donna
4th April		David Wilkie
2nd May.		Charlie
6th June.		Archie

'How to Survive Almost Anything'

Last week we took a look at the first part of the 'Contents' page which lists three sections before you really get into the meat of the book.....

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

This week we'll look at the Introduction.

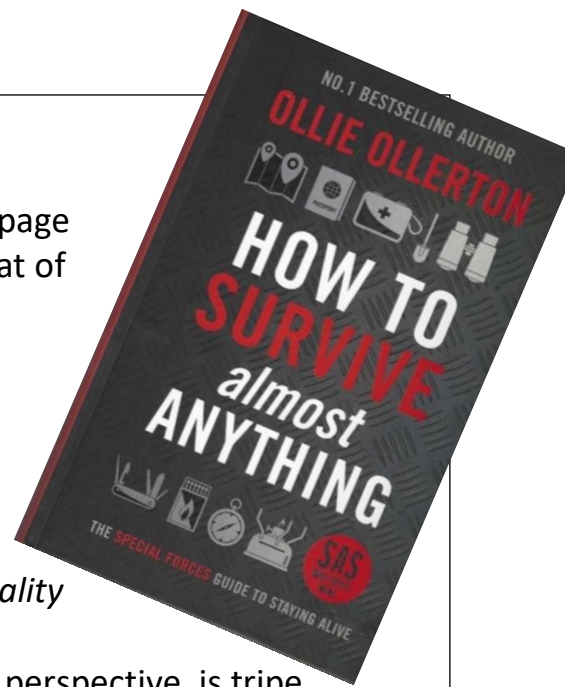
The first sentence says this ...'*A person who knows bad things are coming their way but continues to ignore that reality is someone not in charge of their life.*'

Now there's a lot in this introduction that, from a Christian perspective, is tripe but that first sentence is almost the gospel put in an un-gospel way. The message of the gospel is that, without God in our lives, then bad things are coming our way and if we choose to ignore that then we are not in charge of our lives, we're ignoring reality. The introduction ends with a sentence'*This book will prepare you for (almost) any scenario you're likely to face.....you'll have the knowledge to be confident that you're ready for whatever life throws at you.*'

One difference between this book and the gospel is that the gospel is about preparing us for life....both now and hereafter. This book is about preparing for life now – there is no hereafter.

Another difference which comes from the introduction is that '*this book is about taking control of yourself...*' whereas the gospel is about letting God take control of us. I think I know what I prefer.

The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah,[Ⓜ] the Son of God... Mark 1:1



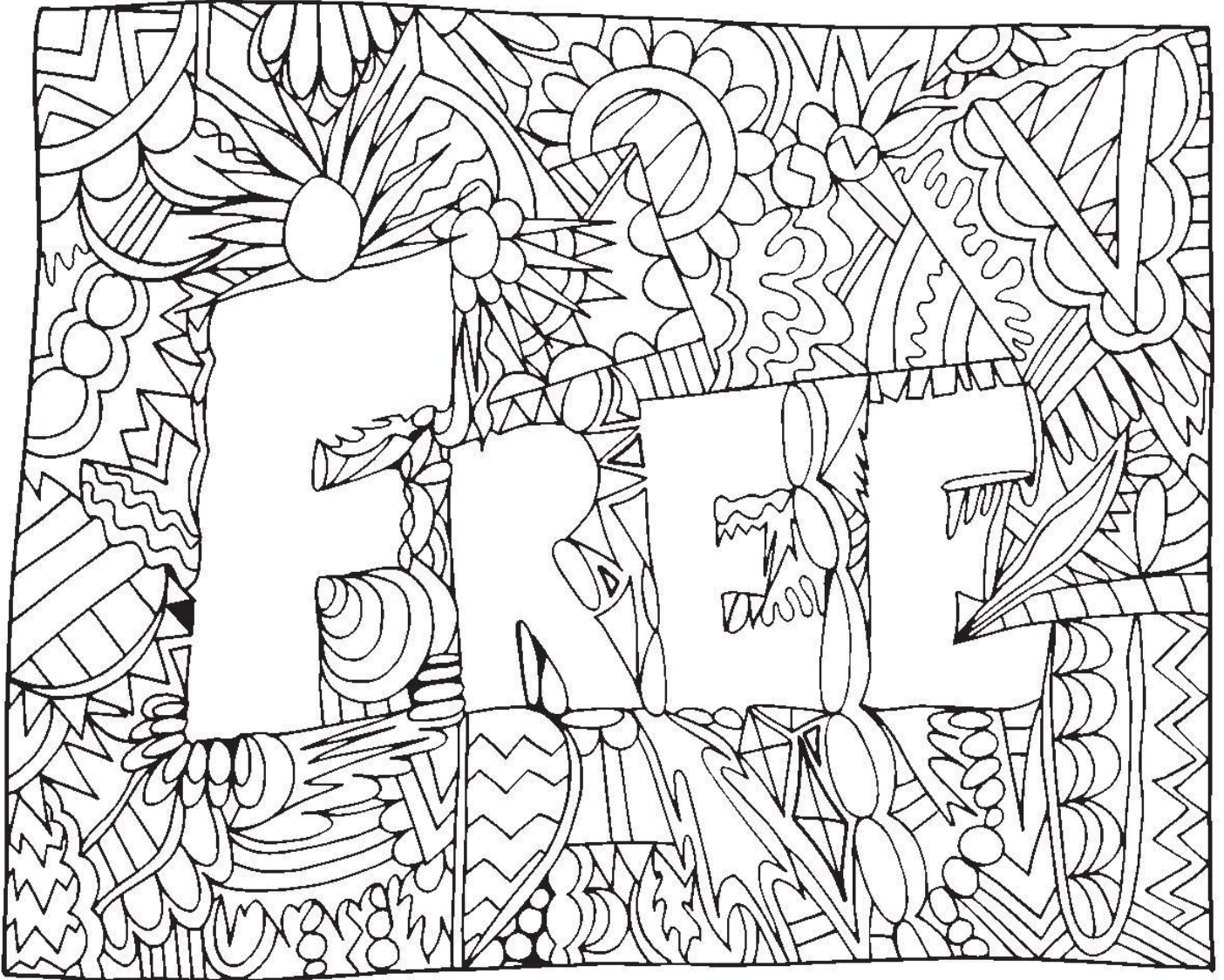
From the Philippines...

Ending With Favour...

Our 2023 year came to an end with amazing favour from the Lord! Our church has continued to see growth spiritually and in numbers as we saw 105 individuals trust Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour in 2023! Our regular Sunday weekly attendance including our Freedom Kids ministry has been reaching upwards of 100 on Sundays and our events have been reaching the community to let people know that God has a place for them here! God has done awesome things here in Mindanao through the Freedom Baptist Church and the faithfulness of our supporting churches around the world. As we begin 2024, we know God's hand is upon us and the work! We urge you to keep being faithful in giving and prayer as we see the Lord continuing to help us be fruitful in the mission field.

Eddie Ziss

I AM SET FREE



SO IF THE SON SETS YOU FREE,
YOU WILL BE FREE INDEED.

JOHN 8:36

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

Read Psalm 23:4

Father, Thank you that you are with me even when things seem black. Help me not to fear but to remember that you guide and comfort and protect me.

Amen

Lord, when I feel down help me to think about your love for me, love that sent Jesus to the cross....so that I might know forgiveness.

Amen

Lord – as I join with my brothers and sisters in worship tomorrow open my mind to comprehend what you say to me, my heart to accept it and my will to do it.

Amen

Lord, I continue to pray for the parts of our world where there is violence and hostility. I know it is not your will but a result of us going our own way rather than yours. We need to see people of all nations turning to you, recognising Jesus as Saviour, making Him Lord of their lives, and walking in love for all and this we pray.

Amen

Lord, I think of my neighbours who don't know you. Give me an opportunity to share my faith with them and the courage to take it. Give me the words to say and the grace to say them gently.

Amen

¹⁴ But I trust in you, Lord;
I say, "You are my God."

¹⁵ My times are in your hands;
deliver me from the hands of my enemies,
from those who pursue me.

¹⁶ Let your face shine on your servant;
save me in your unfailing love.

(Ps. 31:14-16)

Amen

*'Every tongue in heaven and earth
Shall declare Your glory
Every knee shall bow at
Your throne in worship
You will be exalted, oh God
And Your kingdom shall not pass away'*

<https://youtu.be/HBcP1ICgUIM>

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