

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

In this issue:

Page 1

- A thought.
- Verse for the week.
- BUofS Prayer calendar.

Page 2

- BMS Prayer Guide.
- Bible Reading Plan.

Page 3

- A thought from Charlie.
- Church Stuff

Page 4

- 'How to survive almost anything' 14
- Bible Word Search intro.

Page 5

- Bible Word Search

Page 6

- To colour, consider, and memorise.

Page 7

- The Prayer Wall.



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No. 206 27th April 2024

'We are ambassadors for Christ'

Some thoughts.....

When out walking a couple of weeks ago I was moaning to Jen that the Masters Golf wasn't on BBC as it used to be – I was reminiscing about missing Peter Allis' wonderful mellow tones and ready wit as he commentated on the trials and tribulations (usually tribulations) of the British golfers.



The discussion led on to the rugby and how much we miss Bill McLaren's beautiful Scottish voice and wonderful turn of phrase.

Here's what The Scotsman said about his style –

'What phrase better describes the quicksilver elusiveness of Roy Laidlaw cutting through a gap in the enemy defence than "he was as slippery as a baggie in a Border burn"? Or what about Doddie Weir crashing about the field "like a mad giraffe" or his likening of Simon Geoghan's running style to that of "a galloping octopus"?'

Looking back to the past is one thing, living in the past is something else entirely. We all have a past, a present and a future (although the length of that future we don't know), Looking back to the past can help us as we try not to make the same mistakes in the present or future, it can give us encouragement for the present and future but we can't live back there. We can learn from it but we can't change it. We remember with fondness the voices from the past, the people of the past, but we live in the present and look forward to the future. As Christians we look back to see the way God has led us, we live for him in the here and now and we look forward to new life with him in the future. But if you're not a Christian what are you looking forward to?

Robert

27th April 2024

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2a There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die.....

Baptist Union of Scotland Prayer Calendar 2024

Here are the subjects for prayer this week..

W/c 29th April

Dumfries Baptist Church
Duncan Street Baptist Church

Lisa Homes - BUS Deeper Church Lead

Dunfermline West Baptist



You can sign up for prayer points via Facebook at

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

BMS Prayer Guide 2024

As the home of William Carey's mission and ministry, India holds a special place in BMS World Mission's history. That legacy continues in the form of a time in the nation's journey that presents us with opportunities to bring the gospel of Christ to this vast and diverse country. Join BMS as we pray for India.

SUNDAY 28

Praise God for BMS worker Ben Francis, who is bringing revitalisation to many churches in India and around the world through disciple-making movements. Pray for the training of 10,000 church planters who will plant 10,000 house churches.

MONDAY 29

Praise God that the BMS and Biglife partnership across Asia has led to 8,700 disciple makers being trained, more than 7,000 house churches being planted and more than 5,000 people receiving a Bible in their own language.

TUESDAY 30

Give thanks that the women working with BMS partner Biglife are bold and brilliant in sharing the gospel. Pray for BMS-supported worker Gill Francis as she trains more women as disciple makers.

WEDNESDAY 1

Praise God for the BMS Resource Centre in Kolkata. Pray that the centre will facilitate ecumenical unity and be a mission training hub for churches.

THURSDAY 2

Praise God for the provision of a grant made possible in 2023 through the generosity of BMS supporters, which enables Christians to act as a shining light in their communities.

FRIDAY 3

Pray that the persecution of Christians will stop, and that followers of Christ across the most populous country on earth will continue to be resilient and demonstrate God's love to those who oppose them.

SATURDAY 4

The BMS boat has been transporting church planters to preach the gospel in the Sundarbans. Give thanks that 150 villages were reached and more than 6,000 people transported safely.



Bible Reading

- 28th Numbers 7:32-83
- 29th Numbers 7:84-89; Numbers 8:1-26; Numbers 9:1-10
- 30th Numbers 9:11-23; Numbers 10:1-32
- 1st May Numbers 10:33-36; Numbers 11:1-33
- 2nd Numbers 11:34-35; Numbers 12:1-16; Numbers 13:1-33
- 3rd Numbers 14:1-42
- 4th Numbers 14:43-45; Numbers 15:1-41



A Thought from Charlie

*“He has made Him to be sin for us....that we might be made the righteousness of God.”
(2 Corinthians 5:21)*

Augustine was one of the greatest theologians of all time. He was a wild, intemperate, immoral youth. In spite of his mother's pleadings and prayers, he grew worse instead of better. But one day he had a personal Encounter with Jesus Christ that transformed his life.



John Newton was a slave trader on the West Coast of Africa. One day, while enduring a storm at sea, he met Jesus Christ. He went back to England and became an Anglican clergyman. He wrote scores of Hymns, one of which has become the modern popular song: “Amazing Grace.”

These are the kind of things that Christ can do for anyone who puts their trust in Him!

Go on I dare you.... to do just that!
Who knows where it may lead you!

Church Stuff

- Sunday 28th** **11.00am Morning Worship – Andy**
To join on zoom just click the link - [Click to join](#)
2.30 Service at Holmesview
- Tuesday** **10.30am Deacons Meeting**
- Thursday** **10.30am Zoom Prayer - [Click to join](#)**
2.00 Women’s Fellowship – Charlie Sommerville
- Friday** **9.00am The Lighthouse**
6.00-8.00 Level Up
- Sunday 5th May** **11.00am Morning Worship with Communion – Donna**

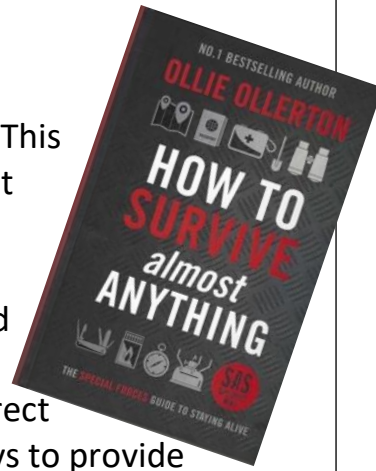
Duty Rota **Preaching Door Vestry Prayer Communion Prayer**

April	28	Andy	Bill	Bill	
May	5	Donna	Mark	Robert	Bill
	12	Andy	Lindsay	Robert	
	18	Andy	Doreen	Jim B.	
	25	Archie	Mark	Donna	
June	2	Donna	Kevin	Mary	Mary



'How to Survive Almost Anything 14.'

We're still on Part 2 of the book headed 'Essentials' and last time we thought about one of the four pillars of wilderness survival – 'Shelter'. This week we move on to the second pillar - 'Warmth'. In our climate I don't think any of us would dispute that we need warmth to survive. Sitting comfortably in our centrally heated houses it doesn't take a lot of imagination to envisage how life would be outside in bad weather, cold weather with no way of keeping warm. Even in this country every year people die from exposure, caught out in the elements without the correct gear. Warmth is certainly essential for survival and one of the best ways to provide that warmth is by physical contact.



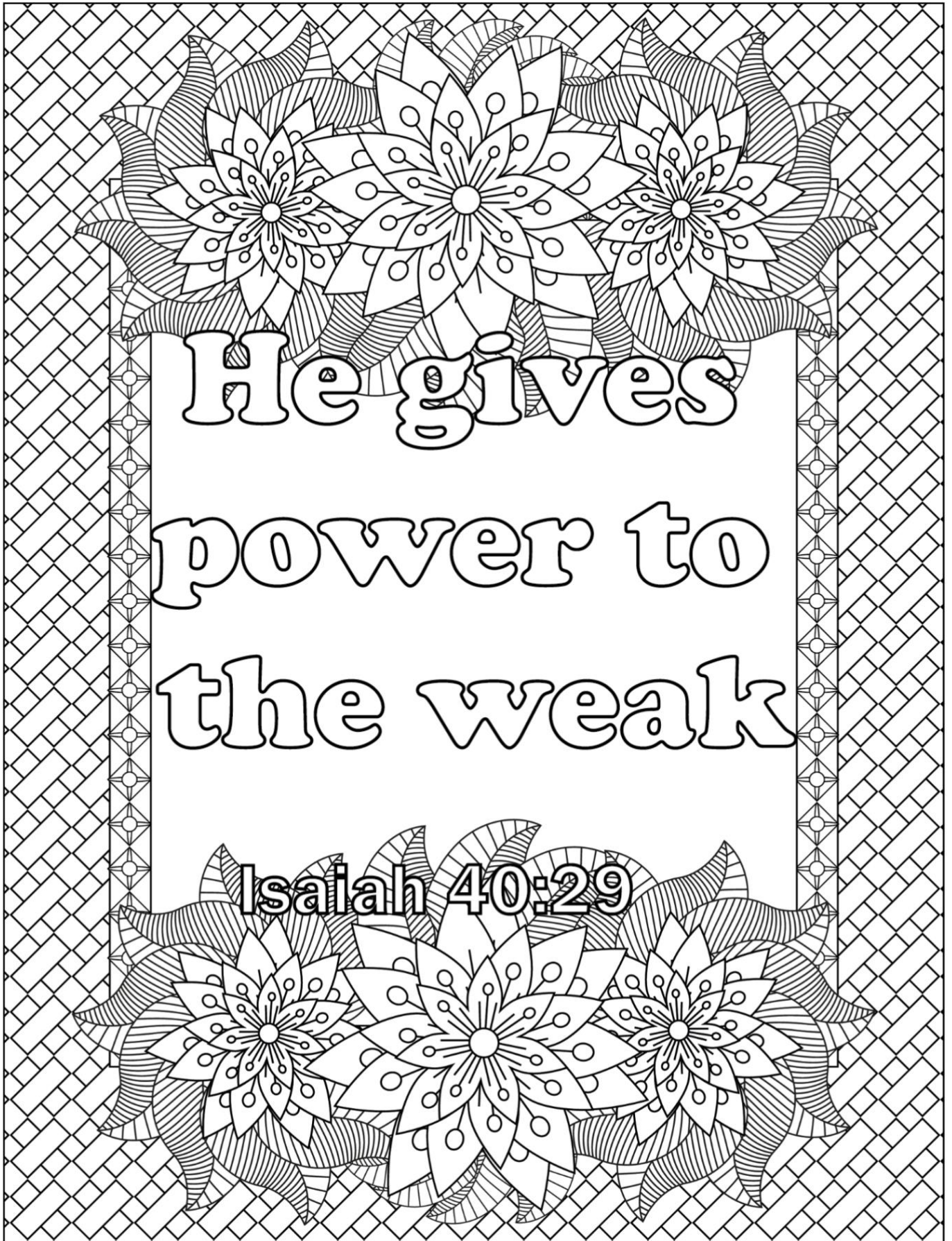
In our life as Christians we need warmth. It's easy to grow cold and lose the fire that once kept us going. We can generate the warmth we need by keeping busy serving God and others but possibly the best way is to maintain the physical contact with other Christians by being an active member of an active Christian fellowship. Some would say that you can be a Christian without being a member of a church and that is true - being a church member, or attending a fellowship does not of itself make you a Christian. But it is very difficult to keep the warmth if you do not have regular contact with other Christians who are there to encourage you when you're low, get you back on the straight and narrow when you've strayed, people who can laugh with you and cry with you, people who are there for you, and who pray for you and with you.

I spoke to someone recently who has been a Christian for a long time but who had experienced one of those church disagreements which remind us that the church is not full of perfect people but people struggling, with God's help, to be nearer what we should be. As a result, she was telling me of almost 5 years with no regular church attendance, no church family to be there for her and keep her warm. You could see it in her face and hear it in her voice. I encouraged her to get back to what she had known for so many years – not necessarily her former fellowship but another where she could get to know folk and get the close contact, we all need.

Where do you get your warmth just now? Do you meet regularly with other Christians, or have you got out of the habit? Do something about it before it's too late – that is if you want to survive!

Bible Word Search

Want to learn about the books of the Bible in a fun way? Who wouldn't! On the following page we start a series of Bible Book Wordsearches. Each one gives information about the book – the order in our Bible, the author and time period, an overview of the book and a word search featuring incidents from the book. These are produced with the permission of the copyright holders
teachsundayschool.com



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

Lord, we watch and listen in amazement as the former president of the USA argues that someone in that position should be immune from prosecution for criminal acts. At the same time we hear of politicians and leaders in our own lands being accused of behaviour which is abhorrent. Lord, raise up your people into positions of leadership and keep them safe from the evil one.

Amen

Lord, help me to be grateful for the things I take for granted that many cannot – a house, clean water, safety, friends, the NHS, clean air, adequate food. Thank you!

Amen

Lord, thank you for all your blessings – for food and shelter, for love and friendship, for family and friends.

Amen.

Lord, I name my family and friends.....bless those who know you, challenge those who don't, comfort those who are sorrowing, heal those who are sick, be near to the lonely.

Amen

Lord, as I look back on my life I thank you for the way you have led me. Be ever near me in the present and lead me into the future to live for you.

Amen

Great is the Lord, and most worthy of praise,

Psalm 48:1

Lord, I am in awe of your might and majesty and yet you love me. Thank you!

Amen

Lord, I pray for my church family, Bless and care for each one.

Amen

He is my strength when I cannot go on
Peace when all my power is gone
Hope, although the night is long and deep

He is my song, for He has rescued me
Joy, now He has set me free
Praise, praise to my Father be
My God is all I need.

<https://youtu.be/-fBeckPieds>

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