



Link

October 2019

Making God's love known through Jesus Christ

In this issue

- 1 Pastoral letter
- 2 Remembrance Sunday
- 3 Nominating Committee
Being Creative Together
- 4 Shoe box appeal
- 5 Christian faith course
- 6 Kitchen notes
- 7 Flower rota
Afternoon Fellowship
- 8 TCP
Knit 2 Together
- 9 Balancing the books
- 10 Football update
- 11 Days with trees – part 3
- 12 Pathways
Safeguarding
- 13 Useful information
- 14 October diary
- 15 November diary

Pastoral Letter

I spoke at a morning service recently on the first half of Acts 12 - where Peter is imprisoned, facing execution the next day and yet was still able to sleep soundly whilst chained to 2 soldiers. One of the key verses was verse 5:

Acts 12:5 NIV

“So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was **earnestly** praying to God for him.”

For Peter, there was an expectation that God would do something to help his situation...and he did. The Power of Prayer is so wonderful we can't even begin to imagine how God is able to act...what I have learned over the years is that when we pray - things happen. God shows up and lives are transformed. God hears our prayers. Now he may not answer them in the way that we might hope for. Some of our prayers will be answered with a “Yes”; some with a definite “no” and still others with “wait” or “not yet”.

We just have to trust and keep on praying knowing that God wants the best for us.

I finished that sermon with the words of Philippians 4:6-7 from The Message version of the Bible:

Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for



good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the centre of your life.



The last line is particularly relevant in relation to the Afternoon Fellowship outing last month. The group enjoyed a bus trip to the Falkirk Wheel, even though it was dreich, and a trip on a barge as it passed through this

magnificent piece of engineering. The commentary about the process of moving a boat between 2 levels referenced the Archimedes principle whereby the weight of a barge and the people in it displaces the water in the 'gondola' by an equal weight of water, so that the opposing gondolas are of equal weight, thereby allowing the Wheel to turn. It sounds a bit complicated, but does make sense. And it works!

That also means that that the same principle can be applied to Jesus and our heart. The worry which weighs our hearts down can be displaced (or shoved out) by the amount of love we have for Jesus. The more we love and trust Jesus, the less room there will be in our hearts for all the worries because Jesus is in charge.

So how do we go about displacing the worries and anxieties that take hold of our lives?

- We can pray earnestly and expectantly.
- We can work on the relationship we have with God by reading and living out Jesus lives.
- We can commit our fears and anxieties to God - once we've handed them over, they are no longer ours to bear alone.
- We can pray for release from the chains which hold us in bondage so that our prayers and our testimonies to answered prayer might be a witness to others.

There are many other ways in which Jesus can displace the worries in our hearts...we only need to ask.

May your prayers in the month ahead be earnest and expectant as Christ fills your heart with His love.

Elaine Hogan

Remembrance Sunday

Don't forget, the morning service will start at 10:50 on Sunday 11 November, to allow us to take part in the two minute silence at 11am.



Vacancy news: our Nominating Committee

At the congregational meeting on Sunday 22 September eleven people were elected to serve as our Nominating Committee. This group takes the vacancy process forward by considering applicants, undertaking visits and interviews, and then proposing a 'sole nominee' as Barclay Viewforth's new minister.

Those elected onto the Nominating Committee are (in alphabetical order):

- Lindsey Anderson
- Elaine Coull
- David Craigie
- Katharine Ellis
- Mike Ellis
- Katy Gray
- Jean MacAulay
- Kirsteen Milne
- Andrew Paterson
- John Ritchie
- Stephen Tweedie

We will hold our first meeting on Monday 30 September, and would greatly value your prayers for our planning and discussions.



It was encouraging to hear from Rev Ian MacDonald, our Interim Moderator, that some potential applicants have already been in touch. The very comprehensive Parish Profile will have helped raise interest, and particular thanks to Elaine Hogan for chairing the group who wrote that document and to Katelynne Kirk for the great design work. You can view the Profile on our website or a paper copy at the back of the Pillar Hall.

John Ritchie

Being Creative Together

The Bible is full of creativity – from creation itself to Noah building the ark, the decoration of the Temple, Joseph's amazing coat, clay on a potter's wheel and fishermen mending their nets. Many of us enjoy being creative too. Would you like to come together with other people to explore your creativity in different ways? If so, please speak to Anne McCulloch.

Shoe Box Appeal 2019



SORTING CENTRE

The Shoe Box Appeal 2018 resulted in 107,073 boxes being given to vulnerable communities. Every shoebox has to be checked for customs purposes.

Are you able to help us check shoeboxes?



Barclay Viewforth Church will be a sorting centre on the following dates:

Wednesday 13 November -

between 09:00-21:00

Thursday 14 November -

between 09:00-21:00

Friday 15 November -

between 09:00-15:00

Please sign up on the list in the Pillar Hall if you can help. Extra help required as

We would love to see you. Volunteers must be 16+ unless accompanied by an adult. For more information contact:

Barclay Viewforth Church



Registered address: Deephaven Industrial Estate, Evanton, Ross-shire, IV16 9XJ
Registered charity no. SC048001. Company no. 583493. Registered under Data Protection no. Z7689978

Christian Faith and the five Church of Scotland vows

At the time of writing, we have had three Thursday meetings and two Sunday meetings when we have started to review the five Church of Scotland vows that we make when we become a member of the Church of Scotland. The invitation is for people to attend five of the one-hour meetings to cover the five vows. There are 15 planned meeting opportunities on Thursdays and Sundays and people can choose to mix days and times to suit their busy lives. All are welcome to these meetings, of all faiths and none.

People have attended for a variety of reasons. The main one is to refresh their memories of what the five vows are! Some people have come to find out whether fellowship and Bible study is something that suits them. Others are at the stage of enquiring whether committing to the Christian faith is the right thing for them to do.

Our prayer behind these meetings is that people will enjoy the time they spend reading scripture and reflecting together on the background to each vow. Some people who attend may wish to take a member of their family or an enquirer into the Christian faith through the notes provided...you never know when you may be asked to explain the Christian faith and what you do to become a member at Barclay Viewforth.

The five vows we take if you wish to become a member of the Church of Scotland are set out below:

- First Vow: I believe in one God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit; and I confess Jesus Christ as my saviour and Lord.
- Second Vow: I promise to join regularly with my fellow Christians on the Lord's Day.
- Third Vow: I promise to be faithful in reading the Bible, and in prayer
- Fourth Vow: I promise to give a fitting proportion of my time, talents and money for the Church's work in the world.
- Fifth Vow: I promise, depending upon the grace of God, to confess Christ before men, to serve him in my daily work, and to walk His ways all the days of my life.

Ask God to guide you in His ways and to show you how to live your life by working with Him in all situations and at all times. Maybe reflecting on the above vows will help you to experience the love, joy and inner peace that only God can give you.



Martin Pearce

Kitchen notes: Plum and rosemary puff tart

Plums! I love Victoria plums, but they are very seasonal and not often to be found in the supermarkets. More often than not you find the large dark red skinned plums which, whilst they look appealing, often have very little flavour and go from under ripe to overripe very quickly. I have been hunting for recipes which use these plums so that I don't end up wasting my impulse purchases! As a bonus it also uses rosemary – I planted a tiny rosemary bush which is now so big I need to cut it with the hedge cutter. The recipe below is one I tried on a whim which turned into such a success that it is now my default desert when I have friends over for tea. I have put in the original quantities – I do a half-sized recipe.

- 1 sheet of ready rolled puff pastry
- 8 plums halved and stoned
- 75g dark brown sugar
- 1 sprig of rosemary leaves finely chopped
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 2-3 sprigs of rosemary



1. Preheat oven to 200C/GM7
2. Unroll pastry into a lined roasting tin, then top with the halved plums cut side up leaving a 2cm border around the edge – trim the pastry as needed
3. Mix together the sugar, cinnamon and chopped rosemary and scatter generously over the plums.
4. Fold over the edges of the pastry to form a border and scatter the rosemary sprigs over the top
5. Bake for 25-30 mins until the pastry is golden brown
6. Serve hot with ice cream

Linda Garside

Flower rota

Thank you to those who have donated and arranged the flowers for the sanctuary for October.



	Donated by	Arranged by
6	Lawrence & Irene Hall	Irene Hall
13	Peggy Jones	Isobel Anderson
20	Isobel Anderson & Bertha Morrison	Isobel Anderson
27	Marie Renfrew	Karen Warwick

Afternoon Fellowship

Tuesday 3 September saw the Fellowship enjoying an outing to the Falkirk Wheel, where the Union Canal meets the Forth & Clyde Canal. The Union Canal was designed as a contour canal so there was a considerable height difference at Camelon where the canals met, so eventually a flight of locks was built so boats could move from one to the other.

The Union Canal was put into culverts at various places and there were plans to fill the canal in. Fortunately, these plans were eventually discarded and the benefits of the canal were realised.

The canal was made navigable again, but it was decided not to reinstate the flight of locks and a very modern solution was found. This is the Falkirk Wheel which, with the help of gravity, lifts the boats up and down

Unfortunately, low clouds meant that the usually great views over the Forth Valley could not be enjoyed, but the lovely afternoon tea most certainly was.

It was a great start to our winter programme which continues on Tuesday 1 October when Martin Pearce, our locum, is going to talk to us "On how the World has changed". Everyone is welcome at our meetings.

Lorna Gentleman



TCP

“The dinner on us” was the invitation handed out to the Tollcross shopkeepers for the regular meal which we held recently in the Pillar Hall. It was such an encouragement to see so many joining us. The atmosphere was one of great warmth and caring and we all enjoyed the meal and friendly chat.

All the shopkeepers were very enthusiastic about helping to draw the community together, coming up with ideas for different events and reaching out to folks on the street.

Many of them have been instrumental in providing the contents for the Bags of Hope and have shown a willingness to continue with this.

Thanks also to the Knit2Tog group for supplying cosy hats and scarfs. Five bags are now ready for distribution when required.

We have produced another newsletter which has been delivered to over 24 businesses. Please take the time to read a copy which can be found in the TCP folder in the Pillar Hall. Please introduce yourself when you call into the shops as we are all part of the Tollcross community.



TCP Team

Knit 2 Together



Knit 2 Together has been meeting regularly over the last few months – and so far we have created a number of hats and scarfs for TCP and the shoeboxes. We are also now making twiddle-muffs and twiddle-blankets for those suffering from dementia and anxiety. You are very welcome to come and join us in the Pillar Hall. The next meeting date is Wednesday 9 October at 7.30 pm.

Anne McCulloch

Balancing the books

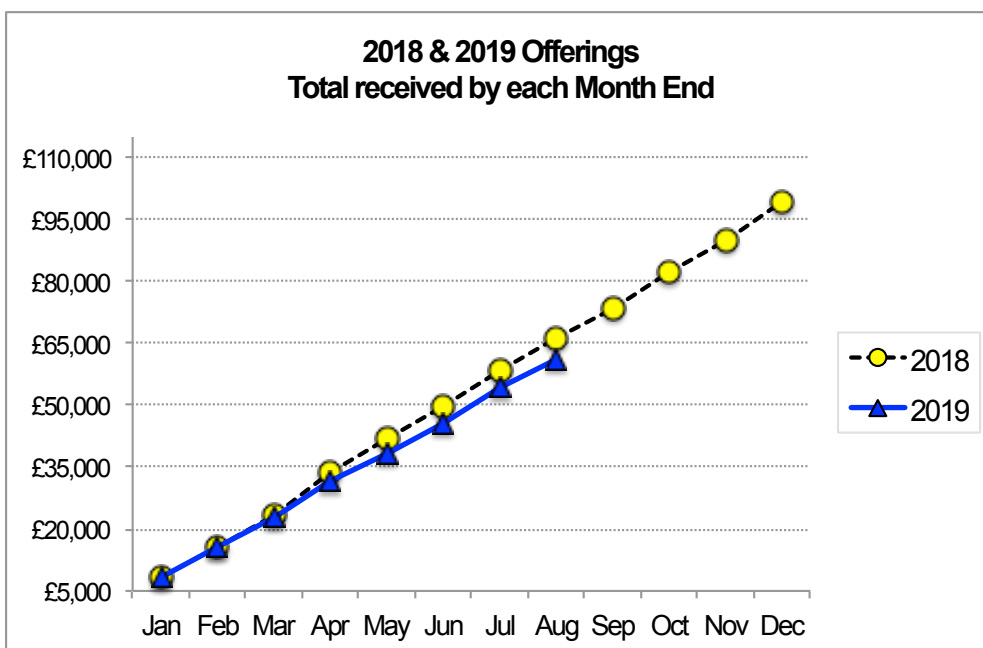
At the September meeting of the Finance Group, concern was expressed at the year-to-date performance of the General Fund. The General Fund covers the day-to-day operations of the church and we now anticipate a deficit of almost £32,000 at year-end. While this is not yet a critical issue in view of the reserves held, we felt it was appropriate to bring this to the attention of the congregation given that our Strategy Group is now looking at a ten-year plan. This will, in all likelihood, mean that reserves will be reduced as we look at how we can spread God’s word across the community outside of Barclay Viewforth in addition to enhancing the work currently carried on within the church.

Barclay Viewforth is a beautiful building. However, the age of the premises means that utility costs continue to rise (albeit within budget) given the building is not of a modern energy-efficient design. Water rates, council tax (for the manse and Church House) and cleaning costs are also outwith our control and continue to rise.

Although costs are being largely maintained within our budget, income from offerings so far this year is down almost 8% against the same period last year as shown in the graph.

Falling offering income has been the main trend over the past four years to 2018, with the average drop relative to the previous year being just over 3%.

While the Group appreciate and thank those members who have recently increased their offerings and those who do so annually we would ask, where possible, all members to consider prayerfully reviewing their giving. When paying by standing order, it is all too easy to forget to amend these payments when salaries and pensions increase. If you are a taxpayer and haven’t done so already, please complete a Gift Aid Declaration form to allow the church to claim back the tax on your offering which enhances such income by 25%.



Please speak to Janet Darling, Bob Elrick or John Ritchie if you would like further information regarding the church’s finances in general; and to Janet Darling to speak confidentially if in connection with your giving.

Finance Group

Football Update

One has to go back to the first season of the Edinburgh churches football league to recall a Barclay Viewforth start like this! BV have begun the 2019/20 campaign with two league victories and one defeat alongside a further win in the opening match of ECFA Cup Group A. Back in 2011/12 the team recorded four straight league wins at the start of the season and dared to dream, but a further victory then proved elusive for months.

Coach Chris Whelan has had a momentous month becoming a father for the first time. This hasn't, however, prevented him from being present at three of the four games with fellow coach Chris Mac coming into the match-day hot-seat on two occasions.

Two of BV's wins came on consecutive Saturdays against the same side – St Mary's Metropolitan. In both these matches, Barclay Viewforth amassed four goals – though were considerably more pressured by our opponents during the Cup match when St Mary's pulled back to 3-2 and forced a fine save from stand-in goalie Kev before Dami restored the two-goal cushion in the final minutes.

In the following league match on form striker Craig unusually didn't register a goal following a brace in two of his three previous games. This time wide midfielder Adam scored two beauties following sterling creative work from Spanish central midfielders Alberto and Nico, while the opener was registered crispy by Cammy Torrens following a determined dribble deep into the penalty area by Alberto which started way out right. The pick of the bunch and the biggest cheer was, however, reserved for late substitute Duffy who wrapped his foot round the ball from distance and lifted it over the St Mary's keeper.

In the interests of balanced reporting, I need to advise that the squad's other outings were a very well-deserved opening day 2-1 victory over Charlotte Chapel; and a regrettably equally-deserved 6-0 drubbing by White Lightening marked by a very poor second half during which five of the goals were conceded. We'd have very happily taken an overall start like this though, no mistake.



Very well attended training is continuing at Portobello High School on Wednesday evenings. Please don't hesitate to speak to me if you have any football-related questions.

Andrew Stephenson

Days with trees – part 3

I love autumn – it's my favourite season. In this issue, I've chosen something I wrote about one of my favourite autumn trees – but remember that I wrote this in springtime!



The horse chestnut is filled with childhood memories, but every year I still find it exciting to wait expectantly as the conkers develop, ripen and fall to the ground. Shining brown treasures are found within. I still pick them up and put them in my pocket. I love feeling them when they are shiny and new – so smooth. But more than six months since I picked one up it is still in my pocket – and I still feel it. Somehow it brings me comfort or reassurance. But what a magnificent tree. Being 'under the spreading chestnut tree...' is an amazing feeling, its large canopy

shading and protecting. In spring, its pillars of flowers attract insects and are displayed like torches held up on the branches. It is so distinctive with its five-fingered leaf too. Now, the tiny conkers – just starting to develop in bunches – are promises of treasures later in the year. Where once a flower, now a spiky ball. Transformation.

As Christians, we are all at different stages in the cycle of transformation. I recently described my current stage as a bud. Maybe I am like a tiny conker, waiting to develop and expand in my shell, mature, until eventually I am able to drop off the tree and see where I land. What happens next? New growth? Ending up as a treasure for someone else, a companion on a journey? Hopefully not eaten by a squirrel! There are many possibilities in the future. Many things could happen. Trusting in God has always been and will continue to be the only way that I know that I am secure. God sees the big picture when I only see in part – and understand even less.

Thank you Lord that you hold me, that I am part of your plan for this world. That you can use even me for the expansion of your Kingdom on this earth. Let it be.

Julie Nicholson



Pathways Bereavement Support Programme

Bereavement is something we will all experience at some point in our lives – some people more frequently than others. People handle their grief in different ways, often surrounded by family and friends. However, there are times when you might feel alone, particularly when others seemed to have ‘moved on’. **Pathways** exists to help people on this journey.



The next programme will begin on **Tuesday 29 October 2019** at **The Treehouse Cafe** (across from the church) starting at 7pm.

If you know of anyone who has been bereaved in recent weeks/months, perhaps you would like to invite them to join our next Pathways course. Ask Elaine Hogan or one of the team for more information, or pick up a flyer in the Pillar Hall.

As I write this, the daytime team are nearing the end of the current programme. While the number of participants is small, all have benefitted from the support that the course offers. It’s also been encouraging to journey with people who are not part of the church family.

Thank you to both teams for their work, and a special thanks to our speakers – we couldn’t do this without you.

Elaine Hogan

Safeguarding training dates

Volunteer Training
19th September at
St Andrew’s & St George’s west.
7pm start.

Volunteer Training 2nd October
at Drylaw Parish Church
7pm start.

Kirk Session Training 10th October
Balerno Parish Church
7.30pm start

Volunteer Training
12th November at
Duddingston Parish Church
10:30am start.

Volunteer Training 28th
November at
Wardie Parish Church.
7pm start.



On this page you will find dates, times and venues for Safeguarding training. IF YOU WISH TO ATTEND, YOU MUST BOOK A PLACE. To book a place, please use the contact form below.

Useful information

Minister

[Vacant as of 18 May 2019 – please contact the office in the first instance]

Interim Moderator	Ian MacDonald (Minister, Holy Trinity Wester Hailes)
Locum	Martin Pearce martin.j.pearce@blueyonder.co.uk

Ministry Team

Administrator	Julie Nicholson	admin@barclayviewforth.org.uk
Pastoral Associate	Elaine Hogan	pastoral@barclayviewforth.org.uk
Children & Families	Stefanie Conratt	children@barclayviewforth.org.uk
Development Worker		

Officers

Session Clerk	John Ritchie	sessionclerk@barclayviewforth.org.uk
Treasurer	Janet Darling	treasurer@barclayviewforth.org.uk
Roll Keeper	Helen Miller	rollkeeper@barclayviewforth.org.uk
Church Officer	Chris Hogan	
Webmaster	Mike Ellis	webmaster@barclayviewforth.org.uk

Music

Organist/Choirmaster	Andrew Robertson
Organist	Michael Bonaventure
Worship Band Leader	Anna Nicholson

Missional communities(*), groups and teams

Afternoon Fellowship	Jean Macaulay
Blessing*	<i>Contact the church office</i>
Connect Plus*	Elaine Rumney, Chris Hogan
Football	Andrew Stephenson
Meals for Mums	Linda Garside, Katy Gray
TCP*	Elaine Hogan, Helen Wolpert
The Net*	Alison Edmondson, Kirsteen Milne, Andrew Paterson
Toddlers	Katharine Ellis
Knit 2 Together	Anne McCulloch

Contribute to the magazine

Link relies on people like you to fill our pages each month. Please send us articles, pictures, poems, artwork, recommendations, upcoming events and important notices!

You can submit content by email to magazine@barclayviewforth.org.uk or hand in a hard copy to the editor or the church office. Articles should be 400 words or fewer.

Content for the **November** issue must be submitted by 5pm on **Tuesday 22 October**.



Tues	1	19:00	Connect Plus	Pillar Hall
Sat	5	10:00	BV v St Columbia's Free	Contact Team
Sun	6	12:15	Church Lunch	Pillar Hall
Sun	6	19:30	Origin Scotland: Symphonic Praise	Palmerston Pl.
Wed	9	19:30	Knit 2 Together	Pillar Hall
Thur	10	19:30	Choir	Pillar Hall
Sat	12	10:00	BV v Broxburn Baptists	Contact Team
Sun	13	09:15	Christian Faith Vow 3	Pillar Hall
Sun	13	20:00	Christian Faith Vow 2	Pillar Hall
Tues	15	19:00	Connect Plus	Pillar Hall
Sat	19	10:00	BV v Niddrie Community Church	Contact Team
Sun	20	09:30	Prayer Breakfast	Pillar Hall
Sun	20	20:00	Christian Faith Vow 3	Pillar Hall
Tues	22	17:00	Magazine Deadline	
Thur	24	10:30	Knit 2 Together	Pillar Hall
Thur	24	19:30	Choir	Pillar Hall
Sat	26	10:00	BV v Port Seton	Contact Team
Sun	27	01:00	Remember the clocks go back!	
Sun	27	09:45	Gillespie Crescent Communion	Gillespie Cres.
Sun	27	11:00	Quarterly Communion & Admission of Members	Sanctuary
Sun	27	18:30	Communion	Pillar Hall
Tues	29	19:00	Connect Plus	Pillar Hall

Red events are BVC events, blue events are CoS and green events are run by other organisations



Sat	2	10:00	BV v Bristo (Cup)	<i>Contact Team</i>
Sun	3	09:15	Christain Faith Vow 4	Pillar Hall
Sun	3	12:15	Church Lunch	Pillar Hall
Sun	3	20:00	Christain Faith Vow 4	Pillar Hall
Wed	6	19:30	Knit 2 Together	Pillar Hall
Thur	7	19:30	Choir	Pillar Hall
Sat	9	10:00	BV v Ladywell Baptists	<i>Contact Team</i>
Sun	10	09:15	Christain Faith Vow 5	Pillar Hall
Sun	10	10:00	Gillespie Crescent Remembrance Service	Gillespie Cres.
Sun	10	10:50	Remembrance Sunday (and shoebox blessing)	Sanctuary
Sun	10	20:00	Christain Faith Vow 5	Pillar Hall
Tues	12	19:00	Connect Plus	Pillar Hall
Wed	13	09:00	Shoebox Sorting	Pillar Hall
Thurs	14	09:00	Shoebox Sorting	Pillar Hall
Fri	15	09:00	Shoebox Sorting	Pillar Hall
Sat	16	10:00	BV v Gorgie	Pillar Hall
Sun	17	09:30	Prayer Breakfast	Pillar Hall
Tues	19	17:00	Magazine Deadline	
Thur	21	10:30	Knit 2 Together	Pillar Hall
Thur	21	19:30	Choir	Pillar Hall
Sat	23	10:00	BV v Niddrie Community Church	<i>Contact Team</i>
Sun	24	10:00	Gillespie Crescent Service	Gillespie Cres.
Tues	26	19:00	Connect Plus	Pillar Hall

Red events are BVC events, **blue** events are CoS and **green** events are run by other organisations



Nothing is impossible!



Goliath walks again!



Goodbye to Heather!



Happy 91st Birthday to Connie

Want to see your photo here?
Email it in!



First pumpkin spice latte of the season