



Link

October 2018

Making God's love known through Jesus Christ

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Be the branch!

'I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.' (John 15:5)

That was the encouraging word that struck a chord with me as I sat and listened to the pastor a couple of Sundays ago while still on holiday. Many of us, he said, try too hard to be more than a branch. Either we try to squeeze fruit out of ourselves by our own efforts and willpower, or we try to play God and seek to control everything and everyone around us. But the humble truth is that we are simply branches. Branches are fruitful by simply abiding in the vine and letting the fruit grow naturally. If we abide in the vine we will bear the fruit of the vine organically and naturally. By abiding, the pastor painted a picture of dwelling or residing. When we have a home address we might be out working all day, but we come home to our dwelling place. There we find rest and restoration. We recharge the batteries and we go refreshed to work again the next day. But our place of abiding is our dwelling place, our home address. We

should enjoy getting home to God every day and drawing from him what we need for that day and the next.

Be the branch: abide in him!

Sam Torrens



Hell: the final frontier?

When was the last time you were in the company of people grappling deeply, theologically, pastorally, biblically, rationally, humbly and honestly with the subject of Hell? Maybe it was from the pulpit, or in a Bible study, or in one-to-one conversation? Maybe you've never really done that? Maybe you've just accepted that it's a primitive myth and isn't real or that it is but that's just part of our faith and that we don't examine and leave to God, or it's just too emotive to think about? Paul exhorts the believers in 1 Thessalonians 4:13 not to be 'uninformed about those who sleep in death', and whilst he is referring to believers I think he would extend that to a biblical enquiry into how or where our traditional view of Hell fits into the whole drama of salvation.



Beginning in the evening of Sunday 30 September I'm delivering the essence of what I believe is an honest attempt to push myself to the very edge of understanding this troubling and perplexing aspect of our faith. The Old Testament word for eternity is *olam*, which literally means 'up to the horizon'. In these studies we will push ourselves to the horizon, the edge, of understanding, but in doing so we will grow, and hopefully we will discover new insights into our faith in God that will enlarge our love and release us to fulfil our calling to worship him and glorify him forever.

The weekly themes and length of the series may change as questions arise or not, but the intention is to build the subject bit by bit over a number of weeks (4–7 weeks depending on interest) with time to discuss the issues and express feelings around tables and to log questions that can be addressed going forward. As well as Biblical and theological thinking, there will also be the inclusion of the stories of highly regarded followers of Jesus who grappled with this subject and have found themselves embracing a view that might be helpful to us. Our God is worthy of the effort to understand at least in part the greatest of what he has done for us in his son, our saviour. In the chorus of the redeemed in Revelation, 'He is worthy!'

Sam Torrens

Congregational roll

Deaths

Jean Elder	18 September 2018
Helen Bryan	24 September 2018
Jean Gelly	24 September 2018



MAJOR ROADWORKS outside the church

Beginning on 15 October for approximately 6 weeks, there will be major roadworks from Home Street up to Bruntsfield Place, as road and pavement will be resurfaced.

Most of the work will take place in phases, and the active work will be undertaken between Monday and Saturday, with the work on the footpath during the day, and work on the road surface in the evening and overnight.

There will be **no active works on Sundays, but your journey to church may still be affected** by diversions, closed junctions and parking restrictions. Please allow extra time if coming to the building by car. Bus users should check their journey is running as normal each week, as some stops may be closed etc.



Meals for Mums

This is a ministry that aims to offer between 10 and 14 main meals for new families over a two week period to make the adjustment of having a new baby in the house a wee bit easier.

In the past we have extended this to the wider church groups and have provided meals for mums who come along to the toddlers group. We would really like to be able to continue to offer this to the wider group and would therefore appreciate a few more people offering to provide the occasional meal. If you think this is something you could do, please speak to Katy Gray or Linda Garside.

An email is sent with the details of who the meal is for and the dates which have been chosen for the meals. Volunteers then sign up for a date that is convenient for them. You don't have to sign up to every meal schedule that comes out. If you are thinking you haven't seen any of the recent meal request emails please speak to Linda, who can check we have the correct contact details for you.



Linda Garside

Editor adds: As a past recipient of meals for mums, I am so grateful for this ministry. It made early days with a new baby much easier and I felt very loved and supported. If you think you might be able to help with providing meals, please do ask to join the email list.

He gives and takes away?

As some of you may have noticed, I'm pregnant. What most of you will not know is that this is not my second pregnancy; it's my third.

My first pregnancy ended in an early miscarriage at seven weeks. Best estimates are that one in four pregnancies end in loss. That's one more child who might have been for every four we see at the front of church each week. Yes, it's a lot.

It's no comfort to know it's common when it happens.

It *is* a small comfort to know someone else has been there. Someone else understands.

Funny how you only find out how many people you know have had a miscarriage *after* it happens to you.

Nearly three years on, and I still don't really understand why my first pregnancy ended the way it did. A medical mind might say it was bad genetics. A well-meaning one, bad luck.

I don't know why God took that joy away from me (or allowed it to be taken). I don't think there is a good answer. It's the age old problem of suffering.

I do know that I was one of the first people my cousin called when she went through the same thing, and she felt less alone.

I do know that by saying 'it happened to me', I can help to break the silence, and maybe a few more people will know they are not alone.

* * *

I wanted to write about my experience now because this year Baby Loss Awareness week runs from 9 to 15 October. The week ends with the Wave of Light on 15 October, where people are invited to light a candle at 19:00 and leave it burning for an hour as an act of remembrance.

I am extraordinarily grateful to Sam for his support after my loss in arranging for me to speak to someone who could share my experience. If you have experienced a loss at any stage of pregnancy, recently or long ago, and want someone to listen to you or pray with you, please do speak to Sam or Elaine.

Emma Torry



Prayer and support group for persecuted Christians

I had the pleasure on Tuesday 4 September of attending a Barnabas Fund event at Duncan Street Baptist Church. Barnabas Fund supports persecuted Christians.



Worldwide the church and Christians are under attack, spiritually and physically. Historically Christianity has faced existential threats from the Roman Empire, Islam, Fascism and Communism. Today there is still a threat from Islam and Communism. At the meeting, a Ugandan Pastor who is a convert from Islam

spoke. He has survived several assassination attempts from Muslims, including an acid attack which has left him with horrific burns on his head and face. But he still preaches the gospel in the same area where he was attacked. He is not the only one.

Persecuted Christians at home, but especially abroad, need our support. That's why we've been given the means and opportunity to help.

I'm starting an Edinburgh prayer and support group for persecuted Christians. If you're interested in coming or contributing you can contact me on 07905 217008 or flexdream@hotmail.com.

'In the End, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.'
 – Rev Dr Martin Luther King

For more information:

- Barnabas Fund: barnabasfund.org
- Open Doors: opendoorsuk.org
- Christian Solidarity Worldwide: csw.org.uk

John Clayton

Reminder: fire safety

We worship in a wonderful building, but it is large and complex. Fire safety is important. **Please make sure you know where the nearest exit is when you are in the building.**

Doorkeepers ensure fire safety in an emergency, so if the alarm sounds, look to them for guidance. You can check the full fire procedure, including gathering points, on notice boards throughout the building.



To parents

Child protection

You will have noticed that when children are brought back from their Quest and Next classes into the sanctuary, they are strongly encouraged to sit at the front with their leaders. Leaders can see all of the children at a glance, and importantly can ensure that each child is returned to their parent/ guardian at the end of the service. To avoid confusion in the group and maximise safety, the team would appreciate your cooperation in encouraging your child to remain at the front until the end of the service.

Communion

Just a reminder about Communion. All children and young people over 7 will be brought back into the sanctuary prior to the sacrament. If you wish your child to participate, you must arrange with their leader for them to be returned to you. This ensures parental consent to their participation. The younger children will be brought back at the usual time.

Elaine Coull



Edinburgh 2019

Do you have a heart for mission? Are you interested in outreach? Thinking about starting a missional community? Or just wanting to learn more about what 'mission' means?

mission shaped ministry is a one-year course which explores both the theology and the practicality of doing mission in the modern world.

Next year, the course will be running at Craiglockhart Parish Church. There is a charge of £45 per person for the course.

For further details and to book a place contact msmedinburgh2018@gmail.com.

Emma Torry

Thank offering 2018

In the run-up to the first Sunday in Advent (from a date still to be decided), everyone is invited to consider giving thanks to God with an offering for the blessings, large and small, that they receive.

Please look out for more information with the date on which envelopes will be available.

Finance Group

Kitchen notes: Swiss roll

It's useful to have a couple of recipes that can be used in an emergency. One of my favourite emergency recipes is Swiss roll. It uses the fatless sponge recipe, so is dairy free, and I know that I can have one ready to eat in about 15 minutes (as long as you don't object to warm cake). Swiss rolls sound daunting, but once you know what you are doing they are really easy. I've listed this recipe using some imperial measurements, as I find it easier to remember and to scale for different baking pans. I have a free-standing electric mixer, which means I can grease and line my baking sheet whilst whisking the eggs and sugar. This is one of the few times when I actually bother to sift the flour.

Ingredients (suitable for a 22 cm by 32 cm Swiss roll tin)

- 3 eggs
- 3 oz sugar
- 3 oz self-raising flour
- Jam/lemon curd

Method

1. Pre-heat oven to 190 °C or Gas Mark 7. Line Swiss roll tin with greaseproof paper and lightly grease. (Don't use a silicone liner for Swiss rolls; it doesn't work.)
2. Whisk the eggs and sugar together until they resemble really thick double cream.
3. Gently fold in the sifted flour to keep as much of the air as possible.
4. Pour into the prepared tin and tip the tin to spread the mixture out.
5. Place in oven for 7–8 mins.
6. Prepare another larger piece of greaseproof paper by sprinkling with white sugar, and warm the jam. (Do not warm if you are using a curd; it will go all funny.)
7. Tip the Swiss roll out onto the sugared paper, spread with jam, then use the greaseproof paper to help you roll up the cake. Most recipes tell you to do this from the short edge; I always do it from the long edge.
8. Trim the ends and place on a wire rack to cool.

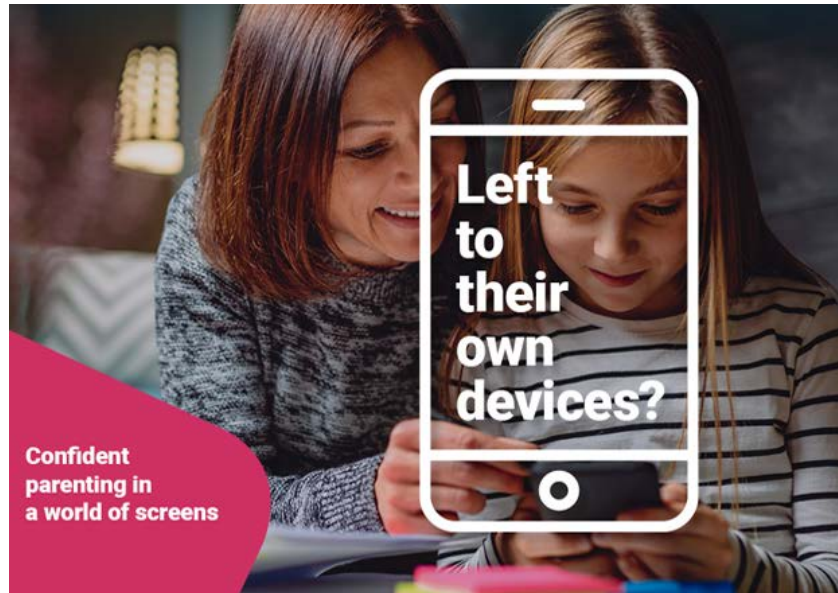


Linda Garside

Missed the service?

You can borrow a CD of the sermon from the Pillar Hall, or why not subscribe to the new BVC Podcast? Just search the library in your favourite podcast app, or by typing in the URL below:

<http://www.barclayviewforth.org.uk/sermons/feed>



In a society that is predominantly digital, our children are growing up with a world of online possibility at their fingertips. It’s an exciting world for them to explore, but also a potentially dangerous one. As parents and carers, we naturally want to protect our children from these dangers. So how can we ensure that our kids are safe without preventing them from accessing the many advantages?

Care for the Family are running an evening seminar in Edinburgh for parents, carers or anyone passionate about helping children navigate wisely and confidently in a digital-dominant world.

Where: St Paul’s and St George’s

When: 7 November, 19:30–22:00

How: book online for £6 at www.careforthefamily.org.uk

Flower rota

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



	Donated by	Arranged by
7	B Morrison	Isobel
14	Margaret Robertson	Irene Hall
21	Janette Niven	Janette Niven
28	David Warwick	Karen Ferguson

Football update

Jurgen Klopp, the Liverpool manager, recently remarked that his side's Premier League start of five successive wins didn't mean anything. Closer to home I'm not sure whether Hearts boss Craig Levein has commented in similar vein, but I do recall that in common with this season Leeds had a blazing start to the English Championship a year ago and proceeded to miss out by a wide margin on their objective of making the promotion playoffs.



That Barclay Viewforth have not made a blazing start to the ECFA 2018–19 campaign (six goals scored to thirty goals shelled and no points so far garnered) can potentially be viewed with a degree of equanimity. A lot of recruitment has taken place over the summer 'close season' and in the context of pre-season training which began during the World Cup. Alongside grafting in new personnel such as Robbie, Paul and Mikey, manager/coach Chris Whelan has also experimented with the formation. Veteran centre forward Billy Somerville has also dropped back to playing more of a number 10 role, and there have been signs of these changes bearing fruition. In most matches the team have managed to dominate passages of play, while a stream of errors, particularly at the back, have frequently cost us. A case in point was the recent match against St Columba's Free Church at Silverknowes, a game in which Barclay struck the woodwork four times during dominant periods of possession but conceded soft goals to the last lick of the ball before half time and the last kick preceding the final whistle; final score 7–1.

Last Saturday's match against St Mary's Metropolitan Cathedral at South Gyle saw an excellent Barclay team performance during the first 45. A deserved 2–0 platform had been established through well-worked goals involving number 9 Robbie and scored by Murdo and Cammy Torrens. The second-half absence of Billy, however, and his ability to cause opponents problems in his new role was felt from the outset as St Mary's cut through with far more frequency on the Barclay goal. Despite the best efforts of BV goalie Andy Coventry, who made a number of fine saves, the pressure proved too much, although it took a probable contender for strike of the season to craft the equaliser. St Mary's's winner proved more galling, with a controversial penalty being awarded against centre half Dean for hand ball when it appeared Dean was turning away from a shot on the edge of the area. Countering despondency at the end of the match, Chris Whelan highlighted the strengthening of performance levels and predicted results would soon come.

Training and practice, ordinarily set for Wednesday evenings, with some potential alternative Thursdays has now moved from the Meadows to various floodlit all-weather surfaces in the city. Supporters and spectators are always very welcome at Barclay matches, which ordinarily take place on Saturday mornings on public football pitches. Your prayers for the ongoing direction of Barclay Viewforth's football set up and the ECFA would be greatly appreciated.

Afternoon Fellowship ‘doon the water’

The new season for our Afternoon Fellowship kicked off with our summer outing on 4 September. After some concerns in the week or two leading up to the trip about the start point, due to the Leamington Lift Bridge being out of operation, the group gathered near the bridge to board the barge which was to take us doon the water for the afternoon. Sam came to see us off (and make sure that we all ‘walked the plank’ successfully. Thirty-four of us set off on a beautiful calm day.

Due to a mix-up at the canal boat office, we didn’t have our afternoon tea, but cake, tea and coffee were enjoyed by all, along with cheery banter and a sing-song. A few BV folks came out to wave to us on our travels, and the waves from many little children we passed brought smiles to our faces.

A great afternoon out in the end. Now where to next year??

P.S. The next meeting of the Afternoon Fellowship will be held in the Pillar Hall on Tuesday 2 October at 14:00. Heather Tweedie will share stories of her recent adventures at a school in Kenya. All welcome.

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 11:00.





Quest/Next

We are back to business as usual after the break. We have about fifteen 3–7-year-olds, six 7–10-year-olds and six 11–16-year-olds meeting regularly each Sunday morning. What a blessing! We would love to increase the number of leaders working with us and the young people. It is a small team without much flexibility, and with your help it would enable the existing leaders to participate more in morning worship.

You don't need experience; you don't need to be a parent; you could be young or old, male or female. You don't need to commit to doing every week, and you can do as little or as much as you wish. There are excellent resources making preparation really easy. It is a privilege to participate in this really important part of the church family. What you do need is a Christian faith and a heart for children.

Interested? Come along for a taster session with any or all of the age groups. Just speak to any of the leaders.

Elaine Coull and the team

Kilt Walk: a wee thank you

Being part of the BV team with Mairi, Lorraine and Ann taking part in this event was a great experience for me personally, despite the dreadful weather on the morning (grrr!). We made good time and with no injuries. During the walk we met a lot of 'celebrities', but more importantly lots of lovely ordinary but exceptional people along the way. Truly inspiring! (See the photos!)

If you want to donate, please do so by signing up on Mairi's sheet in the Pillar Hall or on her website: bit.ly/kiltwalk18

Meantime, we will be doing it again in 2019 – when we will be wearing even more tartan tat!

Lesley Anderson



Shoebox appeal 2018

As in previous years, we will be supporting the Blythswood Care shoebox appeal. Blythswood collects and distributes shoeboxes at Christmas to adults and children, mainly in Eastern Europe, who would otherwise not receive gifts.



If you would like to fill a box this year, here is a reminder of the suggested items to include.

Please include the following:

- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Hat, scarf and gloves
- Soap
- Small toy (new, shop-bought)
- Sweets (no chocolate, best before March 2019 or later)

- New make-up
- Sewing equipment
- Household candles
- Screwdriver/pliers
- Kitchen utensils
- Pens/pencils
- Notepads
- Colouring books
- Rulers
- Sharpener
- Rubber
- Clothes

You might also want to include:

- Shampoo
- Face cloth
- Deodorant
- Moisturising cream
- Sanitary products
- Shaving foam/razors
- Underwear
- Socks or tights

Please do not include:

- Used or damaged items
- Anything related to war or violence
- Handmade toys
- Chocolate
- Food other than sweets

Copies of the checklist will be available to pick up from the Pillar Hall shortly. Filled boxes can be brought to church on Shoebox Sunday (date TBC) or in the proceeding weeks.

If you have shoeboxes, but are unable to fill them, please bring them to church for others to use.

Emma Torry

Useful information

Minister

Rev. Sam Torrens

minister@barclayviewforth.org.uk

Ministry Team

Administrator

Julie Nicholson

admin@barclayviewforth.org.uk

Pastoral Associate

Elaine Hogan

pastoral@barclayviewforth.org.uk

OLM Probationer

Nikki Kirkland

nkirkland@churchofscotland.org.uk

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*

Contact the church office

Celebrate Recovery*

Sam Torrens

Connect Plus*

Elaine Rumney

Football

Andrew Stephenson, Sam Torrens

Meals for Mums

Linda Garside, Katy Gray

TCP*

Elaine Hogan

The Net*

Alison Edmondson, Kirsteen Milne, Andrew Paterson

Toddlers

Katharine Ellis

For enquiries by telephone, please call the church office on 0131 229 6810

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 less.

Content for the **November** issue must be submitted by 17:00 on **Tuesday 16 October**.

Emma Torry, Editor



Tues	2	14:00	Afternoon Fellowship: Heather Tweedie	Pillar Hall
Tues	2	19:00	Connect Plus	Pillar Hall
F-S	5-7		The Net weekend away	Moffat
Fri	5	21:00	Hosting Bethany Night Shelter	Halls
Sat	6	10:00	Football: BVC v. Gorgie Salvation Army	Ask Team
Sat	6	21:00	Hosting Bethany Night Shelter	Halls
Sun	7	15:00	Pet blessing service	Greyfriars Kirk
Sun	7	21:00	Hosting Bethany Night Shelter	Halls
Thurs	11	19:30	Choir	Pillar Hall
Sat	6	11:00	Football: BVC v. Charlotte Chapel	Ask Team
Tues	16	17:00	November magazine deadline	
Tues	16	19:00	Connect Plus	Pillar Hall
Sat	20	10:00	Football: BVC v. Broxburn Baptists	
Sun	21	09:45	Prayer breakfast	Pillar Hall
Tues	23	19:00	Pathways bereavement support programme	Treehouse Cafe
Thurs	25	19:30	Choir	Pillar Hall
Sat	27	10:00	Football: BVC v. Bristo Memorial Church	Ask Team
Sat	27		Church of Scotland Autumn Conference	Methodist Ch.
Sun	28	09:45	Gillespie Crescent communion	Gillespie Cres
Sun	28	11:00	Quarterly communion	Sanctuary
Sun	28	18:15	Informal communion	Pillar Hall
Tues	30	19:00	Connect Plus	Pillar Hall

Found a home at Barclay Viewforth?

It might be time to consider becoming a member! Barclay Viewforth welcomes new members to the church family at our quarterly communion services.

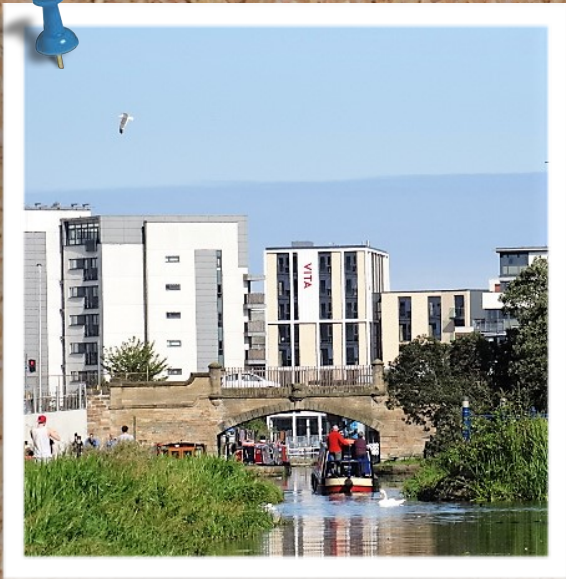
The next communion service is on **28 October**, so if you would like to formally join the church on that Sunday, please get in touch with the church office.

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

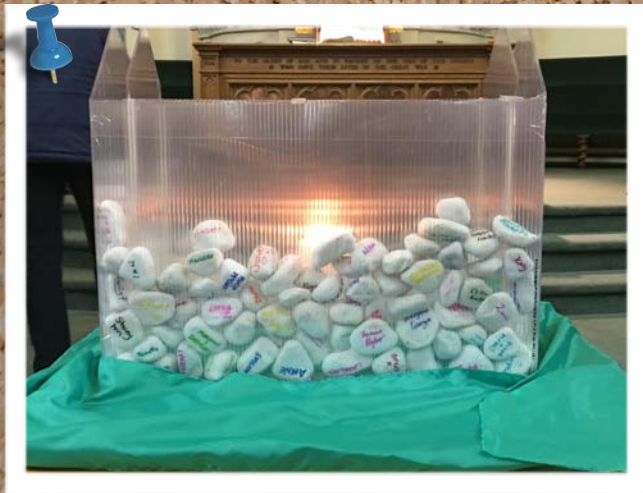


Sat	3	10:00	Football: BVC v. St Mary's Metropolitan Cathedral	<i>Ask Team</i>
Wed	7	19:00	Pastoral team meeting	Pillar Hall
Sat	10	10:00	Football: BVC v. Niddrie Community Church	<i>Ask Team</i>
Sun	11	10:50	Remembrance Sunday service	Sanctuary
Tues	13	19:00	Connect Plus	Pillar Hall
Sun	18	09:45	Prayer breakfast	Pillar Hall
Mon	19	19:00	Kirk Session	Pillar Hall
Tues	20	17:00	December/January magazine deadline	
Sat	24	21:00	Hosting Bethany Night Shelter	Halls
Sun	25	10:00	Gillespie Crescent service	Gillespie Cres.
Sun	25	18:15	Informal Communion	Pillar Hall
Sun	25	21:00	Hosting Bethany Night Shelter	Halls
Tues	27	19:00	Connect Plus	Pillar Hall
Fri	30	21:00	Hosting Bethany Night Shelter	Halls

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More photos from the Afternoon Fellowship canal trip inside!



Building the church together

Want to see your photo here?
Email it to the address on p.13