



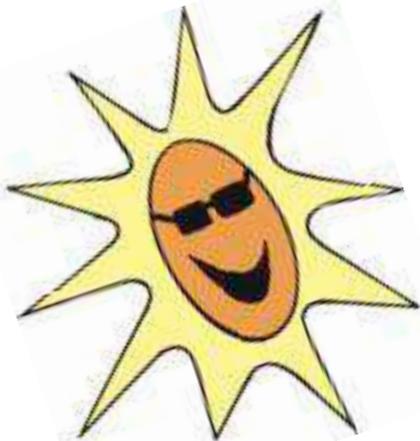
Link

July / August 2018

Making God's love known through Jesus Christ

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“I will build my church”

Matthew 16:18

Yes, but what should it look like? Looking out at the empty pews on Sunday morning and feeling the transferred exhaustion of the tiny remnant on Sunday evening, I felt assured it shouldn't look like or feel like this! The opportunity of a little rest over July will do us good and the assurance that the responsibility for building the Church rests



with our Lord and not entirely with us is gratifying, but in Scripture our Lord has given us pictures or metaphors of what the Church He builds will be like.

I studied these some years ago and found that each metaphor resonated with human need. I looked at the Church as God's Family where the emphasis is on nurture and care; the Church as God's Field where the emphasis is on supporting growth; the Church as the Temple of the Spirit where the emphasis is on encountering God; the Church as the City of God where the emphasis is on kingdom ethics; the Church as the Pillar of Truth where the emphasis is on valuing and evaluating truth; the Church as the Bride of Christ where the emphasis is on love, loyalty

and longing; the Church as the Inheritance of Christ where the emphasis is on being valued; the Church as God's Workmanship with the emphasis on good works prepared in advance for us to do; and finally the Church as the Body of Christ with the emphasis on joyfully using our spiritual gifts to build one another up and to be effective for God.

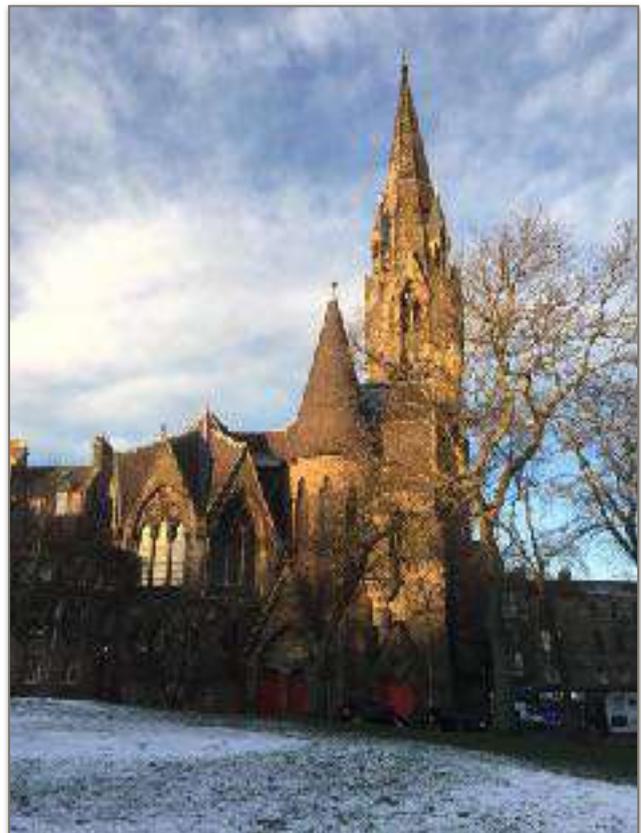
Just as a beam of light is refracted by a prism into its various colours, so the Church has a spectrum of emphases that correspond to specific human needs. We need nurture and care, we need to grow towards maturity, we need encounters with God, we need ethics to live by, we need to know what is true, we need to know we have a 'big day' to look forward to, we need to feel valued in the sight of God and we need to find the joy that comes in exercising our gifts in His service.

But the Church needs something from its members. It needs you to be there and to be part of it! The Greek word for church is 'ekklesia' which simply means 'called together for a purpose'. What purpose? Well, the purpose is ultimately all of the above and to have any of the above shining in your life is a blessing in itself, but it needs the church to be what Christ has pictured it to be and it needs you to be part of it!

At the Elders Conference, Andrew Kimmitt very helpfully explained the historical background of the Eldership and reminded us of the three Reformed marks of the Church. The first two are the '*Word truly preached and believed*' and '*the Sacraments rightly administered*'. Later, the third mark of '*Discipline*' was added, where discipline was defined as 'keeping the church true to its calling'. Of course we are called to go and make disciples, but Jesus has promised to build His Church out of them; we need those disciples to know what Jesus has in mind for us when we are together and when the above is present in the life of a Church...I certainly would want to be part of it!

*Lord of the church, we pray for our renewing:
Christ over all, our undivided aim.
Fire of the Spirit, burn for our enduing,
wind of the Spirit, fan the living flame!
We turn to Christ amid our fear and failing,
the will that lacks the courage to be free,
the weary labours, all but unavailing,
to bring us nearer what a church should be.*

Sam Torrens



Evening Services



July Sabbatical

While there are no Evening Services at Barclay Viewforth during July, we intend using the opportunity to worship with some other congregations in the city.

The plan is to visit the following churches, meeting there 10 minutes before the service starts:

Sunday 1	St John's, Princes Street (6pm)
Sunday 8	Holy Trinity Wester Hailes, Hailesland Place (6.30pm)
Sunday 15	Stenhouse Baptist, Stenhouse Grove (6.30pm)
Sunday 22	Mayfield Salisbury, Mayfield Road (7pm)
Sunday 29	Charlotte Chapel, Shandwick Place (7pm)

John Ritchie

New Series - Postcards from the Edge

Sunday 5 August will see us start a new series entitled Postcards from the Edge. Each week we will study a different Bible character and learn how God can meet us in the hardest moments of life.

The series will look at:

- Esther & courage
- Jeremiah & inadequacy
- John & doubt
- Paul & fear
- Peter & imprisonment
- Ruth & loss
- Elijah & despair
- Mark & failure

If you haven't been to the Evening Service for a while, why not join us and discover the God who walks with his people through their darkest moments.

Elaine Hogan

Constitutional change - moving forwards

At the Kirk Session conference, it was agreed that we should go forward with the proposed change from a model to a unitary constitution. This change was put before the members of the church and on Sunday 17 June, the members of the congregation unanimously agreed to the change.

The proposal was then approved by Edinburgh Presbytery on Tuesday 19 June; it will now go to the Church of Scotland General Assembly council for approval and issue of a new deed in the next few months.

Any questions regarding the changes should be addressed to Sam Torrens or John Ritchie. Remember, Kirk Session meetings are open to anyone who is interested in the decisions, direction or future of the church, and you are encouraged to come along. Meetings are held every one to two months on a Monday evening. The next meeting will be in September.

Emma Torry

Meadows Festival

Thank you to everyone who helped at the Meadows Festival and made biscuits; the rain held off and we had the chance to talk to lots of people.

Some had seen our church, had children who had been to something in it, or used the halls; others didn't know where it was. We gave out some magazines, and information postcards. We saw children now in high school who knew the halls from their toddlers days. We met a family who had just arrived to live in Edinburgh the day before. Children (and a few adults from the stall next door) iced biscuits and ate them, some making careful designs, others fitting on as many sweets as possible.

As one helper said, it was easy to chat to people; parents enjoyed a peaceful few minutes without having to pay; and the children showed their enjoyment. We were able to show God's love in a very practical and quiet way to our local community.

Katharine Ellis



Toddlers

On a Tuesday morning, the Bruntsfield hall can be a noisy place as babies and toddlers along with their carers have a couple of hours of fun. There are toys and books for the children and coffee and tea for the adults. I am usually there, but sometimes have to work or am away.

It would be helpful to have a couple of other people who could occasionally help between about 9.45 and 11.45am to make coffees, wash cups, play with some of the children, chat to adults and help get the toys out and tidy up. I know the group is appreciated, and gives carers somewhere to meet other grown-ups while the children play. The big hall gives children plenty of room to let off steam.

If anyone is interested, then please ask me for more information; a PVG check would be required if you don't already have one for children with the church.

Katharine Ellis



Quest and Next

You cannot fail to observe the large number of children worshipping at Barclay Viewforth. What a Blessing. We have an active Sunday programme of classes throughout the year for our children ranging from Creche to Next.

This year's session is drawing to a close with presentations on Sunday 17 June and a small picnic for the children on Sunday 29 June during Communion.

We will be losing some leaders next year and as always are very keen to welcome new ones to our team. I know it can be scary volunteering for something you don't know much about or what is expected of you, but if you are interested please speak to myself or one of the other leaders.

Another opportunity to sample what is involved is Summer Sunday School which is running from 15 July to the end of August. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Pillar Hall and an opportunity to help an established leader and learn what is involved.

Elaine Coull

Barclay Viewforth Barbecue



It was the weather. We had had a lot of it in the run-up to the big day. Most of it was surprisingly good for that time of year. And then it wobbled. It was June, after all. The forecast was of rain. Of lightning. Of thunder. But by the morning of the big day it was all to have cleared.

In the event, the weather wasn't half bad. An early morning decision was made to go ahead, although the advance party drivers did have a little concern about the efficiency of our windscreen wipers as we crossed the boundary into Midlothian. But dry it was to be, and it remained warm if overcast for the rest of the day, brightening up later in the afternoon.

Of course it's the people who provide the joy (topic of a subsequent Sunday), and there was plenty of that at the BV Barbecue at Vogrie Country Park. Nearly 60 people enjoyed a fine lunch, including hamburgers and sausages, together with lots of salad and fried onions. The latter was prepared with love by Isobel and cooked with tears (and a tenuous French connection) by Onion Mikey! We then spent the afternoon undertaking various combinations of exploring the surrounding parkland, enjoying games, catching up with friends old and new, yearning for a good game of golf and playing with the parachute. The absence of some of the usual suspects at tree climbing was noticed. We all joined together again for afternoon tea before heading home.

Our thanks go to all those who made the day a success. Whether in setting up the site, purchasing, preparing, cooking and serving the



food, clearing up, providing first aid, organising or sharing their cars, or in one of many other ways, it all came together on the day. Thanks again to our local butcher John Saunderson for their excellent products and support. As always, our thanks to all of you who came to enjoy the day.



The Ministries Team

Kitchen notes: apple, sultana and oat cookies

Biscuits seem to come in two varieties: the sort you roll out and cut into shape, or the type you use two teaspoons to put blobs on the baking sheet. Despite owning a vast number of cookie cutters, I find the second sort much quicker to make, especially if I am making large quantities of biscuits. I have two different recipes for oat and sultana cookies that I use. The one below is the one I made for morning teas recently – I blinked and all the oat cookies had disappeared yet there were still chocolate ones on the plate, so they must be popular.

- 2oz margarine/butter
- 2oz sugar
- 4floz apple sauce
- 5oz plain flour
- 1 egg yolk
- ½ tsp bicarbonate of soda
- ½ tsp baking powder
- ¼ tsp ground nutmeg
- 3oz sultanas



1. Preheat the oven to GM 5/180C and grease the baking sheet
2. Beat the margarine and sugar together, then beat in the apple sauce and egg yolk
3. Mix in the remaining ingredients
4. Drop onto the baking sheet with teaspoons leaving a small amount of space for the mix to spread
5. Bake for 15-20 mins until golden brown.

Linda Garside

Tearfund: 50 Years fighting poverty

It is my pleasure, on behalf of Tearfund, to join you at Barclay Viewforth on 1st July. I am very excited not just to share with you news about the work of Tearfund, but also to hear what God is doing among you and through you. What is particularly exciting is that I am able to do this in Tearfund's 50th Anniversary year.

On 29th May 1968, a small group of people gathered in London for the first meeting of the Evangelical Alliance Relief Fund Committee, later to be known as Tearfund. This fledgling group were assembled with a vision to see Christians more involved in alleviating global poverty by combining a commitment to an evangelical moral and ethical standard with a social conscience.

For 50 years now, Tearfund has been at the intersection of evangelical Christian commitment and responding to the social and political ills of poverty. In the Bible, this type of response is synonymous with a 50th year. In Leviticus 25 we read about how the fiftieth year was supposed to be held in great significance for the Israelites.

According to the law, the fiftieth year was to be the year of Jubilee. In essence, Jubilee was about ensuring that poverty does not last forever, but rather that there is a point in time when people are restored and should no longer experience poverty and hardship. Their lives are restored and they are liberated from a life of dependence on others. This law was one that was to go to the heart of the social and political



structures, forcing those who had benefitted over those years to give back to those less fortunate and to create a culture that all people are valued equally.

This year, we at Tearfund are encouraging people to pray for those who have become poor over the years. There are many reasons for poverty. For some, it is because they live in a conflict-ridden country like the Democratic Republic of Congo. For others, such as in Malawi, some people struggle with the effects of climate change. And for others, it is due to natural disasters such as the recent volcano in Guatemala.

In each of these cases, we can respond by our actions and our giving. However, as Christians we can also respond through prayer. And we would invite you to join us in prayer for the 15% of the world who are in absolute poverty.

You can join with us in prayer through weekly email updates about the work around the world at

www.tearfund.org/letspray

Graeme McMeekin



War memorials

Did you know that we have six war memorials in our building?

As part of our preparations for this year's Remembrance Day and centenary, we would like to put up some information about the history of these plaques before their origin is forgotten.

One of the memorials is clearly labelled as coming from Viewforth. If you know where the

other memorials came from, please email the magazine with any details you can provide.



Emma Torry

Flower rota

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



	Donated by	Arranged by
1	TBC	TBC
8	Craig & Helen Stoddard	Lorna Gentleman
25	Margaret Ronald	Lorna Gentleman
22	Mari Gordon	Karen Ferguson
29	TBC	TBC
5	Jean Macaulay	TBC
12	Joyce Brewer	TBC
19	TBC	TBC
26	Margaret Stewart	Karen Ferguson

Afternoon Fellowship

The Afternoon Fellowship finished off the season with their usual Afternoon Tea which was a very jolly occasion with everyone enjoying the chat and, of course, the excellent food – and we even managed to have three gentlemen with us on this occasion which made the day even more special. We finished the afternoon with a short Communion Service which the ladies thought was a very fitting end to our session. A big thank you goes to everyone who contributed in whatever way to making the afternoon such a success.

The new session begins on Tuesday 4th September with a trip on the Barge with Afternoon Tea (the ladies do like their Afternoon Tea). I am sorry to say that I will not be joining you on this occasion, but I hope you all have a very happy day and I look forward to hearing all about it on my return from holiday. I believe there are still a few spaces left for this trip, so if you are interested please put your name on the sign up sheet in the Pillar Hall.

Jean Macaulay



More than words

My no-longer-baby is starting to talk. She can greet arrivals with a “hi” or say “bye bye”. She can point out a “door” and a “dog”, try to sing “row, row” and tell me “night night”. “Dada” gets enthusiastic greetings when he comes home, though (sadly for me!) “mama” still seems to be beyond her.



Yet, with this limited vocabulary, she can make herself understood clearly. Holding up a cup? More water. Pointing to the cake? She wants some. Reaching out to give me a hug? Definitely communicating love.

I can take my access to words for granted. If I want to communicate with nearly everyone I encounter day to day, I can do so.

I’ve had experiences when this hasn’t been so easy. Even travelling in Europe, my grasp of French, German and Italian is dubious at best. More confusing still was working in Thailand, where the language doesn’t even use the Roman alphabet. I couldn’t make myself understood.

When I come to God, sometimes I can struggle with words too – whether I want to pray for a severely ill family member, an international political issue or a deep personal struggle.

I don’t know what to say or how to say it. I fall back on the cliches learned from liturgy as a child, or try to remember a few Bible verses. Sometimes, I fall silent and I feel like I’ve failed.

I haven’t failed.

I haven’t failed any more than my daughter has failed to communicate with me by pointing, or just making a squawking noise until I work out what’s wrong.

God doesn’t need words.

Sometimes, the most moving prayers I have prayed have been when I’ve stopped talking and sat before God in honest, heartfelt silence. Many others have been made up of garbled words, childish repetition.

God doesn’t need words. He sees my heart. He already knows what I want to pray.

Emma Torry



Pathways bereavement support group

Barclay Viewforth will launch its new Bereavement Support Group, Pathways, on 23 October. Two teams of volunteers have been trained and will run a group each in the autumn and in the spring. Each will run the same six-week programme – with the autumn programme running in the evening at the Treehouse, and the spring programme running in the daytime.

We have a team (Laura and Katelynne) already at work on our logo and publicity, which we hope will be ready to go out to GP's surgeries, coffee shops, libraries and so on at the start of August.

The course, which is free, will be open to anyone who has been bereaved this year. If you would like any more information about the course, for yourself or your friends, please speak to Elaine Hogan, Catriona Taylor or Anne Gaskell.

Elaine Hogan

The rainy festival

I usually enjoy the Canal Festival at the Lochrin Basin, which is near Tollcross, at the back of the Cameo Cinema, so I went along.

Sadly, this was a different experience as there were heavy showers of rain on and off.

I persevered. There were signs of life. Colourful canoes paddled by excited children criss-crossed the water, accompanied by some adults. There was a queue of people at the side waiting to have a go, oblivious to the weather. A band from a local school played a variety of jazz and pop music to lift our spirits.

Then I spent some time at stalls protected by tents. Quite a variety. Henna hand painting, beautiful patterns. Natural sweet-smelling handmade soaps on another stall.

Photographs of nature from the area made into cards by a wife-and-husband team. There were booklets about the marvellous resource the Union Canal and its journey to Falkirk.

Something that is also caught my eye was a stall about the Edinburgh Printmakers. From Union St, near the top of Leith Walk, they are moving to Castle Mill works, Fountainbridge, in April 2019 – all being well. Castle Mill was a rubber company making boots and shoes. This will be an Arts Centre for the community to use. It will provide space for printing workshops, galleries and a cafe. At the stall one could print a picture of a boot on a cloth bag, and donate towards the new building. It was interesting to talk to these people.

There wasn't such a big crowd as usual, but it was worth going to.

After a welcome up of hot tea, from another stage, I ventured home to dry off.



Lee Gates

Useful information

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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

***Interim appointment pending the outcome of the constitutional review*

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 **September** issue must be submitted by 17:00 on **Tuesday 21 August**.

Emma Torry, Editor



Sun	1	11:00	Tearfund Service	Sanctuary
Sun	1	18:00	Evening service visits St John's	
Sun	8	18:30	Evening service visits Holy Trinity Wester Hailes	
Sun	15	09:45	Prayer breakfast	Pillar Hall
Sun	15	18:30	Evening service visits Stenhouse Baptist	
Sun	22	19:00	Evening service visits Mayfield Salsbury	
Sun	29	10:00	Gillespie Crescent service	Gillespie Cres
Sun	29	19:00	Evening service visits Charlotte Chapel	

Summer reminders

- There will be **no evening services** for the month of July. You can join BVC members at various other churches.
- Quest and Next take a break, but there will be **Summer Sunday club** for our younger members throughout July and August.
- **Creche** continues to run through the summer as normal

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



Sun	5	18:30	Evening services resume	Sanctuary
Sun	19	09:45	Prayer breakfast	Pillar Hall
Tues	21	17:00	Magazine deadline for September issue	
Sun	26	10:00	Gillespie Crescent service	<i>Gillespie Cres</i>
Sun	26	18:30	Informal communion	Sanctuary



Tues	4		Afternoon Fellowship	
Fri	7	19:30	Concert & Organ recital	Sanctuary
Tues	18	17:00	Magazine deadline for October issue	
Sun	23	09:45	Prayer breakfast	Pillar Hall
Sun	30	10:00	Gillespie Crescent service	<i>Gillespie Cres</i>
Sun	30	18:30	Informal communion	Sanctuary

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



The Connect Plus Team enjoy food, fun and fellowship with their 'oversight elders'



Learning about working together and using our gifts by making music at the evening service



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



The competition is still open!
If you can locate this plaque,
there's a box of chocolates waiting for you.