

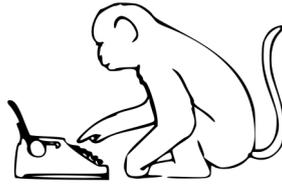
**NEWSLETTER OF HADDINGTON WEST,  
GARVALD AND MORHAM PARISH  
CHURCHES (CHURCH OF SCOTLAND)  
SPRING EDITION**



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## Just a minute...



Well, it's been quite a Winter, hasn't it? Just as we thought we were done with it, along came the snow in the name of 'Storm D'Arcy'. (AKA 'the Beast from the East 2'). Hopefully, by the time you have received this edition of the newsletter, the Churches will be open again, albeit on reduced capacity for the time being.

You know what gets me? I don't suppose you do. When I see arial shots on TV of cities like New York and Los Angeles and others, I'm transfixed by the magnitude of it all; hundreds of tall buildings, thousands of windows and behind them millions of individuals, all with their own hopes and dreams, fears, wishes and desires. It's the same as looking at huge housing estates; every one housing individuals with their own thoughts and concerns. The biggest thought of all, is that God knows and cares for every one of them. Isn't that amazing? It beats Covid 19 any day.

**Robert Wright**

**EDITOR**



## **West Church Mission Statement**

To bring everyone to Jesus  
To build them up in the Christian faith  
To set them free by God's grace  
To send them out to bring others in.

## **Garvald and Morham Churches Vision**

'Garvald and Morham Parish Churches exist to bring people together in God's love, guiding them to a personal faith in Jesus Christ. To give them a basis on which to live good and caring lives to the benefit of the local and wider community, thereby glorifying God'.

## Letter from the Manse

John 16.33 – *Jesus*: **“In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”**

Dear friends, one of the implications of the resurrection of Jesus Christ – that he rose from the dead on the third day after his crucifixion, that he was seen by multiple witnesses and that he ascended in to heaven in view of his disciples 40 days later – is that it makes the question ‘What shall we make of his word?’ most relevant. Because bound up with his word is now the fact of his presence. Indeed, this word is a means by which his presence is mediated to us.

*“Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my word shall never pass away”* (Luke 21.33) is not spoken of some disembodied piece of information, but of a living voice – the voice not of one that was, but one who *is*. Keeping this in mind, let us hear what he says.

**“In the world you will have trouble.”** This is true. And Jesus acknowledges it. It is not the case that faith in God and in Jesus Christ make a person immune against the troubling aspects of life, or give them leave to expect that they will be shielded against worry, fear and loss.

Going, as we have been and still are, through this period of the pandemic, our sense of trouble has surely been deepened. Much that we were accustomed to doing and having has become a source of risk and danger. Fear has crept in, leaving many a shared space vacant; communities so reduced it forces people into isolation, safety to be sought at the cost of mental well-being and social interaction, as well as, of course, many a business and livelihood. Troubles of various kinds are by the pandemic only made more troublesome. an anxious heart.

Yes, in the world we will have trouble. Fear, worry, anxiety - they will come calling. But the point is for the disciples: Look, even as it

And there is the experience that things we have believed and hoped in have been found wanting, have crumbled away under the weight of trouble, leaving in their wake an anxious heart. Yes, in the world we will have trouble. Fear, worry, anxiety - they will come calling. But the point is for the disciples: Look, even as it is so - JESUS KNOWS. [The answer to their question 'Does God know?' is 'Yes', meaning not that He is merely aware of it but that He is up to something good. "Nobody knows the trouble I've seen, nobody knows – but Jesus"]

**“But take heart!”** To Jesus the world's trouble is not unknown; what is known by you is known by him; by him the world's trouble is known in all its fearful depth and truth, even through suffering unto death. Knowing it, he has made it his own, has stamped his own loving authority on it; and the words “But take heart!” are spoken by the One who is *with* the troubled, in their trouble, so they may know the One that they are with (and that trust in God may get its proper due).

**“I have overcome the world.”** Jesus gives the reason why we can take heart in our troubles when we are with him. He faced the world and did so in love, not standing above it or outside it, not judging and condemning it, but suffering the cause of its troubles – sin, death and hell. And in suffering he conquered, on this God put his seal by raising him from the dead. In the risen One there is the remaking of the world through suffering love, through him comes its healing. When Jesus tells us to take heart, he does so because he knows that in him and through him, that is, by faith in him, we too overcome the world, and shall do so.

Jesus said, *“Because I live, you too will live.”* – John 14.19

*“Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.”* – Revelation 1.17-18

*“In all these things we are more than conquerors through him*

*“In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” – Romans 8. 37-39*

*“Our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.” – Philippians 3. 20-21*

Christ is risen; he is risen indeed!

In Christ, the risen Saviour, with love and encouragement,

The Manse family

## News from the Session Clerk

Recently, the best news that I have heard is that the Scottish Government is allowing churches to open again in time for Palm Sunday. If, for any reason, the First Minister has a change of heart about this between now and the 23<sup>rd</sup> March, this information will be posted on our website and Facebook pages and on the church notice board. Please listen to the national news for information or contact myself.

Our church may take up to 27 people in the sanctuary at the moment. As a result, I must ask you to book a seat if you would like to attend our services. This can be done by contacting me by telephone (01620 843310) or email ([brendathomsonsessionclerk@hotmail.com](mailto:brendathomsonsessionclerk@hotmail.com))

The Church of Scotland is requesting that we continue to conform to social distancing (two metres) while inside the church and outside it before and after the services for our own safety. Again, for your own safety, please stick to the various COVID-19 'rules' which were set up before we re-opened the church after the first lockdown. We shall continue to use the garden entrance to enter and exit from the building. Dougie Lyall has kindly agreed to take on the role of fabric convener at our church. Many thanks, Dougie.

Recently, you should have received a letter and a form which was compiled by Rob Smith. The Elders are keen that each member returns this form so that we may communicate better with you. If you do not have a copy of this form, please let your Elder know and he/she will give you another one.

May I remind you that John, our minister, is holding bible studies and prayer meetings online. Please let me know if you wish to join one of these groups.

I hope to see you soon.

With God's blessing.

Brenda



## Prayer

Risen Christ, Living Lord

Heavenly Father, we praise you that your purposes for us are not  
limited by time and space,  
your love for us is not bounded by our selfishness and sin,  
your grace reaches out for us, even when we deliberately go  
our own way,  
and your truth gives us hope, even in the darkest times.

We praise you for Christ,  
for his coming to share all that life means to us,  
for his coming in fulfilment of all your promises,  
for his death which has opened the way for us to know you  
and to experience your presence in a whole new way.

Lord, we praise you for his amazing Resurrection  
which fills us with confidence and assures us  
that you have accepted his sacrifice, not only for the sins of the  
world  
but also for our sin and selfishness too.

We praise you for Christ's coming and walking with us  
and sharing our journey.

We ask that you will so fill us with your Holy Spirit  
that we might live for your glory  
and our words and deeds may honour your name.

Amen

CHARLOTTE CRAWFORD

## **An excerpt from “A Deep Dependence” by Bill Crowder:**

### The Wonder of the Cross (Hebrews 12 vv1-4)

While visiting Australia, I had the opportunity on a particularly clear night to see the Southern Cross. Located in the southern hemisphere, this constellation is one of the most distinctive. Mariners and navigators began relying on it as early as the fifteenth century for direction and navigation through the seas. Although relatively small, it is visible throughout most of the year. The Southern Cross was so vivid that night that even I could pick it out of the bundle of stars. It was truly a magnificent sight!

The scriptures tell us of an even more magnificent cross, the Cross of Christ. When we look at the stars we see the handiwork of the creator. However when we look at the Cross, we see the creator dying for his creation. Hebrews 12 v 2 calls us to ‘fix our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the Cross, scorning its shame and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.’

Here is the wonder of Calvary's Cross: while we were still in our sins, our saviour died for us (Romans 5 v8). Those who place their trust in Christ are reconciled to God, and He navigates them through life. (2 Corinthians 8-10)

**Christ's sacrifice on the Cross is the greatest of all wonders.**

Charlotte Crawford

## **WEST CHURCH FAMILY**

It is with great sorrow, we note the passing of

### **Evelyn (Eve) Conway**

Eve died in East Lothian Community Hospital at the age of ninety two, after a long illness following a fall at home. Friends of Eve from the West Church attended her funeral service at Seafeld Crematorium on Wednesday 2 March. Until recently, Eve was a regular attendee at the West Church and is sadly missed.

## **WHAT DOES THE RESURRECTION MEAN TO ME?**

'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life' (John 3:16). I believe that Jesus died for my sins on Calvary's cross and whoever believes in Him will be saved. I believe that God raised Him from the dead on the third day. Jesus conquered death! 'Death has been swallowed up in victory. 'Where, O death is your victory? Where O death is your sting?' (1 Corinthians 15: 54-55). Jesus Himself said 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me will live even though they die and whoever lives by believing in Me will never die' (John 11: 25-26).

We are spirit, soul and body - our bodies will die but our spirit and soul will live for eternity. 1 Corinthians 15 is a wonderful chapter - the resurrection of Christ and the resurrection of all who die believing in him. Verse 19 says 'If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied'. Verse 22 states 'For as in Adam, all die, so in Christ, all will be made alive'.

I find it interesting to read in Mark 3: 20-21 that Jesus' family went to take charge of Him, for they said 'He is out of his mind'. Yet, after the resurrection, James, the half-brother of Jesus , not the disciple James, became leader of the church in Jerusalem and wrote the book in the Bible that bears his name. He opens his Epistle with the words 'James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ'. What an about turn! I really like the book of James. It is only five chapters long, but is full of practical advice e.g. 'Do not merely listen to the word and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says' (James 1: 22)

(Continued on next page)

Thomas did not believe in the resurrection at first. He said 'Unless I see the nail marks in His hands and put my finger where the nails were and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.' (John 20:25). A week later, the disciples were together and Thomas was with them when Jesus appeared and told Thomas to stop doubting. Thomas answered 'My Lord and my God'. Jesus said 'Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believed (John 20:29)

Jesus' resurrection gives all believers a guarantee of eternal life.

**'Nothing in my hand I bring  
Simply to the cross I cling'**

(Reverend Augustus Toplady c 1762)

JANET COUSIN

## **From our Friends in Siliguri**

Greetings in His most precious Name of our Lord from India!

It is really very sad news that before Christmas, minister in Switzerland Mr. John has lost his Sister in Law. We are very sorry for his all family members.

We consider it is a great privilege for us that for our Siliguri Pastorate you all the chosen people of God interested to know about us. Not only that, we believe you always remember us in your prayers. As result we all are fine and doing well.

From Sunday November 1st, we have started our church service in our church. Before that we were doing our Sunday service by Zoom and Facebook. But we are maintaining the Government protocol of covid19. So we have requested all senior citizens and children not to attend the church service physically. So these days they (Senior citizens and children) are attending church service through online. But others are coming to church. By the grace of God these days, in our city day by day is going to normal condition. From 12th February, Government has given permission to open the schools, but only for students of nine to twelve standards. Surrounding Siliguri city, we have six sister churches. Five churches are in the tea garden area and one in village area. It was a very hard time for them. We are regularly praying for our Pastor Rev. Abilak Thakur. both kidneys are not working as they should. In the last four years, he has been doing dialysis thrice a week. We have seven lay leaders, in the absence they are leading the all six churches. This year we have celebrated Christmas service in a very simple way. No carol service and no love feast. A few believers came and we celebrated Christmas. These days we are planning and praying to conduct a few programs for Sunday school student youths if the situation is good.

Please convey our love and regards to all congregations.

With Regards

Ashok Roy

# 'God's Picture-Book'

## The Parables of Jesus



### Bible Study by zoom on

#### Wednesdays 7:30-8:30 pm:

10 March: 'Sower and soils'

24 March: 'Good Samaritan'

07 April: 'Rich fool'

21 April: 'Great banquet'

05 May: 'Two builders'

19 May: 'Unjust steward'

01 June: 'Workers in vineyard'

15 June: 'Rich man and Lazarus'

29 June: 'The prodigal son'

Please let me know if you would like to attend.

[jovis2@btinternet.com](mailto:jovis2@btinternet.com) / 01620 822213

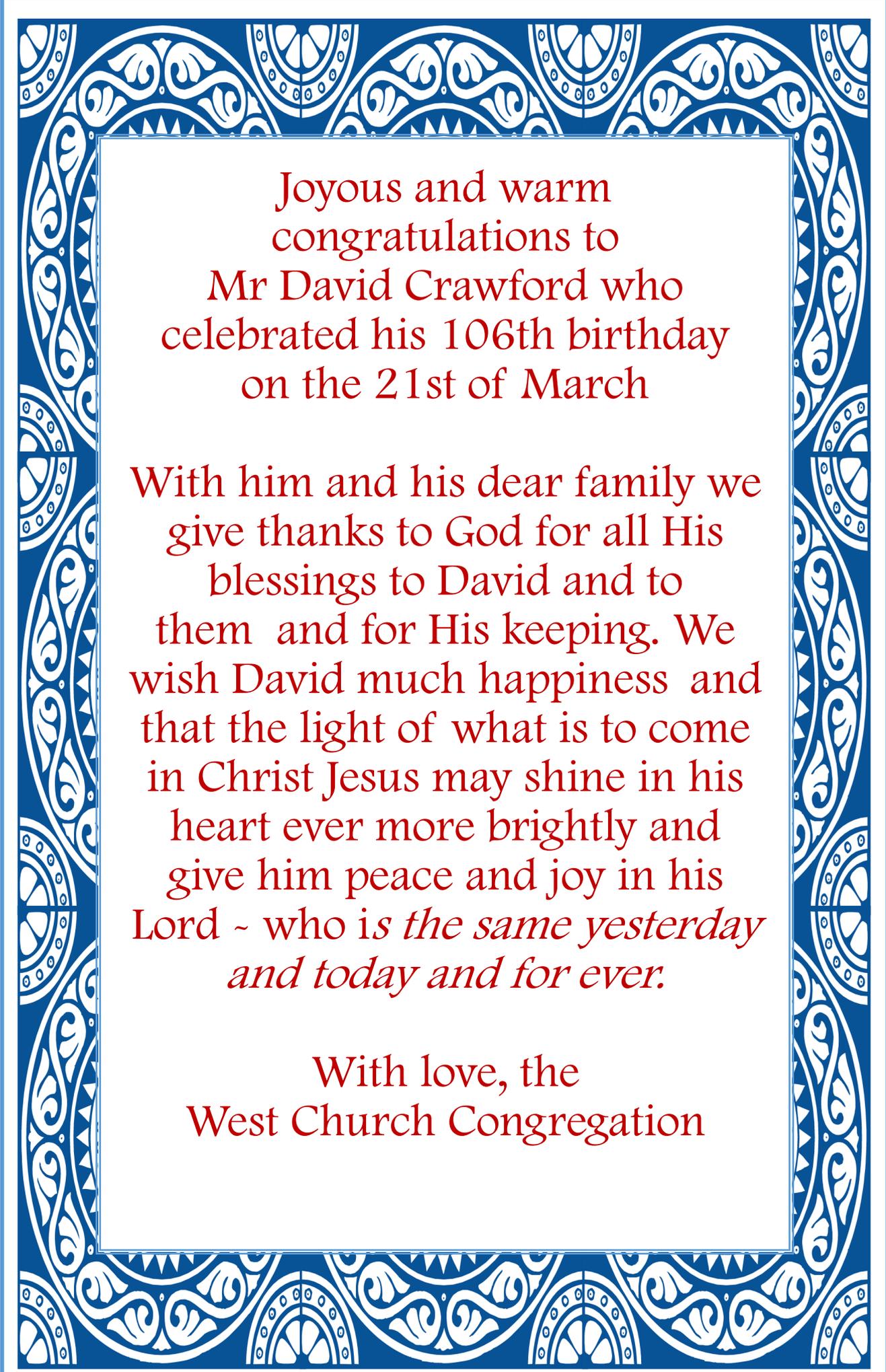
*"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy, went and sold all he had and bought that field"*

*"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it."*

Matthew 13. 44-46

The parables hold out a unique access to the reality that faith in Jesus creates. Any attempt to understand them is a promising undertaking.

All are welcome to this virtual study time.



Joyous and warm  
congratulations to  
Mr David Crawford who  
celebrated his 106th birthday  
on the 21st of March

With him and his dear family we  
give thanks to God for all His  
blessings to David and to  
them and for His keeping. We  
wish David much happiness and  
that the light of what is to come  
in Christ Jesus may shine in his  
heart ever more brightly and  
give him peace and joy in his  
Lord ~ *who is the same yesterday  
and today and for ever.*

With love, the  
West Church Congregation

## **World Day of Prayer 2021**

In 1910, more than four hundred women met for the World Mission Conference in Edinburgh, bringing their experience and wisdom developed through years of ecumenical partnership in many countries; World Day of Prayer was born

WDP is an international ecumenical prayer movement in more than 180 countries and over 1000 languages. Every year Christians of many traditions and all ages celebrate a common, global day of prayer on the first Friday in March. Worship services and prayer events are held all around the world on this day. Each year women from a different country plan the World Day of Prayer service. This year's was planned by the women of the Republic of Vanuatu (population approx. 300,000).

Every year the offerings from the service go to support various Christian causes, some in the planning country which this year would have been Christian societies which have projects in Vanuatu. The theme for the 2021 service was "Build on a Strong Foundation" which reflects Vanuatu's long road to recovery following the devastation caused by cyclone Harold in April 2020. On two islands most homes were damaged or destroyed, and 12,000 people had to live in makeshift conditions as well as coping with COVID 19. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

Four churches in Haddington take year about to host the service. This year, due to the current regulations, St Mary's RC church was sadly unable to do so. Hopefully next March will see us able to hold our World Day of Prayer service, hosted in 2022 by Haddington West Church.

Margaret Coe



## **Christian Aid update**

This year, Christian Aid Week, the major fund-raising focus of the organisation, takes place from 10-16 May. The uncertain times in which we live have necessitated change from the familiar arrangements. Members of the West Church have always made a significant contribution to Christian Aid Week, both by donating and participating, and I hope that you will feel able to do so again.

The first thing to note is that there will be no house-to-house collection this year, but we are keen to ensure that as many homes as possible in Haddington can learn something of the work of Christian Aid and have the opportunity to donate to it. Would you be willing simply to deliver envelopes to houses in a specified area without any requirement for you to return? If so, please contact G Coe (822322) or J Weierter (822342).

Readers of the West Church newsletter will find enclosed an envelope to make their own individual contribution, which can be returned via Norman Craig's shop in the High Street or G. Coe (822322) by arrangement. Alternatively, the Haddington Churches 2021 page on the JustGiving website will allow a contribution to be made on-line, the method Christian Aid itself recommends.

In 2020, under difficult circumstances, Christian Aid Week raised over five thousand pounds in Haddington. However, more than half of this came from one generous one-off donation from the Church of Christ. To allow the work of Christian Aid to continue unhindered among the poorest and most disadvantaged children and adults on the planet, the importance of the effort we make this year cannot be overstated. Please do what you can.

G.W. Coe

## **Covid Reflections**

The grass grew to waist-height last summer.  
Roe deer shared the golf courses with walkers.  
Were they wondering about the empty roads,  
the lack of vapour trails, the people and dogs  
surging across the landscape like black spots?

Some of us have shielded, courtesy of  
the Government's letter. We have waited  
behind locked doors, afraid to inhale fresh air,  
fretting over receiving an uninvited guest,  
one that will take us on a one-way journey.

Many workers have operated from home  
with *Zoom* and the likes thriving in  
kitchens, lounges and book-lined studies.  
Unemployment may not have reached its peak.  
There is still a mountain to come.

Tourists, trapped in their minds  
have travelled like pack animals to the coast –  
wanted, yet unwanted,  
dumping cars, blocking routes for 999 responses,  
taking more than photos, leaving more than footprints.

Empty streets and abandoned shops in the ghost cities  
have sat vacant; no signs necessary.  
The only thriving shops sell facemasks in pretty colours  
and patterns to shield us from the killer we fear most -  
COVID -19

The Government figures have been horrific;  
a stern warning to us all, ignored by many.  
STAY AT HOME. STAY SAFE. The message, clear.  
Vaccines, the light at the end of the tunnel,  
are here to stay.

Too much illness, too many deaths,  
too much loneliness, too much heartbreak.  
Let us keep turning to God in prayer,  
lift others up to Him, seek His blessing.  
All is not lost.

**Brenda Thomson**

## Treasurer's Update

To start this newsletter, I thought you might like a little more information regarding the church accounts that I administer on your behalf.

Most individuals have one bank account and one cheque book. However, the church has actually seven separate accounts each with their respective cheque books and pay-in books. Six of these accounts are called restricted accounts, that is, the money in the account can only be spent on a particular item. The main account is the General Fund Treasurers Account, this is the main working account for the day to day business of the church.

Unfortunately, we are in exactly the same situation as last year at this time. When the church is closed, we turn all the heating to frost settings. However there is still a cost to keep the building ready to re-open when the situation allows. In addition, open or closed we still have to pay each month significant insurance costs and Ministry & Mission costs. In financial terms open or closed we are still losing about £2500.00 per month and having to use our reserves to cover (which are not as healthy following last year's losses).

My main focus now will be trying to increase by all means possible the church's reserve fund to meet the challenges that lay ahead.

God Bless

Ray Silcox

[haddingtonwesttreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:haddingtonwesttreasurer@gmail.com)

## Garvald and Morham



### Morham Castle.

I was excited to be accepted as a volunteer at a dig in the field that looks down onto the church, opposite the first house on the left heading down to the church, in August 2019. The archaeologists had been asked to look for any evidence of Morham Castle that had been marked on ancient maps. We had a week to dig trenches and see what we could find. There were 3 or 4 trenches cut into the field with a digger and we started the hand work, eventually in the biggest trench we found large stones, some with mortar on them and so we kept digging down and found what was believed to be the corner of the foundations of the castle. There was a buzz of excitement as it became clearer that this was indeed the castle. In another trench we found an almost complete, but broken, medieval cooking vessel. It was made of a reddish clay and was still black with soot on the outside.



Continued on page 22



. It was exciting to think that the last person to touch it would have been a medieval cook who threw it away in disgust (it was a distance from the castle) because maybe it had cracked and the dinner was lost. It was a very enjoyable week, even though the weather was changeable, and I learned so much about how archaeologists record their finds. There was meant to be a follow up dig in May 2020 but unfortunately the pandemic has put that on hold.

The rubbing of the Morham Cross was made by Irene Anderson, I don't know when this would have been done as the cross, or what remains of it, is now in the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

The cross is a rare piece of early Christian history and lay undiscovered and protected from the elements for many years, so is an important piece. So we have the rubbing to remind ourselves of it. I went to the NMS a couple of years ago to see it and it is amazing. The big window behind the communion table is not a copy but a reminder that we had such a beautiful item at our church, and was kindly donated to our church by Prof. & Mrs Smith, members of our congregation, in memory of their 19 year old son who was killed in a tragic accident at Hadrian's wall.

**LINDA SCOTT**

## Prayer for revival meetings

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

The next gatherings will be on Saturday 3rd April & 17th April - at 8.30 am - 9.30 am.

Steven and Mark would normally be hosting the zoom meetings on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month, respectively. If you have any problems connecting with Zoom, please contact Steven (07749 012526) or Mark (07483 210645).

During the Zoom gathering we'll be taking bread and wine to remember Jesus and to thank Him.

Please bring your own bread and wine (or wine substitute) which we'll share together as one body in Christ.

We will be doing things a bit differently .

Before we meet, please prepare by reading, praying and meditating on Revelation Chapters 2 and 3 - asking what aspects of these scriptures apply to us today as individuals and local churches? The risen Christ said **'He who has ears let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches'** Revelation 3:22 (NIV)

We'll be focusing on God's mercy on us and need for personal and corporate forgiveness, repentance, and Christ's commendation and rewards for obeying Him and living victoriously as overcomers through trials and tribulation.

I suggest it would be good if we could all prepare our hearts by personal prayer before attending the Zoom meetings.

Zoom link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83532017812?pwd=WXVrR00yUVVZNTE5ZkUvM2JidIRZQT09>

Meeting ID: 835 3201 7812

Password: 265985

God Bless

Douglas

Here follows a collection of readings for Sundays through April to June – for personal meditation. ‘The primary qualification demanded in the reader of the Bible is not scholarship but surrender, not expert knowledge but willingness to be led by the Spirit of God.’ (Martin Anstey)

### **Week beginning Sunday April 4**

Revelations 1.18: Jesus Christ says: *“I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.”*

Mark 16 1-8 / 1 Corinthians 15 1-11

### **Week beginning Sunday April 11**

1 Peter 1-3: *“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.”*

Isaiah 40 26-31 / John 20 19-29

### **Week beginning Sunday April 18**

John 10 11,27: Jesus says: *“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.”*

Ezekiel 34 1-16,31 / John 10,11-16, 27-30

### **Week beginning Sunday April 25**

2 Corinthians 5 17: *"If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here!"*

John 15 1-8 / Acts 17 22-34

### **Week beginning Sunday May 2**

Psalms 98 1: *"Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvellous things."*

1 Samuel 16 14-23 / Colossians 3 12-17

### **Week beginning Sunday May 9**

Psalms 66 20: *"Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld his love from me!"*

Luke 11 1-13 / 1 Timothy 2 1-6

### **Week beginning Sunday May 16**

John 12 32: Jesus Christ says: *"And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself."*

Jeremiah 31 31-34 / John 16 5-15

### **Week beginning Sunday May 23**

Zachariah 6: *"'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit', says the LORD Almighty."*

Genesis 11 1-9 / Acts 2 37-41

### **Week beginning Sunday May 30**

2 Corinthians 13 -14: *“May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”*

Isaiah 6 1-13 / John 3 1-13

### **Week beginning Sunday June 6**

Lk 10 16: *“Whoever listens to you listens to me; whoever rejects you rejects me; but whoever rejects me rejects him who sent me.”*

Jeremiah 23 16-29 / Luke 16 19-31

### **Week beginning Sunday June 13**

Matthew 11 28: Jesus says: *“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”*

Isaiah 55 1-5 / Ephesians 2 11-22

### **Week beginning Sunday June 20**

Luke 19 10: *“The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”*

Micah 7 18-20 / 1 Timothy 1 12-17

### **Week beginning Sunday June 27**

Galatians 6 2: *“Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ.”*

Genesis 50 15-21 / Romans 12 17-21

## LAUGHTER IN PARADISE?

One Easter, a priest and a taxi driver both died and went to heaven. St. Peter was at the Pearly gates waiting for them. 'Come with me,' said St. Peter to the taxi driver. The taxi driver did as he was told and followed St Peter to a mansion. It had everything you could imagine from a bowling alley to an Olympic size pool. 'Oh my word, thank you,' said the taxi driver. Next, St. Peter led the priest to a rough old shack with a bunk bed and a little old television set. 'Wait, I think you are a little mixed up,' said the priest. 'Shouldn't I be the one who gets the mansion? After all I was a priest, went to church every day, and preached God's word.' 'Yes, that's true.' St Peter replied, 'But during your Easter sermons, people slept. When the taxi driver drove, everyone prayed.'

~~~~~

Maria came home from Sunday School on Palm Sunday and told her mother that she had learned a new song about a cross-eyed bear named Gladly. It took her mother a while before she realised that the hymn Maria had been singing was really: "Gladly The Cross I'd Bear."

~~~~~

A father was reading Bible stories to his young son. He read, 'The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned to salt.' His son asked, 'What happened to the flea?'

~~~~~

Billy had been misbehaving and was sent to his room. After a while he emerged and informed his mother that he had thought it over and then said a prayer. "Fine", said the pleased mother. "If you ask God to help you not misbehave, He will help you." "Oh, I didn't ask Him to help me not misbehave," said Billy. "I asked Him to help you put up with me."

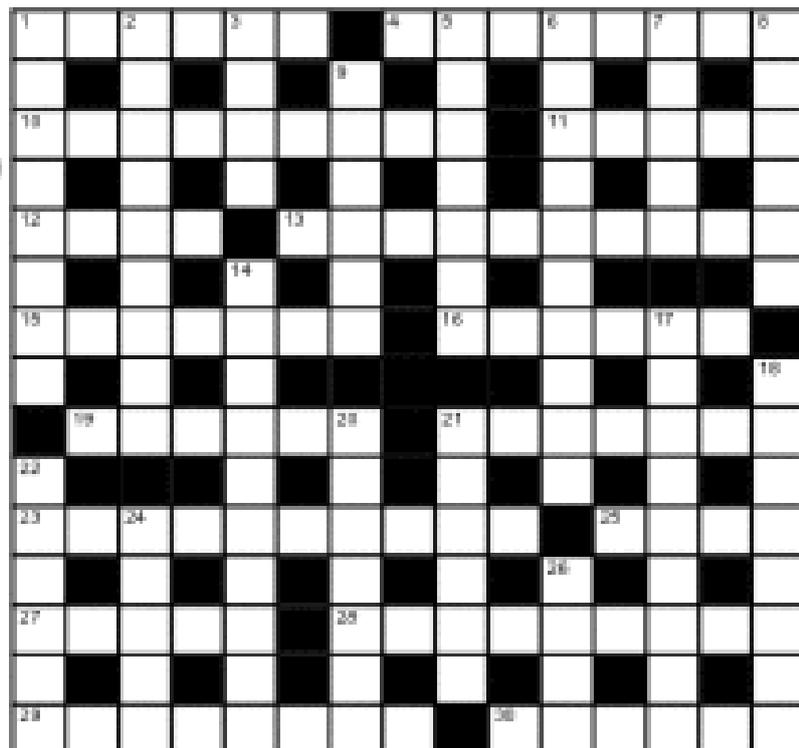
# BIBLE CROSSWORD I

## Across

- 1 An ancient weight (6)
- 4 Seemed (8)
- 10 New Testament book (9)
- 11 Unit of length (5)
- 12 '...it is a \_\_\_\_ thing the king requireth' (Dan 2:11) (4)
- 13 Contemplation (10)
- 15 Abigail supplied David with one hundred clusters of these (7)
- 16 A son of King David (6)
- 19 Concurred (6)
- 21 Light sources (7)
- 23 Propitiations (10)
- 25 A false god (4)
- 27 Gather (5)
- 28 Abimelech was hit by this (9)
- 29 Instructors (8)
- 30 Hastily (6)

## Down

- 1 Skilled animal workers (8)
- 2 Inspiring (9)
- 3 Compass point (4)
- 5 Intense emotion (7)



by Philologus

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- 6 The words of Jeremiah said not to listen to these (10)
- 7 Jewish leader (5)
- 8 'He is proud, knowing nothing, but \_\_\_\_\_ about questions and strifes of words...' (1 Tim 6:4) (6)
- 9 Bread makers (6)
- 14 In this year of King Nebuchadrezzar's reign, Nebuzaradan arrived in Jerusalem (10)
- 17 Ancient city of Og, King of Bashan (9)
- 18 Stringed instrument (8)
- 20 Joseph, perhaps? (7)
- 21 Tiny amount (6)
- 22 Jesus did this with authority (6)
- 24 Last letter of the Greek alphabet (5)
- 26 Province of the Roman Empire (4)

## Free Printable Bible Word Search Game

### Books of the New Testament

Here's a great puzzle for anyone who's trying to learn the books of the New Testament. Find the capitalized words from the word list in the Bible word search grid. Words may appear in any direction. Here's a twist: Can you also find the name of the man who wrote much of the New Testament?



MATTHEW  
MARK  
LUKE  
JOHN  
ACTS  
ROMANS  
(I and II) CORINTHIANS

GALATIANS  
EPHESIANS  
PHILIPPIANS  
COLOSSIANS  
(I and II) THESSALONIANS  
(I and II) TIMOTHY  
TITUS

PHILEMON  
HEBREWS  
JAMES  
(I AND II) PETER  
(I, II AND III) LETTER OF JOHN  
JUDE  
REVELATION



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Haddington West Parish Church (Church of Scotland)