

Queensferry Parish Church MAGAZINE

February 2020



The Journey: through the Bible in 2020

'You can't be serious – you're attempting to journey through the whole Bible in less than a year!'

My own thoughts exactly as the plans began to come together for a journey through the Bible in 2020. But embarking on such a journey is just what we've begun.

After our opening season of introductions in January, which included a journey through the Bible in almost an hour (sort of!), we will explore Jesus and the Gospels through to Easter and Ascension Day and then drop back in time to the beginnings of it all unpacking Creation and the Covenants.

This should take us up to Pentecost when we explore the book of Acts and see the start of the Church allowing us by mid-June to start our major focus on the key events of the Old Testament: from the Exodus to the Promised Land, through the season of the Judges and Kings before heading off into the Exile and the Prophets.

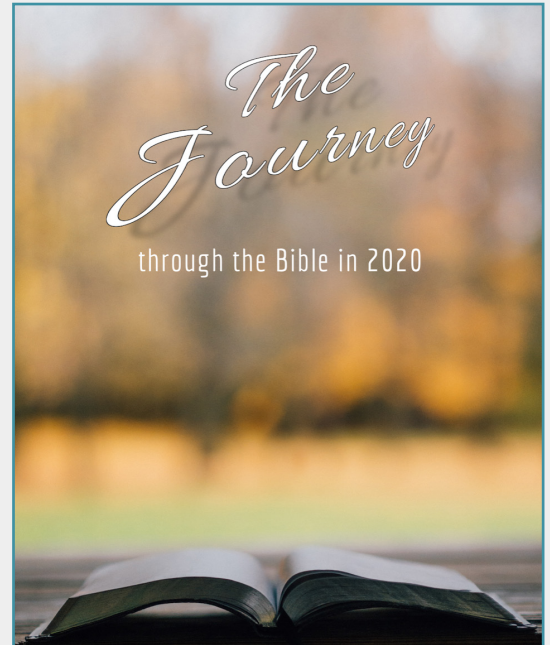
A return to the New Testament allows us to hear of how the Church received vital direction through the letters that came its way and with a final flourish engaging with the new beginnings initiated in the days of Nehemiah and friends, we take time to ponder the wisdom and inspiration of Poets, Proverbs and Praise.

To complete it all we dare to dive into the Book of Revelation with the hope that one word will sum up the journey we've been on: WOW!

Over the coming weeks we will be providing a variety of resources and aids to help us all get the most from this amazing book.

Through this Journey it is my prayer that we will all hear God speak anew into our lives both personally and as a Church family, that we will all experience God's direction, inspiration and power and that as we hear afresh these ancient words we will discover God moving among us in ways as never before.

Blessings
David



Plastic Free Queensferry

We held a very successful Community meeting on 28th January with 33 people (and a baby!) coming along to find out more about the Plastic Free Community initiative. There was a great range of individuals of all ages, as well people representing a variety of different local organisations. Watch out for the next steps, which we hope will include a Mass Unwrap at a local supermarket as well as further events.

If you want to take action as an individual, then please visit www.sas.org.uk/individual-action/

Did you know that:

There are 5000 items of marine plastic pollution per mile of beach in the UK
8,000,000 pieces of plastic pollution find their way into the ocean every day

Plastic pollution is an issue that connects the environment with all parts of society. It is something that we can take action on at every level. Only through concrete, collective, positive action will we be able to stop the flood of plastic pollution from overwhelming our world.

As a response to this, Queensferry Parish Church, as part of its Eco Congregation work, has joined in with other community groups in Queensferry to form Plastic Free Queensferry. This is part of the Plastic Free Communities initiative www.sas.org.uk/plastic-free-communities/ which has over 660 communities registered as part of the scheme.

We held our first meeting on Tuesday 28th January when we invited both individuals and representatives of a wide range of community groups and organisations to join us in pledging to reduce the number of single use plastic items we use every day. In QPC we pledged to reduce our use of single use plastic a couple of years ago, as part of our Eco Congregation work: no more throw away coffee cups, covering the Sunday morning biscuits with Beeswax wraps, asking all our hall users to not bring single use plastic items for their events. But we can do so much more as a wider congregation!

What single use plastic items do you have in your home that you could replace with alternatives? Something as simple as replacing your shampoo in a bottle with a shampoo bar makes all the difference! Take a look at the Eco Congregation board in the hall for more ideas of the changes YOU can make.

PLASTIC FREE
QUEENSFERRY
SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE

Guild Fundraiser -Forth Valley Chorus

The Forth Valley Chorus is an award winning, toe tapping, ladies barbershop singing group and they are coming to Queensferry for one night only! This promises to be a fantastic evening of music – so act quickly to get your tickets. Their concert is on Monday 23rd March in Queensferry Parish Church. Doors open 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

Tickets priced at £10 are available from Guild members, by [emailing queensferryguild@gmail.com](mailto:queensferryguild@gmail.com) or via Eventbrite www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/forth-valley-chorus-concert-tickets-90855528331

All profits will go to support Guild projects both here in Scotland and abroad. Here is a list of the dates we will be meeting. Please feel free to come along to any of them.

| | | |
|---------------|---------|--|
| 24th February | 7.30 pm | Pauline Robertson – “Global Mission on your doorstep” Sailors Society Guild Project |
| 10th March | 2.00 pm | Russell Clink – “Nairn’s Oatcakes” |
| 23rd March | 7.30 pm | Fundraising Event – Forth Valley Chorus |
| 14th April | 2.00 pm | Christy Thomson – “The Yard” |
| 27th April | 7.30 pm | Annual Review |

Queensferry Guild presents
Forth Valley Chorus
in Concert!

Monday 23rd March
7 for 7.30pm
Queensferry Parish Church

Tickets £10

From Guild members | queensferryguild@gmail.com | Eventbrite

Raising funds for Guild Projects

Boys' Brigade

You can still come along on a Friday evening for some fun. Children and young people can enjoy an action packed programme of games, crafts, sports and learning new skills whilst having fun and making new friends at Queensferry Parish Church Halls, The Loan.



- Anchor Boys (P1 – P3)**
Friday evenings from 7.00pm to 8.00pm
- Junior Section (P4 – P6)**
Friday evenings from 7.00pm to 9.00pm
- Company Section (P7 – S6)**
Friday evenings from 8.00pm to 9.45pm

Girls' Brigade Beetle Drive

The Girls Brigade are holding a Family 'Beetle Drive' fundraising for Health in Mind, a local charity promoting positive health and wellbeing. Come along on Wednesday 25th March at 7pm to join in with all things Bee related. There will be spot prizes as well as an overall prize!

Tickets cost £3 for adults and £1 per child from any Girls' Brigade leader to include entry, your game sheet and refreshments.

Prayer Group

In the autumn we held a 6-week bible study course where we looked at prayer in the Bible. A diverse group met together for an hour a week in the 6 weeks leading up to the start of Advent and enjoyed exploring the message of the Bible and sharing the different ways the passages spoke to each of us.

We looked at how prayer is a means of communication between God and us, as through Jesus we can access our heavenly Father by means of the Holy Spirit. We learnt how a time of prayer helps us to focus our thoughts on God and listen for his message to us. From both the Old and New Testament we learn that God is faithful to us and answers our prayers, even if not in the way we expect or would like. Our short time together gave each of us encouragement in our faith journey and we learned to see things from many different viewpoints.

If you are into technology the 24-7 Prayer movement led by Pete Greig has recently launched a Bible Study app with daily Bible study and Prayer written by the leaders of 24-7.

The App is called **Lectio365** and each day we are encouraged to: Pause – to be still; Rejoice - with a Psalm and Reflect on a Bible passage; Ask – God to help us; Yield – to His will in our lives.

Each week explores a theme, as we discover how we love God through Prayer and creativity (Matt 22:37), Love one another through Justice and hospitality (Matt 22:39,) and love the world through learning and mission (Matt 28:18-20).

The app is available for both audio and reading. Why not give it a try for a week.

Find out more at <https://www.24-7prayer.com/dailydevotional>

BB Christmas Post 2019

31st Edinburgh (South Queensferry) Boys' Brigade would like to thank everyone who used our Christmas Post service.

Together with some very generous donations, we collected a total of £290.

In aid of
Health in Mind

Girls' Brigade
Beetle drive

Wednesday 25th March 7pm
Queensferry Parish Church Halls

All ages welcome!
£3 Adult / £1 Child Includes refreshments

Baby and Toddler Group

Here are a couple of pictures of the Baby Toddler Group having some Festive fun. As you can see both mums and toddlers were kept busy. Later the little ones had a visit from Santa. The group meet every Wednesday and Thursday 9.30 to 11.30 am.



Exploring the God Question

There is a widely held view that science and religion are incompatible, and that real scientists cannot also believe in God. But did you know that over 60% of Nobel Prize winners between 1901 and 2000 were Christians.

Now a DVD resource has become available based on an international TV documentary series. Scientists from both sides of the debate are interviewed, including: Francis Collins, Richard Dawkins, Sam Harris, John Lennox, Steven Pinker, John Polkinghorne and Steven Weinberg. In six half-hour episodes, the DVD programmes cover three themes - The Cosmos, Life and Evolution, Mind and Consciousness.

Early in the new year of 2020 we're going to be running a new series of Exploring the God Question over six evenings. Each evening will begin with refreshments. We'll then view the 30-minute video for the evening and have time for questions and discussion. Having no, or very little, scientific background has not proved to be an obstacle in following the narrative and contributing in the discussion time.

Here's what some previous participants said, "The videos are excellent, very well narrated and the interviews were excellent." "The structure of the series made logical sense and helped me form a much stronger understanding...deeply satisfying."

If you'd like to find out more or express interest, please contact Guy Douglas:

E: guy@gdouglas.f9.co.uk M: 07971 275122

Church and Parish Register

Baptisms (Infant)

17th Nov Douglas Anthony Cecil Barr, Hampshire

Communion

Communion will be celebrated on the first Sunday of March.

Deaths

24th Oct Agnes McCabe, Primrose Gardens, SQ
28th Oct Sheila Watson, Kinross
2nd Nov George McGill, Kirkliston
12th Nov John Summers, Inchcolm Terrace, SQ
23rd Nov Peter McLucas, Echline Place, SQ
24th Nov Mel Morrison, Station Road, SQ
25th Dec Joan Groat, Echline Park, SQ
30th Dec Sheila Williamson, Stewart Terrace, SQ
4th Jan Sheena Shaw, Shore Road, SQ
8th Jan Alex Young, Queen Margaret Drive, SQ
10th Jan Muriel Erskine, Scotstoun Park, SQ
10th Jan David Reekie, Viewforth Road, SQ
17th Jan Margaret Burt, Shore Road, SQ
19th Jan David Cummings, Society Road, SQ
10th Jan Joe McLaughlin, Springfield Terrace, SQ
23rd Jan Jean Farquhar, Henry Ross Place, SQ

You are invited to join us
at Queensferry Parish
Church
for the celebration of
Holy Communion

Sunday services are at
10:00am or 11:30am

Website and Facebook

If you have something that you would wish to share on the church Facebook page or Website, please send an email to communications@qpcweb.org

Next issue

The next issue of the magazine will be available from **17th MAY 2020**. Any items for inclusion should be given to the editor at magazine@qpcweb.org by 26th APRIL 2020. Please send any pictures as separate attachments.

The editorial team reserve the right to amend items submitted for publication. Items submitted may not necessarily be included in the next edition.