

# Serving Scottish Baptist Churches

**The Scottish Baptist Lay Preachers' Association has a genuine desire to serve the Scottish Baptist family as effectively as possible.**

In particular, we have a concern for the number of Baptist churches in Scotland which have memberships of under 50, struggling to maintain a full-time, or even a part-time pastor.

In partnership with the Baptist Union of Scotland, we want to support you by not only providing pulpit supply, valuable as that is, but by offering to cover your preaching needs for a period not exceeding eight Sundays, with flexible models as follows:-

A team of up to eight lay preachers taking one Sunday each

Two lay preachers working in partnership to sustain the preaching ministry for the agreed period

A single lay preacher assisting for the entire period



# Here's what you need to know

- 1 We're committed to working in partnership with you. This is not a one-way street. Therefore we'll encourage members of your church to develop their gifts by being involved in, for example, leading the service, intercessory prayers, children's talk, etc;
- 2 We'll work with you to prepare a teaching series for the agreed time, to provide continuity and systematic teaching. It will, after consultation with the leadership of your church, be appropriate to the life of your church at that point in time. Our commitment to you is to prayerfully gauge the mood of the congregation, to establish, for example, whether the main emphasis should be one of encouragement, challenge or teaching.
- 3 We'll select the preachers who can best serve you, in terms of their gifting and experience - and at the same time you'll be contributing to their ministry development, especially for some of our younger members;
- 4 We're committed to working too in partnership with the Scottish Baptist College, and therefore may include where appropriate, theology students on our teams - giving churches an opportunity to participate in the development of tomorrow's preachers and pastors within our Scottish Baptist family.
- 5 We'll give to you the opportunity to provide confidential feedback on how each lay preacher engaged with your church.

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FOR FURTHER DETAILS OR AN INITIAL CHAT, CONTACT

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