



***SCOTTISH BAPTIST LAY
PREACHERS ASSOCIATION***

MEMBERS' PROFILE

DIRECTORY

Updated June 2019

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Introduction

Welcome to the latest edition of our Directory of Members' Profiles, which we are pleased to commend to you, and to your church.

The purpose of the 'Personal Profiles' is twofold.

Firstly, to paint for Pastors, Church Secretaries, and others responsible for pulpit supply, a picture of the background, experience, church connection, interests and age of individual lay Preachers, as they consider who might be suitable for the type of service planned.

Secondly, its purpose is to highlight the rich tapestry of lay preachers currently engaged in preaching Gods Word, and to encourage others to develop their gifts in this area, by becoming a part of the growing network that is the Scottish Baptist Lay Preachers' Association.

All members of the Scottish Baptist Lay Preachers' Association have been given the opportunity to contribute a 'pen portrait', and we are grateful to those who have done so, some with and some without their photo. We felt it would be helpful and more informal to include a photo, so you can get an idea of what the lay preacher concerned actually looks like! .

We hope you not only find the 'pen portraits' interesting in and of themselves, but valuable as you draw on the rich resource that we currently have at the Scottish Baptist Lay Preachers' Association!

If you would like or value any further information on 'matching up' a lay preacher with your church for a specific service/event, or would like any further details regarding the ministry of the Scottish Baptist Lay Preachers' Association, then please feel free to contact me at:-

GLEN CARTWRIGHT

General Secretary

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PROFILE DIRECTORY

Leadership Team & Office Bearers

President: Andrea Mill (Bristo)

Secretary: Glen Cartwright (Newton Mearns)

Treasurer: Mark Donaldson (Peterhead)

Committee Members

Glen Cartwright (Newton Mearns)

Mark Donaldson (Peterhead)

Nigel Johns (Ayr, Southside)

Andrea Mill (Bristo)

Richard Fettes (Wester Hailes)

George Thomson (Coatbridge)

Dawn Martindale (Rosyth)

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Updated June - 2019

PROFILE DIRECTORY

AYRSHIRE

PROFILE DIRECTORY

David Craig (Ayr)



AYRSHIRE

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Church Website

<http://www.ayrbaptistchurch.org/>

I studied at Jordanhill Teacher Training College in Glasgow. There I met Sally and we were married in 1985. We have led Scripture Union camps at Abernethy and Ballater. We also served in teams on other camps at Kings Cross and Alltnacriche. In the early 90's we led SU missions in Portpatrick and Paisley. We have two sons, Gavin (born in 1988) and Jonathan (1991). Jonathan had the vision to start a churches league football team and the United Churches of Ayr FC was formed in 2013. I am currently the secretary of the Club which is now playing in the Premier division of the Strathclyde Evangelical Churches League.

As the boys grew up, Sally and I became more involved in Ayr Baptist Church, mainly through Sunday School and a Boys Youth Club. Since 1996, I have taught PE at Wellington School in Ayr. I play squash recreationally and I play footgolf on the Tartan Tour while being a member of Ayr Roodlea who play in the UK Club league.

I was encouraged to start lay preaching in 2011 and later I joined the SBLPA. I have since accepted invitations to preach in Ayr Baptist, other local churches and also at Airlie House, the Ayr Baptist Church Care Home.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Nigel Johns (Ayr, Southside)



AYRSHIRE

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Nigel had one of those "lightning strike" conversions when he attended Evangelist Dick Saunders' "Way to Life" crusade in 1975.

Having left the Army 3 years previously after serving in Northern Ireland & Germany, alcohol had become one of a number of destructive influences, When Nigel's Sister in Law made an observation, "You often talk about God when you've been drinking, why don't you come to the crusade tent & hear the Gospel" : "Over my dead body", was the reply.

But a week later Nigel found himself heading out to the tent behind Tewkesbury Abbey. During the packed meeting, the evangelist stated " You've tried everything & none of it has satisfied you, What you need is a friend on the inside of your life". At this point Nigel simply asked, "alright Jesus, do that for me". At that moment God came in, smoking & swearing left immediately, and other changes took place in the days that followed.

A year later, now full-time in a UK mission, one of the team, Ann, caught Nigel's eye. They married 6 months later. After serving the Lord in various places, as an Elder in a Lancashire Baptist Church for 8 years then as an Associate Pastor in South Wales, Ann & Nigel, now with two grown up sons, moved from Lancashire back to Scotland

Now living in Ayr, Nigel is a part-time Chaplain in a health environment. He is also employed part time as a prison Chaplain. As often as possible, he seeks to fulfill his call to preach by visiting churches as a lay preacher.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Arthur Jones (South Beach, Saltcoats)



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Arthur Jones lives in Ardrossan and serves as Treasurer and Deacon in South Beach Baptist Church. He is married with three children and until recently was head teacher of Largs Academy. He has been involved with the work of SU for many years, as camp leader for over 30 years, regional board member and Director.

With his wife Anne he has run many Superb Choice holidays, with responsibility for the teaching ministry. He has preached on many occasions in his own church and in the local area, and would welcome the opportunity to serve other Baptist churches.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Charles Kingsman

(Southside Christian Fellowship)



Ayrshire

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My name is Charles Savage Kingsman I love to read, study & speak about Gods word with passion. I have been walking with Jesus for 14 years now and I'm so grateful for His love and faithfulness. I have a beautiful wife called Jenny and 4 children who I love very much. I was born in Glasgow but moved to Irvine at the age of 8 and stayed there until recently. I was wonderfully saved from a life of addiction and crime and was delivered completely from that life by the power of the gospel.

I love serving God and reaching out by tell others about the great love He has for this world. I could not read when God saved me but the Holy Spirit has taught me to read by reading and studying His word, glory to His name. I also served and fellowshiped for about 10 years at Eastgate Church in Elderslie and preached there on many occasions in which I'm so grateful for. I started preaching about 12 years ago on the streets of Glasgow and have spoken in many Churches over the years as God has lead me.

I now have the privilege of being the Spiritual Care & Support Worker at Broken Chains, Ayr where we reach out to hurting people in the community. I fellowship and I'm involved at Southside Christian Fellowship in Ayr where I have had the privilege of preaching and serving on a number of occasions, I also share Gods word in Churches through the work of Broken Chains.

Me and my family have recently moved to Ayr to be closer to where we believe God has called us. I work with a lot of broken people and love to see live's changed by the power of God's word working in people.

I'm in the school of God and want to keep learning and I'm delighted to get the opportunity to work alongside and fellowship with the Scottish Baptist Lay Preachers Association and serve the body of Christ.

He that's forgiven much, Loves Much.

The apostle Paul said to young Timothy stir up the gift that is within you.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Cheryl Leckie (Ayr)



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Church Website

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I gave my life to the Lord when I was 10 years old and almost 40 years later it remains the most significant decision I have ever made. After leaving school, I had a desire to go to Bible College but life intervened and I decided to train as a nurse in Orkney where I had lived for 8 years. I married and had 3 girls, and throughout their formative years explored the joys of home Bible study and house fellowship establishing many lasting friendships along the way. My desire for my children has always been that they know and love the Lord and have a live relationship with Him, and God has answered that prayer. During this time I attended a local Brethren Assembly and then Kirkwall Baptist Church. Both Churches prioritised with sound Bible teaching and this fed my need to understand the Bible and learn to apply it to life. Sadly my marriage ended in 2001, and I decided to move from Orkney to be nearer my family and to give the girls a better chance and variety of education. This also enabled me to ease my way back into education and I finally started to study Theology at International Christian College in Glasgow. It was a thoroughly absorbing and satisfying 3 years for me although not without some hardship. I have been supported by my family and Church family in Ayr Baptist throughout this time and have witnessed God's hand intervening time and time again when I thought I was at the end of my rope.

Whilst studying in Glasgow, I became involved with Pregnancy Crisis and Post Abortion Counselling and am still attached to the Centre in Ayr though I have no clients at present. I feel a deep well of compassion for those who have suffered loss of any kind in pregnancy and have seen God working in their lives and healing them.

I have a passion to bring God's Word to life for people who have become dulled by years of dutiful Church attendance and get very excited when I see God speaking to them through that Word. I am also passionate about applying something that was written 2000 or more years ago to the chaotic atheistic society that I live in today. This is put to the test regularly in my working environment. I am employed as a Nursing assistant in Ayr Hospital and face constant challenges to my faith. God has faithfully led me through each and every interaction and I know He will continue to do that as long as I am working there.

I have attended Ayr Baptist Church since I moved to Ayr in 2005, and am involved in various activities within it. The music ministry is made up of a large group of people and I am privileged to be part of that once a month. I have served as a Deacon in ABC for around 3 years and have also had the opportunity to preach when required, both in my own Church and at Wigtown Baptist Church.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Andrew Swanson (Saltcoats)



AYRSHIRE

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Church Website

<http://www.southbeachbaptistchurch.com/>

Andrew Swanson lives in Dreghorn, Irvine with his wife Fiona and daughter Rebecca. He has served as Secretary and deacon of South Beach Baptist Church, Saltcoats and is involved in the praise & worship and prayer ministry team. As an energetic thinker he is motivated to create new potential in individuals and communities.

With a background in the NHS and Organisational Development consultancy he brings a relational and positively engaging approach to sharing God's word and making connections. Travel within South West and Central belt would be preferred catchment area.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

CENTRAL SCOTLAND

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Fraser Allan (Strathendrick)



CENTRAL SCOTLAND

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Church Website:

<http://www.strathendrickbaptist.org/>

My name is Fraser Allan. I was called to preaching whilst sitting in a traffic jam on the M8 travelling to work. God works in mysterious ways.

I heard a clear voice telling me that I was to preach HIS word. I was leading and chairing services but I had never preached. I was then asked to do so by one of the leaders in our church. A confirmation straight away of God's plan for me. I am honoured and most privileged to preach HIS word and I regard it as the most important of works.

I am a husband and father. My family are such a blessing to me.

I grew up in a Christian household and came to a personal relationship in Christ at 10 years old. I thank God every day for Godly parents and their role in leading me to Christ.

I look forward to a future in HIS service.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

David Andrew (Tillicoultry)



CENTRAL SCOTLAND

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<http://www.tillybaptist.org/>

Born in Govan, but brought up in Dumbarton in a nominal Christian home. Prior to marrying Agnes I accepted Jesus as Saviour after a male voice festival at the Tab in Glasgow.

It wasn't until after we were married and had moved to Denny I truly accepted Jesus as Lord.

After being baptised on the 11th Dec 1977, and joining Denny Baptist Church, I chaired a 3 church mission involving The Saltmine Trust, who then asked me to represent them in Scotland, which I did until 1996.

Since 1988 I have been active in lay preaching and assisting churches in times of vacancy etc. Baptist, Church of Scotland & Independent churches have all called upon my services. During this time I have also conducted infant dedications, baptisms, burial and cremation services and also three weddings, with the Baptist Union's permission.

I was Vice chairman of the Mission Scotland arrangements committee for all three venues, for the Billy Graham crusade, and subsequent Mission Scotland events.

Between 1993 and 1995 I completed the first and part of the second year of the Baptist Union of Scotland's Christian Workers Diploma Course which I had to stop because of my commitment to Alva Baptist Church. For a year I assisted the Pastor, with the morning services i.e. leading, children's talk and communion, during his time of health difficulties, and subsequently took all the morning services for the following year during his absence. Since 1992 I have been a member of Gideons International for and involved in all aspects of this Ministry and have held the various positions within the local branch and am currently Zone 1 (Scotland) Vice Trustee as well as Military Testament Coordinator for the whole of the UK.

As well as the above I have held various positions with numerous other Christian organisations.

My deepest desire is to see people come to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal saviour and in all my preaching the Gospel will be included.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

David Bebbington (Stirling)



CENTRAL SCOTLAND

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David was born in Nottingham in 1949, became a Christian at Queensberry Street Baptist Church there when he was ten and was baptised in 1968, just before going up to read history at Jesus College, Cambridge. There he was active in the Christian Union and the Robert Hall Society, the Baptist organisation, where he met his wife Eileen, whom he married in 1971, shortly before she began teaching classics. Five years later, after David had completed a Ph.D. on the Nonconformist Conscience and a research fellowship at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, they moved to Bridge of Allan for David to take up a lectureship in history at the University of Stirling. They joined Stirling Baptist Church, where David became a deacon and Eileen taught the Lifeway Bible Class for people with learning difficulties. Their daughter Anne joined them in 1984. David's participation in church life became restricted after 1990 because of M.E., which stopped his involvement in weekday evening activities.

David acted as secretary of the Scottish Baptist History Project from its foundation in 1978, and is now its vice-chair. He wrote *Baptist Convictions* (1984) for the Baptist Union of Scotland and edited *The Baptists in Scotland: A History* (1988) and has published, among other books, *Evangelicalism in Modern Britain: A History from the 1730s to the 1980s* (1989). More recently he has written *Baptists through the Centuries: A History of a Global People* (Baylor University Press, 2010) and co-edited *Evangelicalism and Fundamentalism in the United Kingdom during the Twentieth Century* (Oxford University Press, 2013).

He is on the committee of the Christianity and History Forum, originally the historians' professional group of the UCCF, of which he was a vice-president in the 1980s. He has become a specialist in the history of the global Evangelical movement, writing *The Dominance of Evangelicalism: The Age of Spurgeon and Moody* (2005). He has lectured in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa and the United States, where he has regularly taught at Baylor University, Texas, a Baptist foundation. He is a Professor of History at the University of Stirling.

An active preacher since before going to university, David became a member of the Cambridgeshire Baptist Preachers' Association in 1971. Since coming to Scotland he has appreciated the opportunity to preach at many of the Baptist churches. He enjoys trying to work out the way in which the Bible speaks today.

PROFILE DIRECTORY



Mark Laing (Stirling)

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Mark became a Christian at university in Glasgow and first started to preach regularly when he spent a year on board the Operation Mobilisation ship, MV Doulos. During that time the ship sailed in South East Asia and the South Pacific Islands. Those opportunities gave Mark a glimpse of the global nature of Christianity.

Since 1996 Mark with his wife Helen (and then family) have been working in India. Mark's first degree was in dentistry and initially Mark and Helen were seconded to lecture at the Christian Medical College in Ludhiana.

In 2000 Mark retrained, undertaking a master's degree in theology at what was London Bible College. Previously he had done two years of theological training at All Nations Christian College, where he met Helen. Since 2001 Mark has been lecturing in mission studies at Union Biblical Seminary in Pune, a large evangelical college which trains the future pastors and church leaders of India (www.ubs.ac.in).

During their time in Pune Mark and Helen and their three children worshipped at the Naga C.F in Pune, a large student congregation and Mark was a member of the leadership team. The Nagas of north-east India were originally head-hunters but about 90% of them became Christians during the early part of the 20th century. As most are Baptists the state of Nagaland has perhaps the highest concentration of Baptists in the world.

Whilst in India Mark regularly preached in local churches and at college events. The family returned to Larbert in May 2008 to allow time for Mark to complete a PhD in theology at Edinburgh University. Since their return Mark has preached in several churches and taught in mission conferences. He is happy to speak at most types of services. Given his missionary background he is particularly suited to speak at mission services. His cross-cultural experiences have enriched his understanding of Scripture. In his preaching he is particularly excited about communicating that the local church is God's mission to the world and exploring the implications of that for our daily lives.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

David Seel (Falkirk)

CENTRAL SCOTLAND



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Church Website

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I was born and brought up in Falkirk and my first experience of church was at Falkirk Baptist in the early 1980's, where I attended with my parents. I attended school and college in Falkirk before serving as a police officer with Central Scotland Police. I left the police and worked as a youth worker in Falkirk before moving to Glasgow for several years to study youth work and theology at International Christian College and thereafter completing my PGDE for secondary teaching at Strathclyde University. Having returned to Falkirk, I currently work as a Principal Teacher of Pastoral Care in High School. I have been married to Eleanor, a college lecturer, since 2003 and we have 4 children - all girls! We have both been connected to Falkirk Baptist for many years and although we have spent several years living in other areas, we recognise FBC as our spiritual home.

I am passionate about sharing my faith with others so that they can encounter the life changing power of the Gospel and enter into a life saving relationship with God through Jesus. I have experience of leading street ministries and preaching the Gospel in many different settings including Sauchiehall Street in Glasgow with a Late-Night Street Team, Speakers' Corner in London and further afield including outreach at Mardi Gras in New Orleans, USA. My heart is to see a generation of people rise up in faith and become a positive Christian influence in the communities they find themselves in.

I would describe my preaching style as conversational, seeking to encourage and challenge people to find their purpose in Christ and bring about significant life change.

In my spare time I enjoy playing guitar, golf and watching football as well as spending time with my girls and my Grandson. I also make time for study and I am currently studying MSc Professional Education and Leadership at Stirling University.

At present I speak at Falkirk Baptist when required and regularly preach at other churches and conferences when asked. I am keen to preach when available and look forward to being given further opportunities to serve.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Eric MacArthur (Dalbeattie)



DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY

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Church Website

<http://www.dalbeattiebaptist.org.uk/index.html>

Born 1950. Married Anne in Helensburgh Baptist Church in 1973. We've got 3 adult sons and 4 grandsons. We moved from Dunbartonshire, spent a few years in Neilston and came to Castle Douglas in 91. From childhood till I was 41 I attended the Church of Scotland. Decided to believe in Jesus when I was 15 after attending "Confirmation" classes in the Church of Scotland. At a BB Bible class in 68 God called me to put Jesus first. Over the next year He changed my heart and transformed my priorities as I got involved with other young believers in Bible study and evangelism. In 69 as a young BB officer I gave my first talk at Bible Class – that was the beginning; I've been preaching Jesus ever since in youth meetings, missions and camps, college CU, care homes ...wherever.

In 1993, after moving to Castle Douglas, I was baptized and joined Dalbeattie Baptist Church. After a few years I was asked to take a service there and have been preaching more and more over the years.

I was church secretary from 2002 to 2010, I've played drums and sometimes guitar in the praise band (don't ask me to sing!)

Done a lot of jobs...draughtsman, teacher (Craft and Design, and Special Needs), Christian bookshop assistant manager, support worker for people with learning disabilities.

I retired officially in 2015 but continue to do some casual work as a support worker.

I enjoy reading theology, church history and biographies and occasionally novels and poetry. Since "retirement" I've been drumming again with a band and I like walking, playing and listening to music. Anne and I are regulars at Greenbelt and Solas festivals. We used to camp but have an old campervan now. I'm glad Jesus called me all those years ago. He has been my foundation and my greatest joy, and I love to speak about him.

I'm willing to preach anywhere I can get to and am happy to do so even at short notice.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Alistair Mackay (Dumfries)



DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY

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I was born in 1951 in Glasgow, was brought up in a Christian family, gave my heart to the Lord in my teens, and was baptised in 1974.

In a way I have had two lives. In the first I was married to Kathryn for 33 years and God blessed us with two sons (and subsequently five grandchildren). However I retired prematurely from my post as Consultant Cardiologist at Inverclyde Royal Hospital to care for Kathryn during her last three years before she went home to be with her Lord.

In my second life I came out of retirement, moved to Dumfries, and have worked as Consultant Cardiologist in Dumfries & Galloway Royal Infirmary for eight years now. God has greatly blessed me in meeting and marrying Lesley, and we worship and serve together in Dumfries Baptist Church.

It is a huge joy and privilege to tell others of God and His goodness, to lift high the name of the Lord Jesus, and to open God's Word which is so rich and full and speaks of salvation by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

EDINBURGH, LOTHIAN & BORDERS

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Richard Allison (Bristo)

EDINBURGH, LOTHIAN AND BORDERS



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I was born in Edinburgh in 1991 and have attended Bristo Baptist Church since 1996. I became a Christian at the age of seven, and in 2010 I was baptised. Since then, I have been a theology student at Edinburgh University, and have been involved in lay preaching in my church. As a theology graduate, I am looking to use my knowledge and abilities to serve the Lord.

My school background was in the sciences, but after finishing school I felt God leading me in a different direction. I was offered a Ministry Internship with Bristo Baptist Church, which I accepted. The internship involved training, education, and mentoring, as I assisted the ministry team with all the diverse ministries of the church. As part of the internship, I studied theology modules at the Scottish Baptist College, and I was asked to preach on several occasions.

Following this, I studied for a full theology degree at Edinburgh University, graduating with an MA (Divinity) with first class honours in 2015. My degree gave me a solid background in Biblical studies including languages, theology and ethics, and church history. I specialised in New Testament ethics, particularly issues of peace and conflict. I also specialised in the field of science and religion, recognising this as an essential topic for anybody with an interest in theology in today's world, and a contentious issue for many. After completing my undergraduate degree, I stayed on for an extra year, and graduated with an MSc in Science and Religion in 2016.

In my spare time, I enjoy music. I am a violinist and choral singer, and I help out in my **church's** praise band. I continue to seek God's calling as to my future direction, and I am excited by the opportunity to be part of the SBLPA.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Hosana Bankhead (Bristo)



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I was born in then Rhodesia and at the age of 17 I left for Zambia to study Accountancy. After one year I came to the United Kingdom where I was based in Cardiff studying Business Studies at Barry College. After completion I went to Bradford University to continue in Bachelors Degree in Business Studies. I then transferred and finished my degree at University of Zimbabwe after independence. I worked in sales and marketing before I left for the United States of America. I was based in New York and there worked for the United Nations. I gave my life to Christ in a small Black Church in New Jersey in 1990 near where I lived at the time. This transformed who I am and have never been the same again.

I have studied with Rhema Bible School but due to family circumstances did not finish the degree. I have passion for the things of the Lord. I have worked in Zimbabwe with International Women which was a community organisation which got involved in helping the destitute in our communities and our focus was prayer. With the economic/political meltdown of my country of origin, I found myself in Scotland in April of 2003. I joined Bristo Baptist initially in 2006 and was accepted into membership in 2008.

Currently I live in Edinburgh with my husband and son

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Stanley Bonthron (Dalkeith)



EDINBURGH, LOTHIAN AND BORDERS

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Church Website

<http://www.dalkeithbaptist.org.uk/>

Stanley became a Christian in 1958 whilst attending a UF Camp at the Keswick Convention.

After leaving school and working as an Accounts Clerk in the motor trade he joined the NHS as an administrator working in Fife, Perthshire, Wales, London and Ayrshire and Arran. He managed the Community Unit in Ayr as their General Manager. For ten years he worked for the Scottish Executive as a senior civil servant heading up the Community Care Implementation Team. He completed his working life as an Independent Management Consultant before working part time for the Leprosy Mission Scotland as its fundraiser. He is professionally qualified as a Manager and is a Member of the Chartered Institute of Management as well as being a Companion and Fellow of the Institute of Health Services Management.

Stanley is the Secretary of Dalkeith Baptist Church where he has worshipped with Mavis, his wife, for more than sixteen years and assisted in leadership during most of that time.

Prior to their move to Dalkeith, Stanley was an elder of Riverside Evangelical Church, Ayr for several years where he also worked in Youth and Children's ministries.

As well as regularly preaching at his home church Stanley regularly speaks at other local churches and is available for pulpit supply as required.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Jim Brownlee (Stenhouse)



EDINBURGH, LOTHIAN AND BORDERS

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Church Website

[Stenhouse-Baptist-Church](#)

Jim is currently secretary of Stenhouse Gorgie Baptist Church, having retired from full time employment at the age of 65 from HMSO.

During the 1970's, he served as lay pastor of a Mission Church connected to the Mission to Mobile Homes.

Theologically, he holds a Conservative Evangelical position, believing the bible to be the inspired Word of God and our only rule of faith and practice. He is happy to visit all areas and will accept short notice engagements whenever possible.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Gordon Dickey (Hawick)



EDINBURGH, LOTHIAN AND BORDERS

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Church Website

<http://www.hawickbaptist.org.uk/>

I was born in Hawick in 1959; I came to faith in 1986 through door to door visitation by Hawick Baptist Church. At first my wife Janet and I asked a number of questions about God and the Bible. We attended the church and soon trusted Christ as our personal Saviour. After going through a discipleship course we were both baptised.

I am actively involved in Hawick Baptist Church. My first experience of preaching was when our Pastor was on holiday and as a young deacon I was asked to preach at our morning service. I am sure every preacher will remember their first sermon text and mine was Isaiah ch 53.

While teaching the Bible class other preaching opportunities were given to me in the Scottish Borders and Northumberland. I have carried out voluntary work with Edinburgh City Mission and London City Mission. I am also involved with Prison visits through the Daylight Christian Prison Trust as a Prison Ministry Associate.

I have served time in the Army and over the last 25 years I have worked in a glass factory in Hawick.

In my spare time I enjoy hill walking, fly fishing and going to the local gym.

I always enjoy the challenge of preaching God's Word and I am happy to help out in churches needing pulpit supply.

PROFILE DIRECTORY



BILL DUFFY (GALASHIELS) EDINBURGH, LOTHIAN AND BORDERS

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I was born in Nuneaton, Warwickshire in 1950. My earliest childhood was spent in the Midlands area. In 1967 I moved with my parents to Grimsby where I became a member of the Elim Pentecostal Church. In the years that followed I moved around due to work commitments. In 1980 when I finally settled in Grimsby and attended the Elim Pentecostal Church on a regular basis. In the years that followed I became active in many areas of church work. These areas included work on the media desk, children's work, house groups, and evangelism through puppet shows. Towards the end of my time in Grimsby I, along with a group of other church members, became a volunteer builder's labourer. The project was to convert a run-down building into a church/community centre.

As all the work was done after our normal day time working hours, the project took 3 years to complete. In 1982 I married my wife Cherie. We now have 4 grown up children and 5 grandchildren of varying ages. In 1985 I began work at Grimsby College. Firstly as a technician and later as a lecturer. It was whilst doing this work that I developed a style of putting information across in a way that was both friendly and easy to listen to. Also at this time I took a course entitled, 'The Art Of Sermon Preparation And Preaching'.

In 2007 I was made redundant from the college and, after a short period working at a Salvation Army Hostel, moved to Galashiels in 2012 with my wife. The rest of our family also live in the Borders.

Since then we have become committed members of the Baptist Church. I have continued my involvement in media and children's work. I have also taken on the responsibility of running the church website. Earlier this year I was given the opportunity to answer God's call for me to step out to the front of the church and preach my first sermon in Scotland.

This is now an area I wish to pursue with a deep passion. My other areas of interest include photo editing (as an amateur) and Christian music.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

James Ewen (Bo'ness)



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Church Website

www.bonessbaptistchurch.com

Born in Glasgow in 1951 I lived in Kirkintilloch for 28 years .In 1970 whilst working as a Fireman I married Sandra .In 1977 we were both baptised and became committed Christians, attending Kirkie Baptist church. Some may remember me from Deaconing around that very special time .

We moved to Bo'ness in 1989 as I was then working as a Nurse in Edinburgh Prison .Over the years I have fulfilled a variety of roles within the Scottish Prison service. And also within my local church, Bo'ness Baptist ,where I have been Treasurer, Deacon, and very occasional speaker, for the last 20 years.

Now retired Sandra and I are currently parents to 5 children and grandparents to 11.

I have gained confidence over the years not so much in my own ability to speak in public as in God's good grace to use, almost in spite of himself , a poor limited creature such as myself ,to communicate His truth through his word.

This is marvelous in my eyes so I don't dare call myself a preacher but to declare his truth is a delight to me and truly, it's where my heart lies.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Robert Ferguson (Broxburn)



EDINBURGH, LOTHIAN AND BORDERS

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Church Website

<http://www.broxburnbaptist.org.uk/>

Born in 1947 Bob attended Broxburn Baptist Church where his parents were active members and, through hearing the gospel through Sunday school and YF came to faith at an early age. He was baptized 1964 and became a member in 1967. By profession, Bob was a teacher spending 29 years in senior management before taking early retirement.

He is a deacon and secretary of Broxburn Baptist Church where he preaches regularly and leads a variety of Sunday evening activities. Recently he has also been running Christianity Explored and Discipleship Explored courses.

He studied for the Lay Preacher's Certificate through the Baptist Union of Scotland training programme. Commitments to his home church which is vacant means that at present his availability to serve churches large or small, on Sundays or during the week is curtailed. Where it is possible he is equally comfortable with all age family services or more traditional styles of worship. Personal experience of the difficulties of the 'small church' situation means Bob is perfectly happy to serve smaller congregations where and when he can.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Richard Fettes (Wester Hailes)



EDINBURGH, LOTHIAN AND BORDERS

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Church Website

<http://www.whbaptistchurch.org.uk/>

I am an Edinburgh man born and bred and still live in the city to this day. Married to Tina my wife of more than 30 years we have three grown up children, two of whom are married, so just our youngest to go. I was sent to Sunday school as a boy but at the age of about ten when I wanted to turn away from God He suddenly became very real to me and that encounter left me no choice but to accept His existence. I didn't become a committed Christian, however, until I was eighteen years old when I met a group of young Christians from Glasgow at a Gala day celebration at Loanhead near Edinburgh. They invited me to a gospel service and there I heard many of them "testify" to having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. I had thought that I was a Christian up until then but I could see that there was something different about them and so when the preacher made an appeal I decided to give my heart to the Lord. Despite the many ups and downs of life it was and remains the best decision I have ever made. At first I worked for some years as a miner in Bilston Glen Colliery in Loanhead and later as a self-employed joiner but for the last 14 years I have worked as a Prison Officer in what is officially called Edinburgh Prison but is perhaps better known simply as "Saughton". I have been a member of Wester Hailes Baptist Church for over 20 years and help with the men's group in the church. For the past two years, thanks to the encouragement of our pastor Daniel Ralph, I have been involved with the preaching ministry in the church. During the summer months I also spend one or two afternoons a week working in the Christian Heritage Centre which is run by Edinburgh City Mission but is based in St Columba's Free Church just down from Edinburgh Castle. The church's central location affords a great opportunity for volunteers to share their Faith with many of the visitors who come to our city from all over the world.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Neil Fisher (Hawick)



EDINBURGH, Lothian AND Borders

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Church Website

www.hawickbaptist.org.uk

Neil was born in Nottinghamshire in 1946 to a Methodist family. He came to believe in salvation by grace alone while an undergraduate in Cambridge and was baptised at Zion Baptist Church in 1968. While doing a PhD in Kent, Neil studied and qualified as a Methodist Local Preacher. He then went to Kenya and Nigeria for 12 years to teach and research Crop Production. He was in fellowship with Baptist Churches throughout that time, and taught adult Sunday school in Nigeria. Neil returned to Edinburgh in 1985 to work for the Scottish Agricultural College and once again took up preaching in Methodist churches around Edinburgh.

In 1998, Neil resigned from SAC and took up a job as Farm Manager for Bethany Christian Trust, a homelessness charity in Edinburgh. He found himself preaching and promoting the Trust in Baptist Churches in and around Edinburgh and assisted with Alpha courses at Morningside Baptist Church. In 2002, Neil returned to Africa to do agricultural reconstruction in Malawi following a food crisis. He returned at the end of 2005 and retired to Dingwall in 2006.

For several years, Neil worshipped and sometimes preached at Dingwall Baptist Church on Sunday morning and attended Inverness Methodist Church in the evening. Following the vacancy in Dingwall of 2011, Neil transferred his membership to DBC where he was Deacon, Treasurer and frequent preacher until 2016. In 2017, he moved to Hawick for family reasons but continues as Trustee and Treasurer for Dingwall.

Neil is married to Patricia and has three grown-up children.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Andrea Mill (Bristo)

EDINBURGH, LOTHIAN AND BORDERS



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Church Website

<http://www.bristobaptist.org/>

Both my parents died when I was small and I was raised by my aunt and uncle. They sent me to Sunday School, although they did not attend church themselves, so a Christian foundation was laid as a child. I stopped going in my teens but always believed in God. However, it was not until my mid-thirties that I became a Christian following many difficult years – some of the worst yet the best because they brought me into a close relationship with God. I believe that all our experiences enrich our lives and that the Lord truly does work out everything for the good. I've been married, divorced, single, co-habiting in an emotionally abusive relationship through which I had two children, separated, single parent and now happily married as the Lord repays me for the years the locusts have eaten. I live in Edinburgh and am married to Robert. My children are both in their twenties and I am the kinship carer for my toddler grandson. In my church I lead worship and preach regularly.

Most of my work experience has been in Financial Services though latterly I had a franchise for four years as a Lighterlife Counsellor, doing group therapy for people who are overweight or obese, to help them, not only to lose weight, but to maintain the weight loss by changing their thinking, habits and behaviour. This whetted my appetite to know more about counselling as many clients had turned to food to satisfy unmet needs which probably began in childhood and really needed individual therapy to tackle the underlying issues. So in 2009 I completed the Certificate in Christian Counselling at Waverley Abbey continuing in 2010 to Diploma level and Higher Diploma in 2012. From there I went on to complete a Masters in Integrative Psychotherapy at the London School of Theology which integrated theology with psychology, and now maintain a small private practice from home to mainly Christian clients.

I have an HNC in Applied Contemporary Christian Theology and benefitted from sound Bible teaching for 14 years from my former pastor, Jim Purves, now with the Baptist Union.

When preparing to preach I seek to deliver the Lord's message and to make it practical to 21st century lives. I am happy to speak at women's meetings / conferences as well as church services.

My passion is to see the church function as the healthy body of Christ, the beautiful Bride that Jesus is coming back for by being a loving community that other people will want to join.

I write Christian poetry and have published three booklets. I also facilitate workshops in Christian Creative Writing. Other interests include painting, photography, gardening, music and good food!

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Nibin John (Stenhouse)

Edinburgh, Lothian and Borders



Email

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Church Website

<http://www.stenhousebaptist.co.uk/>

I am Nibin John, born in Kerala, India in 1991. I was brought up in a Pentecostal family. From my young age, I had a good Christian faith, and after moving to Scotland in 2003 we settled in Edinburgh and attended Stenhouse Baptist Church, where I went Sunday school. I have a Masters Degree in Information technology from Heriot Watt University.

At a very young age I accepted Jesus as my Saviour during a Summer Bible club in India. In May 2010 I was baptised, to testify Jesus as my Lord.

In 2013 I suffered from Meningitis B, and after miraculously surviving that ordeal, it began to strength my faith in the Lord. I always knew I would like to do some evangelistic work for the Lord who saved me miraculously.

I believe the SBLPA is a great way to spread the message of the Lord Jesus Christ through my testimony and message. Currently I am studying for the Certificate in Theology at Edinburgh Theological Seminary. I am willing to preach in local churches around Edinburgh and driving distance around the Glasgow area.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Andrew Roffey (P) (Granton) Edinburgh, Lothian and Borders



Email

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Church Website

<http://grantonbaptist.org/>

I'm now 57 years of age, 3 1/2 years reborn.

My brother is an explicit atheist and, apart from my wife's family, I haven't been brought up in a Christian family.

Mine is a testimony of brokenness followed by thankfulness and love, a deep love to serve Jesus Christ my redeemer.

Married for 31 years with one daughter. I've worked as a Care Assistant visiting vulnerable people in their homes for the last 10 years and it's a job I love. The relational element and opportunity to speak of faith I greatly prize.

My closest neighbour, a graduate of Divinity, and his wife, a Deacon at the Granton Baptist Church, have greatly influenced me and have guided me through the Gospel. I joined their Praise and Prayer Group and co-founded a Sports Mission to encourage fellowship and evangelism through playing Table Tennis and Pool. After two years we have a regular group of a dozen men coming together twice a week to pray play and talk.

Although I currently have no formal training in Preaching I have a keen love for God's word and desire to share.

Initially on the path to seek a voice that flows and, on advice from my elders, I've begun to study apologetics.

My Interests are quite simple walking my Dogs and drinking copious cups of Tea and Coffee.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Charles Sommerville (Ladywell)

EDINBURGH, LOTHIAN AND BORDERS



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Church Website

<http://www.ladywellbaptist.co.uk/>

Charles was born in 1962 in Bellshill, Lanarkshire. His parents belonged to the Exclusive Christian Brethren and so life as a youngster was dominated by the meetings'. In 1974, his parents left the brethren and to date have never returned.

On the 1st of January 1980 he was floored by a very severe bout of glandular fever which led to admission to the infectious Diseases Unit at Monklands Hospital. While recovering from this Charles attended the Luis Palau Evangelistic Crusade at Strathclyde Park Hamilton initially with a liberal dose of scepticism. However on 06.05.80 he came to realise that he all about Jesus and the Gospel but he didn't know the saviour in a personal way. Charles responded to the gospel and received Christ as his saviour that night. Immediately he embarked on Bible study distance learning with the BTI, Emmaus Bible School and radio Bible Class.

Very soon after his conversion Charles felt the very real and powerful call to preach. This raised a few eyebrows within the family as by nature he is a reserved individual, and there had been no history of preachers in the family. On the night before his 18th birthday, Charles preached his first sermon. Under the guidance of a wonderful mentor Mr Alistair McGibbon, Charles went on to a ministry that took him all over Central Scotland, Northern England Even to the Mountains of Switzerland! This ministry was bought to an end in 1994 when Charles went through very difficult family circumstances these were instrumental in him stepping away from the things of the Lord, completely. During late 2008 in to 2009, the family were all but overwhelmed as they lost 8 close family members 2 of whom were under 40 and 1 was his dad. Charles was asked by his sister-in-law a week before her death if he could take her funeral service, he did and in and through these circumstances the Lord began to work. Charles, Jill and the family began attending Broxburn Baptist Church. Despite known nobody there, the welcome received was quite wonderful. After attending the Christianity Explored Course, Jill became a Christian on the 1st November 2009 and was baptised on the 24th January 2010. The family were received into fellowship at Broxburn 2 weeks later. The Lord has moved in a remarkable way in this family's experience. Charles is attending the Faith Mission Bible College on a part time basis, His wife is now going through the 'Discipleship Explored' Course. God has been good to them in many ways. The doors to preach are already opening. At the age of 3 months, Charles was given 1 hour to live. His late father always said: 'Charles, the Lord spared you for a reason'. He was right! Since his recommitment to the LORD Charles has made this prayer his own; 'Lord send me anywhere, only go with me: Lay any burden upon me on sustain: sever any tie, save that which binds me to your service. Charles is prepared to go and minister wherever the Lord opens the door of opportunity. Charles was a Doctor of Homeopathic Medicine working part-time.

He no longer practices Homoeopathic Medicine. As his involvement in Christian work increased a decision had to be made.....there was only one option.... He now heads up a ministry: 'Truth to Live By Ministries'. He is also the Scottish Representative for the Prophetic Witness Morning International promoting the teaching of Bible Prophecy (Eschatology) throughout Scotland. This is a voluntary role which enables him to preach and teach his favourite subject, which is sadly the forgotten subject today.

Oh by the way he prefers to be called Charlie!!

PROFILE DIRECTORY

George Sprott (Hawick)

EDINBURGH, LOTHIAN AND BORDERS



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Church Website

<http://www.hawickbaptist.org.uk>

I was born in Edinburgh in 1952 and came to a believing faith in the Lord Jesus Christ in my mid-teens. I lived and worked in the Midlothian area and church involvement during this time included Sunday School, Boys Brigade and Youth Fellowship. I married Maria in 1973 and our family moved to Hawick in the Scottish Borders in 1983 - we have one daughter, Mary and a granddaughter, Tanya.

Prior to joining Hawick Baptist Church in 2014, my church membership was in various evangelical Church of Scotland congregations, both in Midlothian and the Borders. It was during this time I had my first experience of preaching, mainly as part of a worship team. From 2007-2009, I completed a course at the Institute of Biblical Studies run by Carrubbers Christian Centre in Edinburgh which certainly deepened my knowledge of the scriptures and which I enjoyed immensely.

Since joining my local Baptist church I have enjoyed further preaching opportunities over the past year or so and I was appointed a Deacon in June 2017.

I took early retirement from my banking career in 2003 and have been self-employed since, working on commercial projects, finance and business administration. I am planning my retirement within the coming year however, and looking forward to spending more time on the bowling green!

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Ian Stephen (Galashiels)



EDINBURGH, LOTHIAN AND BORDERS

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Church Website

<http://www.galashielsbaptistchurch.org.uk/>

Born Motherwell (1943). Encouraged by a Christian Aunt and Uncle to attend C of S close by. Attended Dalziel High School Motherwell - loved school. Joined C of S. and was baptised as an adult then became an elder. Faith was mainly in my head. After two years in Inland Revenue I went Strathclyde University and did BA in English & Sociology. Intended to enter C of S Ministry - went to first ever Selection School and was accepted. with no NT Greek or Hebrew. Took a year out to do evening class in NT Greek at Glasgow University.

Was living as a student near North Kelvinside Church where my old minister, Robert Ferguson had moved. Having had some preaching experience in C.U. he took me on as his assistant for the year. I believed I had a gift for preaching. But after the year, I took the vacant post of R.E. assistant at my old school. I then spent next 20 years in teaching R.E./R.M.E finally moving to a promoted post at Earlston in The Borders. Retired from this 8 years ago.

While teaching, I also was involved in my Uncle's church in Fernhill & Cathkin (where he was minister). I preached there regularly and became involved in its links with a great Prison Ministry at Longriggend Bishopbriggs.

On moving to the Borders I preached at several services in St Johns Church Galashiels which I had joined. After a couple of years in the 'wilderness', God in his wisdom brought me to Gala Baptist Church. Shortly after I was baptised as a believer. This was the defining moment on my Christian journey. Being always keen on Christian music of all kinds, the baptism song " I'll never be the same again " has been my theme for the past three years.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

FIFE, TAYSIDE & PERTHSHIRE

Profile Directory



Alastair Crockett (Cupar)

FIFE, TAYSIDE & PERTSHIRE

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Church Website

<http://www.cuparbaptist.org.uk/>

Alastair Crockett has been a lay preacher since his early teens and gained wide experience in Preaching in our Baptist denomination and also in other Christian Denominations.

In taking a first degree in Food Science and Nutrition at the University of Strathclyde this led on to working in the Food industry in development and then into factory management which may have given him some of the insights into the place of food in all the celebrations in the scriptures. In addition recent studies have seen some insights into the diagnosis of Dr Luke whilst preparing to teach aboard a missionary ship on the subject of Food Hygiene and the missionary journeys of Paul and his team.

Later studies in Management and business studies led to employment as a business advisor. As a member of Gideons International Alastair has been used as a trainer to their membership and served Gideons in Scotland on their National Cabinet as well as other duties. He also served in an International outreach in Argentina and arranged missions in Scotland and also led up the street evangelism at the Glasgow commonwealth games.

As a preacher Alastair has the depth of study to be able to bring practical applications to the truths of the Gospel for all to understand and enjoy.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Christine Heron (Coastline)



FIFE, TAYSIDE & PERTSHIRE

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Church Website

<http://www.coastlinecommunitychurch.org.uk/>

"Born 1941 - "born again" 1953. Baptised 1956. As a teenager fully involved in all church life eg. Sunday School, Bible study/Prayer Meeting, Girls Brigade, Christian Endeavour, church choir. Involved in various capacities in CE for 60 years, during which time I have had the privilege of leading many children to faith in Christ. Involved in several Evangelistic Crusades in Birmingham's Bingley Hall where I served as a Counsellor.

For a year or two in 1960's I was put on a Methodist Preaching Plan (even while a Baptist member!). After marrying Rev Jim Heron in 1981 we worked together in CE and local church work, coming to Pittenweem in 1984. I have served with WA - now SBWF since 1984, being Fife President in 1987 and now National President 2012-13.

In my own church I have been a deacon and church secretary for 12 years. I also serve as President of our East Neuk Christian Coffee Club.

Since Jim's death in 1997 the Word of God has become much more precious to me, and as we pray and seek for Revival in this desperately needy age we need to speak with authority from God's Word whenever we can.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Dawn Martindale (Rosyth) FIFE, TAYSIDE & PERTSHIRE



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Church Website

<http://www.rosythbaptistchurch.co.uk/>

I currently live in Rosyth and attend Rosyth Baptist where I have been a member since 2015. I was born in 1978 and was baptised in Leslie Baptist in 1996 (and was a member there until around 2002). I am married with two daughters (Abby, born 2003 & Rose, born 2006). In between being a member of Leslie and Rosyth Baptist churches, I was part of Liberty Church in Dunfermline.

I began studying part time for a ba(hons) Theological Studies at Highland Theological College (UHI) in 2012 after some time leading a Bible Study group and just feeling a need to increase my theological knowledge to lead that well. At the time of writing I am in my honours year. Since joining Rosyth Baptist I have been actively involved in many areas including the prayer team, occasional preaching, as well as being involved in the computer/visuals technical side of church life. I am passionate about Theology and exegesis with a good understanding of the Biblical languages. I enjoy learning, and teaching, and communicating well to others what I have learned.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Andrew McNeish (Pitlochry)

FIFE, TAYSIDE & PERTSHIRE



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Church Website

<https://www.pbcweb.net>

Having been introduced by Glen to the existing SBLPA profile doc., I pen the following with some reluctance and trepidation. I'm concerned that to regurgitate 1952 to 2018 in writing is, within a few sentences, going to bore the reader witless or worse inflate an average guy to a place of sainthood, neither necessarily attractive although my wife of 40 years, who still is - encourages me from over my shoulder ...“to just do it!” And that's also how we started, in swapping rings together at Rayners Lane Baptist Church, a church where we were not members nor attended? I was informed Elmfield Chapel, the brethren church down the road in N Harrow - where we worshiped, wasn't big enough! A young inexperienced Art College student - freelancing designer in London, married to a newly trained St Bartholomew's nurse somehow ultimately unwound for me a career in 3D Design, Architecture, Property Development, Photography, Fine Art and retirement. I still paint today and am blessed to have at least one gallery still interested, although in truth I think our three married children and associated family of seven grandchildren have more on their walls than the general public! So...you might ask - what am I doing joining the SBLPA? Where is my list of theological letters? ...well there lies the clue to my reluctance and trepidation!

Our journey has been interesting. One might say not straight forward, but because it has been with my Father all the way, then I can say it's been good. Learning from Pastors and laymen alike I have been blessed to have been experienced by life and practice in church and leadership, always in a team, taking from and giving to – others; sharing in the challenge of living as a Christian within and without the church: Elmfield Chapel – Harrow: Allander Evangelical church – Glasgow: Goldhill Baptist Church Bucks, & new plant Marlow Christian Fellowship – Bucks.; currently Pitlochry Baptist Church – Pitlochry. Privileged to serve in; Youth: Eldership: Deaconate: Alpha: Pre marriage guidance: Preaching & Teaching: Children's Panel (Stirling Council): Classic fm London (Consumer Advisory Panel) and more I guess.

My mid sixties are gone – but together Jane and I haven't finished, except here - I will, and conclude my life in 400 words with the following from Oswald Chambers; “God gives us the vision, then He takes us down to the valley to batter us into the shape of the vision and it's in the valley that so many of us faint and give way. But every vision will be made real if we have patience. The vision is what God wants you to be”.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Alan Milnes (Leslie)



FIFE, TAYSIDE & PERTSHIRE

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Church Website

<http://www.lesliebaptistchurch.org.uk/>

Alan was born in 1964 and was raised by Christian parents in Glenrothes Baptist Church where he was baptised at age 14, having committed his life to the Lord at a much earlier age. He went on to become a Deacon and then served as Church Secretary for many years.

In 2004 he transferred his membership to Leslie where he served as Church Secretary and the Treasurer, currently he is heading up the Small Groups programme. He has two grown up children and one grand-child and lives in Glenrothes with his wife Susan.

He previously served on the Committee of the Lay Preachers Association and also is a past Treasurer of the Association. He currently serves as Webmaster for the Association.

He gained a HNC in Applied Christian Theology in Contemporary Society from Edinburgh Bible College and a Diploma in Religious Studies from the Open University.

Although he worships in a 'charismatic church' he regularly preaches in many different environments. He is comfortable in sensitively adapting to the requirements of the churches he serves in and is happy to take all kinds of services, including senior citizens, youth, etc, and will consider any requests no matter the distance. He is happy to help out at short notice if possible.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Jim O'Hara (Perth)



FIFE, TAYSIDE & PERTSHIRE

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Church Website

<http://www.perthbaptistchurch.org.uk/>

Jim was born in Edinburgh where the family worshiped at Gorgie Baptist Church, where he was convinced of the need for Christ in his life and was baptised at 17.

Initially employed in construction, he moved in to the IT service industry, where he served as a service engineer with IBM for many years. Married to Sandra who was a practice nurse and they have two grown up children, Lynne and Stuart also one grandchild. Jim has served as a deacon and church secretary in Harper Memorial Baptist Church in Glasgow, where he helped with the teaching programme. Previously serving in the leadership of both Peebles Baptist and Greenock (George Square Baptist). He views his time in Peebles with great fondness, where the church fellowship grew substantially, and he grew in his knowledge of the Lord and of church management, where he served for periods as Secretary and Treasurer.

Jim was also the chairperson of the Harper Community Interest Company, set up in order to engage more effectively in the community. The first venture of the community interest company was to re-open a cafe 'Kinning Perk'. The cafe employed five people, was used for community activities, eg. Computer Classes, craft classes, English classes for non-English speakers, as well as a variety of outreach events. At the completion of the cafe lease, many of the activities have now transferred to the church.

Having retired from IBM after many years managing an international service development team, Jim studied at the Cornhill College in Glasgow completing the Cornhill Training Programme, which aims to ensure students understand the Bible accurately, teach the Bible effectively and apply the Bible appropriately.

Jim and Sandra have recently moved to Perthshire and are now worshipping at Perth Baptist Church.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

GLASGOW NORTH

Profile Directory

Matt Edmonds (Castlehill - Bearsden)



GLASGOW NORTH

Email

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Church Website

<https://www.castlehillbaptist.org.uk/>

Born in 1991, I grew up in Sheffield. I grew up in a Christian family and gave my life to the Lord at the age of 17 at the Keswick Convention in 2008.

During my last year of secondary school, I led the Christian Union which had around 20-30 members and we were active in evangelism throughout the school. After leaving school, I worked for the church I grew up in, Christ Church Fulwood as a Ministry Trainee, specifically working with children and youth aged 8-18. It was during this year that I matured a great deal in my faith and had first opportunities to preach at the weekly youth services for 14-18 year olds.

Afterwards, I studied Economics at Newcastle University and while there I attended Jesmond Parish Church where I was actively involved in the student work there as well as the music ministry. Towards the end of my studies I moved to Welbeck Road Evangelical in order to grow more out with student circles. I was an active member of Newcastle University Christian Union where I was involved in the annual Events Weeks on campus and led one of the 'Hall Groups' for 1st year students.

I married my wife Alix in June 2013 and we settled in Milngavie where Alix is from. In July 2013, we were invited to lead the youth work for 11-18s at our church, Allander Evangelical. We did this together with a small team of other leaders for 3 years before the church appointed a full-time youth worker in August 2016. At this time, I was appointed as a Deacon of the church with specific responsibility for outreach and evangelism and it was during our time as members of Allander Evangelical Church that I became involved in regular preaching which was a real blessing. In 2014, I set up a Dads and Toddlers group on a Saturday morning called 'Men Behaving Dadly' and we regularly had contact with around 30 non-Christian dads from the local community, engaging them in the good news of the gospel.

These were very busy years for us as we began to grow as a family, welcoming two daughters, Breagha (born in 2014) and Libby (born in 2016). In January 2018, we felt called by God to move on from Allander Evangelical Church and we began attending Castlehill Baptist Church in Bearsden where we have been actively involved ever since. It has been a great delight for us as a whole family to get to know our new church family and be a part of what God is doing at Castlehill Baptist Church.

Day to day, I'm an accountant, currently studying for my ACCA qualification. Outside of work and church life, most time is spent as a family, watching Paw Patrol or playing in the garden. My other great passion in life is Cricket and after a seven-year break from playing, I'm now a member of a local cricket team and am thoroughly enjoying that – still holding out some hope of playing for England.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Jim Ewing (Bearsden)



GLASGOW NORTH

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Church Website

<http://www.bearsdenbaptistchurch.com/>

Born in 1960, Jim moved from Paisley to the Clydebank area at the age of eight but remains a Buddy at heart with a Scotch tongue. He attended the local Baptist church youth fellowship, where he learned about Christ dying in our place and accepted Christ as his Lord and Saviour at 14, later receiving believer's baptism.

After attending Glasgow University, he worked mostly abroad as a teacher of English as a foreign language. During his twelve years in Galicia, Spain, he was in fellowship with the Plymouth Brethren, by far the largest Protestant church in that area, and shared in preaching supply to a small nearby congregation, as well as participating in his local church.

Jim returned to Scotland in 1997, to pursue theological studies. Back at Glasgow University, he took a BD with Honours, then an M.Th by research, examining the influence of Calvinism on Scottish literature (don't get him started on the Covenants). He aspires to further research but is currently enjoying a fallow period from academia, unwinding and gaining new perspective as a clerical officer for Glasgow City Council's Social Work Department.

An active member of Bearsden Baptist Church, Jim shares responsibility for a Sunday school class. Jim is a member of GRF Christian Radio and of the Glasgow Kedron Singers. He is also a member of a poetry group. He picked up Spanish during his time in Spain and has been trying to learn Gaelic for years (tha beagan aige). He aspires to preaching in the tongue this nation was first evangelised in.

Jim sees the role of preaching as proclaiming Christ crucified to the lost and encouraging and up building the faithful by the expounding and application of the Word.

Jim is unmarried and without family commitments. Although he cannot drive, he is willing to travel and stay overnight if necessary.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Kay Leishman (Helensburgh)



GLASGOW NORTH

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Church Website

<http://www.hbchurchmem.co.uk/>

Kay grew up in the Falkirk area and became a Christian at the age of eighteen after hearing the gospel from Cliff Richard at a concert for Tear Fund. She started going to Falkirk Baptist Church about a year later and was baptised soon after this. Kay trained as a physiotherapist and lived and worked in Glasgow before moving to Helensburgh. She got involved in church in various ways and took part for a few years in a street outreach in Glasgow among homeless people and street girls.

For several years Kay studied at ICC and she counts it a huge privilege to have had the opportunity to study God's word in depth. She was also enriched by the fellowship she experienced there including with those of many different nationalities. During that time she took part in short mission trips to the Arab World and to Tanzania. Kay graduated from ICC in 2008 with BA (Hons) in Theology and then went on to study part-time on the taught Masters programme in Biblical Interpretation, graduating with an MTh in 2011.

Kay started doing some preaching in her own church (Helensburgh Baptist) while at ICC and has preached more regularly since finishing her studies. Her desire is that something of Jesus would be revealed through her preaching as well as through her life so that others might be drawn closer to him. She recognises that she is still very much learning and growing in the area of preaching and is grateful for the encouragement she has received from her fellowship.

Currently Kay is serving as a deacon and is part of the sound desk team. She enjoys, among other things, "pottering" with her guitar, reading, walking, swimming, and catching up with friends over coffee.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Phillip March (Shettleston)

GLASGOW NORTH



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Church Website

<http://www.shettlestonbaptistchurch.com>

I originate from Dunstable in Bedfordshire which is an insignificant part of England and only famous for being John Bunyan country. I came to faith when I was about 12 years old through the work of a Covenanter group in the local Baptist church. When I started to attend the church I was soon encouraged by the lay preachers in the church to go with them to help out with services they were taking in the area and after preaching a few times I decided, in 1970, apply to the Bible Training Institute in Glasgow in order to get some basic training to help me with preaching and expected after 2 years to go back to the south! I am still here half a lifetime later! In fact I did move away for about 4 years to help in the the work of a small Congregational/ Free church in the south west of England but then returned to Glasgow .

Most of my working life has been spent in the motor trade but for the last 12 years of my working life I was caretaker at International Christian College which was a truly enjoyable vocation but retired in 2013

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Stan Paliwoda (Bearsden)



GLASGOW NORTH

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Church Website

<http://www.bearsdenbaptistchurch.com/>

Stan is a member of Bearsden Baptist Church, is a representative for Missionary Aviation Fellowship and is involved with the Street Pastors initiative.

Stan's career has mostly been in academia with short spells in sales management and market research at the very outset. He was born in Renfrew. His mother was Scottish and his father was a Polish soldier who settled here after the war so that explains his surname.

Stan's academic career has involved spells at the University of Westminster in London, the University of Manchester Institute of Science & Technology, University of Calgary, Canada, University of Birmingham and Strathclyde University where he is now Emeritus Professor of Marketing.

Stan has interests in international marketing, business to business marketing and exporting (formerly senior examiner with the Institute of Export) with long established involvement in Central Europe, particularly Poland and more recently Asia, focusing on global B2B marketing; the transferability of Western management models to countries of lesser development; and the global forces which increasingly drive us towards a pattern of standardisation of production and consumption. He has edited and guest edited various journals, is on a number of journal editorial boards and has run a publishing workshop with Emerald in the past.

He is willing to help get people published. He feels it is a time consuming and bruising battle but once you realize that you need to adjust to rejection and that it is simply a part of the process, it becomes easier to accept. He is willing to read and comment on any drafts and help work on conference papers to get them published as journal articles. He can also advise on selecting a suitable home for your papers.

Profile Directory

John Perkins (Bearsden)



Glasgow North

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Church website

<http://www.bearsdenbaptistchurch.com/>

I was born on the Island of Jersey in 1954, married my wife, Maggie who is Scottish in 1981 and we have two grown up sons who we visit often - Jamie who lives in London and Cameron in New York.

Although I was sent to Sunday School as a child and later sang in the Church choir, I only became a Christian at the age of 29 at a meeting of the Full Gospel Businessmen's Fellowship International (FGBFI) when I invited Jesus into my life. Soon after I had an inner conviction that I would one day 'preach the Gospel' but it was some years later when we members of Bethlehem Methodist Church in Jersey that I was prompted to test my call to preach by training as a Methodist Local Preacher.

Having successfully completed the exams and practical training, first with a mentor (a wonderful Scottish lady called Margaret Colquhoun who was a great story teller) and then leading worship and preaching on my own, I was fully accredited in 2001. I subsequently preached in all of the various Methodist Churches in Jersey, as well as the Jersey Baptist Church, Elim and in Care Homes and Prison Ministry.

Our long term plan was that whenever I retired from my job in the Finance Industry we would move to Scotland, to live in Bearsden where we've had a flat for some time. This we did in July 2015 and received a warm welcome at Bearsden Baptist Church where I was invited to preach 3 times in 2016 as part of a series on 'The Feasts of God'; Passover, Pentecost and Tabernacles.

I have a particular interest in God's plans for Israel and His chosen people and I have helped to lead groups of Christian Pilgrims to the Holy Land on 5 occasions with another trip in the planning stages now.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Hugh Tannock (Drumchapel)



GLASGOW NORTH

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Church Website

<http://www.drumchapelbaptistchurch.co.uk/>

Born in Glasgow in 1954, Hugh was dedicated by the Salvation Army due to being looked after by a Christian aunt whilst his mother was in hospital for a long period. Hugh was not brought up in a Christian home and was only introduced to Church life when he met his now wife Janette who was a member of Drumchapel Baptist Church.

His introduction to the Drumchapel Fellowship in 1973 began in earnest when he was asked to repair an electrical fault with the heater in the 'baptismal tank'. Hugh being an electrician at that time came to the rescue and then began to attend services on a regular basis. Hugh recognised after some 12 years that church attendance in itself was not sufficient to change his life and he accepted Christ into his life in 1986 much to the rejoicing of his family and the fellowship.

Hugh was married to Janette in 1976 in Drumchapel Baptist Church and has two children, Craig and Emma. Craig was baptised in 1999 at the age of 18 years in the River Jordan and Emma was baptised in 1996 at the age of 10 in Drumchapel. During his time in Drumchapel Hugh has had the role of Treasurer for 10 years and has been the Secretary since 1996 to the present time. He is involved in all aspects of outreach work including Open Air, Door to Door, Services in Care Homes and is also involved in children's work in the AWANA club.

Over the years I have had the privilege of leading and preaching not only in a number of Baptist Churches but also in United Free Churches and Mission Halls. I have also undertaken midweek prayer meetings within the Glasgow area.

In his working life, Hugh's vocation is within the area of Health and Safety and is a Chartered Member of the Institute of Occupational Safety & Health (CMIOSH). He is currently working in the Voluntary Sector.

Hugh has been actively involved for many years with the GWEA members (Glasgow West Evangelicals in Action) which is made up of Baptist, United Free and Evangelical Churches who meet monthly for prayer and fellowship. Through this he carries out preaching engagements and speaks at Women's meetings on invitation.

In his spare time, Hugh enjoys winter holidays in Tenerife where he joins with the South Tenerife C.F as well as fishing and reading.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

GLASGOW SOUTH

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Ian Barr (Johnstone)



GLASGOW SOUTH

Email

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I was born and brought up in Johnstone Renfrewshire. Had a good upbringing in a nominal Christian home within a Church of Scotland background. However my religious activities stopped after Sunday - School around the age of 12. I continued my life with no real religious conviction until I was asked to do some electrical work at the Gospel Hall Linwood (some 12 years later). It was then the seed was sown and through many years of searching, wrestling and debate, and at the age of 31, I eventually accepted Jesus Christ as My Lord and Saviour.

At that time I lived in Beith, with my wife Ann. It was here, I was baptised (Beith Mission Hall in 1983). Being late saved, The Lord laid it on my heart to preach the Gospel. I had early speaking opportunities within the mission hall, which was then linked up with the Bible Centre at Inchinnan. Following closure of the mission, I continued my service within Beith and Kilbirnie Gospel Halls, where I gained good and sound theological studies. It was in these circles I gained experience in the preaching and ministry of God's word. Further studies were gained at the International Christian College completing various distance learning modules. On and off, I have been a lay preacher for 30 years.

Since 2015, my wife and I have been attending Johnstone Baptist Church where I had the privilege to speak when the invitation, need arises.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

John Bingham (Newton Mearns)



GLASGOW SOUTH

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Church Website

<http://www.newtonmearnsbaptist.org.uk/>

I was brought up in a Christian home in Bangor, Northern Ireland, firstly attending a Brethren fellowship, and later Rosemary Park Baptist Church. I trusted Christ when I was 17 and this marked the commencement of a journey of service for Him. I moved to Glasgow in 1983 for work (I'm an engineer) and have attended Newton Mearns Baptist since 1995. I was actively involved in United Beach Missions for about 20 years, helping with missions at resorts in England, Wales and Ireland. At Newton Mearns I was a deacon for a number of years and currently lead a house group and the Sunday school as well as being a member of the preaching team.

I joined SBLPA in January 2010 and simply wanted to be available for service outside as well as inside my home church

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Glen Cartwright (Newton Mearns)



GLASGOW SOUTH

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Church Website

<http://www.newtonmearnsbaptist.org.uk/>

Born in Prestwick, Ayrshire, in 1967, Glen was dedicated in the New Prestwick Baptist Church by Rev John Moore of Tent Hall Fame who wrote the hymn "Burdens are lifted at Calvary". He was brought up in a small Sunday school in Carluke Baptist Church, Lanarkshire, where the early seeds of faith were sown by his Sunday school teacher, Ian McCulloch, and accepted Christ during a Billy Graham Mission in January 1980.

He lived around this time a few miles south of Oxford, where he attended Christ Church, Abingdon, a very evangelical Church of England which met in a former barn.

After being baptised in Whitley Bay Baptist Church, serving there in the Youth Fellowship, and then returning to Ayr in 1987, he attended the 11th Baptist Youth World Conference in Glasgow in July 1988: a defining week in his life.

Glen went on to serve as Youth Secretary in Ayr Baptist Church, from 1990 to 1993 and then served on the Youth Committee of the Baptist Union of Scotland from 1993 to 1998. From 1996 to 2003, he served as a deacon in Ayr Baptist Church, and from 1999 to 2003, as a member of the Board of Directors of Ayr Baptist Homes.

From 2002 to 2004, Glen served on the Management Team for the Mission Scotland Ten10 initiative, and from 2003 to 2006; he served on the Pastoral Care Team at Southside Christian Fellowship in Ayr (a church plant at Alloway and Doonfoot by Ayr Baptist Church and Riverside Evangelical Church).

Following his marriage in June 2006 to Adrienne, he now lives in Newton Mearns, is a member of Newton Mearns Baptist Church, a growing and active family church, and along with Adrienne, who serves as Children & Families Worker at Newton Mearns Baptist Church, is actively involved in serving there on the Diaconate and chairs the Missions Forum. His most important roles though are as dad to Lewis and husband to Adrienne.

Holding qualifications in Old & New Testament Studies from Capernwray Bible School, Lancashire and in Lay Preaching from the Scottish Baptist College, Glen is happy to preach in churches in Glasgow, Lanarkshire, Central Scotland, Ayrshire and beyond, to all ages.

Glen, in 2007, took up the reins of, and currently serves as, General Secretary of the Scottish Baptist Lay Preacher's Association. As part of his representational responsibilities, he serves on the Council of the Baptist Union of Scotland. Glen just loves to open up and preach and communicate the ever relevant Word of God. Glen serves on the Parent Council of Crookfur Primary School. He enjoys spending lots of time with Lewis and Adrienne, his daily (free!) 'latte to go' from Waitrose, reading political biographies/autobiographies, watching 'Grand Designs', and flying anywhere with Ryanair! His lifelong aspiration is to have a model railway (miniature gauge) in his back garden!

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Brian Crockett (East Mains)



GLASGOW SOUTH

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Church Website

<http://eastmainsbc.com/>

Since my days as a singer in a gospel group I have been involved in preaching, then as vice president of the Christian Union in Aberdeen I have sought to try to make the word of God understandable and practical for people.

I was brought up with a Brethren background in the Glasgow area where we were taught the meaning of sound doctrine. My father was a lay preacher and studied at the Bible Training Institute of Scotland. I learned a lot from him and he encouraged me to go to the Glasgow Summer Bible School which was held over 4, three and a half hour sessions each year. Here we were taught how to use concordances, the meaning of parallel passages and how to use commentaries, etc. When I got married in Aberdeen I was a deacon in a local Evangelical Church where I was part of the worship and teaching team. The principal of the New Zealand Bible College was doing a PhD at the time and ran a "Teach the Word" set of evening classes on Expository Bible Teaching. This greatly assisted in the preaching I was doing not only among young people but in a number of local churches in the North East.

In 1991 God called us to full time missionary work in a church planting team in Aubagne near Marseilles in the south of France. In preparation for that my wife and I attended the one year full time "Training for Service" course at the Tilsley College. This thorough grounding also exposed us to evangelism both in the UK and Europe.

On returning to the UK in 1996 we became members of Newton Mearns Baptist Church where under the direction of Deans Buchanan, I became a member of the preaching and teaching team there. This demanding role encouraged us to focus on systematic bible teaching and the application of scripture to our daily lives.

We are now members of Queens Park Baptist Church, but my constant work abroad restricts my preaching to the weekends. I have participated in the services at Ikoye Baptist Church in Lagos Nigeria when working there for Shell and preached in Subang Evangelical Church near Kuala Lumpur when I worked there and also at the Nigerian Church in The Hague.

My main role at the moment is to promote and coordinate Marriage Courses in Churches in the west of Scotland. My wife and I have run 4 courses and believe that they greatly encourage marriages.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Kenneth Forrest (Cathcart)



GLASGOW SOUTH

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Church Website

<http://www.cathcartbaptist.co.uk/>

Ken was born in Hamilton in 1953, grew up in Motherwell, and attended Motherwell Baptist Church. Brought up in a loving Christian home and family, he came to know the Lord Jesus Christ as his own Saviour at the age of 16 when attending a showing of the film "The Gospel according to St Matthew". He was baptised in the Motherwell church, and was active in the Youth Fellowship there, taking part in a number of missions in the Lanarkshire area in the late sixties and early seventies.

He graduated in law from Glasgow University in 1975. He married Anna in 1978 and moved to the Shawlands area of Glasgow, where both their children were born (Adam in 1979 and Leah in 1982). Ken became a partner in a busy Glasgow firm of solicitors in 1981. The family attended Queens Park Baptist Church for a number of years, where Ken served as a Deacon and as Church Secretary. They began attending Cathcart Baptist Church, where they still worship, in 1989, and where Ken served as a Deacon and Church Secretary.

He left the solicitors branch of the legal profession in 2000 and became an Advocate, specialising in immigration and asylum litigation. He has been involved in a number of significant cases, including several in which Christian asylum seekers do not wish to return to their country of origin because they fear that they will be persecuted for their beliefs. Ken believes it is vital that the decisions made by Christians in professions such as the law are influenced by their own faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Ken is known for his respect for the authority of scripture as the Word of God for His people today, particularly as demonstrated in the Gospel through the life, teaching and death of the Lord Jesus Christ. As Treasurer of Cathcart Youth Ministry Partnership, a group of three churches committed to outreach to young people, he is also particularly keen to see His Word influence the lives of young people everywhere, especially in the south side of Glasgow. In his spare time, Ken loves to read history, watch football on television, go to the cinema, and clear out his garage.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Willie Henry (Newton Mearns)



GLASGOW SOUTH

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Church Website

<http://www.newtonmearnsbaptist.org.uk/>

Willie became a Christian in his teens through Crusaders. Qualified as an accountant and worked in the accountancy profession for some years before going into academia. Worked at Glasgow Caledonian University as a senior lecturer until the end of 2009, when he took voluntary redundancy and set up as an education consultant carrying out teaching, examining and researching for a number of universities and professional accountancy bodies.

Willie is married to Gillian and they have two daughters. He is active within Newton Mearns Baptist church, where he is involved in preaching and social action issues and joined SBLPA's active list in 2011. He also is a trustee in the Open Bible Trust, for whom he has written a number of Bible Study publications.

In addition to his work Willie is interested in reading, hillwalking, playing guitar and following the (mis)fortunes of Partick Thistle.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Douglas Inglis (Newton Mearns)



GLASGOW SOUTH

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Church Website

<http://www.newtonmearnsbaptist.org.uk/>

Douglas has a passion for preaching, and seeks to communicate the ancient truths of the Bible in a way that is relevant to contemporary culture.

Douglas found faith as a teenager at Carluke Baptist Church, was baptised there, and began to learn how to serve through the work of Christian Endeavour.

In 1968, he married Norma, setting up home initially in Giffnock and later in Newton Mearns, on the south side of Glasgow. Douglas served Queens Park Baptist Church as youth fellowship leader, deacon and as part of the preaching team.

In the early 80s Douglas and Norma helped to plant the new church at Newton Mearns, Douglas serving as Chair of the Steering Committee, before working in the church as an Elder and as part of the preaching team.

Douglas was for many years involved in the work of the Baptist Union of Scotland serving on the Council and on various committees. He played a leading role in the Baptist World Youth Conference held in Glasgow in 1988.

In 1995, Douglas and Norma moved to the USA in response to a call to work for the Baptist World Alliance. They lived in the USA for 13 years, Douglas working for the BWA for five years and Family Service for 8 years, before retiring back to Scotland in July 2008.

They renewed membership at Newton Mearns Baptist, where Douglas serves as part of the preaching team.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Richard Macphee (Queen's Park)



GLASGOW SOUTH

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Church Website

<http://www.qpbc.org>

I was brought up in East Kilbride where I attended a Church of Scotland church intermittently through involvement in Boys Brigade. At 12 years old I came to faith through a high school Scripture Union group.

In 1991 aged 18 I moved to Aberdeen to complete a degree in physiotherapy. After completing my degree I met and married Andrea in 1995. We have lived in Cambuslang since then and our son Joshua was born in 2001. I am now working as physiotherapist specialising in children with breathing problems.

I have been in various churches over the years and started attending East Mains Baptist Church in 2005. I have been involved in a variety of areas in East Mains including prayer ministry, discipleship and bible classes for teenagers. I preach at times in East Mains and in local nursing homes. In addition I also volunteer with Healing Rooms in East Kilbride.

My other interests include reading, cycling, swimming and gardening.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Fiona Merriweather (Queens Park)



GLASGOW SOUTH

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Church Website

<http://www.qpbc.org/>

I'm a mother to four daughters and a working GP. I come from a long line of believers and remember giving my heart to Jesus when I was five years old in our Pentecostal Sunday school. My husband and I met and married at Queens Park Baptist church in 1992. Apart from a brief mission trip to Papua New Guinea we have lived in Glasgow and raised our children in QPBC.

I served on the Core Leadership Team (now re-named the Senior Leadership Team) for a total of 12 years. I have now stepped back to engage in further study.

I started preaching in 2007. My core themes are around the Father's love, wholeness and prayer.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Peter Trotter (Pollok)



GLASGOW SOUTH

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Church Website

<http://pollokbaptistchurch.org.uk/>

After 34 years studying and practicing law – 6 years at 3 Universities and 28 years working in 2 Scottish commercial law firms – in 2014 I retired aged 54 to focus on Christian service.

During my last 16 years in law, I used the bulk of my holidays to engage in overseas mission work. This included English camp ministry to youth and young adults in Hungary, a placement with a Chinese evangelical church in Hong Kong, serving in a compassion ministry to the underprivileged in Thailand and working with churches in the Philippines.

Since the early 2000s I have been a trustee and executive trustee of a UK missionary society. As a volunteer with its USA affiliate since retiring, I serve in a coaching role to a church in rural Romania and to missionaries who serve in Hungary. Links forged during my first mission-related trip to the Philippines has led to my returning annually to serve in and work with a Filipino church.

I have been involved in Scottish Baptist circles since 1977, previously served for over 20 years as a Deacon and joined the SBLPA in 2006.

Such mission-related and church involvement, and especially people I have been privileged to know through them, has immeasurably enriched my life for which I am thankful to God.

Having graduated in theology from the Open Theological College, University of Gloucestershire in 2012 as a distance learning student, I am currently a distance learning postgraduate student in Biblical interpretation with the London School of Theology.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Paul Cairns (Islay)



HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS

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Church Website:

<http://islaybaptistchurch.org.uk>

I was raised catholic in east end of Glasgow, the eldest of four children. I met and married my wife Dorothy who was raised Church of Scotland. Neither of us was particularly spiritual at the time. We emigrated to Canada in 1974 to begin married life. While in Fort McMurray Alberta, we both became born again Christians and were baptised in a northern lake. We came back to Scotland in 1983 when the children began to come along. My job as a Xerox service engineer was located in Aberdeen; we were housed eventually in Montrose where God used us to start a church, mostly populated by locals, gipsies, and US Navy personnel from nearby Edzell. This is where I felt my calling to preach begin.

In 1996 the Lord led us back to Fort McMurray to lead what remained of the church that nurtured us. While in Canada I did some distance learning courses with Regent College, Alberta Bible College, and Briercrest Seminary, Saskatchewan. I earned my living as a Realtor in Fort McMurray from 1996 to 2017. In September last year I eventually retired to Islay. My wife's family is from the island and we built our retirement home here. From time to time I am honoured to take a service or two at Bowmore Baptist Church which we joined a few years ago.

My wife and I have two sons and one daughter and been blessed with seven grandchildren; five girls and two boys.

The call to preach and lead worship with my guitar has never left me and I look forward to seeing what God will do to revive His church in Scotland and if I might serve Him in any way.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Andrew Chalkley (Campbeltown)



HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS

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Church Website:

<http://www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk/>

I was born and brought up in a Christian family in Cambridge. We attended an evangelical Church of England church.

When I was in my early teens my father took me to a sound relay of a Billy Graham rally taking place in the North of England. When there, I went forward, and gave my life to Jesus.

A few years later I attended a BMS summer school for teenagers and met a Baptist girl from Reading who later became my wife.

During 45 years of marriage we have been members of Baptist churches in Ascot, Aberdeen, and latterly Campbeltown Community Church. We have also been members of an Elim Pentecostal Church in Fort William, and the Church of Scotland.

During my years with the Church of Scotland I was invited to train to be a Reader (Lay Preacher). This involved 3 years of part-time distance learning, with a local tutor, and residential weekends 4 times a year. From 2002-2013 I had the privilege of taking services throughout Lochaber Presbytery. I had also been involved with a teenager's Sunday Bible Class and running of an adult midweek Bible study group in my local church.

In 2012 I retired, and we decided to move to Campbeltown, an area we had been to many times on holiday. We moved to Campbeltown in December 2013 and were drawn to Campbeltown Community Church which we joined into membership in 2014. As a new member in the Community Church I am just finding my feet, but I have been asked to preach a couple of times and lead the Bible study group.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Stephen Ilett (Alness)



HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS

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Church Website

<http://www.alnessbc.org.uk/>

I am married with 5 children. I have gradually moved further North from my South of England roots.

I have been an active Christian for 30 years. My Church involvement has always been with children and young people through at different times Sunday school, Boys Brigade and youth work.

I started preaching in the Methodist Church and worked for them as a youth worker after leaving University.

I am a deacon at Alness Baptist Church and take an active part in the leadership of the youth group. I enjoy preaching to all with an emphasis on encouragement, support and evangelism.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Jim McNulty (Islay)



HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS

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Church Website

<http://islaybaptistchurch.org.uk/>

Jim is the minister of Islay Baptist church. Although serving as the minister Jim is a lay person.

Before becoming the minister in Islay Jim's career was in IT Management with large UK companies. He is married with three grown up children who have all now left home.

Jim continues to study with Spurgeon's College utilizing their distance learning courses and is currently working on their diploma course.

Jim has been preaching regularly for the last 12 years and has preached in many churches, mostly in east and central Scotland but has also traveled to other areas.

He is happy to be involved in all types of services and will normally fit in to what is required.

Jim is restricted in his availability due to his commitment on Islay and by geography, but continues to be part of the SBLPA.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Tony Walters (Oban)



HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS

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Church Website

<http://www.Obanbaptist.co.uk/>

My earliest recollection in life was of attending an Anglican Sunday School in a picturesque Yorkshire village. This was the foundation for my conversion which was over 50 years ago.

As an engineer I spent most of my working life within the motor industry, most of which, was in business management. My career path enabled my wife Freda and I to reside in a variety of locations throughout the UK and it was whilst living in Southern England that I became involved in church governance as an Elder in a small independent Baptist Church.

My route to ministry was a gradual calling which involved distance learning at London Bible College, in addition to hands-on practical training as a ministry team member at a large Baptist church in Great Bookham, Surrey.

Freda and I had family links with Ballachulish here in the Highlands and we found ourselves drawn to the area. The more we visited Scotland the more we felt God was calling us to live here and it was in 1999 that we eventually moved to Onich, near Fort William.

As there was no Baptist Church in the area we became attached to Fort William Christian Fellowship and quickly became involved in the work there. In remarkable circumstances I also found God opening doors for ministry in other churches, helping to break down the denominational barriers by crossing boundaries that exist between the churches to preach the Gospel.

In 2004 Freda and I started 'Round the Loch Christian Fellowship', a multi-denominational Bible Study/Prayer group here around the loch. It is attended by people from five different churches and four different denominations. This work continues today with approximately fifteen regular members. More detail can be obtained from www.RTLCF.org.uk

We are members of Oban Baptist church and when not directly involved in God's work we enjoy hill walking and sailing.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

LANARKSHIRE

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Paul Brightey (East Mains East Kilbride)



LANARKSHIRE

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Church Website

<http://www.eastmainsbc.co.uk/>

I am originally from West London, and came to faith aged 12 via attendance at my local Crusaders youth club, (now the Urban Saints).

I fell away when my local branch closed and for many years my only involvement with our Lord was in occasional prayer.

After moving to Scotland in 1997 and after several years during which I again felt the Lord moving in my life, I started attending East Mains in September 2003 shortly after the birth of my daughter Evie in April of that year. I also have a son, Ewan, born in May 2006.

In early 2005 I attended the Alpha course at East Mains, and during this I returned to faith, along with my wife Sheona. We were both baptised in June 2006.

At East Mains I am a leader within our Sunday School team, focusing on the 14 – 16 year olds, and have been part of the preaching team since 2005, which provides Church services to local care homes.

I relish the opportunity and challenge of teaching and mentoring teenagers right at the point when they are of an age to make their own decisions concerning Church attendance, commitment, etc.... independent of their parents and I cannot over-emphasise the importance and joy of our ministry in the care homes to old folk at the very end of their lives on this earth.

I feel blessed and honoured to Serve our Lord in both of these.

Along with our Pastor Jim McGillivray and our Church Treasurer Alex Marshall I am a director of a community centre we have had constructed within our Church grounds at East Mains which is a major part of our vision of being a centre for the community....and this has involved every aspect, from fundraising, overseeing design, appointment and management of builders, and following its opening, continued involvement in operations.

My membership of the SBLPA extends from 2007

I live in Cambuslang Glasgow, and am a partner in a specialist construction company, which I formed with four others in 2001.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Hazel Brooks (Larkhall)



LANARKSHIRE

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Church Website

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Hazel was brought up in a Brethren family home in Lanarkshire, where she gave her life to Christ at a young age. Having completed a B.A (Hons) degree in Business Studies in Edinburgh she returned to her hometown to work where she became a member of Larkhall Baptist Church. There she has enjoyed Leadership roles in the Worship Team (for 10yrs) Sunday School, Bible Class and Pastoral Team

"Sometimes God takes us to places we never expected to go, and in those places, God writes a story we never thought would be ours."

This is how Hazel would describe the last few years of her life.

Having been self-employed for 20 years in the Garden Centre business, God called Hazel to study at International Christian College and took her on an unexpected journey which would lead her to becoming Chaplain at Glasgow Airport and more recently Chaplain to Braehead. Hazel has been a Worship leader at Larkhall Baptist Church for many years and is a regular speaker at many Church events around Scotland.

Her life has been a rollercoaster of twists and turns, but God has always been in control. Hazel's deep rooted faith and sense of humour have encouraged and inspired many people of all generations in their own walk with God.

As a new member to The Scottish Lay Preachers Association, Hazel looks forward to serving the church in Scotland as the Lord leads.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Graham Horne (High Blantyre)



LANARKSHIRE

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Church Website

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Hi I'm Graham; I have been a member of SBLPA for a few years now. I have experience of preaching in my home church and a variety of churches across the central belt of Scotland.

I'm currently in my honours year at the Scottish Baptist College and am looking forward to discovering where the Lord will lead me when that part of my journey ends. I'm originally from Southampton and moved up to Bonnie Scotland a few years ago, when I felt God calling me to study, I have completed 'Access to Theology' at the Highland Theological College before undertaking the Bachelor of Divinity (with Pastoral Care) at the Scottish Baptist College.

My wife Laura and I became parents in March 2013, to Phoebe, who seems to take up a lot of my time! We've now been married for five years. My main interests are:

watching football and I support Liverpool FC and Southampton FC (my local team), occasionally going to the cinema, going swimming, surfing the internet and watching TV. In my spare time (when I get any) I enjoy relaxing by playing computer games and reading books, mainly biographies and carrying out First Aid duties for St. Andrew's Ambulance.

I'm willing to consider preaching engagements of any type within approx. 1 hour of Hamilton.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

David Mitchell (Airdrie)

LANARKSHIRE



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Church Website

<http://www.airdriebaptist.co.uk/>

David is married to Agnes, from the Isle of Skye, and they have four children. David grew up in British Columbia, Canada, where he came to faith as a child. David studied with Faith Mission Bible College, Edinburgh and Trinity College, Newburgh from 1996-1999. He was involved in Youth For Christ and youth pastor ministry for two years, then pastored Bay Community Church in Comox, BC for thirteen years. In 2015 he and Agnes felt God calling them to come back to Scotland for study and mission. David is in the Bachelor of Theology program at Edinburgh Theological Seminary (formerly Free Church College) and anticipates graduation May 2018. He did locum ministry during the summers of 2016 and 2017 and preaches regularly in the Airdrie and surrounding area. He and Agnes are seeking God's directions for next steps in Scotland, with a heart to be part of meaningful community and serve the local church in discipleship and mission.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

George Thomson (Coatbridge)



LANARKSHIRE

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Church Website

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My name is George and I live in Coatbridge, North Lanarkshire. I worship at Coatbridge Baptist where I have recently joined as a member as I have just moved to the area after getting married. I am originally from Edinburgh.

I have had a faith in God since I was eight years old, when I first attended Leith Tabernacle in Henderson Street, before attending Sunday school at Leith Baptist (Madeira Street) Church. Then I moved to Newhaven Parish (Church of Scotland) whilst attending the Boys Brigade, where I achieved the Queens badge, the highest award in the boy's brigade. I was in the boy's brigade for 15 years, where my faith grew. I also attended the church at this time.

In 1999 I then began to attend Bellevue Chapel where I was baptised in 2001 and became a member. I also joined the church's team for the Bethany Christian Trust Care van, a service which goes out at night serving soup, rolls, tea and coffee to homeless and vulnerable people in Edinburgh's city centre. This is something which is very close to my heart and I continue to do to this day. I now organise the care van team for a local church in Edinburgh and I am also a full time employee in the retail shops for Bethany Christian Trust.

During my time at Bellevue my faith grew more and due to family circumstances we moved to the Stenhouse area and started to attend our local church in 2011. I became a member later that year.

In June 2013 I was voted on as a deacon for a minimum of three years. Over the past few years, God has opened doors for me to develop the gift of preaching. I have preached several times at churches throughout the central belt and have chaired Sunday services. I have also preached in local mission halls in Edinburgh and also coffee mornings.

I am open to preach anywhere across the central belt at church Sunday services and also Gospel meetings and coffee mornings. I am willing to travel also.

I believe that God has given me this gift to both challenge and encourage people in their daily walk with Him.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

NORTH EAST

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Mark Donaldson (Peterhead Baptist)



NORTH EAST

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Church Website

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I was born in Falkirk and brought up in Denny in a Christian home.

Attending Denny Baptist Church from the cradle I was born again when 12 years old as a consequence of the godly example of my parents, a deep conviction of my sinfulness and a recognition of the truthfulness of God's Word. I thrived under the ministry of my then Pastor, Rev James May, for whose ministry I shall be forever grateful, and was baptised in my early teens. My chosen career in dentistry took me to Edinburgh to study, I graduated in 1986 and moved to Peterhead, Aberdeenshire where I have lived and worked in Peterhead ever since. I now own 4 dental practices across the North-East and employ 16 dentists within them. I also sit on various local and national dental committees.

I am married to Shona with three, grown-up children (Gareth, Craig and Emma) and I enjoy playing piano, saxophone and drums - though not at the same time - as well as a very occasional round of golf! I do also enjoy oil painting, reading and Facebook as some other more notable hobbies.

I was first asked to preach at the WA of Denny Baptist when I was 16 years old and have continued to develop that gifting, which others have affirmed in me. I am currently the Secretary of Peterhead Baptist Church and preach as required there as well as other local churches in Peterhead and further afield - Lossiemouth, Elgin, Ellon, Buckie and Livingston Baptist churches amongst others. Now that I am semi-retired from clinical work (working 3 days a week) I am preaching more frequently than ever before and am open to the Lord providing other opportunities in serving His church in this way.

PROFILE DIRECTORY



Jonathan Groves (Hillview) Aberdeen

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Church Website:

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Jonathan grew up in Hertfordshire, and became a Christian sometime during his teens. After graduating from Cambridge University in 1983 where he was part of the Christian Union, he served as a volunteer church and youth worker for a year in Inner city Belfast.

Over the past 30+ years, he has been an active lay member of various local churches in Reading, Bristol, Glasgow, Banchory and Aberdeen, while working first in biomedical research and then IT consultancy. Jonathan married Ruth in 1995, and they have two teenage children, Rachel and Timothy. Jonathan has climbed all the Munro Mountains, and met Ruth through a national Christian Hillwalking Club. They got engaged at the summit of a 6,400m mountain in Nepal!

In 2008, Jonathan ceased employment in Aberdeen and went to study full-time for ministry at International Christian College in Glasgow. He graduated with BA Theology in 2010 and MTh Biblical Interpretation in 2012. While studying at Bible College, Jonathan had opportunities to visit Malawi short-term: to teach New Testament at a Bible College, to preach in a number of churches and to participate in pastor training workshops. He undertook research into ministry and preaching in rural Malawi for his Master of Theology degree, which has since been published as a book by Langham Literature.

In 2011, Jonathan and Ruth founded a new mission charity The Kerusso Trust (www.thekerussotrust.org) which partners in Christian education and development programmes in rural Malawi. Jonathan now serves as full-time Mission Director based in Aberdeen, and travels regularly to Malawi as a Bible teacher of untrained church leaders and as a mission development partner. A key goal of his work is multiplying authentic disciples and servant leaders: entrusting Biblical truth and practice to reliable people who will then be equipped to teach others (2 Timothy 2:2).

Jonathan is happy to travel throughout Scotland, both to preach and to give presentations about the exciting work of The Kerusso Trust in Malawi from his first-hand experience as a Mission Director.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Bill Haining (Bridge of Don) Aberdeen NORTH EAST



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My given name is William Haining, but am more usually called Bill Haining. Born in 1951 to Godly parents who worshipped in Ebenezer Hall, Wishaw. Married my wife Margaret in 1970 and have a family of 3 girls, a boy, 4 grandsons and 2 granddaughters. Came to know Jesus as Saviour and Lord in 1960 and was baptised in 1963 in Assembly Hall, Aberdeen.

My wife Margaret and I worship regularly in Bridge of Don Baptist Church Centre, Aberdeen and have done so since the 1990s. Prior to that we worshipped and brought up our family in Gilcomston Park Baptist Church which became too small and subsequently became Gerrard Street Baptist Church, both in Aberdeen. We moved to a little village just to the north of Aberdeen city in 1989 and decided that it would be more appropriate to attend a church which was closer to where we stay.

Although I had led home church groups for many years and been part of the leadership team of whichever fellowship we were in at the time, I had never felt called to be a teacher/preacher in the church until 2010. Now retired from my career of 42 years in the Scottish Ambulance Service as ambulance man and finally paramedic tutor/manager for the north of Scotland, I feel that God has called on me to put my past experience as paramedic and university lecturer to use in my home fellowship of Bridge of Don. I do occasionally preach in other churches and missions around Aberdeen and have found great blessing in the study of scripture and the presence of the Holy Spirit during the hours of preparation.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Caireen Likely (Sheddocksley)



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Church Website

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Caireen was born in Alberta, Canada in 1974. She grew up in a secular home, but became a Christian and was called to vocational ministry, in her late teens as a student at the University of Calgary. Ministry involvement was intense after her conversion both in her local church and in the Baptist student ministry on campus. Following graduation Caireen served in student ministry at York University, Toronto for a year and a half with the North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. Upon finishing that mission term Caireen married Grant Likely and began studying for a Masters of Divinity at the Canadian Southern Baptist Seminary in Cochrane, Alberta.

Over the next number of years, as the Likely family expanded, Caireen continued to pursue her degree and was involved in a number of church ministries. Serving in both church plants and established churches, Caireen has been involved primarily in music and teaching ministries. In the field education module in her final year of seminary, Caireen developed a passion for past oral care, especially spiritual direction, as she co-lead the College and Young Professional ministry at Richmond Hill Baptist Church in Calgary, Canada. Upon finally completing her MDiv in 2011, Caireen and her family turned their eyes toward Scotland as they consider the next step in ministry preparation.

The Likelys moved to Aberdeen in 2012 where Caireen completed a MTh in Theological Ethics in 2013 and began a follow-up PhD in the same field. Caireen, Grant, and their three children are members of Sheddocksley Baptist Church. It was here that Caireen was given her first chance to apply her teaching gifts to preaching. Caireen is also involved in teaching children, mentoring, and leading the Young Adult ministry at Sheddocksley Baptist. Her ministry interests include discipleship, bioethics (as they relate to the elderly in particular), pastoral care/spiritual direction, and more generally helping Christians to see how their faith convictions impact the decisions of everyday life.

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Jackie MacDonald (Sheddocksley - Aberdeen)



NORTH EAST

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I was born in the beautiful Highlands of Scotland, married to Ian with two grown up children and nine grandchildren ranging in ages from eight to twenty, they keep us young, fresh and on our toes. I surrendered my life to The Lord Jesus when I was thirty five and grew rapidly under the faithful ministry of Rev Douglas Horne at Tain Parish Church, I became an eager student of The Word and developed a passion for youth.

Sensing they were lost in the 'no man's land' between childhood and adulthood, I led our church youth outreach every Friday night and together with other believers from different churches served the board of the local YMCA Youth Cafe outreach.

My husband's work led us to Aberdeen in 2006 where I started attending Sheddocksley Baptist church. My hunger for God's Word led to getting together with other hungry believers and sharing round God's Word and prayer. I was given an opportunity to preach in Sheddocksley around eight years ago, after a visiting Prophet called me out and gave me a 'word' regarding preaching, Stephen Hibbard who was the pastor at that time opened the door of opportunity and so began a journey that has led me to become part of the preaching/teaching team at Sheddocksley. I'm also part of the prayer and ministry team that serves our church family each Sunday morning, I have also been invited to speak at other local churches and recently at some of the Filling Stations that are springing up all over Scotland. I have recently taken early retirement from my job as a book keeper and welcome this New Season of life.

In a dark world that constantly searches for what life is all about, JESUS Shines as a Beacon of Hope and Love, filled with Compassion and Mercy and I long to see The Church Rise Up and take ground advancing the Kingdom of Jesus for His Glory.

It is my greatest privilege to sit at the feet of Jesus and listen to what He is saying and rise from that place and tell it like He told me.

As God opens doors of opportunity I am more than willing to step through them
Blessings

PROFILE DIRECTORY

Graham Mair (Elgin)

NORTH EAST



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Church Website

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Graham Mair aged 51 lives in Cullen and works as a fish merchant. He spent the first 15 years after leaving school as a fisherman working out of Peterhead and Fraserburgh. He is married to Elizabeth and has a daughter in her final year at university and 3 sons aged 13-20. Graham grew up in a Christian home and aged 10 he asked the Lord Jesus to be his Saviour. Most of his life was in Brethren but left 7 years ago and has been since a very happy member of Elgin Baptist Church. He started preaching 30 years ago and enjoys visiting other Churches and preaches regularly in many different denominations along the North of Scotland. He also is involved in kids ministry, is a Gideon and enjoys very much sharing the gospel on a one to one basis .



PROFILE DIRECTORY

Steve Taylor (Hillview)

NORTH EAST

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I am a member of Hillview Community Church in Aberdeen, and in my late twenties. I love the scriptures and have a heart for teaching in a variety of settings, with special interests in Tough Questions (Apologetics), the Major & Minor Prophets, Missions, Ecclesiology and early church history.

I grew up in Aberdeen, and was called to Christ just a few years after my parents and siblings, shortly before I turned fifteen. I was baptised and discipled as a member of Aberdeen Christian Fellowship, and helped administrate and co-lead the youth group there for several years. In 2008 I was awarded my BSc in Computing, and in 2011 received a BA (Hons) in Applied Theology for Cross-Cultural Work Moorlands Bible College, which included placements with a wide variety of churches. These opportunities together allowed me to deepen my understanding of the scriptures, the real world, and reaffirm my gifting for teaching.

After finishing Bible College in 2011, I returned to Aberdeen and joined Hillview Community Church, and have been working in the oil and gas sector for six years. During this time I have provided lay preaching in several churches and taught for groups in a number of others around Aberdeen, including delivering a 12-week comprehensive study on Jeremiah 1-45 for a gap year discipleship programme.

Going forward I, and my wife Vanessa, continue to serve in various ministries at Hillview and are always seeking further opportunities to help encourage and train the church across Scotland and beyond – by God's grace – and have been exploring possible future opportunities overseas.