

Word for the Week

4 October 2019

Preaching Dates

5 October 2019

Jim McNulty at funeral,
St John's Church of Scotland, Port Ellen
Charles Sommerville at PWMI Conference,
Shettleston Baptist Church

6 October 2019

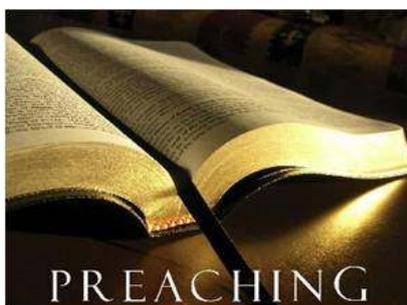
Hazel Brooks (am) at
Uddingston Baptist Church
Glen Cartwright (am) at Fusion,
Newton Mearns Baptist Church
Gordon Dickey (am) at
Longhorsley Free Church
Jim Ewing (am) at
Vale of Leven Baptist Church
Aubrey Jamieson (am) at Aith Annual
Lifeboat Service, Aith Parish Church,
Shetland.
Jim McNulty (10:00 am) at
Round Church of Scotland, Bowmore
Jim McNulty (11.30 am) at
St John's Church of Scotland, Port Ellen
Andrew Swanson (am) at
Campbeltown Community Church
Jim McNulty at (3:00 pm)
Gortanvogie Care Home, Bowmore, Islay.
Phill March (am + pm) at
Alloa Baptist Church
Charles Sommerville (am + pm) at
Hillbank Evangelical Church, Dundee

8 October 2019

David Bebbington (am) at the chapel at
Ouachita Baptist University, Arkansas, USA.
Hazel Brooks (pm) at Yoker Evangelical
Church, Glasgow
Charles Sommerville (pm) at
Bo'ness Baptist Church

12 October 2019

Charles Sommerville at
Barnards Court



“GIVE ME ALSO SPRINGS OF WATER!”

By Glen Cartwright

Sir William Sinclair, second Baronet of Dunbeath, was reputed to be one of the finest swordsmen of his day, and was instrumental in founding Keiss Baptist Church. Preaching regularly to the small congregation, services were often held in the castle. Arguably, he was probably the first ever Scottish Baptist lay preacher!

History records that many other Scottish Baptist worthies followed in his wake, among them Archibald Mclean, and the Haldane brothers, Robert & James. Robert helped finance the building of no less than 38 Scottish Baptist churches and James was one of the outstanding Edinburgh preachers of his day. These godly, visionary and dedicated men helped birth the Baptist Union of Scotland which individually, and corporately, we're part of today - 150 years later.

Last week, Baptist leaders from across Europe gathered at the Doubletree Hilton Westerwood Hotel & Golf Resort in Cumbernauld for the European Baptist Federation Council, as part of the 150th Anniversary of the Baptist Union of Scotland. Men of the spiritual calibre, in my lifetime, of Andrew Macrae, Peter Barber, Bill Slack and Alan Donaldson have led our Union well, with vision, through times of challenge and change, helping us think about how our churches can be springs from which the spiritually thirsty can find refreshment.

'Give me also springs of water', words from Judges 1 (the 150th Anniversary theme) is what Caleb's daughter asked for. She'd been given the dry land of the Negev as her birthright, but as it was dry and barren she asked her father for a gracious blessing of springs of water to irrigate the land. As we look back on 150 years of God's goodness and faithfulness, yet also to the future, do we long to see the spiritual fields of Scotland irrigated? Are we willing to extend the invitation to the thirsty of which the prophet Isaiah spoke when he wrote 'come all who are thirsty, come to the waters'. Our job as lay preachers is to help the spiritually thirsty find the water of life, so they can then flow in the life of the Spirit! On the last and greatest day of the Feast of Tabernacles of which we read in John 7, Jesus, on that day when no water was used, stood up and said 'let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink'. To the many agricultural workers of the day, who were bothered about a 'thirsty soil', Jesus invited them to be bothered about a 'thirsty soul'.

Back to Sir William. He was instrumental in creating a well, untapping a spring of living water, in Keiss all those years ago from which the spiritually thirsty drank. Will we be those who in these days will untap the springs, invite the thirsty, those with a 'thirsty soul' to come and drink of that living water, and also pray passionately for that blessing, 'Lord, give me, give us, also springs of water'!