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BBS Letton Hall Family Retreat

New Christians in London and Pakistan

Memories of Frank Worgan

Events from the UK and around the world

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Front cover and above: BBS Family Retreat at Letton Hall



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MY PERSPECTIVE



**"Blessed
are the
dead who
die in the
Lord...they
will rest
from their
labour"**

Remembering Frank Worgan

It is hard to realise that Frank Worgan is no longer with us. His presence at times may have seemed larger than life. His Bible knowledge was phenomenal. Most remember that when he was delivering a lesson from God's word that all listened and learned.

When I moved to the UK in 1985, there were three preachers that were respected by all: Albert Winstanley, Joe Nisbet, and Frank Worgan – and in Scotland there was Andrew Gardener. All great men of the Word. I spent time getting to know all of these because I knew their influence on my life would be good.

I first met Frank in the winter of 1969 – yes, I was only eight years old. Frank and Isobel came to Finland where my family were living where Frank spoke in a series of gospel meetings in Helsinki and Tampere. Frank, of course, spoke in English and the lesson was translated

into Finnish (I have a copy of one of those lessons).

When I visited Scotland to get married in 1981, Arlene and I attended the first graduation of the British Bible School. To my surprise and delight there was Frank! I introduced myself to him and he remembered his visit with our family.

Over the past 35 years it has been good to have Frank speak at congregations where I was working as well as to work with him at the British Bible School. It was always a joy to hear him when he was speaking at other events. When he lived in Scotland after his retirement I was able to see him a bit more frequently.

When he proclaimed God's word he always had something worthwhile to say. The many lessons I heard benefitted me greatly. One in particular sticks in my mind. He was speaking at East Kilbride. His lesson was on the times when God wrote something and what we learned from these about God: the Ten Commandments, the wall of Belshazzar's palace, and Jesus writing on the ground. I've adapted and used it many times. I also remember he said this in a lesson: "When you become a Christian, even your dog should know it!"

Many years ago someone said that they didn't know what would happen when Albert, Joe and Frank were no longer here. They have now all have gone on to their reward. Because they trained so many so well, God's word will continue to flourish in this country.

Jon



Albert Winstanley, Joe Nisbet, Andrew Gardiner, and Frank Worgan



CONGRATULATIONS!



Rebecca Asiamah

New Christians in Edmonton

We continue to be thankful to the Almighty God for His abundant grace. God's gracious hand is upon his people in Edmonton as we strive to win souls for his kingdom. Last Sunday, 3rd September 2023, a brother and a sister gave their lives to Christ through baptism. They were Jude Banin and Rebecca Asiamah.

S Ofori Dwumah



Jude Banin

Two added in Pakistan

We wanted to share the news of two new sisters-in-Christ in Pakistan. Pray for them as they live as a Christian in a difficult environment.

Naeem Sabir





MEMORIES OF FRANK WORGAN

I first encountered Frank Worgan when I began as a new student at the British Bible School towards the end of 1982. I had likely seen his name, along with others, on a brochure I had been sent before enrolling but had had no connections with those who had grown up in the light of his reputation as a teacher and preacher of the word of God.

As one of the main teachers at the School at the time it was evident that he clearly had an extensive knowledge of the Scriptures; he was also respected among many believers in many places within the UK and beyond. I listened first to his lessons on Genesis and there was a general consensus among the class that he sounded as if he might have been speaking from personal experience.

Without doubt he continued to have great influence upon many who sat at his feet. As the years went by I came to know him more as a friend and fellow servant of the Lord Jesus both within our shared service with the British Bible School, and within the local assembly in Corby. He will be greatly missed, though I am confident that he is pleased to no longer be burdened with the inconveniences of poor health and a body that had seen more years than most.

With much thanksgiving we will remember a faithful servant of Jesus who, with his late wife Isobel, gave of themselves for the good of so many.

Patrick Boyns

What can I say about Frank Worgan? I am 92 years old and have known Frank and his late wife Isobel all their lives; two wonderful Christians who lived for the Lord and served him faithfully. Around 1948 Frank visited the States and while he was there I

stayed with Isobel keeping her company and enjoying Peter and Susan's childhood. I can still see in my mind's eye Susan on Isobel's knee while she brushed her hair and curled it around her finger.

Through the years I heard Frank as a teacher and preacher sharing his great knowledge of the scriptures and also sharing his great love of Jesus Christ and our Father God. It was always a privilege to hear Frank and to know him. I was well blessed in having them both.

We share in giving thanks today for Frank's wonderful long life of service. Our love goes to all his family – God bless you all.

Nora Waite

I first heard Frank Worgan in 1959 at a church holiday in Tunbridge Wells – I was 11 years of age, a new Christian and he frightened me. The strength of his voice and the total assurance of what he was saying was overwhelming to a young lad like me. My family were not members of the church, my association was through Sunday School, and it was the teaching there, mainly through the sisters, that lead me to faith in Jesus. On that occasion it seemed every one knew Frank except me.

Over the following years I was amazed at his memory and recollect Frank as a visiting teacher when I was attending North Ireland Bible School in Belfast in 1975. As an opening line Frank quoted Isaiah 6 so powerfully that I can hear his voice in my mind as clearly today. Over the years I did get to know Frank a little better and along with many others I express my thanks to a servant of Jesus who loved, studied and proclaimed that Jesus Christ is Lord.

Trevor Williams



BRITISH BIBLE SCHOOL NOTES

Family retreat at Letton Hall

Each September, since 2018, Letton Hall has been the home of our Autumn Weekend Family Retreat, run by the British Bible School. Situated in the heart of the Norfolk countryside, the Hall provides a most pleasant venue for the weekend, 'away from it all' and in the company of fellow believers and their families.

Unlike our study events, our Weekend Family Retreats run with a fairly light programme to provide plenty of time for families and friends to enjoy each other's



company. We have a couple of sessions on the Saturday morning, then a free afternoon followed by a barbecue in the evening before lots of singing in the lounge.

It's always a joy to spend time with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Some are able to come along each year, others make it when they can, and there are always those with us for the first time. Wherever we come from, the sense of family is something really very precious, and the way in which everyone shares together to serve one another is so very encouraging. It's always so very sweet to see the children playing together and making new friendships that may last a lifetime. God is so very good to us all.

We're planning to do the same again next year and we'll be making the dates available very soon. We'd love to have you with us, either here or at any of our events throughout the year. And don't forget our Mid-Winter Weekend Family Retreat up north in January. Details are on our website.

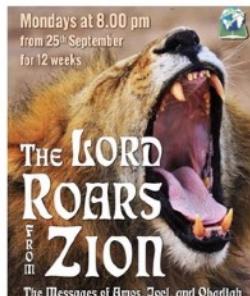
Patrick Boyns

Online Bible Classes with the British Bible School

For twelve weeks commencing
21st September 2023

www.britishbibleschool.com

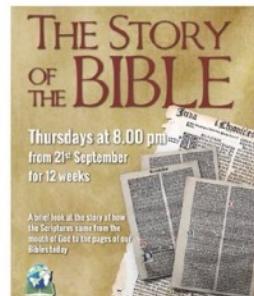
Mondays at 8.00 pm



The three prophets Amos, Joel, and Obadiah proclaimed the coming of the day of the Lord for Israel, Judah, and Edom. What message did these prophets have for the people of their day? What made them necessary? What relevance do their messages have for us today?

Presenter: John Griffiths

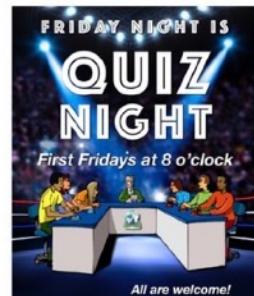
Thursdays at 8.00 pm



The story of how the Scriptures came from the mouth of God to the pages of our Bibles today is fascinating and, at times, most perplexing. In this brief summary we will meet some jolly interesting people and highlight significant events and developments along the way.

Presenter: Patrick Boyns

1st Fridays at 8.00 pm



Some light-hearted, educational, entertainment for everyone - nothing too testing (promise!). And you might want to have a pen and paper handy - plus a box of choccies to award yourself if you happen to win - or even if you don't. Please check dates on social media.

Quizmaster: Steve Whitehead

All times = GMT +1 until 28th October - then GMT

Anne Brown (Kirkcaldy & Glenrothes) 1934-2023

Anne Cairns Laing's story began when in Dunfermline on the 16th January 1934, a second daughter was born to Herman 'Harry' and Elizabeth Laing. Harry's whole family worshipped at Sinclairtown church of Christ, where Betty was baptised into Christ shortly after she and Harry began dating.

Ann enjoyed school and in her final year at Primary school sat her IQ/11+ tests and scored so highly that 'Gifted' and 'Specialist School' were discussed, but Anne went to Kirkcaldy High School. During her early twenties Ann loved hostelling and cycling all over Scotland with her cousin Ann Sinclair, once making the John O'Groats to Lands' End trip.

She met the love of her life James Brown and on 5th September 1959 they were married at Rose Street Chapel by Walter McDonald. Anne and Jim set up home in Kirkcaldy and their children came along: Kenneth in 1960, Alan in 1964, followed by Colin in 1965, Caroline in 1967 and Scott in 1971.

We note the passing of **Tony Styles** on 23rd September after an illness over the past number of months. Tony became a Christian as a young man and after various careers became a student at the British Bible School and after graduating became the Director. Tony also served as treasurer for the Christian Worker for many years.

Trevor Williams

The family moved to their home in Glenrothes in 1972 and they began to worship with the Glenrothes church of Christ, where Jim was baptised by Alex Strachan.

All was going well – Anne had a secretarial job and Jim worked with the Fire Service in Glenrothes – but unexpectedly Jim was diagnosed and died of Leukaemia in 1985. Anne was



left to raise their family alone. However, she was a great believer in supporting her children in whatever they put their minds to.

The legacy of what Anne and Jim started in 1959 has born much fruit with five well-grounded children, ten grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. And much to Anne's immense joy, her home always bustled with the coming and going of them all.

Over her life Ann was an active Christian, Sunday School teacher, good friend, ever helpful neighbour and a wonderful mother. She enjoyed Scottish Country dancing, Ladies' classes at Kirkcaldy and the occasional Kirkcaldy Social and Ladies' outings. More recently Anne was less able for physical pursuits, but kept her mind active using her iPad doing crosswords and chatting on social media.

Anne passed away peacefully at home with her son Colin by her bedside at 12.15 am on Wednesday, 16th August 2023, aged 89 years. Her funeral was took place at Kirkcaldy Crematorium on Friday, 1st September when family, friends, and her Christian family came together to bid her a fond farewell.

Eric McCallum



FAMILY NEWS

EDMONTON, LONDON

Friends and Family Day

As part of our programme of activities for the year, the whole of last month we embarked on an evangelism drive within our community to share the good news with them. On the last Sunday of the month, 27th August, the congregation organised a 'friends and families day' in which we invited friends, families, and the community to the our premises to have fellowship with them.

The attendance was highly encouraging. The fellowship was great and our guests greatly enjoyed themselves after they had been fed spiritually earlier on. It was a great day of glory and honour to the Lord.



As we continue to follow up on those who visited, we trust that the Lord will add as many as the Word has touched their hearts in due time to his body. In all, the occasion was successful, and we give our God all the glory and honour.

S. Ofori Dwuman

ILKESTON

Coffee morning

On 23rd September the Ilkeston congregation hosted a MacMillan coffee morning to support the charity. It was

lovely to see our chapel packed out with families and friends attending. £350 was raised for the charity but what was even more encouraging was the atmosphere of people coming together, chatting and encouraging one another.

Trevor Williams

GREAT BARR, BIRMINGHAM

In the afternoon of Saturday, 23rd September, the Great Barr congregation held a meeting to appoint two new Deacons to their leadership of two Elders and two Deacons. The service of singing and Scripture was encouraging. We were further encouraged when six of their young people quoted long passages of Scripture faithfully memorised. A meal was provided and gave a chance to brethren from differing congregations to meet together.

Trevor Williams

What do you want from *The Christian Worker*?

Jon and I have been editing *The Christian Worker* for the past nine years and it may be that we need a change. What are your ideas? Do you want to see more Bible teaching? If so, what would you like to see? Should we include more readers comments? Should there be more news? We know that there are more baptisms taking place than we record, but if our brothers and sisters do not send in the news we do not know about it. We would love to have your ideas!

It could be we have some discussions on difficulties our congregations have? Would you be interested in an away day to talk and share ideas? Please contact us and let us know.
Trevor & Jon



AROUND THE WORLD

UKRAINE

During the early crisis of the day of Russia's war on Ukraine the British congregations gave generously through *The Christian Worker*. Around forty people were helped to come to the UK with most being given transport costs and settling-in funds. Monies were also sent to Ukraine, Poland, France and Greece to help support Ukrainian refugees in those places. Funds were sent for food, lodging, transportation and clothing. We are still helping out and recently £1,000 was sent towards baby food to be sent into Ukraine. Money is also being sent to help orphans.

A big thank you goes to everyone who has helped in this project especially those who have housed people they did not know. All sorts of projects have been started one way or another. We would like for those who housed people from Ukraine to let us know how their guests are now going on. We know that some have their own homes and jobs. Please let us know your stories both good and difficult – you do not have to use names of your guests if you do not want to. Please do write to me at twilliams195@hotmail.co.uk.

Thank you.

Trevor Williams

ALBANIA

My name is Wayne Speer. I am an American and I live in Albania. I was born in Nashville and graduated from Lipscomb high school and college. My father was also a preacher. I have been preaching for sixty years as of last month.

My wife and I have served the Lord for 44 years in Canada, South Africa, England, Greece and Albania and presently live in Albania. I work with the

thirteen congregations in Albania. We travel to each of the congregations every second week. We take the preacher and his family to dinner on Saturday night and visit and encourage them as best as we can do. We worship with them on Sunday mornings and take them to lunch, along with some members or visitors who need encouraging.

We started this three years ago and I told them I did not need to preach but they always ask me to please preach, so I do. We have come to know all these preachers, their families, and their congregations very well and admire their work! All of the congregations in Albania have Albanian preachers, which I believe is wonderful!

The congregation in Polican has a great father/son work and I highly recommend them and their work to you. Please pray about supporting them as it would be a real tragedy for the work to stop. They need \$2500 a month (around £2000 a month). This supports them both and pays the rent of their building. Their supporting congregation in the states, Berry Chapel in Franklin, Tennessee, has had a decrease in attendance because of Covid and several members dying and have notified the Polican church that they will have to discontinue their support at the end of December, after supporting them for several years. If you, or anyone you know, can assist this wonderful congregation, please pray about it and inform me as soon as possible. If you want to contact me, please do at rwspeer1@yahoo.com.

Wayne & Brenda Speer

Notices

Venue: Our new building at 9 Sanvey Lane, Leicester, LE2 8NG

Men's Day Spiritual Growth

All Welcome

Deflated? Coasting? Inspired? Find the keys to success

Saturday 28th October 2023, 10am-3pm

Gary Smith and Paul Hill (Leicester)
David Condor (Lubbock, Texas)
Plus introduction to the Leicester Bible Institute by Mike Wilson (Lubbock, Texas)

leicesterchurchofchrist.co.uk
Email: info@leicesterchurchofchrist.co.uk
Phone: 07804 653690 for more details



Leicester Church of Christ



THE GOOD NEWS OF THE GOSPEL

Coming up soon... !!

NORTHAMPTON LADIES DAY

Theme – SPREAD THE NEWS

Sat 4th November
- 10:00 - 16:00



Friday 3rd – Sunday 5th November



Join the Bedminster Church of Christ in Fellowship, Growing and Learning together
Arrival from 1830 on Friday, evening meal provided



Contact Martin Nelson at Martin.p.nelson4@gmail.com or Tel 07786157417 for bookings or more information (Please leave a text during the day)
Or email bedminstercoc@gmail.com

FAMILY FUN DAY

Saturday 28th October 1 pm

Free Entry

Come Along And Enjoy A Whole Day Of Fun For Free
Aughton Village Hall, Winifred Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk, Lancashire, L39 5DH

Activities:
Face Painting Games (All Ages)
Puppet Show
Skills Singing

Free Lunch:
After all the fun has finished, you are welcome to stay and have a free lunch with us at 4 pm.

Evening Activity:
At 5 pm, we're hosting a meeting with our guest speaker Jason Brogier from the US. Jason will be talking about 'The Importance Of Family'.

Refreshments and Snacks are provided FREE of charge
Organised by the Aughton church

Contact: Mike: 0787 9444 267



DIARY

October

2nd – British Bible School evening class: “The Lord Roars from Zion” (a study of Amos, Joel and Obadiah) taught by John Griffiths each Monday, 8.00-9.00 pm. Links to join the class can be found on the BBS social media and website: www.britishbibleschool.com.

5th – British Bible School evening class: “The Story of the Bible” taught by Patrick Boyns each Thursday, 8.00-9.00 pm. Links to join the class can be found on the BBS social media and website: www.britishbibleschool.com.

6th – British Bible School quiz night: a light-hearted, educational Bible quiz hosted by Steve Whitehead, the first Friday of each month from 8.00-9.00 pm. Links to join the quiz can be found on the BBS social media and website: www.britishbibleschool.com.

7th-8th – East Kilbride: British Bible School Study Weekend: the Gospel of John, 9.30-4.00 on Saturday; Bible class and worship on Sunday. Contact: Jon Galloway (jdgalloway@mac.com).

27th-29th – East Kilbride & Clarkston: Joint Gospel meetings, guest speaker: Mark Hill. Friday: 7.00 pm at Clarkston (Busby Memorial Hall), Saturday, 7.00 pm, and Sunday, 11.00 am at East Kilbride. Contact: Jon Galloway (jdgalloway@mac.com).

28th – Aughton: Family Fun Day, 1.00-3.30, and Gospel Meeting, 4.45-6.00. Contact: Mike Glover (07879 444267 or mike97glover@gmail.com).

28th – Leicester: Men’s Day – “Spiritual Growth”, 10.00 am-3.00 pm. Speaker: Gary Smith, Paul Hill, David Condor and Mike Wilson. Contact: info@leicesterchurchofchrist.co.uk or 07804 653690 for more details.

November

3rd-5th – Bristol (Bedminster): Prime Time – “Mind the Gap”. For the over 40s. Arrival from 6.30 pm on Friday, evening meal provided. Contact: Martin Nelson (Matin.p.nelson4@gmail.com) or 07786 157417 or bedminstercoc@gmail.com.

4th – Northampton: Ladies’ Day: “Spread the News”, 10.00 am-4.00 pm. Contact: SuzanneHill2019@outlook.com.

4th – East Kilbride: Devotional Evening, 7.00 pm. Contact: christianwoman@btinternet.com.

6th-10th November – British Bible School Autumn Study Week at Bassenfell Manor: “The Kingdom of Israel.” Teachers: Patrick Boyns, Jon Galloway and Mark Hill. Further details and registration can be found at <https://britishbibleschool.com/news-and-events/upcoming-events/autumn-study-week-2023>.

25th – Castlemilk (Glasgow): Devotional Evening, 7.00 pm. Contact: christianwoman@btinternet.com.

December

16th – East Kilbride: Devotional Evening, 7.00 pm. Contact: christianwoman@btinternet.com.

January 2024

13th – Livingston: Devotional Evening, 7.00 pm. Contact: christianwoman@btinternet.com.

February

19th-25th – Gemünden, Germany: Advanced Bible Study Series I and II. Contact: Paul Brazle (brazle.paul@gmail.com).

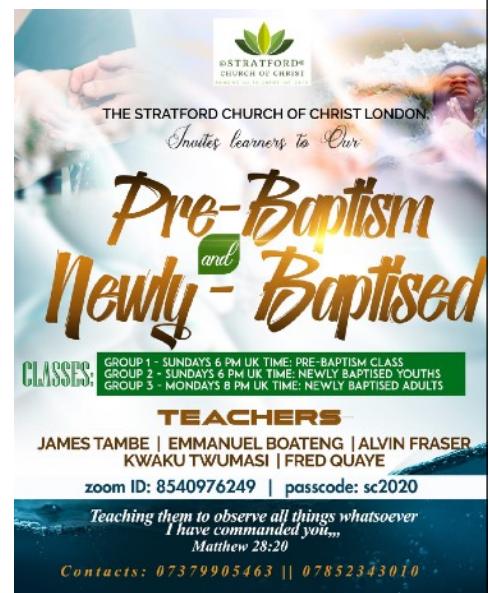
29th-3rd March – European Ladies’ Retreat: Contact: Bernadine Wells (BERN.WELLS@hotmail.co.uk).

March

29th-31st – European Lectureship 2024. Venue: Verona, Italy. Contact: Kojo Mensah (kojom262@gmail.com).

April

19th-24th – Field of Refuge Women’s Renewal: “New Beginnings, When Grace Abounds”. Venue: Tulliallan Castle, Alloa FK10 4BE. Cost: £155 per person sharing a room (£170 for a single room); £45 deposit on booking. Contact: fieldofrefuge@hotmail.com.





THE FINAL WORD



Blessings or not?

For some time I have wondered ‘when are we really blessed’? We pray and what we ask for happens and we are thrilled; but other times we pray as sincerely as we can and nothing comes about at all. Of course we can say this is not something that is in the mind of God, or we did not ask with the correct words or faith, or we should wait, and a million excuses come into our minds.

This year has been difficult for hundreds of thousands of people with natural disasters in many countries around the world. Earthquakes in Turkey, fires in Greece and then torrential rain with flooding. All over the world extreme heat is causing a crisis. Then we have man’s inhumanity to man. How many prayers have been offered up to God pleading for peace in Ukraine or Syria or dozens of other places – and little seems to have changed. It seems the world has

been dazzled by a red rag and like a charging bull has galloped into a frenzy of inadequacy. We ask ourselves why? Why are our prayers not answered the way we think they should?

Jesus taught that we should ask, seek and knock (Matthew 7:7-8) so we do and often

there seems an emptiness revealing only the sound of silence. Why was it that the apostle Paul sought help with his affliction over and over again and the response was not necessarily what he wanted (2 Corinthians 12:7-10)? The valiant saints of old were persecuted and tortured to the point that the world was not worthy of them (Hebrews 11:33-38). Why? Were they not worthy to receive the blessings of God? Were they blessed or cursed?

We expect God to be the answer to our prayers, we always want something nice to happen, people to be healed, finances sorted, life extended, and sometimes we do get what we want – but sometimes not. We want God to bend to our wants and sometimes we cannot see the end result.

All of us are walking through the valley of the shadow of death. We can neither see the height of the mountain above us nor the depth of the valley below. But the Lord is still our shepherd, he still makes us lie down in green pastures and he can still restore our souls because he leads us in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake. With all of this we need fear no evil.

Our God is with us through thick and thin times, happy and sad times, laughing or crying times. With this we are blessed even when we do not know it.

Father of mercies be at our side, even when we cannot feel you.

Be our guide when we are lost, our eyes when we cannot see.

Be our thinking, be our all. Amen.

Trevor

