

Weekly Newsletter: 5 August 2025

A Note from Lorna Ferguson

Dear Holyrood family

Thank you so much for the warm welcome you gave me during my Home Assignment. Although my time was limited due to me not living in Edinburgh, I have really appreciated the time I have spent with you all over the past few months. It has been a joy to renew old friendships and also to get to know some of you who have become part of Holyrood while I have been away. I so appreciated the recommissioning service last Sunday and Joe's message from 2 Timothy. Thank you so much for your ongoing prayers and support for me as I return to Japan and start a new ministry in Sakata with the church there. It makes all the difference knowing that there are folks in Scotland praying and it will be a great encouragement to the small number of Christians there too.



In the words of the Apostle Paul: "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." (Philippians 1:3-6)

I will also be praying for all of you and the ministry of Holyrood Evangelical.

Every blessing, Lorna

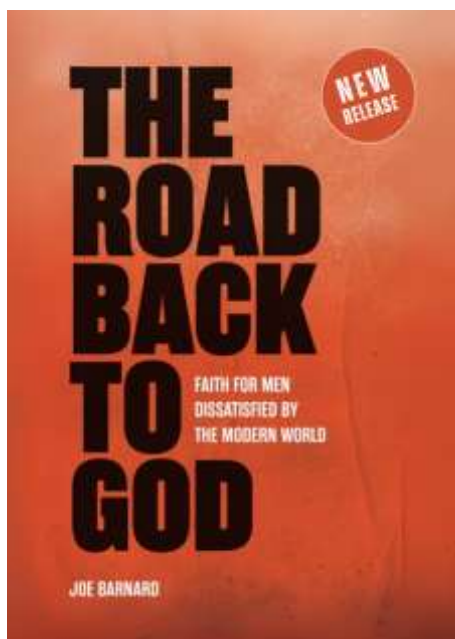
On Sunday, Lorna brought copies of Billions (OMFs magazine) which is all about Japan. They're available in the church foyer, please take a copy.

Summer Appeal 2025

Thank you to everyone who has given to our Summer Appeal. This appeal goes towards the support of our three Holyrood missionaries – Lorna Ferguson (with OMF in Japan), James Stewart (with OMF in Singapore) and the Sorsamo Family (with Wycliffe Bible Translators in Finland).

The appeal is now finished and the total raised is £17,233. We give thanks for the generosity of God's people!

The Road Back to God: Faith for Men Dissatisfied by the Modern World



Joe has a new book coming out in September! You can pre-order a copy from Amazon [here](#) and here is a bit more info -

‘In an age of unprecedented religious interest among men, Joe Barnard provides a compelling roadmap for those curious about Christianity but unsure where to begin. This thoughtful guide meets men where they are—often trapped in materialistic thinking and spiritual numbness—and leads them step-by-step toward authentic faith.

Unlike typical religious texts, *The Road Back to God* doesn’t just provide information; it offers transformation. Barnard masterfully addresses the unique challenges modern men face, from intellectual skepticism to moral uncertainty, while guiding readers through ten crucial milestones on the path to faith. Through clear prose and relatable examples, he helps men navigate questions of meaning, purpose, and spiritual truth.

Whether you’re a skeptic intrigued by Christianity’s resurgence, a seeker looking for answers, or someone simply dissatisfied with modern materialism, this book offers a fresh perspective on ancient wisdom. Barnard doesn’t shy away from difficult topics like sin, holiness, and the cross, but presents them in ways that resonate with contemporary minds.

This is more than a book about religion—it’s a guide to rediscovering what it means to be fully human in a fragmented world.’

Act Like Men – Tuesday 26 August

Act Like Men is back with their next evening conference on **26 August** at Hope Church Bingham (135 Mountcastle Drive South) from 7-8.30pm.

The speaker is Robert Briggs and they will be looking at the importance of what “We Confess.” Broken Wharfe will be providing books.

Come along for an evening men's conference to encourage each other to live for King Jesus in Edinburgh and beyond. It’s free and you can sign up [here](#).



Amazing Life Gospel Choir

Lyn Hair has passed on details of the Amazing Life Gospel Choir that is performing at the Fringe this year. It’s a free unticketed event this Saturday and Sunday evening at 7.30pm at Edinburgh New Town Church (13 George Street). For more details, go [here](#).

Thrive '25

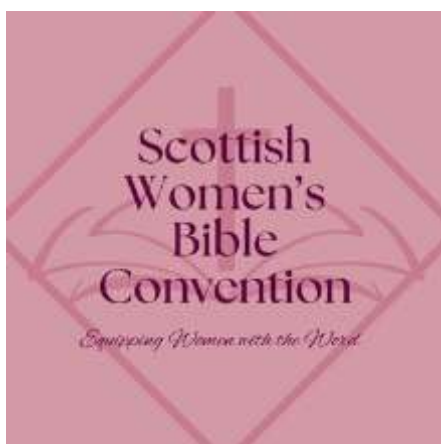
We're invited to join 'Thrive'25 – Edinburgh Conference' to learn, connect, and thrive as Christians in our workplaces. Taking place in Charlotte Chapel on **Saturday 20 September** and to book go [here](#).



Thrive'25 is a first-of-its-kind series of conferences and events across five cities of Scotland, brought to you by The Business Connection, Transform Work and Solas CPC to inspire, connect and equip Christians to live the gospel in and through our workplaces.

The events are designed to help you thrive by bringing together great speakers from the spheres of public leadership, workplaces, ministry and church leaders from across a range of sectors.

Scottish Women's Bible Convention – Saturday 4 October



What does it look like to really love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind and strength? What did it look like when Jesus quoted these words from Deuteronomy and what does it mean today?

Kaete Wiese (who did a seminar at our Understanding Eve Conference in May) is teaching on **Whole Life Love** at this year's SWBC on **Saturday 4 October (10am to 3pm)**.

For more details speak to Liz or see the SWBC website [here](#).

Church Calendar

For your info and prayers:

- Wednesday: Prayer Meeting at 7pm in person
- Sunday:
 - Morning service at 10.30am – Joe Barnard preaching (live streamed)
 - Evening service at 6pm – Joe Barnard preaching (live streamed)
- Monday: Youth Discipleship Meeting at 7pm on Zoom



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