

Weekly Newsletter: 16 September 2025

Update from Merchant City Church

By Neil Longwe

Praise God from whom all blessings flow! On Sunday (31 August), we had our first Sunday morning service and were blessed with the presence of around 60-65 adults and 8 children. We even had difficulty finding enough seats! We sincerely thank you for your prayers. We felt uplifted and our hearts are brimming with joy as we delight in our God.

We give thanks for:

- An OM team, who sacrificially gave their time to serve with us for a week before our official launch. We praise God for the unity within the team.
- St George's Tron, for granting us free use of their sanctuary for daily team devotions.
- Our successful launch events.
 - Music Night: 32 attendees joined us for the music night, and we are grateful for David's stellar gospel presentation on "Singing a New Song."
 - Comedy Night: 80 attendees enjoyed Mark Ritchie's new show. Pray for the approximately 40 non-Christians who heard the gospel and for those who left with gospel literature.
- Our Launch Sunday: give thanks for the adults and children who attended and pray for the handful of non-Christians who came. Especially pray for J, one of the local barmen, who is interested in attending MCC.



We request prayers for:

- The over 4,000 leaflets/flyers we distributed for our events and launch service. We had numerous conversations with Glaswegians, including people from Muslim, Hindu, and new-age backgrounds. Pray that the seeds sown fall on good soil and that those who walked away will wrestle with the truth of Christ, like a stone in their shoe, prompting them to address Jesus' claims.
- Those who picked up Gideon NT Bibles and copies of the Gospel of John at our stall. Pray that they will read them and be impacted by the Word of God.
- The raised profile of MCC within the Social Hub. Pray for David and Neil's colleagues, who received copies of the Gospel of John, to consider exploring Christianity with the MCC family.

Finally, you can check out our new website <https://merchantcitychurch.co.uk/> and promo video [here](#).

Gifts to Our Missionaries

By Shona MacDonald

With the generous legacies from Maureen Gowans and Kathleen Forsyth, it was decided by the elders and Mission Team to give £10,000 each to both Lorna and the Sorsamos. A gift of £5000 has also just been arranged for James. It has been wonderful to pass this money on from two of our congregation who so lovingly prayed and supported our missionaries over the years.

Lorna has said "Thanks to those who decided to gift part of the legacies. I am really overwhelmed by the generosity".

Hazel has written "The one-off gift was a complete surprise and a timely reminder of God's faithful provision. Just a few days ago, I was reflecting on our finances and praying that God would provide and help me grow in trusting Him more fully. It is also really meaningful to receive something from the legacies that Kathleen and Maureen left. They supported us faithfully over many years—not only financially but also through prayer and encouragement. Their kind notes and emails were always a blessing."

Church Family Lunch – this Sunday

We're looking forward to having lunch together as a church family this Sunday after the morning service. All the food will be provided and please let Liz (Liz@holyroodevangelical.org) know if you have any dietary requirements. Thank you!

Student Lunches

We're looking forward to welcoming some students this month and next. The Mission Team have arranged for couples or families to offer hospitality after our Sunday morning services to any students. Here are the details of who is hosting and please point students in the right direction –

- 28 September: Norma and Ernie Shippin
- 5 October: the Barnards
- 12 October: Nick and Jean Archer
- 19 October: the Scotts

Women's Bible Studies are back!

We're meeting this Thursday from 10.30 – 11.30am in the church building and will be continuing our studies in Acts. No prereading is required, just come as you are! We'll meet every Thursday morning for the next five weeks (finishing on Thursday 9 October). Contact Liz@holyroodevangelical.org if you have any questions.

Upright Piano

Someone in the church family has an upright piano that is looking for a new home. Contact Liz@holyroodevangelical.org if you're interested.

CARE for Scotland's 40th Anniversary



It's CARE for Scotland's 40th Anniversary this year and on **Saturday 20 September at 7pm** we're invited to join them at Freedom City Church, Cumbernauld for a special celebration.

'With worship led by Allan McKinlay and thanksgiving and updates from the CARE team, it'll be a fantastic time to recognise God's incredible goodness and celebrate all that has been achieved.'

Tickets are available [here](https://care.org.uk/events).

East of Scotland Gospel Partnership – Sunday 26 October

Save the date! As a church we are part of the East of Scotland Gospel Partnership and one of the aims of the partnership is to express unity by coming together for a yearly Gospel Partnership evening service. This will take place on **Sunday 26 October at 7pm at Charlotte Chapel**. There will be no evening service at Holyrood and we look forward to attending the joint service instead.

Church Calendar

For your info and prayers:

- Wednesday: Prayer Meeting at 7pm. Refreshments from 6.45pm.
- Thursday: Women's Bible Studies from 10.30 – 11.30am in the church
- Friday: Holyrood Youth Grub Crawl starting at 6pm
- Sunday:
 - Morning service at 10.30am – Joe Barnard preaching (live streamed)
 - Church family meal
 - Evening service at 6pm – Jon Gemmell preaching. Last Sunday in our 1 Samuel series (live streamed)
- Baby and Toddler Group: 10am – 11.30am



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