

Dear Friends,

We are continuing our recent practice of focusing church life on specific areas at different times. In the Autumn, it was Outreach, after Easter it will be Recreation but during February and March, it will be on Teaching. This time gives us an opportunity to address topics and issues, and encourage others to participate in our gatherings on Sunday (see the program of events). During this time, we are also going to focus on the work in small groups.

We are currently considering this area of church life in the Session. As Eric Boyle reported at the AGM last year (see notice Board), there is much good going on amongst us in the area of small groups. There are a large number of people involved throughout the

week in a variety of gatherings. This diversity is great and encourages initiative and personal growth. However, there are downsides too, one symptom of which is that new folk find it very difficult to join in.

Therefore, on Wednesday evenings in March from 7.30 to 9.00 pm, in the Bowling club, we are going to have a series of gatherings for all who are interested in small groups – those following on from Alpha, those who are not currently participating in a group, as well as those who are. All are invited, but those who do not wish to participate are welcome to continue to meet with their existing groups. We will be meeting round the tables and folk will be able to sit with friends they come with. We will broadly follow the pattern of Alpha – without the meal. We will have tea or

coffee, an introductory talk, a look at a Bible passage, an opportunity to share and closing with prayer. Topics covered will include, the Bible, prayer, fellowship and hospitality. It will be pitched toward folks new to groups but will include encouragement and reminders for old hands.

During this time we will continue to give consideration to the overall pattern of church life to ensure that we can establish a balance between large and smaller church gatherings in a way that enables others to join in and does not overload busy schedules.

Please join us in seeking God together.

Yours sincerely,

Nigel Barge

AGM Sunday 11th March

The AGM is an important time in the church. It gives an opportunity to get an overview of what God is doing in the church and give him the praise he is due, as well as conducting the necessary business. To enable as many as possible to participate, we are holding it at our morning gathering on Sunday. There will be no verbal reports but written ones will be distributed in a booklet form prior to the meeting. During the service which will be a celebration of communion, we will acknowledge and praise God for all he is doing and attend to his Word. The business will be conducted immediately after the close of the service, when the children will return. At this time the accounts will be presented and election held for the congregational board. (If you would like to nominate someone, please speak to Dorothy McCarthy (622586))

Sunday evenings (6.30 -8.00)

4 th Feb	Alpha Celebration
18 th Feb	Prayer ministry Training
25 th Feb	Prayer ministry Training
4 th Mar	Evening Service: subject Israel
11 th Mar	Ministry of Word – teaching and practice
17 th Mar	Ministry of Word – teaching and practice
25 th Mar	Musical instruments practice
1 st April	Evening service

Wednesdays in March

7th, 14th, 21st & 28th

Small Group Gatherings
7.30—9.00pm
@ Torrance Bowling Club

Prayer Meetings
7.00am, 9.15am and 9.15pm
@ the church

Ladies conference 'Devotion and Emotion'

**10th March 2007
Mugdock Visitor Centre**

This will be an all day event for the women in the church. It will be held in the Mugdock visitor centre on Saturday the 10th of March from 10am. Renita Boyle will be leading our time together as we think about 'Devotion and emotion'. It will be a good opportunity to spend time out of our busy lives thinking about our relationship with Jesus.

Mens conference 'Christ at Work'

**31st March 2007
Bardowie**

This will be held at Bardowie on 31st March for all the men in the church. The subject will be 'Christ at work' and it will look at the value of work to us and the expectations that God has for the area of life in which we spend most of our waking hours. Details will be confirmed and more information be available soon.

Ladies Supper Outreach

"Relationships – Who needs them?!"

Speaker Moira Robertson - Wife, Mother, Teacher & Writer

Feb 20th at 7.15 at church – Puddings and chat.

Stop Press: Church Weekend Away

14—16 September 2007 at Lendrick Muir, by Kinross

An amazing way to get to know God and each other better.

Put the dates in your diary now and expect more exciting details soon...