



NEWSLETTER

February 2012

**BARNTON BAPTIST
CHURCH**

A Registered Scottish Charity SC007337

You Are The Church

'What are you doing on Sunday?' he was asked. 'Going to church', was the reply.

It is something we have all said, yet you can search in vain in the New Testament to find any reference to anyone going to church. Certainly they met together in the Temple courts and in one another's homes. The fact is, though, that Church was not somewhere they went, it was who they were and the same is true for us. We are the body of Christ; together we are his hands and feet and Christ dwells with us as his Church.

We don't read in the New Testament about how they had endless meetings to organise the times when they met together. When they came together we know that they prayed, worshipped God, broke bread and listened to the Apostles' teaching. We also know that God added to their number daily yet they didn't organise any crusades or rallies. It appears that they simply lived their lives in such a way as to provoke questions among their neighbours and friends.

I am concerned that we spend too much of our time worrying about our Sunday gatherings, important as they are, and not enough time concerned about our witness.

How can we redress the balance? What do we need to do in order to see people daily being added to the Church? I would love to hear from you and to find out what you think.

Keith Short
February 2012

Keith and Becky will be on holiday from 11 – 18 February

Please respect their time away and don't try to phone

nor email



You could have a long wait for a reply ...



TEACHING PROGRAMME - FEBRUARY 2012

5 Never trust Rumours	Neh 6: 1 - 19	
12 Glorify the Son	Jn 17: 1 - 8	
19 Jesus Prays for YOU	Jn 1: 9 - 19	Communion
26 Handing Over/ Planning to Grow	Neh 7: 1 - 5	

MARCH

4 Facing Tomorrow with Joy	Neh 8 : 1 - 10	
11 Jesus Prays for Unity	Jn 17 : 20 - 26	
18 Arrested, Betrayed, Denied	Jn 18 : 15 - 27	
25 The Cross	Jn 19 : 16 - 30	Communion

A **Special Church Members' Meeting** was held to consider the Parkgrove Pharmacy property. Keith talked through the following points:

Why should we have premises ?

- a) Address, visibility and accessibility
- b) Meeting place
- c) Base for operations and outreach

Why is the Parkgrove property right ?

Central location for the majority of the congregation; close to other community resources and buildings; just off a major road so easily accessible

What About Where We Worship ?

Ideally we should be closer to the Clermiston, Drum Brae, Barnton area; the main thing is that where we meet on a Sunday morning is in roughly that area and easily accessible to most people
We are looking at various places to meet, other than the Music Box - none of which is ideal

What if I don't live in Clermiston ?

Our plan is not to focus just on one area but we have to start somewhere and we are not giving up on other areas and do intend to help people minister in their own areas

How will it be staffed ?

Keith will work out of it instead of being at home; could also be a base if we have a family or community worker in the future; the property's use will largely be determined by the congregation's willingness to get involved in activities working out of it

How much will it cost ?

- We could do a Low-level refurbishment as a minimum and a Fuller refurbishment later. For details of costs, please speak to Keith or Ken or Gary or ... any one of the Elders !

The Elders will continue investigations and start discussions with the landlord, keeping the membership and congregation as informed as they can about how things are proceeding.

For more information, please speak to Keith or Ken

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Recent changes to the Church Constitution permit many more people to be included as Members of BBC. If you are not yet a Member and don't attend Church Meetings please give serious consideration to it and talk to Keith or Ken about Membership.

We wish to see *everyone* included in the full life of BBC – as full Members



Sunday Evening Gatherings

Practical Training, Preparation and Prayer

26 February

David & Gillian's

11 & 25 March

7.00 - 9.00 pm

Prayer News – ITEMS for Prayer

- ❖ The Elders as they continue to seek God's will for a place to worship in the community
- ❖ Continue to pray for the Home Groups and their leaders
- ❖ The follow up to Alpha "A Life Worth Living"
- ❖ Remember Keith as he continues to speak on Nehemiah
- ❖ Do not forget to pray for one another especially for those who are sick or are going through difficult times at present
- ❖ Continue to bring the work of Bethany and the Care Shelter before the Lord - pray that they may be well attended and be a means of being Jesus to the homeless
- ❖ Pray for our young people who are connected with the uniformed organisations
- ❖ Pray for the young people who will be sitting prelims at this time
- ❖ Remember the young people in Sunday Club, YA, and Scripture Union groups at school



THANKSGIVING



- ✓ Give thanks for those who have been aware of God's healing hand upon their body and for other answered prayer

Are you coming to ...

CLAN Summer

28th July - 3rd August 2012

St Andrews

www.clangathering.org.uk



Keith & Becky have an **upright piano** that would like a new home.

It is not in the best condition but it has been much loved.

Please contact Becky on **0774 703 0855** if you are interested.



Contact Details

Church Website: <http://www.barntonbaptist.co.uk/>

Planning Suite: <http://barntonbaptist.planningsuite.com/>

Pastor/ Minister: **Keith Short** **0782 777 9694**

BBC email: contactus@barntonbaptist.co.uk

Dear Diary

Dates for the next 2 months :

February

5	Reflective Prayer @ Priory, SQ
11 -	KEITH and BECKY
18	ON HOLIDAY
26	Sunday Evening Gathering
27	Quarterly Church Meeting

March

4	Reflective Prayer @ Priory, SQ
11	Sunday Evening Gathering
25	Sunday Evening Gathering
31 -	KEITH and BECKY
5 April	ON HOLIDAY