

CHURCH SERVICES IN OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2025

OCTOBER

- Thurs 2nd 2.00pm Midweek Service in Fala
- Sun 5th 10.15am Cranston
6.00pm Informal Service in Pathhead Pavilion
- Sun 12th 10.15am Harvest Celebration in NMVH
7.00pm Evening Communion in NMVH
- Sun 19th 10.15am Cranston
6.00pm Informal Service in Pathhead Pavilion
- Sun 26th 10.15am NMVH
3.45pm Messy Church in NMVH



NOVEMBER

- Sun 2nd 10.15am Cranston
6.00pm Informal Service in Pathhead Pavilion
- Thurs 6th 2.00pm Midweek Service in Fala
- Sun 9th 9.45am Remembrance Service in Cranston followed by
wreath laying at the A68 War Memorial and Borthwick Church Gates
7.00pm Evening Communion in Cranston
- Sun 16th 10.15am Cranston
6.00pm Informal Service in Pathhead Pavilion
- Sun 23rd 10.15am North Middleton Village Hall
3.45pm Messy Church in NMVH
- Sun 30th 10.15am Fala Village Hall



NMVH = North Middleton Village Hall

Save the date!
**Saturday 6th
December**
in North Middleton
Village Hall



FALA HISTORY SOCIETY
7.30pm 30th October Fala Village Hall
Southfield Farm Diaries
Sheena Irving, Cousland
Website: www.falahistsoc.org.uk

Pastoral Care

Contact: Rev Dale K London Tel: 01875 321329 email: dlondon1144@hotmail.com
or Aileen Blackwood, Pastoral Care Team Co-ordinator
Tel: 01875 320744 email: chesterhill44@gmail.com



A harvest of reminiscing by Sana Forest

As I sat in my garden recently, I could hear the sound of the agricultural machinery working furiously in the field beyond my hedge as the farmer gathered in his crop. That sound caused me to reflect on harvest thanksgiving and what it meant to me as a child. Growing up in a relatively rural area in the late 40s /early 50s harvest was a very important time for schools, churches and community. For the farmers it was a time of celebrating and being thankful for a good harvest. For those people lucky enough to have a garden or allotment they were cheered by all their home produce – always a bit of rivalry over the tomatoes and the cucumbers! As children we looked forward to the school assembly harvest service and the Sunday School harvest thanksgiving. What set them apart from normal services of course was the fact that we all took bundles of our home grown produce to the services, supplemented by tinned and packaged goods, home made jams and jellies all of which were artistically displayed in front of assembled school children or congregations.

So much of what I described, thankfully, has not changed, we still take harvest gifts to church; it's the way that we disperse this cornucopia of goodies that is different in this modern age. In the 50's we school kids would help to make up "goodie-bags" and then set off round the doors of anyone who was on "the list". The list had the names of the elderly, infirm, unemployed, and those who were a bit less well-off financially and who gratefully welcomed our chapping at the door and our cheery greeting of "Happy Thanksgiving".

Fast forward to 2025 and first and foremost safe-guarding of our children prohibits us from turning them loose to knock on doors with bags of food. How do we overcome this? The Foodbank is the answer; the Foodbank is like a huge equivalent of how we made up our goodie bags. It takes the produce in and through their procedure is able to ensure that those less fortunate get what they need. The other thing that has changed is the kind of produce we hand in to the foodbank, Obviously fresh/perishable foods are not ideal so the Foodbank asks for tinned or packaged foods that have a decent shelf-life. If you would like more donation ideas go to [food bank donations list uk](http://foodbankdonationslist.uk) where you will find a really helpful list.

Please join us for an **All Age Harvest Celebration** at **North Middleton Village Hall on 12th October at 10.15am**. Louise and Carrie will be leading the worship and there will be special Harvest songs and prayers. Your donations for Midlothian Food Bank would be greatly appreciated.



TVP Summer BBQ at Saughland Farm

On the fifth Sunday of August, we spent a wonderful morning at Saughland Farm courtesy of Richard and Mary Callandar. We gathered in one of the Farm's barns with coffee and tea and took part in a worship service there led by Dale with singing beautifully led by Cati Ramsay. After the service, we were invited to go on a tour of Saughland Farm in a farm trailer. We enjoyed stunning views and Ben McClymont provided information about the livestock and the farming year on Saughland Farm. Back at the barn, we enjoyed a BBQ ably cooked by Hugh McClymont, Ben's father.

Very many warm thanks are extended to Richard and Mary and to all the McClymont family for providing us with such a great morning.

A collection was taken amounting to £307 which will be split between the Midlothian Branch of The Royal Highland Education Trust (RHET) and Love Pathhead.

Fiona Corsar



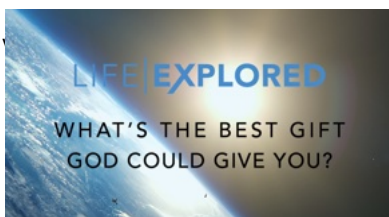
Life Explored!

I love God's word and meeting with Him through the Spirit when I read it. We read in Psalm 1, "Blessed is the one... (whose) delight is in the Law of the LORD, and on God's Law he meditates day and night." As a school child, a new Religious Education teacher asked us to learn this Psalm by heart in his first lesson at my school. Surprisingly to me, a 'typical' teenager, many aspects have stuck with me over the decades..., but what about "...meditates day and night..."! Then in retirement, I bit the bullet, and I have already completed over ninety on-line Bible Study classes that have been brilliant, and through which I genuinely feel truly blessed.

As part of our TVP Christian Education programme, **Christianity Explored, Discipleship Explored, and Bible Explored.** Now we're doing **Life Explored.**

A typical evening will include:

- watching a short *Nathan Moment* video and sharing our reaction to it,
- watching a short video commentary on it, sharing a Bible reading (from Genesis to Revelation) and discussion questions contrasting the God of the Bible with "gods" we all too easily give our lives to instead.



The series of seven sessions will run from Wednesday 8 October, weekly, and so finish on 19 November. Our intention is each evening would last about an hour from 7.30pm, with light refreshments beforehand from 7pm. We suspect that due to numbers we would hold it in Cranstoun. We need to ensure we have enough materials, refreshments, etc., so please come and join us to be reassured and challenged; and let me know preferably by e-mail at... tynevalleyparish@hotmail.co.uk

"I have come so that they may have life, and may have it abundantly." (John 10:10)

Allister Crompton, TVP Lay Pastor

BLYTHSWOOD SHOEBOX APPEAL 2025

Leaflets are now available at church and filled boxes should be returned by end of October. Any questions check out the Blythswood website: www.blythswood.org/shoeboxappeal/ or contact Julia Baker jab@juliabz.plus.com



Kiltwalk 2025 - A Big Thank You !

Margaret Riddell and I had a good day at the Edinburgh Kiltwalk on 14th September. We met others from Lothian & Borders Presbytery in St Andrew's High Church in Musselburgh where we took part in the Kiltwalk Worship. In this service we learning a bit about the Christian Aid Harvest appeal for Sierra Leone, where there is much poverty This was the appeal we were walking to support and raise funds.



After the worship, we walked the short distance to the start of the Big Stroll on Fisherrow Links, Musselburgh. It was a lovely day, with no wind and some sunshine. We walked a considerable way along the shore of the Forth and remarked on how calm the water was and what a lovely shade of light blue. We were with others walking for a variety of charities. The Big Stroll route took us through Edinburgh, mainly on cycle and walking paths, some familiar and some new to us. We were encouraged along the route by many supporters. We arrived at the Finish, at Murrayfield stadium, in just under four hours and enjoyed the meal provided to walkers there. No blisters or injuries!

Margaret and I raised just over £800 for Christian Aid's work in Sierra Leone and would like to thank everyone for their generous donations which made this possible. We think we might do the walk next year and would encourage others to think about joining us in what is an enjoyable and worthwhile few hours.

Fiona Corsar



Pathhead Pop Up Cafe - Saturday 4th October 9.30-11.30am

Come and join us for free coffee, delicious home bakes and more in **Pathhead Village Hall** Donations will go to the Midlothian Food Bank, Tombola funds will go towards the Pathhead Callander Park Project and we are looking for good quality men's clothing for the Edinburgh Clothing Bank. For the kids there is a Scarecrow Competition and Messy Fizzy Art. Come with your friends or make new friends and help these great charities and projects.

Can you help? with baking, tombola prizes or help on the day. Contacts for more information or pledges of help to David Richardson, Louise Spencer, David Lacey at Church or Lynsey Roy (07952 642886).

Messy Church

Messy Church is for everyone, especially if you are looking for something different from traditional church. It's a bit of singing, a story, some crafts and challenges and then food together with friends at the end.

26th October - 4pm, North Middleton Village Hall. **Compassion:** being kind to people.

23rd November - 4pm, Pathhead Village Hall. **Peace:** how can I be a peacemaker?



St Mary's Church Open Hour 4-5pm Saturday 4th October

Lepus Arts, have taken the rental of St Mary's Church, Pathhead. They are planning an arts space for professional and community use. You are warmly invited to come and say hello, see the renovations and hear some of their ideas. Also to voice any ideas or concerns of your own. For more info contact Martin Green 07855 808205

