

We have been looking at the books of 1 and 2 Samuel on Sunday mornings. These are fascinating books, with gripping story lines. As well as being really enjoyable to read there is also so much for us to learn. We have only picked out some stories for Sunday mornings, and so I really recommend reading Samuel on your own to fill in the gaps. Amongst the stories we missed were two stories where David is provided with perfect opportunities to kill Saul (or have him killed) unnoticed, and thus end his time of being relentlessly pursued by Saul. David was literally running for his life.

In the first story (1 Sam 24), Saul goes into a cave by himself to relieve himself, and just happens to choose the very cave in which David and his men are hiding. David is able to sneak up and cut off the end of Saul's coat whilst remaining unnoticed.

In the second story (1 Sam 26), David's men have found where Saul's camp is, and David, together with Abishai, bravely risks going right into the camp while Saul and his men are sleeping (there should have been men awake guarding Saul but there was not). Abishai offers to drive a spear through Saul in such a way as to kill him quickly, easily, quietly, and completely unnoticed. David tells him not to and the two men leave taking proof they were there in the form of Saul's spear and water jug.

In both cases it could appear that God has indeed given David's enemy into his hands. However, David steps back from that idea. David does know that he has been anointed King, and that the Spirit has left Saul, and that Saul is making his life a misery because he has to keep hiding. However, he also knows it's not his place to sort these things out through assassination. That is for God to do in his timing and he has to trust God.

These two stories are sandwiched around another story in which someone who is evil meets their end without David forcing the situation (1 Sam 25). Although in this case he very nearly does, until he is stopped through the wise response of Abigail, the evil man's wife. The story is the story of Nabal, who is rude to David and refuses to help him and his men with food and drink, despite how rich Nabal is, and how David protected Nabal's shepherds in the wilderness. Nabal (who probably has a bad heart through all his heavy eating and drinking) takes a stroke and dies when he finds out, through Abigail, that she had helped David in his place. David recognises that it was right for God to take Nabal's life, not him (v39).

One theme in all three chapters is the tension between our freedom to take action and our responsibility to leave things to God. There are times for wisdom in action with kindness (Abigail), and times for letting go in patience and trust.

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Sunday Services in November

Date	Info	Speaker	Reader	Host	time	communion
31/10/21	2 Samuel 2:1-7, 2 Sam 5:1-5 David becomes King of Judah and all Israel	Dawn	Ian	Pete	11am	yes
7/11/21	2 Samuel 11 David and Bathsheba	Alan M	Christine	Dawn	11am	no
14/11/21	Praise Service Remembrance Sunday	Alan M		Allan	2pm	yes
21/11/21	2 Sam 21:1-14 David Protects Mephibosheth	Chris	Pete	Julie	11am	no
28/11/21	Luke 1:26-35, 46-55	Dawn	Doris	Pete	11am	yes

The beginning of a new chapter for our lives

“If you can stay a whole year without war or politics forcing you to leave again, then you will have already achieved a lot!” These were the words of our mission leader just before we first travelled to the Middle East in 1999. But this first year in the Middle East was followed by a second, by a third, and then by a fourth...! The Lord Jesus had made possible what seemed humanly impossible: we could stay, settle down and put down long roots. So much so that 22 whole years have now passed since we first arrived.



As you can imagine, this time has seen many incredible events and many unprecedented changes coming to our country of working.

Looking back on these 22 years, that which moves us and encourages us the most are the many visible signs that God has been at work among the Muslim people in that country. In 1999, there were only ten Jesus-followers among the five million population. Today, this number has increased a hundred-fold! How great is our God and the power of His Gospel! In addition, the prayers and service of many people have contributed to this growth of God’s true people there. We are deeply grateful to have been part of His Kingdom coming among this people group. God has also used you in Rosyth - your prayers, your concern and your faithful giving and support to cause His plan to unfold in that region.

After a long period of seeking God’s will, we have made the decision to come back to Europe permanently. One month ago, we left the Middle East and have started settling back in Scotland. We plan to work with the same missionary organization as before. In the coming months we will work with our leaders and our supporters to find out what God has prepared for us and what our service will look like into the future. You will hear from us as we learn more about this.

We would like to take this opportunity to pass on a very hearty ‘Thank-You’ to all of you as our ‘sending church’ in the UK. Your “standing with us” through all these many years is a clear reason why we have been able to live and work in the Middle East for so long. It has been a real encouragement to visit you again and again down the years – but also now, as we settle back into the area and begin to get to know you all personally (once again).

With our love and best wishes, Andrew and Maria



ROSYTH
BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER 2021



Wed 3 Nov
7- 8.30pm

BRIDGEHEAD
HEALING



No charge

Living Well



Rosyth Baptist Church 3 Nov 7-8.30pm
Spiritual encouragement & healing prayer

Hand
massage

Chair of
Blessing

Treasure
Box

When self-help isn't enough, drop in and see what God can do.

Communion

We celebrate communion fortnightly, irrespective of whether the service is at 11am or 2pm. We use pre-packaged, individually wrapped elements. However, if you prefer to do so, are have specific dietary requirements, please bring your own.



Photo by [Geda Žyvatkauskaitė](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Prayer Teams

Sunday 7th November: Dawn/Ian
Sunday 21st November: Chris/Julie
Sunday 28th November: Doris/Pete

On Sunday mornings we have prayer teams available after the service. If you would like prayer, just let the relevant people know.

Small groups Update

Throughout November the Wednesday evening group will continue to meet in the children's room in the church building alternating between afternoons and evenings. See 'November at a Glance' for details.

The Thursday zoom meeting, will be a chance to pray together, for the world, our communities, our church, and each other. This will move to fortnightly.



ROSYTH
BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2021

November At a Glance

Sunday		7 th 11am service	14 th 2pm Praise + Church meeting 	21 st 11am service	28 th 11am service  1st Sunday of Advent
Monday	1 st Search Team Meet	8 th	15 th	22 nd	29 th
Tuesday	2 nd Women's group 1:30pm Ruth's home	9 th	16 th Women's group 1:30pm Ruth's home	23 rd	30 th Women's group 1:30pm Ruth's home
Wednesday	3 rd Bridgehead Living Well 7-8:30pm Drop in to Rosyth Baptist Church	10 th Small group Children's room 2:30pm	17 th Small group Children's room 7:30pm	24 th Small group Children's room 2:30pm	
Thursday	4 th	11 th Zoom Prayer 8pm	18 th	25 th Zoom Prayer 8pm	
Friday	5 th	12 th	19 th	26 th	
Saturday	6 th	13 th	20 th	27 th	



R O S Y T H
BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2021

Getting Involved at Rosyth Baptist Church

If you would like to use your skills and gifting in the work of RBC please let us know. The following areas, and people, are currently involved, but we are not restricted to the areas below. To get in touch email rosythbaptist@gmail.com

Preaching	Chris, Dawn
Readers Team	Julie, Christine, Doris, Pete, Ian
Administration, and technical work	Dawn
Worship	Allan
Host Team (who lead the service)	Pete, Chris, Julie, Dawn
Treasurer	Pete
Fabric	Ian, Pete
Prayer Teams	Dawn, Pete, Ian, Doris, Chris, Julie

Leadership Team: Dawn Martindale, Marnie Hampson, Allan Hampson, Peter Smith, Julie Demetriou

Pastoral Vacancy Search Team: Peter Smith, Marnie Hampson, Allan Hampson, Diane Rendall, Ian McKelvie, Nicole Curciuc, Doris Braybrooke

Leadership and Pastoral vacancy teams are facilitated by our moderator Alan Milnes.



R O S Y T H
BAPTIST CHURCH

Finances at End of October

Cashflow Fund: £11714.65 (includes £5176.25 received from HRMC Gift Aid)

Fabric Fund: £738.39

Reserve Fund: £591.96

6 Values

1. **Holy Spirit dependent.**
Dependency means we are led, shaped and empowered by the Holy Spirit. We acknowledge Christ's authority and expect him to move in power.
2. **Adventurous.**
Ready to follow where the Spirit leads. Flexibility, fluidity, creativity. We don't become set in our ways.
3. **Pastoral.**
Everyone matters. Everyone's needs appropriately met. Everyone takes on pastoral responsibility. We all care for one another.
4. **Relational.** This is about encountering each other. Church is more than a Sunday event. A Church that is small groups rather than a church that has small groups. What we are is defined by relationships.
5. **Embedded.**
This is about encountering our neighbours. Mission is holistic, relational, and generous. We *all* engage in mission by how we live in the local community.
6. **Connected.** This is about working with other Churches. We are interdependent not independent of other Churches. We connect, co-operate, and collaborate to resource effective mission and ministry.

