



# Cornton Baptist Church

Demonstrating God's love in action  
in the community of Cornton



**Magazine**  
**October 2010**

## October 2010 - Church Magazine

*Welcome to the latest edition of the church magazine.*

*We hope you enjoy the updates and articles. Thanks to all who have contributed.*

*Please let us know of any articles you would like to include next time around, or any ideas of what you would like to see included.*

*The Editors*

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## Pastor's Ponderings

*Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

As I sit and write this I am looking at the calendar and working out what happened to September. The last month or so has just disappeared. Time flies. And so much has happened in recent months. We've had our holiday club week with the Step Out team, Ruth has started as our new youth & community worker, Ruth and I led a team of young people on mission in Seahouses, the students have arrived back (with some new faces among us), we've had a few mission speakers and some of our young people were away for an outdoor activities weekend. On top of this a lot of our activities in the church have restarted - Sunday School and crèche, kids club and youth café, and the coffee morning. We have now set out on a new sermon series which will take us through the book of Acts over the next year or so. The book of Acts to me is very much about the ongoing work of the gospel. Things just didn't grind to a halt when Jesus died and rose again and then ascended into heaven. He left a mission behind for his followers - to make disciples of all nations. They were to be his witnesses in the world around them. And so we are thinking on the unstoppable gospel.

Jesus' work on earth was finished in one sense - for he had died on the cross of Calvary in order that our sins could be forgiven. Luke in his first letter, Luke's gospel, speaks in chapter 24 verse 46 saying 'The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning in Jerusalem.' And this message of forgiveness and repentance was preached a short while later in Jerusalem by Peter in Acts 2. And the people there

responded by asking what they needed to do. Peter said in Acts 2:38 'repent and be baptised very one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.' If we turn to Jesus, repent of our sins and seek to follow him, making him Lord of our lives then we are forgiven for our sins. Jesus work in redemption is complete.

And yet there is a continuing part. Jesus has died to save us all from our sins, but as of yet not everyone Jesus came to save has heard the good news and responded. We have a job to do. Jesus said to his disciples in Acts 1:8 'But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' That call is still there for us today. We have to be his witnesses in Cornton, in Stirling and throughout Scotland, and to the ends of the earth.

This unstoppable gospel continues. The Word of God is still alive and vibrant - it still has power to save. The good news of forgiveness of sin still has to be preached and proclaimed. We do this by using our voices and sharing with those we love. We do this by demonstrating God's love in action in the community of Cornton.

That's why I am here. That's why Ruth is here now - to share the gospel with the children and young people of the Cornton. That's why we ran a holiday club during the summer and that's why some of us went down to Seahouses. We wanted to about the work of the kingdom - we wanted to be sharing the love of Jesus and sharing the unstoppable gospel. I trust and pray that's why we are all here too - so we can reach out to this community with the good news of the gospel.

Over the coming weeks and months we will see how the gospel was unstoppable back in 30AD and following and how it is still unstoppable today. Let's commit to be involved in continuing Jesus' work and sharing the good news of the gospel with all those we meet and come into contact with.

Blessings

*Hamish*

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## **Deacon's Despatches**

Over the last few months, the Deacon's have given or committed to give the following missionary gifts on your behalf:

- £250 to Shona Angus to assist with her self-funded work and study with New Generation Music and Mission.
- £200 to Lesley Smith, who has set off this week on short-term mission to Mozambique.
- £100 a month for the next two years to Oliver Ward as he undertakes the Cornhill Bible course and St George's Tron apprenticeship course.

*Your Deacons*

## Youth Worker's Yarn

So I have now been working in Cornton Baptist for over two months now and so far it's been awesome! It's been great to see what God had already been doing in Cornton with the youth and exciting to start to see what He has planned over the next year and beyond. Already David and myself feel part of the church family, as everyone has been so welcoming. It's also been fantastic to have the support of everyone in the church who have been praying for various things concerning the youth. That whole Church support is invaluable and I feel so blessed to have it.

I have been asked to basically give an update of what has been happening in the church with the young people over the past couple of months, what plans we have for the future and prayer points that everyone can help with.

We had an amazing team from Step Out this summer, with great young leaders coming from all over Scotland to share the gospel with the children of Cornton. It was a fantastic week with lots of singing, games, crafts and great Biblical truths. There were roughly 45 children who came throughout the week and hopefully every single one of them learned something new about God. In the evening we had 3 nights of Youth Café, which included a photo challenge around the Cornton area, games and talks on our identity. The whole week was a fantastic opportunity to introduce myself to the young people and get to know some of the leaders who I will be working alongside.

Since the new school term has started we have continued the Kids Club on a Wednesday night and the Youth Café on a Friday night. There have been a few new faces and a lot of P7's moving up to Youth Café. They have both been running great and the young people are really starting to show a deeper understanding of the Christian faith.

During the day I have been working in Cornton Primary and Wallace High coaching basketball with another teacher from the school. Unfortunately in both schools I have fallen over and hurt my knee, which I originally injured in the summer. In actual fact it has been a great conversation opener and the young people have shown a lot of compassion towards me. The purpose of going into the schools is to strengthen existing relationships with the young people and also to meet those who don't already come about the church. Hopefully in time these children and teenagers will be more open to coming along to one of the clubs. It has also been great for the church in general to get back into schools and over time hopefully our involvement with the High School will increase.

During the last weekend in September we took 11 young people away to Ardeonaig, next to Loch Tay. It was an amazing opportunity to build on those existing relationships and be able to take them a little deeper into Christianity. We introduced small group discussion where some of the young people gradually began to open up. Incredibly we are already noticing a positive difference in the behaviour of those young people in Youth Café.

With this group of young people the hope is to restart the Sunday Night youth group which will be based around a small group structure. It is an opportunity to work a bit more intensively with those that came away to Ardeonaig and explain to them all the ins and outs of the Christian faith, focused around Jesus. Any ideas for names for this group would be more than welcome!

Prayer Points:

- All the children who attend Sunday School and crèche;
- The 50-60 primary school aged children who attend Kids Club on a Wednesday night; and

- The 15-20 young people attending the Youth Café on a Friday nights (P7-S3) - particularly those who came on the weekend away!

Please pray that all these children and young people continue to have lots of fun while participating in the activities at the church and that while they are there, that they grow in their knowledge of God and the amazing thing Jesus did on the cross. Also pray that they are able to experience the love of God through the leaders and that relationships continue to grow and deepen.

- Pray that the hearts of the young people are open to learning more about God on a Sunday night and come along, disregarding any negative comments from friends.
- Pray that the P7's settle quickly into Youth Café and that their behaviour starts to improve. Pray also for patience and wisdom for the leaders in this situation.
- Pray that the work in the schools would continue to grow and for God's wisdom in how this should be done.
- Pray for the fellowship of all the leaders, that we can support one another in our Christian walk.

I love the verse in Corinthians 9:22b, "I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some." I pray that as I continue my work in Cornton that God enables me to engage with the young people so that I may present the gospel in a way that they are able to understand and yet don't water it down in any way so that the content is changed. I pray that we continue to preach the shocking truth of the gospel so that lives are transformed as the young people come into a living faith with God, the creator of the universe, yet who also died on a cross for us and continues to guide us through the Holy Spirit.

*Ruth*



## Stepping Out

Well, three weeks of my summer this year was spent doing Step-out, running Kids clubs and doing youth work around Scotland. This year's theme was Tractor Tales and the stories were told from a range of farm animals related to bible stories.

My first adventure was to the north-east. So it was off to Aberdeen to do a mission in Aberdeen Christian Fellowship. Aberdeen was a good success bringing in about 20 to 25 kids most days throughout the week to the kids club. Youth work there brought in about 15 people who all showed a lot of interest towards Christianity.

So week two, I travelled to a wee town that goes by the name of Harestanes (near Glasgow). The kid's mission here was just as successful except on a smaller scale. Despite this we still got around 13 to 17 kids each day all enjoying the crazy action songs we had for them.

Finally I'm going to be a little one sided. It had to be the most fun of the three. Cornton. As you may know we have a great kids club within the church and we got quite a few of the regulars attending to the summer mission. We successfully got about 25 kids most days and about 13 to the youth events we did.

So that's a brief overview of my Step-out adventures for this year. Bring on next year!

*Andrew Wishart*

## **Angels, Angels, Angels**

### **The Reality of Angels**

Today some people wonder if beings exist in other places besides Earth. Man has walked on the Moon and scientists are presently looking at pictures being beamed back from planet Saturn. There is an insatiable quest in the heart of man to explore the heavens, and the question is often raised, 'are there beings out there?' or 'are we alone in the universe?' Well, as a matter of fact, we are not alone in the universe. Supernatural beings do exist in this world and outside of it. These beings are beautiful beyond our imagination, they are intelligent, they are powerful, they travel at unprecedented speed through time and space and from time to time they appear to man - although it is rare because they are most often invisible and belong to a domain above the comprehension of the human eye.

Angels indeed exist. The Heavens and the Earth are full of myriads and myriads of Angels who often interact between God and man, and between Heaven and Earth. They exist in a dimension that we cannot imagine, and yet their cosmic presence is often felt. In 2 Kings 6:17 Elisha the Prophet and his servant were facing a hoard of enemy Syrian soldiers - it appeared to the servant that they were destined for certain defeat and death when Elisha prayed "Open his eyes that he may see" and God allowed the servant to see that the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha - a host of Heaven's angelic armies of God. There they learned the powerful lesson as Elisha said in verse 16 'Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them'.

## **The Ministry of Angels**

Who are they and what do they do? They are created beings. In the book of Job we are told that angels rejoiced at the creation, (Job 38:7) - but somewhere before creation, in eternity past, God created the angels, because they had not always existed. These angel beings are beautiful - we know this because Lucifer, before his fall is described as being exquisitely beautiful, with the voice of many waters, and in his own pride he rose up in rebellion against God and was cast out of Heaven. Angels are magnificent and majestic, possessing intelligence far superior to mankind, as well as a personality and will. I do not believe that the angels are all alike. Names of angels and their ranks are also mentioned in the Bible. They are immortal for there is no indication in Scripture that they ever die, neither is there any indication that they reproduce, for Jesus said that they are not like male or female beings, they are sexless. Angels are not born, they are created.

How many Angels exist? At the birth of Jesus (Luke 2:13) it says "suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God..." and in Revelation 5:11 - John, when he was lifted up into Heaven says that the number of the angels was ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands. That in itself is one hundred million. Hebrews 12:22 speaks of the "innumerable company of angels". Angels were present in the Garden of Eden when Adam and Eve were cast out because of their sin, and God sent angels to protect the garden and keep Adam and Eve out of the garden. Angels were present when the Ten Commandments were given to Moses (Acts 7:38). Angels were present at the birth of Jesus - singing "glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, goodwill towards men". An angel warned Joseph in a dream to leave Bethlehem in order to protect the baby Jesus from the cruelty of Herod. Angels were often

present in the life of Jesus - in particular when He faced Satan in the desert. As the Lord sweat as it were blood and tears in the garden of Gethsemane - giving Himself a ransom for men, angels came to support and minister to Him. When Jesus hung on the cross (Matthew 26:53) these great warriors were ready with swords drawn to come and deliver the Lord Jesus Christ, but He hung there alone in obedience to the will of the Father, that we might have eternal life, even although at one word of request these powerful beings could destroy His enemies.

The angels were there that morning, in shining garments, sitting on the rolled-away stone, when the two women went to the tomb expecting to anoint the body of Jesus. (Luke 24:4-5) "Why do you seek the living among the dead" they said "He is not here, He is risen".

Angels were there in support during the 40 days of the resurrected Christ's appearances - prior to His ascension. When Jesus took His disciples up onto the Mount of Olives He ascended before their eyes up into glory and there two angels of God said "You men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing into Heaven, for this same Jesus shall come in the same way as you have seen Him go". They promised the return of Jesus, and they will participate in His return "When the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him" (Matthew 25:31)

### **The Purpose of Angels**

Angels are powerful mighty beings who minister to us in times of distress, difficulty and danger. See Acts 27:22-24. Paul, along with 200 others on their ship, went into a great storm - while the sailors were in despair of their lives Paul stood on deck and said "Don't be afraid, for there will be no loss of life. For there stood by me this night, an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom

I serve". These angels calmed the storm and delivered them. They also delivered Daniel from the lion's Den. We may ask the question 'do angels guard us?' The Bible says YES - in Psalm 91:11-12 it says "He shall give His angels charge over you..." In Matthew 18:10 we have an insight into when we get our guardian angel. Apparently angels are given to us even when we are small children. In Job 1:10 the Bible says that God put a hedge of protection around Job's house to protect him and his family, and I am convinced that God encircles our lives. That does not mean that we will never be hurt, but it does mean that in the providential plan of God that we will never ultimately be harmed for God will minister to us.

We see an increase of activity in the last days -Angels moving and working as God's agents of judgement in the book of Revelation (Rev.7:2-3 and Rev.16:3-4). Angels work behind the scenes in the drama of world history and they serve as messengers and ministers of God to execute His purpose. We see them as worshippers, as warriors and as communicators. The word Angel is ANGELOSE - meaning messenger. Angels are messengers of God. We see them as lion tamers in the book of Daniel, we see them as rescuers, we see them as comforters as they minister to the people of God and as believers, we know and expect God's holy angels to accompany us through our lives. (Hebrews 1:14). "Are they not all ministering spirits (angels) sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation." These powerful beings are working on our behalf today.

What do these Angels do? They watch us (1 Cor.4:9) "For I think that God hath set forth us, the Apostles, last, as it were approved to death. For we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to Angels, and to men." The word 'spectacle' here is translated 'theatre' - in the divine drama of life angels observe

our actions, so they watch us carefully. What an encouragement it is to know that we are not alone in the universe. They stand amazed at the wisdom and love of God and wonder at our worship because Angels have never been redeemed as we have.

"Holy, holy, holy, is what the Angels sing  
But when we sing Salvations story the Angels fold their wings  
For they have never known the joy that our salvation brings"

So they watch with amazement and give glory to God and to the worshippers of the Lord Jesus Christ. Not only do they watch, but they guide us. The Holy Spirit is given internally to guide us, but according to Scripture angels may lead us externally. The angels guide us in the experiences of life from time to time. The Bible is especially clear on this, when it comes time to die the angels will attend us there to comfort us and to carry us into the presence of the Lord. In Luke 16:22 Jesus spoke of a poor beggar who pleaded for alms every day and when he died Jesus said "Immediately he was carried up by the angles to Abraham's bosom and into the presence of God." Every time a Saint of God dies there is the presence of the angels to attend us - turning the tragedy of death into a triumph of eternal life. No wonder the Psalmist says in Psalm 116:15 "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His Saints". So angels guide us step by step, and if we know the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour, when the last steps are taken we will be cared for and comforted and carried into the presence of God by angels.

What more can we say about angels? We are not to worship them. We are to adopt the posture of wonder and amazement but not worship. We are not to be occupied with Angels but with our Lord Jesus Christ alone. We should be like the angels in that our desire should be to worship Him continually, to serve Him

obediently, to witness for Him personally and to minister to others individually. We can become God's ANGELOSE - the messengers of God saying "He is not here, He is risen - He is alive - and He is Lord".

The Bible tells us how to start a celebration in Heaven for every time a sinner repents and receives the Lord Jesus Christ there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels (Luke 15:7). Lets start angelic rejoicing in Heaven by inviting men and women, boys and girls, to come to know, love and follow the Lord Jesus just like the angels.

*George Little*

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## **Fancy a Bowl?**

**Men's Night - Ten Pin Bowling:** Join us on Tuesday 19 October at 7.30pm at AMF Bowling, Riverside. See Stuart McFarlane for more details and to indicate availability!

## **Youth Café Weekend Away**

The leaders and young people who took part in the weekend trip to Ardeonaig (Abernethy Trust) in September wish to express their sincere thanks to all those in the church who donated towards the cost of the trip.

As a result of the donations given, the cost was heavily subsidised for all, the minibus hire was paid for, and some treats were provided over the course of the weekend (to supplement the meals provided by the centre!).

Many, many thanks.

Everyone had a great time, enjoying gorge walking, archery, low ropes and high ropes courses over the course of the weekend.

Ruth led two Bible sessions, sharing the story and the meaning of the Lost Sheep and Prodigal Son parables. The young people engaged more fully than in a normal Youth Café setting, including taking part in small group discussions, which was great to see.

The young people have already begun to ask when we can all go again!



## Joseph's New Coat

Joseph was a dreamer, he sat an' dreamed a' day.  
He thocht that he was better than his brithers, so they say.  
His faither thocht the world o' him, thocht that he wis great  
But his dreams got him in a jam and that I will relate.

Faither got the needle oot and raked oot colored linen  
An' sewed it a' the gither an made a jaiket fer the jiggin'.  
Joseph wis fair chuffed wi' it, he liked his fancy jaiket.  
His brithers were a' jealous and said that he looked glaikit.

They got Joe on his own one day and threw him doon a well,  
Then pu'd him oot gye quick like when they decided they wid sell  
Him tae a man fae Egypt guan hame wi' muckle trammel  
And Joseph ended up the Nile without a paddle, on a camel.

His brithers took the jaiket hame and showed it tae their faither  
Covered in muck, and lots o' bleed. He wis at the end o' his tether.  
While Joseph, in the meantime, wis working fer a gaffer.  
A sojer, high up in the ranks. A manny ca'd Potiphar.

Joseph got on awfy weel tho he fairly missed his faither  
Potiphar's wife fancied him, thocht he wis a raver.  
But Joseph wis a fussy man, the wife he couldny thole  
So he telt her, nae shenanigans, he widny touch her wi' a barge  
pole.

The wife she got quite uppity and, tru tae a' her style,  
She telt her man a bunch o' lees and Joe landed in the jile.  
He served a longish sentence there, it wis an awfy hole.  
Till he telt the king the meanin' o' his dreams and then he got  
parole.

The king wis very pleased wi' Joe, his advice wis always good  
So he put him intae politics as the Minister in charge of Food.  
When the harvesting was plentiful it wis stored in muckle lashins  
Then, when a' the harvests failed, it wis handed oot in rations.

Joe's brithers went tae Egypt fer they hadnae ony grub.  
They went tae try an' buy some and had seen the banker fer a  
sub.  
Joe haggled wi' them ower the price and made their situation  
grim.  
He kent fine wha they were, but they didnae recognise him.

At last he telt them wha he wis, they got a terrible fricht  
Then he sent them for his faither, "Bring him here fer his tea  
the nicht."  
They a gret sair then the greetin turned into laughter  
And Joe, without the coloured coat, lived happy ever after.

*By John Meiklejohn*

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## **Classifieds**

"Come work for the Lord. The labour is intensive, the hours are long and the pay is low, but the retirement benefits are out of this world."

*Extracted from THE FRIENDSHIP BOOK 2010*

## **Florida Court Sets Atheist Holy Day!**

In Florida, an atheist created a case against the upcoming Easter and Passover Holy days.

He hired an attorney to bring a discrimination case against Christians and Jews and observances of their holy days. The argument was that it was unfair that atheists had no such recognized days.

The case was brought before a judge. After listening to the passionate presentation by the lawyer, the judge banged his gavel declaring, "Case dismissed!" The lawyer immediately stood objecting to the ruling saying, "Your Honour, how can you possibly dismiss this case? The Christians have Christmas, Easter and others. The Jews have Passover, Yom Kippur and Hanukkah, yet my client and all other atheists have no such holidays."

The judge leaned forward in his chair saying, "But you do. Your client, counsel, is woefully ignorant." The lawyer said, "Your Honour, we are unaware of any special observance or holiday for atheists."

The judge said, "The calendar says April 1st is April Fools Day. Psalm 14:1 states, 'The fool says in his heart, there is no God.' Thus, it is the opinion of this court, that, if your client says there is no God, then he is a fool. Therefore, April 1st is his day. Court is adjourned."

You got to love a Judge that knows his scripture!

*Bob McQueen*

## Children's Prayers

Some children at a camp in America were asked to write down their prayers...

*Dear God, instead of letting people die and haveing to make new ones, why don't you just keep the ones you got now? Jane*

Dear God, I went to this wedding and they kissed right in church. Is that ok? Neil

*Dear God, In bible times, did they really talk that fancy? Jenny*

Dear God, I am Amearican. What are you? Robert

*Dear God, thank-you for the baby brother but what I prayed for was a puppy. Joyce*

Dear God, I bet it is very hard for you to love all of everybody in the whole world. There are only 4 people in our family and I can never do it. Nan

*Dear God, if you watch in church on Sunday, I will show you my new shoes. Mickey D*

Dear God, if you give me a genie lamp like Alladin I will give you anything you want. Except my money or my chess set. Raphael

*Dear God, please put a-nother holiday between Christmas and Easter. There is nothing good in there now. Ginny*

Dear God, maybe Cain and Abel would not kill each so much if they had their own rooms. It works with my brother. Larry

Dear God, if you let the dinasor not exstinct we would not have a country. You did the right thing. Jonathan



## Tea Rotas

### Morning

3rd Oct Nan Thomson  
10th Oct Liz McQueen  
17th Oct Roni Fleming  
24th Oct Carol Smith  
31st Oct Audrey Hamilton  
7th Nov Netta Denison

### Evening

24th Oct Nan Thomson  
31st Oct Mags McKee  
7th Nov Catherine Hanlon  
14th Nov Kath Arton  
21st Nov Morag Wishart  
28th Nov Roni Fleming

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### Recipe - Chicken Mango

Recipe featured in the Cornton Church Cookbook "Food for the Hungry Soul"

4 Chicken Breasts  
1 Jar Mango Chutney  
Half pint cream (or Elmlea)  
Half teaspoon chili powder  
Seasoning

1. Preheat oven to 180 Deg C
2. Place the chicken into a dish without a lid
3. Mix chutney, cream and chili powder together and pour over the chicken
4. Add seasoning to taste
5. Bake in oven for 30-40 mins

[www.cornton.org.uk](http://www.cornton.org.uk)