

Weekly Newsletter

28th April 2026



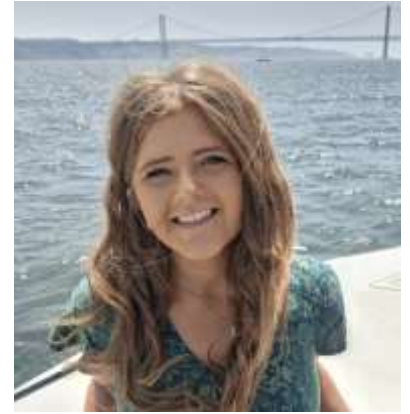
Holyrood
Church

Introducing Hannah Seekings

We are excited at the appointment of Hannah as our Children and Families Worker. She will start in the post before the summer holidays and we are looking forward to serving together.

'Hi, I'm Hannah, and I'm really looking forward to joining Holyrood as the Children and Families Worker. It is encouraging to see the sense of unity within the church, as well as the desire to live out faithful discipleship rooted in Scripture.

I'm from a small village just outside Cambridge and moved here to study at Edinburgh Theological Seminary. I'm excited to step into this role, as it brings together my background working with children in schools, my theological studies, and my desire to serve the church community by helping young people grow in faith. In my spare time, I enjoy reading, baking, and long walks. I'm looking forward to serving Christ in this way and getting to know you all.'

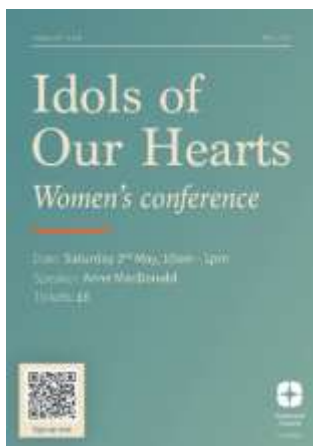


Jim Aitken

We were saddened to hear of Jim's passing on Sunday 19th April while he was in Malawi. His funeral took place on Thursday 23rd April in Livingstonia with around 400 people attending and he was laid to rest alongside Scottish missionaries in the Mission Station graveyard. A tribute written by the Scottish Malawi Partnership can be read [here](#).

A Thanksgiving Service for Jim's life will take place in Holyrood on **Wednesday 13th May** at 12.30pm followed by light refreshments. Everyone is warmly welcome.

Women's Conference – this Saturday



Please come along! We are looking forward to having a women's conference on **Saturday from 10am to 1pm**.

Anne MacDonald will be speaking on Idols of Our Hearts. We'll have a couple of seminar options – one will be a Bible overview with Anne and the other will be looking at self-sacrificial discipleship and evangelism with Naomi Amour. It promises to be a great morning of teaching and fellowship together.

Please go [here](#) for more details and contact Liz@holyroodchurch.org if you have any questions or need help signing up. Thank you!





Book in a Day – Cornhill Scotland

Book in a Day will be held on **Monday 4th May** and will focus on 1 Peter. Andrew Sach will be doing the teaching and it will be great day digging deeper into God's word together. To book go [here](#) or contact Liz for a group booking.

Prayer Meeting and Lunch Together

At our prayer meeting next week (**6th May**), we're looking forward to hearing from Ryan and Kelly Akers. The Akers serve with Campus Outreach in partnership with St Columba's Free Church. There will not be a meal before the prayer meeting because the church is being used as a polling station the following day.

We are looking forward to having a simple soup and sandwich lunch together after the morning service on **Sunday 10th May**. Please keep the date free!

Women's Discipleship at Holyrood

We're excited to be getting together as women to study God's word and encourage one another. There are two options starting in May and both will run for a six week block -

- **Our Bible reading plan:** starts again on **Monday 11th May** and will be continuing with *Reading Between the Lines* by Glen Scrivener. We will be doing daily readings on our own and communicating in small WhatsApp groups throughout the weeks. New women are very welcome, you do not need to have been part of the reading plan before. For those who need a copy of *Reading Between the Lines* (the church will provide one) or if you have any questions, please contact annabarnard@gmail.com
- **Our in person studies:** will start again on **Thursday 14th May** in the church from 10.30am – 11.30am. We're going to be studying the book of Revelation (please don't let that put you off!) and will be using Nancy Guthrie's book *Blessed* as the basis of our study. There's no need to buy the book or do any homework, just come as you are and we'll enjoy time together in God's word. Coffee and scones will be provided! Please contact liz@holyroodchurch.org if you have any questions.

Men's Event

Please save the date! The next Holyrood men's event will be on Saturday 9th May. More details to follow.





Cross Training Ministries – Men's Weekend in Keswick

Come and join us in Keswick from **29th – 31st May** as we hear about the urgency, the opportunity and the challenge of pursuing God together.

There will be excellent teaching, great singing, good fellowship, relevant seminars and some beautiful walks in the Lake District. Accommodation, which is a mixture of single and shared, is in the Skiddaw Centre run by Keswick Ministries. There is some capacity for day visitors so please get in touch.

The cost is £120 but if you book before 1st May 2026 there is an early bird discount of 10% using the code 'CT12'. Sign up here - <https://events.humanitix.com/https-www-xtrainingministries-com-cross-training-men-s-weekend>



Psalm Singing Event – Friday

St Columba's Free Church have invited us to join them on Friday 1st May at 7pm for a psalm singing event.

This evening is intended to be a welcoming and uplifting gathering for Christians of all denominations. The aim is simply to enjoy the rich heritage of Scottish psalm singing together, in a spirit of unity and shared faith. The event will include a selection of psalms, a short and accessible talk highlighting the value of psalm singing and its focus on Christ, and light refreshments afterwards. All are very welcome.

Church Calendar

This week for your info and prayers:

- Wednesday: Prayer Meeting from 7-8pm (with refreshments from 6.45pm) and online.
- Saturday: Women's Conference from 10am – 1pm
- Sunday:
 - Worship Service at 10.30am – Joe Barnard preaching (live streamed)
 - Evening Service at 6pm – Jon Gemmell preaching
- Monday: Baby and Toddler Group from 10am – 11.30am

