

Weekly Newsletter

19th May 2026



Holyrood
Church

My Testimony - Aaron Cameron

My journey to faith started from the time I was born. I attended Palmerston Place Church, and many Scripture Union camps. I started to drift from the church when I was 15. After SU, I'd leave spiritually energised and return to Bathgate, surrounded by nobody of faith apart from my amazing Mum. I've always had a skeptical and critical mindset, and I didn't really have people around me to answer my questions or objections. I didn't know about adorning oneself with the armour of God and despite knowing that all the best people in my life were Christian, these factors amongst others, I let lead me astray.



Now, I'm married to my wonderful wife Heather, and we had Christopher in July 2025. I always had an interest in Christianity. I've listened to podcasts regularly, and taken intellectual interest in the discussions from Jordan Peterson, William Lane Craig, and Sam Harris to name a few. In September 2025, political activist Charlie Kirk was assassinated on a university campus, leaving behind his wife and two young children. His wife, Erica, stood in front of the world at his memorial service, did the unthinkable and forgave her husband's killer. It was clear that only faith could provide such strength at a time of unimaginable loss. She told the audience (me) to go to church, and that in turn was a wake up call for us. I searched for traditional churches in Edinburgh and Holyrood Evangelical stood out to me. I decided to follow some advice I had heard before: "Treat Christianity as though it is true, and see what happens". So I gave it a shot and we started attending Holyrood in October.

There were many things that God had a hand in, such as sending me to a church led by Joe, who just released a book that may as well have been titled '*A book for Aaron Cameron*'. Joe invited me to his book signing and I read '*The Road Back to God*' in a few days. It was the first step in waking me up to how sinful a person I am, my need for God in my life, and my inability to do this on my own. I met up with Joe weekly, and though I still had my critical and skeptical side, I learnt to acknowledge there's a time and place for that.

By April, it came down to a small hurdle between me and professing my faith - the word 'believe'. How can I say that I *believe* in God, that I *believe* in Jesus, when I act the way I do? If you had put me on a lie detector machine and asked if I *believed*, I didn't know what the results would be. Eventually I realised that I was conflating belief with certainty. I don't need to be certain or have a scientific equation that proves his existence. I can have doubts, and they are normal. I pray every day, I have a relationship with Jesus. I believe. Finally, Joe said at the end of his morning sermon: "Now is always the time to profess". So I did.





I am so grateful to be saved. I was on a high after professing, and since then I've also experienced distance from the Holy Spirit, yet I've been trying to keep closer to God by continuing to acknowledge my sins and asking for forgiveness. I really feel that my old self died as Christ died for us, and although it is still a daily battle, this time, I've got Christ by my side. Thank you Lord Jesus; being able to trust in you is a super power. Prayer has been one of the most important things for me to get to know God. I would encourage anyone starting on their journey to pray and see what happens.

Missionary Update – this Saturday

We're looking forward to having the opportunity to hear from our missionaries and pray for them on **Saturday 23rd May at 9am** (on Zoom). Please keep that date free and come along! Zoom codes will be sent out nearer the time.

Picnic in the Park – Sunday 31st May

We're hoping to have a picnic in the park together on **Sunday 31st May** after the morning service. Bring your picnic with you and something to sit on. Tea, coffee and cold drinks will be provided. We'll put up the volleyball net and enjoy an afternoon together. It will be weather dependent and we can eat in the church if it rains!

Cornhill Summer School



Cornhill Summer School is taking place between **25-27th May**.

The Summer School is an intense 3-days of Bible Handling that will help any Christian to read, understand and teach the Bible to others: whether as an occasional preacher, Bible study leader, children's or youth worker, a keen church member thinking about possible ministry in the future, or someone who would love to do The Cornhill Training Course but circumstances prevent them

from doing so. All sessions are led by Cornhill staff, mirroring the format of our two-year Cornhill Training Course.

For more details and to sign up, go to <https://cornhill.scot/conferences/>





Faith Mission Convention 2026

The 2026 Edinburgh Convention, will be held from **Thursday 2nd – Sunday 5th July**. There will be a full programme of teaching along with activities for children, teens and young adults.

Gerald White (Hope Church Bingham) is leading the 16-25s Rejuvenate programme and further information is available [here](#).



DEREK MAXWELL
General Director of
Slavic Gospel Association



JIM LYONS
Pastor of Coleraine
Congregational Church

**THE FAITH MISSION
BIBLE COLLEGE**
EDINBURGH, EH17 8QG
www.faithmission.org/edinburgh

MINISTRY
Morning Sessions, Seminars,
and Evening Challenge

CRECHE
During the Morning
Session and Seminar

KID'S ZONE
Alongside main events
both morning and evening

INVIGORATE
Events Friday and Saturday
morning for 12-15 years

REJUVENATE
Events for 16-25s

ACCOMMODATION
Options in the Bible
College or Pollock Halls



Do pray for all the speakers. Jim Lyons and Derek Maxwell are doing the main Bible teaching. Jim is the pastor of Coleraine Congregational Church, and Derek is the UK Director of Slavic Gospel Association. David Nixon (Carrubbers) will also speaking over the weekend. Save the dates and come along!

Church Calendar

This week for your info and prayers:

- Wednesday: Prayer Meeting from 7-8pm with Saheb Borgall (Tribals Transformation, India) Online option available.
- Thursday: Women's Bible Studies from 10.30 – 11.30am in the church
- Saturday: Missionary Update at 9am on Zoom
- 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
 - Co-ordination Group Meeting at 7pm on Zoom

