

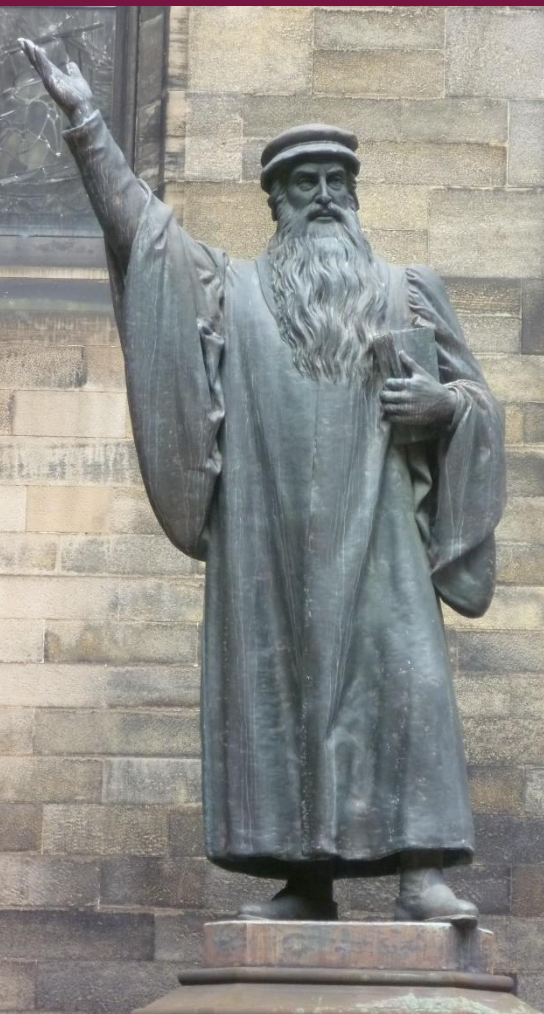


University of the
Highlands and Islands
Highland Theological
College

Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd
agus nan Eilean
Colaiste Dhiadhachd
na Gàidhealtachd

A Community of Faith and Scholarship

Newsletter - Summer 2017



How bold are we in our prayer life?

How bold are we in our prayer life? It is said that the cry of that great Scottish reformer, John Knox, was 'Lord, give me Scotland, or I die.' Does anyone pray like that nowadays? Could we pray such a prayer? Should we pray such a prayer?

While reflecting recently on the words of Psalm 2:8, it gradually dawned on me that such a prayer is not only appropriate but very much in line with the thrust of that verse where the Lord sets before the king both an invitation and a related promise: 'Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession.'

Psalm 2 is often regarded today as one of the Royal Psalms, written in



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the first place probably with the Davidic king in mind, but later interpreted most fully with reference to the ideal Messianic King. In v 8 the Lord, who is the Creator of the ends of the earth, invites the newly crowned King to pray a massively expansive prayer that reaches as far as it possibly could – to ‘the ends of the earth.’ And as the Lord issues that invitation to prayer, at the very same time he promises that that ask will be answered in full measure with nothing held back.

The New Testament (e.g., in Acts 13:33) teaches us that this Psalm finds its fulfilment in the coronation of Jesus Christ in the heavenly Zion after his death, resurrection and ascension. In that place of victory, Jesus continues to ask the Father for the nations and one after another they are given to him to conquer with his gospel of amazing grace and love.

But, it doesn’t stop there. I believe that we ‘anointed ones’ who are now ‘in Christ’ share in His royal and priestly ministry of intercession, as the Lord encourages us also to ‘ask’ him for the nations. The particular burden on your heart may be for Scotland, or it may be for any of the other nations or people groups of this world. And before we even ask, we have the promise that that prayer will be answered. To what degree that may be so in our life time is not for us to know, but we can certainly lay hold of the promise, and pray with urgency, with faith, with perseverance and with expectancy. For this is how it will be at last: ‘Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession.’ ‘Lord, give me the nation of

Rev Hector Morrison, Principal

Students and Graduates News

Steve Adamson [PhD 2014] is the new Provost and Chief Operating Officer at Arizona Christian University, Phoenix, AZ.

Lewis Campbell [Access 2011; CertHE 2014] is involved with 20schemes in setting up a new church plant in Torry, Aberdeen.

Andrew Fothergill [BA 2010] was inducted as minister of Tain Parish Church.

Fraser Hunter has taken up a part-time post as chaplain to the Salvation Army homeless hostel in Perth.

Peter Kiehlmann has been ordained as an Ordained Local Minister (OLM) to serve the CofS Presbytery of Gordon.

Gordon Macleod [BA 2015] was inducted as a Chaplain in the Western Isles Hospital in Stornoway.

Mantle Nance of Ballantyne Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, North Carolina, successfully defended his PhD thesis.

Nathan Owens [BA 2012] has been appointed as minister of Maxwell United Free Church, Kilmaurs.

Martin Paterson [BA 2015] was ordained at Stonehouse Paterson Church.

Carl Peet has accepted a call from Arnold Road Evangelical Church, Nottingham, as associate pastor.

Walter Strickland, lecturer at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, North Carolina, successfully defended his PhD thesis.

Dougie Wolf [BA 2015] was ordained and inducted as minister of Barvas Church of Scotland.

Philip Wright was elected as minister of Kirkintilloch St. Columba's.

Part time students and Ministry Apprentices **James O'Neill** and **Fiona Waite** have started a new Christian Union group for the University of the Highlands and Islands.

If you know of other ordinations, inductions and appointments please let us know!



Staff News

Mr Lewis Vernal, College Secretary, has retired after almost two decades of faithful service, having started with HTI 19 years ago on academic board and other committees then joining the staff team 17 years ago. Lewis was responsible for financial and budgetary matters, estates and operational matters, and a host of other roles! Before leaving, Lewis was presented with the UHI Vice-Chancellor's medal at a ceremony at which the UHI Chancellor HRH Princess Anne was presiding – more details below.



Lewis has been replaced by **Mr Blair Gardner** who has spent most of his career to date as a civil servant.

Mrs Emily Hamilton, Registry Officer, has left HTC following the birth of her second baby. **Andrew Ross**, who job-shared with Emily, has also moved on. Emily's maternity period was covered by **Mrs Morag Redwood**. The post has been filled by **Miss Kathryn Stewart**.

Miss Derry Brebner has joined the staff team as PA to the Principal. Derry previously worked for over 20 years with Christian Focus Publications.

Mrs Trish Rigby, Student Support Officer, left HTC to focus more time on her other work of Counselling. Trish has been replaced by **Mrs Cathy Steed**.

Lewis Vernal presented with the UHI Vice-Chancellor's medal

Before retiring from HTC, **Lewis Vernal** was honoured by the University of the Highlands and Islands at a ceremony in Perth. The university Chancellor, HRH The Princess Royal, presided over the Perth College UHI Graduation and UHI Foundation Day event which took place at Perth Concert Hall and was attended by over 1300 graduates and guests. Lewis was presented with a Vice-Chancellor's Medal in recognition of almost 20 years of service to the college and his contribution to the wider university. He said: 'It is a wonderful, unsought honour to receive this award. I have not only my colleagues at HTC to thank for their kind nomination, but also the Vice-chancellor in making his choice. I owe an immense tribute to my talented co-workers throughout the university and its Foundation. We have striven together over the years to play our part in creating and prospering our unique university, even as we continue to strive today for excellence in the education,



support and nurture of our students. It is a special reward for us to look beyond all that we are focussed on doing for our students, to see increasingly and inspiringly what our alumni are going on to achieve, not only across the Highlands and Islands but also far beyond.'

Congratulations on your award, Lewis, and best wishes in your retirement!

Innes Visagie made a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy

Congratulations to **Rev Dr Innes Visagie** (lecturer in Practical and Pastoral theology and on the Theology degree and programme leader on the Philosophy, Politics and Economics degree) who is now a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. This is a prestigious award and Innes joins only a small handful of folks in UHI who have gained this national recognition. It's formal recognition of what we always knew – the consistently high teaching standards at HTC!



Alistair Wilson at the European Leadership Forum

Thanks to the generosity of good friends of the college, HTC's New Testament lecturer **Rev Dr Alistair Wilson** and his wife were able to attend the [European Leadership Forum](#) gathering in Wista (pronounced 'viswa'), Poland, from 20th-25th May. The ELF conferences have been running since 2003, initially in Hungary and more recently in Poland, with a particular emphasis on encouraging fellowship and partnership between Christian leaders in Eastern and Central Europe on one hand and those in Western Europe on the other.



Approximately 700 people attended the event this year, including a substantial number of participants from parts of the world beyond Europe such as the USA and Africa. The conference consisted of various plenary talks (by speakers including John Lennox, Hans Bayer, and Michael Reeves); numerous presentations in 'networks' which drew together leaders working in broadly similar fields; and a variety of open workshops.

Alistair commented on his experience, 'It was an immense privilege to attend the ELF this year. I appreciated meeting colleagues working in theological education in many parts of the world, as well as colleagues working in quite different areas of Christian service. I hope that the personal and professional relationships developed at this conference will become even more fruitful in coming years.'

HTC-Glasgow

2015 was a landmark year for HTC with the opening of our HTC-Glasgow base. For many years HTC's distance learning students in the Central Belt had expressed interest in having somewhere to meet, discuss theology, exchange library books, etc. Several reasons delayed this from happening but in 2015 God opened a way for us. The tremendous help, support and encouragement of the United Free Church of Scotland enabled HTC to set up classrooms and a small library in the top floor of their offices in Newton Place. **HTC-Glasgow was born!**

The arrangement with the UF Church was short-term and draws to a close this summer. We have been busy identifying alternative premises and have now secured an arrangement with the **Wynd Centre in Paisley**.

The Wynd Centre offers bigger accommodation, enabling us to increase from two classrooms to three. There is also space available to create two small offices and a library/study area. Based in a large church building with superb facilities, there are numerous congregation and community activities throughout the week.

The Wynd Centre is only two minutes' walk from the train station in the centre of Paisley, which is only 11 minutes' train journey from Glasgow Central Station - so from the heart of Glasgow you can be there in under quarter of an hour. **HTC-Paisley here we come!!**

HTC-Paisley

Please join with us in praying for this venture and, if you are able, please consider giving a donation. Thank you!

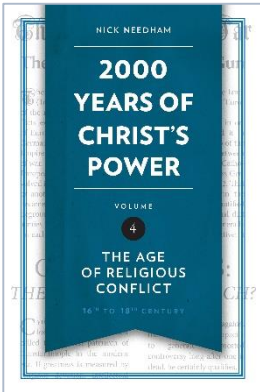
Give thanks for:

- The growing number of students in the Central Belt
- The wonderful help granted us by the UF Church, enabling us to 'get started'
- The willingness of the UF Church to clear their attic rooms, renovate and redecorate to provide bright, airy classroom spaces
- The support and help of John, Helena and others
- The positive learning environment for the students
- Sufficient books to create a new library
- Pamela, our HTC-Glasgow administrator
- The offer of accommodation by the Wynd Centre

Please pray for

- Vision of the architect and tradesmen in planning the layout
- Granting of the building warrant and planning application
- Efficient renovation works, completed to a good standard and in time for the new academic session
- That the project proceeds on time and within budget
- That we receive donations and grants to cover the costs, currently estimated at over £48,000
- Safe transportation of furniture, books etc from the UF offices to the Wynd Centre
- Set-up of the IT and video-conference equipment
- Applications from students wishing to study at HTC-Paisley
- That God is honoured in all we do

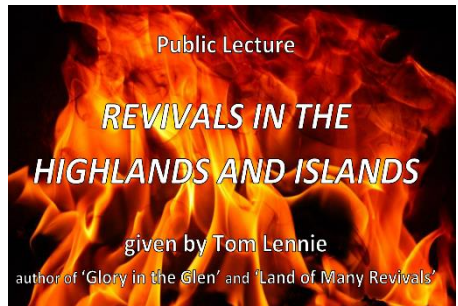
Recent and Upcoming Events



2000 Years of Christ's Power, Volume 4 'The Age of Religious Conflict' by Rev Dr Nick Needham

This has been a hugely popular volume, long-awaited by those who have read volumes 1-3 of the series. To find out why people are so excited by it, listen to the recording of the **Book Launch** on YouTube at www.htc.uhi.ac.uk/news-events/2000-years-of-Christ's-power

Recordings of the **Highland Church History forum conference** and the public lecture by Tom Lennie on 'Revivals in the Highlands and Islands' are available on the website at www.htc.uhi.ac.uk/news-events/highland-church-history-forum for listening or viewing.

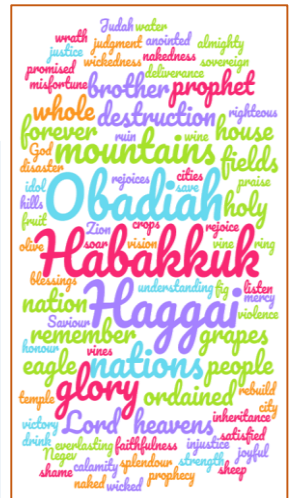


Public Classes

Visit the website to download lecture notes and to listen/view the classes on our latest two mini-series www.htc.uhi.ac.uk/news-events/public-classes

Calvin's Institutes and Major Messages from Three Minor Prophets

Calvin's Institutes
Introduction and purpose of <i>Institutes</i>
<i>Scopus Divinitatis</i> : Knowing God and Ourselves and the Revelation in Creation Knowing God and Ourselves God Revealed in Creation
Self-attestation of Scripture and accommodation The Bible and the Holy Spirit
Trinity, Christ as <i>autotheos</i> and the Calvinistic extra. Idolatry and the Trinity The Person of Jesus Christ
Covenant and the relationship between Old and New Testaments The Place of the Law Relation between the Old and New Testaments
Providence and Predestination God's Sovereign Providence Election and Reprobation Predestination
The True Nature of Christian Freedom
The Lord's Supper



Graduation and Awards Ceremony 2017

HTC's 23rd Graduation and Awards Ceremony service takes place on Monday 3rd July at Castle Street Church, Dingwall. With over 30 awards being made on the BA Theological Studies programme, this ceremony takes the total number of HTC graduates well above 300. Congratulations to them all! We pray for them all as they serve God in various spheres.



Summer Conferences

If you're in London on the 4th-6th July you may want to attend the '2017 Our Glorious Reformation Legacy' conference at the Metropolitan Tabernacle.

Rev Dr Nick Needham, church history lecturer, will be one of the main speakers. www.metropolitantabernacle.org/Met-Tab-School-of-Theology-2017-500-years-reformation

Or if you're in the Oban area during 8th-10th August the Argyll Convention would be worth a visit. **Rev Dr Alistair Wilson**, New Testament lecturer, will be representing HTC. www.argyllconvention.com/

Or if you're in the Aberystwyth area in August you may want to pop along to the EMW Aberystwyth Conference 2017 which takes place on 12th-19th August. **Rev Hector Morrison**, Principal, will be one of the main speakers. www.emw.org.uk/what-we-do/conferences-events/english-aber-summer-conference

New Academic Session

Places are still available on all our courses for the new session starting in Sept'17. We are especially excited to have an **on-campus Access class** this year. This course is for anyone who wants to study the Christian faith, either simply for interest or as an entry route to studying Theology at degree level. Apply now! See our website or contact htcadmissions@uhi.ac.uk for more details.

Apply now!

*Are you wanting to help out more in your church
with bible studies and pastoral visits?*

*Do you feel like you need help to understand things
better so you can explain them more clearly?*

Access to Christian Theology



*Study full-time at college
or at your own pace at home*

***Modules include: Old Testament,
New Testament, Church History and Pastoral Theology***

Ideal for anyone wanting to study the Christian faith simply for interest, or as an entry route to studying Theology at degree level.

www.htc.uhi.ac.uk/courses/christian-theology-access

Scottish Bulletin of Evangelical Theology 35:1 is now available!

SBET is the journal of the Scottish Evangelical Theology Society (SETS). Membership of SETS (costing not much more than a subscription to SBET) gives reduced rates on the society's events as well as twice-yearly copies of the Bulletin. A special rate is available for students. You do not have to be a member of SETS to receive the journal. To subscribe or purchase one-off copies or back-issues see www.htc.uhi.ac.uk/resources/sbet

Bankers Order

You can use this form to make donations to HTC by Standing Order. Please return the completed form to **Highland Theological College UHI ~ High Street ~ Dingwall ~ Ross-shire ~ IV15 9HA**

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Address _____

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Pay Unity Trust Bank (Sort Code 60-83-01) for credit of Highland Theological College Donations Account 20229489

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Gift Aid

You can use this form to increase the value of your gift to HTC by about a third. Please return the completed form to **Highland Theological College UHI, High Street, Dingwall, Ross-shire IV15 9HA.**

I wish all my donations to Highland Theological College (unless I specify in writing) to be treated as Gift Aid donations. I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand that HTC reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give.

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You can cancel this declaration any time by notifying HTC. Please notify HTC if you change your name or address. If your circumstances change you can cancel your declaration.



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- If your mailing details are incorrect please let us know.
- It is cheaper to send communications by email. If you are happy to receive communications by email instead of by post please let us know.
- If you know of anyone else who would like to be kept informed of HTC's work please encourage them to send us their details so that we can mail or email them too.

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