



Profile Dec 2022

Granton Baptist Church

Agreed by the Church Members' Meeting January 2023



Our vision

To see all at Granton Baptist passionately share God's heart for the lost – that they proactively discover, develop and use their gifts to grow His Church.

Our mission

To Motivate, Equip, Encourage and Involve all at Granton Baptist to reach the community for Christ.



www.grantonbaptist.org

1. Introduction

We are a group of Christians who serve within the North Edinburgh communities of Pilton / West Pilton and Granton

We are a very community orientated church and try our best to reach out through activities such as Foodbank+ and Table Tennis for men, and a Wellbeing Space. In the past we have had an internet café and a community lunch.

In all that we do, we seek to follow the lifestyle and teachings of Jesus Christ.

The 'official' membership is 65, though effectively that is 40, after deducting those further away or in nursing care; with around 30 regular adherents attending on Sundays.

2. Our Church as it is now

The Leadership

Leadership is very much a shared experience at Granton. Working with the Pastor there are currently three Deacons who have a dual elder/deacon role, dealing with the spiritual and practical as they oversee the work of the church.

Over the past 12-18 months we have started a new Leadership structure with semi-autonomous groups being set up.

The Group Leaders then meet quarterly to ensure everyone is up to date.

Groups include Outreach/Discipleship, Worship, Prayer, Pastoral, Fellowship, Youth and Fabric.

In 2022 we also employed a part-time Youth & Community worker.

The People

Around 50 attend each Sunday, with a few still on zoom, with ages ranging from 18 months to 104. There is a Creche, Junior Church for Primary School Kids; now that we have a Youth and Community worker, we are restarting work with secondary kids.

There are a range of professions within the fellowship including Health & Social Care Workers, some out-with Work & Retired Persons.

We are also a multicultural community, with members coming from within the UK, Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas.

Worshipping Together

We have a Sunday morning service, with communion once a month. Our services blend structure and informality. We have what is often called "blended worship" with a mixture of new songs, and some older hymns, led by a full band of guitars, keyboards and drums. We will have video clips, people telling their story, and open prayer.

If people feel that God has spoken to them, or they have a particular need, there is a prayer team available to pray for folk after the service

Whenever we can, we involve the young people in our worship. They will often play along with the band at the end of the service and will usually tell us what they have been learning in their groups.

Within the church membership there is a broadly evangelical approach to theology and practice. Strong Bible teaching is important, as is the gentle charismatic approach to worship. Fundamental to the activities of the church is leading people to faith in God. Common to all areas of church life we seek the guidance and inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

The Activities

An important part of church life is our homegroup network, which we encourage people to be part of. There we learn what it means to be disciples, and to share our lives together.

Other activities include: -

Monday	Video Fellowship Table Tennis (Mens Group)
Tuesday	Food Bank +
Wednesday	Virtual Coffee (on Zoom) Wellbeing Space Monthly Prayer Meeting

The Buildings

Our church building(s) have been on the site since 1940, moving through various setups, the current Sanctuary was opened in 1992.



There is also a 3/4 bedroom Manse available a few streets away, in good catchment area for local schools.

Wider connections

Local Mission: Members of the fellowship are active in Edinburgh Street Pastors.

There is also a Care Van Team, the van is run by Edinburgh City Mission and Bethany Christian Trust. Over the years we have also worked with other local churches in mission.

We are encouraged that the Wellbeing Space has initiated the beginnings of a community garden.

Baptist Union: The church is in membership of the Baptist Union of Scotland. It supports both Home Mission and BMS World Mission financially and in prayer. The church is currently linked with BMS missionaries working in Albania.

3. The Area

North Edinburgh communities of Pilton / West Pilton and Granton range from parts with dire needs, incoming refugees, issues with drug use to more affluent areas.

Housing is largely rental through housing associations through to sections of privately owned housing.

4. The Church we would like to see

- Above all, we should be a people who love God, love each other and love the community we are called to serve.
- We want to see people of all ages using and developing their gifts and fully participating in the life of the church and its mission. We are aware that there is a need for a more structured approach to identifying and using the gifts God has given to us as a body.
- We want to be a church that is growing and moving forward with God.
- We particularly want to develop work in the local communities, in partnership with other local charities.
- We need to develop and implement strategies for moving people from the fringe (and beyond) to the centre – changing them from contacts to disciples.
- We want to continue to be rooted in God's Word and to be helped in this by receiving inspirational Bible-based preaching and teaching – from a new minister and others who are already part of our church.
- We want to be a people who keep on supporting and encouraging each other in our day-to-day life and who are better equipped to be 'salt and light' in the communities God has placed us in.

5. The Minister we believe that we need

We believe therefore that we need a minister who will help us develop our life together in this way. Specifically we believe we need someone who:

- Has a deep and profound respect for the Bible in their own life and knows how to communicate that well to others – and will enable other church members to do that as well.
- Will inspire, challenge, encourage and work innovatively with the whole church to move us forward together into the future that God has prepared for us.
- Has a collaborative style of leadership which will enable him/her to work well with our existing (and future) ministry teams.
- Will encourage, inspire and equip church members to use and develop their God-given gifts both inside and outside the church.
- Will help us have even greater confidence to live out the gospel in the community through both words and actions.
- Has the experience and passion to effectively integrate the people we have connected with, into the church community.

6. Practical Matters

- i) We intend making this appointment in line with the BU Recommended Terms of Appointment and will be offering a remuneration which is competitive, which will be above BU Standard Stipend.
- ii) We will enable and encourage our minister to participate in the Baptist Union's CMD programme, and to join the Local Ministers Group.

A Granton Baptist Tapestry....



God is good!



Church Picnic



Lord, you have my heart



Sunday Worship



Hi There!



Church Ceilidh



Vision Day