



thrive.

Conference
:: living the gospel in & through your workplace



www.thrivescotland.org



A time to thrive...

Thrive was born out of a desire to see God move in the people we move amongst each and every day - the places where 90% of us spend 90% of our working lives. These places are often stressful and resistant to Christian things. We asked ourselves: **How can we help Christian's flourish in their workplace?**

It is our belief that God is moving within our frontline workplaces across Scotland and we want to catch something of His heart for our lives, workplace and cities.

Our aim is to see Christians empowered and equipped to live out the gospel in and through their workplace - impacting the kingdom through their companies, churches and city.

We are seeking to bring believers across Scotland inspiring teaching, honest discussions and deep reflection. We would love you to join us and be part of the movement.

The first Thrive conference took place in Aberdeen in March 2019 and the theme of the conference was living the gospel in and through your workplace. The intended audience of the conference was Christians who were:

- struggling to see how God can use them in the workplace need encouraged, equipped and empowered to see their workplace as a place of ministry
- wanting to make a bigger impact on the corporate culture around them and the city in which they work.

Over a Friday night and Saturday in March 2019, 12 organisations shared inspirational teaching, deep conversations and uplifting praise.

As we sought God's guidance on what to do for the 2020 conferences, by the end of 2019 we were planning to hold two conferences - in Aberdeen and Edinburgh in September 2020, seeking to build on the momentum generated by 2019 conference in Aberdeen and the grassroots activity of The Business Connection (Aberdeen) and Business Matters (Edinburgh).

However, 2020 has brought a world that none of us expected and few were ready for. The workplace has changed dramatically due to the new realities of a global pandemic. We took time to reflect on what God was telling us though the lockdown.

**The Business Connection
trustees welcome you to
Thrive 2020...**

Jim Grimmer
Martyn Link
Barry McAllister

www.thrivescotland.org

T.H.R.I.V.E – 2020 national conference

In response, and after many weeks of prayer we believe God is calling us to move Thrive 2020 to a fully online conference that seeks to encourage, equip and empower believers right across Scotland. Moreover, we sense that God is speaking to His church during this period of enforced physical separation.

What is God saying to us about how we support those around us suffering from fear, anxiety & uncertainty? What are the tools that people need to thrive in this new reality?

What are the tools and principles for leading well at work?

We are seeking to focus on six key areas for the 2020 conference:

- T - Teaching.** Biblical truth for troubling times. What does the bible teach about how to thrive in times of difficulty?
- H - Harvest.** What are we seeing, where is God at work? How do we partner with God in bringing in the kingdom harvest?
- R - Refresh.** Personally, collectively, nationally – helping us to find pools of refreshment amidst the many challenges
- I - Inclusion.** How do we work shoulder to shoulder with non-Christians in our workplace and cities to bring kingdom blessing to our nation?
- V - Vision.** What lies ahead for the church, work, and Scotland? What are the key principles and playbook for thriving in the new normal?
- E - Ecosystem.** How can we build a gospel eco-system across Scotland that blesses our communities, cities and workplaces?

THRIVE 2020 >> teaching, harvest, refresh, inclusion, vision, ecosystem <<



Thrive Scotland partners:

Business Matters Edinburgh

City Vision

Cornerstone Church

Deeside Christian Fellowship

Dr Tharaka

Evangelical Alliance

Global Advance

International Christian Chamber of Commerce UK (ICCC)

King's Community Church

London Institute for Contemporary Christianity (LICC)

Movement Day

P3 Business Care

SALT Network

Solas Centre for Public Christianity

Station House Media Unit (SHMU)

The Business Connection

Transform Work UK

XIC Design & print

We Webinar

www.thrivescotland.org

Thank you to our Thrive Conference 2020 sponsor



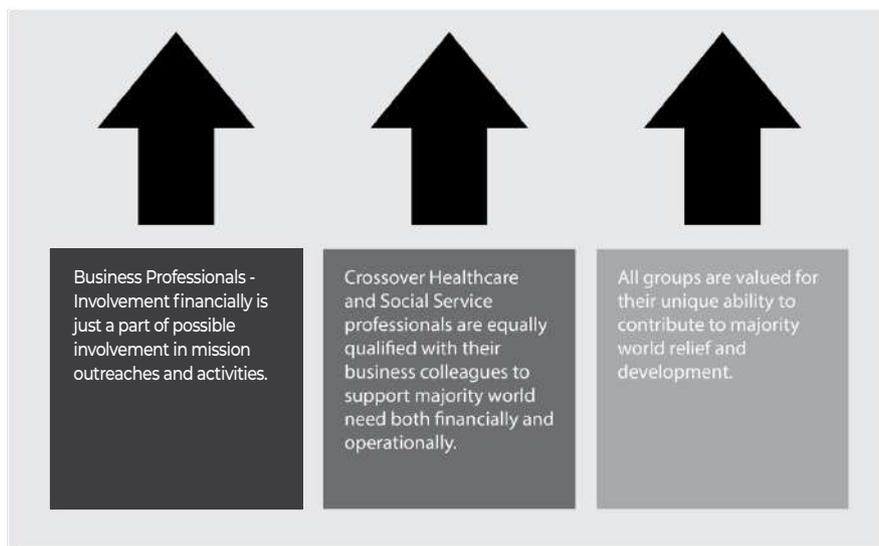
Marketplace Missions

One of the greatest transformational movements in modern missions has been the cultivation of marketplace ministry. Marketplace leaders are business professionals who add value in their nations by creating jobs, bringing salt and light to the workplace, and raising a standard of righteousness and integrity in the market. This movement represents a growing intentionality in the global Church to fully integrate business leaders in the marketplace with the Biblical mandate to take the whole Gospel to the whole world.

If Christians in the marketplace can be awakened to fulfill their purpose in the Great Commission, a new world missions force will emerge. God is calling His men and women, functioning as bankers, lawyers, business owners, investors, teachers, and entrepreneurs to penetrate the marketplace with God's principles of justice and compassion for His lost world. Global Advance has a robust vision to see marketplace leaders around the globe become catalysts for God's purposes through their lives, their work, and their businesses.

Who are Marketplace Ambassadors?

Global Advance Marketplace Ambassadors are men and woman of faith willing to utilize the skills that they have learned in business and the marketplace to empower and build capacity in others. Because Global Advance values business as a tool to empower majority world nations, we also value business professionals and their expertise – not just their ability to provide financial assistance.



Business Professionals are equally valued in their ability to significantly contribute operationally, financially, and spiritually.

Marketplace Ambassadors, as business professionals, are equally valued for the transformational skill set they bring in impacting their world for Christ. Regardless of their industry or sphere of influence, as a Marketplace Ambassador, their talents have the potential to impact nations.

Kingdom Business Networks (KBNs)

What is a KBN?

At Global Advance, we have been working to establish Kingdom Business Networks in key cities around the world. A Kingdom Business Network (KBN) is a collaborative enterprise managed by Godly leaders who use their time, talent, and resources to meet the spiritual and/or physical needs of the community around them to advance God's purposes. A KBN is a door into the marketplace for the Gospel's advance. Through business we can intentionally tackle poverty, increase quality of life, and bring positive social change. As business leaders, we carry with us the message of eternal life.

What Happens in a KBN?

KBNs help local business leaders create and navigate their entrepreneurial ecosystem in their region. Through cooperation and relationship building, resources are identified and utilized through networking. Additionally, KBNs provide marketplace training for their members. This training can be conducted by KBN members, Global Advance Marketplace Ambassadors, or it can take place remotely through innovative business technology platforms Global Advance facilitates for KBNs. Global Advance's toolbox of resources, including web-based access to a plethora of training materials including our Marketplace Manual, is available to all KBN members.

And, Global Advance continues to expand the resources it offers to KBN members through access to virtual conferencing, training, and printed curriculum.

Join Global Advance as a marketplace change-maker, as we work together to empower business leaders through marketplace missions!

<https://www.globaladvance.org>

www.thrivescotland.org

Marketplace flourishing in Aberdeen & Edinburgh

– two organisations, two cities, one vision

The Business Connection exists to provide a safe place where people can be encouraged, equipped and empowered to endure the stresses of professional business life.

Formed in 2014, we are inspired by our Christian faith to love and serve Aberdeen's business community.

If you work in Aberdeen's corporate sector, we would love you to be a part of The Business Connection.

In 2020 we are honoured to partner with many organisations to bring you the Thrive Scotland conference. Please join us at our next event as we 'seek the peace and prosperity of our city.'

<https://thebusinessconnection.org/>



Business Matter Edinburgh exists to serve and encourage those working in the Edinburgh business community.

Brought into being in 2006 by a group of Christian business people, business matters aims to support and serve everyone in the business community in Edinburgh, of any faith or none.

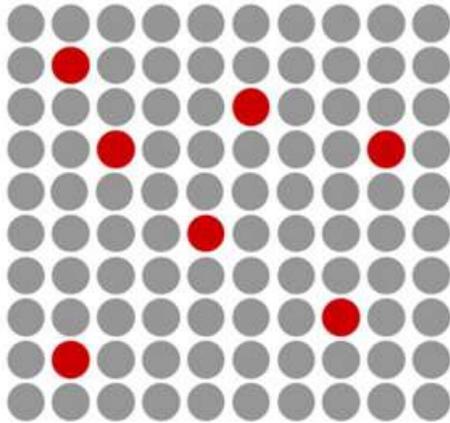
As part of the Edinburgh business community, you can benefit from being a part of the business matters network, drawing on others' experiences and knowledge while offering your own in return – all are welcome to participate for the benefit of one another

<https://www.businessmattersedinburgh.com/>

Scattered – Christians have been placed by God across our cities & companies

2.7 million people are in the workplace across Scotland out of 5.5 million population

Glasgow = 612,000
Edinburgh = 488,000
Highlands = 235,000
Aberdeen = 200,000
Dundee = 148,000
Perth = 47,000



Local Government = 197,000
NHS Scotland = 156,500
First Group = 125,000
RBS = 71,000
Wood Plc = 55,000*
Teachers = 51,000
Stagecoach Group = 33,000
Tesco = 31,500
John Menzies = 21,000
HBOS = 20,000
SSE = 19,000
Police Officers = 17,000

Source: LICC * Global Wood employees

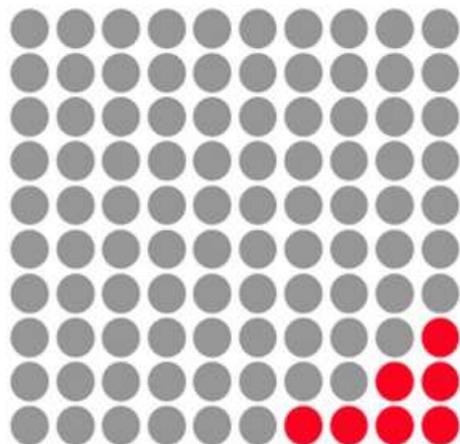
licc.org.uk

www.thrivescotland.org

Gathered – together there are around 200,000 Christians to reach 2.7 million

400,000 Christians regularly attending church in Scotland

Estimate 50% are in the workplace – 7.5% of the working population are Christians



[Source: LICC](#)

licc.org.uk

www.thrivescotland.org

Prayer from Lausanne Global Workplace Forum

25-29 June 2019

Manilla, Philippines:



We pray for **intensive efforts** to train all your people in whole-life discipleship, which means to live, think, work, and speak from a **biblical worldview** and with **missional effectiveness** in **every place** or circumstance of our daily life and work.

We, Christians in many skills, trades, businesses and professions, can often go to places where traditional church planters and evangelists may not.

We pray that what these ‘tentmakers’ and business people do in the workplace is **valued** as an aspect of the ministry of **local churches**. Amen.



<https://www.lausanne.org/gwf>

www.thrivescotland.org

Every Good Endeavour by Tim Keller – book review

It is a rare jewel of a book that effortlessly articulates and unpacks the complex struggles and dilemmas that those of us seeking to serve God in the workplace wrestle with, yet this book cracks the code of our unspoken questioning. If you have ever wondered if your work is important to God; if God has a greater purpose in putting you in an organisation; or if your work can be meaningful in the midst of the mundane then read on.

Some of us are struggling just to survive in our jobs let alone thrive. How can I do what I do every day in a way that is more connected to God's purpose of extending His kingdom? Throughout the book Keller explains the wrong thinking that has shaped our assumptions – like why society values certain types of roles over others and why work is so tough, even when you're in the right role.

He meticulously unpicks our sloppy thinking around our subconscious spiritual hierarchy, and society's beloved idols that unwittingly shape our thinking.

I found it a book of immense helpfulness in aligning my own job to how I can then serve others, serve society, model competence and witness to Christ – a formidable calling!

If you have all that sorted then feel free to skip this book, for the rest of us it is Induction Course 101 in essential frontline living – every Christian entering the workplace should digest its rich teaching before picking up your new lanyard and photo ID.

Thank God It's Monday by Mark Greene – book review

Have you ever found yourself lying in bed on Monday morning wishing that you had one more day of lockdown before heading back into the office? Wishing that you didn't have to face the world of half asleep, mask wearing commuters on their way to another dull day in the office or factory?

Not many of us bounce out of bed on a Monday pumped full of delight at a new week at work. For the Christian this can present a dilemma – we know that we should be thankful for, and serve God, in everything, but why is it so hard to be satisfied in our efforts to serve God at our workplace? How can we flourish in the workplace?

This book from Mark Greene is the metaphorical light switch to help illuminate our thinking. If you want to see your work from God's perspective and how we can thrive at work you will love this book.

Central to the book is establishing a new context for our service, using real life stories told with Mark's irrepressible wit and charm. It's a funny, compelling, warm-hearted exhortation to see the kingdom of God as it touches every aspect of life.

Can we see with new eyes what God wants to do through us?...through you...with that difficult to deal with boss, or dismissive colleague? Or lonely neighbour. This easy to read book is littered with real examples to connect what we think with how we act.

Mark's aim is to not to give us a new To Do list everyday, but a fresh way of approaching our everyday lives. If we are willing to see it, God is inviting us to bring His peace, His Shalom, to our broken world, and this not through perfect people but through the frail and faltering steps of His children who really do thank God it's Monday, and Tuesday, and Wednesday...

Review by Martyn Link, The Business Connection

The vital role of Christian Workplace Groups

– you are not alone; you can't do it alone



*Inspiring Christians to transform
their workplace and the nation*

Transform Work UK exists because working Christians not living out their faith at work are missing out on the opportunity to positively change the working world – where the majority of non-Christians live, and societal decisions are made – with the Christian gospel and its values.

Research done by TWUK in early 2020 across nearly 250 Christians in the workplace demonstrated that the more engaged a Christian is with their CWG, the more effective they are likely to be in workplace ministry.

Churches that encourage Christians to join with networks of other Christians in their workplace make it more likely that those Christians will engage in effective CWG workplace ministry; Christians who are part of CWGs gain greater confidence and capabilities in workplace ministry from their CWG than from their church.

66% of respondents said they had seen a positive impact on the organisation from their CWG.

<https://www.transformworkuk.org>

Work isn't easy, but it's full of opportunity.

Our work is the means by which God gets done what he wants done in the world: people fed, housed, clothed, informed, educated... Our work contributes toward God's purposes, towards human flourishing, and towards care of his creation. Your work matters. It also matters to God because you matter to God, your colleagues matter to God, and the organisation you work in matters to God. Our work isn't perfect, our companies aren't perfect, we aren't perfect, but Jesus is good news for all of it. The restoration he brings, the redemption he brings, the truth and justice, the hope. And all these things he can bring through you.

LICC exists to empower Christians to make a difference in God's world – wherever they are. At LICC we have a range of resources for workplace groups that can help you recognise all the ways God could be (and already is) at work in your work. Visit

<http://www.licc.org.uk/workplace-groups>



A model for personal effectiveness

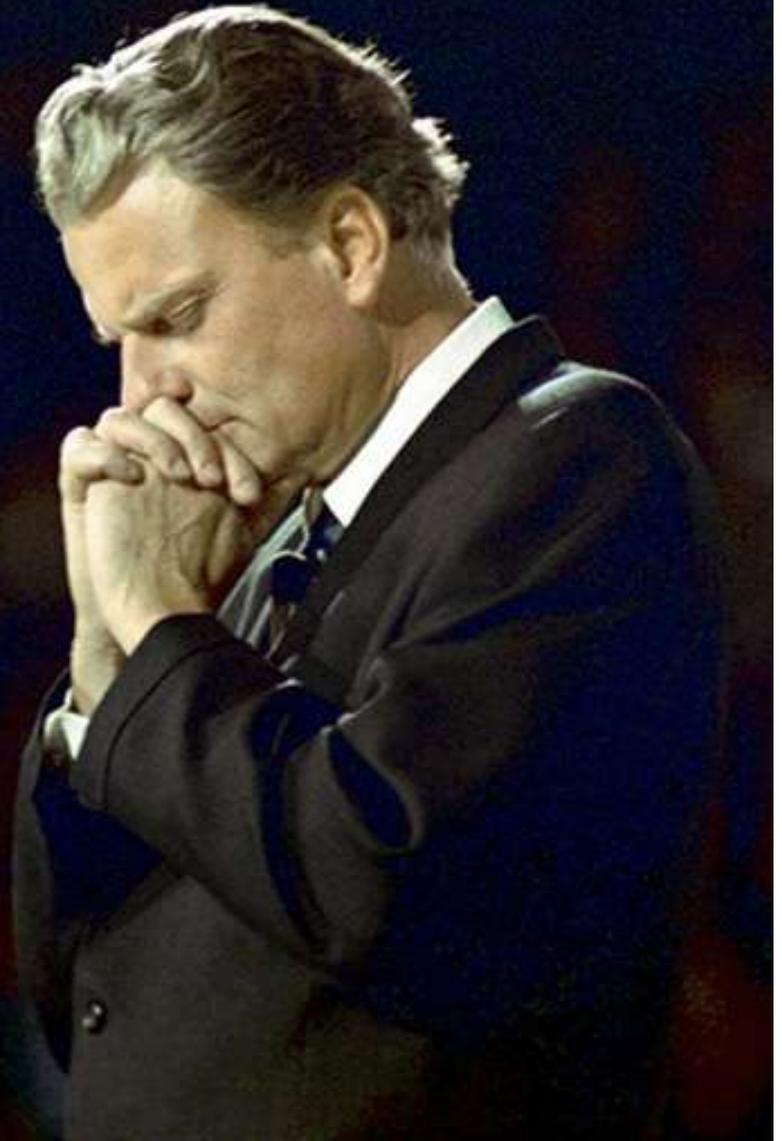
– using the 6M framework can help us find our own ministry gifting

<https://www.licc.org.uk/resources/6ms/>

www.thrivescotland.org

**“I believe one of
the next great
moves of God
is going to be
through believers
in their workplace”**

Billy Graham



Thriving in the city – blessing the city through renewal and transformation (City Vision)



CITY VISION

City Vision is a growing national and international city transforming movement. We work with others with a heart to see the Great Commission of Jesus fulfilled. To disciple a nation, City Vision believes that first cities must be discipled. We believe God uses processes connecting church leaders and marketplace Christians to facilitate growing relational unity in cities. Out of this unity, we believe God speaks and leads connection with civic authorities in ways that result in city transformation at every level. Join us as we ask the question, “What could a spiritual ecosystem look like that helped the Kingdom of God come to your city?” Based on a prophetic commercial career, Tony will walk you through the City Vision journey and introduce you to an ecosystem template designed to stimulate prayerful thought about what a spiritual roadmap for your city could look like. If you’d like to stay in touch with upcoming City Vision partner activities please visit www.cityvision.life.

www.cityvision.life

Global Advance sponsors hundreds of Marketplace Leadership events throughout the world. Christian entrepreneurs and business professionals are taught Kingdom principles and practical business skills so they can more effectively impact their world for Christ. We send teams of Marketplace Ambassadors to teach business skills, mentor, and minister encouragement to emerging marketplace leaders.

Global Advance is seeking to launch 100 Kingdom Business Networks worldwide by 2030, a community of believers within the marketplace within a region or city, who commit to coming together to encourage one another in their faith and in their work.

<https://www.globaladvance.org/>

Thriving in the city – transformation through stewarding dreams (Global Advance)



www.thrivescotland.org

Thriving in the city

– mobilising city leaders (Movement Day)



“The objective of our network is to forge a global alliance of leaders committed to **spiritually and socially impacting their cities** through rigorous research, uniting prayer, unified local leadership, and powerful collaboration between diverse sectors to impact their city. We seek to provide a global community to share best practices to help emerging urban gospel movements.

We believe there are three essential collaborative components for a healthy gospel ecosystem in cities: partnerships between ministry, parachurch organization, and workplace leaders.

By providing a space to convene and the opportunity to share ideas and practices to impact a city, the **fire of change is ignited.**

What we do matters significantly—but what we do together is paramount.

Our 2009 research indicated a 300% growth in Manhattan in evangelical Christianity.

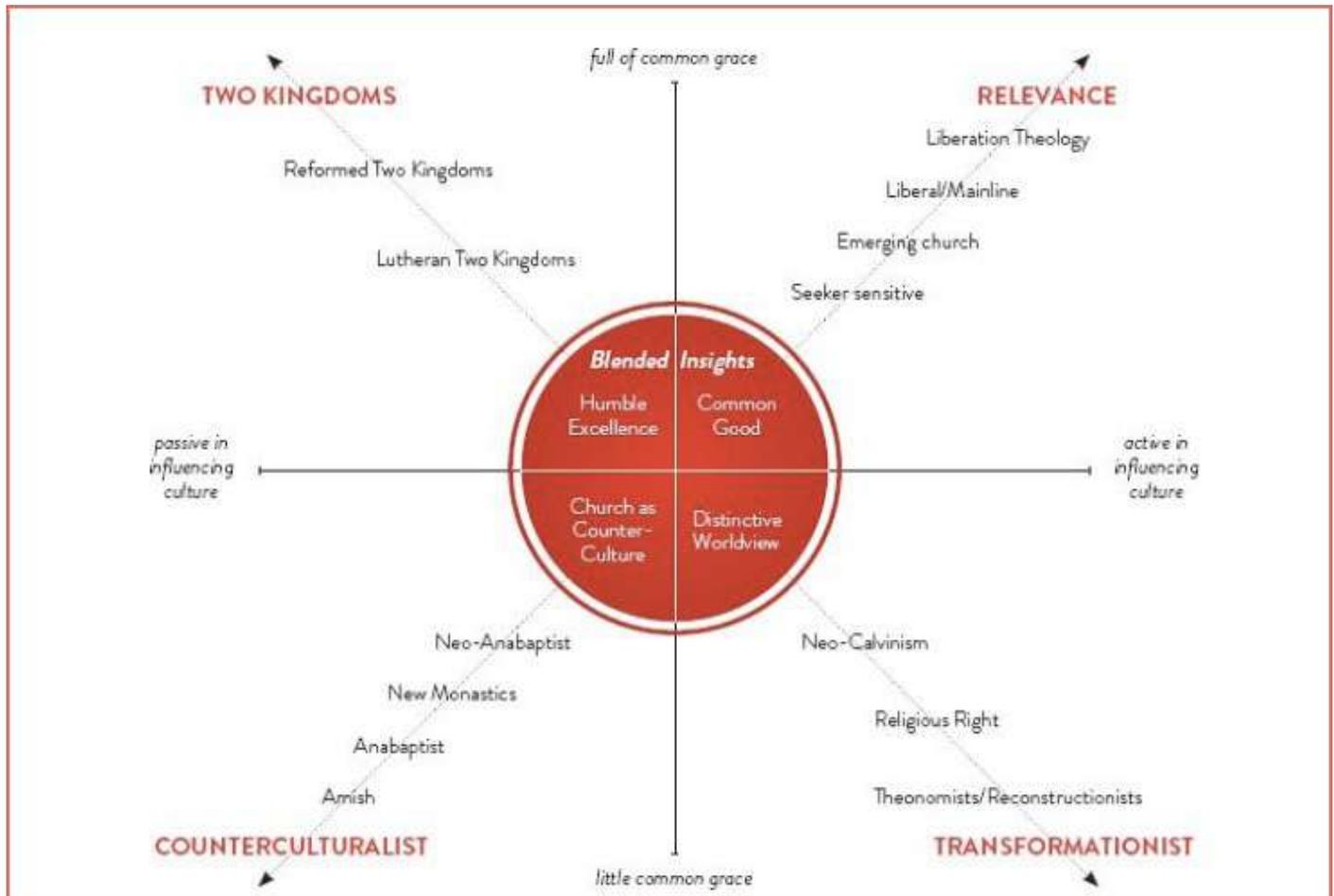
Christianity from 1989-2009. That was the genesis of Movement Day in 2010. We have convened 48,000 leaders from 4000 cities in ten years.”

(Movement Day)



Prayer event at inaugural Movement Day, London 2017

Centre Church – review of Centre Church by Tim Keller



Centre Church – review of Centre Church by Tim Keller

In Center Church, Tim Keller outlines a broad theological vision that connects classical evangelical doctrine to holistic and vibrant ministry expression, particularly in globalised, urbanised settings.

Many pastors struggle to translate their theological beliefs into fruitful ministry in the places they are called to reach. It is not enough to simply know what to believe (theology) or, on the other hand, how to do ministry (methodology)---they need something in between. They need help thinking about ministry in a culture that no longer believes Christianity is a force for good, let alone the source of ultimate revealed truth in the person of Christ.

Center Church, a collection of twelve essays by Timothy Keller, outlines a theological vision for ministry that is organised around three core commitments:

- Gospel-centered: The gospel of grace in Jesus Christ changes everything, from our hearts to our community to the world. It completely reshapes the content, tone and strategy of all that we do.
- City-centered: With a positive approach toward our culture, we learn to affirm that cities are wonderful, strategic and underserved places for gospel ministry.
- Movement-centered: Instead of building our own tribe, we seek the prosperity and peace of our community as we are led by the Holy Spirit.





Books to help you live
out the gospel in the
workplace

Welcome to the Thrive Virtual Bookstall

Check out the best books to help you live out the gospel in the workplace, recommended by speakers and by Muddy Pearl Books.



Canoeing the Mountains by Tod Bolsinger

It was the summer of 2017 and I was sitting in Cafe Nero riveted to Tod's description of explorers Lewis & Clark. They set out in 1803 to map the western part of America, an expanse previously unknown and assumed to hold a water course to the Pacific Ocean. Tod interlaces this analogy of exploration with the steady marginalisation of the church in western civilisation.

The beauty of what Tod does in this book is that he is able to draw insightful parallels from their unexpected adventures in the wilderness with the monumental shifts that have taken place in society's relationship with the church.

The gems in this book are too rich to summarise in a soundbite, they reward the thoughtful. This book deals with how to lead transformational change within an organisation when all around us is shifting. In the military they call it VUCA – volition, uncertain, complex & ambiguous. How do we lead change in a VUCA world?

What kind of leader do we need to be in order to both care for people and lead them into uncharted territory?

I have found its wisdom has remained with me these last few years. It calls us to not remain in the shallows but cast out for deeper waters abandoning our preconceived assumptions of what life would hold. Complete surrender is the goal, letting go of the need to gain approval or acceptance.

Stepping in to the unknown will mean we let go of our human resource to find all sufficiency in God's provision – often in the unlikeliest of places & the least listened to people.

Unravelled by Jon Peterson – book review

This book is part manifesto for a renewed vision for a 21st century way of being church, and part guidebook to experiencing unshakable spiritual security in the Father's love. Jon expertly deconstructs our false thinking about leadership, authority and spirituality in western church culture. As a master surgeon he splits our skin with his scalpel in order to extract the tumour. And some of it is close to the bone as a result – this is a deep examination of our motives and hidden drivers for how and why we do ministry.

If we would see churches and workplaces transformed by the power of the gospel some deep surgery may be required. We all know churches have individual characteristics that express the gifts and flaws of their family makeup...are we ready to put ourselves on the operating table in order to become more like Christ together?

Are we willing to enter a place of weakness and vulnerability to hear what God is saying to me through others? This Stumbling Edge, as Ken Janke (one of our Thrive speakers) calls it is the place of faith, failure and growth. Eventually, we can even come to enjoy our feet not being able to touch the bottom as we learn to live beyond the illusion of control.

There are many more lessons within these pages for those with the courage to walk this path with Jon. It was a blessing to meet him and Ken Janke in March 2019 – and then read some of Ken's story in this book. My prayer is that God uses this book to help us become more humble, more real & more secure in the Father's heart. Enjoy!

Review by Martyn Link, The Business Connection



The battle for the mind – persuading doubters and promoting a reasonable faith



We've believed that Christianity is declining. It isn't. We've assumed Christianity can't stand up in the university. It can. Too many of us think Christianity is threatened by diversity. It never has been. Rather than battering down the hatches, we need to go on an evangelism offensive. The secular consensus is crumbling, and we must humbly make the most of every opportunity—in schools and universities, at the bus stop, or by the water cooler. But we need to raise our game. Solas persuasively communicates the transforming truth of who Jesus is and empowers others to do the same.

<https://www.solas-cpc.org>

www.thrivescotland.org

Thrive 2020 programme – 8 days, 16 speakers

Lunchtime 60-minute
Fireside Conversations
12-1pm: Thriving on our frontlines

Wednesday 9th September
12-1pm – Teaching theme; Neil MacMillan,
Jeremy McQuoid.
Moderated by Stephen Hibbard

Thursday 10th September
12-1pm – Harvest theme;
Ruth Walker, Kieran Turner.
Moderated by Gregor Howitt

Friday 11th September
12-1pm – Refresh theme;
Dr Tharaka Gunarathne.
Moderated by Robin Stephens

Saturday programme,
12th September 2020.
Moderated by Dr Tharaka Gunarathne

10-11am – Inclusion theme; Ros Loaker,
Dr Andy Bannister.

11-12am – Vision theme; Ken Janke.

12-1pm Networking Lunch

1-2pm Ecosystem theme; Tony Hodges.

2-3pm Breakout Groups
(Aberdeen; Dundee; Edinburgh; Glasgow;
Perth; Highlands & Rural; Other)

3-4pm Feedback and Commissioning

4pm close

Please follow and share on our social media platforms



#Thrive2020 #ThriveScotland #ThriveConference #THRIVE
#Aberdeen #Perth #Glasgow #Dundee #Edinburgh #Highlands

www.thrivescotland.org

Thrive 2020 programme – 8 days, 16 speakers

Lunchtime 60-minute Fireside Conversations
12-1pm: Spheres of Influence

Monday 14th September
12-1pm – Government & Public Services theme;
Kate Forbes, Richard McCallum.
Moderated by Jim Grimmer

Tuesday 15th September
12-1pm – Financial Services & Law theme;
Colin Stewart, Stephen Millar.
Moderated by Lolu Olufemi

Wednesday 16th September
12-1pm – Energy & Climate theme;
Martyn Link.
Moderated by Ayo Shote

Thursday 17th September
12-1pm – Arts & Media theme; Ian Black,
Dave McCulloch.
Moderated by Martyn Link

Please follow and share on our social media platforms



#Thrive2020 #ThriveScotland #ThriveConference #THRIVE
#Aberdeen #Perth #Glasgow #Dundee #Edinburgh #Highlands

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Thrive 2020 Commissioning

Ken Janke, Global Advance 3.30pm Sat 12th Sept 2020

Challenge:

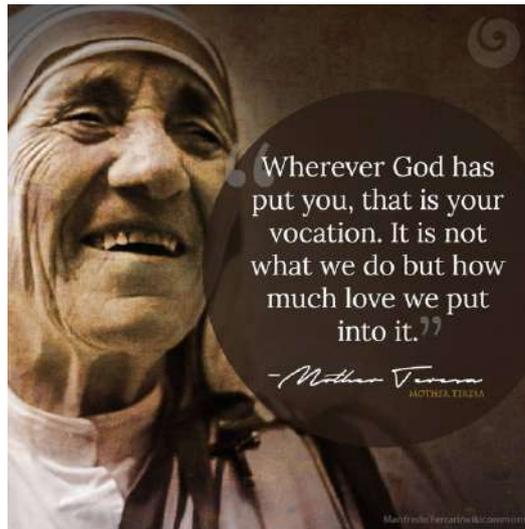
What is God calling you to do?
Where does He want you to be a catalyst?
Who is He calling you to reach?
Where is He telling you to go?
What is He prompting you to begin?

Marketplace Mission Commitment:

"Today I commit my life, my work, and
my business to the Lord Jesus and His
Kingdom."

5 Faith Declarations for Kingdom Business Leaders

1. "I am important to the Kingdom of God.
Therefore I will act like an Ambassador!"
2. "My Business is My Ministry.
Therefore My Work is Worship to God."
3. "The Marketplace is my Mission Field.
Therefore I will shine the light of Christ."
4. "God's Kingdom is My Priority.
Therefore I am blessed to be a Blessing."
5. "God's Anointing is My Competitive Advantage.
Therefore I will seek His Presence."



Conference Partners

Andy Bannister, Solas Centre for Public Christianity <https://www.solas-cpc.org>
Speaker- Inclusion theme- 10am Sat 12th Sept 2020

Andy Bannister is the Director of the Solas Centre for Public Christianity and an Adjunct Speaker for Ravi Zacharias International Ministries, speaking and teaching regularly throughout the UK, Europe, Canada, the USA, and the wider world. From universities to churches, business forums to TV and radio, he regularly addresses audiences of both Christians and those of all faiths and none on issues relating to faith, culture, politics and society.

Holding a PhD in Islamic studies Andy has taught extensively at universities across Canada, the USA, the UK and further afield on both Islam and philosophy. He is also an Adjunct Research Fellow at The Arthur Jeffery Centre for the Study of Islam at Melbourne School of Theology.

Andy is the author of *An Oral-Formulaic Study of the Qur'an* (a groundbreaking and innovative study that reveals many of the ways the Qur'an was first composed) and *Heroes: Five Lessons From Whose Lives We Can Learn*, an exciting and fast-moving look at the lives of five incredible giants of the Christian faith. His latest book, *The Atheist Who Didn't Exist* (or: *The Dreadful Consequences of Really Bad Arguments*), is a humorous engagement with the New Atheism. He also co-wrote and presented the TV documentary, *Burning Questions*.

When not travelling, speaking, or writing, Andy is a keen hiker, mountain climber and photographer. He is married to Astrid and has two children, Caitriona and Christopher.



Ian Black, Social Media Influencer <https://www.iangblack.com/>
Speaker- Arts and Media Sphere of Influence- 12noon Thurs 17th Sept 2020



IAN G BLACK

Social Media Influencer and Scottish Photographer

Ian G Black is a Scottish photographer and social media influencer. He works in partnership with Edinburgh and Scotland's most prestigious hotel the 5 Star Balmoral conducting Instagram photo tours of the city. Ian works as a social media influencer for many leading lifestyle brands including Eight Yards Kilts, Walker Slater, Glenmorangie, Hamilton & Inches, Stutterheim, Gloverall, Buckle, and Seam, SONY Xperia and Glen Moray.

Kate Forbes, MSP Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Scottish Government
Speaker- Government & Public Sector 12noon Mon 14th Sept 2020



Kate Forbes is the Member of the Scottish Parliament for the Skye, Lochaber & Badenoch constituency, and Cabinet Secretary for Finance in the Scottish Government. Until she was elected as an MSP, Kate was employed as an accountant in the banking industry. Prior to that, she studied History at the Universities of Cambridge and Edinburgh.

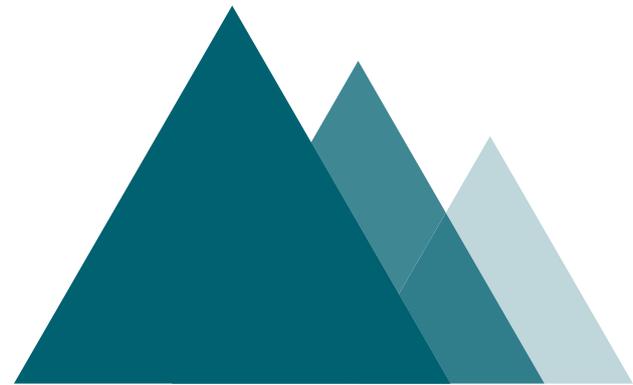
On 27 June 2018, she was appointed as Minister for Public Finance and Digital Economy.

Later that year she won the "One to Watch" category at the annual Scottish Politician of the Year awards, having been runner-up the previous year. On 6 February 2020 Kate made history by becoming the first woman to deliver a Budget statement at either of the Scottish or Westminster Parliaments. On 17 February 2020, she was promoted to the role of Cabinet Secretary for Finance - again the first woman to hold the post.

Kevin Gordon, Director of Virtual Reality Empathy Platform Ltd <http://vr-ep.com>
Facilitator- 'B' Perth - City Breakouts 2pm Sat 12th Sept 2020



Kevin Gordon is a Director of Virtual Reality Empathy Platform Ltd, operating in the area of dementia design. He describes himself as a 'besotted Papa' with a desire to walk ever closer to his Lord and Saviour. His self-confessed motto is-be a work who is always in progress! Kevin is a very active member of Trinity Church of the Nazarene, Perth.



Jim Grimmer, co-founder of The Business Connection/CEO of P3 Business Care CIC

<https://p3businesscare.com>

Facilitator- 'A' Aberdeen - City Breakouts 2pm Sat 12th Sept 2020

Facilitator - Sphere of Influence-Government & Public Sector 12noon Mon 14th Sept 2020

Jim Grimmer was a Police Officer at Grampian Police for 20 years including roles in serious crime and major incident investigation. In 2005, he was awarded the 'Iraq Reconstruction Medal' following a year located in the Maysan Province of Iraq, mentoring the new Iraqi Police Service on behalf of the UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office. He has also worked for a further 20 years in business development, general management and Director roles within the oil and gas sector in his home city of Aberdeen. Jim founded the community interest company and social enterprise P3 Business Care to bring personal & proactive care to employees working in partnership with corporate business clients. Jim was a co-founder of The Business Connection in 2014 and is a graduate of Robert Gordon University (MCIPD) and Hillsong International Leadership College in Sydney (Cert IV Ministry). He is a former Street Pastor, an active member of Kings Community Church Aberdeen, a Director of King's Community Foundation and has recently been awarded ministerial status with AoG (Assemblies of God).



Dr Tharaka Gunarathne, Founder of Dr Tharaka <https://www.drtharaka.com>

Speaker- Refresh theme 12noon Friday 11th Sept 2020

Facilitator- day time conference Sat 12th Sept 2020



Dr Tharaka Gunarathne is a Consultant Clinical Psychiatrist and Medical Educator. 'Dr T' helps corporations understand and navigate the minds of their people, as well as their clients, in order to inform behavioural change that maximises performance and drives greater profit. As a clinical psychiatrist, Dr T applies his professional insight into the human mind, health, interpersonal behaviour and the principles of business psychology to help leaders and teams enhance their capability. He speaks on Emotional Intelligence and Cognitive Biases to improve Interpersonal Trust and Sales skills, Leadership, Innovation, Personal Effectiveness and Memory Power. He speaks to Wealth, Health and Technology audiences.

In 2016, Dr Tharaka's TEDx talk grew into significance, and since then he has been delivering keynotes and working with companies in the FTSE 100, Banking and Finance, Pharma, Creative Tech and Human Resources.

Stephen Hibbard, Founder of Hibbards <https://www.hibbards.co.uk>
Facilitator Teaching Theme- 12noon Wed 9th Sept 2020

Stephen Hibbard is a qualified Executive Coach trained to Diploma Level with ILM. He is an Accredited member of the Association of Coaching (Executive Coach Scheme) and a full Member the Institute of Leadership & Management. His background is in Commercial Retail Management with Marks & Spencer a FTSE 100 Company and he has substantial experience of leading diverse, multicultural Third Sector communities including as the lead pastor of Sheddocksley Baptist Church, Aberdeen for many years. Stephen is a COSCA trained counsellor and a certified Interpersonal Mediation Practitioner.



Tony Hodges, Founder of City Vision <http://www.cityvision.life>
Speaker- Ecosystem theme- 1pm Sat 12th Sept 2020
Facilitator - 'G' Other -City Breakouts 2pm Sat 12th Sept 2020



As a Christian businessman, Tony moved in 2014 from being CEO with day to day responsibilities for the company he had started in 1996, to becoming its Chairman. It had grown to 100 people on 3 continents supporting blue-chip employers and touched some 20 million people around the world each year to a greater or lesser extent. Increasingly though, after memorising and meditating on the Sermon on the Mount, he found himself asking what a city would look like if the Kingdom of God came fully. He wasn't satisfied with his answers and started to pray more and research. He then added the further question of why the Christian business community in each city was so fragmented. In addition, he did not understand why Christian leaders in cities only appeared to have superficial relationships with each other when Christ's primary command was to display love for one another. He observed that not only did Christian leaders generally not have close links with each other, they did not have close links with the Christian business community in their city either.

This all led to reflecting on what might happen if the Christian business community and the church leader community came together. He started to pray more, discuss and research, meeting some 300 Christian business people and Church leaders around the UK in an 18 month period.

City Vision has come into being as an enabling agency to help the business people of peace and the church leaders of peace in a city to find new ways of working together to bless their city. The lessons from Tony's working life of engaging with large organisations, some employing 500,000 people, seem to fit well with the challenges of city size transformation. The encouragement he has received has satisfied him that God is with us in this endeavour to bring His people together.

Gregor Howitt, Founder of Gregor Howitt Wealth Management <https://wk/gregorhowitt/>
Facilitator Harvest Theme- 12noon Thurs 10th Sept 2020

GREGOR HOWITT WEALTH MANAGEMENT LTD

Senior Partner Practice of St. James's Place Wealth Management

Gregor Howitt has been involved with all aspects of wealth management and financial planning since 1992. As a Senior Partner Practice of St. James's Place Wealth Management, Gregor provides a wide range of services to both individuals and businesses in the North East of Scotland and the Orkney Islands. He is an elder of Dyce Church of Scotland, Aberdeen and was one of the founders of The Business Connection in 2014.



Ken Janke, Global Advance (Thrive Conference Sponsor) Global Advance <https://www.globaladvance.org>

Speaker- Vision theme- 11am Sat 12th Sept 2020

Facilitator - Commissioning Process 4pm Sat 12th Sept 2020

Ken Janke believes that life is enhanced through quality relationships. He works to resource people as change agents and to support people in their process of personal growth.

He believes that collaboration fuels change, and that it works to facilitate opportunities for co-creating and networking. He creates space for transformational initiatives to incubate. Ken has worked in both the corporate for-profit and the non-profit sector for 30 years. He is the Director of Programmes and Partnerships for Global Advance located in Texas, USA.

Since 1990, Global Advance has provided indigenous training and ministry encouragement for more than 700,000 frontline leaders in 94 nations. In 2000, the Global Advance Ambassadors Network was formed, which now comprises numerous individuals, churches, ministries and businesses who work together to equip leaders globally. In 2004, Global Advance launched Marketplace Missions with the goal to awaken Kingdom vision and sharpen the skills of Christian entrepreneurs and professionals throughout the developing world. Hundreds of business leaders partner with Global Advance Marketplace Missions through training conferences, business networks, economic development, mentoring, and ministry.



Martyn Link, co-founder of The Business Connection/Head of Strategy at Wood plc Wood plc
Facilitator- 'D' Dundee - City Breakouts 2pm Sat 12th Sept 2020
Speaker - Sphere of Influence-Energy & Climate 12noon Wed 16th Sept 2020



wood.

<https://www.woodplc.com>

Martyn Link's passion is to help individuals and companies to think and act more strategically. Martyn is leading Wood's energy transition mega-trend as well as being Head of Strategy for the company. He has been at the centre of the transformational changes that have driven Wood to become the UK's largest engineering and construction service company and a key enabler of the global energy transition.

Martyn began his career in science, completing degrees in Physiology and Type 2 Diabetes at Edinburgh University. In his 7 years at Wood Mackenzie as a Principal Analyst, he focused on market intelligence and strategy development within the Pharmaceutical and Biotech industry. Martyn subsequently worked with an innovation fund focussed on breakthrough healthcare technology before joining Wood in 2011.

Martyn is co-founder of The Business Connection, hosting Thrive Conference 2020.

Ros Loaker, CEO of Transform Work UK Transform Work UK <https://www.transformworkuk.org>
Speaker- Inclusion theme- 10am Sat 12th Sept 2020



*Inspiring Christians to transform
their workplace and the nation*



Ros Loaker is CEO of Transform Work UK. Ros has been involved with workplace ministry since 2003, supporting and growing leaders of Christian Workplace Groups across the professions, industry, and commerce. Her passion is to see Christians thrive, to engage with their communities, and be a positive influence there... and for many of us, our communities are our workplaces. Her personal approach has been valued by many workplace groups.



Baptiste Lombard, Scottish Leader of International Christian Chamber of Commerce ICCC
Facilitator- 'C' Glasgow - City Breakouts 2pm Sat 12th Sept 2020



<https://uk.iccc.net>

Baptiste Lombard is French space system engineer now pursuing a career abroad in beautiful Scotland. He has worked as Systems Engineer on the whole lifecycle on a spacecraft, and now focused on Managing ground segment capability and satellite operations systems. He is the Scottish representative of ICCC (International Christian Chamber of Commerce) based in Glasgow.

Craig MacKay, Principal Designer & MD at CM Design Scottish Regional Director The Filling Station
and the annual Refuel Festival at Gordon Castle Refuel Scotland

Craig is married with three grown up children and runs a family Architectural Practice in Elgin, Nairn and Exeter with his wife Denise. Happily being described as a "tent maker" in terms of ministry and work, Craig looks after the needs of The Filling Station Trust as Scottish Regional Director and the annual Refuel Festival at Gordon Castle. Attending Oasis Church in Elgin where he leads worship, Craig enjoys all things creative, techie, and geeky and welcomes any spare time shooting in the hills or fishing the River Spey. Craig has a passion for church unity and Christian renewal and travels the UK and overseas with The Filling Station Trust to encourage greater partnership and encouragement between denominations and a greater revelation of our completeness and oneness in Christ.



<https://thefillingstation.org.uk>



Neil MacMillan, Minister at Cornerstone Freestone Church, Edinburgh Cornerstone Church
Speaker- Teaching theme- 10am Wed 9th Sept 2020



Neil is married to Louise and they have four children. Together they have planted three churches in Scotland, the latest of which is Cornerstone, Edinburgh. Neil is also Director of Church Planting for the Free Church of Scotland which is an evangelical Presbyterian denomination. Neil and Louise both love live music, good food, movies, books, and being by the ocean. Their life ambition is to see hundreds of new, healthy, gospel-centered churches planted in the deeply secular nation of Scotland.

<https://cornerstone-edinburgh.com>

Richard McCallum, Deputy Director of Health, Finance & Infrastructure, Scottish Government
Speaker- Government & Public Sector 12noon Mon 14th Sept 2020

Richard McCallum is Deputy Director for Health Finance and Infrastructure at the Scottish Government, where he has responsibility for the effective stewardship of the £13 billion Health and Sport Portfolio budget. His finance career began with KPMG, where he worked in the External and Internal Audit Function. Since 2010, he has worked at the Scottish Government in various roles, including a two-year stint heading the financial services department at NHS Fife. Amongst other interests outside of work, Richard is treasurer and vice-chair of Hot Chocolate Trust – a charity working with young people in central Dundee. Richard is a member of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy.



David McCulloch, Founder of Morphe Arts Morphe Arts
Speaker- Arts and Media Sphere of Influence- 12noon Thurs 17th Sept 2020



<https://www.morphearts.org>

David McCulloch created the charity Morphe Arts to advance the Christian Faith particularly but not exclusively through the provision of support work for artists and performers primarily with creative arts throughout the UK or the world. He is committed to equipping the next generation of artists with a Christian vision for creative excellence through individual mentoring, arts conferences, professional seminars, and exhibition opportunities. Morphe Arts provide support and resources to Christian graduates and emergent artists to work with integrity in creative practices and thus make a difference in the world of contemporary art. Morphe offers the following resources: Public lectures and conferences, small group study groups, personal mentoring, books and bible studies, performances, and curated exhibitions.

Jeremy McQuoid, Teaching Pastor, Deeside Christian Fellowship, Aberdeen Deeside Christian Fellowship. Speaker- Teaching theme- 10am Wed 9th Sept 2020

Jeremy McQuoid is a Teaching Pastor at Deeside Christian Fellowship Church, Aberdeen. His M.Div. is from Trinity Divinity School, Chicago; his D.Min. from Gordon-Conwell Seminary, Boston. A previous book, The Amazing Cross (IVP) was co-authored with his wife, Elizabeth, a trustee of Keswick Ministries. He has recently co-authored a book on preaching with his brother Stephen. The book is available from the Opal Trust and Partnership <https://www.globookshop.com/shopexd.asp?id=20810> Jeremy is a trustee of the Pathways network, encouraging people to consider full-time Gospel ministry. Jeremy is chair of trustees at Keswick ministries and a trustee of the Pathways network.



<https://www.dcfchurch.org/about>

Stephen Millar, Managing Partner, CMS Cameron McKenna
Speaker- Financial services & Legal Sphere of Influence- 12noon Tues 15th Sept 2020



Stephen Millar is responsible for the management of the firm CMS Cameron McKenna, across the UK, CEE, the Middle East, and Asia. He is also a member of the CMS board. Stephen led the firm through the groundbreaking tripartite merger with Olswang and Nabarro, which has created the UK's sixth-largest law firm by revenue and the world's sixth largest by headcount.

C/M/S

Law. Tax

<https://cms.law/en/gbr/>

Lolu Olufemi, Manager, KPMG

Facilitator- Financial services & Legal Sphere of Influence- 12noon Tues 15th Sept 2020

Lolu Olufemi, is a manager for KPMG in global mobility services. In November 2019 Lolü organised the 'Make History' event in Scotland which came at the conclusion of Black History Month, which was observed throughout October to recognise and celebrate the achievements of people of African origin throughout society. Lolü is a passionate public speaker, blogger and a member of King's Community Church, Aberdeen, Scotland where she leads a ministry supporting and encouraging budding entrepreneurs and business people.

KPMG



<https://home.kpmg/uk/en/home.html>

Ayo Shote, Founder of ETIHAD Oilfield Services Ltd Etihad Oilfield Services
Facilitator - Sphere of Influence-Energy & Climate 12noon Wed 16th Sept 2020



Ayo Shote is an MBA qualified CEO assisting global organisations to clarify their strategic vision and align disparate cross-function agendas in the development and delivery of innovative business initiatives. Having over a decade of experience leading world-class Executive teams to achieve major strategic transformations across West Africa, Oman, Yemen and Pakistan in the Oil and Gas sector. Most recently Ayo worked as a Non-Executive Director providing guidance and advice on initiating a business start-up to align business capability with market opportunities.

<https://etihadoilfield.com>



Eric Smith, Consultant, Business Matters Edinburgh Business Matters Edinburgh
Facilitator- 'E' Edinburgh - City Breakouts 2pm Sat 12th Sept 2020



business matters

<https://www.businessmattersedinburgh.com>

Eric Smith became part of Business Matters Edinburgh at the beginning of 2008 after taking early retirement from a 31 year career in the chemical industry with Unilever, Scottish and Newcastle and latterly ICI and its descendant companies. He is Session Clerk at his church in Brightons near Falkirk. Spare time (the little he has) is taken up with photography, caravanning and playing guitar and bass (not all at the same time!).

Robin Stephens, Founder of Psephos Biomedica Psephos Biomedica and National Director of the International Christian Chamber of Commerce UK ICC UK
Facilitator- Refresh theme 12noon Friday 11th Sept 2020

Robin Stephens is the Founder & CEO of Psephos Biomedica, a business that provides a service to the medical device industry. He has experience in leadership both in the marketplace and the local church. Robin is currently a National Director for ICC UK.



<https://uk.iccc.net>



Colin Stewart, Managing Director and Country Head of Citi Citi Group
Speaker- Financial services & Legal Sphere of Influence- 12noon Tues 15th Sept 2020



Colin Stewart is Managing Director and currently the Country Head of Citi in Scotland. Colin has worked across the Capital Markets business, FX, Derivatives, Risk, Corporate Bank, and Citi Transaction Services. He has been responsible for all Citi activity for Scotland, employing close to 500 people. Colin has been instrumental in growing Citi's Securities and Fund Services business, with Edinburgh now being a Centre of Excellence of Funds Administration. He serves on the career-ready board (Scotland) and is a member of the advisory board of the Adam Smith Business School. He has served on the board of Scottish Financial Enterprise and was Chairman of the Scottish Enterprise Advisory Board.



<https://www.citigroup.com/citi/>

Kieran Turner, Evangelical Alliance Scotland Evangelical Alliance
Speaker- Harvest theme- 12noon Thurs 10th Sept 2020

Kieran joined the Evangelical Alliance Scotland team in 2012. Prior to this, he worked for MSPs at the Scottish parliament for three years, with spells in both Edinburgh and Inverness. Before this, he spent a number of years working in youth and community work in the housing estates of his native Glasgow. Kieran helps the Evangelical Alliance connect with politicians in Holyrood and local government, connects with national and local media, and also provides support and encouragement to churches, organisations and individual Christians trying to engage with wider Scottish society.

<https://www.eauk.org>

evangelical alliance
together making Jesus known



Ruth Walker, The London Institute for Contemporary Christianity LICC
Speaker- Harvest theme- 12noon Thurs 10th Sept 2020



Ruth Walker is a mentoring and strategy specialist who has a passion to equip and train people to live every day as disciples in their workplace. A non-executive director and chair of a number of charities including the Scottish Public Leaders programme run by the Evangelical Alliance, Ruth is also a board member of Bethany Christian Trust and also serves as LICC's ambassador for its transforming work programme. In addition, she was one of the drivers behind the completion of the Barna Report undertaken in partnership with Transforming Scotland, an informal network of Scottish Christian leaders. This research represents one of the most comprehensive studies thus far of Christianity and Christian ministry in Scotland. Ruth is a member of Newton Mearns Baptist church and is married with two adult children.

licc.

<https://www.licc.org.uk>

Resources



SENT is a brand new course to help churches equip public leaders in their congregations to be transformational in their workplace and local community.

If you have leaders in your church involved in education, health, politics, business, the arts and media or any other area of public life, help them to be transformational in their places of work and their community.

SENT is designed for churches to use with small groups of public leaders in order to think, discuss and pray about what it means to be a Christian public leaders.

<https://www.eauk.org/courses-and-small-groups/sent>



The Transforming Work course, developed by the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity (LICC), has been available for some time as a course to help Christians live out their faith in the workplace.

Now Transform Work UK have come together with LICC to develop a version of Transforming Work that is suitable for groups to use in the meetings. This resource can be downloaded [here](#), or from the LICC website [here](#).

Frutifulness on the Frontline

Combining biblical teaching from Mark Greene and inspiring real-life stories, these eight video-based sessions will help you and your group see how you can make a difference on your frontlines and support one another along the way.

licc.org.uk/fruitfulness



THANK YOU!

Acknowledgements:

The trustees of The Business Connection want to express our thanks to everyone involved in making our vision for Thrive Conference 2020 a reality. Thank you for the support in prayer and the financial commitment of our sponsor Global Advance.

We look forward to the development of our relationship in the years to come.

To all those named below who have sown into Thrive Conference 2020 in a variety of ways:

Jason Banks, Andy Bannister, Gordon Bell, Ian Black, Pam Dube, George Farhat, Kate Forbes, Kevin Gordon, Jim Grimmer, Dr Tharaka Gunarathne, Stephen Hibbard, Tony Hodges, Gregor Howitt, Ken Janke, Martyn Link, Ros Loaker, Baptiste Lombard, Craig McKay, Neil MacMillan, Richard McCallum, David McCulloch, Jeremy McQuoid, Stephen Millar, Lolu Olufemi, Ayo Shote, Eric Smith, Robin Stephen, Colin Stewart, Kieran Turner, Ruth Walker, Brian Woodcock and Jason Moir (XIC).

wewebinar is a brand new Kingdom centred start-up. Both George and Jason have been working in different areas of streaming and producing online events.

Their heart and vision is to use their God given talents & skills to provide a leading digital solution to the workplace.

wewebinar's vision is to change the way the world does conferencing by delivering both a ground breaking platform & managed web conferencing services.

<https://wewebinar.co>

Lastly, to our conference delegates. We pray that you have been blessed, equipped and empowered as an individual, that you will impact your workplace and ultimately your City. 'Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving' (Col 3:23-24 NIV)

The Business Connection is a charity (SC 045163) entirely funded by individuals who are passionate about the valuable and important work we do in supporting those within the marketplace.

In order to ensure the continuation of this work and continue to develop the Thrive Conference, we need to increase the level of support we receive.

Please click [here](#) to download a donation/Gift Aid Form.

To donate by cheque please make it payable to "The Business Connection" and send it to Jim Grimmer (Trustee) at The Business Connection, c/o P3 Business Care, Provender House, 37 Waterloo Quay, Aberdeen, AB11 5BS.

An online donation can be made [here](#)

Thank you, your support is very much appreciated.