

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - CONROE, TX

# England & Scotland



Dear Friends,

We continue to pray for peace in Israel, while those of us who were looking forward to going there next March regret that the trip will need to be delayed. Israel is on the “bucket list” of most Christians, as it should be. But I wanted to share with you why you should consider a trip with us to the United Kingdom next October. If you study church history, you find that God used English Christianity to change the world. From monks on Holy Island holding onto their faith against Viking invaders to martyrs who died resisting a corrupt State Church; from an English cobbler’s apprentice who sparked the modern missions movement to a fiery Scot who prayed, “Give me Scotland or I die”; from the glories of Westminster Abbey to the humble beginnings of our own Baptist denomination, you will be inspired and humbled as you walk in the steps of those who passed their faith down to us. Besides that, England and Scotland are incredibly beautiful, and the people there are wonderful. I had the opportunity last summer to visit some of the sites we’ll tour next October, and I know you’ll love this trip. If you’re able to travel internationally next Fall, I hope you’ll join us.

+ *Jeff*

## Tuesday, Oct. 8 - Travel Day

We meet in Terminal D or E of Houston IAH at TBD, to check in for our direct overnight flight to London with United or British Airway

## Wednesday, Oct. 9 - London

Your tour host will meet you at the airport and your coach will transport you to our boutique hotel in the heart of London. There is much to see and explore in London including St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Westminster Cathedral, Tower Bridge and Tower of London, Buckingham Palace, Hyde Park, Kensington Palace, Royal Albert Hall, and numerous department stores such as Harrods, Fortnum & Mason, and Selfridges are all great suggestions.

# London



## Thursday, Oct. 10 - London

John Wesley (1703-1791) has been called the most influential Protestant leader of the English-speaking world since the Reformation and his brother Charles wrote hundreds of hymns. Today, we will visit John Wesley's Chapel, Wesley's home and the Museum of Methodism. Our tour will include the legendary Bunhill Field's Cemetery, where we can see the burial place of nonconformist Protestants. This area is very near Spitalfields where in 1612 the first Baptist congregation led by Thomas Helwys, a founder of the Baptist denomination, met for worship. Following the tour, the rest of your day is free. [B]



## Friday, Oct. 11 - London

Today we'll visit *Westminster Abbey*, where most British kings and queens since 1066 have been crowned. It's the final resting place for many monarchs, heroes, authors, and poets. This is also where 151 theologians met in the 1640s to draw up the Westminster Confession of Faith, which is the standard of doctrine for the Church of Scotland and many Presbyterian churches throughout the world. After our Abbey visit, we'll tour the *Houses of Parliament*. [B]

# Oxford

## Saturday, Oct. 12 - Oxford

Today we make our way to Oxford! Before we leave London, we'll visit New Park Road Baptist Church where Dr John Rippon pastored one of the largest Baptist congregations in the country from 1773-1833. Following his death, Rippon's church was pastored by Charles Haddon Spurgeon before moving to the Metropolitan Tabernacle at Elephant and Castle. After we check-in to our hotel in Oxford you'll have some free time before we attend Evensong at *Christ Church Cathedral*. [B]



## Sunday, Oct. 13 - Oxford

Oxford has been a key center of learning for centuries and famous university alumni include Charles and John Wesley, William Penn, Albert Einstein and C.S. Lewis. It's one of England's famous University cities with a rich Reformation history. The early English reformer, John Wycliffe, was a professor at the university. Other well-known students included Bible translator William Tyndale and the great revivalist preacher George Whitefield. This morning our local guide will take us to Christ Church College and Cathedral. Founded by Cardinal Wolsey as Cardinal's College in 1524, this twelfth century church is the only church in the world to be both a cathedral and a college chapel. Our tour will include Martyr Memorial and Regent College which has a museum of William Carey mementos. Here we will take time to learn of Violet Hedger who became the first woman to qualify as a Baptist minister. Following our tour, the afternoon is at your leisure. Consider taking a tour of C. S. Lewis's home (The Kilns). [B]



## Monday, Oct. 14 - Cambridge

En route Cambridge, we will make stops in:

**Kettering:** to visit the Baptist Heritage Center in Fuller Baptist Church, just up the street from where the Baptist Missionary Society was founded. We will learn about the ministry of local Baptists, including theologian and missionary advocate, Andrew Fuller. We will see his cottage, now a museum, and the church where he preached.

**Olney:** to learn about John Newton, curate of the parish church of St Peter and St Paul from 1764-1778 and writer of the hymn, *Amazing Grace*. We'll visit the Cowper & Newton Museum.

**Moulton:** to see where William Carey moved in 1785 with his wife, Dorothy. We will see the cottage where he taught school and made shoes, which is now a museum. We will also visit the Baptist meeting house and see the stained glass window and mural commemorating Carey's ministry. [B,L]



### Tuesday, Oct. 15 - Cambridge

Our morning tour of Cambridge will begin with a visit to the Round Church, Cambridge. Cambridge is a center of Protestant scholarship for leaders including Archbishop Thomas Cranmer, and Bishops Nicholas Ridley and Hugh Latimer. We will see Latimer's Pulpit in The Church of St Edward, King and Martyr. In Pembroke College we will see Ridley's Walk and hear about martyrs who attended the college. During the Reformation, the White Horse Inn was a favored meeting place and we will see the plaque showing its location next to the famous King's College Chapel where we will attend a service of sung Evening Prayer. [B]



### Wednesday, Oct. 16 - Durham

En Route Durham we stop in Gainsborough: John Smyth attended school here and later become a pastor of a Separatist congregation here. Thomas Helwys was born here. We will visit Gainsborough Old Hall, one of the best-preserved medieval manors in England, formally owned by the Protestant Hickman family. Sturton-le-Steeple: This was the birthplace of both John Smyth and John Robinson, who pastored the Mayflower Pilgrims in the Netherlands. We will continue on to Durham where the evening is at leisure. [B,L]

### Thursday, Oct. 17 - Durham

Durham was founded in 995 by Anglo-Saxon monks seeking a place safe from Viking raids to house the relics of St. Cuthbert. The church the monks built lasted only a century, as it was replaced by the present Durham Cathedral after the Norman Conquest; together with Durham Castle it is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We'll tour the cathedral and attend Evensong. [B]

### Friday, Oct. 18 - Edinburgh

En route Edinburgh, we visit The Holy Island, which has a recorded history from the 6th century AD; it was an important center of Celtic Christianity under Saints Aidan, Cuthbert, Eadfrith, and Eadberht of Lindisfarne. The island was originally home to a monastery, which was destroyed during the Viking invasions but re-established as a priory following the Norman Conquest of England. [B]

### Saturday, Oct. 19 - Edinburgh

Edinburgh Castle, St. Giles Cathedral, Greyfriar's Kirk. The rest is free to enjoy at your leisure. [B]

### Sunday, Oct. 20 - Edinburgh

Tour John Knox House and Holyrood Palace, where John Knox discussed Christianity with Mary Queen of Scots. The rest is free to enjoy at your leisure, but we will enjoy a farewell dinner together this evening at the hotel. [B,D]



### Monday, Oct. 21 - Flight Home

Our most marvelous trip is coming to an end. We will load the coach at TBD, and head to the Edinburgh airport for our flight home. [B]

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