

The 35th European-Japanese Christian Conference
Hosted by Edinburgh Japanese Church
Edinburgh, UK **2nd Newsletter (January, 2018)**



Conference Theme:

The Christian's Transformation and Growth in Faith

“be transformed by the renewing of your mind”

(Romans 12:2/ NIV)

“Give me Scotland, or I die!”——this is the prayer uttered by John Knox (1510-1572), who left an enormous legacy in the history of the Church in Scotland. This year, our annual “Tsudoi” (the European-Japanese Christian Conference) will be held in Edinburgh, the beautiful capital of Scotland—the city where the legacy of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland founded by Knox still lives: St Giles Cathedral, for example, where Knox passionately preached about the necessity to be transformed by the Word of God and to grow in faith.

Nowadays, Edinburgh in August attracts artists from all over the world for its annual international festival/fringe. In the noises of the excited crowds enjoying the festival, the memory of the great reformer, who spoke the Word of God courageously to defend the faith, seems to be fading away. We pray that this conference will help our transformation and growth in Christ by reviving the flame in our souls while following the footsteps of John Knox.

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***All the sessions and services during the conference will be in Japanese with simultaneous interpretation in English and German.**

Dates

August 2-5, 2018

Venue

Queen Margaret University Conference Centre
Queen Margaret Dr, Musselburgh EH21 6UU
(appx. 6 min. from the Edinburgh Waverly Station)

Participation Fee / (per person per night)

	Single	Double (only for married couples/parent with child)
Adults (over 18)	£ 75	£ 65
Teens (12-17)	£ 60	£ 50
Children (4-11)	£35 in the same room with their parent(s)	
Toddlers (under 3)	Free	

※Please note that we cannot accommodate pets.

Access

The access to the venue (More details will be announced in our 3rd newsletter.)

● By air

From Edinburgh Airport, you can catch the 'Airlink 'bus (departing every 10 min) into the city centre and alight at the Waverley station stop (appx. 30 min.) and follow the directions for train travel below.

● By train

Musselburgh train station is right next to the venue. You should take the North Berwick train from Edinburgh Waverley Station. Musselburgh is the first stop (appx.6 min). See the Scotrail website (<https://www.scotrail.co.uk/>) for train times.

● By car

Please check the Google map: <https://maps.google.com/>

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On the last day of the conference, the shuttle bus will depart at 13:30 from the venue to the Edinburgh Airport via the Waverley Station. If you would like to use this service (available for fee), please indicate it in the sign-up form. (The exact fee will be indicated on the form.)

Sign-up Period

March 9-23, 2018

How to Sign up

From a few weeks from now, we will send each of the Japanese churches/groups a sign-up form online (a Google spreadsheet). Each of the participants is required to fill in the form online during the sign-up period indicated above. Please note that you will not be able to modify what you have registered after this period. We advise that all the participants should sign up for the conference via one Japanese church/group, but those who have no particular affiliation with any Japanese church/group can contact the Edinburgh Japanese Church directly.

Payment

We request that the treasurer (or equivalent) of each of the Japanese church/group collect all the fees of all the participants affiliated with them and transfer the money into the bank account indicated, between **April 9-23**. Please make sure that **you will pay in British Pounds Sterling**. Please be advised that all the fees and charges necessary for international transfer should also be paid by each church/group. (We will confirm by email the details about payment after the sign-up process.)

Cancellation Fee

Please be advised that any cancellation after the payment will be charged as follows:

40% until June 30th

60% until July 14th

90% until July 31th

100% after August 1st

CS and Babysitting

CS is for children from the age of 4. Babysitting service is available for toddlers under the age of 3.

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Volunteers

(Please indicate which work/service you would like to offer in the sign-up form)

- Small Group Leaders
will lead the small group discussions after each session.

- Worship team
Will lead the worship before each session and our annual “Night of Praise.”
If you would like to get involved, please indicate your instrument/voice-part.

- Sound engineers
Will take care of the audio system for each session and worship.

- Power-point operators
Will be responsible for making power-point slides before the conference and for operating them in the conference hall.

- Interpreters/translators
Will be responsible for simultaneously interpreting all the messages of the sessions, morning prayers, and translating the outlines before the conference, from Japanese to English/German.

- Cameramen
Will take photos of the conference.

- Video Cameramen/Editors
Will record the conference into a video and edit it afterwards.

- First Aiders
Will take care of those who become sick or injured during the conference.

- CS Helpers
Will take care of children from the age of 4 to 12, sharing the Word of God with them, praising God, and have a fun time with them. You are welcome just for helping one session.

- Teens’ Leaders

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Will take care of the teens' program, which will be held in parallel with the main (adults') program. You are particularly welcome if you can lead the worship by your guitar or keyboard.

● **Babysitters**

Will take care of the toddlers from the age of 0 to 3 during the session in the daycare room. If you are to use the babysitting service, you are required to help at least one session.

Optional Events

We are organizing two optional events to take a break from the sessions.

1) Walking Tour in the City of Edinburgh (the afternoon of August 3rd)

If you wish to participate, please indicate it in the sign-up form. (Each participant is required to pay their own train ticket from the venue to Edinburgh vice versa.) Divided into small groups, we will walk around the Royal Mile including St Giles Cathedral (Please note that we will not enter any sightseeing attraction that requires an admission fee.)

2) Ceilidh (Scottish Folkdancing) (after “Night of Praise” on August 4th)

To conclude our conference, let us enjoy dancing to the Scottish tune to commemorate our fellowship.

The City of Edinburgh, Festival, Fringe

We are not organizing any optional tour after the conference, but we recommend that you take some days before or after the conference to make the most of your stay in Edinburgh. Edinburgh is the capital of Scotland, whose beautiful cityscape has been officially recognized by the UNESCO as a world heritage. Edinburgh has many historically important buildings such as Edinburgh Castle, Holyrood Palace (Queen's official residence in Scotland), St Giles Cathedral where John Knox used to preach, and John Knox House just some steps away from the Cathedral. Also, Edinburgh has been associated with many important figures in history and culture from Philosopher David Hume, Economist Adam Smith, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, to J.K. Rowling in our age, just to name a few, and you can visit many places connected with these famous figures. Also, in August, Edinburgh hosts the internationally acclaimed festival and “fringe”, so the entire city will welcome various artists and audiences from all over the world. We

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strongly recommend that you enjoy to the fullest the various attractions of Edinburgh, if you can.

(Reference : <http://edinburgh.org/>,<https://www.eif.co.uk/>,<https://www.edfringe.com/>)

Please note that we cannot make any arrangement to extend your stay at the accommodation (either before or after the conference). Please use websites such as <https://www.booking.com/> to find your own accommodation.

In summer, the flights from/to Edinburgh and the hotels in/near Edinburgh are the busiest. We recommend that you book flights or hotels ASAP.

Schedule

Early-mid Feb. Sign-up form (Google Spreadsheet) sent out

Mid-May-June 3rd newsletter with further details

Contact For Further inquiries

Edinburgh Japanese Church

Rev. Jaehun Park

The Organizing Committee of the 35th European-Japanese Christian Conference

Chair Mio Yamagata

Email: tsudo2018@gmail.com

Please refrain from making any individual inquiry as much as possible.

Please send us an inquiry via each of the Japanese churches/groups in Europe, if possible.