

Summer 2012

The Bridge



Communion will be celebrated on

Sunday 10th June at 11am.

Everyone is welcome

From the Manse



My bags are packed and I'm ready to go..... By the time you read this I will, God willing, be in Toronto, I will have started the course of study, and hopefully be settled into the student accommodation.

Whatever fears and expectations I have today will either be dispelled or be becoming a reality. Please pray that I will be wise in my use of time and resources.

Thank you to those who have sent their good wishes and promised their prayers.

I was encouraged by the following from my daily reading and would like to share it with you.

Ephesians 3:16, 18-19 (NLT)

"I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources He will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. - And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. - Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God."

How many times a day could you use strength? We are pulled in every direction and live under a lot of stress. Life can be difficult and so many times we feel too weak to do anything about it.

Paul knew what weakness was. He knew what struggles and trial were like so he prayed for the church in Ephesus to have the same thing that got him through each day.

He prayed that God would empower his people, each of them, with inner strength. Not just any inner strength. Not some false hope built on some slogan or certain steps to follow. No, Paul was encouraging you and I to build our inner-strength on knowing "how wide, how long, how high, and how deep God's love is." It is knowing this great love that God has for us that makes us complete. It is knowing God's love in a deep and personal way that give us all the fullness of life and power that He has available for us.

Many, even those who would name themselves as Christians, do not understand, or have not experienced God's love for them. Paul longed and prayed for all God's people that they would live in the newness of life that Jesus gives.

TODAY'S PRAYER Father, give me the inner-strength that comes from understanding Your great love for me. Help me draw upon all the power that You have available for me this day. I pray this in Jesus'

For reflection: God's love gives me strength Paul prayed that you would have the power to understand God's love. Today, how do you feel about His love for you.

What do you believe about yourself?

Are you loveable?

Does He really love you?

Tell God what you really believe about Him loving you and then ask Him to tell you the truth. Today quiet yourself and let God reveal to you the truth of His love. Then let that love give you strength!

Terry

<http://broxburnrev-studyingintoronto.blogspot.co.uk/>

Prayer Corner

Over the past week with the longer days I have been engaged in some serious Spring cleaning. I have this year managed to get four boxes of books off to the Christian Aid Book Sale in Edinburgh.

It was when I going through my bookcases I came across two books that Elizabeth Anne had used in her days as a Sunday School teacher, they were the flannel craft pattern books. These books contain images of Christian characters and subjects that you could trace and create patterns to colour in and when fix with a piece of flannel they could stick to a sheet to allow stories to be told to eager children. Probably a bit boring to today's youngsters where computer programmes and DVDs are more familiar to them.

But it struck me as I looked through these books and imagined the youngsters sitting contently listening to the bible stories being retold with the aid of these brightly coloured paper or card cut outs. I found myself asking if this is the image we still hold of Jesus, someone who is a character in a story book or a picture we saw on the church hall wall of him with children on his knee or with the lost sheep around his shoulder bringing him safely home.

We have a Jesus who holds a seat in the thrones of glory, sitting next to his father interceding when he hears our prayers. Jesus, who will return one day to judge and to bring his brothers and sisters home to their rightful place in the Heavenly Kingdom. A place we received when we accepted Jesus into our lives, who died for us on the cross at Calvary for our sins, who was raised that first Easter by his father to conquer death.

Jesus is alive, very much alive, allow him to speak to you as you bring your prayers to our Heavenly Father through him. Listen to him as you read your bibles and respond to his calling to come and follow him.

Amen

In your personal prayers please pray for:

Our minister during her study leave in Canada that this period will be fruitful to God's work in our community. Also for our office bearers that God will protect and lead them and their families



Pray for our Queen in this her Diamond Jubilee when he ascended to the throne

For our Government in the very difficult issues facing the world today, for our local councillors.

The sick, anxious, lonely, estranged and the bereaved that they will find God's peace and love.

Our armed forces and the relief organisations that strive to bring peace, justice and relief to all in need.

For the Olympics/Para Olympics being held in London this Summer. For all involved in the events for fair play from their hard work.

For Dr Ruth Shakespeare, our Missionary Partner visit to West Lothian and her work in Malawi

The Prayer Group continues to meet each Saturday at 10.00 am in the Session House. There is a seat for you. Please contact myself and the minister for prayer.

David Wilkie

Congregational Prayer Secretary

01506 854777

Diary Dates



JAM prizegiving	3rd June
JAM BBQ @ Scout Hall	3rd June
Communion	10th June note: No evening Communion
Board Meeting	26th June
<u>Morning services from 1st July to 19th August will start at the earlier time of 10am</u>	
Messy Church	dates to be confirmed (during school holidays)
Communications Group	17th August
Back to School with God	19th August
Church Quiz	10 th October
Church Fayre	17 th November

Treasurer's update

Income for the first four months of this year was **£24,476.80**, with expenditure over the same period being **£21,888.72**.

The highest regular monthly expense is the higher contribution now payable to central funds, with other regular monthly outgoings including heating, lighting, council tax and insurance costs. The expenditure figure also includes the monies raised via fund-raising activities which have already been passed on to the various other organisations, eg the BUSY project, Mulanje Hospital and Rutherford House, as well as the various other costs involved in the upkeep and running of the Church and manse.

Social & Fundraising

There was a very successful Beetle Drive recently. This was a social event and was well attended by all ages and managed to raise £96 for Church funds.

The next events for your diary will be the quiz which is scheduled for Wednesday 10th October and the Fayre on Saturday 17th November.

Lilian Pattison Social and fundraising convenor.

Study Leave Arrangements

During Terry's study leave Rev David Black and David Wilkie will share pulpit supply. JAM will also have their service during this time.

Pulpit Supply is as follows:

20th, 27th May – David Wilkie

3rd June – JAM Prizegiving, Rev David Black will be present

10th, 17th, 24th June - Rev David Black

1st July – David Wilkie **NB 10am start**

The Pastoral Care Team will continue hospital and home visitation. If you know of anyone who requires a pastoral visit please contact Natt Beggs on 01506 852170

If there are funerals or situations where the services of a Minister would be requested this will be covered by either Rev Scott Marshall or Rev Richard Houston, see below for details.

15 May – 11th June Reverend Scott Marshall 01506 890919

11th June – 29th June Reverend Richard Houston 01506 202246



We had a very emotional but worthwhile trip to Belarus from 9th to 16th March where we visited all 17 of our existing children in their homes and at a party organized for them. During the visits as well as passing on letters from their host families we also gave each family a large bag of shopping and some items such as painkillers, elastoplast, toothpaste and toothbrush. Things that we take for granted but they find hard or expensive to get. We also met with some new children and selected them to bring our group up to 23 children who will all be staying with host families in the West Lothian area from 2nd to 30th June this year. They will of course be based in our church halls on the weekdays during that period.

Despite the problems and contamination, Belarus is actually a beautiful country and I enjoyed the trip very much. However the best thing about the visit was seeing the children. It was great to see them in their own homes, with their parents and carers. It gave me a greater understanding of what makes them the kind of children they are. As you would expect – some are doing better than others and some need our help more than ever. We certainly have a better understanding now of who needs our help more.

It was great to hear from the families that most of the children had no colds in the winter for the first time as the vitamins we gave them really started to kick in. It was also great to hear how much of a difference we make to each family by providing the clothes and all the other things we send home. Their own finances are under so much pressure and they are so grateful that they don't have to buy any of the things we provide.

One thing that struck me most is that loving families are the same the world over. The language may be different, the

house, the location and possessions may be different but love is the same. Our families love their children enough to send them to us. They come into our loving homes and what we provide them with comes from the love we have in our hearts. Love is what binds us together in this organization. I have no doubt about that.

During the trip Shirley and I worshipped on the Sunday in the Mogilev Baptist Church in the city of Mogilev. We didn't understand a word of the service but we recognised most of the tunes of the modern hymns. We definitely recognised the love that was in that place and it was an oasis of calm in a very busy schedule that let us take stock of what we had achieved so far, the difficult situations that we were trying our best to help with and also the families who are trying very hard with our help and it was great to thank God for the work we are able to do, for keeping us safe and for the work or labour of love we still wanted to do on the visit and beyond. God is great. We are nothing special and we know that any good we do comes only from him.

It was not an easy trip and we did encounter some difficulties from sources outwith our control but we thank everyone for their prayers as we managed to do all of the work we set out to do and more and were returned home safely to carry on this great work.

The Wednesday service on 20th June will be conducted by Kenny Turnbull, FOCC West Lothian Co-ordinator and all 23 of the children and the two interpreters will be at the service too which will be about FOCC and Love for the children. It would be great to see as many people there as possible to show support and encouragement for the children.

Kenny Turnbull

Co-ordinator



Vlad



Natasha



An



Masha



Alena



Website



Veronica



Andrei



M



Vadim



Dasha



D



Pasha



Kostya



S

FOCC

Trip to Belarus



Helina



Vadzim



Olya

June 2012

Friends of Chernobyl's Children



www.focc-edinburghwest.org



Sasha



Masha



Dima



Angelina



Diana



Denis



Krystina



Sasha



Nikita



Dasha



Easter Mission

ON YOUR MARKS...

Easter Mission

This year's Easter Mission had a Olympian theme and took its biblical theme from Mark's Gospel. The children learned how Jesus chose, inspired, led, challenged and trained his team of disciples as well as inspiring, leading, challenging and training today's Christians. It taught that we are all part of God's team and that at times things are not always easy. We need to work hard to be Christians and we need 'stickability' to continue being part to His team.

The DVD provided interviews with Olympic athletes who are also Christians and who told of how being part of God's team has many parallels with being part of a sports team. We made Olympic torches (and if you look in the hall you will see our 'big team Olympic torch' which has the names of all the children who attended on a flame), wind chimes, lollipop rafts, decorated water bottles and, of course, everyone's favourite decorating biscuits. We learned the mission song and had fun doing aerobics and games, and then of course the drama acted out by our young helpers which had the children booing and laughing in equal measure. All this fun while learning how wonderful God is and how much he loves us.

There were approximately 50 children there each day and we had a fantastic team of helpers as ever. A number of children spoke to me on Friday evening asking if the mission would be on again next year



– a sure sign that they had enjoyed themselves.

A number of parents also indicated how much their children had enjoyed it and were amazed that it was offered as a 'free' activity.

To cap the week Jim Anderson visited us at snack time on Friday and showed us a number of his medals and awards. I think for many it was the highlight of the week meeting someone who has actually won medals! I would like to thank him for taking the time to come along, the children really enjoyed it and we would all like to wish him well at this year's Paralympics in London.

Each day we had a snack of juice and fruit and I would like to express our thanks to Lidl who once again excelled themselves supplying all the fruit required.

I would like to thank all those who made donations to the mission, without your support we could not continue to run this as a free activity. I would also like to thank all of those who gave up their time to help at the mission, again, without you we could not continue this very worthwhile activity teaching the young people more about Jesus and what it means to be a Christian.

Elspeth Rodger

The Bridge Choir

As I write this, it is only two weeks to our concerts. Final preparations are underway. We hope you will manage along to one of the concerts and enjoy the performance. There are some tickets left.

We have been approached by Dobbies Garden Centre to sing at their Summer Gala on Saturday 16th June. We will be there from 11am - 4pm. If you happen to be in Dobbies that day, please come and support us. We are always grateful for your support.

Rehearsals will restart in August after a well earned break.

Janice MacPherson



We are at the end of another year of GB which has passed again so quickly.

We have a great bunch of girls (nearly 100) who have been along with regular attendance.

Lots of fun has been had on Friday nights doing badgework and we have been to many division events too.

We especially want to congratulate Blythe Rodger and Catriona MacGillivray for gaining their Queens Award which is the highest award in GB. They have put in many hours of hard work to pass all the different stages and we are all proud of them. Hopefully this is the first of many more to come in the near future.

Also congratulations to Blythe Rodger and Leah Heath for completing their officer training and being commissioned as officers at the start of our session. Again this took a lot of hard work and training and we now see them working hard in the company guiding girls on their journey to having Jesus as their friend. Well done and thank you for your dedication we are proud of you .

To everyone who came along to help at GB and lead a session we say a big thank you.

Our main thanks at this time have to go to Nancy Petrie who is leaving us after 40 years in our company.

Nancy has been a dedicated officer in our company for 40 years.

She became captain of Broxburn after the sudden death of Betty Forbes. but has held many positions in the division and nationally becoming national vice president a few years ago. She has seen many changes over 40 years -badgework, section changes, region split, especially uniform, remember the pancake hats!

She has dedicated much of her time enthusiastically over the last 40 years not just to Broxburn or West Lothian but GB nationally living up to the GB aim-helping girls become followers of the Lord Jesus Christ.

She has seen many changes in our church and is known and loved by many people in Broxburn Parish Church.

I am sure we will allow her to have a well earned rest but we will still be calling on her to come along to events and to help us out occasionally.

Thank you for all you have done Nancy helping many girls come to know Jesus.

We restart at the end of August and if there are any new girls you will be made very welcome and if any adults would like to come along and help you too would be most welcome.

Alison Turnbull

01506 852171

alit@blueyonder.co.uk



Nancy Petrie with Terry Taylor & Alison Turnbull

GUILD PROJECTS

As part of its outreach to the wider community the Guild has supported many Annual Projects over the last 40 years. The Guild Partnership Scheme established in 1997, encourages members to support projects from a group of 6 over a 3-year period. The success of this scheme has been proven by the fact that three million pounds was raised in 12 years and also that members have expanded their knowledge of many different and topical issues of concern in the world.

Many groups, both Church of Scotland and others, apply to be considered and the 6 are chosen by the National Committee. Each branch is free to choose which ones they will support. However, as they are all such worthwhile causes, our choice was to support them all equally.

We have speakers on two projects in each session and regular updates during the three years. This is the end of the present 3 year period. Happily, we have been able from our funds to send £600 each year.

The current projects are:

The Visitor Centre At Perth Prison run by CrossReach, much appreciated by families visiting.

The Church of Scotland HIV/AIDS Projects in various countries.

International Justice Mission in Cambodia, rescuing young girls detained against their will and forced into prostitution, and providing whatever aftercare they need.

A Place for Hope - establishing a centre to help people address conflict within the church and beyond.

Mission Aviation Fellowship - Madagascar, to take medical aid and the Gospel to very isolated areas.

World Mission - Interfaith Support in Israel and Palestine

Guild members throughout Scotland have been inspired by what they have heard of the work done in all of these projects and have supported them in Worship, Prayer and Action.

The total amount raised nationally over the three years is an amazing £727,755.54.

We have received letters of gratitude from all the groups. They are displayed on the Guild board in the big hall. Do have a look at them.

Margaret Henderson

Project Co-ordinator.

COFFEE BARS

The regular Coffee Bar will stop at the end of June and restart at the beginning of September to give the teams a well deserved break.

However during that time there will be 3 special Coffee Bars:

Sat. 30th June British Armed Forces Day.

Sat. 7th July Alzheimers Scotland.

Sat. 4th August Crohn's & Colitis U.K.

This is a way in which we can remember some charities in the wider community, so please put these dates in your diary and support them in any way you can when they come along.

Marriage preparation

When we first approached Terry to discuss the possibility of being married in the church and she advised that we would need to complete the marriage preparation course prior to the wedding, I must admit we were both quite sceptical that this course would have any benefit to our relationship. How wrong we were...

The course lasted 5 weeks with each session discussing the different aspects of your relationship:

Communication,
Commitment,
Resolving conflict,
Keeping love alive
Shared goals and values.

After the first session, we eagerly awaited the next. Each session allowed you to listen to the presenters of the dvd discuss the topics and also the views of other couples and the difficulties they faced when first married.

The course enabled us to discuss areas of our relationship we had never thought of discussing. It allowed us to talk more openly than ever before on the more sensitive topics in a neutral environment and gave us a great understanding and appreciation of each other and commitment we were taking.

We were both rather disappointed when the course came to an end.

Matthew & Lesley

Baptisms

13th May

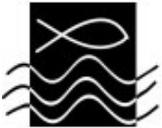
Sarah & Matthew Devlin

Weddings

1st May

Lesley McAnulty &

Matthew Stirling



Reminder

All intimations need to be with Elspeth by Wed 5pm to ensure they are included in the following Sunday's intimations.

elspethrodger@blueyonder.co.uk

Items for inclusion in the next issue should be submitted by early August 2012 to either Hugh Brown or Stuart Cunningham,

or emailed to:

hughb92@blueyonder.co.uk or **stu.c@tesco.net**

Who's Who



Minister

Rev. Terry Taylor BA, M.Th The Manse, 2 Church Street 852825

Session Clerk

Mr. John Macaulay 137 East Main Street 852947

Congregational Board

Chair: Mrs. Felicity Murrie 31 Nicol Road 852464

Clerk: Mrs. Anne Gunn 3 Kirkhill Court 856984

Treasurer

Mrs. Sue Sneddon 15 West Hall Road 07758 195274

Gift Aid Convener

Miss Jean Weir 135 Houston Gardens 855626

Roll Keeper

Mr. Brian Short 28 Newhouses Road 857540

Prayer Secretary

Mr. David Wilkie 53 Goschen Place 854777

Pastoral Care Group co-ordinator

Mr. Nat Beggs 6 Grange Road 852170

Organist

Mr. James Lawrie 13 Queens Avenue 856609

Church Officer

Mr. John Macaulay 137 East Main Street 852947

Hall Convener

Mrs. Jeanette Ewington 93 Fergusson Road 857194

Property Convener

Mr. Robert Pattison 12 Houston Gardens 855505

Communications co-ordinator

Mr. Hugh Brown 92 Gyle Park Gardens 0131 334 1384
Corstorphine

Safeguarding co-ordinator

Mrs. Elaine Brown 92 Gyle Park Gardens 0131 334 1384
Corstorphine

Social & Fundraising Convener

Mrs. Lillian Pattison 12 Houston Gardens 855505