

April 2014

Mure Memorial Church



The Link

Wonderful Easter

Easter. Wonderful Easter. The time when we celebrate the death of Jesus. Through that death every sin, everything that was against was placed on Jesus and he paid it all, every last drop.

As a young Christian I had great difficulty in believing that God loved me and in particular that God had fully forgiven me even though I was a believer. It was only when I understood that Jesus had paid for every single sin did I find peace and confidence with God. Relatively recently I had done something for which I had difficulty in forgiving myself, and then you start to feel God has not forgiven you. This loss of peace lasted for some time, and was only resolved at a service when Elvina Hall's hymn was sung which has the chorus:

Jesus paid it all,
All to Him I owe;
Sin hath left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow

That was exactly as I felt. My sin seemed like a stain which could not be removed and reminded me of a verse in Isaiah: "Though your sins are like scarlet, I will make them as white as snow. Though they are red like crimson, I will make them as white as wool" (Isaiah 1:18). Crimson and scarlet are permanent red dyes which nothing can remove. When our sin feels like that we need

to remember that Jesus blood can make us white as snow.

It is very important for us as Christians to be absolutely confident that Jesus has completely and finally dealt with our sins, that they will never be held against us. The Bible uses rich imagery to give us this confidence. The psalmist declares, "He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west" (Psalm 103:12). How far is it from east to west? An immeasurable distance! Again we read that God will "hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea" (Micah 7:19) where they cannot be found. In both these pictures our sins are so far removed from us that no-one can find them, search as they might. And this includes God. They are away from his sight. He has not only forgiven but forgotten.

A prairie fire is a fearsome thing. It rampages through the tinder dry undergrowth faster than you can run. If you were caught in such a situation – what could you do? The simple answer is that you start a fire which spreads as a circle. Then you step inside the circle – into the ashes left behind. You are now safe because when the real fire reaches it cannot burn the undergrowth a second time, or as they say, "fire cannot pass where fire has passed". When Jesus died the fires of God's judgement fell on him, so that the fire of the final judgement cannot fall on us who believe in Jesus.

The message of Easter is that my sins are gone which reminds me of an old chorus:

Gone, gone, gone, gone,
 Yes my sins are gone.
 Now my soul is free and in my heart's a
 song.
 Buried in the deepest sea
 Yes, that's good enough for me
 I shall live eternally
 Praise God! My sins are gone!

Happy Easter,
 Your friend,

Loland

FUNERALS *“God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes - Rev 21”*

- 1st March Isabel Boyle: We remember daughters Lesley and Janis in our prayers.
 4th March Douglas Turkington: We pray for wife Kate.
 19th March Alex McGregor: We pray for Jeanne and the family.

BAPTISMS *“Jesus took the children in his arms, placed his hands on each of them, and blessed them” – Mark 10*

- 16th March Olly Alan Cowan: We wish parents Claire and Alan every blessing.
 23rd March Riley-Jo McNaught Nelson: We ask God's blessing on parents John and Diana.

Future Events

- Sunday 6th April Baptismal Service for Ceitidh Louise Cumming 10.00am
 Thursday 10th April Worship Development Committee 7.30pm
 Sunday 13th April Palm Sunday 10.00am
 Monday 14th April Malcolm will lead worship 7.00pm
 Tuesday 15th April Invitation to St. Andrew's to join with us Alex Stuart will preach
 Wed. 16th April Choir service of praise with Schubert's Mass in G 7.00pm
 Thursday 17th April Communion Service with St Andrew's at St. Andrew's Church 7.00pm
 Friday 18th April Ecumenical Walk of Witness 11.00am at Mure Memorial Good Friday Service led by Community Engagement Comm. 7.00pm
 Saturday 19th April Wedding of Debbie Martin & Andrew Kirkpatrick 1.00pm
 Sunday 20th April 9.00 am Easter Morning Service followed by breakfast and 10.00am Service *(Alex Stuart on holiday from 21st April to 18th May inclusive.)*
 Sunday 27th April Communion Services at 10.00am and 7.00pm
 Thursday 1st May Property Committee Meeting 7.00pm

Sunday 4th May Morning Service
10.00am
(Malcolm on holiday from 5th May to 10th May inclusive.)

Sunday 11th May Morning Service
10.00am

Wed. 14th May Girls' Brigade Display

Sunday 18th May Morning Service
10.00am
Sunday at Seven - Rwanda
(General Assembly Week)

Thursday 22nd May Worship Dev. Comm.
7.30pm

Sunday 25th May Morning Worship
10.00am

Thursday 29th May Congregational Board
Meeting 7.30pm

Sunday 1st June Morning Service
10.00am



VESTRY TIMES

Monday 6.30pm – 7.30pm Mure
Memorial

Tuesday 10.00am – 11.00am Mure
Memorial (Thrift Shop and Café available
at same time)

Wednesday 6.30pm – 7.30pm St.
Andrew's

Saturday 10.00am – 11.00am St. Andrew's
(Pop-In Café available at same time)

No specific appointment is necessary.
Other times can be made available by
arrangement, as can home visits. The
minister's phone number is **07740868181**.
Please feel free to pass the times and
phone number to anyone who may request
them.

Grateful Thanks to everyone who paid their respects to Douglas on his unexpected passing and to all his friends for their cards and words of comfort and support. Sincere thanks for all donations. £441.23 given to the Marie Curie Hospice.

Kate Turkington

Thank you for the lovely flowers I received recently, they were beautiful and very much appreciated.

Allison Tedeschi



Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers to-day;
And give us not to think so far away
As the uncertain harvest; keep us here
All simply in the springing of the year.

Oh, give us pleasure in the orchard white,
Like nothing else by day, like ghosts by night;
And make us happy in the happy bees,
The swarm dilating round the perfect trees.

And make us happy in the darting bird
That suddenly above the bees is heard,
The meteor that thrusts in with needle bill,
And off a blossom in mid air stands still.

For this is love and nothing else is love,
The which it is reserved for God above
To sanctify to what far ends He will,
But which it only needs that we fulfil.

Robert Frost

Flower Calendar

Thank you to everyone who has donated flowers for our Sunday services during March



March 2nd	Mr & Mrs J Gallagher
March 9th	Myra McEwan
March 16th	Annie Graham
March 23 rd	June Crawford
March 30th	Flower Fund

There are still a few Sundays free on the Flower Calendar. If you have not already put your name down, please consider offering to donate the flowers. On the vacant Sundays we have to rely on the Flower Fund, which at the moment is quite depleted, and any donations will be very welcome. These can be placed in the box in the vestibule.

The beautiful floral displays are very much appreciated in church Sunday by Sunday and also by the people to whom they are then given.

DOOR DUTY - APRIL

BEADLE: M Scott

Door & Collection

April 6th	April 13th
E Boyd	J Hunt
C Rodgers	E Clark
A Stuart	M Brown
B Graham	Mrs Hunt
A Graham	Sadie Brown
	A Kenyon

April 20th	April 27th
A Telfer	
Alex Wilson	Kirk
M McMillan	Session
A Forrester	

DOOR DUTY - MAY

BEADLE: R Getty

Door & Collection

May 4th	May 11th
R Colquhoun	A Pollock
I Malcolm	C Scotland
S Blackwood	J Davidson
C Robertson	A Borthwick
E Colquhoun	J Crawford
J McLaren	C Turnbull

A Reminder from The Community Development Team

The Monday Fellowship will commence on the first Monday in June until the last Monday in August. Please come along and bring a friend for tea and a chat. All are welcome.

*Worrying is like a rocking chair,
it gives you something to do,
but doesn't get you anywhere*
Van Wilder

Leprosy Mission Fund Raising

On Saturday 10th May there will be a coffee/tea morning in aid of The Leprosy Mission from 10:00am to 12:30pm

Tickets priced at £1.50

A Prayer for being Grateful

Lord God, may we be grateful for our lot, and compassionate toward all those who are suffering every kind of distress at this difficult time. May we hold back nothing, and hasten to be the ministers of prayer and mercy, like the disciples of Him who went about doing good in times of need.

Treasurer's Report

With only 2 ½ months into the new year our income levels are at a similar level to last year although again lagging behind our budget expectations. Our expenditure is as expected and better than last year as we did not have any abnormal property costs so far this year compared to last March.

I know that some people were holding back with any increase to their normal giving as there was an expectation that we may have to raise an extra £10,000 for a half contribution for a minister. This is no longer the situation as we do not pay directly for Alex's salary. We will have travel expenses to pay but this will also be shared with St Andrew's Church.

I have been asked about the "Blue Envelopes" which originally were used for Building for the Future and these are still in existence and used by a few members of our congregation. The proceeds from these envelopes are set aside for our special projects and just now they are helping with funds for our Mure Access Project, so the term building for the future is again very appropriate. There are ample supplies of these envelopes so if anyone would like some they are available from any member of the Finance Committee and are also available at the main Church door. Any amount is very much appreciated and if you have a Gift Aid Form please just write your WFO number on the front. If you pay by standing order you will also have a number which you can get from me if you do not already know this number.

Peter Malcolm

THE GUILD

The Guild Outing this year is on Tuesday 3 June leaving the church at 10.00 a.m. and we will be going to Dalkeith for morning coffee and then on to Dunbar for high tea with plenty of time in between for sightseeing and shopping. If you would like to go, there are still a few seats left, so speak to either Margaret McKendrick or Ishbel Malcolm. There is a non-returnable deposit of £5 when booking and the balance of £20 must be paid on Saturday morning 10 May at the Coffee Morning in the Church Hall in aid of The Leprosy Mission.

Our session has finished now for the summer but our meetings begin again on October 7 when we look forward to meeting up with old and new members. Hoping everyone has a lovely summer.

Community Fun Day

A Community Fun Day is to be held on Saturday 21st June 2014 from 12noon to 4pm in the grounds of Mure Memorial Church. Many Stalls will be available as well as a Tearoom, Tombola, Games, Bouncy Castle, Face Painting etc. Any donations for the Tombola would be most appreciated and can be dropped off on the platform in the Large Hall. Please come along and join in the fun. All welcome.

Many thanks

Myra McMillan

From Bill Russell

Each year I do a concert in West Calder in memory of my mother (Effie's Concert) The artistes this year are the ensemble from the choir, my ceilidh band and myself. This year it takes place on Saturday 26th April at 7.30 pm in the West Kirk, West Calder. Tickets cost £5.00 and may be obtained from me (or you can pay at the door). Last year £1,000 was raised for the West Kirk and various charities. If you would like to come, please see me and I can give you directions.
Bill Russell



The Church Choir, with the help of friends from other churches, will present Schubert's Mass in G, on Wednesday 16th April at 7 pm. This is a short but very beautiful piece of music. I hope that you will come on the Wednesday of Holy Week to support the choir and our visitors.

Thank you to those who supported my musical afternoon in aid of the Leprosy Mission. This raised the sum of £250.

Dear Friends,

Thought I would write a few lines for the Church Magazine and introduce myself to you all, and to thank you for the warm welcome you gave me at my Ordination.

I was born and raised up in Dundee, and attended Morgan Academy. I was Baptized when only weeks old and attended Life Boys and Boys' Brigade.

My Grandparents and Parents were Hairdressers and when I was about 12 years of age used to clean up the salon and help Ladies and Gents on with their coats, on leaving school all I wanted to do was cut hair.

My Grandfather was a Captain in the Salvation Army and was a cousin of Mary Slessor and I was brought up with her name rammed down my throat, morning, noon and night, only in later years to fully appreciate why. In a lineage link, I am related to Mary, and probably why my roots are steeped in a deep Presbyterian Faith.

I also sang with a beat group for about 5 years, notice I didn't say Boy Band!! We played venues all over Britain and in German and I hold an Equity card as I used to tread the Boards in theatres up and down the country. So yes I've had an interesting life to date, little realising that the best was still to come.

I moved through to Glasgow in 1982 when I married Marion, we celebrate our 32nd Wedding Anniversary on 5th June this year. We spent our honeymoon on Iona and get out there whenever we can for a break, and it was on Iona I got the call to Ministry 16 years ago, I won't go into details here, however if anyone wishes to ask me about this I will be delighted to tell them, I usually relate this story whenever I speak at Church Guild meetings.

Marion and I were members of Possilpark Church for 22 years and we are both Elders. I was a businessman with Hairdressing Salons in Glasgow and Kirkintilloch and also owned an Off Sales in the heart of the Gorbals. After I studied for Ministry of the word / Readership, for 3 years, I sold all my businesses to my staff as they had helped build them up over the years and I have been employed by the Church as a Locum constantly over the last 13 years serving in many varied Parishes.

My hobbies are singing with the Glasgow Philharmonic Male Voice Choir of which I have been a member for 24 years, coming through the ranks as Section Steward, Publicity Manager and President. We sang in the Albert Hall 5 times at the London Welsh Music Festival of Male Voice Choirs Music where choirs from all around the World are invited to participate. The Glasgow Philharmonic is the only choir from Scotland ever to be invited to this Festival, there are 1000 voices on stage and the sound is absolutely magnificent.

I am a member of the Royalty Burns Club and every year speak at many Burns Supper, I deliver the Immortal Memory, Toast to the Lassies or sing Burns Songs. I also play guitar, have written a few songs and poems, took up golf, 2 years ago and play at Dullatur, and I have been teaching chess at Woodhill Primary School, Bishopbriggs, for the past 12 years.

My last placement was as Locum in Barlanark Greyfriars for almost 4 years and I am really excited to be here to share in team Ministry with Malcolm at Mure Memorial and St Andrew's and looking forward to making some new friends among you during this stage of my life journey as a Minister of Word and Sacrament.

Please make yourselves known to me and I will be delighted to chat with you

Yours in Christ, Alex

**CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE
LINK**

If you have an article, news item or announcement for the Link please either email details to link@mure.org or place a copy of the information in Post Box 35 in the Session Room

**Deadline for the next issue is
Wednesday 23rd April**