

# The Link

Mure Memorial Church is the known name of Glasgow : Mure Memorial, Church of Scotland,

Scottish Charity No SC002220

#### **Dear Friends**

Some years ago in my ministry I was invited by the local Secondary School to take a section of the Religious Education syllabus about the early Christian Church. The material in the syllabus started at Pentecost, but I wanted to begin with the Resurrection since, without the transformation that came over the disciples as a result of Christ's return from the dead, there would be no Christian Church in my opinion. On the day, I tried in the best education practices to get the pupils working at what happened at the time of the death and resurrection and had them debate what happened to the body. I put up some suggestions, e.g. the disciples stole the body, the authorities hid the body, Jesus didn't die etc, and they were to see whether there could be any truth in the suggestions. They were not particularly enthusiastic about the discussion and when I ask why, one student told me, "Of course Jesus rose from the dead!" I offered the statement to the rest of the class for debate, but no-one disagreed, indeed most said they agreed with the statement. Crisis!! As a teacher, I needed to keep the presentation educationally free from bias, but as a pastor/minister, I wanted to challenge the teenagers, "If Jesus has risen from the dead, what does that mean for your lives?", and go on to talk about Christian faith and commitment.

Constantly, in the writings of the New Testament we are given a little bit of theology, understanding about God or Jesus, then the word "therefore" will appear, and what will follow is usually exhortations to behave in a certain way, as a result of what is believed. I was watching part of "The Godfather Trilogy" last night. It was the part where Michael Corleone, was acting as godfather to his sister's child, and as he took vows of belief in God, and following of Jesus Christ, in the church, his gang is out murdering the opposition to his claim for power, and the baby's father for betraval. Believing in the resurrection this Easter ought to mean a commitment to a certain way of acting, of following Jesus Christ, seeking to be like him in our thought and actions, and in particular living a life of joy, and freedom, without fear. After all, if God can raise Christ from the dead can he not also do that for us, and our loved ones? It has become commonplace for messages to be emblazoned across T-shirts saying all kinds of things. One of my favourites, which I think was actually advertising a company that made skateboards and snowboards, had the message "No Fear" in big bold letters. This is surely the message of Easter. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus there is nothing we need fear, nothing to be anxious about. The God who died on the cross and raised Jesus from the dead offers us the ultimate in loving protection. (Romans 8 v 31 - 39)

Have a joyful Easter season, Malcolm

#### **FUNERALS**

- 7<sup>th</sup> Mar Marie McGuire McDuff: We pray for husband Douglas and all the family.
- 9<sup>th</sup> Mar Agnes (Nan) Cartwright: We remember sons Stephen and Brian in our prayers

#### BAPTISMS

15<sup>th</sup> Mar Allana McEwan: We ask for God's blessing on parents Colin and Vicky

#### **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.



Rev Malcolm Cuthbertson

Our Assistant Minister, Rev Alex Stuart's phone number is **07901802967** 



Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Pastoral Care
•	Committee meeting
	7.30 pm
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Baptismal Service for
	Sofia McGowan
	10.00 am
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Morning Worship
	10.00 am
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup> Apr	Kirk Session meeting
-	7.45 pm
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> Apr	World Mission
• 1	Committee Quiz Night
	7.30 pm
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Morning Worship
<b>v</b> 1	10.00 am
Thurs 30 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Congregational Board
Ĩ	Meeting 7.30 pm
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Morning Worship
<i>. .</i>	10.00 am
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Girls' Brigade Display
2	7.00 pm
	7100 pm

Life is fragile; handle it with prayer.



God our Father, may all that we see and experience lead us to grow in wonder and respect, that we may value and be thankful for everything in our lives each day. Inspire us to choose wisely and live positively, and make good use of our knowledge and talents, both for ourselves and for the benefit of others. Amen.

Flower Calendar



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

March 1st	Myra McEwan
March 8th	May Crockert
March 15th	Annie Graham
March 22nd	June Crawford
Match 29th	Jeanne McGregor

### **DOOR DUTY APRIL**

**BEADLE: M Scott** Door & Collection

April 12th	April 19th
E Boyd	Jack Hunt
C Rodgers	E Clark
A Stuart	M Brown
D Rodgers	Jeanette Hunt
B Graham	S Brown
A Graham	A Kenyon

April 26th	
A Telfer	
G McDonald	
Alex Wilson	
M McMillan	
P McDonald	
A Forrester	

# DOOR DUTY MAY

**BEADLE: R Getty** Door & Collection

May 3rd	May 10th
R Colquhoun	A Pollock
I Malcolm	C Scotland
S Blackwood	J Davidson
M McEwan	A Borthwick
E Colquhoun	J Crawford
J McLaren	C Turnbull



The Guild outing this year will be on Tuesday 2nd June and it will be to Peebles, stopping at Biggar for Lunch. Payment of the balance will be taken on Saturday 9th May any time between 9:30am and 12 noon.



# <u>HELP!!!</u>

#### Your Church Needs You Christian Aid Week 10th-16th May 2015

Christian Aid Week may seem a long way away right now but oh how quickly the months pass. Lent is under way and Easter is almost upon us. April will bring the Easter holidays and then at last the Bowling Green will be open. May will be here before we know it.

So this is an early appeal on behalf of your Christian Aid Week collectors. Every year our strong team of collectors diminishes ever so slightly, but in recent years we have unfortunately been left in a position where, out of 50 districts (a district being a street or one side of a street) 14 districts are vacant (no collector available for them), and 10 collectors are doing 2 or more districts.

Mure Memorial has a wonderful history of collecting for Christian Aid going back as far as 1998 with a collection of £1,979 and an all-time high of £3,435 back in 2005 and 2006. Last year again our small but dedicated team of collectors, collected a marvellous total of £2,167.14. Our collections are always received with great thanks from the Christian Aid Team. There are many vacant districts, varying in size from 30 to 65 houses. It only takes a couple of hours during Christian Aid Week to deliver, i.e. push the envelope through the letter box, and then go back to knock the door and collect it back in again.

So if anyone thinks that they might be able to help us out this year and make it our biggest ever collection, or, if you have any questions about collecting, then please don't hesitate to contact me.

Helen Stewart on 01236 879003 or by email <u>Hstewart0405@googlemail.com</u>

Thank You Helen Stewart

#### Summer Friendship Club



The Club will be starting on Monday 1st June. This is open to all Garrowhill, Baillieston and Mount Vernon residents. Come along and enjoy a cup of tea and a chat. We look forward to welcoming you all back again.



To Mure Memorial Church Members

Many thanks for your kind thoughts and flowers. They were very much appreciated. It was great having a visit from Malcolm and Rena as I feel it is a very long way for them to travel.

Maybe some day I will feel well enough for Margaret, my daughter, to transport me to a service.

God bless you all. Jean Paterson

(Malcolm's Mum)



#### <u>Men's Fellowship</u>

Our session for 2014/2015 finishes with our AGM on  $30^{\text{th}}$  March. We have had an enjoyable time with an interesting and varied syllabus, thanks to the efforts of our Secretary, Bob Colquhoun. However, our membership is becoming an issue with a noticeable reduction in attendance since the beginning of the year. We would urge any men in the congregation to consider joining us – or to drop in at any of our meetings. As usual we will resume on the first Monday in October.

The Congregational Burns Supper, which we sponsored, was most enjoyable and was favourably commented on, although the attendance was disappointing.

The recent visit of the Kirkintilloch Male Voice Choir was successful and is an event we may consider repeating at a future date. The ladies of the Guild provided the tea and homebaking at this event and their efforts and assistance to the Fellowship are greatly appreciated. The sum raised at the concert was £255.



I would like to express my sincere thanks for the beautiful flowers I received from the Church. It was a lovely surprise and I am most grateful.

> Sincerely Mamie Dalglish

## **World Mission Committee**



# 'It will flourish'



Zinash Tadesse is a member of Yabibal Self Help Group - Yabibal means 'it will flourish'. She used to be a day labourer; washing clothes and providing other cleaning services at Merkato in Addis Ababa - the biggest open market in Africa. She has two children, but her husband was not able to support the family. She was unable to afford medical treatment or even buy food for her children, so she was being supported by Keranyo Bethel Kale Heywet Church. Zinash had always wanted to be independent and had thought of saving, but never had the chance until she was approached by a Community Facilitator from the church who helped her to join a Self Help Group. She was encouraged by them to save regular amounts weekly. She also served as a bank signatory and a Cluster Level Association representative for her group, a position of responsibility that increased her confidence and meant she was meeting with people from

different Self Help Groups across Addis Ababa.

She initially received a loan amounting to roughly £9.40 and bought small trading items to sell. Then, as the church provided her with training in basic business skills, she was encouraged to take a larger loan of around  $\pm 31.25$ . With this she bought equipment to bake Injera – an Ethiopian flatbread made of a grain called 'teff' that has a high iron content. She made profit on all of the bread that she baked, but her customers were seasonal, meaning that the business was not a sustainable way of raising income for her family. So Zinash waited her turn, and when the time came, took a third loan from her group. This amounted to £47. With this larger amount of capital she was able to start a mini restaurant at her home. She serves local food items like Injera, with various sauces and a local bread called Anbasha.

People like Zinash, who often have little to no income, often say 'how can we save money from nothing'? But Zinash's progress shows that, through pooling that little income, it is possible to change lives. Now she can feed her family and pay for her children's school and medical fees.

There is still more to do however. Currently her whole family sleep in one room, so she would like to move to a bigger house. She also has ambitions to open a larger restaurant or even a hotel and be able to employ several people in the community.



#### **Presbytery Report**

Our guest speaker at the March meeting of Presbytery was Angela Molloy, who has been recently appointed Project Manager at Church House Bridgeton.

2014 may well prove to have been a turning point in the history of Church House Bridgeton with their successful application to the "Go For It" Fund and a generous donation from the Walker Family Trust. These donations have enabled them to appoint Angela Molloy to help develop Church House into an Integrated Family Support Centre. The Scottish Government and the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland have also granted funding to allow them to build a new annexe onto Bridgeton, St. Francis-in-the-East Church to rehouse Church House, but this is dependent on Glasgow City Council making the land available. Church House was established in 1942, a former Church converted to serve the young people in the local community. However the building is now no longer fit for purpose; it is very costly to run and maintain such an old building. So if everything falls into place, they will have a new venue and location for Church House.

Church House is going to work with all age ranges to become a Family Support Centre, instead of only offering opportunities for young people. This will mean that there will be a focus on Early Years, Youth Work and Family Work. Church House will aim to offer different types of activities and will be open during the day for activities which could include cooking courses, Baby Massage, Learning Works.

Angela reminded us that Bridgeton is the seventh most deprived area in Glasgow. They run courses on cooking on a budget and take some of the children to Lindisfarne each year to encourage them to enjoy outdoor activities.

She asked that congregations support their work by giving financial help, by assisting them in finding suitable volunteers and by supporting them in prayer.

The Community Responsibility Committee highlighted that it has become apparent that financial insecurity does not only result in families struggling to keep warm or provide enough food, but also presents a desperately difficult situation with the death of a family member and when facing the cost of a funeral. This is particularly poignant for those involved in caring for people who are homeless. The committee has been briefed on research being carried out into the situation in Glasgow, and will make a report to Presbytery when this is complete.

The World Mission Committee gave a report on the work of Christian Solidarity Worldwide which is a Christian advocacy organisation working for religious freedom for all. Its work consists of raising awareness of violations of religious freedom and empowering victims of human rights abuse which seems so necessary at this time when so many Christians suffer persecution and violence. Congregations were encouraged to visit their website <u>www.csw.org.uk</u> and request their weekly prayer bulletin.

Janet Park



"A life spent making mistakes is not only more honourable, but more useful than a life spent doing nothing." George Bernard Shaw

#### From Moira and the Pastoral Committee

I would like to take this opportunity to say 'Thank You' to the many people in our Church family who assist the Pastoral Team.

I know many of you have been delighted when a cheery face has arrived at your door with a bouquet of Church flowers. Sincere thanks to Agnes and her 'flower girls' who faithfully deliver them. Special thanks to Agnes who makes weekly trips to the flower market and of course, to Anne, for her beautiful arrangements.

Our congregation includes 15 nonagenarians how wonderful is that(!) - and many of them can only come to Church because of the kindness of our 'taxi' drivers. Sincere thanks to all who carry out this very valuable service which enables our elderly and less able-bodied to worship with us on a Sunday.

We have 10 members in Care Homes scattered across the city and surrounding area and they have regular visits from our "angels" who spend time with them and take them prayer shawls and flowers or chocolates - an invaluable way of keeping them in touch and also assuring them they are still an integral part of our Church family. Thank you Helen, Mary, Irene and Sadie.

Thank you also to those who regularly visit the sick in hospital and the housebound/frail at home - it is much appreciated.

There are many 'unsung heroes' in Mure Memorial who brighten up a dull day with a smile or a friendly greeting. It doesn't go unrecognised and makes a huge difference in sometimes unexpected ways. Keep smiling!

And finally, to all who spend their time, talents and energy on caring for others in our community - thank you and a very Happy Easter to all of you and your loved ones, wherever they are.

May the spirit of hope that Easter brings Give you contentment in little things, And renew your faith in our Lord above, Who gave His life for the ones He loves.





# Questions **?**

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If you never felt pain, how would you know that I'm a Healer?

If you never went through difficulty, how would you know that I'm a Deliverer?

If you never had a trial, how would you know that I'm a Comforter?

If you never made a mistake, how would you know that I'm Forgiving?

If you know it all, how would you know that I will answer your questions?

If you never were in trouble, how would you know that I will come to your rescue?

If you never were broken, how would you know that I will make you whole?

If you never had a problem, then how would you know that I can solve them?

If you never had known suffering, then how would you know that I went through it?

If you never went through the fire, then how would you become pure?

From *A Barrel of Fun*, J John and Mark Stibbe, Monarch Books.

#### **Sunday Study Evenings**

These will run throughout the month of May at 7.00pm

At the last Kirk Session meeting, members requested that we should use these studies as an opportunity to look at some of the parables of Jesus in more depth.

If you have a particular parable that you would like to have included, please speak to Malcolm. Further details will be given in the intimations sheets

# <u>CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE</u> <u>LINK</u>

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

Deadline for the next issue is Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

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Forget the day's troubles. Remember the day's blessings