



Mure Memorial Church



The Link
December/January
Happy Christmas

Dear Friends,

Advent, Christmas, New Year and a new minister – It’s all happening within a very short space of time and each one is significant in pointing to a new beginning. Advent is the start of the Christian year as preparations are made for the Christ event at Christmas.

Christmas itself is about a new beginning as God changes tack and decides to come and join us as a new-born babe. New Year is traditionally a time for setting (and breaking!!) resolutions, this time for 2011. And a new minister? Well it simply opens up all manner of possibilities for the future at Mure Memorial.

So what would a new beginning look like for you and yours? What would you like to see changed? We could of course dream of that big Lottery win, and while away the hours in growing bitterness and discontent at those who appear to have more than us. We could happily direct our resentment at those whom we believe have done us wrong, failed us or hurt us. Trouble is none of this would be particularly productive, or indeed particularly new.

Christmas shows us the way. God comes to mend our broken relationship with Him. He comes as a helpless babe and grows into a poor itinerant healer and preacher, dying on a cross - a victim of the arrogance/fear of human beings. He did this to communicate the love, grace and forgiveness of God to you and to me, indeed to all the world. Meditate on this, seek to understand the extent of God’s love, seek to appreciate the humility of God as new born babe and crucified victim, and let that God in to examine our own lives, hearts and very souls. Countless people have done this in the past and found a new way of being human, of being Christ-like, (as opposed to Christian). They have

experienced a change so profound that the past is a different world, a pale imitation of life, an imposter/fraudster who has stolen the soul.

As your new minister, my deepest hope for the future is that we might create a community at Mure Memorial of people who will give a resounding “Yes!!” to life and love; a people who would seek to channel that forgiveness and love they have experienced from God, to all who would come into their company; a people who would lift their eyes above navel-gazing height to see the wonders of the world, and help to change the ungodly places in the world into havens where God might reign.

It seems to me that’s why God entered the world as the baby Jesus. That’s why we Christians celebrate the coming of Christ at Christmas, and that’s why I am a minister of the Gospel.

May God deeply bless you and yours this Christmas season, and into the New Year.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Malcolm Cuthbertson

Through the eyes of a child

A Sunday School class of toddlers had spent a lesson busily drawing, “ And what have you been drawing, Emma ?” the teacher asked one little girl. “Please Miss, it’s a picture of God.” “But no one knows what God looks like”, said the teacher.

“Well they do now!” was Emma's reply.



The Kirk Session has decided to support Souper Sunday again this year on Sunday 9th January, when our service will be followed by a simple soup and bread lunch. This is a way of highlighting the pandemic that is HIV/Aids and, at the same time, raise much needed funds for the project supported by the Church of Scotland. Last year's appeal has raised £108,000 by the start of November



Lord, may we be like the Wise Men who were guided to you by a star. Give us the wisdom to seek you, light to guide us to you, courage to search until we find you, graciousness to worship you and generosity to lay our gifts before you, who are our King and our God for ever and ever.
Amen

When life gives you a hundred reasons to cry, show life that you have a thousand reasons to smile



Flower Calendar

I would like to thank all who donated during 2010. The 2011 calendar will be available the first Sunday in December. May I take this opportunity to thank Anne Stuart for her loyalty in arranging the flowers each week and also to the ladies who help me deliver each Sunday.

Agnes Nicol

October	
October 3rd	Mrs A Strachan
October 10 th	Mr & Mrs J Hunt
October 17th	Wedding
October 24 th	Mr & Mrs McChesney
October 31 st	Mrs Ina Russell

November	
November 7 th	Mrs June Crawford
November 14th	J McLaren
November 21 st	The Guild
November 28th	Mr & Mrs Fyfe

Many thanks for the lovely flowers delivered to me on Sunday 7th November. Your kind thoughts are very much appreciated at this worrying time

Margaret Forrester

THE GUILD

Our programme for December, January and February is -

- Dec. 4 (Saturday) Christmas Lunch
7 Senior Citizen's Party – with The Greenhill Male Voices
14 Carols by Candlelight

2011

- Jan 11 Holiday Slides – Bill Russell
18 Interfaith Support
25 Scottish Night with a Difference

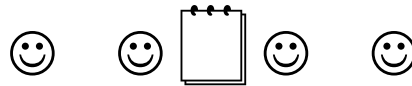
- Feb 1 Glickman's Confectioners
4 Tunnocks
15 My Incredible Journey – Mima Bell
22 The Rev Malcolm Cuthbertson

Why not come and join us on Tuesday evenings, you can be assured of a warm welcome and an enjoyable evening.

The Sunday Creche

Additional help is required in the crèche during the Sunday Morning service. If you would like to help, please speak to Lorraine Willock.

The happiest of people don't necessarily have the best of everything, they just make the most of everything that comes along their way.



Mure Memorial offers all a warm welcome to join us at these special Christmas events.

Sunday 12th December 10.30 am – Gift Service

Sunday 19th December 10.30 am – Nativity Service

Sunday 19th December 6.30 pm – Choir Carol Party

Friday 24th December 11.00 pm – Watchnight Service

Sunday 26th December 10.30 am – Family Christmas Service

There will be an opportunity to meet our new minister the Revd Malcolm Cuthbertson at these events.

"The hinge of history is to be found on the door of a Bethlehem stable"
J. John



The carol party will be held in the church on the 19th December at 6.30 pm. Tickets priced £1 can be obtained from members of the choir. Come along and enjoy and join in an evening of Christmas music with the Junior and Senior choirs, who will be accompanied by Bill and the Orchestra.

Deadline for the next issue is
19th January 2011
 (there is no Link Magazine issued in January)

***“ Do this in
 Remembrance
 of me”***

1st Corinthians 11 : 24

You are invited to celebrate the Sacrament of Communion at Mure Memorial Church on Sunday 30th January 2011 at 10.30am and at 6.30pm

This invitation is open to all who wish to participate whether or not they are members of the church



If you would like a prayer to be said for yourself or a personal situation please complete one of the prayer slips available at each church door. Alternatively email prayer@mure.org or telephone Eileen on 573 8142

Prayer Group

The prayer group meets on Thursday evenings at 6:45pm in the Vestry. Please come along and join our group – you will be made most welcome

Eileen Mitchell

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 the folder outside the Vestry

Are you interested in joining the church?

Some folk have expressed an interest in joining the church. If you are considering this and would like to find out more, then please speak to Malcolm. He is hoping to run four Enquirers' Classes in January. Coming to these classes may lead people towards becoming members, but does not require any commitment to join the church.



DOOR DUTY – DECEMBER

BEADLE: MOIRA SCOTT

December 5th	December 12th
J Hunt	L Kennedy
Mrs Hunt	R Dennett
J Hannah	Alex Wilson
Mrs Hannah	C Robertson
A Kavannah	A Telfer
	A Forrester

December 19th	December 26th
L Bell	A Pollock
I Malcolm	J McVittie
A Kenyon	J Crawford
J Davidson	A Borthwick
H Colquhoun	A Nicol
S Blackwood	A Stewart

DOOR DUTY – JANUARY

BEADLE: ROBERT GETTY

Door & Collection

January 2nd	January 9th
W Millar	E Boyd
C Scotland	A Stuart
C Stewart	C Rodgers
C McChesney	B Graham
C Turnbull	M McKellar
A Walker	M Martin

January 16th	January 23rd
L Strachan	J Hunt
L Bell	Mrs Hunt
A Frew	J Hannah
A Smith	Mrs Hannah
A Kenyon	A Kavannah
M Brown	

DOOR DUTY – FEBRUARY

BEADLE: G LEIPER

Door & Collection

February 6th	February 13th
L Kennedy	L Bell
R Dennett	I Malcolm
Alex Wilson	A Kenyon
C Robertson	J Davidson
A Telfer	H Colquhoun
A Forrester	S Blackwood

BEADLE AND DOOR DUTY

Volunteers are still required for either of these duties, particularly the duty of beadle. Will you please give this matter your consideration. Further intimations will be made in the February Link

There once was a man in Russia whose name was Rudolph the Red. He was standing in his house one day with his wife. He looked out of the window and saw something happening. He said to his wife, "Look darling, it's raining." She, being the obstinate type, responded, "I don't think so, dear. I think it's snowing." But Rudolph knew better. So he said to his wife, "Let's step outside and we'll find out." Lo and behold, they stepped outside and discovered it was in fact rain. And Rudolph turned to his wife and replied, "I knew it was raining. Rudolph the Red knows rain, dear!"



“THE JERUSALEM SUN”

27th December

INNKEEPER SLATED OVER STABLE BIRTH



Typhus Maximus, Controller of the Judea Health Authority, today condemned Zebedee Fortus (68), the licensee of the dilapidated “King David’s Arms” Inn in Bethlehem for allowing an unmarried woman to give birth in his filthy stable on December 25th. In an exclusive interview with our reporter, Typhus said, “This woman should have been transferred to the Maternity ward at B.R.I” (Bethlehem Royal Infirmary, which is shortly to be closed and transferred to Threewells Hospital in Jerusalem). “What’s more”, he said, “Mr Fortus should never have allowed a gang of scruffy shepherds to visit the mother and baby in his stable. Goodness knows what germs they were carrying. It is just good luck that the mother, Mary (18), and her baby are both doing well”.

Bethlehem police are investigating three foreigners, believed to be illegal immigrants, who were seen near the same stable soon after the birth of the baby. These men apparently crossed the Eastern frontier without valid visas. Two of the men were carrying suspicious packages containing substances alleged to be illegal drugs, and the third man had a quantity of foreign currency. A report is being sent to the Pharisee- Fiscal. The men were later seen in Jerusalem in the neighbourhood of the Royal Palace, but it is believed that they may have escaped back to their own country.

In a separate incident, Bethlehem police are looking into reports of a recent sighting of U.F.O.s on the hillside above Bethlehem. There have also been reports of loud singing just outside the town on the same night. Police Sergeant P Pilot, a young Roman recently arrived from Fortingall in Scotia, told our reporter, “ At first we thought it was football supporters leaving the King David’s Arms and celebrating the win of their local team, Bethlehem United against Jericho Thistle, but reports say the singing was very good, so we are now pursuing another line of investigation”.

Our Bethlehem Correspondent

BOYS' BRIGADE

The Boys' Bit

On Friday 19th November, the boys were extremely lucky to be joined by Jamie Stuart, author of the the Glasgow Gospel, who has translated all the familiar stories from the bible into our very own native tongue! If that wasn't enough, Jamie brought along his good friend and musician Alistair MacDonald. Before a tremendously energetic reading of the story of David and Goliath by Mr Stuart, the boys watched an extract from his DVD, followed by a performance by Alistair who gave the boys a song on his banjo. The boys were extremely privileged to have both Jamie and Alistair along, in between performing in the Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow. All the staff, boys and visitors enjoyed the stories and performances from both our guests. More information about the Glasgow Gospel can be found at:

www.glasgow-gospel.co.uk

John McGovern

Our editorial team, John and Ryan McGovern, Adam Carruthers, Zen Mohammed and Fraser Paterson hope to bring you more news in future editions of The Link. Meantime The Company Section are looking forward to their outing to the Lazer Quest at Christmas

Bible Class

The young people enjoyed finding out about their Church; the way it is organised, how it is part of The Church of Scotland, how it began - before moving to the newly-built Garrowhill 70 years ago. They laughed at photo's, were amazed by the Manse blueprints and felt connected to those people who have gone before them as real people, not just as a school history lesson.

November saw another Bible Class Evening of fellowship, fun and music in the Church. Building on the successful evening in May, this time an invitation was issued to Shettleston New, Youth Fellowship to join us. A group of almost 20 teenagers and leaders attended and we are grateful for their input. David Munn brought the evening together, and special mention must be made of his acting which certainly got the audience's full attention. Well Done!

On behalf of the young people in Bible Class, I would like to express my thanks to all those people who helped make the evening happen and to those who supported us. Planning has begun for another night in February 2011.

Currently, Sunday School teachers are helping out on a rota-basis. There is a need for a second adult to be there every week, building a relationship with these young people. Please consider if this is a role (male or female) for you. Beverley Bisset - Bible Class Leader

CHRISTMAS CARDS

I have a list of folk I know, all written in
a book,
And every year at Christmas time I go
and take a look,
And that is when I realize that these
names are all a part,
Not of the book they're written in, but of
my very heart.

For each name stands for someone who
has crossed my path sometime
And, in that meeting, they've become the
'rhythm of the rhyme'.
And while it sounds fantastic for me to
make this claim,
I really feel I am composed of each
remembered name.

And while you may not be aware of any
special link,
Just meeting you has shaped my life,
more than you can ever think.
For once you've met somebody, the
years cannot erase
The memory of the pleasant word, or of a
friendly face.

So never think my Christmas card is just
a mere routine
Of names upon a Christmas list,
forgotten in-between.
For when I send a Christmas card that is
addressed to you,
It's because you're on the list of folk that
I'm indebted to.

For you are but a total of the many folks
I've met
And you happen to be one of those I
prefer not to forget.

And whether I have known you for many
years or few,
In some way you have had a part in
shaping things I do.

And every year when Christmas comes, I
realize anew
The biggest gift that life can give is
meeting folks like you.
So may the spirit of Christmas, that
forever more endures,
Leave its richest blessing in the hearts of
you and yours.

Were you an evacuee?



The Primary 7 pupils at Garrowhill Primary School will be learning about The Second World War when they return to school in January. They would like to find out what it was like to be an evacuee. If anyone who was evacuated would be willing to come along and speak to the pupils about this, please phone the school to make a date!

Tel: 0141 771 1235

Senior Citizens' Club
December 13th Christmas Lunch - West
Tones entertain
20th Christmas Party
January 10th Margaret Forbes – Positive
Thinking
24th Burns afternoon
31st Lenni and Myra
February 7th Tom Barrett - First Aid

New Members are welcome to come along
at 2.15pm on Mondays

A letter from the Moderator of Glasgow Presbytery

To the congregation of Mure Memorial
Dear Folks

On behalf of the Presbytery I would like to thank you for the wonderful reception we were given the evening of the induction of your new minister. The whole evening was very special and there was a wonderful energy in the congregation. Having caused mayhem when I asked you all to get up and greet each other, it was amazing to see the joy and happiness in people's faces as they hugged, shook hands and generally just enjoyed the moment. I wish you many more of these special moments in Malcolm's company.

Once again thanks so much for a great night, in Christ's name. Who says Christians cannot enjoy themselves or are afraid to laugh?

Yours Aye
The Revd Neil Galbraith

The three stages of a man's life:



1. He believes in Santa Claus
2. He doesn't believe in Santa Claus.
3. He IS Santa Claus



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

This runs between January 18th and 25th 2011 and, as in previous years, Baillieston Churches Together are planning two evening events. On Wednesday 19th at 7.30 pm, we will host the forum with local clergy in Mure Memorial. On Sunday 23rd at 8.00 pm there will be an ecumenical service in St Bridget's when Malcolm will preach.

Men's Fellowship

We are always pleased to welcome new members along to our meetings on Monday evenings at 7.45 pm. Our programme for the start of the New Year is as follows;

- January 10th - Committee Night
- January 17th - Jim Storm Zimbabwe & Ghana
- January 24th - Annual Burns Supper
- January 31st - Alastair Borthwick
- February 7th - Derek Miller - Debt
- February 14th - John Coutts

The snowflake is one of nature's most fragile things, but just look at what they can do when they stick together.



Vesta Kelly

Presbytery Report

At the November meeting of Presbytery, Malcolm was officially welcomed by the Moderator who referred to the very happy evening which he had spent at Mure Memorial and made reference to “the legend of Hilary’s handbag”.

The Convener of the Education for the Ministry Committee also presented two candidates for full time ministry. She intimated that there were two people in training and a further six people currently on the enquiry process.

The Mission Strategy Committee reported on “Back to Church Sunday”. This is a concept which has been promoted across Scotland by the “Back to Church” organisation, ACTS and The Mission and Discipleship Council and involves inviting friends and the community to a specific service followed by lunch. The organisers say: *“In Scotland the event has had about 6,000 invited guests and, if trends remain the same as previous years, some 600 people will have been added to the church in Scotland in one day in September 2010, in the sense of becoming “regular weekly attenders”.*

The next date for this is September 25th September 2011.

A report was brought relating to the two congregations of Castlemilk East and West, both of whom have been vacant for some time and are currently in Interim Ministry and working towards the Union, required by the Presbytery Plan. They will have a new building, on a site yet to be identified.

Once their Basis of Linkage, which is the first step to their union, has been agreed this should include a Right to Call, but with the Presbytery Plan being suspended, new Rights to Call are not being issued by Presbytery. While the Committee was aware that there is a danger of one exception to that decision being used as a precedent for others, it felt that this was a unique case. The representatives of the two congregations were delighted when Presbytery voted by a

large majority to accept the recommendation of Mission Strategy.

The Community Responsibility Committee is asking each congregation to appoint a contact person to receive information on the four Projects connected to Presbytery: The Well, The Lodging House Mission, Church House and Glasgow the Caring City. Anne Carmichael has agreed to be our contact person. John Hamilton, who is the Project Leader for the Lodging House Mission, gave a report of their work. In 2009 they had served 30,000 lunches. 80% of those who use their service are men and 20% women and many have drug, alcohol and mental health issues. The environment in which they work allows them to offer a listening ear, give whatever support is available and, where necessary, refer their clients to other services. Their aim is to support recovery which in some cases can result in clients finding college places, work experience and even full time employment. They have over 30 volunteers each week to help carry out their work and they rely on the support of the churches in Glasgow Presbytery for much of what they have to offer.

Presbytery was made aware of the situation now faced by the Asylum Seeker Communities in Glasgow as the UK Border Agency cancels its contract for housing with Glasgow City Council on 5th November. This will have a profound impact on poor and vulnerable people and so far only vague reassurances have been given as to where they may end up, possibly not even in Scotland. Church members are being encouraged to write to their MP’s and MSP’s to ask that the First Minister use his influence to encourage the UK Borders Agency and the Council to renegotiate.

Janet Park

