



DECEMBER 2012
JANUARY 2013



Mure Memorial Church



The Link

Dear Friends

It's all starting so early - this Christmas time. Decorations for some families, not to mention shops, are going up earlier and earlier. We barely recover from summer, before it's now upon us. It's surely getting harder and harder to sustain the anticipation when things start so early. I can appreciate the need to bring a little light and joy into one's life and that of the family, but it would appear the joy is being spread a little too thin to cover such a length of time.

My three-year-old granddaughter Grace is home singing Christmas Carols and telling me of Mary and Joseph and the baby Jesus in the manger, and she is no doubt excited about the prospect of Christmas, especially the coming of Santa Claus, whom she is already tracking courtesy of the computer. Three years of age!! What will the story mean at thirteen, or twenty-three, or fifty three, or ninety-three!!

I came across someone who buys Lottery tickets but doesn't check them till he has a collection. "It's about maintaining the anticipation, the hope." he explained. "If you check them right away, you've nothing to hold on to. If you gather a collection, the anticipation heightens, and there's more chance of winning something."

Is the anticipation of Christmas, the hope of the Christ-event, becoming more difficult to appreciate? Have we become too indifferent to the birth of "Immanuel - God with us", in a stable? Is it just a story, to be consigned to history with all our other childhood characters – Andy Pandy, Jack & Jill, Cinderella, The Smurfs, Thomas the Tank

Engine, Peppa Pig etc? Or we can really re-awaken within us the quietly profound anticipation of Christ's coming, and the all-consuming joy of His arrival among us!! Perhaps not in its entirety, but even shaking a little bit of the dust off this ancient event should give us something to live on, a hope for the future – God is with us. Taking a moment in busy lives to remember and reflect on it, bringing a little Light into the darkness. Re-establishing family links, going to church, enjoying the parties and socials, all reminding us of the sense of belonging and community of which we are a part, founded on that most profound Family/Community which is the Trinity, made flesh at Christmas. Finally the challenges before us to help those who need it, sharing joy and hope with those who have little or none at all, which is after all "the reason for the season".

I hope and pray that the season of Christmas will be profound for you and yours, as you discover, or re-discover the magic that is Christmas, the birth of God amongst us.

Malcolm

FUNERALS

- 1st Nov. **David Gardner:** We remember his mother Jean and the family in our prayers.
- 10th Nov. **Ellen Lightbody:** We pray for husband Robert and the family.

- 19th Nov. **Ella Stuart:** We remember son Cameron and the wider family in our prayers.
- 21st Nov. **Baby Kade Alan McCallum:** We pray for parents Alan and Michelle.
- 21st Nov. **Robert Mackie:** We pray for daughter Louise and the rest of the family.
- 23rd Nov. **Helen McDowell:** We remember son Joseph in our prayers.
- 26th Nov. **Ina Allan:** We pray for all nine children and their families.
- 29th Nov. **Mary McCusker:** We pray for son James and the wider family.

BAPTISM

- 4th Nov. **Cole James McLeod Clark:** We remember parents Martin and Lorna as well as baby Cole in our prayers.

Vestry Hours



The minister has established an office in the church to which he welcomes anyone who wishes to see him. The specific times he will make himself available are as follows:
Monday evening - 6.30pm – 7.30pm
Tuesday morning – 10.00am - 12 noon
Thursday morning – 10.00am – 12 noon
Thursday evening – 6.30pm – 7.30pm
 At present this will be about simply turning up during these times with no specific appointment, which means you may have to

wait a few minutes. 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.

Dates for the Diary

December


- 6th Worship Development Committee meeting 7.30pm
- 9th Sunday Service "Christ the Light" 10.30am
- 16th Sunday Service "Gift Sunday" 10.30am
- 20th Garrowhill Primary School Services 11.00am P. 1-4; 1.00pm P. 5-7
- 23rd Sunday Service "Nativity Sunday" 10.30am
- 23rd Carol Party 6.30pm
- 24th Watchnight Service 11.15pm
- 25th Christmas Morning Service 10.30am
- 30th Sunday Service 10.30am

January

- 6th Sunday Service 10.30am
- 9th Pastoral Care Committee Meeting 7.30pm
- 10th Property Committee Meeting 7.30pm
- 13th Sunday Service 10.30am
- 16th Kirk Session 7.30pm
- 20th Sunday Service 10.30am
- 27th Communion Service 10.30am
- 27th Evening Communion 6.30pm
- 31st Board Meeting 7.30pm

February

3rd Sunday Service 10.30am
4th Burns' Supper 7.30pm



*All to Jesus, I surrender
All to him I freely give
I will ever love and trust Him
In his presence daily live*

*We would like to thank the Church and the ladies of the thrift shop for the lovely gifts we received on our retirement from the thrift shop
Ellen and Jimmy Russell*

Flower Calendar

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



November	
November 4th	June Crawford
November 11th	J. McLaren
November 18th	The Guild
November 25th	Jane & Douglas Gould

*Forgiveness
does not change
the past
But it does enlarge
the future*

Christmas gift suggestions:

To your enemy, forgiveness

To an opponent, tolerance.

To a friend, your heart.

To a customer, service.

To all, charity.

To every child, a good example.

To yourself, respect.”

DOOR DUTY – December

BEADLE: Moira Scott

Door & Collection

December 1st	December 8th
C Stewart	W Millar
R McLellan	Mrs Walker
N Collins	J McVittie
I Whitelaw	C McChesney
P McLellan	A Nicol
J Smith	E Nimmo

December 15th	December 22nd
E Boyd	J Hunt
A Stuart	Mrs Hunt
C Rodgers	J Hannah
B Graham	Mrs Hannah
M McKellar	M Brown
M Martin	A Kenyon

December 29th
A Kavannah
A Telfer
Alex Wilson
L Strachan
M McMillan
A Forrester

DOOR DUTY – January

BEADLE: R Getty

Door & Collection

January 6th	January 13th
L Kennedy	A Pollock
I Malcolm	C Scotland
S Blackwood	J Davidson
C Robertson	A Borthwick
E Colquhoun	J Crawford
J McLaren	C Turnbull

January 20th	January 27th
C Stewart	
R McLellan	KIRK
N Collins	SESSION
I Whitelaw	
P McLellan	
J Smith	

February 3rd	February 10th
W Millar	E Boyd
Mrs Walker	A Stuart
J McVittie	C Rodgers
C McChesney	B Graham
A Nicol	M McKellar
E Nimmo	M Martin

***Children’s Bible Quotations
(unedited)***

**The greatest miracle in the Bible is when
Joshua told his son to stand still and he
obeyed him.**

**Adam and Eve were created from an
apple tree.**

Noah’s wife was called Joan of Arc.

FINANCE REPORT



Another year is almost over and it has been a very busy and eventful year for us all. As previously advised, our Income has not met with our expectations and we have had to incur a lot of additional building costs and this is still ongoing. This has seen our general account resources falling by £13,500. The building costs were essential and we are lucky to be in a position to pay for these, however, we will need to improve the income and again build up our reserves. The windows project is now complete and fully paid with the grants and fund raising activities.

Our new project

The access areas within our church and surrounding areas, particularly for people struggling through disability, are inadequate for various reasons including health and safety issues. As an example our lift is, excuse the pun, on it's last legs. We are, therefore commencing a new project but at present the total project costs are unknown. Once this is established we will embark on a fund raising programme.

Mure Access Project (M.A.P.)

The definition of this new project will include:-

Disability and Access upgrade within the Church, Halls, and external surrounding areas. This will involve improving ramp access, installing new ramp access areas and lift, external access areas including additional car parking and ground access improvements.

However, in the event of there being insufficient funds to carry out the project or in the event of a surplus arising on the project, any unspent funds will be used for the general purpose of the Charity (Mure Memorial Church).

Peter Malcolm

Quit griping about your church; if it was perfect, you couldn't belong



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

A cordial welcome is extended to all men of the congregation and local community to join with us on Monday evenings commencing at 7.45pm

- DEC** 3rd. Police Forensic scientist
10th. Jim Taylor. - Holidays of yesteryear
17th. Alastair Borthwick - Indo China
- JAN** 7th Rev, Neil Galbraith - Glasgow The Caring City
14th. Great Scot.
21st., John Mason MSP.
28th. Rev.Peter Davidge
- FEB** 4th The Fellowship is again promoting the Annual BURNS' SUPPER which is open to ALL members of the congregation. We have an excellent range of speakers and entertainers to celebrate our National Bard . Tickets will be on sale from the beginning of January, don't miss out !!

John Coutts



Presbytery Report

The November meeting of Presbytery is when we receive the Annual Report from the Lodging House Mission, which this year was given by the chairman, Mr Peter Roger. He started by telling us that the numbers attending are on the increase. Two years ago there were around 100 people attending each day, now the number is around 160. Although they no longer have a Sunday evening service, the number attending the new Tuesday afternoon service is also increasing.

Although they are struggling financially again this year, he spoke about the generosity of a lady who had given a cheque for £1,000 in gratitude for the support which had been given to her husband and had helped him to stay alive as he struggled with alcoholism.

He explained that as well as offering meals, they were now capturing the interest of their users in the educational programmes which were on offer, with around 70 people each week involved in the courses which they run covering arts, numeracy and literacy. They aim to encourage people to think about how they spend their time and about their life choices.

There is now a Gardening Group which has taken over an allotment in Springburn and the Arts Group have decorated wooden planters.

He spoke about the relationship which has been developed with Scottish Opera.

Although this project initially met with resistance from their users, they were won over and became very involved in a production of "Who Killed John King", a passionate tale of warring Glasgow families. This culminated with an invitation to the cast of 12 to give a performance on the stage of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. Some of those involved have now moved on and one has been headhunted by the Citizen's Theatre.

He described the work of the Lodging House Mission as the Church of Scotland working at the coal face, but this involved time and commitment. They were always looking for members of congregations to volunteer their time and their talents. Their "Seat at the Table" Appeal invites supporters to give £50 annually, by Standing Order, which will provide a hot meal for a service user for a full year.

Education for the Ministry announced that Leslie Grieve has been accepted to train for Ordained Local Ministry.

The World Mission Committee reminded us that 2012 is "The Year of China" for the Church of Scotland as we seek to strengthen and renew our bonds with the church in China.

Much of the meeting was taken up with the policy statement which the Ecumenical Relations and Interfaith Matters Committee had been instructed to draw up. There was a proposed amendment that the following wording should be added. "However, since we worship one God in the Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we will only share joint

worship with those who do likewise". This caused much discussion. There was also a second amendment proposed which read, "However in accordance with our first article declaratory, we will worship only the one God in the Trinity of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit; and no other". The Convener of the committee resisted either of the amendments being added on the basis that we should reach across the boundaries to those of other faiths and that we should be taking our witness into our encounters with people of other faiths. After a vote was taken, the second amendment was accepted by 83 for and 80 against.

Janet Park

THE GUILD

Our programme for January and February is -

JAN

- 8 Holiday Slides – Bill Russell
- 15 Acting Up
- 22 Great Western Auctions – Paul Howard
- 29 Scottish Night

FEB

- 5 Mum's Recipes – Linda McDonald
- 12 Guild National Convener – Mary Ford
- 16 (Saturday) Soup and Sandwich Lunch
- 19 Rev Les Brunger
- 26 The In-Betweens

Our meetings start at 7.30 p.m.

Our Sunday School

We at the Sunday school would like to let everyone know that behind the scenes we are continuing to work very hard with the young children who are able to attend on a regular basis. We are an open door of welcome and our main goal is to ensure that the fellowship is pure and child friendly. Who would like to come and join us within any section of our crèche, Sunday school, or bible class? Parents have so many demanding commitments which have a huge impact on their daily lives, however we ask for your support and help to make the Church a place where we can help young people grow in an environment which has its doors open to all. We are working hard now for our part in the church nativity and we look forward as always to bringing the message of Christmas to all.

When Christmas bells are
Swinging above the fields of
Snow, we hear sweet voices
Ringing from lands of long ago,
And etched on vacant places are
Half-forgotten faces of friends
We used to cherish, and loves
We used to know

End of Year Accounts

Could I remind all treasurers of our Organisations to ensure that their accounts, up to the end of December, are available for audit and passed to either Alex Pollock or myself. If anyone has any problems please contact me on [771 1351](tel:7711351) or Alex on [771 2663](tel:7712663)

Peter Malcolm

*Are you wrinkled
with burden? Come to
the church for a
face-lift.*

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

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



*God grant you the light of Christmas,
which is faith;
The warmth of Christmas,
which is purity;
The righteousness of Christmas,
which is justice;
The belief in Christmas,
which is the truth;
The all of Christmas,
which is Christ?*

Baillieston Churches Together

The annual week of prayer for Christian Unity runs from the 18th to the 25th January 2013. We will be holding our usual Forum in Baillieston St Andrew's Church on Wednesday 23rd at 7.30pm with a panel of local Clergy. There will also be a service in St John's Church on Sunday 20th January also commencing at 7.30 pm.

From the Link team

*May we wish all our readers a
Happy Christmas and a peaceful
New Year - Remember - this is
your magazine and we would love
you to share your Christmas
stories with us*



MERRY CHRISTMAS