

December 2017



Mure Memorial Church



The Link

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

Scottish Charity No SC002220

Dear Friends,

As we approach Christmas, we remember how God's love became Incarnate, how it took on flesh in Jesus of Nazareth, the Jesus who was the one promised long ago by God, the Jesus, whose coming John the Baptist was told he could recognize in the acts that he performed, by the fact that through him: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them.

We remember how God's love is meant to become incarnate in us, how it is meant to take on flesh in those who call upon his name.

People will know that we are Christians, not by the number of bibles we own, not by the number of church services we go to, not by the fact that we pray or say grace at meal times, nor even by the fact we tell others that we believe in Jesus Christ, though all of these things are of greater or lesser importance in letting others know we are Christians.

No, in the end, people will know that we are Christians by our love, by how we allow God's love for us, God's love in us, to take on flesh and get acted out. "If we love one another", the Apostle John says, "God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us." If we love one another God's joy will come upon us and, as we share it with others, it will come upon them.

How does God's love take on flesh, how does it become concrete and specific, in us? How do we love one another? Especially how do we love those ordinary people who exist all around us, but for the most part are not seen by the rest of the world, or if seen are ignored by almost everyone but the closest members of their families?

The blind, the lame, the leprous and the diseased, the deaf, the spiritually dead, and perhaps most of all, the poor, the ones to whom Jesus brought good news, the ones whom he fed on the mountain side? Will they know we are Christians?

Will they see that God has once again taken on human form, that his love is incarnate now,

as it was so long ago when Jesus told John the Baptist's messengers how to recognize the servant of God, the Messiah?

The gifts we give, for the poor and the unfortunate, the offering we make to God, is a beginning in helping others to know, an important beginning. May God bless us with the wisdom and with the will to take the next step and the ones after that.

Our love is in God and in his son Jesus Christ. Like hope, peace, and joy, love is a gift from God. It overtakes us and fills us when we remember what God has done and what he has promised to do.

God does not choose to use power to overwhelm us; rather God uses the most compelling possible strategy, being born as a human being, to lead us back to our loving creator. Nothing else would have or could have worked. Those who wrote the Gospels saw that, and used the birth narrative to illustrate this truth. True, they each wrote about it from different perspectives, but the account of Joseph, Mary, the shepherds and the wise men is more than a charming story.

That is the miracle, the Good News prevailing. This is the time when we can shed our resistance anew, and find that simple things like a birth in a manger matter more than anything.

Christmas is the time when heaven and earth are joined in a glorious way, with human beings at the centre of the joint. This is the time when "the hopes and fears of all the years" are resolved by a stable and a star. This is the time when we can truly sleep in heavenly peace, because we know that God has entered our world to reclaim it forever.

May the Miracle of the Baby of Bethlehem, fill us with Hope, Peace, Joy and Love this Christmas.



Every Blessing,
Alex

For arrangements for baptisms, weddings and funerals or for any pastoral matters our Locum Minister, Rev Alex Stuart, can be contacted on **07901802967**.

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

31st Oct Edith Nimmo - Mother of Robert, Christine and James
3rd Nov Margaret Young – Wife of John and mother of Catherine and Hazel
27th Nov James Taylor – Husband of Ann and father of Douglas

From Rev Dave Slater

Dear friends,

‘There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens...’
(Ecclesiastes ch 3 v1)

As you read this you will probably have heard that I have stepped down as your Interim Moderator. I realise that six months is a relatively short time to hold such a role, and that beyond Session, Board and related meetings, I have rarely been able to be in attendance.

For these facts and the realisation that I have been unable to do as much to assist the congregations as I had hoped, I give you my apologies. Juggling the needs of four church communities as well as my own home and family life has proved to be beyond my abilities.

As I write it is not yet clear who Presbytery will appoint in my place long term but you have an excellent temporary Interim Moderator in Mark Malcolm, and whoever it is thereafter I know you will be in good hands. Also you still have a great team of volunteers as well as those in paid positions - to name some would be to exclude others - and I would simply ask that you all consider if there are things you can do to benefit the gospel here - by praying especially, and if you can, by taking on a role and sharing the load.

Whatever the future holds, I trust that you continue to walk ever closer with Jesus, that sharing the gospel of good news for all the people of the parish of Mure Memorial remains your guiding motivation, and that you are blessed and faithful in all that you do.

I can assure you that you will remain in my prayers and on our Prayer Diary at Gartcosh & Glenboig particularly for this next while, and ask for your prayers for us too.

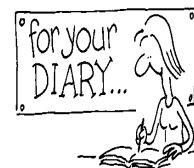
Every blessing in Christ’s Name,

Dave

Rev Dave Slater



Jesus, God-with-us,
what gift shall we bring to you?
The angels bring their song,
the heavens bring their star,
the shepherds bring their wonder,
the animals give their manger,
the wise men bring their gifts,
and we human beings bring our whole selves
to you who have so fully and generously given
yourself to us.
Amen.



Sunday 10th Dec Communion Service
10.00 am
Sunday 17th Dec Morning Worship 10.00 am
Carol Service 6.30 pm
Sunday 24th Dec JaM Club Nativity Play
10.00 am
Sunday 24th Dec Watchnight Service with
Carols from 11.00 pm
Monday 25th Dec Christmas Morning
Service 10.30 am
Sunday 31st Dec Morning Worship 10.00 am

Sunday 7th Jan Morning Worship 10.00 am
 Sunday 14th Jan Morning Worship 10.00 am
 Local Church Review meeting 12 noon
 Wed 17th Jan Kirk Session meeting 7.45 pm

January 21st	January 28th
A Telfer	R Colquhoun
G McDonald	I Malcolm
Alex Wilson	S Blackwood
M McMillan	M McEwan
A Tedeschi	E Colquhoun

Flower Calendar

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



Nov 5th	June Crawford
Nov 12th	The Guild
Nov 19th	The Scott Family
Nov 26th	Mary Mathieson

DOOR DUTY February

BEADLE : G Leiper

Door & Collection

February 4th	February 11th
A Pollock	I Whitelaw
C Turnbull	R McLellan
J Davidson	N Collins
A Borthwick	A Miller
J Crawford	P McLellan
	J Smith

DOOR DUTY December

BEADLE : M Scott

Door & Collection

December 17th	December 24th
A Pollock	I Whitelaw
C Turnbull	R McLellan
J Davidson	N Collins
A Borthwick	A Miller
J Crawford	P McLellan
	J Smith

December 31st	
I Main	
J McVittie	
C McChesney	
A Nicol	
S McKibbin	
M McLachlan	

DOOR DUTY January

BEADLE : R Getty

Door & Collection

January 7th	January 14th
A Graham	A Hunter
C Rodgers	E Clark
B Graham	M Brown
D Rodgers	J Hunt
	S Brown
	A Kenyon

Senior Citizens



Calling All Seniors!

The Senior Citizens meet on Mondays at 2.15pm. We have a varied programme and all seniors are welcome to come along and join us.

11th Dec - John Muir – Swing

18th Dec – Christmas Lunch in the Church Hall

8th Jan - John Taylor – Singer

15th Jan - Rev Alex Stuart on Guitar

22nd Jan – Denys Docherty – Keyboard and Singer

29th Jan - Burns Afternoon – Scottish Film with Peter Malcolm

Feb 5th - Douglas Jenkins - Singer

From Douglas

Wow, December and Christmas are now upon us! December promises to be an exceptionally busy month with all the plans with various groups. The biggest event is our Christmas Extravaganza, which will be an opportunity to look at

the Christmas Story with the children from the Holiday Club in the summer. It also allows us the opportunity to maintain some sort of contact with the children through the year. I have little doubt that I will be active in the Christmas plans of the JaM Club, Boys' Brigade and Girls' Brigade, where time allows! The Youth Fellowship will be getting locked in a room for their Christmas night out, and will have a set time to escape! Let's hope they don't get locked in for ever!

The SU Groups in the schools continue to thrive, and they have various parties planned for the forth coming weeks. Garrowhill will be joining for a party at Shettleston New Parish Church with other schools in the East End. Bannerman will be going for a Christmas Dinner, and both events promise to be fun-filled. Within the schools themselves, I will be very busy with assemblies. We welcome Garrowhill into the church on Tuesday 19th December for their Christmas Assemblies, whilst I will be participating at Bannerman's Christmas Assembly on the 20th December, the final day of term! This is on top of assemblies planned with Caledonia and Swinton Primaries for St Andrew's!

The nursery are not to be missed out, and they have their Nativity in the church on Friday 15th December. They have also invited me to their pantomime trip on 12th December, and I shall of course be going! (Oh yes I will!)

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Guid New Year for 2018!



The meetings for December are -

- Dec. 5. Senior Citizens Dinner (Jolly Beggars)
- 12. Carols by Candlelight
- 2018
- Jan. 9. Janet Park
- 16. Guild Conference DVD
- 23. Rainbow Turtle (Liz Cotton)
- 30. Scottish Night
- Feb. 6. Magic with a Smile (Douglas Cameron) (Guest Night)
- Feb. 13. Let's Stick Together - Project
- Feb. 17. Saturday - Soup and Sandwich Lunch

Everyone is made very welcome and we have some very interesting nights to look forward to. Meetings begin at 7.30 pm and usually finish about 9.00 pm after a nice cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit.

Mure Memorial Men's Fellowship



Why not come along on a Monday evening at 7.45 pm and join us in the Guild Room? You will be made very welcome.

Our meetings for December, January and February are as follows.

- 11th Dec – Douglas Keith – Summer of 2016
- 8th Jan - Alastair Borthwick – South Africa
- 15th Jan – Robert Batty – Memphis to New Orleans
- 22nd Jan – Peter Mortimer – Talk on Glasgow
- 29th Jan - Douglas Robertson
- 5th Feb - Douglas McBay – Church Organist
- 12th Feb – Burns Evening



Many thanks to all who contributed food for the LHM at our Harvest Service and to the children at Garrowhill Primary School who contributed generously also. We needed five cars this time to deliver it all! A particular thanks to those who packed and delivered the food to the LHM where it was gratefully received.

We would also like to thank all those who have contributed to the socks and underwear appeal for the service users at the LHM. There will be a winter night shelter again at LHM from December to March so they are expecting to be busy and to make good use of the donations.

A number of the congregation bought Christmas cards and others gave monetary donations which were also gratefully received by LHM.

We have received several letters from the Chaplain at LHM expressing their gratitude to the congregation for their support this year which can be found on the JaM Club Notice Board in the Hall.

Anne Carmichael

End of year Accounts

Treasurers of our church organisations are reminded that, as normal, accounts require to be audited for the year ending 31/12/17

The accounts, when finalised, can be handed to Stuart McKibbin or Peter Malcolm

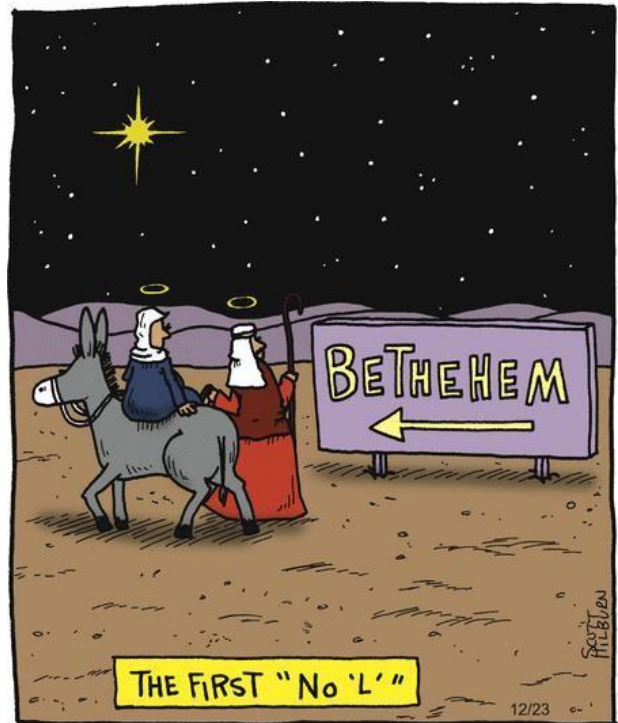
Thank you



Edith Bavaird would like to thank all her friends in Mure Memorial after her recent stay in hospital. The visits, cards and flowers were much appreciated.

Thanks to all.

Edith xx



Blessed is
The season which
Engages the whole
World in a
Conspiracy of love.

-Hamilton Wright Mabie



LINE DANCING



The line dancing is taking a break but will be starting back at 2.00 on Tuesday 9th January 2018. Why not come and join us?

The family of Edith Nimmo would like to thank everyone who donated to the offering for Cancer Research at her funeral service. The sum of £363 was raised.



For God so loved the world that He gave -

HIS WORD so that we might know the truth...

A GATE so that we might enter His kingdom...

The LIGHT of the WORLD so that we no longer walk in darkness and despair...

The BREAD OF LIFE to feed our hungry souls...

The LIVING WATER to refresh and empower us...

The RESURRECTION and the LIFE so that we could live eternally with Him.

(Author Unknown)



Our Mure Access Project has been chosen to go through to the next round of the Co-op Local Community Fund and we are looking for your support. The funding round will start on 12 November 2017 and runs for 11 months until the 27 October 2018. Here is how it works: Every time members shop at the Co-op, 1% of what they spend on selected own-brand products and services goes to the Co-op Local Community Fund. We will also receive an equal share of the money raised from sales of carrier bags. Members in the local community will be able to choose to support our cause and give their 1% from the 12 November. The more you shop, the more we'll share.



Dear friends,

This Advent, journey with the different characters in the Nativity story. Every day, a new video, reflection or prayer will be revealed behind the windows of our online Advent calendar Sign-up now at <http://churchofscotland.advent-calendar.net> to receive daily alerts linking you to each day's new Advent window.

And invite friends and family across Scotland and around the world to open our Advent calendar by sharing this link <http://churchofscotland.advent-calendar.net>

A Politically Correct Christmas Poem

T'was the night before Christmas and Santa's a wreck...

How to live in a world that's politically correct?

His workers no longer would answer to "Elves".

"Vertically Challenged" they were calling themselves.

And labour conditions at the North Pole were alleged by the union to stifle the soul.

Four reindeer had vanished, without much propriety,
Released to the wilds by the Humane Society.
And equal employment had made it quite clear
That Santa had better not use just reindeer.
So Dancer and Donner, Comet and Cupid
Were replaced with 4 pigs, and you know that
looked stupid!

The runners had been removed from his sleigh;
The ruts were termed dangerous by the E.P.A.
And people had started to call for the cops
When they heard sled noises on their rooftops.
Second-hand smoke from his pipe had his workers quite frightened.
His fur trimmed red suit was called "Unenlightened."

And to show you the strangeness of life's ebbs and flows,
Rudolf was suing over unauthorised use of his nose
And had gone on TV, in front of the nation,
Demanding millions in over-due compensation.
So, half of the reindeer were gone; and his wife,
Who suddenly said she'd enough of this life,

Joined a self-help group, packed, and left in a whiz,
Demanding from now on her title was Ms.
And as for the gifts, why, he'd never had a notion
That making a choice could cause so much

commotion.

Nothing of leather, nothing of fur,
Which meant nothing for him. And nothing for her.

Nothing that might be construed to pollute.
Nothing to aim, Nothing to shoot.
Nothing that clamoured or made lots of noise.
Nothing for just girls, or just for the boys.
Nothing that claimed to be gender specific.
Nothing that's warlike or non-pacifistic.

No candy or sweets...they were bad for the tooth.
Nothing that seemed to embellish a truth.
And fairy tales, while not yet forbidden,
Were like Ken and Barbie, better off hidden.
For they raised the hackles of those psychological
Who claimed the only good gift was one ecological.

No baseball, no football...someone could get hurt;
Besides, playing sports exposed kids to dirt.
Dolls were said to be sexist, and should be passe;
And Nintendo would rot your entire brain away.
So Santa just stood there, dishevelled, perplexed;
He just could not figure out what to do next.

He tried to be merry, tried to be gay,
But you've got to be careful with that word today.
His sack was quite empty, limp to the ground;
Nothing fully acceptable was to be found.
Something special was needed, a gift that he might
Give to all without angering the left or the right.

A gift that would satisfy, with no indecision,
Each group of people, every religion;
Every ethnicity, every hue,
Everyone, everywhere...even you.
So here is that gift, it's price beyond worth..
May you and your loved ones, enjoy peace on Earth.

Author unknown

Flower Girls (or Boys) Wanted!!!!



May I take this opportunity to thank the Flower Girls for all their help in 2017. A special thank you to Anne Stuart who is hoping to retire after 40 + years of flower arranging in Mure Memorial. Our flower ministry is a very much appreciated part of our congregational life and I am appealing to anyone in the congregation who is able to help in doing this very necessary job. Please speak to me if you feel you are able to help. It would also be helpful if we could find more volunteers to help with the delivery of the flowers on a Sunday, as our team is now down to three, Anne Scott, Doreen Boyce and myself. Many hands make light work, so please give this some serious thought and let me know if you can help.

The Flower Calendar for 2018 is now available, so if you have a preferred date, please mark it on the calendar as soon as possible.

Agnes Nicol



TESCO Bags of Help Scheme

Great news from TESCO. If you shop at one of the stores listed below, you can vote for Garrowhill Primary School to receive a share of the TESCO Bags of Help Scheme money. We'd love to mark out our playground with lots of exciting and stimulating games for the children at playtime, but it costs a great deal of money to do this. By using your voting token when you make a purchase at TESCO, you'll be helping raise valuable funds for outdoor projects such as this. The stores are as follows:

5713 BAILLESTON EXPRESS G69 6JT
5396 COCHRANE SQ GLASGOW
EXPRESS G1 1EJ
6353 GLASGOW MERCHANT
EXPRESS G1 5AA
2589 GLASGOW SHETTLESTON
G32 7JE
5668 GLASGOW TRONGATE
EXPRESS G1 5HF
6383 PARKHEAD FORGE G31 4BG

To check the location of any of the above stores, please go to the Tesco website here: <http://www.tesco.com/store-locator/uk/>

To vote, you will need to make a purchase within store of any value. You will receive one token per transaction and it's not necessary to purchase a carrier bag in order to receive a token.



A Big Thank You



Many thanks to my friends in church for your good wishes on me becoming a granny x 2. The gifts, cards and good wishes have been overwhelming. I am truly blessed. Isla Grace and Darcy Rose are two beautiful babies.

Agnes Nicol

Doing any On-Line Shopping?

Don't forget the church has a way in which you can raise funds for the MAP, and do your on-line Christmas shopping - all from the comfort of your house! You need to register at www.easyfundraising.org.uk and search for Mure Memorial Church. This will then ask you to download an application to the tool bar that will remind you each time you visit a supporting website. A full list of retailers is available on EasyFunding, but here is a small selection of retailers you could use; John Lewis, Marks and Spencer, Halfords, Argos, and JustEat, which covers many local carry out suppliers. There are lots more retailers and these deals last throughout the year, without costing you any more money.

May the Joy of Christmas



bring peace and happiness to all

From the Link team

Wishing all our readers a
Happy Christmas and a Peaceful
New Year

Merry Christmas

Loving God, Help us remember the birth of Jesus,
that we may share in the song of the angels,
the gladness of the shepherds,
and worship of the wise men.

Amen.

-Robert Louis Stevenson



MyMerryChristmasWishes.com

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 24th January 2018**

