

May 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,

“I can’t get my son to understand the concept of an outside toilet”, said a man in conversation last week. “What happened if you need the toilet in the middle of the night”, he asks. “Well you had a pot under the bed, and when finished you put it back under the bed until morning, when you would empty it and clean it, and put it back for the next night” I replied. “I remember my gran telling me about that.” said the son.

Sometimes it’s good to remember how far we have travelled, even in our own lifetime.

Goodness knows what the present generation of young people will be reminiscing about with their own children and grandchildren. It certainly won’t be outside “cludgies” and “wally” pots.

We are in the midst of a sea of change both in our own city, country and world. By the time you have read this, the results of the local elections to the City Council will be known. Pundits expect the Labour will be ousted and that the SNP will be running the city council. An election in the UK will probably confirm the nation’s exit from Europe, as the Tories romp home to victory. In America Donald Trump comes from nowhere to take the Presidency, similar to the French elections where it is expected that an outsider of the political system is going to be their new president.

A wise man suggested that all this change was due to the build-up of anger, fear and nostalgia. A potent mix, inspired by right wing newspapers, that the rich might get richer and gain more power, and the poor get poorer and with less power. Whatever your politics, I trust that you are not participating in voting based on anger, fear and nostalgia, for it would seem to me that they have no place in the Christian personality.

We come out of the Easter celebrations with a risen Lord who is alive after defeating death and evil in his resurrection. A risen Lord who is already moving us with Him into the future prepared for us. The risen Lord has already promised victory. The Church has survived under all kinds of regimes and leaderships, and it will continue to live under any kind of government, any kind of leadership, seeking

to promote the justice, peace and community that is at the core of Christ’s Kingdom into the future. It may change from time to time, but it will always be there.

Whoever is leading the council, the country, or the world, whoever is minister at Mure Memorial, Christ is Lord of all, and in due time all will pass into the memories of older people and the history books for the young. I finish with some lines from a popular hymn:

Crowns and thrones may perish,
Kingdoms rise and wane,
But the Church of Jesus,
Constant will remain.

I wish you all a future free from living with anger, fear and nostalgia, and an appreciation of the fullness of life in Christ who has been raised from the dead and waits for us to enter His future with Him.

Wishing you every blessing for the future,
Malcolm

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

9th April: Robyn Harriet Scott: We ask God’s blessing on parents Chloe and David and big sister Juliet

WEDDINGS *“So they are no longer two, but one.– Matthew 19”*

24th March Lisa Murray and David Torrance : May God richly bless them.

25th March Lorraine Graham and Garry Robertson : We ask God’s blessing on their life together.

16th April Joyce Brennan and Thomas McKee : We ask God’s blessing on them.

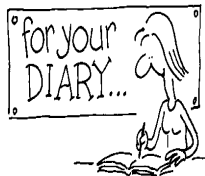
FUNERALS *“God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes - Rev 21”*

27th April **James (Jimmy) Russell** – We remember brother Robert in our prayers.

As we go into vacancy, if you need to contact the minister for pastoral matters or funerals, our Assistant Minister, Rev Alex Stuart's phone number is **07901802967**.



Lord, each of us has different talents and abilities. We ask you to inspire us to discover and develop the best within us. Lead us to be both humble and generous in praising others for the good use of their talents.
Amen



Sunday 14th May Morning Worship 10.00 am
 Wed 17th May Girls' Brigade Display
 Thurs 18th May Malcolm's Induction at Rutherglen West and Wardlawhill 7.00 pm
 Sunday 21st May Morning Worship 10.00 am
 Sunday 28th May Morning Worship 10.00 am
 Sunday 4th June Baptismal Service 10.00 am
 Sunday 11th June Communion Service 10.00 am

Flower Calendar

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



April 2nd	Agnes Nicol
April 9th	Mr & Mrs R Scott
April 16th	The Sinclair Family
April 23rd	The Choir in memory of Bill Russell
April 30th	Mrs E Sloan

DOOR DUTY May
BEADLE : R McKendrick

Door & Collection

May 7th	May 14th
R Colquhoun	A Pollock
I Malcolm	J Davidson
S Blackwood	A Borthwick
M McEwan	J Crawford
E Colquhoun	C Turnbull
J McLaren	

May 21st	May 28th
I Whitelaw	I Main
R McLellan	J McVittie
N Collins	C McChesney
A Miller	A Nicol
P McLellan	S McKibbin
J Smith	M McLachlan

DOOR DUTY June
BEADLE : G McDonald

Door & Collection

June 4th	June 11th
A Graham	
C Rodgers	
B Graham	Kirk Session
D Rodgers	



Do you think you could give a couple of hours to help a great cause? Your church raises, on average, **OVER £2000** for Christian Aid every year at this time with the help of a very small group of local heroes. Imagine if just two or three extra people came to join them. Two or three extra hours given to help with our collection. This would be amazing. If you think you could help us with this fantastic cause, please contact me Helen Stewart on 01236 879003

Thank you

From Douglas

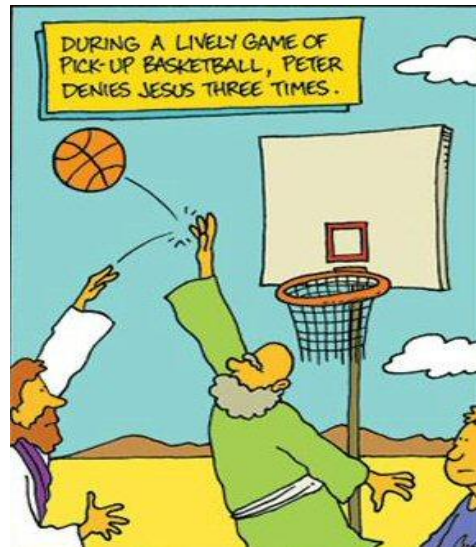
Within the church, the organisations are starting to wind down for the summer. The Boys' Brigade have already had their displays. I was privileged to have the honour of being the Inspecting Officer at the Junior Section's Display. My heart was truly in my mouth at times with their biking skills, but it was a great evening. As was the joint Anchor Boy and Company Section Display. Both evenings showcased the dedication of the officers and helpers, as well as the skills, attributes and personalities of the boys. A huge well done to all for their endeavours throughout the past session. The Girls' Brigade Display is this coming month, and again, this is an evening I am looking forward to attending.

Plans are well advanced for our summer Holiday Club. Good news arrived from Glasgow City Council East Area Grant Fund, who confirmed that they are giving us a grant for this event. This should help with making the event another success! This year's theme is "Pyramid Rock", and we shall be looking at the story of Joseph throughout the week. To this end, and to help with setting the theme, we are looking for empty shoe boxes that will be built into a pyramid! So if you have any shoe boxes, please donate them for this cause!

I have always stated that a big part of my role is to serve our local schools. Another opportunity has arisen at Garrowhill Primary who are having their

Spring Fair on Saturday 20th May. They have asked me to be their "beat the goalie". Feel free to come & support our local school, as well as seeing how bad a goalie I really am!

Many thanks as ever for your continued prayerful support.



Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys and Company Section



Once again it was a full house at our Anchor Boys and Company Section Display and we would like to thank parents and friends for their continued support.

It is difficult to have any success at Glasgow Battalion competitions; however, our Anchor Boys rose to the occasion in the Colouring Competition. At P2 level, Aiden Hoey gained a Silver Award and at P3 level, Taylor Japp gained a Bronze Award, Adam Forrester and Mark McKinnon gained Silver Awards and Mark Clifford gained a Gold Award.

In the Company Section, Ross Wallace won the Eastern District 10 Pin Bowling Competition.

This year Ryan Goudie and Ross Wallace gained their President's Badges.

Well done and congratulations to all.

At our display, presentations were made to John Coutts, who was our Inspection Officer, for long service to the Boys' Brigade and to John Strachan who, after 34 years as Captain, is stepping down. Andy Stewart has now taken on the role of Captain, but John will remain in the company to assist with the administration. He recalled some of the achievements which the boys had made over the years, especially the Company Brass Band appearing on Songs of Praise on TV, their attendance at a Royal Wedding and their dominance at sports. John and Lily Strachan were privileged to represent the Battalion twice at Royal Garden Parties at Holyrood Palace.

World Mission Committee



From Liz Green

Liz is part of the Connected Church team and looks after Tearfund projects in Ethiopia, Kenya and Malawi. She recently visited the Project which we support in Kale Hewett Church.

On the first day of my visit, we visited a Self Help Group in a rural area south of Hawassa. The group's name was Hursheke, which means, 'we're ambitious to grow fast'. This group of 20 welcoming, lovely ladies had started on 20th May 2012 (an exact date they were keen we note) and they were saving 5 Birr (17p) a week. The total savings now held by the group are 20,000 Birr (£722).

Meseret, one of the group members, talked about how she had been the poorest of the poor and how she had been suffering from poverty. She said they had been so abused by money lenders and they were so pleased to be free from them now. Others spoke about the income generating activities they did individually (selling coffee, raising hens for eggs, growing false banana) and what they did as a group (cattle fattening, buying things wholesale and then selling in the village). They spoke of freedom from money lenders, new skills acquired, independence in their household expenditure and hope. What was apparent too was that they supported each other and looked out for each other. As Hermanu, a project manager in Hawassa, told me, the essence of the Self Help Groups (SHGs) is love, tolerance and respect.

There were two big discoveries for me as I spent time with people the SHGs and Tearfund Ethiopia. Firstly the importance of Facilitators, who persevere through challenges and discouragement because they know the transformation and growth that SHGs bring about. Facilitators have a tough job - there are many discouragements and sometimes hostility when they bring the idea of SHGs to

Thank You

My sincere thanks for your cards and good wishes, wishing me well after my fall at Aviemore, resulting in a broken arm, which is now getting better.

Muriel McIntosh

Some questions



How is it possible to have a civil war?
Why do you press harder on a remote control when you know the battery isn't working?
Isn't it a bit unnerving that doctors call what they do 'practice'?
Before they invented drawing boards, what did they go back to?
If the black box flight recorder is never damaged during a plane crash, why isn't the whole plane made of the same stuff?

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

new communities. They made it clear that they persevere because they are investing in people.

One said it was seeing the growth in marginalised women which kept her going. Another said she sees that SHGs change attitudes and behaviour and the challenges are small compared to what is gained from their work.

Secondly, SHGs are a social movement. It's not just about the SHGs but the structures that are established to support them and help them to flourish and have an impact wider than themselves. Kale Hewett Church mobilises its local churches to introduce SHGs and supports them as they do. The local churches appoint facilitators and SHGs are established. When a number of groups are established in an area, they then form a group above them, called a Cluster Level Association (CLA). This is made up of SHG members within that area and is funded by subs from each member SHG. Together they tackle things a single SHG could not do. One CLA in Adama told us that they had explained the community's literacy needs to the government. As a result, the government gave them two classrooms to use for literacy education in the evening and trained 15 volunteers from the CLA to run the literacy classes.

The next step is for members of CLAs in an area to establish a Federal Level Association. Again this group takes on broader issues that SHGs and CLAs cannot tackle alone. In Adama, where there have been SHGs since 2002, the FLA has secured permission and a site from the government to build a training and resource centre for use by the local community, providing facilities like a library and technical training.

Tearfund's role in all of this is to support, build capacity, provide financial resources and to monitor and evaluate the work done. We're walking alongside the church as it rolls out SHGs in new communities. We're also working with church on an effective exit strategy for well established SHGs, which will lead to FLAs being self-funded and independent, freeing up resources for new SHGs to be established.

The following letter was received by Myra Brown on behalf of the Thrift Shop.

Dear Mrs Brown

I am writing to you, to give you my thanks for the continued support that Mure Memorial Church has shown to 'Glasgow Cathedral Not Quite New Shop'. Your donations have always been gratefully received. You are probably aware, however, that we recently took the decision to close the shop. It was a very hard one to make and was done with the greatest of sadness. The fates were against us, I'm afraid. We were facing increased loss, lower profits and not enough staff to keep going. We shall all miss the shop and the outreach it provided. It's thanks to Mure's generosity (and others) that we were able to continue for the length of time that we did. Again I give you my thanks.

Shona French

On behalf of all your friends at Glasgow Cathedral.



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 May 2017

