

SEPTEMBER 2011

Mure Memorial Church



The Link

Dear Friends,

Summer is now fast disappearing and all the winter organisations are preparing for their new sessions. For those who are part of the activities at Mure Memorial another busy winter beckons, for those who are not involved, it may be because of your own personal busy-ness, or maybe it is because of some hurt or scar you carry from previous contact with the church. If you are in that category and even if you have been coming regularly carrying the hurt and pain of a previous encounter, there is a very special word I would like to say to you. The word is "Sorry". As a leader of the Christian Church I am all too aware of the way in which it has affected individuals and families who have fallen foul of the legalistic forms of what people were supposed to be and do before becoming accepted within church circles. Snide comments, being ignored or shunned, or outright refusal to receive attention from the church, may have hurt you painfully and left you with lifelong sores and burdens that you and others have had to carry. Please accept on behalf of the church at large my humblest and deepest apologies.

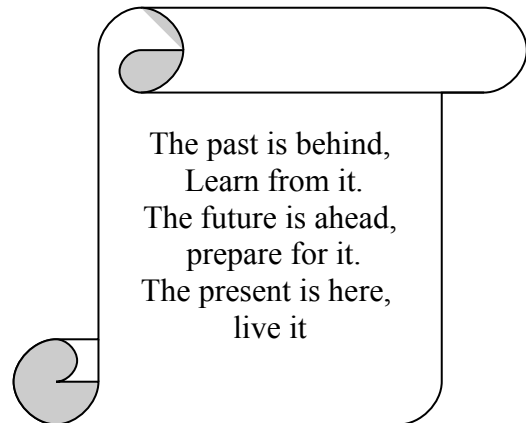
I am now the minister at Mure Memorial and would like to say sorry too, to those who have suffered pain and hurt from members, both past and present, of my congregation. It is an all too easy cop-out to say that the church is only human and therefore prone to fall short of what Christ would want us to be, but one read of the life of Christ, the community he desires the church to be, and the resources He has given to us, all suggest that we should be able to do better than we have done, especially those in leadership positions. I will be doing my best to ensure that I and those in my community will try to do and be all that we should be and do following Jesus Christ into the future.

I have no particular agenda in doing this except to communicate my profound apologies. You can do with it what you will. Should you wish to hear it personally from me or suggest some kind of amends that might be made, then do not hesitate to get in touch. However I should say that Mure

Memorial will not be or do all that it could be or do without your presence within its community

Wishing you and yours every blessing.

Rev. Malcolm Cuthbertson



WEDDINGS

1st July **Lisa Ferrie & Craig Colquhoun**

15th July **Natalie Attard & Henry Johnston**

20th August **Lisa Rodman & Michael Ward**

We ask God's Blessing on these couples and their families.

FUNERALS

25th June **Sarah Biggart**: May God be with all the family at this time.

25th June **Jackie Wallace (52)**: May God bless her two sons and the wider family.

6th July **James Leishman**: May God bless nephew James Rennie and the wider family.

11th July **Adam Stein**: May God be with Daughter Jeannette Black and the wider family.

15th July **Alan Rae (19)**: May God comfort parents and sister at this sad time.

16th July **Mary Cowan**: May God Bless Husband Les and daughters Helen, Alison and Christine.

- 19th July **Baby Mia McDonald:** May God give parents Tracy and John strength and peace.
- 26th July **Billy Martin (38):** May God bless mum Helen and the family.
- 26th July **Ian Fyfe:** God's Blessing on wife Jean and sons Scott and Bruce at this sad time.
- 2nd August **Nan McMaster:** May God comfort and strengthen son Nick and his wife Marina so soon after father's death.
- 12th August **Jimmy McLaughlin:** May God bless the family on their sad loss.
- 23rd August **Betty Carlisle:** May God be with Daughters Fiona, Alison and Gillian and all their loved ones.

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.

The Thrift shop reopens 6th September
10 – 12.

All donations gratefully received

MENS' FELLOWSHIP

Mens' fellowship will commence on Monday 3rd October at 7:45 pm. A sincere and hearty welcome is extended to all men within the congregation and the parish to join with us on Monday evenings. The atmosphere is quite informal and an interesting and full syllabus has been prepared for the coming year. I look forward to renewing friendship with our existing members and extending a welcoming hand of friendship to new members. At this time we extend to all car drivers in the congregation (ladies included!!) an invitation to our meeting on 10th October to hear our guest speaker, a Sergeant driver instructor with Strathclyde Police .Get uptodate on the latest road laws etc.

Looking forward to seeing you all on Monday 3rd October at 7:45.

J.Coutts

IAN FYFE

My sons Scott & Bruce wish to join with me in thanking everyone who sent cards of sympathy and comfort. As you know a collection was made on behalf of Macmillan Cancer Relief plus The British Heart Foundation and the most generous amount of £750 was received for which we give our heartfelt thanks. As a personal message I would like to thank the church for the lovely flowers I received. Much appreciated,

Jean Fyfe

Flower Calendar



Thank you to everyone who has donated flowers for our Sunday services during the months of June, July and August

June	
June 5th	Mr & Mrs R Getty
June 12th	Mr & Mrs R Colquhoun
June 19th	Mr & Mrs A Pollock
June 26th	Mrs Johnston & Miss Kerr

July	
July 3rd	Niall Sloan
July 10th	Mgt. & Ross McKendrick
July 17th	Ella Tran
July 24th	Cath.Scotland & Isabel Cunningham
July 31st	Cath.Scotland & Isabel Cunningham

August	
August 7th	Myra Brown
August 14th	Caroline Robertson
August 21st	
August 28th	M Hutchison



May I make an appeal for help to wrap and deliver flowers on a rota basis, as many hands make light work.

Agnes Nicol

Property Committee Update

Although some activities ceased at Mure during the summer, maintenance has continued, carried out by dedicated members of the Property Committee and other members of the Congregation, to ensure the Church is a welcoming and safe environment, and doing our best to keep within the means of the Congregation.

Many of you will have noticed the new varnished floor and re-painted lines in the Large Hall. Many thanks indeed to the members of the Badminton Club and others who undertook this. Looks Great.

Some of the observant amongst you may also have noticed the change at the front of the Manse as some of the hedging has gone. Poor Malcolm slaved for days over this, and burnt out and broke a variety of tools in his efforts.

The new system of some Board members being allocated specific areas of the Church "estate" to monitor seems to be working well; however, if anyone is aware of a maintenance or similar issue, it can be noted in the Property book in the Church Office, or by informing either an Elder or a member of the Property Committee.

Whate'er I do, things great or small
Whate'er I speak or frame.

Thy glory may I seek in all,
Do all in Jesus' name.

My Father, for His sake I pray.
Thy child accept and bless
And lead me by Thy grace to-day
In paths of righteousness.

Amen

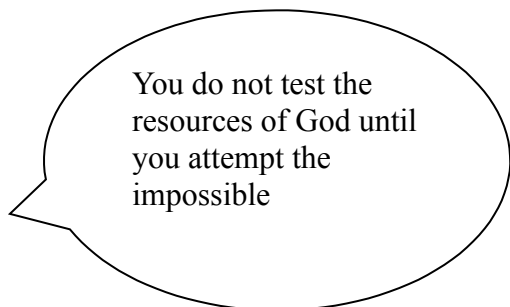


Prayer Group

If you would like a prayer to be said please complete one of the prayer slips available at each church door. Alternatively email

prayer@mure.org

or telephone Eileen on 573 8142



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

Senior Citizens recommence Monday 3rd October @ 2.15. All Welcome

PLEASE NOTE

Deadline for the next issue of the Link is September 21st

DOOR DUTY – September

BEADLE: Robert Getty

Door & Collection

September 4th	September 11th
L Kennedy	A Pollock
I Malcolm	C Scotland
S Blackwood	A Borthwick
C Robertson	J Davidson
E Colquhoun	J Crawford
J McLaren	C Turnbull

September 18th	September 25th
C Stewart	W Millar
R McLellan	A Walker
N Collins	J McVittie
J Greenshields	C McChesney
P McLellan	A Nicol
J Smith	E Nimmo

DOOR DUTY – October

BEADLE: Graeme Leiper

Door & Collection

October 2nd	October 9th
E Boyd	J Hunt
C Rodgers	J Hannah
A Stuart	M Brown
M McKellar	Mrs Hunt
B Graham	Mrs Hannah
M Martin	A Kenyon

Community Development Committee

Since our quizzes proved popular at our Monday Fellowship, we have decided to give you more.

Please put a note in your diary of the **Mure Memorial Quiz** to be held on **Tuesday 20th September at 7 30pm**. Tickets priced : **£2.00** Why not make up a team.

Another date for your diary is **Saturday 26th November**, when we plan to have a **CEILIDH**, and you can bring your own refreshments – alcoholic or non alcoholic.

Peggy Mc Lellan.

GUILD NEWS

The new session of the Guild begins on Tuesday 4th October. We have some very interesting and entertaining programmes planned for this year so why don't you come and join us. We meet at 7.30 p.m. and you can be sure of a warm welcome. We look forward to catching up with all our old members and welcoming new ones. Our opening night on Tuesday 4 October is "HATS" - looking forward to seeing you all. The Re-dedication Service this year is on Sunday 9th October.

Christian Education Development Committee Report - (Sub Committee of the Kirk Session)

We are a lively and interesting group consisting of elders and members of the congregation and some of the topics we have discussed at our meetings follow.

Summer Sunday School – Numbers of children fell during the holiday period but those who did attend enjoyed a varied and fun filled programme.

Holiday Club – This had been the twenty-seventh consecutive year of the Holiday Club, which had proved very successful and enjoyable. The children had a great time, as did the leaders. Daytime numbers were smaller than in previous years, thought to be due to Sandyhills Church Holiday Club operating at the same time. The smaller numbers provided a good opportunity to get to know the children better. The evening club for Primary 6 upwards was well attended, with numbers increasing as the week progressed. Various activities including Treasure Hunt and Ten-pin bowling provided lots of fun. (I'm told a certain Mrs Park beat a certain Mr Stewart at the bowling event!!). Videos of the week's activities were shown and enjoyed in church. The week provided a great opportunity for all to enjoy bible themes in imaginative ways.

Leaflet Distribution/School Visitation –

Information on church activities were distributed at Garrowhill Primary School Summer Fayre which had a good take up and further opportunities will be available at Christmas events. Representatives of BB and GB will visit Garrowhill PS and Mt Vernon PS to promote church activities.

Praise Event - An Audio-visual version of songs for children's praise will be ready for Sunday School and Praise Band members will attend to demonstrate actions.

Church Library – A representative display of books for adults and children had been set up on two occasions through the summer and will be repeated once per month in the large hall at coffee time. Look out for a good read!!

Bible Class – Fifteen young people now attend, which is very encouraging. However as Michelle Key has come to the end of her time with them as a leader (many thanks for her input) we only have one regular leader at present, Beverley Bissett, who does a sterling job **but** she cannot continue the group on her own. **There is therefore an urgent need for other leaders or adult helpers to give their service to these young people.** Please give this prayerful consideration if you can help, even on a part time basis, and contact Beverley or any elder.

Lenten and Pastoral Bible Studies – It was noted that so much positive feedback had been received, not only by those who attended the studies, but from the congregation attending Sunday morning services. In discussion it was noted that the minister's style of preaching and style of teaching were very different, yet received the same appreciation and positive feedback. The conclusion reached was that those who enjoy the preaching at morning services might also enjoy the teaching at the bible studies. So, why not give the next study, which is on Worship a try?

Further details of this will be in the next edition of the Link.

Cathy Wallace (Convenor)

CHOIR NEWS

The choir resumes the weekly practices on Tuesday 30th August at 7.30pm (until 9.30pm including a short break for tea/coffee) If you would like to join us, please see Bill Russell who will give you further details. We sing a variety of music and new members are always welcome.

I have recorded some CD's which are being sold for £5.00, all the money raised going to the church windows' fund.

e.g. Vivaldi's "Gloria" and "All in the April evening"

Easy listening piano pieces. Hymns and worship songs (piano and organ)

Scottish Dance music (a double CD by my Ceilidh band – a bargain!!

If you would like to buy any of the above music please contact me (do not pay until you receive the CD).

Bill Russell

SWEET PEA



Meaning delicate or blissful pleasure in the language of flowers, this enchanting flower remains a favourite fragrant blossom

Due to a national shortage of ministers, the Church of Scotland has asked their presbyteries to cut back on the number of ordained ministers within their bounds. In order to assess the needs of ministry staff for each parish within the Presbytery of Glasgow, a plan to measure the needs of each congregation has been designed. Points would be awarded in five broad areas.

1. **Parish populations.** These would be weighted for parishes depending on the ethnic mix and church allegiance, as determined at the 2001 census. With a parish of over 5,400 people and a very small ethnic community Mure Memorial should score highly in this category.
2. **Parish need.** This takes into account the health and wealth of the community. While we have a large elderly population, with all the needs that entails, with the parish being almost exclusively private sector housing, the congregation will probably score low in this section.
3. **Congregation size and strength.** This takes into account the number in the congregation, the range of ages and the financial contributions made, over the past three years. Unfortunately due to the fact that the three year period was almost entirely a vacancy situation, all of this will be lower than even it is at present, and representations will need to be made to underline this issue. However the congregation would be expected to score reasonably high in this category.
4. **Ministries and Mission Contribution.** The congregation has consistently year on year met its full contribution to the wider work of the church, and would expect to score highly in this category.
5. **Outward looking focus.** This is a much more complicated category, and the information for this is firstly to be gathered by an "audit form" of

questions, largely statistical, in relation to worship, young people, outreach events/programmes, church related groups/activities, chaplaincies, and communication, and secondly a visit to meet the leadership of the church. The form has already been banked, and we presently await the visit of the presbytery team.

The team will be assessing this “outward looking focus”, based on assessable questions, covering 8 aspects of the congregation’s work and witness.

- i) **The impact made on the local community through Christian witness of organisations run by the church.** The congregation is expected to score high in this area.
- ii) **The impact made on the community through the witness of the individual members and associates of the congregation.** Once again we would expect to score high here.
- iii) **The vision for, the planning and delivery for, outreach events and programmes.** With the exception of the Holiday Club and a stall at the GAP day, and this year the School Fair, there has been little happening in this area and the expectation is that we will score low.
- iv) **The provision for welcoming strangers.** While there is some good work being done here there is some more to be worked on and a middle range score can be expected.
- v) **The willingness of the congregation to change for the sake of others.** There have been quite considerable changes particularly in the area of worship and we would fully expect to score high in this category.

vi) **Sharing of workload between paid staff and volunteers.**

Since all the activities in the congregation are largely run by volunteers it is expected that a high score will be achieved here.

vii) **The priority given by the congregation to the most vulnerable within their community.**

With the priority given to young children and senior citizens in the use of the building and the pastoral care offered to the bereaved and those in hospital a high score should be achieved in this section.

viii) **The involvement and engagement with World Mission.**

This is probably our weakest section, with little or no contact with World Mission or other agencies working the global mission agenda.

Each congregation within the Presbytery is being assessed in the same way towards the allocation of a full-time or part-time minister and/or other staff (e.g. youth worker, pastoral assistant etc.) The team of assessors will be at Mure Memorial within the next three months, with the result known in the middle of 2012.

Meanwhile the Kirk Session continues to set out and implement its own priorities, aided by the vision outlined above, and other experiences of church and faith, that might improve those areas where we are weak and even improve on our best in the areas where we are strong.

Blessing

In anger, be kind, in indignation, be tolerant, in frustration, be patient.

And may the justice and love of the challenging and compassionate Christ be always in your hearts.

AMEN