

# September 2018





# The Link

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

Dear Friends,

It was a beautiful Sunday morning. People were filling the church to its fullest capacity, as they entered each was given an Order of Service with announcements, scripture readings, what songs they would sing and headings for Prayer. At the end of the queue stood an older man, his clothes were filthy and you could tell that he had not bathed in days, he was covered in facial hair as he had not shaved for a very long time.

When he reached the Elder at the door he removed his tattered old brown hat in respect. His hair was a long, dirty tangled mess, he had no shoes on his feet and wore only soiled, black socks. The Elder put his fingers to his nose and glared at the old man and said, 'I'm sorry sir, but we can't let you in, you will distract the congregation and we don't allow anyone to disrupt our service. I'm afraid you'll have to leave.'

The old man looked down at himself with a puzzled look on his face, he placed his old brown hat back on his head and turned to leave. He was sad, as he loved to hear the choir sing praises to the Lord. He loved to watch the children get up in the front of the church to sing their little songs. In his pocket he carried a worn out Bible, which he used to see if the minister preached a passage from the Bible that he had underlined. He was respectful and didn't want to cause any commotion, so he hung down his head and walked back down the steps of the church.

He sat on the wall of the church and strained to listen through the closed doors and windows to the singing going on in the church. Oh how he wished he could be inside with all the others. A few minutes passed by when all of a sudden a younger man came up behind him and sat down near him, he asked the old man what he was doing.

He answered, 'I was going to go to church today, but they thought I was filthy and my clothes are old and worn and they were afraid I would disrupt their service. Sorry, I didn't introduce myself, my name is Adam.' The two gentlemen shook hands and Adam couldn't help but notice that this man had long hair like

his. He wore a piece of cloth draped over his body tied with a royal purple sash, he had sandals on his feet covered with dust and dirt.

The stranger reached to touch Adam's shoulder and said, 'Hello Adam, don't feel bad because they would not let you in. My name is Jesus and I've been trying to get into this same church for years and they won't let me in either.'

It is possible to be so busy doing churchy things that we forget our purpose for existence. Church can become just another club, an elite society that has all the right externals, but has forgotten what its true purpose is.

Jesus met unbelievers where they were. He realized what many Christians today never seem to. The gospel records 132 contacts that Jesus had with people. Six were in the Temple, four in the synagogue and 122 were out with people in the mainstream of life.

Christians, can become adept at maintaining a façade of spirituality that does not necessarily match what is going on within them. No one swears (at least publicly). Everyone is well-mannered. Being good, externally, becomes second nature. Everyone seems so together. There are few evident needs, and those that do exist are disguised.

But underneath, it is too easy for Christian believers to forget that they are sinners, yes forgiven, but still, in themselves, weak and vulnerable. Church becomes an elite club that few on the outside want to join even if they could.

The radical regenerating work of Jesus sours, as redeemed people lose sight of their continuing need, when they forget that though their eternal future is secure, in their daily walk they are frail and needy. The church can easily become a self-righteous subculture with no room or sympathy for sinners. The church is not a hotel for the righteous, but a hospital for sinners who need Jesus, and this gives us some principles to remember.

To the religious leaders, the Pharisees, people were divided into two groups, righteous and sinners. The righteous were those who kept

the rules, did the right things, and associated with the right people. The righteous saw themselves as right with God because of what they did not do, where they would not go, and with whom they did not associate. Jesus scandalized the Pharisees by indicating there are no good or bad people, only those who know they are bad and those who do not. Jesus had come to call those who would acknowledge that they were sinners, not those who thought they had no sin.

I'll conclude by saying, don't let unhappy Christians convince you that you have to give up joy and happiness to follow Jesus. In fact the opposite is true. Unfortunately the church of today, can become so busy doing good things that we forget they have been left here with a commission. Jesus said, 'Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.'

Yours in Christ, Alex



#### BAPTISMS "Jesus took the children in his arms, placed his hands on each of them, and blessed them - Mark 10"

24<sup>th</sup> June Ava McGowan: baby daughter of Jennifer and Ryan

#### FUNERALS "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes - Rev 21"

11<sup>th</sup> June Morag Rippon wife of John and mother of Cherry

23<sup>rd</sup> July Jean Johnstone mother of Alan Also Doris Miller, mother of Pamela and Gillian, whose funeral took place in Port Knockie. A memorial service will take place at Mure Memorial on a date to be arranged.



Lord Jesus, open my eyes to recognise you as you walk beside me, accompanying me on my journey in life each day. Amen



Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Sept Kirk Session meeting

7.45 pm

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> Sept Communion Service

10.00 am

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> Sept Morning Worship 10.00 am Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept Morning Worship 10.00 am Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> Sept Morning Worship 10.00 am

Dedication Service of BB & GB

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Oct Senior Citizens resumes at 2.15 pm

Men's Fellowship resumes

at 7.45 pm

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct Guild recommences at 7.30 pm

#### Flower Calendar

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



June 3rd	Robert & Margaret Getty
June 10th	Robert & Ellen Colquhoun
June 17th	Jean McVittie
June 24th	Ross McKendrick

July 1st	Mr & Mrs J Davidson
July 8th	Sheila Blackwood
July 15th	John Coutts
July 22nd	Margaret Miller
July 29th	Jean Fyfe

August 5th	Myra Brown
August 12th	Alex Wilson
August 19th	Flora McKendry
August 26th	Betty Pollock

## **DOOR DUTY September BEADLE : G McDonald**

Door & Collection

September 9th	September 16th
	I Whitelaw
	J Smith
Kirk Session	R McLellan
	P McLellan
	N Collins

September 23rd	September 30th
I Main	A Graham
J McVittie	C Rodgers
A Nicol	D Rodgers
S McKibbin	B Graham
M McLachlan	M Hutchison

### **DOOR DUTY October BEADLE : M Scott**

Door & Collection

October 7th	October 14th
A Hunter	A Telfer
M Brown	Alex Wilson
J Hunt	M McMillan
A Miller	A Tedeschi
A Kenyon	G McDonald



Sincere thanks for the lovely card and your kind wishes on the occasion of my "special" birthday! Also the beautiful flowers.

Ríta Green

#### From Douglas R.

I'm struggling to believe that summer is now a distant memory! It was the usual mental period, intensified by the fact my dad had major surgery during the summer! I would like to thank everyone for the cards, flowers, prayers and good wishes passed to myself and my family during the summer. Any hope of

a quiet summer was diminished with the major event that was Holiday Club! Everyone who attended seemed to enjoy the week, and my thanks to all who helped make the week such a success, whether they helped lead a group, brought children, cut out crafts, led activities, served in the kitchen or It all added up to a most prayed! excellent week! You might be aware that Baillieston St Andrew's are having a Holiday Club in October, during the school holiday week! The theme of that week is Seaside Rock, and it promises to have much the same fun as Teambuilders did! The fun starts on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October, and is open to anyone in Primary School. It is just a 3 day Holiday Club, running Monday-Wednesday, 10am-12noon! Feel free to come along and join in the fun!

That venture alone promises that things will not be quiet for me! But with the Youth Fellowship, JaM Club, Girls' Brigade and Boys' Brigade all starting back, it promises to be tremendous fun, albeit very busy! And that's before the schools work in Caledonia, Garrowhill and Swinton primaries, Bannerman High and Happitots Nursery! There are exciting prospects with links being built with Indigo Nursery that is based in Garrowhill Primary, as well as an equally exciting prospect within the community of Baillieston! I hope to be able to say more in the coming weeks and months as details emerge!

Many thanks for your continuing practical and prayerful support

Douglas



Please convey to both the congregation and Kirk Session of Mure Memorial Church our thanks for the gift of the flowers which adorned the sanctuary. They are still fresh as they sit in our living room and were a great fillip when James came home from hospital.

Thanks also to the Session for their card, get well wishes and to everyone for their prayers through this challenging period. All have been much appreciated and have helped the whole family through a difficult time. It really is true that there is nothing more powerful or sustaining but to know that your brothers and sisters are upholding you in prayer.

Many thanks once again for your kindness.

Lynn and James Robertson (Mum and Dad of Douglas)

#### LINE DANCING



The new session for the Line Dancing starts on the second Tuesday in September 11<sup>th</sup>
2.00 pm to 3.00 pm
Why not come and join us?
It's good exercise and good company.



A sincere thanks goes to Agnes and the Flower Ladies for the beautiful flowers I received in July. A lovely gesture, which is appreciated by all who receive them on a weekly basis.

Many thanks Helen Duncan



The Guild start their new Session on Tuesday evening, 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

Our Secretaries, June and Carol, have been working hard all summer and have produced a very exciting and enjoyable programme.

The programme for October is -

Oct 1st Alex Stewart
9th Davey Hay
16th Bethany Christian Trust
(re vulnerable people and homeless)
23rd Panopticon Music Hall
30th Halloween

Meetings start at 7.30 p.m. and everyone is made very welcome.

Guidance means I can count on God. Commitment means God can count on me.



#### **Senior Citizens**



Calling All Seniors!

The Senior Citizens begins again on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm The first afternoon will be a general introduction afternoon and to hear about the exciting programme our secretary, Margaret, has produced. Everyone is welcome and you can be sure of an enjoyable afternoon along with a nice cup of tea.

# Thankyou!

A very sincere thank you to everyone who sent cards, gifts, flowers and good wishes on my 90th birthday. A special word of thanks to those who organised the lovely celebration at church. A birthday I will never forget

Mamie Johnston



A sincere thank you to all our friends at Mure Memorial for their support of cards, flowers, visits and prayers, it did help at what was a very difficult time for us. Also a very big thank you to Alex for the beautiful service and the support he gave us both before and after the funeral. Thanks to everyone's generosity we were able to send a donation of £325 to the Beatson Cancer Charity.

Joyce Stevenson, Paul and Margaret

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will

When the road you're trudging seems all up hill

When the funds are low and the debts are high And you want to smile, but you have to sigh When care is pressing you down a bit Rest if you must, but don't you quit.

Success is failure turned inside out
The silver tint of clouds of doubt
And you never can tell how close you are
It may be near when it seems so far
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit
It's when things seem worse that you must not
quit

Anon



Old Gladys attended a church service one particular Sunday. The sermon seemed to go on for ever, and many of the congregation fell asleep. After the service, to be sociable, she walked up to a very sleepy looking gentleman, and in an attempt to revive him from his stupor, extended her hand in greeting and said, 'Hello, I'm Gladys Dunn.' To which the gentleman replied, 'You're not the only one!

#### **Summer Friendship Club**

We ran another very successful Friendship Club over the summer months which was appreciated by those who came along. It was an opportunity for a chat and some fun over a cup of tea. Thanks are due to the willing team of volunteers who came along each week and to Alex who came to entertain us with some songs.



BE STRONG, BUT
NOT RUDE; BE KIND,
BUT NOT WEAK;
BE BOLD, BUT NOT
BULLY; BE HUMBLE,
BUT NOT TIMID;
BE PROUD, BUT
NOT ARROGANT.

There was only one thing missing. Where were all the gentlemen? We look forward to welcoming some next year.



Thanks to the kitchen team. A happy bunch!

#### CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE LINK

If you have an article, news item or announcement for the Link please either email details to <a href="mailto:link@mure.org">link@mure.org</a> or place a copy of the information in Post Box 35 in the Session Room

Deadline for the next issue is Wednesday 19th September 2018 ≈≈≈≈≈