June 2009

In The Footsteps Of Jesus



On the Mount of Olives with the Kidron valley below. Near the bottom lies the garden of Gethsemane. Top left - the Church of Dormition on Mount Zion. Centre - the Dome of the Rock Mosque (Gold) above the Old City walls

Can you imagine what it must be like to walk down the Mount of Olives, through the Garden of Gethsemane, up the Kidron Valley and look out over the walls of the old city of Jerusalem? Add to this the opportunity to hear readings from the Bible and to sing appropriate hymns and you will have some idea of the tremendous spiritual experience afforded to those of us who were privileged to go on this pilgrimage.



Sunrise over the Golan heights and the Sea of Gallilee

Have you pictured the Sea of Galilee from your knowledge of the stories around it which you have read since childhood? Think then of how it felt to set sail in a small boat, to stop the engines and experience the calm and beauty of the setting while the story of Jesus calming the water was read and we sang "Be still for the presence of the Lord is moving in this place".

Taking part in a simple outdoor communion service on



Communion on the lake shore with a rock for the table

the lake shore, while looking out to the water, will remain as a permanent memory which served to deeply enrich our faith.

Picture us visiting the Al Shurooq home for blind children and hearing a blind young girl, Layla, beautifully reciting from memory Wordsworth's poem "Daffodils" and hearing a group of small blind boys enthusiastically singing "We shall overcome". We were all overcome emotionally, and so challenged by the commitment of the staff in this school and in the others which we visited.

(Continued on the back page)



Layla in the braille library she loves. Lack of bearings in the new school led to a broken arm.

CONTACTS

CHURCH OFFICE: 431135

Monday to Friday: 9 am to noon

MINISTER

Rev Dr W Martin Fair, BA, BD 873238

ASSISTANT MINISTER

Ruth Bell: 07939 543467

MINISTER EMERITUS

David Searle

SESSION CLERK

Jane Miller: 875235

TREASURER

Derek Scott : 878305

FREEWILL ENVELOPES

Ian Roberton: 877519

CHURCH OFFICER

Janis Clark: 878594

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Kim Marr: 430505

COMMUNITY WORKER

Chris Barton: 439488

YOUTH CO-ORDINATOR

Sheila Dunphy: 873218

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Audrey Brown: 439723 Elaine Fair: 873238

ORGANIST

Jane Miller: 875235

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SUNDAY CLUB

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MAGAZINE ORGANISER

Mary Scott: 873874

PRAYER CO-ORDINATORS

Judy Spink: 872395 Lesley Bailey: 436751

SUPPLIES CO-ORDINATOR

Norma Beattie: 873442

ADMINISTRATOR and BOOKINGS / ROLLKEEPER

Alison Davie : 431135

MAGAZINE EDITOR/CDs

Ken Miller: 875235

ST ANDREW'S ARBROATH

REGISTER OF MEMBERS

May 2009

Baptisms - Aaron & Poppy, children of Kaileigh

Weddings - None

Funerals - Jean Cargill

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

I would like to thank everyone who supported Christian Aid Week this year - the house to house collectors, helpers at the Coffee Morning and the Bag Packing at Morrisons.

The monies raised so far are:

DEADLINE DATES FOR DIARIES

JULY EDITION

Please note that DEADLINE dates <u>must</u> mean exactly that, with all articles and pictures submitted beforehand, or on those dates.

Friday 19th June (Written/preferably typed)

Tuesday 23rd June (Word-Processed file)

Coffee Morning £1400.00

House to House Collection in Parish - £780.00

Bag Packing £650.00

Thank you for your support in this very important Service for Christ throughout our world.

Joan Hainsworth

New Venues are shown below

SUNDAY

10.15 am – Gathering for prayer.

10.30 am - Choir practice.

11.00 am – Morning service (with short communion on the third Sunday of each month. Tea/coffee after. Creche – up to age 3. Infants – ages 3 to 5.

Juniors – ages 8 and 9. Seniors – ages 10 and 11 Sunday Club – Elaine Fair (873238). Teen Scene – S1 to S2

6.30 to 8.00 pm - Sunday evening ICE-BREAKERS - up to age 16

8.00 pm – Sunday evening Youth Group – age 16 plus (Guild Hall, Ogilvy Place)

MONDAY

11.00 am - Havilah - Drop-in Centre - Church Office (431135) (Café Project)

2.00 pm - Dorothy Dobson Over 50s Exercise Class (West Kirk)

6.00 pm - Rainbow Guides - L Hadden (875379) (Guide Hall)

7.30 pm – St Andrew's Guild : Fortnightly – Joyce Lownie (430053) (OBs)

7.30 pm – Flower Club: Fortnightly – R Spink (874690) (OBs)

WEDNESDAY

10.30 am - Midweek Meeting Point - M Fair (873238)

11.00 am - Havilah - Drop-in Centre - Church Office (431135)

5.45 pm – Brownies – Morag Scorgie (01674 820721) (United Free Church)

7.15 pm – Guides (New Life Centre)

7.30 pm – Women's Group – first Wednesdays – Elaine Fair (873238)

THURSDAY

10.00 am – Parent and Toddler Group – Joan Archer (876522) (Old & Abbey Church)

2.00 pm – Friend's Club : first Thursdays – L Smith – B Gerrard, secretary (434821) (Green Street Hall)

6.00 pm - Anchor Boys - S Jamieson (431942)

6.00 pm - BB Junior Section - W Ewart (876114) (Sea Cadet Hall)

7.30 pm – BB Company Section – M Clark (437758) (Sea Cadet Hall)

FRIDAY

9.30 am – Coffee morning (Old and Abbey Church)

11.00 am – Havilah – Drop-in Centre – Church Office (431135)

During the refurbishment please contact the church office for information on alternative venues. Intimations, changes of address, hall bookings etc., please contact Alison Davie at the Church office, Monday to Friday, 9 am to noon and for 15 minutes after Sunday Service, telephone 431135.

Printing, tickets, syllabi, etc – W Marshall (873376).

Please call 875235 in the event of corrections or omissions, and an updated sheet will be produced.

Martin



Fair

June 2009

Dear Friends,

In years to come, we ministers will ask ourselves, "Were you at the General Assembly in 2009?" Of course, it has been a very important General Assembly, with key decisions having been made and others put off for the time being. As far as the media was concerned, there was only subject of interest – but, of course, that was far from being the case. One might easily argue that there were all kinds of other issued deliberated upon which were of greater importance! It appears, though, that sensational stories are the ones that people want to read.

With regard to the question of homosexuality and ministry, a Special Commission has been established to report back in two years time to the General Assembly. In the meantime, the Church has been instructed NOT to conduct that debate in the pages of the newspapers. That does not mean that we are not to discuss it!! The opposite is true; the two-year period has been established for the purpose of discussion, which is talking AND listening. To that end, the Church has prepared material to allow Kirk Sessions and congregations to engage with this debate in the proper manner and we at St. Andrew's will find time to do that in the coming year.

But the other thing I want to say is this. The day after I returned from Edinburgh, I made visits to various hospitals, hospices, and care homes etc. I was heart-broken in terms of some of the people and situations that I encountered. Some people suffering awfully, some near to death. And as I walked away from these particular situations, the thought struck my mind that, really, the decisions of a General Assembly need to be seen in perspective. Real people in real situations such as the ones I found myself ministering to and in are what matters most – certainly to me. Further, this summer we're sending a team of young people to serve in Malawi among hundreds of orphaned children. The work we're engaged with there is life-changing and at times, life-saving. I don't suppose that too many of these Malawian boys and girls will be overly bothered by the long debates of our Assembly! Rather, they will see in our young people something of the love of Jesus. That's what St. Andrew's Church is in the business of – and under my stewardship will continue to be concerned about.

My hope and prayer is that you're with me on that.

God bless,

Martin, Elaine, Callum, Andrew, Fraser and Flossie!

MartinFair@aol.com

Clerk's Corner

The work being undertaken to construct the districts for the new Pastoral Care System is nearing completion. It is likely that each member of the Contact Team will have around eight homes to visit each month, so the number of visitors has been increased to around 60. You will remember from the detail in previous issues of Quest, that as well as having the magazine delivered to you, you will be contacted once a month with a friendly enquiry as to your welfare, and if necessary, or sought, requests for help can be passed to Kim Marr who is the Pastoral Care Coordinator.

Once the districts have been finalised, the next step will be to check the names against the congregational roll and then contact the team members to let them see their altered districts. All of this requires time and attention to detail and so, with the approach of the holidays, we have decided that this new system is likely to begin in September.

Jane Miller

Crombie Park Trip and BBQ

As always, our session will be drawn towards its conclusion with our Sunday Club Prize-giving and Crombie Park Trip – these events to take place on Sunday 21st June. The prize-giving will, of course, be part of our worship service that day and the double-decker bus will leave from the church at 1.30pm on its way to Crombie. It will depart Crombie for the return journey at 5pm. The trip will include

children's races and fun activities together with a BBQ.

Hopefully, for all concerned, it will also involve an afternoon bathing in glorious June sunshine.

The important thing to remember is that this isn't a Sunday Club trip – it's for the whole church family and all are welcome, from youngest to oldest. Tickets will go on sale from the end of May.

Home and Away - OUTREACH - Home and Away

A Good Read From Mary Reid!

St Andrew's Church has volunteers in Warddykes Primary School.

I had hoped to recruit a few people to do Paired

Reading and was overwhelmed by the response when fifteen people came forward. Lack of space for a quiet area stopped me from using the whole group. I therefore used eight volunteers and I felt it was a nice gesture to offer the help of others to Hayshead Primary School.

We have some wonderful people who give my pupils respect, understanding, patience and time. Anne, Roberta, Margaret and Audrey do Paired Reading and I could tell so

many positive stories about them. One pupil's self esteem improved because his helper was a great granny figure and listened to what he said and had nice things to say. This has led to big improvements in many areas. Bill, our only man, does Paired Reading and took time to help his pupil with the delivery of a talk. Bill also helps out at the Homework

Club. Wilma does gardening and Paired Reading and we have Ruth who does playground games and Paired Reading. June does Pre School and three slots of Paired Reading.

This has been a very successful partnership where the volunteers have given time on a regular basis and my

pupils have experienced progress with their reading and support from an interested adult. I have a great team working for me and I am sure the helpers will tell you how much pleasure it gives to them.

If you would like to volunteer to help with playground games, or give a half hour first thing in the morning to our Healthy Tuck, there are slots available.

Jesus came into the world to serve

and calls us to do the same. My helpers are doing this and meeting the needs of individual pupils who have truly benefited from this partnership.

Thank you team, from Mary Reid, ASN Teacher, Warddykes Primary School and the pupils receiving help.



More Than You May Think

Recently we have come to realise that perhaps not everyone is fully aware of what is actually done through Havilah.

It has been easy to focus on the young men who have had life changing experiences resulting in them going to Teen Challenge's rehab centres. However, the work of Havilah is far more diverse than that with the volunteers working hard with all of those who come through our doors including the following:

A man who is too old for Teen Challenge has been coming to Havilah for about 18 months. He had been without electricity for about 10 of these months with little hope of getting it reconnected. Through working with our volunteers and their commitment to him he now has electricity and is now looking forward to redecorating his flat.

A man of 58 who has had a life long drink problem has been coming to Havilah for over two years now. He will say how good it is having somewhere to go which has helped him to reduce his alcohol consumption. Just last week he asked what help we can give him to stop drinking altogether.

A woman who had been shunned by her partner and his family said if it had not been for Havilah she would have

killed herself because of the loneliness and self-loathing she felt. Through the love and support of our volunteers she is now back living happily with her partner.

There is a young girl who has been coming on and off for about two years with a terrible drug problem. Through the support she has been given over the years and unconditional acceptance of the volunteers she is now waiting for a place in Teen Challenge's rehab centre in Wales.

A young girl who had applied for a place at rehab but changed her mind is now on a methadone prescription. She has not been in trouble with the law since November and is now able to see a future and said she could not have done this without Havilah.

Havilah volunteers have visited some of the lads who had been sent to Perth Prison and this has helped develop a working relationship with the Chaplain of Perth prison, the Chaplain of Castle Huntly and the Perth Prison family centre.

A young man who has a community service order is working at Havilah for his community service.

These are just a few of the many stories of the help that has been given by the volunteers at Havilah which show there is no special knowledge of the world of drugs required of the volunteers. The most important quality of our volunteers is in having the Spirit of the Lord so that they can see Jesus in everyone who comes through our doors, accept them, and do what they can to make everyone feel special, loved and cared for.

Soon Heading South

My preparations for South Africa are now well under way! I booked my flights at the end of March and I fly out to South Africa on the 30th of June and return at the beginning of August.

I travelled down to Bulstrode at the beginning of April for an orientation course and met up with several other people who are heading out on Treks over the summer and a team that were going to Italy shortly after I left. We spent much of our time focussing on what to expect when we were in the field and we also looked at how we should prepare for our Trek. It was an amazing trip and made me all the more excited about heading off.

WEC advise that I set up a network of people who are committed to praying for me while I'm away and I'll be sending prayer letters to those who wish to pray for me.

These will have news of what I'm doing while I'm out there and also prayer points. If you'd like to receive one of these letters please let me know. I'm hoping to send most of these out by email but if you don't have an email address I'll arrange to have these posted.

I'm going to be holding a family quiz night on Friday 19th June at the Guide Hall



Amy Ramsay

in Ogilvie Place. Tickets will be £2 for adults and £1 for children and there will also be a raffle and guess the teddy's birthday. Hopefully some of you will be able to come along to support this.

Creative Prayer Journey Journeying Together

For the past few years at the time of Lent I have thought about what I would 'give up'. It was always chocolate. At the end of Lent I perhaps would be a few pounds lighter but would soon put it all back on (and more!) after Easter Weekend.

This year I was determined to do something more meaningful - to show my commitment to God. Then, when 'Journeying Together' was announced I thought "that is it". I didn't know what to expect, or if I would feel comfortable in a prayer triplet, but what an amazing journey it turned out to be.

I was truly blessed with the people I shared the journey with - my own sister, Mandy, and the ever patient Bill Marshall. We met weekly to discuss the readings and to pray together. Mandy and I often showered Bill with many questions, and he helped strengthen our understanding of God's word. For me, personally, 'Journeying Together' opened up my eyes to the Psalms (Psalms 100 and 118 being a



couple of my favourites). It also deepened my love for God as well as strengthening my understanding of the bible.

I hope other people found it to be an inspirational journey. I would like to thank both Mandy and Bill for sharing the journey with me and to thank God for sending His Holy Spirit to work among use.

God Bless.

Sharon Hamilton



ENGAGING YOUR COMMUNITY

Nine members of the congregation attended a conference entitled "Engaging your Community" at the Corn Exchange, Edinburgh on Saturday 16th May. It was a full day conference starting at 8:30 am and ending at 6:00 pm. The overall theme was Church members reaching out to help the community.

There was a mixture of six plenary lectures and eight specialist seminars from which individuals could choose two

The plenary lectures were entitled:-Should we engage?
The need to engage
Care for the Family and your Church
Leading your Church to engage
Engaging at work
Go engage

The specialist seminars included, inter alia, subjects such as Marriage, Parenting, Money Matters and Drug Prevention.

The speakers were very good and the conference was brought to a close by Rob Parsons whose address based on real life experiences was very moving. I doubt if there was a dry eye in the hall.

It was a very worthwhile day for all nine members of our church and it was worthy of note that our Church is some way along the road to engaging with our community. There is however so much more to be achieved both individually and as a group.

Ian Drever

Fraud and scams are now affecting many of us. From time to time we are going to publish some articles to help you avoid being a victim.

Probably the most common form of Internet scam is the 'phishing email'

It seems that, despite regular warnings in the media, many folks still fall into the trap set by phishing emails. These are so called because the criminals are 'fishing' to catch someone on the end of their hook and obtain their banking details and/or passwords.

Here is a typical phishing email and, yes, believe it or not, they often come with spelling and grammatical errors just like this one!

NEVER do this!

Dear Customer,

We are unable to activate your account because we have just upgraded our online security parameters to make your Bank account and informations more secured from online frauds, so we request that you reconfirm your online Banking details with the one we have on file before you will be able to send and receive money online.

Your account is placed on restricted status. Restricted account continue to receive payments,

but they are limited in their ability to send or withdraw funds.

To lift this restriction, Click Here To Log On and reactivate your account now, then you have to complete our verification process. You must reconfirm your security details.

Thank You.

Co-operative Security Department Accounts Management

As outlined in our User Agreement, The Co-operative Bank will periodically send you information about site changes and enhancements.

If you click as requested, you will be taken to a web page that might LOOK like your banking log-on page - BUT IT WILL NOT BE. You would be asked to type in your username and password. If you did so, then you would be sending these details to the criminals who would then be able to log into your account and steal all your money.

Banks NEVER use an email to ask you to confirm your banking details or passwords or log-in details. So, no matter what the message says about, for example, fraudulent activity having been detected on your account - DO NOT PANIC - and ignore the email. In fact, delete it immediately.

Here is another example -

Dear Abbey Customer,

Francis Moore made an online funds transfer to your online account which is confirmed to be a mistake and we have reverse the money to the ledgitimate owner.

The details of this transactions are shown below.

Transfer Date and Time: 09/04/09 Transfer Amount: £1000.00 Transfer Description: Payment

To view this transaction and your current balance, please CLICK HERE.

If you have any questions related to this message or the funds transfer, please contact our helpdesk to rectify this problem. Please Note That Payments May Take Up To 4 Banking Days To Reflect In Your Account.

Sincerely,

Abbey Customer Service.

Abbey National plc. Registered Office: Abbey National House, 2 Triton Square, Regent's Place, London, NW1 3AN, United Kingdom. Registered Number 2294747. Registered in England. www.Abbey.com_Telephone 0870 607 6000. Calls may be recorded or monitored. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. FSA registration number 106054. Abbey and the flame logo are registered trademarks.

Incidentally, I received both of these but do not have an account with either of these banks! The criminals just send out many thousands of these, to all and sundry, in the hope of finding someone who will fall for it - and they do find someone! So don't let yourself be the fish that they catch!

Ken Miller

LOOKING AHEAD

JUNE

Sunday 7 11 am - Worship Service 8 pm - OFF the W.O.L. in the Windmill Christian Centre

Sunday 14 11 am - Worship Service including Sunday Club Prize-giving

Sunday 21 11 am - Worship Service

Sunday 28 11 am - Worship Service including commissioning of Malawi Team

N.B. Services throughout the summer holidays will be held in Knox's Church with the exception of Sunday 26th July. Details of arrangements for that day will be published in due course. Please note the start times of 11.30 am

JULY

Sunday 5 11.30 am - Worship Service

Sunday 12 11.30 am - Worship Service

Sunday 19 11.30 am - Worship Service with celebration of communion

Sunday 26 11.30 am - Worship Service

N.B. As well as the services above there is the following:

- ♦ A 40 minute service every Wednesday morning at 10.30am in Old and Abbey
- ♦ Messy Church, from 4-6pm, on the last Sunday of every month - 2 hours for all the family, with games, craft, worship and an all-together meal - in Old and Abbey
- ♦ A full-on contemporary worship service, OFF the W.O.L., on the first Sunday of every month at 8pm (venues as advertised)

Voucher Schemes

Tesco and the Daily Record are issuing vouchers to collect for equipment for schools and sports clubs. If you receive these vouchers and have no group to pass them on to, please hand them into the church office and we can direct them to groups in our area.

New Street Signs!

New street signs have been put in Keptie Street to slow the traffic and to help the senior citizens from the Methodist Home, and the general public, to get to the other side of the street more easily.

May we thank Councillor Fairweather for putting our petition before the council, also Rev Martin Fair, the Wednesday Group and all at St Andrew's Church who signed the petition, Janette McHugh from the paper shop News Agency for collecting the signatures in the shop and all others who signed to help get the signs in operation.

Grateful thanks to all - let's hope Keptie Street will be safer for all now.

Margaret McGill

Petition Organiser

Cleaner for OBs.

We are looking for a new cleaner for OBs starting at the end of June.

The job entails 8 hours per week (one hour a day for 6 days per week and two extra hours at weekend).

Pay is National Minimum wage.

For more info please contact Sheila Dunphy on 873218.

Coffee Morning Team

Every Friday, a dedicated team of hard-working members ensures that

we not only raise money for our funds, but that we can also all enjoy the fellowship afforded by our regular coffee morning. Items have to be collected and returned to our church office as pictured below, and is done so quietly and efficiently and without seeking reward - thank you team!



Some of the team returning items - Dick Davidson, Sheila Davidson, Janis Clark, Isabel Mitchell and Liz Brandie

Malawi Fundraiser Coffee Morning

Saturday 20th June 10am - 12 noon Old and Abbey Church Halls Tickets £1 - Usual stalls.

Our last fundraiser before leaving on the 28th. Please come along and support the young people as they get ready to leave. All money raised will go towards the clinic at Namisu and the play area at Thyolo.

BACK DOOR SALESaturday 1st August 2009

Items are now being collected for the stalls at this year's BACK DOOR SALE. Baking, produce, books, good-as-new, bric-a-brac, furniture, lucky dip, BBQ, tea and coffee. In fact, anything, however big or unusual.

Please consider having a 'clear-out' and donating any unwanted items. All proceeds go towards the Fabric Fund.

Contact Mary Nicol (877601) for more information or if you would like any items uplifted.







The wall built by the Israelis

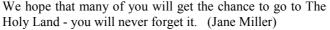
Visible for miles around

Israeli soldiers patrol with guns

The magnitude of the wall built between Israel and Palestine was visible evidence of the cultural and spiritual divisions in an area where differences are deep-rooted and complex. Prayers for peace are so much needed.



The small group blended very well, prayed and sang together, ate together and had fun together. Who can forget the sensation of floating in the Dead Sea, the hitherto hidden skill of bartering which Joan Walker displayed, the St Peter's Fish which I could not bear to look at, and the amount of bread which Martin can eat at one meal!





7th Arbroath Boys Brigade Sponsored Walk

This year is the 125th anniversary of the Boys Brigade. To mark this special occasion the Boys Brigade has commissioned a 125 badge which the boys can earn.

To earn this badge each boy has to carry out 125 minutes of service in the community. Earlier in the year, the boys of the 7th Arbroath Company entertained the Special Friends Club at Ladyloan School.

To complete the service, the boys held a sponsored walk/barbeque at Crombie Park on the 16th May. The weather

was not great but at least it did not rain. The boys and their families completed the walk in an hour and a few of the Company Section enjoyed it so much, they did it again! Everyone then enjoyed the barbeque which was prepared by some dads who stayed behind so that the burgers were ready for the boys when they completed the walk.

The boys did very well and we are very pleased to announce that the final total raised is just over £1000. This money will be split between Children's Hospices around Scotland and the Boys Brigade Fund.

We would like to thank everyone who sponsored the boys and for the families who came along and helped make the walk a success.

