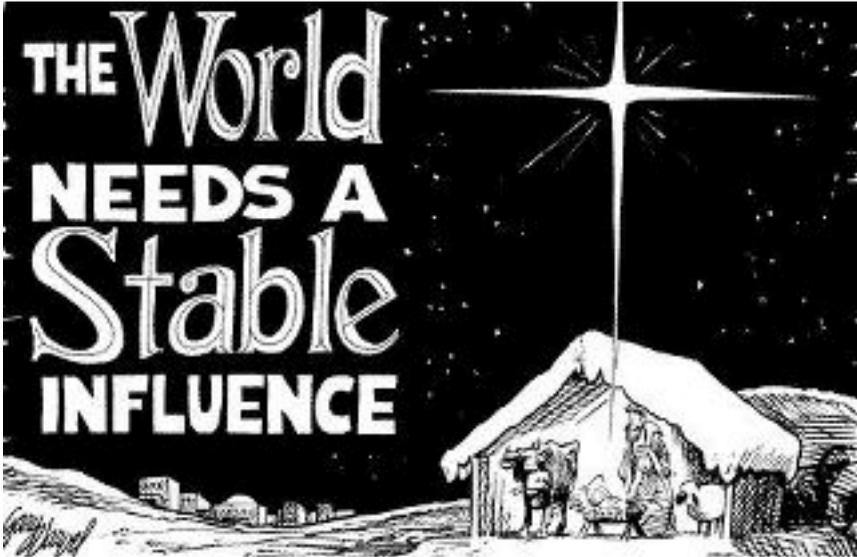


Dalziel St. Andrew's Parish Church

'The Kirk at The Cross'

"BELIEVING in CHRIST – BELONGING to CHRIST – BECOMING like CHRIST"



*"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us.
We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son,
Who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."*

(The Gospel of John 1:14)

"Kirk Matters"

Congregational Newsletter
December 2012 – February 2013

The Manse of Dalziel St. Andrew's Parish Church

Dear friends

“The world needs a stable influence!” So declares the graphic on the cover of this edition of our church newsletter. And, although it is clearly a play on words and a reference to the incarnation of our Lord, it is also a true statement. In a world where much that has been familiar for generations is being challenged and changed, society does need something concrete to hang on to; an anchor in the storm. For a believer, that “stable influence” is faith in Jesus Christ.

We are, of course, coming up to the second biggest celebration in the Christian calendar – CHRISTmas. Sadly, not everyone in our nation or world spells it that way these days; many prefer the abbreviated version, X-mas. And, although this emphasises the Cross (with shades of Easter, the biggest celebration of the year!), it still threatens to empty festivities of a central focus on CHRIST, as Redeemer. However, CHRISTmas without CHRIST is just an orgy of excess.

So, who is going to put CHRIST back into CHRISTmas? Well, it's down to you and me; as well as all throughout our world who say they truly believe. But, how precisely can you and I do that? Well, first of all, I do hope you plan to be with us regularly in worship over the Advent and Christmas season? A veritable feast of services is being prepared for your enjoyment and participation. This year, Christmas Day falls on a Tuesday, which means that as well as worship at 11:00am that day (when children and adults are encouraged to bring along a gift they have received), we will enjoy two services on Christmas Eve (Monday 24th December) at 6:30pm for young families, and at 11:30pm, for the traditional Watchnight service. Then, there is morning worship on Sunday 23rd December, which is suitable for all the family, where the children of our Sunday School will take part in forming a Christmas Tableau, accompanied by some familiar and fun festive songs. But even before we get that far ahead, on the first Sunday in Advent (2nd December at 11:00am), we will have the opportunity to bring gifts, which will be given to support the work of Women's Aid in our area – a fitting way to bring joy to others at this time. PHEW – sounds busy, doesn't it? BONUS – after that you get to sit down and enjoy your Christmas dinner. But, don't forget to give thanks that day for CHRIST, and make sure He is at the centre of your celebrations. Merry CHRISTmas. Derek W. Hughes

DATES for your DIARY

Sunday 2nd December at 11:00am

Gift service for Women's Aid
Children of the Sunday school presented with a book

Sunday 9th December at 11:00am

Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Sunday 16th December

Annual Christmas Tea for everyone after morning service

Sunday 23rd December at 11:00am

All-age worship led by the Sunday school

Monday 24th December at 6:30pm

CHRISTmas Eve service suitable for all ages
followed by refreshments in the hall

Monday 24th December at 11:30pm

CHRISTmas Watchnight service
preceded by refreshments in the hall from 10:30pm

Tuesday 25th December at 11:00am

CHRISTmas Day worship for all the family
Bring along a gift you received and join in the fun

Sunday 30th December at 11:00am

Worship to give thanks for God's blessings in the year 2012

Sunday 6th January at 11:00am

Worship to pray for God's presence in the year 2013

Sunday 3rd February at 11:00am and 6:30pm

Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion

Sunday 10th February 2013

Deadline for submissions to the next "*Kirk Matters*"

Sunday school

The Sunday school Session has started well with an enthusiastic attendance and response to all lessons. We are grateful to all parents/guardians for faithfully bringing their children to Church on a regular basis.

The Crèche numbers have increased by four since the last newsletter. The new babies are Ruaridh McIlwraith, Jessica Angus, Jenna Wedlock and Libby Porter bringing the crèche roll up to 19. We are delighted to welcome all of these wee people to our Sunday school. Jessica is the baby daughter of Beginners' Sunday school teacher Lesley Angus. Libby is our newest Sunday school member and daughter of Fiona Porter who is a Crèche Sunday school Teacher. Congratulations to both of these teachers.

When the newsletter is published Advent will have started. The Christmas Fayre on Saturday 1 December will have taken place and hopefully our Silver and Gold stall 'sold out'. Thank you to all parents who contributed. The Advent Gift service on Sunday 2 December will also have taken place and all children will have received a gift of a book at this service. Thank you to everyone who brought a gift for Women's Aid.

On Sunday 23 December at 11am a family service will take the form of a Nativity in tableau with song and word telling the story. The Sunday school and Bible Class children will take part in the storytelling. We hope there will be a large turnout of parents and friends at this family service and also at the family service on Christmas Eve at 6.30pm. We encourage all children and their families to keep CHRIST in Christmas by joining in these services and celebrating with us.

The departments of the Sunday School and Bible Class will also celebrate Christmas with the following activities

- Crèche and Beginners - Christmas Party in the Church Hall on Saturday 15 December from 2-4 pm
- Primary and Juniors - Outing to the Cinema on an afternoon between Christmas and New Year. Details to be advised in due course.
- Bible Class - will visit Xscape at Braehead on Sunday 20 January 2013. After Church that day the young people will go to McDonalds for lunch and then head to Braehead for 'snowy' fun.

Pennies: Many thanks to the members of our church family who have given pennies towards Sunday school and Bible Class funds. We appreciate these gifts, which will be used, in our work with the children. As always, we appreciate the prayers for the children in their learning and for the teachers in their preparation and teaching. We are blessed to belong to such a caring church family.

The classes of Sunday school and Bible Class will resume on Sunday 13 January 2013. Best wishes to all for a blessed CHRISTmas celebration and peace to all in 2013.

Anne Brown
(Sunday school Co-ordinator)

KIRK SESSION

June / September / October 2012

The Moderator paid a glowing tribute to Irene MacGregor who sadly died in May. Irene had been of immense help to him as joint Session Clerk, along with Rita Currie, at the start of his ministry here. Irene had been a great friend to him and all in the congregation. She was now at peace and with the Lord.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Connecting Points: A letter was receive from Revd Keith Ross (Congregational Development Officer) and Revd David Burt (Convener of the Parish Development Committee) thanking the Kirk Session and Congregation of Dalziel St. Andrew's for allowing them to hold the February Connecting Points event in our premises. Although numbers had been few it had been a very worthwhile event. **Jean Mather:** A letter was received from Jean Mather stating that after much soul searching she had made up her mind to leave Dalziel St. Andrew's Church and asked that the relevant paper work be forwarded to her. The Kirk Session agreed that the Session Clerk attend to this request and wish her well. **CrossReach:** Correspondence was received from CrossReach thanking the Kirk Session, helpers and congregation for the use of our sanctuary and for the welcome they received at their inaugural Service of Celebration. **Letters of Thanks:** A letter was received from Helen and Robert Lawson thanking the Kirk Session for the flowers, cards, prayers and support given to them following the

death of Helen's Mum. All this had been of great comfort to them. Letters were also received from Cathie and Peter Hastie, Helen and Alan Young, and Margo and Fred Graham, thanking the Kirk Session for the flowers, cards and good wishes they received from the Kirk Session. **Parish Boundaries:** The Moderator informed the Kirk Session that along with Stephen Day he had attended a meeting on the 16 May 2012 in St Margaret's Parish Church to look at Motherwell Parish boundaries. This was to rectify anomalies in some parish boundaries caused by the amalgamation of churches. Some changes had been discussed and the one affecting Dalziel St Andrew's Parish was the strip bounded by west of Hamilton Road and east of Ladywell Road from south of High Road to north of Strathclyde Road. It was proposed that this area would now become part of St. Mary's parish. The Session Clerk and Tom Douglas had reviewed the proposed boundary change and found that the area in question comprised 20-25% of the total households in our parish. After a full discussion the Kirk Session decided that we continue our overall pastoral responsibility for this area for the foreseeable future. The Session Clerk to inform Hamilton Presbytery of this decision. **Hamilton Presbytery:** Intimation was received from Hamilton Presbytery reminding all congregations of their obligation to comply with the OSCR regulations in relation to paid appointments and/or employment of congregational trustees or persons closely associated with congregational trustees. Intimation was also received regarding the right to appeal from decisions of a church court. **Free Will Offering Envelopes:** William Brown, Treasurer, proposed that we cut back the number of Free Will Offering Envelopes ordered this year. Round about 50 of those distributed are not used. Spares will be available if requested. The Kirk Session agreed. **Retiral Offerings:** It was decided that the retiral offerings for 2012/2013 would be as follows: September 2012 Harvest Thanksgiving – Tearfund. October 2012 Communion - Glasgow City Mission. November 2012 Remembrance Sunday - Poppy Scotland. Christmas Eve 2012 - Tabeetha School. February 2013 Communion - St Andrew's Hospice. Easter Sunday 2012 - Zimbabwe Mission. June 2012 Communion - Well Hall Home. **Girl Guides:** The Moderator informed the Kirk Session that Gail Ure, Girl Guide Leader, has stood down and a replacement has still to be appointed. The Session Clerk to write a letter of appreciation. It is hoped that a new leader will be appointed for the Rainbows. The Brownies will continue with their existing leader. However a suitable leader has not yet been found for the Guides and they have been

suspended meantime. **Presbytery Report:** Dr. Stephen Day presented the Presbytery Report for the 4th September 2012. The new Moderator for 2012/13 is Rev David Burt. Nomination for the Moderator of Church of Scotland should be intimated to the Convener of the business committee along with a short statement as to why that person should be the new Moderator of the General Assembly. Two ministers were congratulated for 25 years in the ministry. Rev. Dr. John McPake and Rev. Les Thorne. The committee of inquiry found no merit in the complaints made by a number of people against the Minister and Elders at Airdrie, Flowerhill. We hope and pray that this will be an end to a sad state of affairs for the congregation and the office bearers. Issues have been raised surrounding problems with delays, exacerbated by the Procurator Fiscal's office, in Post Mortem exams, now that these are no longer being carried out at Wishaw General Hospital. The committee would like to know what effect this is having on funerals in our area. An event for scholars in the S1-S3 category is being planned. This would be led by young people to highlight Christian experiences and to help combat the isolation that this age group feel in being young Christians in today's society. Anyone wishing to get involved should contact Jen Robertson in the first instance. Dr Stephen Day reported that October Presbytery had been a conference entitled "Vision." This was given by the Convenor of the Ministries Council followed by a question and answer session. **Evening Worship:** The Moderator stated that the numbers attending evening worship had fallen in recent times to about 20. Different formats have been tried but numbers have not increased. Most people who attend in the evening have also attended morning worship. The Moderator recently had to decrease his workload due to health reasons. It takes the same time to prepare for an evening service as for a morning one. This is perhaps not very good stewardship of the Moderator's time. The views of those who attend had been sought and those who replied all said that although they would be disappointed to see them finish they understood the Moderator's concerns. The options were either finish the evening services or only hold them on Communion Sunday and other special occasions. The Moderator had consulted all those who regularly attend evening worship and there was a consensus in favour of holding the service about once a month and on Communion Sunday and at other special occasions. The Kirk Session agreed. **Holy Communion:** The Session Clerk informed the Kirk Session of the new proposed communion arrangements. The Moderator and Session Clerk thought that the sanctuary makeover had given us the opportunity to

simplify and speed up the serving of the elements and also avoid having to rearrange the furniture and seating on the chancel. It was proposed to introduce these new arrangements at the October communion. The Kirk Session concurred. The Session Clerk informed the Kirk Session that at October Communion a total of 283 cards had been returned 273 at the morning service and 10 at the evening service. The Moderator informed the Kirk Session that he had observed that the new communion arrangements had worked well and the elements had been served quicker than had been the case in the past. Some adjustments to the procedures might still have to be made. It was noted that the Welcome Group had been put under pressure by the number of communicants turning up without cards. The Moderator felt that this had been due in part to the cancellation of the June Communion causing cards to be mislaid. He emphasised that all Elders should ensure they visit their districts with communion cards prior to the service. Cards were an invitation to the congregation to take part in communion and new cards should be written out if required. Cards enable numbers and attendances to be looked at from time to time.

Makeover Update: As the makeover project was now finished and this phase of the Organ refurbishment completed it was proposed to hold a thanksgiving and dedication service on the 28 October 2012. Local dignitaries, funding providers and those involved in the refurbishment work will be invited. The service will be followed by a buffet in the large hall. The Kirk Session agreed. **Senior Treat:** The Moderator informed the Kirk Session that the Senior Treat had started with a short service in the Sanctuary to enable those who were normally housebound to see the results of all the fund raising efforts. The afternoon finished with tea, cake and hymn singing. The Moderator thanked all who had helped make this a success. **Church Health:** Dr. Stephen Day gave a presentation entitled “Seven Marks of a Healthy Church”. Our fellowship has been actively engaged with a number of projects recently, the organ refurbishment and the makeover project. Perhaps we should now take stock and focus less on buildings and reflect on what God’s will is for us as a congregation.

The Seven Marks of a Healthy Church are:

- Energized by faith rather than just keeping things going or trying to survive.
- Outward-looking focus with a 'whole life' rather than a 'church life' concern.
- Seeks to find out what God wants.

- Faces the cost of change and growth rather than resisting change and avoiding failure.
- Operates as a community rather than functioning as a club or religious organisation.
- Makes room for all being inclusive rather than exclusive.
- Do few things and do them well, focused rather than frenetic.

A questionnaire was distributed to Elders for completion and return by the end of November. The Moderator informed the Kirk Session that the results of the questionnaire would be analyzed, with data and results presented to the Kirk Session and the Congregational Board in the New Year. The Moderator thanked Dr Stephen Day for preparing and presenting the Healthy Church Survey.

African Children's' Choir: The African Children's' Choir visit us on Friday 2 November. Host families are still required; details can be obtained from Janette Black.

Alterations To The Communion Roll:

Out by Transference Certificate:

Miss Jean Mather, 42 Hillhead Avenue, Motherwell.

In by Transference Certificate:

Elizabeth (Betty) Turnbull, 107 East Thornlie Street, Wishaw.

Brian Kirk, 132 Jerviston Road, Motherwell.

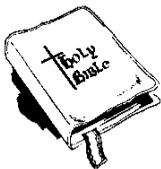
Helen Kirk, 132 Jerviston Road, Motherwell.

Christopher Kirk, 132 Jerviston Road, Motherwell.

David Kirk, 132 Jerviston Road, Motherwell.

Crawford Moffat
(Session Clerk)

BIBLES for AFRICA



From Max Lucado;

“He is an old man, this one who sits on the stool and leans against the wall. Eyes closed and face soft. Were it not for his hand stroking his beard, you’d think he was asleep. Some in the room assume he is. He does this often during worship. As the people sing, his eyes will close and his chin will fall until it

*rests on his chest, and there he will remain motionless. Silent. Those who know him well know better. They know he is not resting. He is travelling. Atop the music he journeys back, back, back until he is young again. Strong again. There again. There on the seashore with James and the apostles. There on the trail with the disciples and the women. There in the Temple with Caiaphas and the accusers. It's been sixty years, but John sees Him still. The decades took John's strength, but they didn't take his memory. The years dulled his sight, but they did not dull his vision. The seasons may have wrinkled his face, but they didn't soften his love. He had been with God. God had been with him. How could he forget! The wine that moments before had been water – John could still taste it. The mud placed on the eyes of the blind man in Jerusalem – John could still remember it. The aroma of Mary's perfume as it filled the room – John could still smell it. And the voice. Oh, the voice. His voice. John could still hear it. **“I am the light of the world it rang...I am the door...I am the way, the truth, the life.” “I will come back,”** it promised, **“and take you to be with me.” “Those who believe in me,** “ it assured, **“will have life, even if they die.”***

*John could hear Him. John could see Him. Scenes branded on his heart. Words seared into his soul. John would never forget. How could he? He had been there. He opens his eyes and blinks. The singing has stopped. The teaching has begun. John looks at the listeners and listens to the teacher. If only you teacher could have been there, he thinks. But he wasn't. Most weren't. Most weren't even born. And most who were there are dead. Peter is. So is James. Nathaniel, Martha, Philip. They are all gone. Even Paul, the apostle who came late, is dead. Only John remains. He looks again at the church. Small but earnest. They lean forward to hear the teacher. John listens to him. What a task. Speaking of one he never saw. Explaining words he never heard. John is there if the teacher needs him. But what will happen when John is gone? What will the teacher do then? When John's voice is silent and his tongue stilled. Who will tell them how Jesus stilled and silenced the waves? Who will hear how he fed the thousands? Will they remember how he prayed for unity? How will they know? If only they could have been there. Suddenly in his heart he knows what to do. Later, under the light of a sunlit shaft, the old fisherman unfolds the scroll and begins to write the story of his life....**In the beginning was the Word.....***

Many thanks to the many at Dalziel St Andrews who have helped spread that same Word by donating Bibles for Africa in 2012. These have all found their way to that continent where, in many areas, people cannot afford to buy bibles and often are able only to read small pieces of bibles, which have reached

them. They thirst for the Word written by John and so many others. If you have an unused bible or New Testament lying around do consider please bringing it along to church and helping in your own way to spread the Word to many so very less fortunate than we are. Thank you.

Alex Baird

The Girls' Brigade



Writing this in the evening of Remembrance Sunday, I must say a big “Thank You” to our Chaplain, Rev. D. Hughes. During the service I felt, and hope you will join me in saying, that it was a privilege to belong to such a caring congregation, led by someone who cares enough to explain things to the youngsters we had with us today. Many thanks for this.

Our ‘Colours’ were carried and escorted today by Officers in their navy suits, probably for the last time as our uniform is changing. Although we are going black, it will be much more cost effective for the parents, and we hope this will encourage the wearing of our uniform with the girls – especially the Brigaders as they will have a Purple sweatshirt from now on. Most, love it!

As Captain, I would like to thank all of you for helping us raise cash for Erskine Home. We are not sure of the total yet, but it will be over £5,000, as there is more to come in. It would not have been possible without your help, from donations of wool, to sewing and selling for us. A mammoth task, but so appreciated. We know our poppies have not only stayed at home in Motherwell and Larkhall, but in Stonehouse, Edinburgh, Airdrie, North Berwick, Newton Stewart, London, and as far afield as America, Canada, Australia and New Zealand! (Pity we didn’t have ‘made by 3rd Motherwell Girls’ Brigade on them’)! Many thanks again to all - over these three years we will have handed over £7,000 to Erskine Home, a remarkable achievement.

Our girls are finding out about animals this year. The Brigaders have adopted a Manatee called Phylis, and her picture is on the wall in the lower hall. Recently we had a night with “the Animal Man.” He brought along ducks, spiders, snakes, bunnies, beetles and all sorts of creepy-crawlies. Abbie and Nicole, our new Warrant Officers, helped show the girls it is OK to touch and let them rest in their hands or slither round their necks! Yes it was an

interesting night! We hope to make the girls aware of the responsibilities of being a pet owner – “a puppy is for life, not just for Christmas!” is one slogan we are enforcing. They have read many stories from papers and magazines of hero dogs, helping animals but also funny and sad stories. They have now all had a ‘pat’ or cuddle at a very tame dog and played with a retired Guide Dog! Yes, even an officer who had never touched a dog!

Christmas will soon be with us and we wish everyone a pleasant time over the season, remembering happy times, but being at peace with themselves. No doubt, the girls will be lively, and the officers will recharge their batteries for the next part of the session. Happy Christmas to all.

Captain Liz Bogle, Officers and Girls of 3rd Motherwell

Congregational Board

The Congregational Board has held meetings in both September and October and continues to be very busy with the main focus on the financial, property and social elements of our congregational life.

In finance we always knew that this would be a very difficult year and so it has proved. With significant increases in insurance premiums, reduction on Gift Aid reclaim rate and significantly allocations we are asked to pay to Edinburgh and Presbytery, we were always going to struggle to balance the books. The position has been made more difficult by some members withdrawing financial support as a protest against what they believe to be wrong policies being pursued by the church on a national stage. Much of the money, which we pay to Edinburgh, comes back to us in the form of the costs incurred in having a full-time Minister. The Treasurer anticipates that the year-end position will show a deficit of several thousand pounds. We have very reluctantly had to reduce the amount we have been able to pay to the Edinburgh allocation, which accounts for a significant monthly sum. We do hope that we are able next year to again return to a position where we can balance our books. The Board again expressed their most sincere thanks to all who continue to support the work of the church through their offerings.

On a better note the Social Convener Janette has been able to report on a very busy calendar of events and also a most encouraging increase in enquiries for hire of our halls. We had hoped this would be the case following the upgrades by way of double glazing; emergency lighting; fire alarm; safety ramps and

plinths and so it has proved. We are now generating a lot more money annually from hall lets which is helping to offset the reduction in offerings.

As always the property work is constant and challenging. Following the completion of our work this year in sanctuary and halls we are now looking ahead to see if there is scope to upgrade kitchen and toilets next year. Again this may well help in increasing the attractiveness of our accommodation, not only for our own use, but also for potential use by outside organisations and groups. Douglas Graham, our Property Convener, has been able to draw up a most comprehensive list of works which he would like to see carried out in the next few years to ensure that our building stock is well maintained.

Thanks to the on-going support through fund raising we have been able to secure the addition of polycarbonate sheeting to the last 5 windows, which lacked this protection, on the “Railway Tavern” side of the church. These have been regularly the subjects of vandalism over the years. Douglas has also been able to order the replacement of the windows in our Caretaker’s flat with new double glazed units, which should help greatly with comfort over the winter.

Our October meeting was taken as the opportunity from Stephen Day to present the “Health of the Congregation” initiative. With so much outreach work going on and planned it is indeed so very important to make sure that we are addressing our spiritual needs and duties as well as the physical items. We do look forward to the exciting times ahead working with the Kirk Session on this most commendable and vital area of work.

We are delighted to say that we have been able to welcome two new members who have volunteered – Alicia and Alison - always room for more.

Alex Baird & Marion Taylor
(Chairman & Clerk of the Congregational Board)

Social Committee

The Social Committee has had a very busy time since the last Newsletter. Starting with the Anniversary Sunday at the beginning of September, followed by the Senior Treat. This was enjoyed by all who attended, and comment was made that the Service before the Tea was a fitting start to the day. We had Shine Theatre Group Concert on 27th September, and over £500 was realised from the event, which went towards the Makeover Project.

October saw the Committee being involved in the Praise and Thanksgiving Service. November saw the return of the African Children's Choir – the sum of £2566 was raised, which went to the Choir for the work they do with children throughout Africa. This was followed on the 18th of November by a Country Lunch. The Annual Christmas Fayre takes place on Saturday 1st December. December 18th is the Annual Christmas Tea in the Large Hall after the morning service. It is hoped that as many people as possible will be able to come along and enjoy the friendship.

The Committee would like to thank everyone for their support over the past 12 months and we extend our good wishes towards all for a peaceful CHRISTmas.

Janette Black
(Social Committee Convener)

ENVELOPES 2013

FWO Envelopes are issued towards the end of each year to all members who do not give their offering by standing order. A review of the envelopes issued during the last 2 years revealed that around 50 sets of envelopes issued to members were not used. The Kirk Session and Congregational Board considered this matter and agreed that FWO envelopes should only be issued where the envelopes have been used by the member. This also makes a saving of around £130.

Elders will be delivering 2013 FWO envelopes to members who make use of the envelopes for their offerings before the end of December so that they are available for the first Sunday in the New Year. There will be a small number of envelopes available for anyone who has not used them previously but wish to start using them again. Please contact Willie Brown or Christine Mathie, in the New Year, if you have not received envelopes but wish to start using them again.

Befriending Project

Our 2012 Pilot Year is just about over and it is so pleasing to say that we have reached (and surpassed) our target of 10 “matches” between Volunteer Befrienders and Befriendeds in the town. These are elderly people in great

need of support, with many very lonely and isolated. Many thanks indeed to the volunteer Befrienders who are now providing this service.

As the year draws to a close we are delighted that our Congregational Board has again agreed to utilise £5,000 from the Thomson Bequest to enable us to start building the funds we need to ensure the service can continue and hopefully grow in 2013. This financial support is enabling us again to approach our outside funders (who contributed over £15,000 this year) to determine if they will also again lend their support. We await decisions in this regard but remain very hopeful that we can maintain this vital service.

Looking ahead, we are in discussion with Social Work Department who have suggested that we consider adding Group Befriending to our project. This is being explored further at present. Assuming we secure the funding we need to go ahead into 2013 we will look to once more recruit volunteers and strive to add to this most worthwhile area of mission by helping more elderly residents. If you think you can spare an hour each week to help in this area do speak to me. I am available to discuss any aspect of the service, in complete confidence. You can contact me by calling into the church office on either Tuesday or Wednesday mornings. You can also get in touch by emailing:

befriending@dalzielstandrews.org.uk or by telephone at 07796012462.

Liz Magunnigal
(Befriending Co-ordinator)



News from the Rainbows

The last few months have been very busy for the Rainbows. They have now finished the work for their 25th Birthday challenge and visited Purvis Puppets along with the other Rainbow units in the Division in June for a special birthday treat. The girls had a great time.

Since we started back in September we have been trying to complete the work required for the Look, Laugh, Learn and Love challenges. So far we have made rosettes, decorated biscuits, planted bulbs, had a Rainbow sleepover in one night, and had a fancy dress party. We are now looking forward to a

Scottish night and then onto Christmas crafts and maybe an outing or a visit from a certain someone in December.

As you will see our programme is very varied. The sleepover in one night was a great success. The girls had the chance to do the things they would do if they were at a sleepover without leaving the hall. They pretended to sleep in a tent but they would not do this at a sleepover as the girls would be sleeping indoors. But everything else was the same as if they were on a sleepover. They spent time doing craftwork, made toast (supper), went to bed, got up and went home. The girls really enjoyed this and it all took place in an hour. Rainbow magic.

There are now 12 girls in our Rainbow section. The girls keep coming but I am afraid we still do not have a leader. We thought we had someone to help but this seems to have fallen through. Do you know someone who could help us? We meet on Monday nights from 5.15pm to 6.15pm but this could be changed if the times do not suit. If you know anyone who would like to help tell them to come and see us in the large hall on Monday nights. We would be pleased to see them.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Rainbows.



19th Motherwell Brownies

In my last report for the newsletter I told you that the Brownies were working on the Jubilee Challenge and the Olympic Challenge badges. I am pleased to say that both challenges have been completed. There was a lot of work involved in both challenges but as the occasions may never be repeated again for some time I felt it was worthwhile completing them.

Girlguiding Scotland did not have any special badge for the Jubilee so we took part in a challenge set by Girlguiding Surrey East. The girls had to get 30 points to gain the badge. Points were awarded for each challenge. We made

edible jewellery, made and ate Coronation Chicken sandwiches, completed a Diamond Word search and planted some bulbs and some other challenges. You may have seen the large blue plant pot at the side of the Church. A couple of weeks ago on a rainy night (why does it always rain when we plan to do some gardening) the girls planted approximately 60 bulbs in that pot. They are eagerly awaiting the appearance of the first green shoot. Let's hope they are not disappointed.

The Olympic Challenge Badge is made up of 3 sections – bronze, silver and gold. To gain the badge the girls had to complete 3 challenges from each section. The girls took part in their version of a pentathlon, tried some virtual games (once Brown Owl found the correct exercise video to follow), made a poi from New Zealand and tried to follow some Maori women (via a YouTube video on the computer) doing a dance with their poi. Not a sight for the faint hearted. We also made our own version of the Olympic Torch and Olympic Medals. The badge itself is about 5 inches in diameter – too big to fit on the girls' sash but one of them has sewn the badge onto the back of her Brownie t-shirt and it looks good.

Now that we have finished these challenges it's back to normal work i.e. badge work, completing handbooks, playing games etc.

We held our Fancy Dress party at the end of the October and some of the outfits were fantastic. We had a visit that night from Cheryl Cole, Amy Winehouse, a clown and a lovely birthday present to mention a few of the guests. The girls played the usual games but we challenged them to eat a donut without licking their lips and it was amazing how many of them managed it. We are now looking forward to a girl's night in – painting nails etc, a Scottish night and then our Christmas activities.

The Brownies and their leaders wish you all a very Happy and Peaceful Christmas and New Year.



Church Makeover Project

“Forward for Jesus”

Update for end of October 2012

Sanctuary: All seems to be working well within the sanctuary. The Prayer Room is being increasingly used. After 16 weeks there has been a remarkable viewing figure of over 2500 “hits” for our services. Good numbers are watching live on a Sunday morning all around the world. It would be great to build on this and see how we might help housebound members and friends, in the town or further afield, join us in worship of the Lord. **Organ:** Gerhard Walcker and his two sons have completed their work in line with the contract for the current phase of restoration work. James MacKenzie, our Organ Consultant, has visited and is very pleased with work undertaken so far. A 10-year maintenance contract will be completed with Herr Walcker in line with the conditions attached to the Heritage Lottery Fund Grant. Following some cost savings on the original contract Herr Walcker has been asked to undertake a further partial phase of works on the other side of the organ (Manse side) - about £18,000 or so - and this he will do next March/April. Eric has started playing the bottom set of keys on the console and it sounds great. **Mission Hall:** The Legal Section in Edinburgh continues to strive to conclude the sale of the property and is edging a little closer to a settlement. **Next Phases:** There remains the final completion of the Organ Restoration if possible. (Approximately £17,000 in addition to the £18,000 work now commissioned – see above). If the Mission Hall sells it would be great if we could finalise this work. Many thanks for all donations, which are helping greatly. The Congregational Board has authorised that we have a look at future work in upgrading of kitchen and toilet facilities and look at the feasibility of installing a lift to give improved access for all to the upper halls. We also need to think about maintenance work on the roof, which has not had an overhaul for some years. Initial discussions are being held with the Architect and potential grant funders. The earliest work could start would be next summer. **Makeover Table:** After a well-earned rest over the summer months the Makeover Table is in action for sale of baking and other goods on the first Sunday of each month. Well over £100 reached on each Sunday the table has been out. Many thanks to all contributors and also to all customers. Further fund raising social events are also being planned. **Recommendation:** The Kirk Session and Congregational Board are asked to note progress being made in the various phases of the Makeover Project – Forward for Jesus.

Douglas Graham & Alex Baird

(Property Convener & Chairman of the Congregational Board)

THANKS BE TO GOD!

On Sunday 28 October 2012, we were able to join in a Service of Thanksgiving and Buffet to give thanks to God for His continued wonderful guidance and support as we have pressed forward with our property upgrade works. This has, of course, included the return to working order of our Pipe Organ, which is such an important part of our worship at Dalziel St Andrew's.

Our property is now safer as a result of replaced wiring; new ramps; new plinths; emergency lighting circuits throughout all areas; fire alarm system through sanctuary and halls. Our carbon footprint has improved as a result of new boilers and heating; new loft insulation; double-glazing to all halls. We ought also to be more secure as a result of the polycarbonate sheeting protection to windows and addition of intruder alarms.

The addition of our Prayer Room will add greatly to the worship experience of all who use our premises while the new toilet at the front door is a welcome addition. The installation of audio/visual equipment has enriched our services and also opened the doors to many outwith our church buildings to join us in worshipping our Lord via the Internet. Our new seating, carpeting, decoration and lighting in the sanctuary hopefully have added to the comfort and enjoyment for all visitors.

It is so very difficult to name those to thank in the congregation such as Property Committee or Social Committee or those who have kindly donated money or offered prayer support. Let's just give thanks to God for His love for each of us as we move forward in His name.

Church Makeover Project **"Forward for Jesus"**

THE NEXT PHASE

During the early consultation phase for the project, about two years ago now, questionnaires were issued to all attending our meetings with suggestions sought for works needing done around the church. In addition to all that has now been carried out, very helpful and positive suggestions were made regarding upgrade of the kitchen and also the modernisation of the toilet facilities. A further area which has been suggested as worth exploring relates to access to our upper floor accommodation. The steep stairs mean it is

difficult for many to gain access to these upper hall areas. The restraint on access for anyone with mobility problems also means there is some reluctance on the part of groups hiring our facilities to include the upper rooms.

We are also aware that some maintenance work is required to our roof area. Recommendations being received from our roofing contractor are for some significant maintenance to be carried out, at some stage, to gutters and ridges etc on the roof. We will survey to establish the extent of work needed and see if we can address this in the next year or so.

The Congregational Board has now authorised a study be taken forward to see what we might do in all of these areas. Building on the work carried out to date it would be great if we could indeed press on with our Forward for Jesus Project and address some or all of the areas. The Property Convener will be considering how best we might tackle this next phase of work. As before our members will be kept fully advised as potential developments emerge.

Douglas Graham & Alex Baird

(Property Convener & Chairman of the Congregational Board)

Walcker Pipe Organ

By the end of September our Pipe Organ was back in action helping again in our worship for the first time in over two years! It has been a long time out of action and we have missed it. Thanks to the skill of Eric Geddes our Director of Music and the choir we have been ably led in musical accompaniment but the organ sound does add so much to our worship experience.

Although the cost of this phase of restoration was around £100,000 we knew that there was still some way to go to complete the restoration. On advice from our Consultant, Mr James MacKenzie, and our Contractor, Gerhard Walcker, we have secured the restoration of the bulk of the instrument and we are delighted that it is now back in use. There remains work to be done to the section we could not initially afford to restore with a recommendation that we complete the restoration as soon as possible. The cost of doing so will be around £32,000 plus fees and accommodation costs. We have managed to save some money from the first phase in a number of areas and now have some of this money available to begin addressing the last phases of work. This can be done in two parts with the first part costing around £18,000.

We do thank all for their patience and support and assure you that we will work very hard to try to identify funds to complete the full restoration of the instrument. A particular thanks to those who have helped in fund raising for this important part of our Makeover Project – Forward for Jesus. We must also thank those who, since our last magazine article, have so kindly donated to our appeal for funds. As a result of 4 donations a further £1000 has reached the Organ Fund Bank Account. Thank you also to Jeanette Boyd and friends who have held another dance to raise funds for this appeal and added an additional £240 to the total. This is all so much appreciated. If you feel able to contribute anything towards the final restoration costs please do consider putting an envelope in the plate intimating that it is for the Organ Fund or, alternatively, address any contributions to the Treasurer. Thank you.

AUDIO VISUALS

One of the most important parts of our Makeover Project - Forward for Jesus is the use of our audio/visual system within the sanctuary and extending also to halls. As we had hoped, the services of worship of our Lord are now available live at 11.00a.m. each Sunday to anyone who may wish to join us on the Internet. The services are also recorded and available at any time, again on the web site or via a link to You Tube. We are delighted to see that a good number of people are each week sharing worship with us either live or via our recordings. Over 2600 “hits” since we started a few short months ago in June and with “viewers” from around 40 countries around the world! What a great way to reach out with the word of the Lord to those who cannot manage to attend church or perhaps are now staying at a distance. We do pray for a rich harvest for Jesus in this way.

Many thanks to all who have kindly volunteered to help Colin Weir with this so important work. We now have a good team of volunteers who are sharing in this activity. However, you can play your part too! Thanks to those who have already advised family and friends that this service is available. Do spread the word and add to the “viewers” who already have reached us from around the United Kingdom, America, Canada, Australia, and across Europe and Asia; indeed, all round the globe.

Correspondence

Fred and I would like to thank all at Dalziel St. Andrew's for your prayers of support, letters, cards, beautiful bouquets, telephone calls and visits. All of this gave us great comfort at the death of my mum. I would also like to thank Derek for his home visit and comforting words during this sad time. It is times like these that we realise how blessed we are to be part of a caring church family. **Margo Graham, 26 Dalzell Avenue**

I would like to thank all at Dalziel St. Andrew's for the lovely flowers I received on my birthday. They were beautiful and very much appreciated. Yours sincerely.

Mary Caldwell, 69 Brandon Court

Many thanks for the lovely flowers I received from the church for my Birthday, and thanks also to the lady who delivered them. **Helen Crone, 25 Glen Tower**

I would like to say thank you to Derek and my friends in the church for the flowers, cards, 'phone calls and visits following my recent operation and subsequent ill health. They were very much appreciated. Thanks you. **Irene Struthers, 10 North Street**

I would like to express our gratitude to our church family for their concern and prayerful support. Thanks also for cards, 'phone calls and visits to Alex in Hospital. Last, but not least, many thanks to our friend, George Paterson, for delivering the lovely church flowers. Kind Regards. God bless. **Madge and Alex Ross, 17 Crabb Quadrant**

I would like to thank you and the church members for the lovely flowers and good wishes, which were sent to me for my Birthday. They are much appreciated. It is very uplifting to feel one is fortunate to be a member of our church family. My thanks also to Bill Millar, who delivered the flowers. Yours sincerely.

May McQueen, 24 The Loaning

Thank you very much for the lovely flowers I recently received from the church for my Birthday. Thanks also to Mr Millar for delivering them and taking the time to come in and tell me about the lovely service that morning. Thank you again.

Annie Gillespie, 11 Clyde Tower

Dear Derek, I wish to thank you for your visits during my recent stay in Hospital. I also wish to thank all the many friends in the congregation for their cards, telephone calls and prayers. The church flowers were much appreciated. Yours sincerely.

Eleanor Crowe, 31 Coursington Crescent

I would like to say a big thank you for the church flowers on my Birthday. Thank you all, and God bless you.

Willie Harvey, 35 Hillhead Crescent

Just a little note to express my thanks for the church flowers for my birthday. It was most thoughtful and much appreciated. Thanks also to the lady who delivered them. Regards.

Stuart Bryden, 21 Burnside Tower

I would like to say thank you for the lovely church flowers, get well cards and prayers for me after I had a slight stroke. Visits from Mr Hughes were also very much appreciated.

Helen Gibb, 22 Sharp Street

On behalf of my wife, Dora Brant, I wish to express my sincere thanks to the members of Dalziel St. Andrew's Parish Church for all the lovely get well cards Dora has received at home and in hospital. Thanks also for the personal interest of the congregation in Dora's well being, also the Prayer Groups for their prayers and the Sisterhood ladies. To our Minister, Derek Hughes, for his visits to the hospital, Crawford Moffat who visited Dora when Derek was on holiday, God Bless you all. Dora at this time is still in hospital.

Rollo Brant, 44 Wilson Street

I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to all at Dalziel St. Andrew's for their prayers, cards, flowers, telephone calls and visits following my recent operation. I feel very humbled by all the support shown to me, which is truly greatly appreciated. God bless you all, and thanks again.

Fred Graham, 26 Dalzell Avenue

CONGRATULATIONS

to Isa Currie,
Avonhaugh Nursing Home, Stonehouse,
who recently celebrated her 100th Birthday.

and to Jean Sloan,
Park Springs Nursing Home, Motherwell,
who recently celebrated her 101st Birthday.

The LORD richly bless you both.

Letters, e-mails and telephone calls have also been received from the following people, expressing appreciation for flowers and support>>>

Anne Barr, Emma McKnight, Bill Miller, David Martin, Tom Corbett, Peter Hastie, Jean Black, Christine Mathie, Cathie Warren, Betty Ralston, Renee Doricott, Margaret Walker, Sadie McCaig, Bill Millar.

A letter of thanks was also received from the daughter of Nan and Bert Williamson, expressing thanks for the kindness shown to them during the celebration of their 70th wedding anniversary in September. Furthermore, an expression of their gratefulness was sent by Alan and Helen Young for the cards and flowers they were given to mark the celebration of their Golden Wedding anniversary in September.

A word in season

Louisa Neil was a gifted poet. We are indebted to Margaret and Douglas Smith for one of her poems entitled “Faith” which is wonderful:

“When life is full of laughter and fun, you’re energetic and forever on the run; Often worrying because things have not been done, remember a thing called **Faith**. You’re feeling so great, the outlook’s aglow, and then all of a sudden down comes a blow; into hospital you’re told you must go, but you must hold on to **Faith**. You’re feeling so low as you greet each dear friend, “Cheer up” they say, “Life’s not at an end”; “In no time at all you’ll be back on the mend, for they know you are grounded in **Faith**. You know you must heed your doctor’s request, for two or three months you are told you must rest; The treatment you’ll get is all for the best, a testing time for **Faith**. You’re now settled in and allotted a bed, “we’ll soon have you cured”, the Doc has just said; Then a big question comes into your head, should I believe in **Faith?** The weeks go by and you count every day, it’s a strange life to you, in a new kind of way; You could change and be bitter in all that you say, and forget that you once had **Faith**. But then there’s the brightness, which enters your life, the visits by relatives, friends and your wife; You forget your troubles, your worries, your strife, could this be a revival of **Faith?** The doctors and nurses have their job to do, to get you back home and feeling like new; Time to be honest and to God say “Thank you”, again we can say that’s **Faith??**”

Congregational Register

BAPTISM: the LORD bless you and keep you

Ruaridh David Richard McIlwraith,
infant son of David and Marion (nee Lyle),
on Sunday 30th September 2012

WEDDING: joined together by the love of the LORD

Claire Timpson and Gary Johnston,
on Friday 21st September 2012

Amanda McLachlan and Paul Dredge,
on Thursday 11th October 2012

Yvonne Wallace Black & John Moffat,
on Saturday 24th November 2012

FUNERALS: left this world, but not forgotten

Agnes (Nancy) Smith, 23 St. Vincent Place, Motherwell
Janet MacLean, 26 Kinloch Drive, Motherwell
Jean Lees, 41 Kethers Street, Motherwell
Agnes Russell, Park Springs Nursing Home, Motherwell
Jessie Brand, 281 Bellshill Road, Motherwell
Mary Forsythe, 4 Fife Drive, Motherwell
Brenda Catherine Morrison, 25 North Street, Motherwell
Jean McGhee, Park Springs Nursing Home, Motherwell
Margaret (Mags) Bartholomew, 173 Logans Road, Motherwell
Kenneth (Ken) Johnston, 33 Imlach Place, Motherwell
Charlotte (Chattie) Henderson Hamilton, 22 Kirk Street



Flowers in the Chancel



December 2	Susan Duncan, 11 Wellview Drive Margaret Hands, 10 Arran Road
December 9	June Millar, 52 Orchard Street Jean Burgess, 35a Beltonfoot Way, Netherton
December 16	Margaret Kells, 27 Ceres Place FLOWER FUND
December 23	Elaine Geddes, 5 Morven Gate Linda Simpson, 26 Sharp Street
December 30	Maureen Ferguson, 33 Coursington Gardens FLOWER FUND
January 6	Dave & Mae Currie IN MEMORIAM Dorothy Johnstone, 18 McIntosh Way
January 13	Elizabeth Bissett, 75 Vulcan Street May Dudgeon, 46 Highfield Crescent
January 20	Pearl Grierson, 3 Barr Street Isobel Pollock, 347 Airbles Road
January 27	Elizabeth Bissett, 75 Vulcan Street Jean Paterson, 23 Viewpark Road
February 3	Mrs Forsyth & Mrs Paterson, 57 Paterson Street Christine Mathie, 2 Cobbett Road
February 10	Jean Maddock, 137 Manse Road Flo Suttie & the Murray girls IN MEMORIAM
February 17	Joan Graham, 30 Airbles Drive Rainbows & Brownies
February 24	Willie Harvey, 35 Hillhead Crescent Dawn Steel, 142 Jerviston Road



Flowers in the Vestibule



December 2	Donna Gardner, 134A Crawford Street
December 9	John Richards, 510 Bellshill Road
December 16	FLOWER FUND
December 23	Rankine Williams, Archerfield, 17 Douglas Street
December 30	May Brown, 46 Anderson Tower
January 6	Alicia Manson, 686 Glasgow Road, Wishaw
January 13	Greta Torrance, 51 Draffen Tower
January 20	Betty Graham, 552 Merry Street
January 27	Sybil Miller, 5 Young Wynd, Bellshill
February 3	FLOWER FUND
February 10	Margaret Donaldson, 42 Calder Grove
February 17	Helen Thomas, 133 Fort Street
February 24	Helen Japp, 102 Calder Tower

Thank you to everyone who has kindly agreed to donate flowers to beautify the sanctuary during worship. If you can help deliver the flowers on any given Sunday, please speak to Aileen Hamilton or Rae Blagg.

Organisations and Activities

Sunday	11:00am	Morning Worship in Main Sanctuary
Sunday	11:00am	Crèche, Sunday school & Bible Class
Sunday	12:00 Noon	After service tea/coffee bar
Sunday	3:00pm	Worship at Glenview Court (Monthly)
Sunday	6:30pm	Evening Worship (as announced)
Monday	9:30 – 11:30am	Crafts Group in Small Hall
Monday	2:00 – 4:00 pm	Carpet Bowls in Large Hall
Monday	5:15pm	19 th Motherwell Rainbows
Monday	6:30pm	19 th Motherwell Brownies
Monday	7:30pm	Men's Club in Small Hall
Monday	7:30pm	Prayer Hour in Sanctuary Quiet Room
Tuesday	6:30pm	Hamilton Presbytery (1 st Tuesday of Month)
Tuesday	6:30pm	Hamilton Presbytery Committees (3 rd Tuesday of Month)
Tuesday	7:00pm	The Church of Scotland Guild
Wednesday	1:00pm	Prayer Hour in Sanctuary Quiet Room
Wednesday	2:00pm	Sisterhood in Small Hall
Wednesday	6:30pm	3 rd Motherwell Girls' Brigade
Wednesday	7:30pm	Choir Practice in Lower Rooms
Thursday	2:00 – 4:00pm	Carpet Bowls in Large Hall
Thursday	7:30pm	Kirk Session in Small Hall (2 nd Thursday of Month)
Thursday	7:30pm	Congregational Board in Small Hall (3 rd Thursday of Month)
Friday	6:00pm	2 nd /4 th Motherwell B.B. Anchor Boys
Friday	6:30pm	2 nd /4 th Motherwell B.B. Junior Section
Friday	7:00pm	2 nd /4 th Motherwell B.B. Company Section

ABBNEYFIELD

**The Abbeyfield House, 17 Douglas Street, Motherwell,
provides supported accommodation.**

**We currently have rooms available,
which would suit someone who would enjoy the company
of a small group of friendly residents.**

Lunches and evening meals are provided by our staff.

**If you are interested and would like more information,
please telephone 01698 263 309 or 0131 225 7801**

CAN YOU HELP?

**Do you have some time to give
to editing our church magazine?**

**The newsletter is produced quarterly,
and submissions mainly come through email attachments,
which can simply be cut and pasted into an existing format,
with a clear template already provided.**

**If you would like to help, or at least find out more,
please speak directly to Derek Hughes
at your earliest convenience.**

**You do not need to be a literary genius,
just possess basic skills in word processing
and be willing to serve the LORD in this way.**

Thank You

to the people listed below, who have all contributed in some way to the production and distribution of this edition of *'Kirk Matters.'*

EDITING: Derek Hughes

PRINTING: Helen Lawson

COLLATION: Robert Crowe, Alex and Doreen Baird, Margaret Anderson, Bill Jack, May Johnston, Betty Morton, Pearl Pettigrew, Margaret Reid, Marion Smith, Eleanor Weir, Margaret Walker and Irene Struthers.

NOTE: *At the time this newsletter was being prepared, Alex Ross (a former editor), who organises the collation team, was hospitalised. Alex, along with his wife and family are very much in our prayers.*

DISTRIBUTION: Frank Reford and Jeanette Reford, along with the large team of volunteers who deliver our quarterly newsletter.



Items for the next edition of *'Kirk Matters'*
should be submitted **no later than Sunday 10th February 2013**
and ought to be sent directly **to Derek Hughes.**

*Motherwell: Dalziel St. Andrew's Parish Church
is a Registered Scottish Charity - SC 015503*

www.dalzielstandrews.org.uk