

# Dalziel St. Andrew's Parish Church

## *'The Kirk at The Cross'*

Believing in Christ – Belonging to Christ – Becoming like Christ



“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace,  
good will toward men”

**(Luke 2:14)**

## ***Kirk Matters***

Congregational Newsletter  
**December 2015 - February 2016**



## ***The Manse of Dalziel St. Andrew's Parish Church***

***Dear friends,***

Having just returned from pilgrimage, the experience is still fresh in my mind. We visited so many different places, and had such a special and spiritual time – it was quite wonderful to walk where our Lord did. In addition, our group of nine pilgrims received Holy Communion on four separate occasions in the space of a little over a week. This is quite different to the pattern of quarterly celebrations we are used to at home, but very much in line with the intentions of the original Reformers, who founded our denomination. Our final sharing in the sacrament was held on the shore of Lake Galilee. It was here, after His resurrection, that Jesus restored Simon Peter. And, just as the big fisherman had denied three times any personal knowledge of Christ, so he was given three opportunities to declare his love for the Lord. This direct and personal engagement with Jesus was precisely what we were seeking throughout our time on pilgrimage. And, I made that very point during our Communion at Lake Galilee. You see, sometimes we speak about Israel or Palestine or the Holy Land, which is all well and good, but it is really ***the Land of the Holy One!*** You might think it merely semantics, a play on words, but it is not. **A person not a place is what the Gospel calls us to acknowledge and seek.** Bethlehem, Jericho, Nazareth, Capernaum, Bethany and Jerusalem – these are all important places we recognise in the Bible story, BUT each one is made special only because of the presence of Jesus the Christ.

As we joined our voices together with pilgrims from around the world – places like Serbia, Brazil, Bangalore in India, Nigeria, Denmark, USA, Canada, Germany, Jordan, South Korea, China, Indonesia, and so many others – we found that national borders came tumbling down in favour of gathering around the One Who will ultimately unite the world in His Kingdom of peace, justice and love – our Lord Jesus Christ.

In a few weeks we shall celebrate Christmas again. Just as the shepherds came from the hillside where they grazed their sheep and the wise men travelled from afar to lay their gifts before the baby, we will gather around the feeding trough for animals, which served as a bed for the Prince of Peace. As you rejoice in that most precious gift of God's grace, may you know His shalom.

***Derek W. Hughes***

# Dates for your Diary



## **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2015**

Quiet and reflective service at 6:30pm to prepare for CHRISTmas

## **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

Christmas Fayre in the Church Halls

## **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

Morning worship at 11:00am,  
including gift service in favour of Women's Aid locally.

## **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

Evening worship at 6:30pm  
Service of nine lessons and carols, with some songs from the choir

## **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

Nativity story presented by the Sunday school at 11:00am,  
followed by Christmas tea in the main hall

## **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

6:30pm early evening worship for all ages  
11:30pm watchnight service

## **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

Brief service of family worship for CHRISTmas Day  
starting at 11:00am in the main sanctuary

**Watch out every Sunday for worship services, which are live-streamed, filmed and uploaded to our church YouTube channel.**

## ***Assistant Minister***

***Dear friends,***

It seems like barely any time has passed since I last wrote for the *Kirk Matters* newsletter, but in reality much has happened in these last few months! Ruth and I are now happily married, and settled in Motherwell, and I am delighted by the warm welcome Ruth has received from the congregation. Preparing for ministry (whether as Minister or Minister's wife!) has its challenges, but we feel truly blessed to be part of this church family, and we are sincerely thankful for the love and support we have been given.

The 1<sup>st</sup> October 2015 marked a year since I began working with the congregation. The year has fairly flown in, I must say! This "anniversary" gave me the chance to reflect on the progress of the last year, not just in terms of my training but also the life of our church. There have been a great many successes (such as the relaunch of evening worship) and I am grateful to God for blessing us with good outcomes!

There have been challenges too, and there are challenges which still lie ahead. One aspect I am currently considering is how to "attract" older teens into the life of the church, and this is proving more difficult than I anticipated. I share this with you so as to ask for your prayers in this area. The congregation is blessed with a strong representation from all age groups, with the exception of older teenagers. By looking to God for His guidance in this area, it is my hope that we can eventually say all ages are represented in our congregation!

The 1<sup>st</sup> October 2015 also acted as a reminder for me that change is on the horizon once again. My placement with the congregation is to last two years. With one year gone, that means there is now less than one more to go. Although it feels a long way off, I am aware of how quickly time passes, and I acknowledge with some sadness that my time with you is limited. It is my real desire to make the most of what time is left: not just in terms of training but in terms of giving as much to the life of God's Church, gathered as Dalziel St. Andrew's parish church.

Thank you again for all your prayers and support. With one year left, let us look to God, and make it a good one; for Him! **Every Blessing,**

**Stuart and Ruth**

# Kirk Session

## **JUNE 2015**

The Kirk Session met on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2015 in the small hall at 7.30pm. The Revd Derek Hughes (Moderator) welcomed everyone, and in particular, Bill Millar following his recent surgery. The Moderator advised he had visited Anne Kerr, Shona Ferguson and Linda Irvine following the death of Anne's husband, John the previous weekend. Thirty-six (36) elders were present with twelve (12) apologies.

## **SESSION CLERK:**

Crawford Moffat, Session Clerk is on holiday therefore the Deputy Session Clerk, Helen Lawson, deputised for the meeting.

## **MINUTES:**

The minutes from the previous meeting held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2015 were distributed to each Elder prior to the meeting. These were adopted and signed.

## **BUSINESS ARISING:**

**Stuart Love/Evening Services:** The Moderator advised that he and Stuart had attended a meeting in Glasgow yesterday (10<sup>th</sup> June 2015) with a representative from Edinburgh, to discuss the pilot scheme Stuart has been participating in since joining us in October 2014. The meeting was positive and encouraging. Stuart Love, Student in Training, reported the Café Church Evening Service held on 24<sup>th</sup> May had a lower attendance than previous evening services, however as this was a holiday weekend it was not surprising. Stuart advised that from September, he is hoping to hold evening services fortnightly, with the exception of Communion Sundays and Messy Church days. He also reported that he is looking to involve other people in assisting with the evening services as he will be completing his time with us in September 2016.

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Janette and Crawford Moffat:** A letter was read out from Jeanette and Crawford Moffat thanking the Session for the card and flowers received on their Golden Wedding.

**Elizabeth and Wilson Devlin:** A card was received from Elizabeth and Wilson Devlin thanking the Session for the prayers and support offered to the whole family during their grandson, Drew's, time of illness. Drew has now been discharged from hospital and is doing well following his heart transplant.

**PRESBYTERY REPORT:**

There was no report this month as Presbytery does not meet until Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY:**

Crawford Moffat, Session Clerk, has prepared a detailed report from the General Assembly, which he attended with the Moderator. The report was issued to all Elders present.

**HOLY COMMUNION/COMMUNION SILVER:**

The Deputy Session Clerk advised that at Holy Communion on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2015, two hundred and twenty-nine (229) cards were received from communicants with three (3) visitors at the morning service and twenty-two (22) received at the evening service. The total number of communicants was two hundred and fifty-four (254) compared with two hundred and fifty-six (256) who attended in June 2014. On behalf of the Session Clerk, the Deputy Session Clerk thanked all Elders who helped in the preparation and distribution of the Elements at both services. She also thanked Stuart and the Moderator for conducting two lovely services.

**RETIRAL OFFERINGS:**

The Kirk Session agreed that the retiral offerings for next session would be as follows:

- Harvest – Tearfund,
- October Communion – Tayvan Army, a charity set up to support a number of projects who have assisted Taylor Drummond and Evan Hughes,
- Remembrance Sunday – Poppy Scotland,
- Christmas Eve – Tabeetha School,
- February Communion – St. Andrew's Hospice,
- Easter – Glasgow City Mission
- June Communion – Well Hall Home.

### **EASTER EGG DISTRIBUTION:**

At last month's Congregation Board meeting a question was asked about the donation of Easter eggs to Glasgow City Mission. The Board was asked if any thought had been given to distributing the eggs to a local charity. The Session decided that it would be best to continue donating to Glasgow City Mission as few charities could deal with the volume of eggs donated. The Clerk would communicate this to the Board

### **DOORS OPEN DAY:**

The Congregational Board have been approached by North Lanarkshire Council asking if we are willing to take part in the annual Doors Open Day on 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> September 2015.

Alex Baird replied on behalf of the Board that we would be delighted to participate. It was also noted that the outside of the Church Buildings had been lit up in purple at the beginning of June in support of Alzheimer's Awareness Week. A photo of the Church lit in purple was posted on the Motherwell Past and Present website and had received over fourteen thousand (14,000) hits and over four hundred (400) likes. The photo is now also available on the Church website.

### **EXTRA LARGE HYMN SHEETS:**

The Moderator intimated from this Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> June, extra large praise sheets and newsheets will be available for anyone who requires them.

### **INTERIM MODERATORSHIP:**

The Moderator reported that he is to take up the position of Interim Moderator at Airdrie, Flowerhill. He also intimated that in order to do this, he has given up his place on the Presbytery Ministries Committee and his position as Presbytery Chaplain. The Moderator asked the Session to pray for him and also the congregations of Airdrie, Flowerhill and Airdrie, Broonknoll as they plan toward a union during the vacancy.

### **MAKEOVER REPORT:**

The Makeover Report for May 2015 was available for all Elders to collect at the meeting. The Kirk Session noted the progress made in the latest stages of the Makeover Project – Forward for Jesus.

## **ALTERATIONS TO THE COMMUNION ROLL:**

The Kirk Session was delighted to admit by Profession of Faith on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2015:

Dannika Dykes, 51 Elder Way, Carfin, Adam McKnight, 51 Elder Way, Carfin and Lauren Murray, 21 Oakfield Tower, Motherwell.

Transference Certificates have also been received from:

Moira Main, 5 Machrie Street, Motherwell, Justine Main, 235 Airbles Street, Motherwell and Margaret Millar, 156 Scotia Street, Motherwell.

It was with sadness that the Kirk Session learned of the deaths of Mrs Christina (Evelyn) Millward, 105 Draffen Tower, Motherwell and Mr John Kerr, 8 Cassels Grove, Motherwell.

June Millar asked at this point if it was possible to advise the Kirk Session of the number of members, who had joined in recent years are still attending worship on a regular basis. The Moderator stated this would be impossible to answer tonight but would be looked in to by the Clerk and reported on at a future meeting.

## **SEPTEMBER 2015**

The Kirk Session met on Thursday 10 September 2015 in the small hall at 7.30pm. The Revd Derek Hughes (Moderator) welcomed everyone present and gave an update on members who were ill. Forty-two (42) elders were present with eleven (11) apologies according to the Sederunt sheet.

## **MINUTES:**

The Session Clerk thanked the Depute Session Clerk, Helen Lawson, for deputising for him and preparing the Kirk Session minutes for the previous meeting held on Thursday 11 June 2015. These minutes were distributed to each Elder prior to the meeting and were adopted and signed.

## **BUSINESS ARISING:**

**Stuart Love, Assistant Minister:** Stuart informed the Kirk Session that a Learning Covenant had been agreed at the start of his placement with Dalziel St Andrew's. This would be completed in September 2016 when his training with our congregation would end. The highlights of this Covenant were planning and running evening services; focusing on mission and discipleship;

engaging with the community; sharing faith; school chaplaincy; young adults; chairing two meetings of the Kirk Session; exploring Christianity with 15 to 18 years old, a leaflet about this is being prepared for distribution. Stuart emphasised that while his training has been designed to help the congregation it had to be sustainable by them after its completion.

**Membership Attendances:** Helen Lawson, Roll Keeper informed the Kirk Session that in answer to the question of membership attendances raised at the June meeting. She had collated the attendance statistics of people who had joined within the last 5 years. Of the 93 new members admitted only 6 have had no contact since joining. The Moderator thought these statistics were very encouraging and thanked Helen for her efforts on our behalf.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Anne Kerr and Family:** A letter has been received from Anne Kerr and Family thanking all most sincerely for the cards, flowers and prayerful support during her husbands John's long illness and recent death. Having such a wonderful church family is a gift from God.

**World Mission Council:** Intimation has been received from the World Mission Council that Mr Antony Short, is no longer Principal of Tabeetha School and therefore his term as our Mission Partner has now come to an end. The Moderator stated that he would be writing to 121 George Street for further clarification, as part of the itinerary of our forthcoming pilgrimage to the Holy Land was a visit to Tabeetha School.

This months World Mission Council Magazine focusing on human trafficking and immigration has been posted on the notice board.

**Presbytery of Hamilton:** Intimation was received from The Presbytery of Hamilton that the General Assembly 2015 has instructed all Presbyteries and Kirk Sessions to ensure that all volunteers and locally employed staff undertaking Regulate Work with PVGs (Protected Vulnerable Groups) are members of the PVG scheme and attend safeguarding training and that the appropriate records are kept for audit. The Kirk Session is delighted to hear that Mrs Linda Simpson is attending to this in a timely manner.

### **PRESBYTERY REPORT:**

In the absence of Dr Stephen Day, Presbytery Elder, the Moderator reported to the Kirk Session that the Rev. Dr. Gordon McCracken took the oath of office as the new Presbytery Clerk; this is the first full-time appointment in the Hamilton Presbytery's history.

### **FINAL MAKEOVER REPORT:**

With work now finished the Final Makeover Report dated August 2015 was available for all Elders to collect at the meeting. The Kirk Session noted the progress made in the latest stages of the Makeover Project – Forward for Jesus.

### **BEFRIEND MOTHERWELL**

The Moderator informed the Kirk Session on the latest position regarding the work of Befriend Motherwell in relation to One-to-One Befriending; Group Befriending; Telephone and Wellbeing Befriending. The Kirk Session remains fully supportive of the project and also of the intention to apply to "Go For It" for continuation funding. The Kirk Session again recorded their sincere appreciation of the most helpful support received from "Go For It" both in relation to funding and advice.

The Kirk Session approved Befriend Motherwell and the application to "Go For It".

The Kirk Session also recognised that the congregation was ineligible to apply to "Go For It" for any other project, until any funding awarded had ceased.

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

The Session Clerk intimated that all the elders on the October Communion Rota had received copies of the arrangements; these had also been circulated to those with email accounts. Elder's district communion cards were available in their respective pigeonholes.

The Moderator informed the Kirk Session that because of the reduced numbers attending evening communion services he would himself serve the elements to the congregation at the October Holy Communion evening service. This would, he thought, be more intimate and meaningful.

### **LONG SERVICE CERTIFICATES:**

The Moderator intimated that only one elder, Crawford Moffat, was due a 30 year Long

Service Certificate this year. This would be presented at the October Communion Service.

**YEARBOOK UPDATES:**

The yearbook updates were distributed to elders.

**REFUGEE CRISIS:**

The Moderator asked the Kirk Session how as a congregation we should respond to the present refugee crisis. A full discussion took place and the Kirk Session asked that a letter be drafted and forwarded to 121 George Street urging the Church of Scotland as a body to take immediate action. The charities that are organising help for the refugees would also be intimated to the congregation.

**NEW ELDERS:**

The Session Clerk asked the Kirk Session to consider nominations for new elders as with more elders retiring from active duty it was becoming difficult to cover districts and welcome groups.

**FIRST AID COURSES:**

Emergency first aid courses are going to be run in the near future. Those interested to inform Douglas Smith or Janette Black.

**GIRL GUIDES:**

The Moderator informed the Kirk Session that our Girl Guide troop was being restarted this session. The Kirk Session warmly welcomed this development.

**ALTERATIONS TO THE COMMUNION ROLL:**

It was with sadness that the Kirk Session learned of the deaths of:- Herbert (Bert) Williamson, Park Springs Care Home, Motherwell; David Steele, 145 Watson Street, Motherwell; Janet Main, 102 Glenview Court, Motherwell; Helen Gibb, Bank House, Lesmahagow; Eddie Frazer, 60 Baillie Court, Motherwell; Alex Allan, 20 Brandon Court, Motherwell; Mrs Nessie Johnston, 11 Lime Loan, Holytown; Mrs Elizabeth Byfield, 135 Merry Street, Motherwell.

**Crawford Moffat**  
Session Clerk



# **Makeover Project**

**“Forward for Jesus”**

## **Final Report**

With work on the Caretaker’s Flat complete, and George and Laura in residence, it is time to draw a close to the regular updates on the Makeover Project – Forward for Jesus.

With quite a few contracts awarded and managed over 4 years, and a spend of around £1 million pounds, it has been a wonderful effort for our Lord with thanks due to many people who worked very hard in so many ways to make it all happen and to do so within budget.

Well done everyone!

**Ian Morrison & Alex Baird**

Property Convener & Chairman of the Congregational Board

# **Sunday school**

The Sunday school enjoyed studying stories about the life of Moses from The Old Testament and a series from the New Testament entitled ‘Jesus shows his power’. During Advent the children will again look at the stories of The First Christmas.

**Staffing:** Debbie Bogle has moved from the Primary Department. She will divide her teaching time between the Beginners and the Bible Class (which is now called Fusion).

**Fusion:** is the new name for the Bible Class. Look out for Fiona Ross' report in Kirk Matters. Please pray for the work being done with these young teenagers in our Church family. Ruth Love, Christine Fisher and Debbie Bogle are the teachers who will join Fiona in this group. We say goodbye to David Young and are thankful to him for many years of service to the Bible Class.

**Welcome:** We are delighted when the register of the Sunday school continues to grow. We welcome David Murray to the primary group of children.

**Elders:** Iain Guthrie and Jean Stevenson, our visiting Kirk Session elders, take a keen interest in all that we do in our work with the children. They joined us in classes on Sunday 1 November 2015 and will return early in 2016 for a second visit. We thank them for joining us and for bringing the good wishes of the Kirk Session.

**Offerings:** The children are very generous in bringing an offering each week to help other children. The wonderful sum of £420 was given to Tearfund Syria Appeal and £420 to Robin House Children's Hospice. The donation to CHAS was given in memory of Evan Hughes who sadly died in December 2014. Alistair Crombie and Abigail and Samuel Weir handed over the large cheques in the Church at the beginning of this session.

Next year our offerings will be shared with the Al Shurooq Blind School in Palestine and Children's Heart Unit Fund (CHUF) in Freeman Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne

As always the children and teachers will be very busy during the weeks leading to Christmas.

**Gift Service:** On 6<sup>th</sup> December the children will receive a gift of a book from the church. Giving and receiving of gifts is a wonderful tradition at Christmas time as we remember the best gift of all - Jesus. On that day the children will join the church family in bringing a gift for Women's Aid.

**Gold and Silver:** Once again we are responsible for the gold and silver stall at the Church Christmas Fayre. Donations for the stall will be welcomed and please come and buy on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 11am in the church hall.

**Christmas Parties and outings:** Parents will be given details of dates and arrangements from department teachers. We hope everyone has a happy time as they enjoy sharing in Christmas fun with friends in their groups.

**Messy Church:** All children are invited to come with a parent to the next Messy day on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2016. Please remember to register in advance and enjoy a Messy time in Church followed by a meal.

**Nativity:** The children have been busy learning songs and words for the Nativity service on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December which this year has the title 'The Innkeeper's Breakfast' Many thanks to all the Children taking part and the nativity planning group lead by Elaine Geddes.

The new Nativity costumes and printed t-shirts so kindly donated last year will be unpacked and used for a second time. We look forward to the Church being full with friends and relatives as the children bring Christmas worship to us with the retelling of the first Christmas story.

**Christmas Eve - Early Service:** Please join us in Church as we take time out of the hustle and bustle of our hectic preparations for Christmas 2015 to remember the First Christmas when our Lord was born. This short service is @ 6.30pm on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December. Teachers will

serve tea, coffee and juice and hot Christmas pies and shortbread in the hall at the end of the service before going home to hang up the Christmas stockings and get tucked up into bed!

**Christmas Day- Friday 25th December @ 11am:** All children, young and old, will be most welcome to come to church and bring a Santa gift to show everyone. The centre candle will be lit on the Advent Crown as we remember the birthday of Jesus during this short service of worship. We hope to see you there.

**Holidays Sundays 27<sup>th</sup> Dec and 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2016:** All departments including the crèche will be on holiday. Sunday school resumes on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2016 which is also Messy Church at 3.30pm.

Thank you to everyone in the Church family for continued prayers for the children and teachers and also for the many gifts of money bags and tubes filled with pennies. We appreciate all of the kind thoughts of our friends who support the Christian education of the young church family.

Wishing everyone Joy this Christmastime and happiness in the new year ahead.

**Anne Brown**  
Sunday school and Fusion Coordinator

## Fusion

For this session, the Bible Class has had quite a change. 3 new leaders, new material and also a name change! We are now called **Fusion** and we are using Scripture Union material where we have been learning about Elisha, The Bronze Snake and many more stories about Jesus.

We are now playing out the bible stories regularly, whether that be by acting, drawing or a Cuppet Show (that would be the same as a puppet show, with the characters being made from polystyrene cups). The name 'Cuppet show' was actually suggested by one of the young folks 😊

Overall we are really excited about this new session in particular the enthusiasm of the boys and girls and the leaders.

**Fiona Ross**  
Fusion Leader

## Social Committee

The Social Committee would like to thank all who attended and helped at the various events held since the last report including the **Curry, Carbonara and Quiz Night** which was won by the team led by our minister!; the **Tea for the Mature Members** and the **Soup and Clottie Dumpling Lunch** after the morning service in October. All events were enjoyed by everyone who attended.

The following events are planned before the end of the year.

- Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December - CHRISTmas Fayre starting @ 11.00am
- Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December - Annual Christmas Tea will be held in the large hall after morning worship.

The Social Committee would like to express its thanks and appreciation to Christine Scott who has a table in the large hall most Sundays after morning worship selling a variety of cards and soft goods and the ladies from the Social Committee who have a baking table. The funds which they generate help in a variety of ways.

It is to be hoped that the new chairs which have been ordered for the Large Hall will arrive soon.

On behalf of the Social Committee can I wish everyone a peaceful CHRISTmas.

**Janette Black**  
Social Committee Convener

## Guild

The 2015/2016 session is now well under way. We have had the opening social which was very well attended and was enjoyed by all also a variety of speakers and soloist.

On December 8 we look forward to our Christmas dinner to be held in Dalziel Park and the following week December 15 we will hold our annual Christmas carol and buffet evening.

We extend a warm welcome to anyone who would like to join us at any of our meetings.

**Janette Moffat**  
Secretary



At time of going to publication we await the outcome of a grant application to the Church of Scotland Go For It Fund to see if there is possibility of securing financial support for a further two years for our project. The Fund has been very supportive and we are hopeful that

this will continue for two more years. It is very hard for the Fund Organisers to meet all of the requests for help.

It will be some time before we know if the Big Lottery will be able to support us for a few years so the help from the Go For It Fund, if secured, would be wonderful to bridge our funding.

Work continues in all of the activities of Befriend Motherwell. Our thanks are due not only to our staff but also our growing group of volunteers who make it all happen.

During the last few months we have enjoyed some outings and events which have been so well received by our Befriendees.



A Group from Befriend Motherwell visited the People's Palace in Glasgow and were delighted when Lord Provost, Sadie Docherty, (who was visiting the venue, took a keen interest in our work.

A visit to Summerlee Museum in Coatbridge was enjoyed by this group from Befriend Motherwell.



We can always do with extra support. If you have an hour to spare and week there is sure to be an area of work at Befriend Motherwell you can help with. Just give myself (07796012462) or Colin (07736285850) a call.

**Liz Magunnigal**  
Befriending Co-ordinator

## The Prayer Groups



Fear Not, The Lord is with Us!  
Let no-one be dismayed  
His love will hold us safely,  
His strength will be our aid.  
That promise of God's caring  
Is in the Bible vowed  
So let our thanks be joyful  
Our praise for him sung loud

*Maraaret Ineau*

Prayer Groups normally meet each week in the Prayer Room on Mondays (7.30pm) and Wednesdays (1.00pm) however both will have a short break over the festive period. The Wednesday Group will take

a break from 2<sup>nd</sup> December and the Monday group will stop on 7<sup>th</sup> December, resuming again on 6<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> January respectively.

If you would like the groups to pray for you or someone you know you can still contact them either by completing a prayer card and putting it in the prayer box at the front and rear church door or via our church website or by contacting the Church Office (01698 264097 or via email: [office@dlsa.org.uk](mailto:office@dlsa.org.uk)). We wish everyone God's blessing at this time.

## Helping the Deaf and Hard of Hearing



Our efforts to make our services of worship more meaningful for the deaf or deafened have not been forgotten. Efforts are being made to secure some funding to help us possibly recruit, for a Pilot Scheme, some help in signing (to supplement the fine work of Rae Blagg) and possibly notetaking (to put words on to the screens.)

We will keep working as there is such a huge potential “harvest” for the Lord from this very significant section of society. Please do pray for success. Thank you.

**Alex Baird**

# Keeping it all up-to-date

Our major investment in technology, as part of our Makeover Project – Forward for Jesus, has secured wonderful dividends as so many are now able to join us on-line for worship each Sunday or to catch up later in the week via You Tube.

One of the significant challenges we face as a congregation is ensuring that we keep up-to-date and invest in the equipment which will ensure we can go on working in this exciting area.

Although the cameras, screens etc are fine just now our Congregational Board has approved the establishment of a Fund which will be utilised for replacement or upgrade of the equipment as it becomes necessary.

A good example is emerging with the very exciting news that the Keswick Convention have been granted permission by the Board to use our sanctuary for three days next year (September most likely) for the follow-up to their great success in hosting the Convention in the Civic Theatre this year. By coming to our Church the Convention will be able to live stream their message all around the world. It would indeed be great if we are able to upgrade our three cameras by then to ensure that we broadcast pictures of good quality for the audience. Cost estimates for the work are being secured at present from Access AV (who installed the system).

If you feel that you would like to donate to the funds being gathered for this very exciting outreach please do speak to our Treasurer Willie Brown.

**Ian Morrison & Alex Baird**  
Property Convener & Chairman of the Congregational Board

# Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

With the so unfortunate withdrawal through health problems of 3 pilgrims, a team of 9 set out on 14 October for their 9 day pilgrimage to the land of the Holy One. Travelling to Israel from Edinburgh then via Istanbul, all looked forward to this so special trip of a lifetime.

With a middle of the night arrival the group enjoyed a late start on the first morning visiting the Western Wall (Wailing Wall, pictured below) before heading for St Andrew's Church of Scotland to celebrate Communion to commence their pilgrimage. Following lunch the day concluded with a walk down the Mount of Olives visiting, on the way, Pater Noster Church (The Lord's Prayer); Dominus Fleuit Chapel, where Jesus wept over the Jerusalem, (what magnificent views of the city); then to the bottom of the Mount where the Church of All Nations is located in the garden of Gethsemane.

At each location (throughout the pilgrimage) appropriate readings, prayers and hymns were sung by the group.



Day two started with a visit to the spectacular Church of St Peter in Gallicantu (the possible site of the High Priests house), then on to

Bethlehem and a very special visit to the Al-Shurooq school for the blind. A visit to the Shepherd's Fields followed with Communion celebrated in one of the cave chapels. The afternoon was spent at the Basilica and Grotto of the Nativity and St Jerome's Caves before some time for shopping at the King's Store on the way back to Jerusalem.

Saturday commenced with a visit to the 14 Stations of the Cross along the Via Dolorosa culminating in a visit to the Lord's tomb in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. A visit to the Garden Tomb followed before heading for Ein Karem and lunch at the Sisters of Zion Convent and a visit to the Church of St John the Baptist. The journey back to the hotel included a visit to the Israeli Museum and the Museum with the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Sunday worship at St Andrew's Church (where Derek assisted with Communion and Georgie and Christine read the lessons) was followed by a trip to Jericho, viewing the Mount of Temptation on the way as well as Zacchaeus' sycamore tree. The way back from the West Bank (Palestine) included a stop at the River Jordan and the wonderful experience of Derek baptizing Georgie MacMillan in the river. Choirs singing throughout on each bank of the Jordan and a white dove too!

Monday saw the team drive back into Palestine territory and visiting Qumran, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found; a cable car trip up Masada mountain; a swim (float?) in the Dead Sea; and a view of the St George's Desert Monastery (in the desert area where the Story of the Good Samaritan's travels took place).

Tuesday started with a most moving stop at the Crusader Church and Benedictine Monastery at Abu Gosh (Emmaus) then a run to the Mediterranean coast where a visit was made to Tabeetha School run by the Church of Scotland then on to Caesarea Maritima and the Roman Amphitheatre. Now the drive north to the Sea of Galilee (pictured below) at Tiberias where the group stayed at their second hotel by the lakeside.



The Nazareth Day started with a drive us the Mount of Transfiguration on Mount Tabor (pictured below) followed by a visit to Nazareth village where the pilgrims visited the Church of Mary's Well and the Church of the Annunciation. A walk around a reconstruction of a first century village was concluded with a special lunch served there. On the way back to the hotel Cana was the final port of call for the day and the scene of Jesus first miracle.



The final day was a spectacular and special as the others with wonderful views and history at Capernaum followed by a visit to

Tabgha (Church of Loaves and Fishes) then Communion at Mensa Christ (Christ's Table) on the shore at the Sea of Galilee. A drive up the Mount of Beatitudes saw a visit to a final church then lunch followed by an hour's sail on the Sea of Galilee.

A truly memorable experience for those able to take part. No troubles/fighting seen during any of the pilgrimage thankfully.

All prayer support from our family at Dalziel St Andrew's was very much appreciated. Thank you from everyone

## Girls' Brigade

Most of our girls returned this season, which was really encouraging. However, we are still trying to increase our numbers, so if you know any young girl, particularly at primary school, then please do encourage her to come along. She will be made most welcome and will have lots of fun 😊

Our theme this year is '***all aspects of water***'. Introducing the subject the Brigaders helped do a sketch of Jesus calming the sea waters. Mr Rae came along to explain all about the wells which have helped in Africa. He brought along a 'machine' and the girls watched as dirty water went in and after a few minutes clear water came out again – it was crystal clear and he even drank it to prove it was OK ! Thanks to Mr Rae for all his work.

Recently we had our themed party night which was enjoyed by everyone. The younger girls dressed up Disney style and the Brigaders had fun as their make-up ran when 'dookin' for apples!

A small number of poppies went on sale this year, both at the church and in a gift shop in Newton Stewart, after the owner contacted me.

As usual at this time of year we will be going to the pantomime at the Civic and will be taking part in lots of other activities associated with the Christmas story. The girls will soon be excited about this and the officers look forward to their night off together at Raven's Cliff. The Christmas story time is one enjoyed by all the company, often with questions cropping up and some carol singing to welcome our favourite visitor dressed in red – 'his uniform!'

We wish everyone a peaceful time to enjoy the atmosphere and love, more abundant (or seemingly so) at this time.

**Liz Bogle**

Captain, 3<sup>rd</sup> Motherwell Girls Brigade

## **Toddlers**

We returned with 7 toddlers in August and already we have a few new babies and its great to see them start to develop into 'wee people'.

Snack time for the toddlers is 'chat' time for the mums, dads and grandparents who all seem to learn a little more each week 'how things used to be' and 'new ideas' are debated usually with a howl of laughter.

The dress up party was enjoyed by all, even the grans! And the mums are lovely bakers. Photos of the party will be put up on the wall soon.

One 3 week old came to 'try out the noise level' and give us the once over – I'm pleased to report we passed with flying colours.

It was unusual to be invaded by pumpkins, minions and super heroes – how things change.

All 14 children enjoyed someone else's mum's party food 😊

Lord, please look after these young children and help us to develop that sense of love and security.

**Liz Bogle (01698 886 112) and Maureen Pollock**

## **Men's Club**

### **2015 - 16 Syllabus**

We started on Monday 5th October and a few of this winter's talks include subjects such as;

- The history of the bagpipes,
- Baron's Haugh,
- Home Safety,
- The Glen Miller Story, and so much more

Please do come along any Monday night and enjoy the programme, the banter and most of all the fellowship.

**Bob Burgess**  
Secretary

## **Sisterhood**

The Sisterhood resumed on Wednesday 7 October when we welcomed the Rev Derek Hughes as our first speaker in our interesting syllabus.

Ladies, if you have an hour to spare on Wednesday afternoon between 2-3pm please do join us – a warm welcome awaits for all.

**Janette Moore**  
Secretary

# Christmas Colouring Fun



**Children, why not have some fun and colour in the picture of Mary and the baby Jesus. We hope to display on the notice board any that might be submitted via the editor's pigeon-hole!**

# Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

19<sup>th</sup> Motherwell Rainbows, Brownies and newly re-formed Guides all meet now in our Church halls on a Monday evening. Start times are as follows;

Rainbows 6.00pm

Brownies 6.30pm

Guides 7.00pm

Parents of girls who are interested in joining should note that they must first register online at the website address:

[www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus)

## Messy Church

119 folks enjoyed the most recent successful event, here's what Anne Brown had to say about it ....

*"Just back from Messy Church. Wow!!!! Our Church building was buzzing with young families having lots of Messy Fun while praising God. The theme was Fire and the crafts were wonderful concluding with a short family informal worship in the sanctuary.*

*Thank you to the ladies in the kitchen for a great family meal of chilli mince, or chicken or macaroni cheese followed by rhubarb or apple crumble with custard. Ice cream or chocolate gateaux. Home baking to finish... A huge family meal for 110 people!!!! Before going home a small bonfire to toast giant marshmallows and watch and enjoy sparklers.*

*A huge thank you to Lorna Simpson and Lesley Angus and their team of helpers for the best Messy Church yet!*

Next Messy Church is **Sunday 10 January 2016 at 3.30pm** ... do come along and join in the fun!

## **The Magic of Love**

Love is like magic and it always will be,  
For love still remains life's sweet mystery.

Love works in ways that are wondrous and strange  
And there's nothing in life that love cannot change.

Love can transform the most commonplace  
Into beauty and splendour and sweetness and grace.

Love is unselfish, understanding, and kind,  
For it sees with its heart and not with its mind.

Love is the answer that everyone seeks  
Love is the language that every heart speaks,

Love is the message that was sent to the earth  
On the first Holy Christmas, that heralded Christ's birth.

**Helen Steiner Rice**

# Letters and Cards

*I would like to thank those who have sent cards and letters, telephoned and visited me, and given flowers and prayed for me over the past few months. I am extremely appreciative and grateful.*

**June Adam**

*We would like to sincerely thank everyone who sent cards, letters, messages and flowers on the occasion of our Golden Wedding. Thank you also to Derek for the beautiful Church Flowers. We were both overwhelmed by the kindness shown to us at a very special time.*

**Anne & Peter Currie**

*I want to say a huge thank you for the flowers which I received on my birthday. Also, to Donna Gardner for delivering them and for her visit.*

**Bill Millar**

*Marion, Archie, Eleanor would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and support following the death of Alex my much loved husband, dad and granddad. This was greatly appreciated by us. Also to Derek for the lovely service of thanksgiving and celebration of Alex's life. Thank you all very much.*

**The Allan Family**

*I wish to say thank you for the lovely flowers I receive on the death of my sister May.*

**Marion Allan**

*Thank you for the beautiful flowers received on the occasion of my 30 years long service presentation, these were very much appreciated*

**Crawford Moffat**

*Thanks to all for the lovely flowers I received after my stay in hospital. Also for the visits from Stuart while I was in Wishaw General these were much appreciated.*

**Margaret Sneddon**

*Another year gone by – another year older but the years slip by when one receives the Church flowers on this special day. Many thanks for once again remembering me.*

**Margaret Anderson**

*We would like to thank the Church for the beautiful flowers and cards received for our Ruby wedding. It was a lovely surprise and a very kind thought which we both greatly appreciated.*

**Chris and Jeanette Stevenson**

*Thank you so much for the beautiful Church flowers received on my birthday. The sunflowers really brightened my day.*

**Stuart Bryden**

*Many thanks for the lovely flowers, these with kind thoughts and prayers were gratefully appreciated at a difficult time, following the passing of Joan's mum.*

**Joan and Douglas Graham**

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

**Betty Murray, Jean Crawford, May McQuinn,  
Margaret Kelly, Dorothy and John Arthur, Jean McQue,  
Cathie Bain, Babs Rae,  
Emma McKnight and Jean Melvin**

# Congregational Register

## BAPTISMS: the LORD bless you and keep you

**Blane Ian Fraser McKnight,**  
infant son of Adam and Dannika,  
on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2015

**Mrs Georgina (Georgie) MacMillan**  
on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2015  
following profession of her faith as an adult  
whilst on pilgrimage at the Jordan River

## WEDDINGS: the love of our LORD joins two hearts together

**Jean Lavina Malone and Peter John Daniels**  
on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2015

**Elaine Margaret Young and James William Clark**  
on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2015

## FUNERALS: left this world, but not forgotten

Alexander (Alex) Lafferty Allan, 20 Brandon Court, Motherwell  
Agnes (Nessie) Johnston, 11 Lime Loan, Holytown  
Joyce Tollan, 41 Ailsa Avenue, Motherwell  
Edward Brogan, 64 Braedale Avenue, Motherwell  
Elizabeth (Betty) Byfield, Avondale Care Home, Motherwell  
Joanna (Anna) Kinnear, 14 Kerr Grieve Court, Motherwell  
Alexander (Alex) Biagi, 8 Nith Path, Cleland  
Margaret (Peggy) Donnelly, Muir Park Care Home, Uddingston  
William Fairley, Parksprings Care Home, Motherwell  
Magdalene McAlpine, 2 Windmill Court, Motherwell

# Flowers in the Chancel

DEC.6 <sup>th</sup>	June Millar, 52 Orchard Street Jean Burgess, 35a Beltonfoot Way, Netherton
DEC.13 <sup>th</sup>	Margaret Kells, 27 Ceres Place. Elsie Bett, 68 Brandon Court
DEC.20 <sup>th</sup>	Elaine Geddes, 8 Sharp Street Linda Simpson, 26 Sharp Street
DEC.27 <sup>th</sup>	Maureen Ferguson, 33 Coursington Gardens Mary Macdonald, 62 Breadalbane Crescent
JAN.3 <sup>rd</sup>	Dorothy Johnstone, 18 McIntosh Way <b>FLOWER FUND</b> Donations welcome
JAN.10 <sup>th</sup>	Elizabeth Bisset, 75 Vulcan Street May Dudgeon, 46 Highfield Crescent
JAN.17 <sup>th</sup>	Pearl Grierson, 3 Barr Street Isobel Pollock 347 Airbles Road
JAN.24 <sup>th</sup>	Elizabeth Bisset, 75 Vulcan Street Jean Paterson 23 Viewpark Road
JAN 31 <sup>st</sup>	Christine Mathie, 2 Cobbet Road Sandra Jackson 55 Fenwick Drive Hamilton
FEB. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Jean Maddock, 137 Manse Road Flo Suttie & the Murray girls IN MEMORIAM
FEB 14 <sup>th</sup>	Joan Graham, Airbles Drive Guides, Brownies and Rainbows
FEB.21 <sup>st</sup>	Willie Harvey, 35 Hillhead Crescent John & Nan Goligher in MEMORIUM
FEB 28 <sup>th</sup>	Jem Jarvie & Margaret Neilson IN MEMORIAM Jean Wyper, Bellshill Road



# Flowers in the Vestibule

DEC.6 <sup>th</sup>	Janet Currie, 54 Orchard Street
DEC.13 <sup>th</sup>	Donna Gardner, 134A Crawford Street
DEC.20 <sup>th</sup>	Anne Horne, 12 Clapperhow Road
DEC.27 <sup>th</sup>	May Brown, 46 Anderson Tower
JAN 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Alicia Manson, 3 Dundyvan Lane Wishaw
JAN 10 <sup>th</sup>	Anonymous Donation
JAN 17 <sup>th</sup>	Betty Graham In Memoriam
JAN 24 <sup>th</sup>	Sybil Miller, 5 Young Wynd, Bellshill
JAN 31 <sup>st</sup>	Elizabeth Bissett, 75 Vulcan Street
FEB 7 <sup>th</sup>	Margaret Donaldson, 42 Calder Grove
FEB 14 <sup>th</sup>	Helen Thomas, 13 Fort Street
FEB 21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Flower Fund</b> , Donations welcome
FEB 28 <sup>th</sup>	Betty Patten, 39 Lamlash Place

**Thank you to everyone who kindly donate to the flowers which beautify the sanctuary during worship.**

If you would like to help in this so special outreach of love please add your name to the Flower List (on the wall outside the kitchen) or **speak to Aileen Hamilton or Rae Blagg**. This involves donating towards the cost of the flowers which both adorn our sanctuary and then give support to so many when delivered to homes after the service.



# Organisations & Activities

Sunday	11:00am	Morning Worship in Main Sanctuary
Sunday	11:00am	Crèche, Sunday school & Fusion
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	6:00pm	19 <sup>th</sup> Motherwell Rainbows
Monday	6:30pm	19 <sup>th</sup> Motherwell Brownies
Monday	7:00pm	19 <sup>th</sup> Motherwell Guides
Monday	7:30pm	Men's Club in Small Hall
Monday	7:30pm	Prayer Hour in Sanctuary Quiet Room
Tuesday	6:30pm	Hamilton Presbytery (1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday of Month)
Tuesday	6:30pm	Hamilton Presbytery Committees (3 <sup>rd</sup> 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 <sup>rd</sup> Motherwell Girls' Brigade
Wednesday	7:30pm	Young Adults Group (every 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday)
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 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of Month)
Thursday	7:30pm	Congregational Board in Small Hall (3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of Month)
Friday	6:00pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> Motherwell B.B. Anchor Boys
Friday	6:30pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> Motherwell B.B. Junior Section
Friday	7:00pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> Motherwell B.B. Company Section

# Caleb Radio

Listen to our weekly services along with some great Christian music and teaching on Caleb Radio. Online [www.calebradio.org](http://www.calebradio.org).

Apps are available for both iPhone and Android devices

## Reachout Project

Donations of tins, dried and packaged food are always welcome to help those less fortunate within our town.

Please place all donations in the box at the foot of the stairs near the small hall at the rear of the Church.

We are also looking for volunteers for this project, which helps the homeless. If you can help please contact Jean Stevenson.

## Next Edition of *Kirk Matters*

Please send your contributions for the next edition of  
***Kirk Matters***

to Linda Irvine, either via email [lirvine@athenadevelopment.co.uk](mailto:lirvine@athenadevelopment.co.uk)

or place in my pigeon hole

**no later than Sunday 7 February 2016**

# Thank You

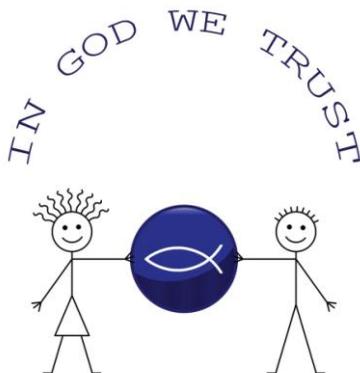
to **everyone** who helped produce and distribute *Kirk Matters* including;

EDITING: Linda Irvine

PRINTING: Helen Lawson

COLLATION: Margaret Anderson, Alex and Doreen Baird, Janette Black, Robert Crowe, May Johnston, Betty Morton, Margaret Reid, Irene Struthers, Margaret Walker, Eleanor Weir, Myra Davis.

DISTRIBUTION: Helen Lawson, along with the large team of volunteers who deliver our quarterly newsletter.



Remember for all the latest news and information you can visit our website [www.dalzielstandrews.org.uk](http://www.dalzielstandrews.org.uk) or follow us



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