



Tidings



September 2017
Harvest

MINISTER

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CHURCH - Mr David Leishman
MANSE - Mr Alex Stoddart

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Dear friends,

My mind is turned to dust. Not the dust and cobwebs that clutter my memory. Nor the dust that so easily gets forgotten about on skirting boards and the tops of books, though hopefully not our Bibles. Genesis reminds us that we are made of dust, and to dust we return, is that it? Countless generations bear testimony to that fact, but we're only getting warm. Yet, Holocaust survivor Elie Weisel posits "What is man? Dust turned to hope." In every generation is the stirring of hope and, allegedly, hope springs eternal. Thus it has been throughout history. And finally, we arrive at my interest: the dust of history. Not the history that bored me in school, but history and hope.

Our family summer holiday included a visit to the Protestant museum in La Rochelle, France, and a tour of the city's religious history. There we explored the change in fortunes of denominations, and Scots were at the forefront of providing support to the town. They were also celebrating 500 years since Martin Luther sparked the Protestant Reformation in 1517, and throughout the streets hung paper mache figures of reformers copying and carrying the Word. I hope we might do something special for this historic occasion at the end of October, though I draw the line at hanging effigies from the ceiling!.

We are familiar with our own history, and delight in marking it with various events. We note that our congregation began life no later than 1462, with the building of the collegiate church on the Palace grounds; we joined the Scottish Reformation of 1560; we moved church home to a building that we are rightly proud of, to the glory of God, in 1734; and celebrated 275 years of worship in this place in 2009. What a history, but what events have marked the passage of the years: the Covenanters of 1581; the Acts of Union in 1707; the Disruption of 1842; the Union of the



Church of Scotland in 1929; two World Wars, beside many others. Change upon change, but human nature remaining the same, and we hope beyond hope to see the effects of the kingdom of God.

Luther hoped that the Church might be reformed. But that was only the start, and the Church has continued to need that reforming spirit. *Reformata semper reformanda*, Reformed and always reforming. This doesn't always sit well with us as we like the comfort of the familiar. Sometimes we have to re-examine cherished beliefs and practices. What was true 500 years ago continues to be true today. For surely, "those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it" – *George Santayana*. And in another 500 years? Well I am reminded of the song "Where Will We Be in 100 Years from now", and minded that we are dust. But, will we have made our small mark on history? Will we have dared to hope? What is our hope?

Your Minister and Friend,
Ross

What's On

September

03	10.45am	Morning Worship - Sacrament of Baptism
	2.00pm	Bowls Afternoon
09	7.00pm	Quiz Night
10	10.45am	Sacrament of Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Evening Service - Sacrament of Holy Communion
12	7.30pm	Session Meeting
17	10.45am	Morning Worship - Battle of Britain Sunday
24	10.45am	Morning Worship - Boys' Brigade Dedication
	3.00pm	Woodburn Court

October

01	10.45am	Morning Worship - Harvest Thanksgiving
08	10.45am	Morning Worship
		Charity Lunch
15	10.45am	Morning Worship - Rev Norman McKee
22	10.45am	Morning Worship - Rev Norman McKee
	3.00pm	Woodburn Court
29	10.45am	Morning Worship - 500 Year Anniversary of the Reformation Service
	3.00pm	Woodburn Court

November

05	10.45am	Morning Service
		Bereavement Service
12	10.45am	Morning Worship - Remembrance Sunday
14	7.30pm	Session Meeting
19	10.45am	Morning Worship
25		Christmas Fayre
26	10.45am	Sacrament of Holy Communion
	3.00pm	Woodburn Court
	6.30pm	Evening Service - Sacrament of Holy Communion



Quiz Night

On 9 September 2017 we are holding a quiz Night in the North Hall. The cost will be £3 per person which includes a light refreshment and teams can be of any size.

This format will enable kids to compete against parents. Families to compete against family or just one smart person who wants to compete against the world.

It should be a fun night for the whole family.

Christmas Fayre

Due to the success of last year's Fayre it has been decided to hold another Fayre this year and it will take place within the Church Halls on 25 November 2017. The planning is at the early stages and the ideas are flowing freely. Anyone who has any ideas or feels they can help please contact myself.

Graham Horne



Stewardship and Finance

The annual letter from the Stewardship and Finance Department in 121 has been received thanking all members of the congregation for supporting the worship, mission and service of the Church through your offerings. Our contribution for 2016 was £87,187. Of this £73,237 will go towards the costs of providing over 1,000 ministers and other parish workers in communities throughout Scotland and in the Presbytery of England in 2017. This contribution also assists with the costs of recruitment and training. The balance of £13,950 will be used to support the Church's work in: resourcing congregations for Christian education and outreach; providing social care services in Christ's name to further the caring work of the Church to people in need; accompanying partners around the world on our shared Christian journey; providing central day-to-day service work in administrative, financial and legal matters and much more.

A percentage of this money comes back to Presbytery to be used to help local congregations with outreach projects. This year we were fortunate to receive a reduction in our Ministries and Mission contribution to help with the Holiday Club, the Passion Play and our support of Hyzone. With effect from this year, the amount Presbytery had available was reduced by the value of shortfalls from congregations unable to meet their contributions in full. This had an impact on what the local committee were able to distribute to congregations requesting reductions.

I am pleased to report that I have received four new Gift Aid declarations. If you pay enough tax to cover your offerings and would like a form, please either speak to myself or ask Andrea in the office for one. Also let me know if you have a declaration in place and stop paying tax or change address.

Marilyn Henderson

01698 427892



Choir

Summer months have now passed and all Church organisations now prepare to start a new Church Year of activities.

Choir mid week meetings will start on Wednesday 6 September at 7 p.m. in the Session room. Music copies up to Sunday 3rd September should be returned that night for filing.

New folders with music for the coming session can be uplifted from Sunday 27 August from pews in the side transept (organ side).

I look forward to seeing everyone back in each section and would welcome anyone who would like to come along and join us on Wednesday evening meetings to find out more about how we lead and support worship Sunday by Sunday.

Helen C Simpson

Organist



Anchor Boys

Our new session will begin on Wednesday 13 September and boys in P1 to P4 will be made more than welcome.

Our sessions which run from 5.30p.m. until 6.30pm contain a varied selection of stories, crafts and games. The main aims are for the boys to have fun and meet new friends.

Special events are held throughout the year and the boys will be notified by letter.

Nanette McLean

Leader in Charge

Crèche

A crèche is held in the Church Halls every Sunday from 10.30am until the end of the Church Service. If you would like to have a baby or a young child looked after during this time please come and see us in the room next to the Office.

Catherine Southgate



Boys' Brigade

All sections of the Boys' Brigade start the new session at their respective times on Wednesday 13 September.

Alistair Buttery
Captain

Guild
Be Bold Be Strong
Go in Love (Year 3)



Here we are again! Looking forward to the 17/18 session. The syllabus has been prepared and we go forward in love.

The dates for October/November are as follows:-

October 4	Rev R Blackman	Dedication
October 18	Rev N McKee	The Waverley
November 1	Street Pastor	Project Speaker
November 22	Financial AGM & Project update	Note change of date

See you all on 4 October.

Avril Boothroyd
Co-ordinator



Link Committee

Our next event will be our autumn concert which will be held on Saturday 28 October at 2.00pm in the Church Halls. The entertainment has still to be arranged but we will find someone good to entertain you.

Jim Naismith
Convener

Giveaway

8' x 6' aluminium greenhouse (2 years old)
Price £0

Removal from garden site at own expense.
Speak to Jim Gordon on 01698 721875

1970 Ladies Club

The first meeting of our new session will be on Thursday 14 September at 1.30pm.

14 September	St Kilda	Mr J Percival
28 September	Freerange Artfarm	Fiona MacGregor
12 October	Evelyn Mitchell Singer	
26 October	JFK	Roy Johnstone
9 November	Country Dancers	Alison Robertson
23 November	Old Hamilton	Rev Alasdair Gordon
7 December	Christmas Lunch	



We are looking forward to meeting up with present members and any ladies who would like to join us will be made most welcome.

Avril Cunningham
President

Saffronhall Singers

Our session came to a close at the end of March, when we enjoyed an evening of singing some of our favourite pieces and being entertained by some of our members. This was followed by an excellent supper and some chat. We were indebted to the Badminton Club for giving us the use of the North Hall.

Our new session begins on Monday 9 October, somewhat later than normal due to the choirmaster enjoying himself cruising round Italy!

Our diary, next session, is looking very healthy in that we have a number of engagements to look forward to. In November, we are singing at the Guild in Overton, in December we will return to the United Reform Church in Rutherglen and in February, we have been asked to an East Kilbride Church. In addition we have, of course, our own Carols by Candlelight, here in the church on Friday 8 December.

In the meantime, enjoy what remains of the summer months.

Campbell Barr



Monday Club

The Monday Club will start back on Monday 9 October at 1.30pm, members old and new are welcome and if you have a friend or neighbour, who would be interested to join us, do invite them along. Here is a list of dates and speakers for our first session:

Monday 9th October	Louis Munn.
Monday 23rd October	"Touch of Class"
Monday 6th November	Bill Barr [travel photos/ music]
Monday 20th November	Ian Thomson [V.I.P. & Royal Security]
Monday 27th November	Christmas Lunch
Monday 4th December	Mental Health.
Monday 8th January	Rev Ross Blackman
	followed by the Financial A.G.M.
Monday 22nd January	Alex Baird [Burns]

Charlie Duguid



Fellowship Committee

It was with regret, the annual golf day had to be cancelled as there were not enough players able to make it on the day. We can only hope for the competition to go ahead next year.

The proposed trip to Alnwick also had to be cancelled, again due to lack of numbers and consequently the potential cost, but we will look at a trip, possibly nearer home, for next time.

As at the time of writing, the Bowls day has been fixed for Sunday 3 September at Hamilton Bowling Club. More information will appear in the weekly intimation sheet. If you wish to join us for a day more of fun than serious bowling followed by a buffet meal in our halls, or even just to come for the buffet please get in touch with any member of the committee.

The annual Charity lunch will be held on Sunday 8 October following the morning service. Again, more information will follow.

We can also intimate that our Carols by Candlelight evening will be on Friday 8 December in the Church followed by tea, coffee and goodies in the halls.

On Sunday 10 December the congregational Christmas Lunch will be held, again following the morning Service. More info nearer the time.

Can we again appeal to members of the congregation for any hints or wishes about places to go next year to allow us time to make enquiries and/or bookings.

Meantime thanks for your support.

Iain McLean
Convener



Christian Aid Events 9th and 10th September Whitelee Windfarm, Eaglesham

The churches in Hamilton are participating together in these 2 sponsored events to raise funds to support the work of Christian Aid. I would urge you and family and friends to take part, if able.

On Saturday 9 September at 11am, there will be a 7 mile sponsored walk along the majestic turbines which will examine how climate change affects global communities. This event is for all ages.

On Sunday 10 September at 2pm, there is an event for youths aged 10-14 called The Safe Place Challenge. This is an outdoor adventure to help young people understand how to survive without home comforts. Each group of 4-5 (plus an adult leader) will work together to complete basic survival skill challenges including building a shelter, making a fire and finding clean water. The event will finish around 5pm.

Please contact me on 07572445853 if you would like more information or to note your interest in taking part.

Amanda Strachan



Polar Explorers



PIC•COLLAGE

Holiday Club 2017

Jing Xue (Deborah)
Chinese Theology Lecturer



A wee update from China. We received an email from Deborah (as we knew her). She had just finished her latest seminary and finally had got some time off. The pictures show her Church, some of the students and one which includes the lecturers. She is at the front wearing all white (even her shoes!!). She enjoyed her time in Scotland and has promised to keep in touch. Any news will be passed on as it arrives.

Betty and Dan Smith



Flower List 2017

September	03	Mrs McLean
	10	Mrs Downie
	17	Boys' Brigade
	24	Mrs McGilliard
October	01	Mrs Kerr
	08	Mrs Porter
	15	Mrs Keir
	22	Mrs Dick
	29	Mrs Lindsay
November	05	Mrs Stoddart
	12	Mrs MacLean
	19	Flower Fund
	26	Mrs Smith
December	03	Mrs MacLean
	10	Mrs Macintyre



Thank you to everyone who has gifted flowers over the past year. There are two dates available on the flower list - 20 August and 19 November - and several dates on the Rose Bowl.

E Gardiner

01698 427852

Flower Delivery



September	03	Mrs M Baird
	10	Mrs M Eadie
	17	Mrs L Smith
	24	Mrs M Green
October	01	Mrs A Munn
	08	Mrs M Frew
	15	Mrs S Nicholson
	22	Mrs J Jarvie
	29	Mrs F Brown
November	05	Mrs E Nelson
	12	Mrs J Dick
	19	Miss M Dyet
	26	Mrs N Naismith
December	03	Mrs N Barr
	10	Mrs M Henderson

Flowers are usually delivered after the Morning Service. If the date is unsuitable, please try to re-arrange or contact:

Kate Morrow

01698 420748

Rose Bowl List 2017

September	03	P Scott
	10	G Keir
	17	J Swinton
	24	M Gilbert
October	8	E Smith
	22	N Barr
	29	J Jardine
November	12	L Craig
	26	M Henderson
December	03	F McIntosh
	10	E Reid



Flower Circle

Would the members of the Flower Circle and anyone who is interested in helping to decorate the Church for Harvest please meet in the Halls on Friday 29 September at 9.30am. Greenery required please.

Elizabeth Gardiner

427852



THE Gift of TIME

The last wishes of Alexander the Great...On his death bed, Alexander summoned his army generals and told them his three ultimate wishes:

- 1. The best doctors should carry his coffin.*
 - 2. The wealth he has accumulated (money, gold, precious stones) should be scattered along the procession to the cemetery.*
 - 3. His hands should be let loose, so they hang outside the coffin for all to see.*
- One of his generals who was surprised by these unusual requests asked Alexander to explain.*
- Here is what Alexander the Great had to say:*

- 1. "I want the best doctors to carry my coffin to demonstrate that in the face of death, even the best doctors in the world have no power to heal."*
- 2. "I want the road to be covered with my treasure so that everybody sees that material wealth acquired on earth, will stay on earth."*
- 3. I want my hands to swing in the wind, so that people understand that we come to this world empty handed and we leave this world emptyhanded after the most precious treasure of all is exhausted, and that is:*

TIME.

We do not take to our grave any material wealth. TIME is our most precious treasure because it is LIMITED. We can produce more wealth, but we cannot produce more time.

When we give someone our time, we actually give a portion of our life that we will never take back. Our time is our life! The best present that you can give to your family and friends is your TIME.

May you be granted plenty of TIME, to share with all.



Entered into Eternal Life.

"I am the Resurrection and the Life"

God of grace and peace, in your Son Jesus Christ
 You have given us new birth into a living hope.
 Strengthen us now to live in the power of the resurrection
 and keep us united with our loved one
 from whom in death we are not divided;
 for You live and reign forever and ever. *Amen*

1 May 2017

Morag McGhie

16 May 2017

Laurence Mitchell

21 June 2017

Nancy Ballantyne

3 July 2017

Mary Donaldson

15 July 2017

Duncan MacGregor



Baptisms

"Let the children come to me"

18 June 2017

Harry Thompson



Almighty God,
 You have seen fit to record
 the dealings of your people in times past,
 as ensamples for our instruction.
 Yet, time and again,
 we plead your promise of forgiveness
 for the errors of war
 in our heart and home
 our community and our world.
 Forgive us our lack of forgiveness.

We are also informed
 that of the three virtues
 - of faith, hope, and love -
 the greatest of these is love.
 Indeed you are love
 and bid us to love you with our whole being,
 and our neighbour as ourselves.
 We are also aware that
 without faith we cannot please you well.
 But where would we be without a lively hope?

You are the God of the impossible.
 Lord, give us faith where we lack faith.
 Lord, give us a heart to love even our enemy.
 Lord, give us a lively hope
 through the resurrection of Christ
 to an inheritance that does not fade.

Let our history inform our present,
 and our present form our future,
 to your praise and glory.
 Amen.

