

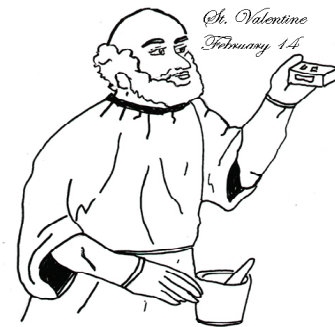
POLLOKSHIELDS CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, GLASGOW

Charity Number SCO13690

No. 5

February 2011

# NEW VISION



He was put in jail because it was illegal to be a Christian in the third century. He was a priest, a healer and a good & kind man. While Saint Valentine was in prison, he helped and taught the blind daughter of the prison guard. Right before he was executed, he wrote a good-bye note to the girl and signed it "your Valentine".

## Our Mission Statement:

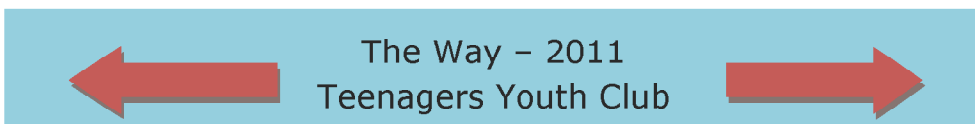
‘Showing forth the Love of Christ  
in a  
Multi-Faith Community’

Minister:	The Rev David Black	423 4000
Session Clerk:	Mrs Mary Morrison	632 1659

6 <sup>th</sup> February	Morning Worship
13 <sup>th</sup> February	Morning Worship
20 <sup>th</sup> February	Morning Worship
27 <sup>th</sup> February	Morning Worship



**JESUS**



Dates for the next few meeting of The Way in the Fotheringay Centre at 6:00pm on Sunday evenings are 20<sup>th</sup> February, 27<sup>th</sup> March, 17<sup>th</sup> April, 15<sup>th</sup> May and 19<sup>th</sup> June.

All teenagers are welcome.



## Message from the Manse

Whilst the sudden snow and subsequent chaos created by ice and cold severely hampered our services over the Advent and Christmas period, it did nothing to hamper the generosity of you, our members.

We raised over £15,000 from our Gift Day and when tax is recovered on the Gift-Aided contributions this will rise to our £20,000 target. So we start the New Year with a big thank you even as we must encourage you to keep on making a similar effort in 2011.

This will be a year of change as several major issues facing the church as a national institution come to the fore at this year's Assembly, and locally the Presbytery develops its response to the need to cut ministry posts by 2014. We also hope to have a Feasibility Study completed on our buildings, so that together with the General Trustees of the Church we can develop the Hall and Sanctuary complex in the most appropriate way for ourselves and future generations here. More on that at our Annual Stated Meeting in March.

This year also celebrates the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the King James Bible being printed. It is a key focus for how the Protestant faith spread across our country and its influence on all aspects of life for many centuries. In thinking about and celebrating that event, we can reflect on how we can be a radical and innovative in sharing the Gospel with others today. We have already started the year with one special service ourselves, and there are plenty of events to

participate in during the year, including the Bible Society's plan to have people across Scotland write "The People's Bible".

Our faith is not in a book but in the truth that book reveals to us of the God who sent his Son to be the Saviour of the world. May we learn more of that truth in this New Year?

Best wishes

**Rev David R Black**

## To Thank You

This note is to thank everyone who has donated to the work of the Church in 2010 using their Weekly Freewill Offering envelopes. Your support and generosity is very much appreciated.

As always, please "thank you" approach anyone would like me personal letter stating for the year then please do not hesitate to make contact with me on (0141) 423 8421.

### **OFFERING**



excuse the en masse via NEW VISION. If to send them a their total contribution

Thank you all once again.

**Murray Henderson**

## Nativity Service

A photographic developer is a chemical used in a darkroom to develop and reveal a latent image for all to see. An ecclesiastical developer, like our Minister, works to develop and reveal latent talent in a congregation for all to enjoy.

In the latter months of last year, David and those who attended the "Hear: I AM" series had been exploring the events leading up to Christmas. He felt the need to breakaway from the traditional nativity play where children stand round and mime shepherds and wise men and characters like Joseph and Mary, while someone reads out the Christmas story.

The result – let the grownups present a nativity play. Was it a gamble? Not really, but if it had been it would have paid off,

for volunteers became shepherds and wise men, inn keepers, Gabriel and of course Mary and Joseph. And let's not forget a very imperious Herod! They wrote their own scripts and worked out their various stage directions.

With sound effects including grunts of camels and the bleating of sheep (thanks to the Harts) the nativity story unfolded "Scenes" were played out in different parts of the chancel. The congregation added carols as appropriate, and readers included Ailsa Henderson, who read clearly Micah's prophecy of the birth and work of Jesus.

Some of the children from Junior Church, suitably costumed, joined in the final tableau. This added to the feeling that this was a "whole church" act of worship.

**Douglas Miller**

## Hear I AM

A phenomenal success story.

Twelve monthly events.

Over twenty elders leading groups, organising prayer and reading and discussion materials.

An average of twenty other people involved in each topic from how to be the church to poverty issues and a fresh look at Christmas.

All rounded off by a Nativity Play which deserved far greater audience than was able

to get to see it because of the weather.

So what next?

Have your say.

Tell your elder what inspired you, challenged you and even what you enjoyed doing!

Lent will see the beginning of at least one new group and please remember the most fundamental continuing legacy of this whole series is our prayer group supporting us all in prayer before the Lord

**David R Black**

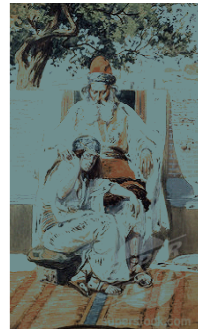
Little People who have made a Big Impression  
ABISHAG  
A Royal Hot-water Bottle

When little Abishag from Shunam, near Jezreel, was growing up into a beautiful young girl she could hardly have imagined that her destiny was to be a royal hot-water bottle.

King David's life was almost over. In his old age he could not keep warm, even when well covered up. His servants hatched a plot. They found a beautiful young virgin and took her to the king. Her name was Abishag, and she tended the king. She kept him warm in bed, but according to the Bible she remained a virgin.

We know nothing of her background or of what happened to her immediately after King

died. Though in a sense she was one of the "little people" she nevertheless made a big impression, as we read about her obedience, and what may have been her sacrifice, some 3,000 years later.



P.S. She had certainly made an impression on Adonijah, one of David's sons. He asked for her as his wife. Solomon, another of David's sons, now king, was so outraged at this that he had Adonijah killed - another instance of how, albeit indirectly, she left behind her a big impression.

**Douglas Miller**

## QUIZ:

## Food for Thought

Here is a letter from a schoolboy to his father with the usual complaints about the food. But this young man is so concerned about his stomach that he has hidden the names of 42 edible items in the text. The first (JAM) appears in the name of the school. See if you can find the rest. If you score over 30, consider yourself a gourmet! There are three drinks to find too- to wash down the midnight feast

Answers on page 8

*St James' Hall  
Ottervale  
Monday*

*Dear Dad*

*I've already arrived at school. I've rapidly decided it's one of the tougher kind. The house master has some boys terrified, and I find the grub utterly foul. I'm eating it, but with a real effort. I am being roused sharp at eight every morning when a teacher rings a bell. Lessons start at nine.*

*I sort of feel very fed up that we can't pick lessons. Yesterday, reading in German got me screaming mad (from despair I mean, not anger). In English though, the master is so lenient, and such a waffler, that we waste time. Long for games.*

*One request for a disco next week met with a refusal. Monday week Eric and young Bunter, whose father is a USA general, are going to America via Reykjavik by ship.*

*Love Richi*

*P.S. Parents can send hampers; I'm monstrous hungry and am so nervous about appearing in the school play.*

## The Lodging House Mission

Very many thanks to all who bought Christmas cards in aid of the Lodging House Mission raising the sum of £423. Thanks, too, to those who gave toiletries and socks.

Without such help from churches like us the Lodging House Mission could not survive and so is most grateful.

But what do you know about the Lodging House Mission? A place where the homeless can be fed? A shelter from the rain? It is both of these but so very much more.

In the recent cold weather about 130 people, mostly men, came seeking help. Food is one of their main concerns. The charge for a three course lunch is £1. Or, if that is too much, soup is free, a main course is 65p and a pudding is 35p. Tea and coffee are free.

Obviously these meals cost more to make and so all donations are very much appreciated

When encountering a beggar and wanting to help but feeling that money might be spent on alcohol or drugs why not give a meal voucher for the Lodging House Mission? These cost £1 and can be had from me. Shelter from the cold and rain is also high on the list and of course the Lodging House Mission offers this with activities such as pool, table tennis, TV and chat with friends.

But the Lodging House Mission offers much more than this - medical advice, help with drug and alcohol addiction and other problems, a listening ear, encouragement, help with form filling and phone calls, activities and outings, the chance to make a new start

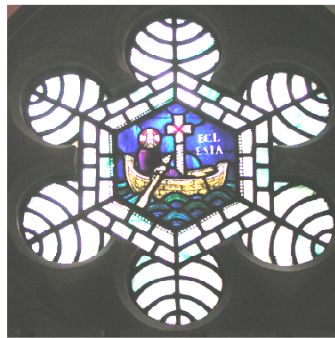
with opportunities for training, education and assistance with housing, and the availability of the chaplain who listens, offers prayers, worship and spiritual help, perhaps the only contact with Christianity many of those who visit the Mission have.

Again, many thanks to all of you who have helped the

Lodging House Mission as it seeks to fulfil the command of Jesus to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and show care and concern for those in need.

P.S. Our offerings from the Watchnight Service and the Christmas Day Service raised the amount of £406.44 for the Lodging House Mission.

**Elva Carlisle**



### **Quiz Answers from page 6**

After *JAM*, the other edible items appear in this order.  
*Shallot Lemon, Veal, Olive, Liver, Gherkin, Oyster, Pate, Herring, Tart, Toffee, Eel, Elver, Pickles, Ginger, Mango, Cream, Tangerine, Rissole, Sole, Waffle, Melon, Game, Scone, Salmon, Almond, Candy, Bun, Sausage, Caviare, Plover, Chips, Ham, Persimmon, Damson, Pea, Pear.*

The three drinks are: *Ale, Gin and Tea*

## **THE GUILD**

The Guild theme for 2010 - 2011  
"Called to Love Mercy"

### **February Meetings**

MONDAY 14 <sup>TH</sup>	ST VALENTINE'S DAY
MONDAY 21 <sup>ST</sup>	R.N.L.I. (Lifeboats)
MONDAY 28 <sup>TH</sup>	"LET'S TALK"

PLEASE NOTE ALL FEBRUARY MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT 2PM

Visitors are always welcome at all our meetings

### **Rainbows**

Rainbows meet on Tuesday 6:00pm – 7:00pm for ages 5 – 7 years in the Hall. Rainbows play games; do craft work and have lots of fun. They then progress to Brownies at the age of 7 years.

### **Brownies**

Brownies meet on Wednesday 5:30pm – 7:10pm for ages 7 – 11 years in the Hall. Brownies are involved in badge work, games and have lots of fun.  
They progress to Guides at the age of 11 years.

### **Guides**

Guides meet on Wednesday 7:30pm – 9:00pm for ages 11 – 15 years in the Hall. Guides play games, learn to cook and work towards Guide badges.

## ACTIVITIES held at OUR CHURCH

### SUNDAY

10:15am	Church Choir	(Church)
11:00am	Junior Church	(Church + Hall)
11:00am	Crèche	(Church + Session Room)
3:30pm	Scottish Asian Christian Fellowship	(Hall 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in month)

### MONDAY

12:00–1:00pm	Lunch Club	(Session Room)
2:00pm or 7:30pm	The Guild	(Alternate Weeks)

### TUESDAY

6:00pm–7:00pm	Rainbow Guides	(Ages 5-7 years)
7:30pm	Kirk Session	(1 <sup>st</sup> of month)
7:30pm	Bible Study	(2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4th of month)

### WEDNESDAY

9:45am–10:00am	Midweek Service	(Session Room)
10:00am–11:45am	Coffee Break	(Hall)
5:30pm–7:10pm	Brownies	(Ages 7-11 years)
7:30pm–9:00pm	Guides	(Ages 11-15 years)
7:15pm–8:15pm	Church Choir	

### THURSDAY

12:00– 1:00pm	Lunch Club	(Session Room)
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### FRIDAY

10:00am – 12:00	Parent & Toddler Group	(Hall)
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