

POLLOKSHIELDS CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, GLASGOW

Charity Number SCO13690

No. 9

June 2011

NEW VISION



Thinking of Summer

Our Mission Statement:

*Showing forth the love of Christ in
a Multi-Faith Community*

SUNDAY SERVICES IN JUNE

5th June Morning Worship

12th June Sacrament of Holy Communion

19th June Guest Preacher

26th June Morning Worship



The Way – 2011
Teenagers Youth Club



Date for the next meeting of The Way in the Fotheringay Centre at 6:00pm on Sunday evenings is the 19th June.

All teenagers are welcome.

Thanks to everyone who is involved with the New Vision.
Hope you have a good Summer

Copy date of the next New Vision is 21st August



Message from the Manse

Can you move forward and yet stay in the same place?
The church can.

Its building can remain at the heart of the community and parish, yet it, and the congregation which gathers in it each week, can change and grow.

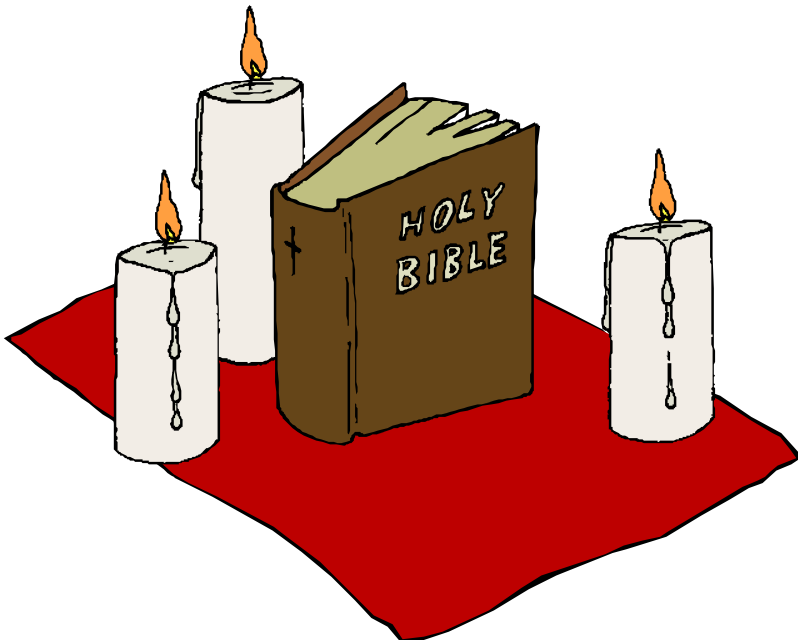
We have set a challenge for growth before ourselves.
Internally: to grow in our financial support for the work we do and share in locally and nationally as part of the Church of Scotland
Externally: to use the grant we have received from the General Trustees to develop the building in such a way that our vision of what it means to be a parish church in 21st century might be realised.

So it was good to hear at our meeting with Presbytery representatives last month two of our younger members take the lead in explaining how much we do both for the church and the community. It is staggering to think how many of us have some form of direct community involvement beyond church activities – from flower clubs to pastoral support; from community action and housing to cricket clubs and community choirs.

We are living out the truth that the church is not about Sunday or Bible study or events we attend but about how we take the Good News of Jesus and make it real in the lives we live amongst our friends and neighbours whatever

faith they do or don't have. We build our faith by our learning and worshipping together, but we share the Gospel by how we put that into practice day by day in the things we choose to do, in how we relate to everyone else we meet. And our new challenges are just our putting into words the development of such faith in action

David Black



Christian Aid works with project partners all over the world to support people to help themselves out of poverty. They aim to tackle the root causes of poverty as well as the effects. They support projects and work on issues as varied as income generation, farming cooperatives, HIV, Aids and Malaria community based healthcare, human rights and disaster relief. They also campaign at a government level for policy change on issues such as fair trade and climate change.

Sunday 22nd May saw our annual Christian Aid service to celebrate Christian Aid Week. Having asked members of the congregation to fill collection boxes we raised a fantastic £808.02 this year. Which will also increase after gift aid contributions have been included.

There are around 1 billion people across the world surviving on less than \$1 a day. We can't end this cycle of poverty unless we work together. I would like to thank everyone who contributed to our total this year, who encouraged friends and family to do the same and who prayed for the work of Christian Aid. Remember: Christian Aid work for people all year, not just in Christian Aid Week!

Can I also please say a big thank you to all those who helped count after the service and figure out how to bank £800 of coins!

Christian Aid
We believe in life before death

Shona Morrison

Maundy Thursday Service
Mandatum Novum -

from "A new command I give you;
Love One Another" - (John 13.34)

"Love One Another" - centuries ago sovereigns enacted the fulfilment of this command by washing the feet of the poor. Nowadays that ceremony has been replaced by the distribution of alms, Maundy Money.

Last month our Maundy Thursday service celebrated the Last Supper, which followed Jesus' washing the disciples' feet.

For a number of weeks the Lenten Study Group had been exploring various facets of prayer, including the use of poetry and art as a way of thinking, about, and into, prayer.

A painting of The Last Supper was projected on to a screen in the chancel throughout the first part of the service. It had earlier inspired the Group to write prayers themselves and to reflect on what the disciples might at that time have been feeling.

Simon the Zealot was one of those scared and angry men gathered around the table, keyed up with excitement about the approaching Passover. They may have had hopes for the start of an uprising. Simon was looking and waiting for an independent Israel. Judas, tormented by self-doubt, wanted

Jesus to speak out and free his brothers from the yoke of tyranny, and show the world that Jesus truly was the Messiah.

That painting of The Last Supper focused on Jesus himself and on the bread in his hands and on the cup, as tangible signs of grace, and invited us to do so too.

The command "Love One Another" inspired the Group to compose prayers. One of them, following the Haiku style with lines of 5,7,5,7,7 syllables, was about hunger:

Hunger

As famine takes life

We regard complacently

Pot-bellied children.

Fill us Lord with compassion;

Inspire and enable us.

To open the second part of the Maundy Service the Choir gave us "A new commandment... Love one another" and the congregation sang the hymn "Twas on the night..."

The minister called worshippers to "Come to this table to meet the Living God, the Risen Christ." And led the celebration of Holy Communion.

Douglas Miller.

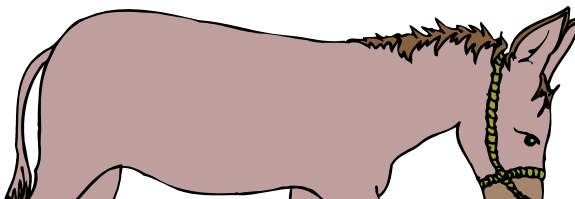
DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MINISTER'S DONKEY

A man bought a donkey from a minister. He was told that the donkey walked on the command "Hallelujah!" and stopped on "Amen". The man mounted the donkey and gave the command "Hallelujah!" and the donkey began to walk. They trekked for many miles until the man saw the edge of a cliff was imminent but he had forgotten the command to stop the donkey!

"Whoa" he cried, but the donkey kept on walking. "Stop!" but still the donkey plodded on and the edge of the cliff came nearer. Finally the man offered up a desperate prayer, "Dear God in the name of our lord Jesus Christ, let this beast stop. "Amen!" On hearing "amen" the obedient donkey stopped, right at the cliff edge. So relieved was the man he looked heavenward and exclaimed,

"Hallelujah!"

(Reproduced by kind permission of Eastwood Parish Church from their magazine 'CROSS BEAM' which previously appeared in Barrhead South and Levern Church of Scotland's Newsletter?)



THE HOLIDAY CLUB

Hi all

'The name's Bond.....' Well, actually, no it's not but this year's holiday club is called Mission Rescue, and is based on a spy theme. Each day the children will try and solve puzzles based on the book of Exodus. The children will learn how God rescued his people from slavery in Egypt, and how he still rescues people today. Through the usual mix of story telling, drama, crafts, games, and songs, we will go on a journey together which will be fun and engaging. We will be transported back in time to the days when God's people found themselves at the mercy of another people, and find out how God put in place a plan to rescue them. We will also find out how God still has a plan to rescue his people in 2011 and beyond. The team have been busy planning the activities for this year and are getting excited at what lies ahead in the week of 8th - 12th August at Pollokshields Parish Church when we will get together from 10.00 am - 12.00 pm. Any children of primary school age are more than welcome to come along, and any older children who feel they would like to help out will also be made very welcome. We encourage you to bring your children along and join a spy ring and help us find out how God did something really amazing! It could be the most fun they've had in a long time, and it could be the most fun you have had in a long time when you listen to their tales of espionage! The scene is set for a memorable week, now all we need is some spies. See you there!

Paul Cathcart

Little People who have made a Big Impression

The Widow and her Mites

God has always had a soft spot for widows. With aliens and the fatherless they appear time and again in Jewish Law. For example they were to be allowed to glean in the fields and orchards, and should be given an allowance from tithes.

However the Jews did not always obey the commands as generously as they should. The widow Zarephat had just tiny portions of flour and oil, to eat before she died. Years later Luke tells of some Greek widows who were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.

Both Mark and Luke tell of a widow who put into the temple treasury "two very small copper coins worth only a fraction of a penny." Jesus saw this and told his disciples that she had put in "everything... all she had to live on."

One can imagine her looking at these two coins and choosing between giving them to God and buying a little food for herself.

By the standards of today the widow was only "one of the little people" but her selfless sacrifice made an impression on Jesus, his disciples, and 2,000 later on us.

Douglas Miller

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.

Rainbow session finishes in June and restarts in September.

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.

Brownies session finishes in June and restarts in September.

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.

Guides session finishes in June and restarts in September.

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 st 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 st of month)
7:30pm	Bible Study	(2 nd & 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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