



Prestongrange Church Newsletter June 2017



Dear friends,

As you will have noticed, restoration work on the church building has begun with the gable end receiving attention. The sums involved are hefty with over £30,000 being spent on the stonework. We've had to divert (with permission) a grant of £8,000 from the Baird Trust to help meet the cost with the rest coming from limited reserve funds. On top of this we are still looking at £190,000 for the roof restoration and around £6,500 to electrify the tower clock and to get it back chiming again! The council are also busy doing some repair work on the exterior wall to render it safe. With the wall down, it gives a different perspective on the church building which has been appreciated while it lasts.

While we have custodian responsibilities for our 16th century church building, we are reminded that our calling is to build the church of God which is the people of God who have come to a living faith in Christ and who are called to present the Saviour to a lost and broken society.

The psalmist says:

“What we have heard and known, what our fathers have told us, we will not hide them from their children; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done. (Ps. 78.4)

We have a message to pass on to the next generation and it is a message of hope and assurance: that God has given us a Saviour in Christ who died to forgive our sin and to give us the gift of forgiveness and salvation that we might have a reason and purpose for living— to know and enjoy God and to know real life through Christ. Who else is going to pass on that message? Who else is going to seek out a lost generation (including an older one too) and to call a people back to the living God in true repentance and in living faith? The telling lyrics of the charts song (by Rag 'n' Bone Man) get to the heart of things:

Maybe I'm foolish
Maybe I'm blind
Thinking I can see through this
And see what's behind
Got no way to prove it
So maybe I'm blind
But I'm only human after all
I'm only human after all
Don't put your blame on me .

Human we are— and foolish and blind— we certainly are, but we can't escape the blame for our human predicament. We are culpable before a holy God for our rebellion and defiance against him. However, the good news is that God is building a community of faith for himself -

(continued)

A church made up of “living stones.”

(1 Peter 2.5) and fitted together that we may “declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.”

Yours in God's building project,

Kenneth Donald.

mega makers!

A week of fun, invention and Bible teaching.

This year we're going to be inventors and engineers exploring the stories of Jesus and how wide, deep and strong God's love for us is!

Forms coming soon. If you would like one please contact email/numbers below.

Also if you are interested in being part of the team please get in touch too!

lindsayemmastewart@hotmail.co.uk
07515516217

prestonpanssuholidayclub@gmail.com

Gala Day

Sat.17th. June. 11am-3pm.

Helpers required to help with crafts for kids and giving out free “Bags of blessing”!

See Heather or Jane if you are able to help.

Sunday 4th. June

11am service with celebration of the Lord's supper.

Sunday 25th. June

11.am. Family service followed by church picnic in in the church hall grounds.

WELCOME TEAMS

We are seeking to recruit additional welcomers on to our team who would welcome people as they arrive on a Sunday (& also uplift the offering). If you are interested in this important service, please speak to Jane or Barbara.

JOHN CARBRAY

Following the recent death of John Carbray from a very brief encounter with quite an unusual strain of lung cancer, his granddaughter, Lucy Carbray-Johnson and his daughter, Fiona Carbray-Johnson are taking part in Cancer Research's Race for Life 10k on Sunday 25th June. This will be 2 days after what would have been John's 77th birthday. He is sorely missed by so many but we hope monies raised from this race will make it possible for fewer people to suffer such losses. (Fiona).

If anyone would like to sponsor either Lucy or Fiona, you can do so by speaking to them at church where they will have a sponsor sheet or alternatively, "www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Lucy-Hope-Carbray

Contacts:

Minister - Kenneth Donald
Ph: 01875 813643
kwdonald@hotmail.co.uk

Session Clerk Jane Hepburn
Ph: 610758 hpbrnfmly@aol.com

We give thanks to God for John's life and for his service among us on the congregational board of Prestongrange church.

John was always willing to serve in practical ways at the church, hall and manse. His gentleness and kindness and his endearing smile as well as his warm humour endeared him to many.

We treasure the memories that remain of our dear friend and commend Eileen, Fiona & Lucy to the love and care of our heavenly Father.

Funerals:

James Douthier
Willie Davie
Betty Dailly
Etta Fraser
John Cunningham
Jean MacKenzie
Thomas Hardie
Agnes Robertson
Kate Wynn
Jeanette Hillhouse
Bobby Buchanan
John Carbray
Mary Brown
Jim Kinross
Ellen Martin

Weddings:

Christopher Dixon & Lindsay Stewart
Scott Melville & Samantha Dalgleish

Safe Families for Children

Hear Alan Gray speak to us about how we could consider offering alongside support to families in our area who would value our help.
SUNDAY 25th June 11a.m. Service.



Thursday Teas in the hall 2-4pm

Last Thursday of the month
(25th May,
29th June)

No teas in July
or August.

