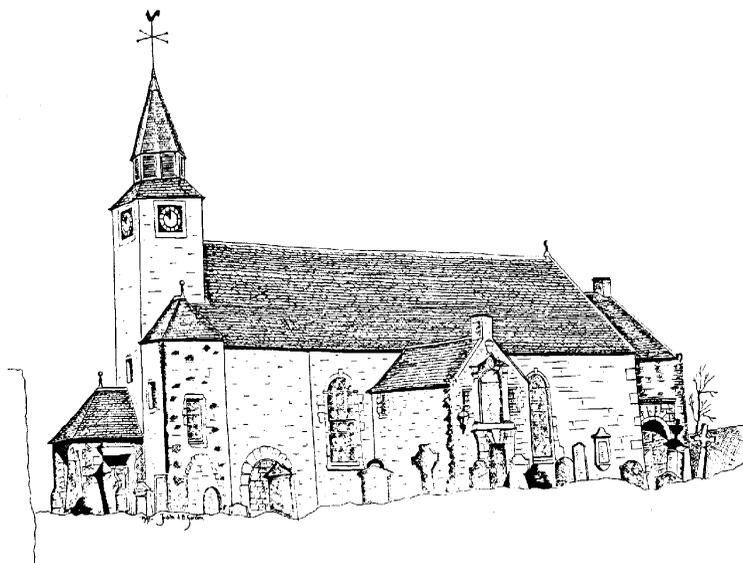


PANS POST

Sept-Nov 2017



Dear friends,

One thing that has been encouraging and satisfying over this Summer has been to experience partnership in the gospel and to sense a desire for developing relationships and richer fellowship within the life of our church. It was such a blessing to see a team of 25 drawn from all the churches working together in the Holiday Club as we shared the gospel with 60 children. It has also been good to see a home group set up at David & Trish Johnson's home where we can explore the Scriptures together and spend time in prayer.

In the morning devotions during the holiday club, we were thinking about Paul's prayer for the church at Ephesus: "I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints (the people of God), to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge- that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God." (Ephesians 3. 17-19). Paul knew that in order to experience the full dimensions of God's love, it had to be a "together thing". If we distance ourselves from one another, we will have a diminished experience of God's love and his working and our growth into maturity of faith will be sorely hindered. That is why it is important to identify with the local expression of the church (the body of Christ) and to find our place in the body of Christ so that we might enjoy the rich diversity of faith's expression and the complementary gifts of the family of God and find a place of belonging and acceptance where we can grow in our faith and understanding.

Our longing is to see increased desire for the glory of God and its expression in lives earnestly seeking to worship God and to be used of Him in the challenging and exciting adventure of faith. There is that sense that we are "on to something" and that there is much more to come in terms of the blessing of God as we seek His will for our lives individually and corporately. There is that challenge that the Lord gave to his people after crossing the Red Sea when he said to them: "Listen carefully to the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in his eyes." (Exodus 15.26). That is why we place such an important emphasis on the reading and teaching of God's word that we might know his

As we recently thought about in our studies in Exodus, God's people were told that they should collect and preserve an amount of manna so that future generations could see the evidence of God's miraculous provision for his people during their 40 years in the desert before reaching the promised land of Canaan. The question was asked, "What evidence is there in our own lives that the next generation may see and hear about that would speak of the Lord's faithfulness and goodness to us?" Others are looking at our lives and the only thing that will wash with them is the evidence of a transformed life that Christ brings about as we trust in Him. If we can point to the undeserved and total love of God for us in Christ and speak of his grace that changes us within and brings the hope and certainty of salvation, then surely that will provide incontrovertible evidence of how good and great God is. Let us pray that the evidence of God's work among us may continue and increase and that the beauty of His holiness may be seen in us and desired by others.

May the Lord bless you as you walk with Him,

National Prayer Weekend 29th September - 1st October 2017

The national prayer weekend is an opportunity to make God's love known to those around you. Local people praying for their community can and does change lives.

"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, And thanksgivings be made for all people".
(1 Tim. 2:1 ESV)

The idea is simple: ask people in your local area whether they would like prayer, then gather prayer requests together and pray for them during the National Prayer Weekend.

**For more information visit
www.national-prayer-weekend.com**

'Raising the Roof Recipe Book'

The deadline has now
passed for tried and
tested
recipes to be included in
the "Raise the Roof Rec-
ipe Book".

Thank you to everyone who
has contributed.

The recipes are currently
being collated
and will go to print
soon.

It is hoped the books
will be ready to go
on sale during November,
in time for
Christmas



Yvonne Baillie

BETHANY

Again, thanks to all who supported our catering for and offerings to Bethany last season, especially the catering teams who not only cooked but provided the ingredients for three Shelter evening meals. Building on that, I have offered our help at three Shelters this winter, one definite on 31st October, one proposed on 26th December and a third to be arranged for a date in 2018.

Once again, I ask that members of the congregation will support us with prayers and donations of money to buy breakfasts, treats of sweets, biscuits and fruit and any good quality warm clothing, deodorant, tissues, toothpaste and toothbrushes and other items you may think of.

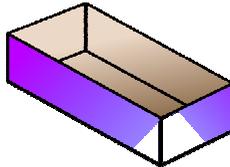
If you'd like to join the catering teams, please discuss it with me- it's not cordon bleu, just family meals but for a bigger family!

As the nights draw in, please let's give thanks for the blessing of a roof and a warm bed and remember those who need the Bethany Shelters.

Thanks,

Sandra Marshall.

Blythewood Shoebox Appeal 2017



Any donations of shoe boxes will be gladly received,. Leaflets will be available from the church; with details of what can be included.

The last date for boxes to be dropped off at church will be Sunday 5th November 2017.

Church Roof

Prestongrange Church has received initial support from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for essential repairs to the Church Roof. We have also received Development funding of £4,500 to help us progress our plans to apply for a further grant next year.

Our next step is to tender for conservation accredited architects to help us with the work required to take us forward to the next stage of our application, which is due to be submitted by June next year.

It has been a long journey to get this far and we have been advised that we are fortunate to have been chosen, as there was a lot of competition for this funding. There is still much work to do including engagement with the community, developing baseline information against which we will be measured in the future and further fundraising. We will shortly have a small Project Team in place to take this forward but we will need the prayers and support of the congregation.

We have issued a press release which you can see on the Church Facebook page and the website. You can also see the invitation to tender on these pages.

Organ Loft

You will have witnessed the work to repair the organ loft over the past few months. Finally, this work has been completed, the scaffolding is down and you can see the results.

We have been able to meet most of the cost of this work through a grant of £16,068 from Viridor and a further grant of £8,000 from the Baird Trust. We are grateful to both organisations for this funding. We will be sending letters of thanks to both organisations and will display acknowledgement of the funding on the Church noticeboard.

A lot of work went into achieving this funding and in overseeing the work. Thank you to everyone who provided me with letters of support last year. These, along with support from our local councillors, MP and MSP and from the organisations who use the Church, helped us to demonstrate the Church's importance in the community.

I would also like to thank Jane Hepburn for all her help in taking forward this work in addition to the considerable work she does as Session Clerk.

Linda Watters

CrossReach Week: Be Part of it!

CrossReach Week 2017 takes place from Sunday 24th– Friday 29th September.

This year's Moderator, Rt. Rev. Dr. Derek Browning, wants to make mental health the main theme of his time with CrossReach and will visit services which offer perinatal mental health support, plus places which offer touching points with people such as drop-in centres. Dr. Browning helped to launch our Grey Cake Bake at the General Assembly when he took part in a competition with Youth Moderator Andrew MacPherson. Grey Cakes are grey on the outside but colourful inside, symbolising the ability and potential of everyone, even when covered by the grey fog of anxiety or depression.

Dr. Browning told Life and Work: "What CrossReach does in its many different guises is to put hands of care on to our Christian faith. I am looking forward to CrossReach Week and hope to visit a wide variety of projects in different parts of the country. By putting a spotlight, even for a brief moment, on some of the outstanding work that is carried out in the name of Christ and His Church, then that must be an encouragement not only to the many staff and volunteers involved in the work of CrossReach, but also to the wider Church which should be proud of the work we support. Maybe it might inspire some more people to find ways to help in their own congregations or communities, or with a nearby

CrossReach Week will be launched on Social Care Sunday at a service in Coldside Church in Isla Street, Dundee on 24th September at 4pm to which everyone is invited. For the latest news

about CrossReach Week please check our website: www.crossreach.org.uk

Creating a Dementia Friendly Church

Clarkston Churches Together in Glasgow are hosting a free event, 'Creating a Dementia Friendly Community', in partnership with CrossReach on Saturday 7th October in St. Aidan's Church (Stenhouse) from 10am - 3pm. The Open Day will feature a Keynote Address by Andy Lowndes (co-founder with Sally Magnusson of 'Playlist for Life'), plus a number of workshops run by CrossReach including: 'Communication and Dementia' and 'Heart for Art and Creativity'. The aim of the day is to reduce the stigma surrounding dementia and to raise awareness of the support available in the Clarkston area. Representatives from organisations and initiatives supporting people who have dementia will be there to chat with you. As it's a

'Pop-In' style event, no booking is necessary but to avoid disappointment,

if you'd like to attend one of the workshops, please book your place in advance by e-mailing:

‘In Giving of Ourselves, we Receive’

For one day every year, the Church of Scotland’s Church and Society Council staff team devote time to reflecting on their work and to strengthening the bonds between the individual team members. This year, they chose to take a first-hand approach and to connect with an issue they frequently speak out about on at national and local levels – homelessness.

When they heard that the foyer of CrossReach’s homeless service in Edinburgh, Cunningham House, was in need of freshening up, they decided to spend the morning painting this first point of ‘welcome’ to the service. Slightly nervous and not really knowing what to expect, the team arrived armed with their brushes, paint and overalls. Afterwards, we caught up with team member Andrew Tomlinson who said: “We saw first-hand something of the realities facing people who have no home, and will draw from this experience when addressing issues of homelessness in the future. The team engaged in other activities later on in the day but the highlight for each and every one of us was the time we spent at Cunningham House.

It’s a privilege to know we have played a small part in creating the initial ‘welcome’ to the service. In giving of ourselves, we have truly received.” Our thanks to the Church and Society team for all their

hard work to provide this wonderful facelift to the Cunningham House foyer.

Speak Out for CrossReach

Why not become a volunteer Regional Speaker? Our speakers are vital to Cross-

Reach’s work and its positive impact on communities in Scotland. As a Regional Speaker you will be equipped and trained to speak change into your community. You can volunteer as often or little as you like and at times that suit you. You might be asked to speak at one or several of the following: Churches; Schools; Guilds; Universities; Coffee mornings or Youth Fellowships.

Why be a Regional Speaker?

- ◆ Speak about something you care about
- ◆ Use your passion to enthuse others
- ◆ Impact local groups and communities
- ◆ Gain skills and experience

How do you volunteer? Contact: supporters@crossreach.org.uk for an application form.

Download your copy of CrossReach News!

Issue 3 of CrossReach News in 2017 is now available. In this edition you can read

about the latest developments from our Children and Family Services, there’s

a ‘Focus On’ the Year of Young People 2018, and ‘Me and My Job’ features care

practitioner Leeann Mitchell from Finniecroft Farm. You can download CrossReach

News at: www.crossreach.org.uk/resources-0. And if you would like to be added

to our mailing list to receive future editions free of charge, please email:

Race for Life 10k

On 25th June Fiona and Lucy Carbray-Johnson completed the Cancer Research Race for Life 10k. This was run in memory of a very special Dad and Grandad, John Carbray who was sadly lost to cancer in May.

Thank you so much to everyone who donated. A total in excess of £800 was raised for this great cause. Thank you



Summer Fayre

A huge “ Thank you” to all who helped and those who supported the Summer Fayre on Aug 26th. An amazing **£1356** was raised and a good afternoon was had by all. A lot of hard work but it was well worth it with this amount being raised towards the cost of the roof repair.

Thank you to John Fraser who kindly donated framed photos he had taken of the local area to help us in our bid to raise funds.



East Lothian Foodbank

You can now donate to East Lothian Foodbank by text message from your mobile phone.

Just text **ELFB01** to **70070** stating the amount you would like to donate. Anything from £1 - £10.



Scottish Charity No:



Dates for Your Diary

24 September - Harvest Service including collection of donations for East Lothian Foodbank.
Followed by a Harvest soup 'n' pudding in the Church Hall
Proceeds to Church Roof Fund

28th September - Thursday Afternoon Teas in the Church Hall from 2-4pm. Last Thursday of each month until November

2 October - Kirk session meeting - side room at 7pm

6 November - Congregational Board meeting - side room at 7pm

22 October- Communion with Sunday Worship Team 1 (Diana Bryden-reid, Bill Baillie, Heather Antonelli & Ian Wallace)

26 Nov - Communion with Sunday Worship Team 2 (Yvonne Baillie, Lynda Ness, Norma Dickson & Linda Hogg)

Friday 10th November

CLARK COMMUNITY CHOIR IN CONCERT

to help us "Raise the Roof"



The Guild meets on alternate Wednesday evenings over the winter months.

They gather in Harlawhill Day Centre from 7.30pm.

Everyone is welcome to come along, not only women. There is usually a speaker with some interesting things to share, a hymn or two and ALWAYS a cup of tea, a blether and time together.

See below for what's coming up this year

- ◇ 27th Sept - Communion with Rev Ken Donald
- ◇ 11th Oct - Visiting Japan
- ◇ 25th Oct - Vine Trust's Robert Alexander
- ◇ 8th Nov - Speaker from East Lothian Foodbank
- ◇ 22nd Nov - Rev John Hunter speaks

**COME
TOGETHER**

PRESTONGRANGE CHURCH

Minister: Kenneth Donald - 01875 813643

Session Clerk: Mrs Jane Hepburn - 07599 193544

Youth Elder: Heather Antonelli - 01620 842646

Sunday notices: email to kwdonald@hotmail.co.uk by 6.00pm on

May God's blessing be upon those who have lost loved ones - the family and friends of the late:

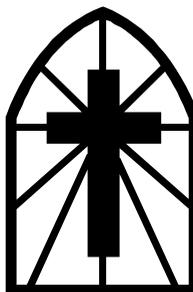
June McBride

Marjorie Fraser

Alastair Walker

Leon Stevens

Edith Nisbet



Please also join Matt Smith and his family in a celebration of a life well lived by Pauline Anne Smith on Friday 29th September 2017 at 2pm at Prestongrange Church.

Pauline sadly passed away on 28th Aug and will be greatly missed by so many.

She had requested that bright colours be worn on this day.

**Any material for the next Pans Post
please copy to Fiona Carbray-Johnson by 19th Nov
Email: facarbray@aol.com
Mobile: 07836 691649**