



Galashiels Old Parish and St Paul's Church

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Dear Friends,

New Beginnings.

When we were across in Michigan earlier in the year visiting our daughter Liz who had just had her baby we took a walk in Kollen Park by Lake Macatawa which is beside the communities of Holland and Zeeland where Liz and Bill live and work. As you can imagine these communities are Dutch in origin and very proud of their history, in fact we learnt a new phrase while we were there, "If you're not Dutch, you're not much".

Kollen Park has a bronze sculpture called "The Immigrants" which is a work in bronze of immigrants coming off a boat to start a new life in America in the 1840s which is when the communities of Holland and Zeeland were founded. In the museum in Holland some of the artifacts that were left from early immigrants are on display, artifacts such as their trunks with all the possessions they crossed the Atlantic with. In them were tools with which to work, pots and pans with which to cook, shoes (or clogs) with which to walk, and large family Bibles – what were they for? They were to be the foundation upon which their communities were to be built and to tell the truth, those communities were well built.

Immigrants so often build better communities

than those they leave behind because they take with them precious things that the communities at home easily forget or take for granted. They put their minds to what is important and they have to work to sustain these things for nobody else is going to do it for them, nor will there be any impersonal 'THEY' to complain to should things go wrong. It is that focusing of the mind rather than just free-wheeling along that makes for solid community building.

This autumn we are going to be asking YOU (everyone in the congregation) to come along to "New Beginnings" – our Church Family meal in Gala Academy's large hall* – to do something like that. We will be thankful for our heritage but mainly looking at what we are doing just now and what we hope to do in the future as a Church. It will make us think about what is important in our Church family life, what is redundant or can be left behind and where and how we should be working together to build this community for Christ in 21st Century Scotland to which we are all meant to belong. It will be a challenge to us all to be fully on-board as we seek to build for the future. I hope you will all be there – don't get left behind.

*Yours in Christ,
Leslie Steele.*

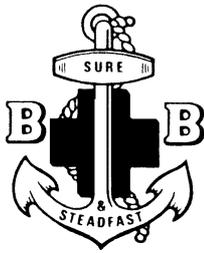
* see the enclosed leaflet.

Christian Aid Sudan Appeal

The situation in Sudan is desperate. Thousands have been killed in the Darfur and Malakal area conflicts and more than a million are now sheltering in makeshift camps, having fled their homes to escape the fighting. As hundreds of thousands of desperate men, women and children face continued violence, starvation, malaria and other fatal diseases, the UN is calling this the worst humanitarian disaster of the decade.

Last month, an eyewitness who was in a camp for displaced people in Zalingei, western Darfur, reported that there was only one latrine for every 100 people. 'If sanitation isn't addressed here in Zalingei, especially now that the rains are coming', he said, 'people will develop severe health problems and the basic health care services will be overloaded.' Like many other aid agencies Christian Aid launched an appeal to help those who are caught up in this dreadful disaster and the churches in Galashiels decided to work together to support this appeal. I am pleased to report that the congregation of St. Pauls donated £284.80 plus tax refunds to this appeal. Many thanks for your support especially as it was so close to the annual Christian Aid Week collection.

Angela Miller



BOYS' BRIGADE

The new session for all sections started on Friday 27 August 2004. Due to the loss of one of our helpers, the Anchor Boys require a replacement female or male helper. The Anchor Boys meet in the Small Hall from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. each Friday. Their ages range from five to seven years and they mainly participate in games and basic Boys' Brigade achievement work. If you can help, please contact myself at Tel. No. 01896 850250 or speak with our Chaplain, the Rev. Leslie Steele.

Ian Forsyth, President



THE GUILD

We are looking forward to another session of Guild Meetings at St. Paul's which will begin on Wednesday, October 6th at 2.15 in the Small Hall when the Minister will speak on our new Theme: Dare to Care with Compassion. However, there is an important date before that:- the Joint Guilds Dedication Service will take place this year at St. Aidan's Church on Tuesday, 21st September at 7.30 p.m. in their Small Hall. The speaker will be the Minister of St. Aidan's, Rev. Morag Dawson. It would be good to see a good number of St. Paul's members there. If you would like a lift, please let Lillias Steele know, and something can be arranged.

Cups, saucers, knives and forks.....

You will have read in the New Beginnings newsletter that a church family meal is planned for Saturday, 30th October in Galashiels Academy – would you be able to help us by supplying crockery and cutlery for six people? (preferably *not* your best china!)

We need: cups, saucers and sideplates; soup, dinner and dessert plates; wine or similar glasses and water jug if possible; sugar bowl and cream jug; knives and forks, side knives and dessert forks if possible; soup and sweet spoons.

If you can help, would you let one of the catering team know by Friday, 17th September? (David Leckey – 757831, Lillias Steele – 752320, Marion Stirling 01578 730591.) We can arrange to collect the items if you don't have transport.

With thanks in anticipation, Lillias

HALL BOOKINGS

Outside bodies are now making requests to use the halls and it is essential that all the church organisations let Hugh Bain know their requirements as soon as possible. Please note that even though your group used the halls last year unless a booking is in the diary it is not guaranteed that your place has been reserved.



News of the Church Family

In any family, changes are inevitable, though no one necessarily likes them. The church family is no exception, and this month we have to say farewell to two people who are moving on to pastures new. Moira Frew, who has been an active member of the Congregation since moving to the area, is leaving her job as a Plant Buyer with Dobbie's, and moving down to Bolton to take up Youth Work in association with a group of local churches, but not attached to any in particular. Please pray for her as she moves on to this exciting but challenging new sphere of service. Catherine Bain, who has served us at St. Paul's so devotedly in recent years with Underground Church, Holiday club organisation, Children's Talks etc. etc. is moving on to take a Post Graduate Diploma in Education at Aberdeen. Our prayerful good wishes go with you, Catherine – we will miss all you do – but above all we will miss you.

This is the time of year when our young people get exam results, and thankfully those in the Underground church who awaited those results are all happy with their marks. Emma B, Emma P, Ailidh and Samantha all sat Standard Grades, and Kate, Natasha, and Craig some Highers.

Samantha now moves on to the Borders College and Kate to University for further studies. We offer our congratulations and best wishes to all.

HOLIDAY CLUB – AN APPRECIATION

Although I played a very minor role in this year's Holiday Club, I would like to say how impressed I was with the work and enthusiasm of all leaders (young and more mature) during the week. The steady attendance and behaviour of the children spoke volumes for the organisation and preparation of those who led.

We owe all of them a big thank you, and hope that the Church will come to play a big part in the lives of the children who spent such a happy week at St Paul's.

Nancy Noble

ADVANCE NOTICE

There will be a Soup & Sweet Lunch after morning service on Sunday, 3rd October.

Calling all CONTRIBUTORS & DISTRIBUTORS!!

The October Newsletter will be published on **Sunday 26th September** and not the first Sunday in October as usual. This means that all items should be in the hands of the Editor by **Sunday 19th September**. I hope that this is the last time the Newsletter will have to go out early. We are trying to fit in with publications for the "New Beginnings" programme – to get these out on time, and to avoid double deliveries.

Thanks for all your co-operation and help!

Seven weeks to go



Jim Tennant has been persuaded to get his training shoes back on and “get the miles in” in preparation for this year’s Great North Run, at the moment the training is around 28 – 33 miles per week, ranging between:

1. 10 x 45 seconds uphill runs, jogging back down
2. 6- mile run, getting progressively faster
3. 8 to 10 mile run, hilly, off-road

On average Jim’s current target is to run up to 4 miles in around 30 minutes, 6 miles in around 48 minutes, and 8 miles he’s just happy to finish! So if you see Jim out on the road, please give him a toot or a wave, but if you’re tooting – try to get slightly in front rather than slightly behind, the adrenalin is high enough!

An article in a Tearfund newsletter, looking for “about 50” runners was enough to persuade Jim to enter. David Golding, campaigns organiser for JDC-NE is organising the team, and the aim is to raise a total of £10,000.

The money raised will be divided into three:

- 60% to an HIV/AIDS project
- 20% to the Trade Justice Movement
- 20% to the Jubilee Debt Campaign

Please pray for healthy training, imaginative fundraising, unity, support and encouragement for the whole team.

To add your name to a sponsorship form – contact Jim: 01896 751003 or E-mail;

godiswireless@btinternet.com

Updates available on www.oldparishandstpauls.org.uk

P.S. I have just received my number for the race. It is 10765. The race is at 10.40 a.m. on 26th September, so anybody who wants to try to spot me will have to set their video recorder; so the best advice is – set it to ‘long play’ as it will take me a long time to get to the finish!

Baptism

July 18th Jenna Marie Schoon, 5577 West Utica Rd., Shelby Township, Michigan, USA.

New Members

By Transference:

Mrs. M. Gorman, 192 Scott Street.

Mrs. Edith Hastings, 32 Cornmill Court.

Mr. Ken and Mrs. Pin Teh, “Spruce Siding”, Ellwyn Crescent.

We extend a warm welcome to those named and trust that they will find good fellowship in our Congregation.

Can you Help?



The Congregational Board have decided to replace the church photocopier which has given us good service for many years. Unfortunately, we are incurring a number of expensive bills to keep the copier running and this is proving to be a constant problem. We have received the kind offer of £500 from a church member towards the cost of a new machine. If any member feels that they can help us further, please contact Colin Hanley on tel: 759402.

Many thanks, Colin

An apology – and a correction

An apology to those who tried the Bible books Quiz in the July/August Newsletter, and could only find 23 books in the passage given. Well done – you found all there were! Due to an oversight, the last sentence of the passage was missing – and that contained 2 more books. The last two sentences should have read: “A chipper attitude will help you to compete. Remember, there are 25 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this passage”

If anyone would like the answers to the puzzle, please apply to the Editor (752711).

X-Pedition Force 2004

The Holiday Club this year ran from 26th July to 1st August. We had around 60 children every day and everyone enjoyed themselves. The team worked well to achieve that success. We were also privileged to have four visiting Americans from Liz and Bill’s former church in Zeeland, Michigan. In between running around after the children the Americans were given a chance to visit some of Scotland’s tourist attractions. We were all grateful for the effort they put in and the enthusiasm they gave.

One of the main reasons for writing this is not only to inform you of the success of the club but also to say some thank you’s. Firstly as every year we give our thanks to God who provided, in no particular order, good weather, a brilliant team, great kids, strength, recovery from illness and safe journeys. I would also like to thank Gordon without whose imagination the church would not have been transformed and our American friends Jan, Katie, Jackie and Cyndy, who came all this way to be a part of the team. A special thank you to the Adamson’s and McCann’s who took them in. To members of Musicmakers and the Badminton Club who helped to provide team lunches.

Finally as this is my last year at holiday club and when you read this I will be already in Aberdeen I would like to thank all the people on the teams from the last few years who have allowed holiday club to work. You continued to give encouragement to myself and each other right to the end of the week. I have enjoyed being part of this outreach and will miss it very much. Remember climb safe and climb high!!!!!!!!!!!!

Catherine Bain

BUY EARLY FOR CHRISTMAS!!

Fairly Traded – Tearcraft has been trading for nearly 30 years, bringing you beautifully handcrafted home, gift and jewellery products from around the world. This year's Tearcraft catalogue is no exception and contains nearly 400 items from 18 producer groups, representing an enriching blend of the traditional and the modern, the simple and the ornate, the decorative and the practical.

Beautifully Crafted – The variety of products, materials and unique designs mean there is something for all tastes and styles, whether you are buying something for yourself, a special gift or just a stocking-filler. Quality and satisfaction is assured with our no-quibble 21-day returns policy.

Changing lives – What's more, you really are making a life-changing choice when you buy these products. Tearcraft exists to benefit skilled artisans from some of the world's poorest communities, helping them to create and market products of the highest standard and ensure that a fair price is paid for their work. That means that every purchase you make has a really positive impact on someone else's life.

How to order:

- Buy online with secure payment, live stock availability and an even wider selection at www.tearcraft.org.
- Wait for your catalogue to arrive with the Autumn edition of Tear Times, and telephone 0870 240 4896
- Contact your local Tearcraft rep. and even place your order with him, thereby saving on the cost of postage and packing: Jim Tennant (Tel. 01896 751003 or email: godiswireless@btinternet.com)

AFTERNOON TEA AT RIVERSLEA

With autumn approaching, we extend a cordial invitation to all for Afternoon Tea at Riverslea, Boleside, on either Tuesday 28th September, or Wednesday 29th September 2004, at 2.30pm.

Transport will be available where required; no charge, but any donations towards Church funds will be welcome.

If you are interested, please contact me, (Nancy Noble), on Gala 752724, and you will be assured of a warm welcome.

If you would like to bring a friend along with you, then please feel free to do so.

Nancy Noble

Treasurer's Report

JUNE 2004

Income

Offerings 5 weeks (Weekly average £664.75).....	£3,323.73
Dividends, Bank Interest, etc.....	£543.48
Fundraising.....	£1,313.30
Donations.....	£1,714.55
	<u>£6,895.06</u>

Expenditure

Electricity, Gas & Church Telephone.....	£195.49
Advertising, Printing, Stationery.....	£118.62
Piano Tuning.....	£136.00
Annual Safety Inspections.....	£949.88
S/School Materials.....	£61.26
Maintenance Repairs, etc.....	£322.45
Minister's Travelling Expenses.....	£382.80
Standard Monthly Expenditure.....	£3,899.40
	<u>£6,065.90</u>

STANDARD MONTHLY EXPENDITURE OFFERINGS

Stipend	£2,998.60	1st	£428.83
Mission & Aid	£802.80	7th	£580.05
Organist	£80.00	14th	£387.50
Cleaners (3wks)	£18.00	21st	£477.68
		28th	£548.67
	<u>£3,899.40</u>		<u>£2,422.73</u>
		Paid through Bank	£901.00
			<u>£3,323.73</u>

OFFERINGS UPDATE

		2004		2003	
Jan-May	21wks	£15,996.55		£14,898.22	21wks
June	5wks	£3,323.73		£3,451.61	5wks
		<u>£19,320.28</u>		<u>£18,349.83</u>	

JULY 2004

Income

Offerings 4 weeks (Weekly average £776.15).....	£3,104.61
Dividends, Bank Interest, etc.....	£76.00
Donations (incl. for alts).....	£95.40
Gift Aid recovered.....	£1,465.26
	<u>£4,741.27</u>

Expenditure

Electricity, Gas & Church Telephone.....	£739.01
Advertising, Printing, Stationery.....	£138.66
Wedding Bibles, etc.....	£146.44
Annual Safety Custody Insurance Premium.....	£148.05
S/School Materials, etc.....	£129.52
Repairs.....	£172.34
Standard Monthly Expenditure.....	£3,881.40
	<u>£5,355.42</u>

STANDARD MONTHLY EXPENDITURE OFFERINGS

Stipend	£2,998.60	5th	£561.24
Mission & Aid	£802.80	12th	£599.40
Organist	£80.00	20th	£483.20
Cleaners (4wks)	£0.00	26th	£543.77
	<u>£3,881.40</u>		<u>£2,187.61</u>
		Paid through Bank	£917.00
			<u>£3,104.61</u>

OFFERINGS UPDATE

		2004		2003	
Jan-June	26wks	£19,320.28		£18,349.83	26wks
July	4wks	£3,104.61		£2,948.22	4wks
		<u>£22,424.89</u>		<u>£21,298.05</u>	

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

There will be a meeting for a representative from all the church groups to discuss the organisation of the Fayre in the small hall on Monday 30th August at 7.30pm. Please ensure that your group is represented.