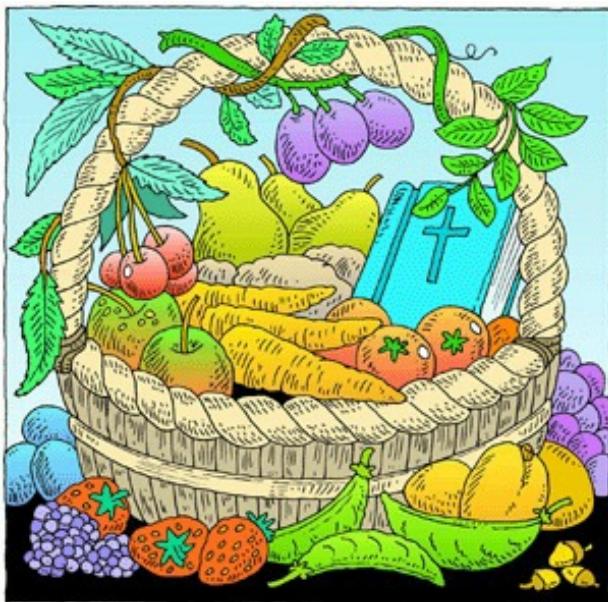




# Tidings



September 2014  
Harvest

Dear Friends

Once again, I write to you as Interim Moderator at the Old Kirk and I have to say, I am enjoying all the contacts and indeed, the work in which we are engaged in so many ways.

I have been encouraged by the attendance at Sunday Worship; by the friendship that has been extended to me and for the very great attentiveness that is evident in the Church, Sunday on Sunday.

It is an encouragement for many Ministers that that is the case, because it makes all the preparatory time so worthwhile, when a congregation is so faithful, as you folk are.

Of course, what I expected in the music, is exactly what I have received, because Helen and the Choir lead so well and for me, music is such an important part of the worship.

Indeed, it has been said that people enjoy and remember the music more than the sermon.....but...we'll let one go by for the moment!!

Seriously, it is the seamlessness that exists between Helen and myself, that complements the worship so much.

As you will know, the Nominating Committee has set about its task of bringing a new Minister to the Charge.

There is much work to be done and none of us can forecast the length of any vacancy, because it is dependent on so many variables and of course, the Practice and Procedure of the Church, which it is my job to uphold.

As you will know from the advertisement for the post, the closing date is 12 September and we all hope there will be a good number of applicants to consider.

Given what I said earlier about how we all are together at the moment, we all too, want a vacancy to be as short as is possible, so that the Church can get ahead again, with renewed vigour and a vision for the future.

I am perfectly sure that we will be led by God to a suitable person to minister in the broadest way to the needs of the Church and I know the Nominating Committee are keen to process this as fully as possible.

So, until that time, let's all encourage each other and together, let's make sure that the witness of the Church goes on as strongly as ever it has, seen as it must be, as a primary and positive force in this Community, doing the Lord's will in all the outreach and mission that is promoted.

With all Good Wishes

*Norman McKee*



## What's On

### **September**

Sunday 7	10.45am	Morning Worship
	1.30pm	Bowls Competition
Sunday 14	10.45am	Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Joint Communion Service in St John's
Sunday 21	10.45am	Morning Worship
Sunday 28	10.45am	Morning Worship
	3.00pm	Woodburn Court



### **October**

Sunday 5	10.45am	Harvest Thanksgiving - Family Service
Sunday 12	10.45am	Morning Worship
Sunday 19	10.45am	Morning Worship
Sunday 26	10.45am	Morning Worship (BST ends ~ an extra hour in bed!!)
	3.00pm	Woodburn Court



### **November**

Sunday 2	10.45am	Morning Worship
Sunday 9	10.45am	Remembrance Sunday
Sunday 16	10.45am	Morning Worship
Sunday 23	10.45am	Morning Worship
	3.00pm	Woodburn Court
Sunday 30	First Sunday in Advent	
	10.45am	Morning Worship
	3.00pm	Woodburn Court



## Session News

Over the past 9 years or so as Session Clerk I've seen little point in providing accounts of life within Session for 'Tidings' which, given the pace of modern life, are at best out of date and at worst antediluvian by the time they reach you. However over those years our ability to communicate with each other has advanced beyond all recognition and, within the constraints of the technology available to us in The Church of Scotland, The Old Parish is now going to take the monumental step of making the minutes of every Kirk Session meeting available to every member of the congregation and beyond.

As you'll have gathered my comments are made rather tongue in cheek but I do believe that we all have a right to know what is going on in the life and management of your church as it actually happens. So, with immediate effect and with the agreement and authority of the Interim Moderator, Session minutes will be posted on the church notice board and web site immediately after they have been endorsed by The Kirk Session. You will then have the opportunity to read and digest them at your leisure and hopefully then feel more in touch with your church news as it happens.

We are indeed blessed to have Rev Norman McKee as our Interim Moderator during our vacancy. As you may be aware on his appointment Norman also agreed to act as our Locum, but only on a pulpit supply basis as he had other commitments at Viewpark. That meant that we had to address pastoral care matters such as hospital visiting, amongst many others in alternative ways. Being the man he is, Norman very quickly identified the very specific needs of our congregation at this challenging time in our life and he recently offered to act as full time Locum, in addition to his duties as Interim Moderator, with effect from 1st Sept 2014. The Kirk Session, not surprisingly, wholeheartedly welcomed and endorsed Rev McKee's offer and appointment and we look forward to his inspiring leadership and pastoral care throughout our vacancy. On the subject of the vacancy I have been informed that matters are progressing satisfactorily.

Finally may I thank all of you for your understanding and patience during the ongoing works to install the lift to the upper halls and re paint the car park railings. A little inconvenience now will result in benefits to us all in years to come.

That's about it for now. I do hope you've had a super summer and I look forward to your continued support throughout what's left of this hugely important year in the life of our great church.

*Louis Munn  
Session Clerk*



## Property Committee

The preparatory building works for the lift in the Parish Halls has commenced and the lift will be installed in the first week in September and will be operational soon afterwards.

The external electrical boxes to the Church floodlighting were found to be corroded and have now been replaced.

The car park railings and fire escape are at present being repainted.

*John Downie  
Property Convener*

## Creche

After a short break the creche is now available again.

If you would like to have a young child looked after while you are in Church, you will find us in the Halls in the room next to the Office.

All babies and children too young for Sunday School will be made very welcome. We look forward to seeing you.

*Catherine Southgate*



## Sunday Live!

Back to school and back to Sunday Live! The autumn/winter session begins on the 1st Sunday in September ie 7th and will be held in the Pillar Hall until such times as the lift installation is completed. We welcome back our young worshippers to an environment of learning and fun.

Sadly we have to report the retirement of Mrs Margaret McCartney who has graced the department for many years as teacher and leader of our children's worship. Margaret will be a loss to us and we would take this opportunity of thanking her for her major contribution over the years and to wish her every good wish in her "retirement". We will invite Margaret back for a Sunday Live Farewell!!

*Sandy Messer*

## 12th Hamilton Brownies



This year started with it being "100 years of Brownies".

The Brownies had a weekend at Gowan Park in Crossford, Lanark on the 15/16th March. The girls did lots of activities covering the past, present and future of Brownies doing lots of games, crafts and a campfire at midnight, singing songs and toasting marshmallows. They all had a great time and so did the leaders.

The Hamilton District also held a Big Brownie Birthday Party at Hamilton College on 17th June for all Brownies in the area of Hamilton/Larkhall. Again the girls had lots of fun there also.

We finished off on Tuesday 10th June with a trip to Funky Monkeys at Coatbridge which was an enjoyable evening for the girls as they had time in the Laser Zone and soft play area.

Brownies start back Tuesday 16th September at 6.15pm.

Any enquiries contact Helen on 01698 429902.

*Helen, Linda & Lynn*



## 1970 Ladies' Club

The first meeting of our new session will be on the 25th September with a variety of speakers and topics.

25th September	Fred Landery - Holidays in Retirement
9th October	David Black - Ups & Downs
23rd October	Gwyneth Guthrie - Mrs Mack 60 Years in the Business
6th November	Nancy Duncan - Milk to Bedpans in War & Peace
20th November	Debbie Black - Cadeau Gifts Boutique
4th December	Christmas Dinner

We are looking forward to meeting up with present members and any ladies who would like to join us will be made most welcome.

*Avril Cunningham  
President*

## Boys' Brigade

### **Expedition Weekend**

Nine of the boys successfully completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expedition held over the weekend of 6th – 8th June 2014. They did extremely well in very wet and misty conditions. While the rain may have soaked them and their equipment it certainly didn't dampen their spirits and they showed all of the character expected of them to plough on and complete the hike.

### **Ben Nevis Climb for World Mission Project**

On 21st June 2014 all ten boys who took part made it to the summit of Ben Nevis to raise funds for The Church of Scotland and Boy's Brigade World Mission Appeal. The climb was tough at times but all of the boys showed great spirit and determination throughout. It was a tremendous achievement for them to climb the highest mountain in Britain and all for a very worthwhile cause.

It was a really enjoyable day and I am grateful to Gillian Chisholm, Jim Wilson, Ross Smart and Gordon Scott who helped staff the climb, and to Graham Horne for hiring and driving the minibus.....and for his highly entertaining choice of clothing and music to see us off !

Thank you again to everyone in the congregation who supported the project. There will be more on the project and the final total later in the year.

### **Czech Republic Camp**

The World Mission Project this year raised funds to help refurbish the Comenius Camp in the Czech Republic, which is a Christian camp run to bring together young folk to enjoy activities and fellowship together.

Every year The Boys' Brigade working with The Church of Scotland sends out two senior boys or young officers from Scotland to visit the project being supported.

This year Ross Smart and Fraser Ewart were chosen from our own Company to represent The Boys' Brigade and The Church of Scotland, which was a huge honour for them but very well deserved.

They spent two days visiting Prague and then one week at the camp. Again there will be more on their trip later in the year but suffice to say for now they had a great time, thoroughly enjoyed the experience and returned safe and sound.

### **New session**

All sections of the Company will start again on Wednesday 17 September 2014 and we look forward to seeing everyone then:

Anchor Boys and Bluebells	5.30pm
Junior Section	6.30pm
Company Section	7.45pm

*Alistair Butterly*

*Captain*



### **Anchor Boys and Bluebells**

The new session will start a little later as work continues in the halls, but as always a warm welcome is extended to boys and girls age 5 to 7 to come along and join in the fun, crafts, stories and games. We meet on Wednesdays at 5.30p.m. in the halls.

We send a huge message of congratulations to the officers and boys of our Company Section on their fund raising climb to the summit of Ben Nevis.

From all accounts a great day was had by all.

*Nanette McLean*  
*Officer in Charge*

## Monday Club

The first meeting of the Monday Club will be on Monday 6th of October, when I hope to welcome members old and new back to our meetings• at 1.30 pm. every second Monday. We will be meeting in the North Hall.

We have a few dates to be confirmed for the second half of the syllabus•as I write, but here•are the dates and speakers for the first session.

6th October•• Rhona Hughes••••• My Life in Story and Song

20th October•• Cameron•Merryweather• • Glasgow Cathedral

3rd November•• Marvyn MacKay••••• Turtle Dove Singing Workshop

17th November•• John Freeland••••• Time!

1st December••• Christmas Lunch

15th December•• Financial•AGM and Christmas Social

If you have a couple of hours to spare on a Monday afternoon do come along and join us!

*Charlie Duguid*

Choir



The summer weeks have passed very quickly and we have all enjoyed summer temperatures whether travelling abroad or at home.

The organ has had its challenging moments on a couple of Sundays in the summer months, deciding to "chirp" when not required. Ciphers can be due to fluctuating temperatures, but it can present rather different harmonies than planned at very inopportune moments!! You may notice that on these occasions I find solace in jelly babies😊

It is now time to look to winter activities and I hope you all return refreshed and ready to prepare for our Introit and Anthem input Sunday by Sunday.

I know you have found the music files, sent as voice memos, very helpful for preparation especially since we have not had our usual surroundings for working on a Sunday morning during the summer months. I will continue to make this aide available as required in the months ahead.

Each of the sections in choir are very well balanced in numbers and it is encouraging to have a four part choir leading worship and contributing each week with Introits and Anthems. I very much appreciate the support from all choir members throughout the year.

The new session of choir will commence on Wednesday 3rd September at 7p.m. in the session room. Please return all music from May to August on that night and collect your new folders with the material we will cover through to the start of the New Year.

If anyone is interested in sacred music and learning part singing, they are very welcome to come along on a Wednesday evening and share in the fellowship. You will find the warmest of welcomes.

*Helen C Simpson*

*Organist*

## Link Committee



We had our summer outing for our members on 16<sup>th</sup> July. We went back to Moffat with afternoon tea at the Moffat Arms Hotel. We had some rain on the journey but it cleared up by the time we arrived.

I would like to thank everyone who helped us in making this a lovely day out. Our next event will be our autumn convert.

*Jim Naismith*  
*Convener*

## Guild

Whose we are and whom we serve  
Year 3 "A world to serve"

It's that time again - another session about to commence. We have an interesting syllabus with our first meeting on Wednesday 1st October at 2.00pm which will be our Dedication Service led by Rev N McKee.

Meetings on:	October 15th	Jim Hughes - Scotland in Word & Song
	November 5th	Robert Nimmo - A Walk with Robert
	November 19th	Financial AGM
	December 3rd	Christmas Lunch

You will be made very welcome at any of the above meetings.

At the beginning of the 3 year strategy 6 projects are introduced. These are:-

Comfort Rwanda	£69068
Crossreach - A Heart for Art	£105010
Mary's Meals	£78434
Passage from India	£52606
Julius Project	£68706
Out of Africa into Malta	£66700
<b>Totals raised to April 2014</b>	<b>£440524</b>

The Guild is serving the world of today.

*Avril Boothroyd  
Coordinator*



## Saffronhall Singers



We look forward to seeing everyone at the first meeting of the new session on Monday 22nd September 2014 at 7.30pm.

Campbell Barr  
01698 329177  
campbell.s.barr@blueyonder.co.uk



## Fellowship Committee

In June, we held a seemingly very successful outing to Rothesay, when the weather was good and the chips•at the pierpoint even better,•so our thanks as always go to everyone who supported that venture.

As of now, we have been planning for the annual bowls day, due to take place on 7 September. This will be followed by the usual Doors Open Days on Saturday•13 September from 10.00am till 4.00pm and on Sunday•14 September from 1.30 till 4.00pm. This is an opportunity for members of the public and indeed any member of the Church who wishes to do so to take a guided tour around the Church and Halls, and to perhaps discover some things they have not been aware of.

On Sunday 5 October, we will be•holding the annual charity lunch after the morning service. The net proceeds this year will be gifted to Erskine Hospital, as the outbreak of WW1 is commemorated. Names can be given at the emporium any Sunday until 28 September.

Later in the year (in December) we will again be arranging the Carols by Candlelight and the Christmas lunch. When all arrangements are in place, information will be given in the Sunday Intimation Sheet.

We are already looking at things to do and places to go for next year, (no rest for the wicked, some might say), but if you have any suggestions or ideas, please let any member of the committee know.

*Iain McLean  
Convener*

## Gift Aid

Thanks to those who got in touch with me after reading my article in the June Magazine. It is reassuring to know that the information is reaching members.

I will be able to give you an update once I have caught up after the holiday period. In the meantime, please remember to notify me of any changes affecting your tax position. If I can be of any assistance, I can be easily contacted by phone or e-mail.

*Nesella Barr*

*Gift Aid Convener*

01698 329177, [nesella.barr@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:nesella.barr@blueyonder.co.uk)

## Scottish Bible Society

Three quarters of a million ‘Penny Gospels’ have been distributed this year - the potential for thousands of lives to be impacted is enormous! If you want any more copies for friends please help yourselves - there are still some at the doors of the Church as you enter. I hope you enjoyed your copy! I have managed to distribute 750 copies so far - only 250 to go!!

Bible World will visit Hamilton from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October until Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October.

Monday	9.00am	Arrive & set up	11.00am Class	1.30pm Class
Tuesday	9.15am	Class	11.00am Class	1.30pm Class
Wednesday	9.15am	Class	11.00am Class	1.30pm Class
Thursday	9.15am	Class	11.00am Class	1.30pm Class
Friday	9.15am	Class	11.00am Class	1.00pm Set down

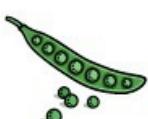
Classes are around 1 hour - if you can help with any of these please let me know (Hamilton 425229). The venue will most likely be at Holy Cross High School as their playground is flat! There may be evening classes depending on demand.

Thanks to all for your support.

*Muriel Eadie*

oooooooooooooooOOoooooooooooo

These words were written as ‘Hints to Christian Gardeners’ and I feel might be appropriate to members of organisations at the start of a new session.



Plant five rows of P's:

Presence, Promptness, Preparation, Perseverance, Purity.

Three rows of squash:

Squash gossip, squash criticism, squash indifferences.



Four rows of lettuce:

Let us be faithful to the work,



Let us be unselfish in our service,

Let us be true to our obligations,

Let us be obedient to the rules of the world.

Remember that no garden is complete without turnips:

Turn up for meetings,

Turn up with a smile,

Turn up with a prepared heart,

Turn up with a willingness to serve,

Turn up on time.

These plants can be sown at any time, but for best results they should be carefully cultivated all the time.



## Safeguarding News

I am delighted to report that one of our elders, David Young, has volunteered to be one of the congregational Safeguarding Coordinators. At the present time, having completed the PVG procedures, he is waiting for a place on the next presbytery training course for coordinators. There is no doubt in my mind that two heads are better than one and I look forward to being able to share some of the responsibility with him.

In this magazine, we have included the latest leaflet to be sent out from Edinburgh. All elders already have copy but we thought it would be good practice to share the message with everyone.

**Nesella Barr**

**Safeguarding Coordinator**

01698 329177, [nesella.barr@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:nesella.barr@blueyonder.co.uk)

## Top 10 Tips for Safeguarding

Identifying and responding to suspected or reported harm/abuse.

1. **If you suspect or witness harm or abuse, it is reported to you**, immediately report it to your Safeguarding Coordinator or, if you work for CrossReach, your line manager. Report serious abuse directly to the police.
2. **Get advice:** contact the Safeguarding Service, 0131 240 2256, Mon - Fri, 9am-4.45pm
3. **Abuse?** - 'If it doesn't look, sound or feel right it probably isn't right.'
4. **Label it.** What type of harm has occurred or is at risk of occurring?
5. **4Rs:** Recognise, Report (see 1. above), Record and Refer.
6. Never promise **confidentiality**. The Data Protection Act 1998 allows this.
7. Concerned that an **offence** may have been committed? Discuss with the police or social work service.
8. Look at the **bigger picture** - who else has a responsibility for, or an interest in, the person?
9. **4Ws:** immediately after a safeguarding event record 'Who, What, Where and When'?
10. **How and why?** After, review the context - line-management, staff training, risk-management, information sharing etc. Apply learning from the particular case to the whole service.

*Richard Crosse, Head of Safeguarding, May 2014*

## Olá, Amigos da Casa Semear (Hello, Friends of Casa Semear)



[www.casaabbaproject.co.uk](http://www.casaabbaproject.co.uk)

Having been writing to tell you for so long that I was going to Brazil, I can't believe I'm actually now in Brazil writing this article. Not only that but I'm now well past the half way mark and the time is flying by. In fact by the time you read this article my time here might actually be finished. When I planned to spend 2 months at Casa Semear in Sao Paulo it sounded such a long period of time, and now its nearly over.

I'm obviously not going to try and tell you everything I'm getting up to here or I would need the whole magazine but if you're online you can read what I've been getting up to and seeing the many photographs by going to the blog at <http://blog.casaabbaproject.co.uk>, however for those who don't have access to the Internet then contact Alan or Lynne Young and they will arrange for a printed copy for anyone who's interested.

Needless to say its just wonderful being back here among friends and seeing first hand all that is going on both with the property and with the children themselves. The kids club which is the main focus at Casa Semear is great and really strong with between 25 to 30 kids attending each session. This figure is actually slightly down due to holidays and a reduced program while Robert and Silvanna Meikle are in Scotland.

On that subject Robert, Silvanna and family are now safely back in Brazil and I have spent some time with them already. They were very thankful of the support from the many churches in Scotland and of course delighted to have been at the Old Parish and the reception they received there. While I was disappointed to have not been able to attend myself I'm just pleased that he could reach as many of you in the congregation as possible. Thank you to all who made them so welcome.

My time here in Brazil is split between helping with the younger children of the kids club, helping with the ongoing planning and actual construction work, meeting with other Abba missionaries and discussing ways to continue our support for the future.

I have also been able to experience first hand the conditions within the favella and have become familiar with various family situations that are deemed critical and in need of help. Discussions frequently involve exactly how best to help particular families as circumstances often vary and solutions therefore need to be sensitive and unique.

The work done by the last team back in 2010 is still very much obvious today. However never for a minute think that everything is finished. In fact even since I have been here the list of jobs to be done actually increased before we had done anything. That's just how it is here, to get to the development of the new kitchen we first needed to repair the large hole below the floor, and so on.

I have attached some pictures of the walls at the entrance to Casa Semear. On the walls are the hand prints of all the volunteers that have worked here over the years. These hand prints come from all corners of the globe, including mine, and there is always space for you to add your hand print there as well by volunteering at anytime.

The experience is amazing and unforgettable, the work is fulfilling and uplifting and the children are so loving and thankful.

If anyone would like more detailed information about my trip I would be delighted to discuss it at any time. God bless you all for your support of the work being done in God's name in Sao Paulo.

Regards Craig



For further information or to receive newsletters or to arrange a presentation either at home or for an organisation, please feel free to contact me either through the website, on facebook or by email on [craig.garrett@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:craig.garrett@blueyonder.co.uk) or call Craig Garrett on 00966 556802655.

### Flower List 2014

September	07	Mrs McLean	28 Rosevale Crescent
	14	Mrs Downie	6 Stonebyres Court
	21	Boys' Brigade	
	28	Mr J K Borland	24 Carlisle Road
October	05	Mrs Kerr	10 Dunscore Brae
	12	Mrs Porter	34 Marshall Grove
	19	Mrs Keir	6 Mauchline Court
	26	Mrs Dick	22 Burnblea Gardens
November	02	Mrs Lindsay	19 Swift Bank
	09	Mrs Stoddart	11 Wallace Place
	16	Mrs MacLean	12 Abercorn Crescent
	23	Mrs Davidson	Lauder Court
	30	Mrs Smith	5 Old Avon Road
December	07	Mrs MacLean	11 Bent Road
	14	Flower Fund	

**Donations to the fund are always welcome since they assist with the special occasions such as Harvest.**

**Thank you for your generosity and co-operation.**

*E Gardiner*

01698 427852



### Flower Delivery

September	07	Mrs M Baird	41 Portland Place
	14	Mrs M Eadie	5 Birch Brae
	21	Mrs L Smith	1 Rosslyn Court
	28	Mrs M Green	Skellyton Nurseries
October	05	Mrs A Munn	35 Smithycroft
	12	Mrs M Frew	68 Burnbank Road
	19	Mrs S Nicholson	15 Townhill Road
	26	Mrs J Jarvie	16 Hazel Park
November	02	Mrs N Barr	20 Bourtree Road
	09	Mrs J Dick	16 Chantinghall Road
	16	Miss M Dyt	18 Chantinghall Crescent
	23	Mrs N Naismith	3 Tarbert Court
	30	Mrs E Nelson	10 Lilac Hill
December	07	Mrs F Brown	1A Allanshaw Gardens
	14	Mrs M Henderson	67 Sycamore Drive

**Flowers are usually delivered after the Morning Service. If the date is unsuitable, please try to re-arrange or contact:**

*Kate Morrow*

01698 420748

## Rose Bowl List 2014

September	07	P Scott
	14	G Keir
	21	J Swinton
	28	M Gilbert
October	12	E Smith
	26	N Barr
November	02	G Dobbie
	16	L Craig
	30	M Henderson
December	07	F McIntosh
	14	E Reid



## Flower Circle Harvest

Would member of the Flower Circle please meet in the Halls on Friday 3rd October to decorate the Church for Harvest.

Greenery is required please.

*Elizabeth Gardiner*  
01698 427852



## Harvest Prayer

Heavenly Father, yours are the gifts of creation and we see and appreciate them in so many ways in our lives.

We praise you for the promise of Scripture, that while the earth remains, seedtime and harvest will not cease.

We are aware that all we have in provision, is the product of your providence through love to us.

We pray that, on receiving, we may be prepared to give as we have received, in the understanding that there is so much need, not just on lands across the world from where we are, but right on our own doorsteps, where there are many who suffer though lack.

So may it be that the goodness Harvest Time offers, may be shared and that the full realisation of the Harvest for the Master, may be our continuing and constant aim, that souls may be ingathered to Him.

This prayer we present in the Name of the Lord of the Harvest, even Jesus Christ, our Saviour, Amen.



**Entered into Eternal Life.**  
**"I am the Resurrection and the Life"**

*God of grace and peace, in your Son Jesus Christ  
 You have given us new birth into a living hope.  
 Strengthen us now to live in the power of the resurrection  
 and keep us united with our loved one  
 from whom in death we are not divided;  
 for You live and reign forever and ever. Amen*

*10 May 2014  
 Elaine Kane, 11 Arbroath Grove*

*16 May 2014  
 Duncan MacLean, 12 Abercorn Crescent*

*4 July 2014  
 Hunter Carroll, 21 Douglas Street*

*4 July 2014  
 Doreen Barrett, Cameron Crescent*

*21 July 2014  
 Olive Hill, 11 Woodburn Park*

*5 August 2014  
 Muriel Clark, 65 Park Road*

## *Weddings*

**"That they be the one"**

*5 July 2014  
 Susan Stewart to Craig Martin*



### Prayer for Remembrance

God of the nations; God of the ages, we come to you thinking about the depth of what we remember, particularly in this time of the centenary of the Great War.

We know that that event now is being consigned to the history books, but we are aware too, of the thoughts that are in the minds of many whose loved ones were among those who served and those who perished in that awful time.

We see the graves at the Somme and we think of the other battle fields of the Great War and other conflicts and in that thinking and in our reminiscing, we pray for peace.

We know that we are but a small part in all that takes place on the world stage and that has been the case always, but we have our faith and, learning from the conflicts we still remember and those that currently are raging, we only can place our hope in you, the God of Peace, whose Son was incarnated to bring peace and love and equality to the world.

We pray then for all who still have lasting memories that are sore to bear and impossible to erase and ask that all at Remembrance Time, may be assured, despite the conflicts of the world, that you are there, right beside all who need you and this prayer we offer in the Name and for the Sake of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

