



Tidings



September 2018
Harvest

MINISTER

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SESSION CLERK

Mr Louis Munn JP DL

DEPUTY SESSION CLERKS

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ORGANIST AND CHOIRMISTRESS

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Mrs Marilyn Henderson

TREASURER

Mr Alan Blue

PROPERTY CONVENER

Mr John Downie

Vice Conveners

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CHURCH - Mr David Leishman
MANSE - Mr Alex Stoddart

SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

Mr David Young
Mrs Wendy Hay

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Dear friends,

Let me tell you a story...

What one of us doesn't like to reminisce about significant events in our lives? We might be guarded about the company in which we tell certain stories, or we get carried away in the flow of conversation and reveal something that amazes our listeners... before some else tries to tell a bigger story. The ability to tell a good story is appreciated, and so much more when it is [mostly] true.

Storytelling used to be conducted by the fireside, especially over a long winter's night. That seems to have been replaced by the coffee house at any time of year, as times and seasons merge. We have an advantage, in the church, that we have regular times and places where we meet those we know and barely know. We often have fresh ears listening to our stories, often to the grimace of a spouse or close friend who might have heard it many times before and perhaps in a less adorned guise.

Why do our stories change? Is it just the imagination taking flight; or is it changing circumstances that re-frame our experience and cause us to recall some other facets that we had never thought about, or deemed important, or took on new meaning to us? I am sure the psychologists and neuroscientists have some explanations as they delve into the mechanics of how the wonderful human body and brain function. However, few of us follow these professions, and we still delight to hear and tell a story.

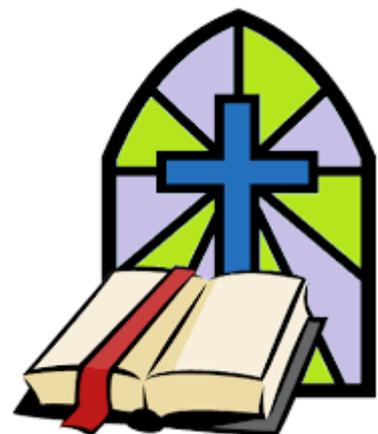
The power in a "true story", even those dramatized by the film industry, is the glimpse into the life, mind and psyche of another person. It is not always intrigue, but rather our craving to understand circumstances, people, especially those nearest to us, and the world around us. However, it is more than just a bunch of facts that helps us tick better. It seems that we have an inbuilt desire to "know" people as people rather than knowledge and facts. Each of us is a diamond with many facets, which glisten a different way depending on light and angle. Each of us is something to be treasured, and common complacency is often dashed when we recognise that an old story has sudden new meaning to us in our circumstances, or in the chapter in our relationship.

We reveal ourselves in story. Sometimes we hide facets, not necessarily intentionally, and sometimes those same facets shine out through another beam of light or at another time. It is wonderful. Perhaps we shouldn't wonder that our life and faith is steeped in relationship, as we continually appraise our story of self, neighbour and God. For it is in our story and relationships, especially with God, that we find new and surprising expressions as we journey through life. We come to love, trust, and even dare to believe in people, as we get to know them through the medium of story.

Have we a story to tell?

Your Minister and friend,

Ross



What's On

September

Sunday 02	10.45am	Morning Worship
Sunday 09	10.45am	Sacrament of Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Evening Service - Sacrament of Holy Communion
Tuesday 11	7.30pm	Session Meeting
Sunday 16	10.45am	Morning Worship
		Bowls Day
Sunday 23	10.45am	Morning Worship
	3.00pm	Woodburn Court
Sunday 30	10.45am	Family Service - BB Dedication
	3.00pm	Woodburn Court



October

Sunday 07	10.45am	Morning Worship - Harvest Thanksgiving
		Charity Lunch
Sunday 14	10.45am	Morning Worship - Rev Norman McKee
Sunday 21	10.45am	Morning Worship - Douglas Hogg
Sunday 28	10.45am	Morning Worship
	3.00pm	Woodburn Court



November

Sunday 04	10.45am	Morning Worship - Shoebox Sunday
	3.00pm	Bereavement Service
Sunday 11	10.45am	Morning Worship - Remembrance Sunday
Tuesday 13	7.30pm	Session Meeting
Sunday 18	10.45am	Morning Worship
Sunday 25	10.45am	Sacrament of Holy Communion
	3.00pm	Woodburn Court
	6.30pm	Evening Service - Sacrament of Holy Communion



Choir

The new session of choir will start on Wednesday 5th September at 7.00 p.m. and music folders will be ready for collection on Sunday morning 2nd September. As we begin to prepare material to support worship Sunday by Sunday, I am again grateful to Sandra Nicholson and Helen Lyon for their help in organising the folders with me. The planner will cover Introits and Anthems through to January and it has been a particular challenge this summer trying to focus on repertoire leading to Christmas, while the temperature remained in the high 20's.

I trust those who have enjoyed a break away to savour sunshine and those who found the sunshine came to our shores, will all feel refreshed ready to begin the winter programme of music.

I look forward to welcoming everyone back to the ranks, exploring new music and also the material we enjoy repeating, but more importantly enjoying the fellowship and friendship we share week by week.

Helen C. Simpson
Organist



Link Committee

Our next event will be our Autumn Social which will take place on Saturday 27 October at 2.00pm in the Church Halls/ We will be entertained by the Saffronhall Singers followed by afternoon tea. Invitations will be out in due course.

Jim Naismith
Convener



Brownies

During our last term at brownies from April to End of May the girls worked on their Number Fun badge which gave them an insight of handling money and budgeting it, telling the time and finding out about other currencies throughout the world. We finished up at end of May with a movie night with popcorn and a McDonald's .

Helen & Lynn

If you know if anyone who would like to come along on a Tuesday evening please contact myself Helen on 07708844005.

Boys' Brigade

All sections of the Company will start back at the Church halls on Wednesday 5th September 2018:

Anchor Boys	(ages 5 - 7 years)	5.30 – 6.30pm
Junior Section	(ages 8 - 11 years)	6.30 – 7.45pm
Company Section	(ages 12 – 18 years)	7.45 – 9.45pm

If you know of any boys who would be interested in joining the Company, and enjoying all the activities we offer, please encourage them to come along. They will be made very welcome.

Thank you

Alistair Buttery
Captain



Fellowship Committee

We have a couple of things coming up in the near(ish) future.

Firstly the bowls afternoon is on Sunday 16 September starting as near as possible to 1.30pm at Hamilton Bowling Club. Costs will be as per the intimation sheet, so please keep an eye on that.

The annual Charity Lunch will be held on Sunday 7 October, following the morning service and will as usual be held in the North Hall. Again, the cost will be in the intimation sheet in plenty of time to get your names down. As of now, which local charity will benefit has not been decided, but will be advised when a decision has been reached. Hopefully your support will be as generous as in previous years.

Iain McLean
Convener



Monday Club

The clubs first meeting is on Monday 8th October when Sheila Bond will do a presentation on Hums and Hummels.

Monday 22nd October, we have Jim Coleman on Glasgow City Mission.

Monday 12th November, we have a club favourite, Marvyn Mackay doing an audio/visual presentation, called "Palaces, Temples and Mountains".

Our Christmas lunch is on Monday 26th of November. Yes! Christmas always is early at the Monday Club!!

All our meetings are in the North Hall and start at 1.30pm and we generally finish with a cup of tea, a biscuit and a wee chat! We have plenty space to accommodate new members, so if you have been thinking of joining us, put these dates into your diary.

Charlie Duguid

The Guild

One Journey - Many Roads
Year 1:- Seeking the way



I hope you have enjoyed the wonderful weather and are prepared for the 18/19 session.

Here is a copy of the first half of the syllabus:-

October 03	Dedication Service Rev Ross Blackman
October 17	J Hughes From Erskine ...
November 07	J Freeland Capernicus to Darwin
November 21	Financial AGM & Video of Gathering at Dundee
December 04	Presbyterial Council Carol Service at St John's at 1.30pm

I look forward to seeing you on 3 October.

Avril Boothroyd
Coordinator

Saffronhall Singers

Over the summer months, members were asked to check over their music and notify us of any missing pieces so that these could be ordered in good time for the start of the new session on 17th September. We were grateful to everyone for taking the time to do this.

Our diary is healthy for the coming session. We will be singing for the Link Committee on 27th October and hosting our Annual Carols by Candlelight on 7th December.

Unfortunately one of our newer members has decided to leave the choir for health reasons, but we have had three enquiries from potential new members who will join us in September. We have now officially closed our membership as we have reached capacity in the session room.

Campbell Barr



Crèche

A crèche is held in the Church Halls every Sunday from 10.30am until the end of the Church Service. If you would like to have a baby or a young child looked after during this time please come and see us in the room next to the Office.

Catherine Southgate



I am only me, but I am me,
I can't do everything, but I can do something,
and what I can do, that I ought to do,
and what I ought to do,
by the Grace of God I will do.

Christian Aid



Apologies for the late information about Christian Aid Week which took place at the end of May.

As you know this year the Committee decided to stop the door-to-door collections for a variety of reasons. However the St John's Tearoom remained open Monday-Friday and it raised a total of c£1,500. This is a great effort from everyone involved and a huge thanks to everyone who served, worked behind the scenes, and baked. Also thanks to those who supported the Tearoom during the week.

The total raised from all other Church events throughout the year including the tearoom and the door collections was £6,767.

Thank you again for your ongoing support. If you would like any further information about the work of Christian Aid please contact me.

Amanda Strachan

When you ADD to the truth,
you SUBTRACT from it.

I would like to say a very sincere thank you to everyone for the love and support shown to me on the very sudden death of my husband Fred. The flowers, cards and caring wishes, together with the many phone calls, were greatly appreciated and helped me and my family through what was a very difficult time.

Thank you to Ross for his visit to Fred in hospital and also for the help he gave at this time, including the very meaningful service at the Crematorium which was such a comfort to us all.

Sandra Nicholson



Anne Bruce and family thank you for your cards, thoughts and prayers.

Irene Mathieson and family would like to thank friends and members of Hamilton Old Parish Church for their kind thoughts and support at this sad time for the family. Donald would have been so proud of all who had supported him at his funeral.

Thank you on behalf of the family.

Irene Mathieson

Can I say a heartfelt thanks to everyone for the good wishes, visits, cards and telephone calls I received following my recent very quick stay in hospital for a hip replacement. It really meant a great deal to Nanette and I. By way of update, recuperation is going very well and I expect to be back to normal (whatever that means) very soon.

Iain McLean

I would like to express warmest thanks from myself and Carole to the many folks in Hamilton Old who have sent cards, good wishes and assurance of prayers over what has been a very testing time. I have been overwhelmed by the kindness and support of so many friends. Special thanks are also due to Rev Ross Blackman and Rev Norman McKee. I have been undergoing chemotherapy and am now well through that process. At the moment, my condition is "stable". Unfortunately, chemotherapy means that I am very susceptible to infections. I have to avoid gatherings of people, hence my non-appearance at church. I do still hope that before too long I may be able to return to my place in the choir.

Alasdair Gordon

Siobhan and I would like to say a massive thank you to everyone for their kind words of support over the last few weeks up to and following Marilyn's passing. The amount of phone calls, cards, messages and flowers we have both received has been over whelming. Thanks also to Ross and to Norman for their many visits and pastoral support. We know she would have been smiling down on us and would have been delighted at the large amount of friends who turned out for her funeral.

Many thanks once again & God Bless you all.

John

Flower List 2018

September	02	Mrs McLean
	09	Mrs Downie
	16	Boys' Brigade
	23	Mrs McGilliard
	30	Mrs Kerr
October	07	Mrs Porter
	14	Mrs Keir
	21	Mrs Dick
	28	Mrs Lindsay
November	04	Mrs Stoddart
	11	Mrs MacLean
	18	Mrs Wyllie
	25	Mrs Smith
December	02	Mrs MacLean
	09	Mrs Macintyre



Thank you to everyone who has gifted flowers over the past year.

E Gardiner

01698 427852

Flower Delivery

September	02	Mrs M Baird
	09	Mrs M Eadie
	16	Mrs H Troop
	23	Mrs M Green
	30	Mrs A Munn
October	07	Mrs M Frew
	14	Mrs S Nicholson
	21	Mrs J Jarvie
	28	Mrs F Brown
November	04	Mrs E Nelson
	11	Mrs J Dick
	18	Mrs M Dyet
	25	Mrs M Maclean
December	02	Mrs N Barr
	09	Mrs M Henderson



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 2018

September	02	P Scott
	09	G Keir
	16	J Swinton
	23	M Gilbert
October	07	E Smith
	21	N Barr
	28	J Jardine
November	11	L Craig
	25	M Henderson
December	02	F McIntosh
	09	E Reid



Flower Circle

Would the flower circle members please meet in the Halls on Friday 5 October 2018 at 9.30am to make up posies and decorate the Church. Greenery required.

Anyone willing to help will be made most welcome - flower arranging skills are not required. Bodies to help fetch and carry are.

Thank you.

E Gardiner



Scottish Bible Society

The Bible Society in Iraq is helping to bring comfort and hope to many as they begin to rebuild their lives - people like Ihsan and Lara, who lost their home and experienced tragedy.

When ISIS took over their city in August 2014, they had no choice but to flee their beautiful new home which had taken six years of sweat and sacrifice to build.

Ihsan's deep sorrow was not for the house - but for the death of his mother. A few days after they fled Qaraqosh, she died in the church hall which they shared with other refugee Iraqi families. Still traumatised by his mother's death, he said, 'Nothing is more important than my mother; she is everything to me.'

When they returned to their house in Qaraqosh, they were met with a ransacked building. Like many returning Christians, the first thing the couple did was remove the letter "N" in Arabic which had been daubed on the door by ISIS, meaning 'Nasrani' (Christian), to indicate that there were Christians living there and the inhabitants could be killed.

There was a lot of graffiti on the Christians' houses. Some said 'No more church - the Islamic State is remaining and expanding', but many of these had been overwritten with statements like 'Jesus is the light of the world' and 'God is love'.

Thanks to your support, the Bible Society in Iraq is able to provide Bibles and food packages which are distributed by the local churches.

Their Bible-based Trauma Healing programme is helping many people, like Ihsan and Lara, to work through their experiences and rediscover God's love for them and their families.

Muriel Eadie

Holiday Club 2018

Guardians of Ancora



MEIKLE FAMILY!!

June 2018
 robert.silvana@gmail.com



TRIP TO SCOTLAND...

We are just about ready to head back to Scotland for six months. We are trusting in Him to open new doors and to meet new supporters. We are very thankful, as we already have somewhere to stay for our whole time there. A family have very kindly given us a house in Bearsden, Glasgow.

I am hoping to travel to as many places possible to share and raise awareness about what God has been doing here in Brazil. We are looking to visit as many of our supporters and connections as possible. If any of you would like to have us come and share, please let us know so we can fill up our calendar as soon as possible.

We will be in the UK from the 5th July - 28th December. Our time there will also be good for our family, as we will be able to spend time with relatives and build relationships in person, rather than on a screen. It will be an exciting time for us all.

TEEN CAMP...

We were able to fit in a big camp before heading off for six months. It all came together after a specific donation for camps, and we got everything ready fairly quickly. It ended up being a very special time, with some great conversations with the teenagers. We were able to take 26 of our teenagers to the camp this year, and thankfully, all went well.

We were looking at the parable of the four soils and studied in depth where each and every one was in their walk with the Lord. It did rain the whole weekend, and was very cold, but the weather didn't get in the way of what we had prepared for the group. Every morning and evening we had a Bible study, and all the games during the camp were related to the theme.

PRAYER...

- We ask you to pray for our preparation as time is closing in. We trust in the Lord for our next steps, as it will all be very new and different for our family.
- Pray for our children as they will have to adapt to a new school, making new friends and getting used to a new environment.
- We pray that we manage to raise the support needed to come back to Brazil and follow up what He has called us to do.

God bless!!

Robert, Silvana, Vinny, Rafael, Marianne and Helena!





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*

*12 May 2018
 Mary Hobson*

*14 May 2018
 Adam Miller*

*1 June 2018
 Audrey Arthur*

*25 June 2018
 Caroline Gibson*

*28 June 2018
 Donald Mathieson*

*4 July 2018
 Tom Wright*

*13 July 2018
 Marilyn Stenton*

*17 July 2018
 Sandy Bruce*

*26 July 2018
 Charlotte (Lottie) Condie*

*5 August 2018
 Annie Davis*

Baptisms

*24 June 2018
 Rachel Linda Argue*

*29 July 2018
 Alexxa Vienna Hendry*

Heavenly Father,
as you reveal yourself to us
in the stories of scripture
and in the gospel of your Son,
may you also be found writing
on the pages of the book of our lives.
As we read our story to others,
some pages crisp, pristine,
some pages well thumbed,
give us ears to hear
the way you are woven into every page.
Help us to love, trust, and believe in You;
and to know
even as we are known.
You are with us
on every page.
Thank you for the story.
Amen.

