

THE NEW WELLWYNDER

MAY 2024

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Message from the Vestry

What are your preferences when it comes to birthdays? Do you tend to downplay the occasion, or perhaps not even mention them or do you go all out with celebrations every year? Do you prefer receiving gifts, or do you value creating lasting memories through experiences?

This month holds significance for Christians as we commemorate the birth of the Church, which occurs fifty days after Easter. The date varies annually, with this year's celebration falling on May 19th. We recall the pivotal moment described in the book of Acts in the Bible, when the Holy Spirit descended upon the followers of Jesus. "And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability" (Acts 2:2-4). This marked the transformation of a group initially plagued by confusion and fear into an inspired and energised community, emboldened to proclaim their remarkable discovery to the world.

Birthdays serve as moments for reflection—opportunities to assess our personal growth and chart our aspirations for the future. How have you changed both positively and negatively, throughout your years on this planet? What goals do you hope to achieve moving forward? Similarly, the Church, must reflect on how it has changed. We have a mission plan which whatever you think of it could (should) lead to the Church becoming an inspired and energised community, how do we then use this opportunity to take the good news to the world and bring folk to Jesus?

Despite its illustrious beginnings, the Church's history has been marked by challenges and imperfections and we should spend some time reflecting on instances where care and kindness were lacking, alongside moments of success and fulfilment. We as Christians, can seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit to invigorate our faith and propel us forward with hope and courage, just like the early believers.

As we embrace the onset of summer—a season synonymous with hope and renewal - let's consider making positive changes in our lives. Whether it's adopting healthier habits, pursuing enriching hobbies, repairing relationships, deepening our relationship with God or addressing personal shortcomings, may this season inspire us to embark on paths of growth and renewal.

And if May happens to be your birthday month as well, I extend heartfelt wishes for a joyous celebration!

Many blessings Yours in Christ Eleanor

Forthcoming Services

Sunday, 5th May

11 a.m. Morning Worship

Sunday, 12th May

11 a.m. Morning Worship

Sunday, 19th May

11 a.m. Morning Worship

Sunday, 26th May

11 a.m. Morning Worship

Sunday, 2nd June

11 a.m. Morning Worship

Tea and coffee will be served in the Church Hall after morning worship

Wednesday Services at 12 noon Delve in at 12

Our midweek service on a Wednesday at 12 noon will continue during the spring months.

All services are followed by tea and coffee.



Welcome Teams

Sunday, 5th May

Team Leader: Irene Yates Alex Anderson, Avril Cockburn, Allison Gray, Beatrice Holden, George Lowden

Sunday, 12th May

Team Leader: Harry Shaw Freda Gilchrist, Lynne Cartwright, Lynne Thompson, John Clydesdale, Maureen Patterson

Sunday 19th May

Team Leader: Barbara Watt William Watson (Sen), Gordon Waddell, Colin MacPherson, Lesley MacPherson, Carol Randall

Sunday, 26th May

Team Leader: Elizabeth Roberton George Lawson, Una Lawson, George Grant, Morag Stewart, George Murchison

The Birthday of the Church

You sent your Spirit to your disciples to strengthen and guide them to their task. Glory be to You, O Lord for the Church born of your Spirit's blast.

The disciples went with your Spirit to carry the good news to people all around the world, to follow through for you. As the Word spread from small gatherings in your time across the sea, across the land, from your time until mine.

People here still hear your Word, and are saved every day your Spirit is found throughout the world, blessed in every way. You have many followers now, many more than in the past my Lord, please continue to bless our world, with peace that will last.

You sent your Spirit to your disciples to strengthen and guide them in their task. Glory be to You, O Lord for the Church born of your Spirit's blast.

Francine Morales



Generosity of Giving - Relationships

Unfortunately, having only received a total of 55 replies from 390 invitations issued, it has been decided to postpone the Coming Together events which were scheduled to be held over the six Sundays from 21st April – 26th May 2024.

The Discipleship Group were disappointed to say the least about this response, but have agreed to meet again to review and re-plan the event for later in the year. We will keep you informed of progress - Watch this space!

David Walker

New Monkland Community Songsters

A Celebration of Music and Song to Welcome the New Season



Sunday, 2nd June

Team Leader: David Gillespie Christine Cassells, Christine Gibb, Anne Grainge, David Patterson

Thank You

Margaret Jack says thank you for the many cards, visits, flowers and phone calls following her recent fall. Your thoughtfulness is much appreciated.

Jean Robinson would like to thank everyone for the Church flowers and many messages of support following her recent knee operation. They were very much appreciated.

Christian Aid Quiz Can you name the flower or plant from these clues?

- 1. Girl on a tandem (5)
- 2. Sounds like animal in a hurry (7)
- 3. Dessert Bill (5, 7)
- 4. Bovine mistake (7)
- 5. Winter fall? (8)
- 6. Sounds like a smart cat (9)
- 7. A reminder (6, 2, 3)
- 8. She could be the apple of your eye (4)
- 9. Depressed ringer (8)
- 10. Warm that girl (7)
- 11. Tinned milk? (9)
- 12. Regret French street (3)
- 13. It doesn't wait for anyone, we hear (5)
- 14. A silly ram got mixed up (9)
- 15. Wise old man (4)
- 16. High temperature not many have (8)
- 17. Sounds like she'll wed for wealth (8)
- 18. She comes from the dale (4, 2, 3, 6)
- 19. Bird to encourage horse (8)
- 20. Miss Golightly to pawn (9)
- 21. Sugary vegetable (5, 3)
- 22. Scarlet hero (9)
- 23. Rate healthy (9)
- 24. Tiers, we hear (4)
- 25. Jolly greeting to wee girl (8)
- 26. Break mythical creature (10)
- 27. Old smoke (8)
- 28. Whale concealed (6)
- 29. Female footwear (5, 7)
- 30. Fawlty herb (5)

Answers on the last page.

Christian Aid Week 12th - 18th May 2024



As we look ahead to this year's event, we've Been reflecting on what a wonderful Christian Aid Week we had in 2023 and how grateful we are to all of our incredible supporters who made it happen raising over £4.6 million in the process.

Supporters like you helped people like Jen and Esther, two farmers in Malawi, transform their own lives. Jen and Esther, joined the pigeon pea programmes run by our partners, and started to sell as part of a cooperative, which enables farmers to earn more for their crops. We're absolutely delighted to share that both Jen and Esther achieved their highest prices ever in the last market season. With your continued support we will be able to help more people just like Jen and Esther push back against poverty this Christian Aid Week?

Jav Senior

Aline's Story

Poverty pushed Aline to the brink of survival. She was abused, homeless and hungry. But Aline pushed back harder. Driven by hope, faith and the love of her children, Aline was able to fight against the inhumanity of poverty and build herself a new life. In Burundi, malnourishment and poverty affect more than 70% of the population, making survival a daily struggle. Jobs and food are hard to come by, and those who have homes often have no electricity or running water. For Aline, life was a constant struggle. She was married young and gave birth to her eldest son, Fisto, when she was just 14 years old. Aline experienced constant abuse at the hands of her violent husband. A few years later, Aline faced even more devastation. Her husband married another woman, forcing Aline to flee. He prevented her from taking their children with her, and in a further act of cruelty, told the local community that Aline was mentally ill and unable to care for her children.

'I wandered the streets, asking anyone for a place to sleep. Those who showed me kindness would let me stay for two or three days, but it was difficult. People would insult me and treat me with contempt. They forgot I was a human being. It filled me with sorrow.'

Hungry, scorned and alone, Aline took her first step towards her new life. She started by participating in a transformative three-day community workshop, funded by Christian Aid.

'I came out with amazing knowledge and skills. The trainer restored a sense of hope and energy in me.'

She was taught how to form a Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA) and establish a steady income. VSLAs mean people can save for their future and borrow money to kick start small rural businesses. With all she had learned, Aline's dream of getting her children back finally felt possible. With a small start-up loan, Aline started trading avocados and peanuts locally. With her profits, she bought a bicycle so she could transport greater quantities of goods to markets further afield. Eventually, her hard work had finally paid off, and she had earned the money she needed to rent a house. Once Aline secured a home for herself, her three eldest sons were able to escape their father and join her.

International Nurses Day

On the 12th May, people everywhere celebrate International Nurses Day. The International Council of Nurses established Nurses Day in 1974 to recognize the excellent work that nurses do. International Nurses Day seeks to increase public awareness and press policymakers to enact improvements that will benefit nurses and patients alike. This has gained particular significance in recent years because it brings to light the difficulties and demands that many nurses face, particularly in the wake of the pandemic. Additionally, it has resulted in an extraordinary demand for nurse recruitment and training. We give thanks for all the hard working and dedicated nurses here in Scotland and thank them for the tremendous work they do caring for people in our communities throughout the country. All of their effort in whichever sector they may work is greatly appreciated by us all. Thank you.

The Editor

Stop Chasing Happiness!

"An old man lived in the village. The whole village was tired of him; he was always gloomy, he constantly complained and was always in a bad mood. The longer he lived, the viler he became and more poisonous were his words. People did their best to avoid him because his misfortune was contagious. He created the feeling of unhappiness in others.

But one day, when he turned eighty, an incredible thing happened. Instantly everyone started hearing the rumour that 'The old man is happy today, he doesn't complain about anything, smiles, and even his face is freshened up. 'The whole village gathered around the man and asked him, "What happened to you?" The old man replied, 'Nothing special. Eighty years I've been chasing happiness and it was useless. And then I decided to live without happiness and just enjoy life. That's why I'm happy now."

Moral of the story: Just enjoy life!

Phil Osopher

They told Aline that their father had abused them and sent their three young siblings to live with different members of his family. Aline still hopes that she'll be reunited with her youngest children in time.

Today, Aline lives peacefully on her own plot of land in a remote village in the Kayogoro Commune in Makamba Province. She's baked her own bricks and is building a strong home for her and her children in every sense. Now Aline can afford food, clothes and essential healthcare for her family. She's also purchased solar panels so her children can do their evening homework by electric light. 'I like to feed my family with the produce that I grow, such as beans, vegetables and corn. I am so happy that we are together. Now my children feel supported as they have a parent who can meet their needs.'

Of course, Burundi continues to be one of the toughest places on earth to live. The future is uncertain and challenges wait for families like Aline's around every corner. When a ferocious storm destroyed Aline's home, almost killing her and her children, she was able to recover by selling the cows she'd been keeping. Now when crisis threatens her family's survival, Aline has options. Even a small business can provide just enough resilience to weather the most brutal of storms here in Burundi. Aline can not only look ahead to her children's future now, but her own too. Naturally, Aline wants security as she ages. In the next five years she hopes to expand her current wholesale business by selling a range of goods, so that one day she can buy a mill. This will provide a source of income without the need to transport heavy goods over long distances. Aline told us: 'This is not a dream. It is a plan, and I will do it. I am a woman who is an achiever.'

Aline's long and difficult journey out of extreme poverty began with a little support, knowledge and faith from Christian Aid supporters like you.

'When we see Christian Aid, we feel comforted; we feel we are not alone. You helped us to change our poor living conditions. I really thank you from the very bottom of my heart.'

Aline

POVERTY

A prayer for Christian Aid Week

People working together, children going to school, women speaking out, tools for transformation, communities thriving and not just surviving, and no more hunger — these are fruits that will last.

Jesus who calls us friends, may we love one another and remain in your love.

aid

Art Club

A warm invitation is extended to everyone to come along to the Art Club, which is held in the Church Upper Hall on Friday afternoon's starting at 2.30pm. No experience necessary.

Gordon Waddell

Social Media Accounts

The congregation has Social Media accounts on Facebook and Instagram. On these platforms you will be able to find that Eleanor is posting information about what's going on during the week in the life of the congregation as well as inspirational messages and thoughts for the day. If you are able please take a look and 'like' or 'comment' as you are able.

Quiz Answers 1. Daisy 2. Bulrush

- 3. Sweet William 4. Cowslip
- 5. Snowdrop 6. Dandelion
- 7. Forget-me-not 8. Iris 9. Bluebell
- 10. Heather 11. Carnation 12. Rue
- 13. Thyme 14. Amaryllis 15. Sage
- 16. Feverfew 17. Marigold
- 18. Lily of the valley 19. Larkspur
- 20. Hollyhock 21. Sweet pea
- 22. Pimpernel 23. Speedwell 24. Rose
- 25. Hyacinth 26. Snapdragon
- 27. Woodbine 28. Orchid
- 29. Lady's slipper 30. Basil

How did you do?

Useful Contacts

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Kids' Corner



Happy Birthday to You!

When God started his Church, he sent the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit could have come with healing, or walking on water but it came with language which allowed all listeners to hear about Jesus in a way they would understand.

'All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.' Acts 2:4

On that day, God was not only fulfilling his promise from Jesus to his disciples, he was fulfilling a much older plan to unite all the different people of the world. God used language to bring people together as he started his Church.

How can you use words to show the love of Jesus to people? Can you learn a few phrases of another language to share with others? Things like hello or welcome, thank you, good to see you or how are you?

Here are some examples:

Hello

Bonjour (French), Ciao (Italian), Hola (Spanish), Ola (Portuguese), Kia ora (Maori), Aloha (Hawaiian) Namaste (Hindi), Ni hao (Chinese).

Thank you

Merci (French), Grazie (Italian), Gracias (Spanish), Obrigado (Portuguese), Whakawhetai koe (Maori), Mahalo (Hawaiian), Dhanyavaad (Hindi), Xiexie (Chinese).

There are currently 7164 known languages spoken by people around the world, so you have plenty to choose from!

Explore as many words as you can. Learning another language is a great way to connect with other people and it can be good fun.

Always Remember

Jesus t'aime

Gesu ti ama

Jesus te ama







THE HOLY SPIRIT COMES

Discover the hidden words.

												1/5		
K	P	A	F	Z	R	U	F	T	D	D	G	I	0	J
R	C	I	D	D	K	R	5	E	R	I	M	0	Y	0
P	I	A	Q	W	U	0	V	G	T	5	W	U	D	E
W	I	5	R	F	C	A	D	I	X	C	I	G	H	P
E	A	Н	E	E	5	E	R	X	N	I	N	J	J	5
0	M	0	T	N	Z	I	A	I	F	P	D	0	G	E
I	F	N	W	I	P	L	P	M	S	L	T	C	I	Q
F	E	N	T	5	J	G	A	0	J	E	N	В	F	J
P	E	P	Y	G	N	P	D	U	V	5	X	Н	T	V
T	A	L	E	0	L	Н	U	K	I	L	N	U	N	Y
В	0	N	K	V	J	W	Y	C	Y	T	E	C	N	Y
Н	P	E	T	E	R	G	T	G	X	D	5	Z	D	В
5	N	V	C	Н	V	F	J	N	В	V	Y	E	V	M
V	E	0	F	A	0	X	В	D	P	U	0	M	F	G
5	U	5	E	J	A	N	T	Н	W	P	В	C	P	E

Word Bank

BAPTIZED

GIFT

SAVED

FESTIVAL

GOD

PENTECOST

DISCIPLES

HOLYSPIRIT

JESUS

RISEN

WIND

PETER







