

THE NEW WELLWYNDER

March 2019

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from the Manse -

Dear Friends,

Genki Kawamura has a thoroughly thought provoking series of experiences with the Devil in his highly acclaimed book "If Cats Disappeared From The World". A young man's days are numbered and given the opportunity of adding days to his life - one day for each thing he removes, not only from his life, but also from the world. It's a bit like Ko-Ko's little list in "The Mikado" except it's what will never be missed but what the character would really miss in his life. Quite a challenging thought.

I wonder what we'd have on our list or even our bucket list, what we could live without and what we couldn't live without. Kawamura's novel reminds me a bit of those Tom and Jerry cartoons when the devil is on one shoulder and an angel on the other - two quite different voices calling us to make choices for good or ill. Be it choices about what is important and unimportant in our lives, about the directions our lives are going, about priorities along the way, we are all too often pulled in different directions. I believe that Lent is a time to take stock in life, especially about our faith and how strong or even, how important it is in the big things and the big decisions but also in the every day routine of life.

Right at the start of Lent, we often think about Jesus being tested in the desert when the Devil sits on his shoulder, yet he is guided not by what he hears or finds there, but what is in his heart and engraved in his mind, the very Word of God. No matter our view on the Devil, there is no doubt in my mind that as Jesus had choices to make, influenced by self or by the guiding hand of God, these choices were there, and uppermost on his mind up until the moment of crucifixion where and when he was tested by the call that if he was the very Son of God, he'd come down from the cross.

Although we have choices to make on a regular basis, Lent is a time to consider how much we are prepared to be guided by self, or by the world or by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. There are many others on a Sunday morning at worship, Sunday night at our Lenten Cafe Church or even at home as you follow the Lenten study book, which a number of the congregation are following at this time. For this you might be able to create a spiritual bucket list, filled with so much we shouldn't and cannot miss, like a regular time to hear the word, digest it and act upon it, a list of

what we can do to deepen our relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ and each other, a list of what we might do to bring something positive from our faith into the life of the world.

Lent is traditionally seen as a time to give up something and it is right that we make sacrifices, but only to make way for what it is good and wholesome, when it comes to the faith.

*"May the Word of Christ dwell richly
In my heart from hour to hour,
So that all may see I triumph
Only through His pow'r."*

May this be our heartfelt prayer this Lent and beyond.

Your friend and minister.



SERVICES

March

- 10 11 a.m. - Morning Worship: 1st. Sunday in Lent.
At home in Lent: Mirror, mirror on the wall . . .
Sacrament of Holy Baptism.
6:30 p.m. - Lenten Café
At home in Lent: Going a bit deeper!
- 17 11 a.m.- Morning Worship: 2nd. Sunday in Lent.
At home in Lent: Put on those walking shoes!
6:30 p.m. - Lenten Café
At home in Lent: Going a bit deeper!
- 24 11 a.m.- Morning Worship: 3rd. Sunday in Lent.
At home in Lent: 20/20 Vision.
6:30 p.m. - Lenten Café
At home in Lent: Going a bit deeper!
- 31 11 a.m.- Morning Worship: 4th. Sunday in Lent.
*At home in Lent: Flash, bang, wallop,
what a picture!*
Admission of Elder.
6:30 p.m. - Lenten Café
At home in Lent: Going a bit deeper!

April

- 7 11 a.m. - Morning Worship: 5th. Sunday in Lent.
At home in Lent: Catching THE book bug!
6:30 p.m. - Lenten Café
At home in Lent: Going a bit deeper!

* The Lenten Cafe will be an opportunity to go a bit deeper into the themes covered in the Lenten book, "At Home In Lent". Whether or not you have purchased the book the questions covered are for you and will help explore at a deeper level, albeit informally, themes to help deepen your faith.

** There will be more details in next month's newsletter about Holy Week and Easter Services. There will be joint services once again between New Wellwynd and St Columba's each night of Holy Week starting at 7.30 p.m.. Holy Week begins on Monday, 15th April with the services on the Monday, Wednesday and Friday

being held in St Columba's and on the Tuesday, Maundy Thursday and Saturday in the New Wellwynd Parish Church.

A WORD OF THANKS

Once again I am indebted to my friends at The New Wellwynd for the love, support and kindness shown to me and the family during my absence following surgery in January. Your thoughts and prayers went a long way to sustain and support me during a difficult and tiring time. I look forward to being with you once again and ask for your forbearance as I get myself back into a routine once again. I am indebted to Maxine who has looked after things so well, supported by so many. As of yet, I am waiting for results from the post-surgery biopsy so, your prayers are continually sought.

Warmest regards

ROBBIE

EXPLORING FAITH

Exploring Faith is a course exploring the Christian Faith published by the Church of Scotland. It is designed for those who want a refresher or for those exploring for the first time perhaps with a view to becoming full members. The class is kicking off on Sunday, 17th March at 2:30 p.m. in the Session Room. If you are interested in coming along or know someone who is interested in membership please let me know.

Contact the minister, Robbie on 763022 or email him - rhamilton@churchofscotland.org.uk

DRIVERS / FLOWER DELIVERY.

March

10 Alister Weighton.
17 Allister Jack.
24 Ian McIndoe.
31 Elisabeth Donald.

April

7 Moira Gartshore.

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

Funerals :

Jessie Black; May Watson; Jack Hamilton;
Graham Brocas; Archie Nicol.

Change of Address/District :

Mr. & Mrs. Tom Chambers, 20 Auctioneer's Way,
1 Dalmahoy Drive, Newarthill,
Motherwell, ML1 5UP. (D.64).

Mr. Christopher Milligan, 8 Colston Row,
Colston Road, Airdrie, ML6 7DB (D.18)
to Address Unknown (D.64).

Mr. James McArthur, 69 Broompark Crescent,
Airdrie, ML6 6DA (D.16),
to Rawyards Care Home, Motherwell Street,
Airdrie, ML6 7HP (D.9).

To Reserve Roll : Mrs. R. Weir (D.58)

BIBLE READINGS

February

3 Galatians 4 : 8 - 9; Luke 5 : 33 - 39.
10 Isaiah 62 : 6 - 9; Luke 11 : 5 - 13.

17 Hebrews 8 : 8 - 12; John 6 : 35 - 71.
24 Joel 2: 28 - 32; 1 Corinthians 12: 12 - 14, 27;
Revelation 21: 1 - 4.

WELCOME TEAMS

March

10 Team Leader: David Watt
Morag Donald, Linda Francis, Margaret Jack,
Allister Jack, Alison Sefton, David Walker.
17 Team Leader : Drew Glen
Billy Brooks, George Grant, Janet Nimmo,
Tom Sorbie, Isabel Sorbie, Karen Taylor.
24 Team Leader: Alistair Murray
Lesley Aitken, Irene Bremner, Carol Hamilton,
Gordon Lind, Liz Riddell, Alister Weighton.
31 Team Leader: Irene Yates
Avril Cockburn, Alan Cox, Julie Fleming,
Alison Gray, Beatrice Holden, George Lowdon,

April

7 Team Leader: David Gillespie
Christine Cassells, Christine Gibb,
Anne Grainge, Jim Neilson, Jim Nimmo,
Margaret Reid.

THANKS

Thank you for the lovely floral arrangement I received on my recent bereavement - the loss of my sister, Anna. The flowers were very much appreciated at this sad time. *BETTY TWEEDIE*

Helen and David Black would like to thank all those at New Wellwynd who helped us with our mum - Jessie Black's funeral. Also, to thank Robbie very much for all his visits to her over many years and to Janet and Maxine in more recent times. We know she appreciated all you did for her.

Lynn Dobbie would like to thank the congregation for the lovely flowers received following here recent accident. They were very much appreciated.

TRAIDCRAFT

When reading this we'll be in the middle of Fairtrade fortnight.

Please remember, when you're out doing the shopping, please look out for the Fairtrade mark and where possible buy fairly traded goods, and encourage your friends and family to do so as well.

The support by the congregation, as well as some organisations, given to our own Traidcraft stall is greatly appreciated, but if you've not already browsed or bought anything from our own stall, give it a try.

Thanks are also extended to the teams who work on the stall each week.

Saturday 9th March from 11:00 - 12:00.

The Fairtrade Town Group have organised a tasting session on this date in the Hospice.

SENIORS' OUTING

The Seniors' Outing this year is on Saturday, 27th April. Buses will leave the Church at 10:30 a.m. and our destination is Broughty Ferry. We are going straight to Broughty Ferry and there will be plenty of time to spend in the town. We will be returning via The Mustard Seed Christian Outreach Centre in Perth for High Tea. The centre also has a book shop which they are keeping open for us. Invitations will be going out shortly, however, if you are not handed an invitation and are of pensionable age, please approach a member of Cameo to ensure you are included on the Outing. *WILMA DAVIDSON*

SENIOR CIRCLE

Our session continues on the 5th March when we welcome a representative from Summerlee Heritage Park. On the 19th March, Anne and Avril are our guests, who will be sharing some of their craft skills with us. Our final meeting and closing lunch is on the 2nd April when Margaret, Eileen and Bobby will provide musical entertainment. All will be made most welcome. *ISABELL GIBSON*

SHONA MACDONALD

We were so sorry to hear of the sudden and untimely death of one of our Elders, Shona Macdonald. In paying tribute to Shona in church I said how important family was to Shona and that was true also of her church family. Since she and Adam made Airdrie their home, she settled well into the family of The New Wellwynd, getting to know people and involving herself in as much as she could from worship, which she enjoyed and got so much out of, to any event she could be at.

Shona was a lady of faith, whose faith meant the world to her be it at worship, serving as an Elder which she was so proud to do - she was deeply honoured when I asked her on behalf of the session. Her faith was also very practical seen in her care, kindness and generosity. She would have given her last. Many might think of someone in need or going through a difficult time, but Shona would do something to show her concern be it a card, a call and the offer of help.

She was a good and loyal friend to many and that big, loving heart gave so much to so many of us especially to her family, Katrina, Eilidh and Adam, whom we continue to remember in our prayers.

Iona Abbey Restoration Appeal

An Evening of Psalms, Hymns and Tunes from Scottish sources for all to enjoy is being planned for Wednesday 3rd April 2019, at 7:30 p.m. in St. Columba's Church.

This evening is to raise funds for the Iona Abbey Restoration Appeal and all churches who have a link to St. Columba have been contacted by the appeal group.

Donations welcome towards the appeal on the evening. All will be made welcome.

OUR STUDENT, BEVERLEY, SAYS :

As a very young girl, I wanted to work in the post office, I liked the idea of stamping with an ink pad, that never happened. When, as a family, we left Glasgow to move to a wee cottage in Greengairs, I was 13 years old and, of course, still at school. This was the time I stopped attending Church, however, I was involved with the Girls Brigade for a couple of years. When I was 15, I left school and started working as a clerk with Scottish Farmers Dairies in Cumbernauld . . . I married at 19, emigrated to South Africa for a couple of years and worked as a credit controller. Then back to Scotland working as a wages clerk. I had my first daughter at 23 and this was when I returned to Church (being invited to by my Mum at the Toddler Group). A second daughter at 27 and shortly afterwards joined New Monkland Church on the same day as my daughters were baptised. After being a stay-at-home Mum doing several part-time jobs, I started working again as an Auditor part-time when my youngest was 3 and in nursery, and later within the same company as their Admin. Supervisor.

Fast forward to 1992, moved to Callander. Fast forward again, moved to Bellshill. I was ordained as an elder in Calder Parish Church in Coatbridge. It was there that I sensed God's call into a different type of ministry and it's this call, as Ordained Local Minister, that I am working towards. I retired early leaving a managerial role. It's been a long journey so far with University modules, discernment placement, assessments, and conferences to attend.

Having said all that: I can say it's not been easy, but I am learning so much and enjoying it so much that the 4 years have passed quickly. I have been made very welcome at all of my placements and it's clear to see God's hand in many of the good works that are being done across our Presbytery and throughout Scotland.

I know that this may sound cheesy, but the folk at New Wellwynd have made me feel "at home" and I thank you all for that.

All going well, I will be moving again to complete my training (a year's probationary placement) later this year.

Can I urge anyone who may be sensing that God is calling them, to talk to your minister and friend, Robbie, as I am sure he will be happy to help you to decide either way. Or, if it's not for you, then why not invite someone to join you in Church one Sunday - that may be all they need to be able to walk through those church doors again. *BEVERLEY*

Fasting and Feasting During Lent

Fast from judging others;

Feast on Christ dwelling in them.

Fast from emphasis on differences;

Feast on the unity of all life.

Fast from apparent darkness;

Feast on the reality of all light.

Fast from thoughts of illness;

Feast on the healing power of God.

Fast from words that pollute;

