

THE NEW WELLWYNDER

March 2020

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from the Manse -

Dear Friends,

I never quite knew what to expect from my visit to Turkey in January except that it was going to be a busy one. And, boy, was it busy. But in a good way. From the variety of people I met through to the places I visited, it was filled with one amazing experience after another.

Someone asked not that long ago as to whether it was "successful", and it was in that I got to the memorial where my great-grandfather Andrew Hamilton's name is inscribed. In many ways Gallipoli was quite surreal. In the peaceful setting of the peninsula today, I tried to imagine in my mind where he landed on the south side of the peninsula where his regiment would have approached the region from the sea. I also tried to imagine what it must have been like for him and his comrades and wondered where he walked, how and where he died. I will never ever know, but recognise how difficult it must have been for him and for all involved.

Turkey saw me walk in the footsteps of others as well - Helen of Troy when I visited the ruins of the ancient city, and Paul when I visited the ruins of Ephesus where he stayed when writing to his friends at Corinth and where he also founded a church. Walking in the steps of those who have gone before us - from those who passed down something of the faith, through to those who fought to secure our peace - is always humbling and such a tremendous privilege. It also is challenging when we bring to mind not just the example that they have set for us, but also what they might have taught us.

The season of Lent will have started by the time you read this letter, and it is a time of walking in the footsteps - walking in the footsteps of our Lord himself. This walk and journey intensifies in Holy Week which reaches a tremendous crescendo on Easter Sunday. It is a privilege to have been invited to journey with him as he has said to each and every one of us, "come, follow me". It is also a tremendous challenge of faith when we realise what it involves. It involves a cross, facing up to what we'd rather avoid, but at the same time embrace the love of God as he embraces us in love.

In the past I have spoken about walking in his footsteps, recognising that he walks in ours having come to earth to embrace our lives and our experiences in life. May he be our constant guide and continual reassuring presence.

*Oh, let me see Thy footmarks,
And in them plant mine own;
My hope to follow duly
Is in Thy strength alone.
Oh, guide me, call me, draw me,
Uphold me to the end;
And then to rest receive me,
My Saviour and my Friend.*

Your friend and minister.



SERVICES

March

- 8 11 a.m. Second Sunday in Lent -
Going Public.
6:30 p.m. *Lenten Cafe.
- 15 11 a.m. Third Sunday in Lent -
Water of Life.
6:30 p.m. *Lenten Cafe.
- 22 11 a.m. Fourth Sunday in Lent -
Sight and Insight.
6:30 p.m. *Lenten Cafe.
- 29 11 a.m. Fifth Sunday in Lent -
If Only.
3:00 p.m. B. B. Battalion Service.
6:30 p.m. *Lenten Cafe.

April

- 5 11 a.m. Palm Sunday -
Turning Point.
6:30 p.m. *Lenten Cafe.
- * Lenten Cafe will be held in the Session Room.

DRIVERS / FLOWER DELIVERY.

March

- 8 Dianne Stein.
15 John Jarvie.
22 Alan Provan.
29 Beatrice Holden.

April

- 5 Margo Elliott.

FLOWER CALENDAR

March

- 8 Sandra Blair.
15 Robert W. Forrest; Margaret Reid.
22 Liz Riddell; Irene Bremner.
29 Irene Docherty; Magda Stark.

April

- 5 May McMullan; Lynne Cartwright.

Protection of Vulnerable Groups Training Event
Hamilton Presbytery have organised a Volunteer Training Event for Wednesday, 11th March 2020 between 7-9 pm in Craigneuk Belhaven Parish Church, Wishaw.

Anyone requiring Volunteer Training and wishing to attend this event should contact me ASAP by text on 07854 060712. Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me?

Christine Gibb

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

Change of District :

Jim & Alison Milwain from D.41 to D.57.

Ellen Lindsay from D.67 to D.9.

Funerals :

Rosina (Ina) Peacock; Ann Gilmour.

Baptisms :

William Davidson, John Davidson,
Anikka Davidson, Irene Davidson, Theo Brook.

'Give Peace a Chance'

* 'If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other.'

Mother Teresa

* 'If you want to make peace with your enemy, you have to work with your enemy. Then he becomes your partner.'

Nelson Mandela

* 'Peace is our gift to each other.'

Elie Wiesel

* 'Let us not deceive ourselves; we must select world peace or world destruction.'

Bernard Baruch

* While you are proclaiming peace with your lips, be careful to have it even more fully in your heart.'

Francis of Assisi

WELCOME TEAMS

March

- 8 Team Leader : David Gillespie.
Christine Cassells, Christine Gibb,
Anne Grainge, Jim Neilson,
Jim Nimmo, Margaret Reid.
- 15 Team Leader : Elizabeth Roberton.
Sandy Black, Mima Dalziel, Isabell Gibson,
George Grant, George Lawson,
Morag Stewart.
- 22 Team Leader : Bobby Forrest.
Fraser Gillespie, Gordon Lind,
Mairi Mitchell, Jim Thomson,
William Watson, Catherine Whellans.
- 29 Team Leader : Maggie Weir.
Lesley Aitken, Irene Bremner,
Wilma Davidson, Carol Hamilton,
Anne Learmonth, Liz Riddell.

April

- 5 Team Leader : Moira Gartshore.
Matt Fleming, Margaret Jarvie,
Jean Kinniburgh, Elaine McGuire,
George Randall, Ronnie Wright.

BIBLE READINGS

February

- 2 1 Corinthians 1 : 18 - 31;
Micah 6 : 1 - 8; Matthew 5 : 1 - 12.
- 9 1 Corinthians 2 : 1 - 12;
Isaiah 58 : 1 - 9a; Matthew 5 : 13 - 20.
- 16 1 Corinthians 3 : 1 - 9;
Deuteronomy 30 : 15 - 20;
Matthew 5 : 21 - 37.
- 23 Ecclesiastes 4 : 7 - 12;
Luke 4 : 1 - 4, 27 - 28; Romans 12 : 3 - 8.

LANARKSHIRE CANCER CARE TRUST

This Trust offers cancer patients and their carers living in the NHS Lanarkshire area free transport to the treatments they need. If you would like to make

use of this service, just telephone the Trust on 01698 355137 and suitable arrangements will be made. Last year, there were 104 Volunteer Drivers who covered 471,291 miles (the equivalent of driving to the moon and back). 14,430 patients appointments were undertaken with the Volunteer Drivers' fuel costing £150,813.12p.

THANKS

Marylin McMillan says 'Thank You very much' to the church and congregation for the lovely flowers received. They were very much appreciated and cheered me up no end. Thanks again.

David Walker & Rosina Johnstone would like to thank Robbie, Laura and the congregation for their visits, flowers, cards, kind words and prayers following the death of Auntie Ina (Peacock).

These were very much appreciated.

Susan Forrester would like to thank everyone at New Wellwynd for the lovely flowers she received. They were greatly appreciated.

Betty Wilson would like to thank all her friends and everyone at New Wellwynd for their kind thoughts, prayers and flowers received during her recent illness. All 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 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.

SENIOR CIRCLE

Our session continues on Tuesday, 3rd March when we welcome a representative from 'The Friends of Airdrie West End Park.' On the 17th March we will then welcome a representative from Glenton Travel. Our closing lunch is being held on the 31st March (1-3pm) when entertainment will be provided by Margaret Jack. A warm invitation is extended to one and all.

Isabell Gibson

Teamwork is important!

A long time ago there was a trader who was raising two donkeys. One he called Donkey-A, and the other Donkey-B. Donkey-A felt he was more energetic and could do better than the other donkey. He always tried to get the traders attention by taking more of the load and walking as fast as he could in front of him. Donkey-B was just a normal donkey. He tried as hard as he could, but he couldn't carry as much as Donkey-A, or impress the trader by walking in front of him. After a period of time the trader began to put pressure on Donkey-B. But Donkey-B couldn't meet his expectations and

eventually started getting punished. One day poor Donkey-B was crying and asked Donkey-A to help him. He said, "Dear friend, it is only the two of us. Why do we compete against each other? If we worked together we could carry an equal load at a normal speed." Donkey-A became even more competitive after that. The next day he boasted to the trader that he could carry more and run faster than Donkey-B, and he did. The trader, as expected, became even angrier and demanded Donkey-B to go even faster punishing him more when he couldn't! Under the pressure Donkey-B collapsed in great fatigue and quietly passed away. As a result of the collapse, Donkey-A felt like he was on top of the world, having proved his superior skills and abilities. But now he also had to carry Donkey-B's load. For a short time Donkey-A was able to carry both loads, but he eventually became fatigued and weak. The trader had no compassion on this once superior, but now tired donkey. He yelled and demanded more, but as hard as this donkey tried, he couldn't come close to satisfying his demands. Finally the day came when the trader was tired of this fatigued and no good donkey. He killed him and went searching for some other donkeys.

The moral of this story is to recognise that regardless of how strong you might think you are, you can't do it alone. It is important to work together. Worrying more about your own performance, taking all the credit and trying to do more than you are capable of doing eventually comes back and bites you one way or another. Be a team player! In addition leaders must recognise that giving all of the work to the superstar(s) eventually burns them out and creates low morale amongst the team. Donkey-B may not have been the strongest and the fastest, but he was consistent. While every leader wants a team full of superstars, it doesn't work that way. There are only so many superstars per team. Treat your "Steady Eddie's" well and your superstars fair and the result will be a balanced and high performing team..... So which one are you? Are you a Superstar or a Steady Eddie? Either way both are equally as important especially when working together!

Phil Osopher

A climate for change

From grab and go, from convenience now that costs the future, to make and mend, use again and love the local – there's a climate for change. From them and us, from finger-pointing and laying blame at doors never knocked on, to one world, one family of God where there are no 'only children' – there's a climate for change. From circled wagons, from black and white and righteous indignation, to the subtle hues and hints of the creator in every created being and thing; a global neighbourhood watch that refuses to watch over pockets of poverty – there's a climate for change.

The year moves swiftly from celebrating the birth of a baby to following the footsteps of the man, Jesus. When he walked the world, he did not shy away from change. He embodied it. As we journey with him, we create a climate for change in a world sometimes suffocating in the status quo. Through

you, Christian Aid refuses to stand still while people live in poverty and fear. Thank you for raising your voices, raising awareness and raising money to invest in sisters and brothers across the world. At the Gatherings across Scotland during February, we have been galvanising each other, joining sisters and brothers across the globe to consider our shared commitment to justice. In April, we will gather again, not just crossing bridges on a spring day, but building bridges to a better future. Ahead of Christian Aid Week in May, I thank you for yet again knocking on doors, brewing coffee, hosting a big brekkie or a book sale. Thank you for finding so many creative ways to move the Christian Aid justice movement forward! And all year, we move towards [COP 26](#) (Conference of the Parties – UN Climate Summit) in Glasgow – a once in a lifetime opportunity for Scotland to be part of a climate legacy that changes climate change for good!

Sally Foster-Fulton

The Whinha' Bible – Yield no tae Temptation!

During this time of Lent we are reminded of the temptation of Jesus in the wilderness by the deil! As we recall the story may we reflect on our own life's temptations – good, bad or otherwise!

Efter Jesus wis baptised, he wis led by the Spirit intae the wilderness an for forty days he wis tempted by the deil. Jesus never ate a thing during those forty days, an as ye can imagine, he wis gie hungry by the time it wis ower!

The deil saw this as an opportunity tae tempt him again. He said tae Jesus, "If you ir the Son o' God, turn these stanes intae bread." Now the idea o' a Mother's Pride Plain Loaf fae a heep o stanes is beyond imagination! Anyway, Jesus answered him back saying, "Man cannot live oan bread alone."

The deil then took Jesus up ontae a high mountain an showed him aw the kingdoms o' the world. He said tae Jesus, "I will gie you aw the wealth an power o' these kingdoms if you worship me." Jesus again answered him saying, "Worship the Lord yer God an serve only him!"

The deil then brought Jesus tae Jerusalem an took him up tae the highest part o' the temple an dared him tae jump aff! He said that angels wid come an lift him up so he widnae get hurt! Again, Jesus answered him back, "Dinnae put the Lord yer God tae the test." The deil eventually gied up an went away for the time being.

In our own lives the deil is never far awa, testing and trying us in so many different ways. Next time you are tempted, think o' Jesus in the wilderness, stand firm and like him 'Yield no tae Temptation!

George Randall

'Give Peace a Chance'

* 'When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will know peace.'

Jimi HendriX

FOOTBALL HEROES

As someone who has a keen interest in football it would be fair to say I have a number of foot-balling heroes. Born and bred here in Airdrie, the Diamonds have always been my first love and growing up in the late sixties and seventies I had many favourites – Mackenzie, Jonquin, Keenan, Goodwin, Black, Whiteford, Wilson, Jarvie, Busby, McPheat and Phillips to name but a few! Turn the clock back sixty years from this time and Thomas Gracie and Daniel McKeller may have been two of my boyhood heroes. And heroes they were, as they served and gave their lives for King and Country during the Great War. Thomas served with the Royal Scots and Daniel with the Highland Light Infantry. Football teams up and down the length and breadth of the country lost many players in the battlefields of France and Belgium. One team in particular within Scotland suffered many losses and that was Heart of Midlothian. McCrae's Battalion was the affectionate name given by the people of Edinburgh to the 16th (Service) Battalion of the Royal Scots, raised from volunteers in 1914 as part of the New Armies called to the Colours by Lord Kitchener. Largely composed of professional and amateur sportsmen, "McCrae's" was the first of the so-called 'footballers' battalions to be raised during World War One. Heart of Midlothian comfortably led the First Division at the time the war broke out. Sixteen players from Heart of Midlothian enlisted along with 500 Hearts supporters and ticket-holders who were encouraged to follow in their heroes' footsteps and fight alongside the men they cheered on every Saturday afternoon. The unit was named after its charismatic colonel, Sir George McCrae, who was a Scottish textile merchant and Liberal Party politician. Under his leadership the unit managed to penetrate the enemy line more than any other regiment during the 'big push' of July 1916. McCrae's Battalion lost 12 officers and 573 men – more than three-quarters of its attacking strength. Four Hearts footballers had fallen – Harry Wattie, Duncan Currie, Ernie Ellis and Jimmy Boyd. A memorial cairn dedicated to McCrae's Battalion was erected in the French village of Contalmaison, a commune in the Somme département, where so many of its soldiers fell in 1916. Players from Hibernian, Falkirk, Dunfermline Athletic and Raith Rovers also lost their lives fighting with McCrae's Battalion. For the record, The Royal Scots is the oldest Infantry Regiment of the Line in the British Army and can trace its history back to 1633. By the 4th August 1914, Britain and much of Europe were pulled into a war which would last 1,566 days, cost 8,528,831 lives and 28,938,073 casualties or missing on both sides. The Regiment raised a total of 35 Battalions and received 71 Battle Honours and 6 Victoria Crosses, losing 11,162 men during the course of the War. At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them,

George Randall

Church Chuckles - Hearing Problems!

An elderly gentleman had serious hearing problems for a number of years. He went to the doctor and the doctor was able to have him fitted for a set of hearing aids that allowed the gentleman to hear 100%. The elderly gentleman went back in a month to the doctor and the doctor said, "Your hearing is perfect. Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again." The gentleman replied, "Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I've changed my will three times!"

IM Jolly

Church Chuckles – So far so good!

So far today, God, I've done all right. I haven't gossiped, haven't lost my temper, haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or over-indulgent. I'm really glad about that. But in a few minutes, God, I'm going to get out of bed and from then on I'm probably going to need a lot more help. Thank you, in Jesus name. Amen.

IM Jolly

'Give Peace a Chance'

* 'Peace cannot be kept by force; it can only be achieved by understanding.' *Albert Einstein*

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for all involved in the work of NWPC that we might continue to share in a partnership bringing others to a knowledge on the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Pray for the time of reflection in the Season of Lent that it might enrich faith, strengthen fellowship and enrich faith.
- Pray for the Services in Lent, including the Cafe Church on a Sunday evening, that we might draw closer to God and to each other.
- Pray for all who are enquiring about service in the Church, and for those who are training at the moment.
- Pray for the united witness of all churches in the town and surrounding areas.
- Pray for the continual work of the churches in the schools both at Rochsolloch and Airdrie Academy.
- Pray for the personal witness of all Christians that through "gossiping the Gospel" more will come to a full knowledge of the love of God in Jesus.

Useful Contacts

Minister	: Revd Robert A Hamilton	01236763022.
Session Clerk	: T. Fraser Gillespie	01236 604860.
Treasurer	: David J. Watt	01698 853921.
Organist	: David J. Stewart	07774 674345.
Roll Keeper	: W. Allister Jack	01236 767898.
Hall Convener	: Robert W. Forrest	01236 767210.