

THE NEW WELLWYNDER

October 2018

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from the Manse -

*“Robbie, Robbie . . .
what is your mind’s distraction
what are you so careful of
that I, can’t get your attention?”*

*Robbie, Robbie . . .
if only you would put Me first
before you did anything else
then in Me, you’d be immersed!”*

Dear Friends,

If there was a qualification in procrastination I wonder how many of us would graduate in it with honours? This poem by Deborah Ann Belka asks quite searching questions about the dangers of procrastination when we busy ourselves with the things of the world that take our focus off of God at the very heart of our life and, even, the life of the church.

I am the first to admit that I can find myself being easily distracted, not in a way that I am doing nothing, but that I am perhaps focusing on and putting too much energy into, yes, what might be worthy, but might not be the priority - God’s priority. The story of Martha and Mary comes to mind when in the presence of our Lord, Mary does what Jesus declares was the right thing in sitting at his feet. It wasn’t that she was doing nothing, but that she was assuming the pose of a pupil at the feet of a teacher, holding onto his every word and growing in wisdom with his teaching. She wasn’t only “taking” from Jesus, she was also “giving” as she worshiped at his feet in a way that would have encouraged him not only there and then, but also in the darkest moment of his life as we journey towards the cross and beyond. Martha in her busyness missed that opportunity.

Yes, we need to be busy. Yes, we need to share the load. This is exactly what the Stewardship Programme was all about last year as we continue to build on it and learn lessons from it. We need to be busy in the right way, with the right focus, with our eyes fixed on Jesus in the example of faithfulness to God and service to others he set. This begins with being still. Yes, being still! One lesson that I have learned this year is that circumstances sometimes slow us down, stop us in our tracks even, bringing us to a point when with no distractions we have no option but to listen and to take stock of so much in life. Situations are not necessarily sent by God, but can be used by him to help us look at where we have been, where we are and where we are going. There

will be feelings ranging from regret through to celebrate and none of us will be immune from these. But with them come God’s good gifts of forgiveness, love and grace as he welcomes us when we have gone astray and embraces us in our fears.

If circumstances can do this, why can’t we find a regular time to be still, be it at worship on a Sunday or in our time of devotion? ALL are welcome on a Sunday, a Friday and at other times where two or three gather in the Lord’s name. ALL are welcome into the arms of God to know the length, breadth of his love for us.

“Be still, and know that I am God. . .”

In quiet times and busy times, in days of sunshine and in the midst of the storm, may all of us know the peace that comes from not only believing in God, but knowing him personally in our lives, a knowledge that “sets our troubled hearts at rest” and urges us to walk forward in faith and, in the words of the prophet Micah, “to act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God”.

Your friend and minister.



SERVICES

October

- 14 11 a.m. - Morning Worship
Open to God’s Dream
- 21 11 a.m. - Morning Worship
Power to the people!
- 28 11 a.m. - Morning Worship
Reconciliation: a family is reunited

November

- 4 11 a.m. - Morning Worship
All Saints: On the road to holiness
We welcome pupils and staff from Airdrie Academy to this service.
- 6:30 p.m. - Evening Worship
At this service, we welcome friends from the local Masonic Lodges.
- 11 10:45 a.m. - Morning Worship -
Remembrance Sunday
Lest we forget
Dedication of Memorial Bench marking 100 years since the first Armistice Day.
(Additional Offering uplifted for Poppy Scotland.)

DRIVERS / FLOWER DELIVERY..

October

- 14 Colin McPherson and Lesley Adamson.
- 21 Tom Sorbie.
- 28 Barbara Watt.

November

- 4 Elizabeth Riddell.
-

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

Weddings :

Christine Murphy to Fraser Kerr Reid.
Stephanie Black to Thomas Martin Wright.
Lynsey Jamieson to John Boyle.

Funerals :

Alistair Wynnes (D.64).
Thomas R. Paterson (D.31).
William T. Gaines (D.51).
Irene Dalziel.

Change of Address/District :

Derek Phillips from (D.57) to (D.30).
Victoria Adamson from (D.15) to (D.14).
Iain Cochrane from (D.15) to (D.14).
J. Elizabeth McIntyre from (D.15) to (D.14).
Rosina Peacock from (D.15) to (D.14).

FLOWER CALENDAR

October

14 Jean Robinson; Betty Tweedie.
21 Lesley Aitken; Joyce Hamilton.
28 Trudy Henderson; Avril Cockburn.

November

4 Freda Gilchrist; Isabel Irvine.

BIBLE READINGS

September

2 Deuteronomy 6 : 4 - 9; Matthew 22 : 34 - 40.
Acts 1 : 1 - 14.
9 Genesis 3 : 1 - 24; 1 Peter 2 : 1 - 10.
16 Matthew 7 : 24 - 27;
1 Corinthians 12 : 14 - 18.
23 Genesis 9 : 1 - 17; 2 Corinthians 5 : 1 - 5.
30 Genesis 11 : 1 - 9; Psalm 49 : 1 - 12.

SHEENA ELLIOTT

We were sorry to hear of the death of Sheena Elliott. Sheena showed such a strength during some difficult times personally in her life and with her health, problems that grew worse in recent times. Football, work and family were a large part of Sheena's life as was the church itself, which she was proud to be a part of and eager to serve in. She started off at Ebenezer and continued her time here when it was the West Parish and continued after the union. Sheena enjoyed worship and got a lot from her faith, the visits from the church, the Home Communion shared in her home as long as the dog didn't interrupt too much! She was more often than not found making cups of tea as part of the Social Committee, at the Coffee Morning, the Guild, the WRVS and wherever hospitality was required. Sheena was so proud to serve as an Elder, always taking an interest in the folk she visited, making sure that they were OK, and always faithful and committed to whatever she took on. She loved her church. Our thoughts and prayers are very much with Margo, Gordon and the family.

THANKS

George Thomson and the McKane family would like to thank the congregation most sincerely for the lovely flowers received on the death of Kay Norrie daughter of George and sister to Avril.

Marlene and Ronnie Simpson would like to thank the congregation for the lovely flowers they received recently. They were very much appreciated.

Isobel Gaines wishes to thank everyone for their kindness and concern during Billy's time in hospital and at home; for cards and beautiful flowers, for attendance at Church and Crematorium. Also to thank Robbie and Maxine for prayers, hospital and home visits, and Maxine for funeral services.

Freda Gilchrist would like to thank the congregation for the lovely flowers received after her stay in hospital.

Alison and Tommy Reilly would like to thank the Church for the beautiful flowers given to Tommy because of his stay in hospital. He really appreciated them and is very grateful for the kind gesture.

Isabell and Allan Gibson would like to thank friends at New Wellwynd for the beautiful flowers received and the kind thoughts and prayers for Allan.

SENIOR CIRCLE

The next meeting is on Tuesday, 9th October, when the guest speaker is Jimmy Rexter with a humorous talk about World War 2. On Tuesday, 23rd October, Marc and Francis from 'Carers Together' will be our guests. If you are free any alternate Tuesday, a warm welcome awaits you.
ISABELL GIBSON

TRAIDCRAFT

The Traidcraft Stall continues to be available at the close of the morning service where stocks of all your favourites – biscuits, chocolate, teas and coffees are available.

The new Autumn Catalogues are now available – please feel free to pick up a catalogue from the stall, and hopefully, you'll find something you like and place an order.

The selection of Christmas Cards is on display at the Traidcraft Stall, however, the Christmas Catalogue is not due until later in October.

Orders will be taken until Sunday 25th November – order early to avoid any disappointment.

Many thanks to those members who have already placed orders with us, your support is appreciated.

DAVID WALKER

In Stitches Craft Group

This group meets fortnightly on 9 and 23 October in the Session Room from 10 am until 12 noon. Come along for a couple of hours of crafting, lots of chat and some "me time".
ANNE LEARMONTH

Life & Work

If you receive a copy of Life & Work, your annual renewal letter will be issued shortly to assist in ordering for next year 2019. The price for the 2019 magazine has not been advised for this year, but for 2018 the cost was £30.00 for 12 copies.

If you do not currently receive a copy, and wish to order this, a list will be placed on the information table in the next few weeks for you to place your name. Please watch the intimation sheet for further details.

Our order has to be placed with Life & Work no later than 18th November, 2018.

DAVID WALKER

Alistair Wynnes, 29.05.31 - 20.08.18

Alistair Wynnes was born in Airdrie on 29th May 1931. He was the youngest son of John Wynnes and Jean Frame and had two brothers, Johnstone and Jimmy and one sister Marjory. A pupil at Airdrie Academy, Alistair had an aptitude for maths and science. One of his first appointments after school was as an Analyst and he taught chemistry at the Institute of Fuels and Coatbridge Technical College. Alistair later joined Stewart and Lloyds and was part of the team who commissioned Ravenscraig Steel Works. His career evolved from chemistry, through mechanical engineering into proposals and contracts and he worked in many countries around the world.

Alistair married May Waddington, on 9th November 1955. They have three children Elaine, Margaret, and Ian and four grandsons. Alistair came to faith as a child and became a member of the Wellwynd Church when he married May. He taught in the Sunday school and became an Elder. He was faithful in his duties, sometimes taking his children along to deliver Harvest gifts. For a number of years Alistair attended St John's Church in Largs; where he continued to offer kindness and practical caring to his friends there.

Alistair's faith informed his life and shaped his character and was expressed in his service as an Elder in church. He was a kind and loving man, loyal, considerate and helpful; a man who was charming and young at heart; a man summed up by so many as a true gentleman.

Thomas Reid Paterson 31.03.36 – 05.09.18

Tom was born in Airdrie in March 1936. He was the youngest child of Isabella and Tom Paterson having one sister Nan. Tom attended Alexandra Primary and Airdrie Central School. He married his wife May at the Wellwynd Church in January 1950. They have this year celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary. They have two daughters Lesley and Audrey and four grandchildren. Tom was an electrician. He had his own company for many years and in later years worked at the Caldervale Forge Steel Works.

Tom attended church with his family as a boy and was a member of the Boys Brigade for many years. He came to faith as a boy and lived out his faith in his family life, work life and his service to God. Tom was an Elder in Wellwynd and in the New Wellwynd Church for over 50 years. He always

took his duties seriously and was a faithful visitor in his district.

Tom lived his life with integrity, a generosity of spirit, a deep faith and a loving heart. He and May were never apart during their long marriage and Tom is sorely missed by his family.

William Thomas Gaines, 26.10.25 - 05.09.18

We were sad to hear of the death of Billy Gaines. Billy was born in America but came to Scotland with his mother as a boy after his father died. Growing up he was particularly close to his grandfather. Billy came to faith as a boy and attended the Boys Brigade at Airdrie High Church, going on to become an Officer.

After he married Isobel he became a member of Wellwynd Church where she had attended since childhood. They have no children but are very close to Billy's nephews Robert and Nicol and their families. Billy was a positive and supportive presence around the Kirk as well as always being so very practical. He was an electrician to trade and did so much down through the years practically around the church and the halls, part of Dad's Army at one time. As part of that he enjoyed being able to not only help but also the banter that the group enjoyed and shared together. If anything was needing done, Billy was there and barely needed to be asked - he did it, got on with it and never ever with a fuss, happily working in the background. He was so very practical and so deeply spiritual as his faith moulded his character and affected every part of his life. He was proud to serve as an elder, which he did for over 47 years, and as well as being faithful in his duties, he demonstrated himself a faithful visitor and supporter of his district becoming a friend to them as well as being their Elder. He loved attending worship and even though he couldn't attend latterly he enjoyed listening to the service on the CD. Although physically weak at the end, his faith never weakened as he knew where he was going. Our thoughts and prayers are with Isabel at this time.

CHURCH WEBSITE

Many of you are aware that the Church has had a website for many years now. In the last year this has been updated to bring it more into the 21st Century.

As detailed in the newsletter and in the order of service – the website's URL is www.newwellwynd.org.uk or you can search on your browser for New Wellwynd Church and find the connection like that.

The website gives you information about all the different things we're involved in, as well as organisation information and links. It also has copies of our previous Orders of Service and monthly Newsletters.

If you have access to the internet, please have a look and let us know what you think? *DAVID WALKER*

Used Postage Stamps

A little reminder to everyone that we continue to collect used postage stamps to help fund the ongoing work of World Mission. Bring them along to Church on a Sunday morning and leave them at the front door or pass to Jennifer Milne.

Hello from Syria!

Hey! I thought since I've sent a few updates from Iraq it was time to switch things up...so this one is coming to you from Aleppo, northwest Syria. I'm sitting in my room on the 19th floor of the UN hotel with an incredible view over the city (unfortunately to the soundtrack of shelling over the Idleb frontline a couple of miles away). We're in Syria to meet with more potential partners and to scope Homs and Aleppo. We crossed the Lebanese border on Friday afternoon (21st September) and arrived in Damascus with time for a nap before dinner. Since we were likely to be stuck in hotels for the next few nights we decided to take advantage of the city and headed to the old town for dinner. We had all the favourites – hummus, fattoush, cheese barak and kebab. The next morning we headed north to Homs where we went to meet with an NGO (Non Government Organisation) set up by the Syrian Orthodox church. It began eight years ago as people displaced by the conflict poured into their parish. The church began to organise with neighbouring parishes to provide people with emergency food parcels, shelter and other necessities. Over time they became more organised, forming this NGO, and expanding their reach over three cities. Today, they're beginning to move from emergency response to longer term development and have just launched their first livelihoods project in small business start-up. It's a similar model to what we use in Iraq – people come and propose small business ideas. Those selected are provided with business admin training and then either given a start-up kit or grant to buy what they need to start the business. They took us to visit some of the businesses that have been set up nearby. We visited a mechanic, grocery store, coffee shop and beauty salon. They had only been open for a few weeks but the owners told us how much they liked the programme and how the businesses were already bringing income. It was great to see what the church had achieved in the last eight years – they saw a humanitarian need and they mobilised, organised and actively responded to the needs in their community.

Early the next morning we left Homs and carried on north to Aleppo. Arriving in Aleppo, we drove through a lot of destruction and again areas that were just completely abandoned. We headed straight to our first meeting with the Armenian Evangelical Church. The pastor explained that his church had ended up in the space between the government and opposition forces and had been hit with mortars several times. He said they always fixed it right away – it was important for the congregation to know the church would not give up, that no matter what, the church would keep going. He took us to

visit another one of their churches, which had been badly damaged when two missiles came through the roof. 'But we never stopped meeting, we never stopped worshipping' the pastor explained. It was a really poignant moment to see such faith in action. It blew my mind just how much the local organisations and churches have achieved in the response effort. It's our job to now go away and figure out how we can support this work to extend its reach and capability. One of the organisations quoted Mathew 25 on its leaflet:

'For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me.'

Seeing how the Christian community in Syria has so clearly fulfilled this, not just in simple ways but by really committing to long-term technical programming, made me so proud to be part of the global church. So my prayer request for this update is simply to pray for the churches in Syria, that they may continue to have the capability and drive to serve a hurting population. We can also pray for the church around the world, that we always remember we are called to be God's hands and feet on earth. May we always be a church that is alert, active and ready to serve! May we always be the church that is ready to bring hope and light to the darkness!

I'm back in the UK at the end of October, so hopefully see many of you then!

Lots of love,

FIONA

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for the Chaplaincy at Rochsolloch and Airdrie Academy as a steady and faithful witness to the love of God continues in these schools.
- Pray for the work of Scripture Union, especially for the group at Airdrie Academy.
- Pray for all who work with children and young people in churches and in communities.
- Pray for those involved in Sunday morning worship Sunday by Sunday - the Welcome Team, those who read the Scriptures, those who lead the prayers. May they continue to be inspired by God's Spirit and be upheld and encouraged in their work.
- Pray for Poppy Scotland as many volunteers prepare to go out and collect for a very worthwhile cause.
- Pray also for the work in Victoria Primary as plans are underway to continue Kidzone.

Useful Contacts

Minister	: Revd Robert A Hamilton	01236763022.
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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.