

The New Wellwynder

September 2017

Visit us at www.newwellwynd.org.uk

from the Manse -

Dear Friends,

We landed at Plymouth after a 7 hour sail from Roscoff having had a good and relaxing holiday in France. It was 9:30 in the evening and two hours from the port lay the prospect of a relaxing and refreshing overnight in Cheltenham. Yet, the decision was made to motor on and go straight home with a couple of comfort breaks along the way. It wasn't just that it was a good time to travel in that the roads were quieter and hold-ups on the motorway were less light, but also because by this point we were ready to get home, back to "auld claes and purridge". It's often the same, going on holiday is that great adventure and travelling to the destination is part of that adventure, but when it is time to return home, we just want to press a button and find ourselves magically back home!

Adventures are good but a lot of the time it is simply "auld claes and purridge" for all of us - the routine of work, of looking after the house and so on. Our christian pilgrimage, our life of faith and discipleship, is that mix as well. There's the adventure and, at times, the fear of the unknown when we are called to follow. There are the good times and the bad times, the easy parts of the journey and the more difficult and challenging. There is also the ordinary, everyday routine when we simply live out our faith in the ordinariness of life, in our work, rest and play.

The sermon series which started at August reflects on both the great adventure our Lord calls us on when he says "come, follow me". The "Holy Habits" exhibited by the early church which attracted others and imbedded them in to the life of the family of faith are those attributes or qualities the Spirit of God brings out in each and everyone of us. These are the qualities of faith in individuals and a church family which "attract" rather than "scare". They are the ones we are encouraged to live out each and every day, which includes the ordinariness of our everyday routine which our lives come into contact with on a daily basis.

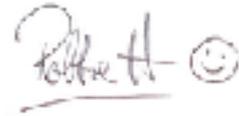
When we consider the picture of the early church, as portrayed towards the end of Acts 2, we see that mission and outreach are not rocket science, but rooted in a life of faith when we allow our faith to permeate every area of our lives, and when we allow our life of faith to be something we live out each day in our lives, making it real for us, as well as those we meet day in, day out.

I've often said that what I look forward to coming back to after being away, is being back with sisters and brothers of all ages at New Wellwynd, particularly at worship, when together we can continue to open ourselves to the reality of God in our lives now, walk out in faith together in that great adventure of faith, and be enabled to live that faith out in the midst of the ordinariness and unpredictability of life.

If you are with us on a regular basis, or not been for a long time, I look forward to seeing you on a Sunday

and at other times, as we continue to step out together and be led by God into a new session and beyond.

Your friend and minister.



SERVICES

September

- 10 11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship :
Go Create; Holy Habits for Happy Communities.
- 17 11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship :
Go Sacrifice; Holy Habit of Service.
The Sacrament of Holy Baptism.
- 24 11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship :
Go Bless; Holy Habit of Biblical Teaching.

October

- 1 11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship :
Go Speak; Holy Habit of Giving.
Harvest Thanksgiving & Dedication Service.
- 8 11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship :
Go Share; Holy Habit of Eating Together.

FLOWER CALENDAR

September

- 10 May McMullan.
- 17 Margaret Fleming; Julie Pardoe.
- 24 Ann Clark; Agnes Shaw.

October

- 1 David Walker; David Walker.
- 8 Roberta Gillespie; Andrew & Karen Glen.

DRIVERS / FLOWER DELIVERY

September

- 10 Pat Blacklaws.
- 17 Dan Russell.
- 24 William Watson.

October

- 1 George Lowdon.
- 8 William Stephen.

TRADCRAFT

The Traidcraft Stall continues to be available at the close of the morning service in the large hall.

The new 2017 Autumn Catalogues are now available. Please feel free to pick up a catalogue and order form from the stall.

If you wish to place and order, complete the order form and return this with the catalogue to the stall. Orders are on a first come first served basis - so order early to avoid disappointment. Please note that to save carriage costs we collect orders until we have approximately £100 in value before ordering from the supplier.

If you decide not to place an order, please return the catalogue to the stall, as we have to pay a small fee to Traidcraft for additional catalogues.

Your continued support of the stall is greatly appreciated.

DAVID WALKER

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

Funerals : Mary Nelson (D.15); David Ross (D.35);

Brian Pearson (D.29); Donald Kirk; Adam Stark;
Andrew Armstrong (D. 37); Ina Fraser (D.57);
William Symington; Lynn Cannon (D.37);
David M. Russell (D.9).

Baptisms : Matilda Helen Scott; Sam Ian Francis.

Wedding : Karen O'Rourke and David Grainge.

Change of Address / District :

David & Jillian McQuarrie from (D.60) to (D.10).

Removals : Ronnie & Nancy Mackinnon (D.64).

BIBLE READINGS

June

4 Ezekiel 37 : 1 - 14; Galatians 5 : 16 - 26.
Matthew 14 : 22 - 33.

11 1 John 4 : 7 - 16; Matthew 19 : 13 - 15;
Luke 5 : 12 - 15; John 19 : 25 - 27;
John 19 : 28 - 29.

18 Psalm 16 : 5 - 11; John 16 : 17 - 24.

25 1 Corinthians 12 : 27 - 31(a);
1 Corinthians 13 : 13.

July

2 Isaiah 43 : 1 - 7; Matthew 8 : 23 - 27.

9 2 Samuel 9; Luke 5 : 17 - 26.

16 Isaiah 43 : 1 - 7; Matthew 8 : 23 - 27.

23 Psalm 98; John 21 : 15 - 19.

30 Philippians 2 : 1 - 11; Luke 14 : 11, 15 - 24.

August

13 Romans 11 : 1 - 8; Luke 4 : 1 - 13.

20 Psalm 121; Matthew 28 : 16 - 20.

27 Genesis 12 : 1 - 9; Matthew 4 : 18 - 22.

THANKS

Elva Milligan and Family would like to thank all their friends at New Wellwynd for the flowers and cards received on Jim's passing. Special thanks to Robbie for his many visits and spiritual comfort to all the family and for the lovely service he gave us on the 26th May.

Adele and Billy Stephen would like to thank everyone at New Wellwynd for the lovely flowers received following the loss of their dad Tom English. Special thanks to Robbie for his visits and a lovely service.

Ronnie, Heather and Kenny Mackinnon would like to thank you all for your prayerful support, many cards and 'phone calls received following Nancy's death.

The thoughts and prayers of our many friends from New Wellwynd have been greatly appreciated by all the family.

The **Stark Family** would like to thank Robbie and the congregation for the lovely flowers received on the death of Alex's, brother Adam. *MAGDA STARK*

HIP HIP HOORAY says **Bobby Forrest** to his family and friends for their assistance, cards, telephone calls, visitations and in particular the home baking during his convalescence after his operation. Also, pre-operation, my thanks to the "Somme Gang" for the assistance during our visit to the memorials and battlefields

I write to express my sincere thanks to Robbie, Maxine and the congregation of The New Wellwynd. The visits, church flowers and prayer support I received during my recent spell of ill health were very much appreciated.

MAY MEZZETTI

Gillian, Mark, James and Emily Millar would like to thank all in the congregation for the flowers, gifts cards and best wishes they received on the birth of Matthew.

We are very fortunate to be part of such a caring and loving church family. We very much appreciate your kindness.

WELCOME TEAMS

September

10 **Team Leader** : Jerry Ferguson
Anne Learmonth, Shona MacDonald,
Jim Neilson, Margaret Reid, Jim Thomson,
Maggie Weir.

17 **Team Leader** : Mima Dalziel
Isabell Gibson, Allan Gibson, George Grant,
George Lawson, Elizabeth Robertson,
Morag Stewart.

24 **Team Leader**: Bobby Forrest
Fraser Gillespie, Mairi Mitchell,
William Watson, Catherine Whellans.

October

1 **Team Leader**: Ian Nicol
Alex Anderson, Sandy Black, Wilma Davidson,
John Jarvie, Mark Millar, Dan Russell.

8 **Team Leader**: Jack Milne
William Dalling, Matt Fleming, Margaret Jarvie,
Jean Kinniburgh, George Randall,
Ronnie Wright.

COFFEE MORNING

The monthly **Coffee Morning** resumed on Saturday, 2nd September. These take place on the first Saturday of every month until June 2018 (Except January). Why not come along and enjoy tea & coffee with home baking, and each other's company and fellowship?
Looking forward to seeing you.

IRENE YATES & MAIRI MITCHELL

Home Comforts & Food Bank

The totals for last month were 107 Tins of Fish and amazingly 107 Soaps!! Thank you for your contributions.

In September it is Tins of Meat and Brillo Pads and October is Tins of Fruit and Toilet Rolls. The Little Giving Boxes are on the table near the organ and on the ledge at the front door if you have any unwanted change. Thanks.

STEPPING STONES

A Mutual Support Group for the Bereaved

The last Thursday of September (28th) sees the return of Stepping Stones, our support group for anyone who has been bereaved at any time. It is an informal gathering and anyone who feels the need for such a group is welcome to drop in anytime between 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. for a cup of tea or coffee and a chat. We will meet in the Session Room, but a quiet place will be available for one-to-one support if needed.

Contact Robbie on 763022 for more information or email - RHamilton@churchofscotland.org.uk.

SENIOR CIRCLE

The new session begins on Tuesday, 12th September with our very own Revd Robbie Hamilton as guest speaker. Then on the 26th September, we welcome John Turnbull who will give a talk on 'Compassion Worldwide.'

A warm invitation is extended to members both old and new and anyone who would like to share a time of fellowship. All will be made most welcome. For further

information contact Isabell Gibson, tel: 01698 340331, or Irene Bremner, tel: 01236 766128. *ISABELL GIBSON*

Alive & Giving

Team Leaders and Visitors are reminded of the **Evening Reception** being held in the church hall on Sunday 17th September from 7 – 9 p.m..

Please return the slip enclosed with the invitation by Sunday 10th September to allow us to plan catering requirements. *DAVID WALKER*

HELLO FROM IRAQ! - June 2017

I can't believe a month has already passed since I last sat down to write this email! But a lot has changed in the last few weeks – it has gotten about 10 degrees hotter (we're now sitting at a toasty 42C), my Kurdish language skills have grown from nil to around three words, and I'm fairly fluent in Tearfund acronyms. So let me give you a quick update.....

..... I've been out in the field more often this month, mostly in Mosul District and back to Laylan refugee camp. My first visit to north Mosul was quite unbelievable. After driving through nothing for several miles we reached our first town. This town was a frontline area where ISIS met the Peshmerga (Kurdish Army). People's shops have been burned to the ground, not one building still has four full walls or glass in the windows, and there are visible craters where airstrikes have hit. There was a green tick on the door of each house which a colleague explained the Peshmerga painted to tell locals the house had been cleared of ISIS fighters. Driving along the main street you can imagine that it was once a busy little place, full of people shopping and sitting outside the cafes. Most villagers are Sunni Muslims and so chose to stay when ISIS came, believing they were safe. As one man simply put it 'We had no idea how bad they were'.

The north area of Mosul district was badly land-mined as ISIS retreated, so I was going to meet with the Mine Advisory Group (MAG) who are de-mining in the area. They currently estimate that there are 500,000 land mines to clear in Iraq. They have been clearing a path for us to access a broken water pump that we're going to repair. De-mining is a side of humanitarian response that I've never really thought much of before. I think in these situations we see campaigns trying to raise money for healthcare, food, water etc., but we are not as aware of this type of work and how important it is. ISIS haven't just mined open land, they've mined people's houses, schools, hospitals and water tanks. We cannot provide aid to any area of Mosul until MAG have gone before us and cleared a path. They are the ones who can be called at any time of day if refugees return to their homes and find a bomb in their bedroom. These guys (a few who are already missing limbs) really do risk their lives to make it safe for people to return home and for aid organisations to get access.

The team and I also took the chance to do a little day trip to Sulaymaniyah last weekend. We drove up through the mountains, stopping to take in the view over Dokan Lake. We carried on into Sulaymaniyah city where we had lunch and visited an old Saddam prison which is now a museum. It was extremely interesting and definitely explained the history of why Kurds view Arabs so negatively. Sulaymaniyah is known as the Paris of Iraq - I think this might be a bit of a stretch but it was a nice city. We then drove home another mountain road and stopped

for a drink at a cafe looking over the mountains. It is definitely a very beautiful part of the country!

Last month I asked you all to pray for the liberation of west Mosul - the operation is now in its final stage with only one neighbourhood left to clear. This is the densest part of the city where clashes have been ongoing for months now. We're praying that civilians can make their way to humanitarian corridors and that Iraqi Security Forces can clear this final neighbourhood. I also asked you to pray that those in Laylan camp are able to return home. Unfortunately, that is not yet possible as they are from Mosul City but I am pleased to report that many of the communities we are working in are seeing families return from refugee camps. As for the US Aid money, I'll let you know!

This month, I'd love if you could pray for the guys de-mining in Iraq, that they can work safely, and that their team and their funding will grow so that they can cover more ground. I'm also praying for a girl I met in Mosul, a girl whose destroyed village I visited the other day and a girl who was caught in an airstrike aimed at ISIS. I am praying that she finds the strength to deal with that trauma, that her body heals and that she and her family can rebuild their lives now that they are free.

While I've seen some pretty horrific results of the conflict this month, I'd really like to emphasise that it isn't all doom and gloom. People are free for the first time in four years and some have been able to return to their homes and start living again. Yes, ISIS has done a lot of damage, but there is a real sense of defiance and pride in the fact that they have not won.

I'll be heading home very soon (I've got a very important wedding to attend), so I'm sure I'll see many of you then. If not, I'll send another update in about six weeks or so. Have a great day!

FIONA

HARVEST THANKSGIVING

There will be an opportunity on Saturday, 30th September (10 till 12) to contribute a monetary gift to our Harvest Project which this year is TEARFUND, a project the church nationally has encouraged congregations to support. Gifts of flowers will also be received that day which will be given out after the service on the Sunday to housebound and members who are ill.

Tearfund is a Christian Charity looking to end poverty. The charity works in so many different places, including Iraq where one of our young people, Fiona Randall, is working. Fiona has suggested that the money go towards Middle East Emergency Appeal which supports people and projects in Iraq, Syria and Lebanon. What they are doing there is "fire fighting" because that is the nature of what is happening. Fiona wrote these words explaining something of the situation there.

"Today, as our car approached the village we were to be working in, a soldier motioned for us to stop. He leant in and looked at me then asked if I was British. When I said yes, he replied in broken English 'I am sorry to hear about the explosion in Manchester. We are praying to God for the UK.' There was no 'but this happens here several times a day' or 'but no one cares when it happens here' but a simple understanding of what it feels like for your country, your community, your people, your loved ones to be attacked. A recognition that no matter the scale, location, circumstance, or whether you speak Ar-

abic or English, a terrorist attack is no less devastating. Tonight I'm praying for Manchester, I'm praying for Iraq, and I'm praying for this soldier whose compassion I will never forget."

CHRISTIAN AID – Sierra Leone Mudslide Appeal

Torrential rain in Sierra Leone has caused fatal flooding and mudslides, killing an estimated 400 people, including 120 children. With 600 people still missing, the number of deaths is expected to rise as rescue efforts continue. In Sierra Leone's capital, Freetown, many houses have been swept away, leaving 3,000 people without a safe place to call home. We are on the ground in Freetown, providing urgent supplies to survivors, but with your help we could do so much more.

We are working in the most vulnerable areas to help over 200 families, whose houses were washed away in the early hours of 14 August. Our immediate priority is to provide food, clean drinking water, clothing, hygiene kits, mosquito nets, and household essentials like cooking utensils and water containers. With your support, we will also provide cash to families who have lost their belongings and help women and girls at risk of violence. More rains are expected in the coming weeks which may worsen conditions.

Please give what you can to our Sierra Leone Mudslide Appeal today: www.christianaid.org.uk

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. If you are interested in coming along or know someone who is interested in membership please let me know so that dates and timings can be organised.

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

Robbie's Reelin' Ceilidh

I would think to thank everybody for their generous support of my birthday ceilidh which has raised £4721 for the Hospice Capital Appeal. This has far surpassed my expectations. The Hospice has been a tremendous support to many families in our community, particularly at the New Wellwynd, and I am so proud of YOUR support as well as your good wishes as I came of age (50, the new 25) and your continued support.

We, "The New Wellwynd", aim to be a vibrant, caring, worshipping community of faith, which relates well to God, involving all members, with significant outreach to the wider community. (The New Wellwynd Parish Church of Scotland, Airdrie, is a registered Scottish charity allocated the Scottish Charity No. SC012944.)

Think Positive and be Positive!

It is a well known fact that, 'some people want things to happen, some wish it would happen, others make it happen!' Which one are you? Here is a selection of quotes

from some famous people that will hopefully help you, to make things happen, both for yourself and others!

- When in doubt, do it!
- With every rising of the sun, think of your life as just begun!
- When odds are one in a million, be that one!
- You cannot make your days any longer, so strive to make them better!
- The day is what you make it. So why not make it a great one!
- One small positive thought in the morning can change your whole day!
- The most important decision you can make is to be in a good mood!
- Attitude is a little thing that can make a big difference!
- If you love life, life will love you back!
- What seems impossible one minute becomes, through faith, possible the next!
- Be a rainbow in someone else's cloud! Live more, complain less, smile more, less stress!

Be helpful. When you see a person without a smile.....give them yours!

Be happy and have a great day – everyday!

THE EDITOR

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for the Minister, the Associate Minister, Kirk Session and Congregational Board as they prepare for a new session.
 - Pray for the Sunday Club and Bible Class, for all leaders, children and young people as they start a new session, giving thanks for the numbers and the enthusiasm, especially as they work with Jen Robertson, the Presbytery of Hamilton's Children and Youth Adviser.
 - Pray for all of our youth organisations starting up, that the vision of the leaders might have been refreshed in the summer and the enthusiasm of the young folk might continue.
 - Pray for all of our adult organisations including the Snack Bar and Coffee Morning that these might continue to be ways of reaching out and encouraging fellowship.
 - Pray for all young people preparing to start College or University, for those starting work and for those unsure about their futures.
 - Pray for the work of the minister in the schools, that the strong relationships already enjoyed with Rochsolloch and the Academy might continue to grow and offer opportunities to reach out and witness to the Gospel.
 - Pray for the work of Tearfund.
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Useful Contacts

Minister	: Revd Robert A Hamilton	01236 763022.
Associate Minister	: Revd Maxine Buck	01555 759063.
Session Clerk	: T. Fraser Gillespie	01236 604860.
Treasurer	: David J. Watt	01698 853921.
Organist	: David J. Stewart	01357 520555.
Roll Keeper	: W. Allister Jack	01236 767898.
Hall Convener	: Robert W. Forrest	01236 767210.