

THE ANCHOR

The magazine of Kiltarlity and Kirkhill Churches



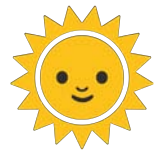
*Living in the love of Jesus in the rural
Highlands*

June 2016



SC: 003866; 014918

Hi Everyone!



*A very warm welcome to our summer edition
of the "Anchor"*

You may remember me saying earlier in the year that the family of God is called to look UP in worship to God, IN to developing fellowship and OUT in connecting with others who don't know Jesus yet. These past few weeks have seen more of a focus on the "OUT".

As many of you will know, we were joined in June in Kirkhill and Kiltarlity by a delegation from Youth With a Mission (YWAM) who travelled from the United States to volunteer and work with the young people in the area. Their motto is - 'to know God and to make Him known' and we have been visiting Tomnacross and Kirkhill Primary Schools all week (5th -10th June) together with holding evening club nights in Kirkhill Church. As I write we are preparing for another evening deluge of 7-13 year olds, possibly exceeding the 41 we had last night! The enthusiasm and energy of the YWAM team, and all the young people we have connected with has been infectious and humbling - (literally!). I now have the nickname Pastor Nutmeg on account of the number of times the ball has been dribbled through my legs during lunchtime football in the school playing fields.

I am so grateful though that God prompted us at Easter time to respond to the email from YWAM Scotland looking for a church that could take a mission team from the States.



The YWAM team acting out the story of Daniel at Kirkhill PS

I am also so thankful for our amazing back up team who have provided meals and accommodation for the YWAMers and made them feel greatly welcomed. Well done all! You have played just as important a part in this mission as the team on the "front-line." Our Elder led services on Sunday 5th were also another terrific example of the people of God using the gifts of God. In this case to lead worship, share His Word and connect with His heart for the lost and suffering - specifically those many millions who live under the scourge of HIV/AIDS. Again I would like to thank all those involved in the planning and delivery of these two services.

Continuing the theme of mission and evangelism, I was recently down in Edinburgh for the General Assembly of the Church of

Scotland. Much to the disappointment of my sons I failed to get a 'selfie' with the visiting Archbishop of Canterbury, but did manage to get a couple of motions passed with the effect of instructing the church to consider how ministers could be trained in the apostolic, evangelistic and prophetic ministries.

As Paul states in his letter to the Ephesian church - Jesus, 'is the one who gave these gifts to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ...' Ephesians 4:11-12.

To date, the training for ministry within the Church of Scotland has focused primarily on preparing candidates for a pastoral and teaching role. This was all fine and good when the church was in a period of stability and most folk attended worship on a Sunday morning. Now the church is in steep decline in terms of numbers, and in many areas of Scotland less than 1% of the population will attend a Church of Scotland service. I believe, as do many others, that in these times in our nation, we need to recover the biblical mandate for leadership. This means training and releasing the apostles, prophets and evangelists alongside the teachers and pastors. I hope and pray that the work of our Ministries Council will enable this vision to be realised.

Just to round off my thoughts on this, I was very moved to see four churches working so well together on mission at the Kiltarlity Gala last Saturday (4th June).

And even more moving to start the day with communion together (see photo) The Free Church were manning the Young Life Tent and Sumo wrestling arena, whilst we at Kiltarlity Church partnered with the Barn Church and the



King's Fellowship to offer face painting, prayer and pastoral support, encouragement, dream interpretation and healing prayer. The sun shone, we all got sunburnt, but it was a great day with 80-odd people coming past our tents and experiencing God's blessing on their lives. It was a real example of all five ministries and the people of God working together to further the Kingdom of God in our community. I wish all our readers a very blessed summer of refreshment and look forward to seeing what fruit will come from all these activities and the others as we obey the Lord's instruction:

'Therefore go and make disciples of all the nations,.....'
(Matthew 28:19).

Jonathan

500 Miles For Him: Eleven Tough Questions Posed by The Proclaimers

When you wake up, do you know you're going to be waking up next to Him?

When you go out, will you be going along with Him?

If you get drunk, do you know you're going to be getting drunk next to Him?

If you haver, will you be havoring to Him?

When you're working, are you going to be working hard for Him?

When the money comes in for the work you do, will you pass almost every penny on to Him?

Do you know you'd be lonely without Him?

When you're dreaming, is it about the times when you're with Him?

If you grow old, will you be growing old with Him?

When you come home, are you going to be coming home to Him?

And would you walk 500 miles, and would you walk 500 more just to be the one who walked 1000 miles to fall down at His door?

Laura Guthrie



*Getting to know our elders -
Louise Monaghan*

*Deep & wide there's a fountain
flowing deep & wide - hallelujah! So
plunge right in and lose your sin
there's a fountain flowing deep &
wide!*

Some people come to faith like Saul in a great blaze of light and others quietly listening for God like Samuel. This is my journey to faith.

From a young age I attended Church & Sunday School. I remember being fascinated by the beady eyes and black claws of the fox fur round the neck of the lady sitting in front of me! I often stayed with my grandparents and every night before bed granny read some verses from the Bible and I can still picture my grandad singing to me 'When he cometh' in his old shaky voice and teaching me the verses of John 14. And so the seeds were planted.

In today's world of abundance it is hard to imagine that the lure of a penny chew was sufficient to secure attendance at a Gospel meeting. But so it was and on a Thursday evening we queued, about thirty or forty youngsters aged nine to twelve, outside the school waiting for Mr & Mrs Munro to open up. Mrs Munro was a quiet unassuming lady who played the electric organ, on the other hand Mr Munro was flamboyant. Always dressed very dapper with black brill creamed hair, a large moustache and a wonderful singing voice and he held us awed in the palm of his hand.

At the meetings we sang (do you too remember singing the title of this piece?), did Bible quizzes, drilled as Bible Soldiers and had a message delivered in a parable style. Bible Soldiers was my favourite - on command of 'sheath your swords' we would tuck our Bibles under our arms, 'draw your swords' and we would raise our bibles aloft, then Mr Munro would tell us which Bible verse we were to find, but we had to wait for the command 'charge' before we could start searching. The first person to find the verse and read it out was rewarded with a penny chew. It was very competitive!

At the end of the meeting Mr Munro invited us to take Jesus in to our own hearts and at the age of twelve I accepted Jesus as my saviour and so my journey of faith began.

At the age of fifteen I started teaching Sunday School and for the next thirty years I was involved in Children's ministry, Sunday School, Summer missions, Boys Brigade and Scripture Union. One of my fond memories was of the time the Reverend Andrew MacGowan came to take a service. The Sunday School children were to take part and I had been teaching them the choruses I had learned at the Gospel meetings all those years ago. Andrew was to accompany the children on his guitar so came to the Sunday School room before the service to have a run through of what they were singing. 'Well' he says 'that's not the tune I remember but not to worry I'll play the tune you're singing' - that was very gracious of him! So if you hear an old hymn or chorus sung to a slightly different tune you'll know who to hold responsible for it!

The invitation to join the eldership came out of the blue. Was I really ready to take that step? If I said yes, was it for the right reason? Could I bring anything to the Kirk Session? I prayed and asked for guidance. Then one morning one of my friends, an Episcopalian priest, who daily posts homilies on FaceBook, simply put up the message:

God doesn't ask if you are able he asks are you willing?

And so my prayer was answered and I accepted the invitation.

As time passed I found that I was very comfortable with numbers and so my focus these days tends to be on church financial matters. I feel very much that God is leading me in that direction and so the journey continues.

Louise Monaghan

Norman Grant

Twenty second May 2016 was a historic day for Tomnacross Parish Church when a large congregation of family and friends gathered to mark the retiral of Norman S. Grant after 53 years faithful service as beadle. The minute of the Deacons Court meeting held on 16th Sept. 1963 records - "Appointment of church officer: Mr. Norman Grant accepted post at £26



p.a.....His duties will include attending morning and evening services and the preparation of church premises for guild meetings etc.". This rather sparse job description did not go very far to

cover the demands made on Norman over the next five decades. Under his tenure our church has always, in all weathers, been a warm and welcoming place of worship where Norman not only looked after our building but served under no less than seven ministers - John MacDougall, Robin Gilmour, Campbell Mackinnon, Fraser Turner, Willis Jones, Kobus Smit and our present pastor Jonathan Humphrey. It's reckoned that Norman must have rung the church bell more than 2500 times and one wonders if he could ever count the number of baptisms, weddings and funerals he has seen over the last half century. Only recent ill health has forced Norman to hang up his boots but there cannot be many in the Church of Scotland with such a

long and exemplary record. Not only a good and loyal servant, Norman has been a steadfast friend to all our church community. In 2004, on behalf of The Moderator of the General Assembly he was presented with a long service certificate to mark his fifty years in office. Norman has also served as a Deacon since 1978. Tributes were paid by Jonathan and by Ian Morrison with the latter, on behalf of the office bearers and congregation past and present handing over to Norman a cheque and a handsome glass bowl inscribed - "Presented to Norman S. Grant by the Kirk Session and congregation of Tomnacross Parish church in grateful recognition of his faithful service as church officer 1964-2016". A bouquet was presented to Carol by two members of the Sunday school and we look forward to both Mr. And Mrs. Grant worshipping with us for many years to come.

Ian Morrison, photographs by Hamish MacLennan

Pentecost Joint Service Churches in Kirkhill and Kiltarlity. A view from the congregation - Sunday 15 May 2016

The two congregations of Kirkhill and Kiltarlity came together for a joint service of worship on Pentecostal Sunday and this was held in St. Mary's Church, Kirkhill. There was an even number of members and adherents from both churches attending.

A strong and vibrant message from Jonathan made us all stop and think about how important Pentecostal Sunday is: and why we as a church continue to remember and celebrate the importance of this service.

The passage in NIV Acts 2 tells us that all 12 disciples were together in the same place when there was a sudden violent wind that came



from heaven blowing through the place that they were all gathered; and what seemed to be like tongues of fire separated and rested on each of one them and they were filled with the Holy Spirit, and they began to speak in tongues each one of them as the Spirit enabled them. It is thought that the disciples were gathered in the Temple as they had spent much of their time praising God see Luke chp 24 v 53: and check out Acts chp 2 v 46.

The opportunity for the disciples to be able to speak in other languages and for them to spread the Good News about our Lord Jesus Christ should help us to remember that we are all called to be local prophets in our own families and communities. We feel the burden of responsibility as a human race. And yet we are not alone. For we believe that in some profound sense our lives are in our Father's hands.

Margo Maclennan

Fundraising towards a Young Life worker in our parish

A soup and pudding night in Wardlaw Church was a very informal night with good company raising £212-00

Spring Praise Concert raised £293-00, a wonderful experience.

The choir smiled, sang, prayed, gave a powerful bible message.

They, like us, will be pleased when we are blessed with a Young Life worker , and will continue to pray with us for such a person.

Thanks must go to the helpers Avril, Anna, Barbra, Eleanor, Eileen, Mary, Margo, Alasdair, Iain, and Ruaraidh.

Also the unfailing support of Jonathan, Kate and the Kirk Session at Wardlaw Church. [if I have missed anyone it's not intentional]. God bless you all.

Frances Grant

Children and Youth at Kirkhill and Kiltarlity



In Kirkhill the Sunday Club children have been enjoying a fabulous series on Fruits of the Spirit. There are activities and games and crafts all wisely pitched to cope with whichever age of children come along to

join in. Over the last few weeks, the gifts of Love, Joy and Peace have been explored and the children are beginning to learn a song which they hope to share with the wider church family at some point in the term ahead.

In Kiltarlity, the Sunday Club are being helped by a bigger group of volunteers who join Linda on a rota to explore the "Bubbles" material. This includes using puppets, crafts, growing seeds and much more to experience and learn through themes like "Building trust" and "God is with us".

Anyone wanting to join in the fun and help please just speak to Eileen, Lisa, Anna or Kate in Kirkhill or Linda, Ruth, Maggie, Annelise, Amanda, Jonathan or Kate at Kiltarlity.

Both churches continue to have a Youth Church time during the service. We meet during the second half of the service to chat and learn together in a more relaxed way. Our aim is that each person, whether visiting or coming regularly, experiences the love of Jesus in their lives and become world-changing followers.

Lately we have been watching the Youth Alpha series and chatting through some of the questions and topics. We enjoy something to eat and drink together and sometimes watch an episode from a film series, which helps us think through issues like "Making good choices."



Young Life

We are looking forward to having a Young Life Area Director coming to K&K to build relationships with teenagers in our area. This person will encourage Young Life club nights and summer camps in partnership with Kiltarlity Free Church.

Kate Humphrey



Garden Party

Avril and Iain Marr will be hosting a garden party at their home on Sunday 31st July, from 2.00 pm onwards. All are welcome. There is no entry charge but donations towards the appointment of a Young Life worker will be accepted with thanks.

Kiltarlity Church Flower Rota

For the 3 months July to September 2016

Date	Person	Date	Person
3 rd July	Linda MacKenzie	21 st August	Ethna Ferguson
10 th July	Linda MacKenzie	28 th August	Ethna Ferguson
17 th July	Sheena Ferguson	4 th September	Ethna Ferguson
24 th July	Sheena Ferguson	11 th September	Linda MacKenzie
31 st July	Ellenor Thomas	18 th September	Margo MacLennan
7 th August	Ellenor Thomas	25 th September	Margo MacLennan
14 th August	Ethna Ferguson		

Any enquiries to Marie, tel : 01463 741328 email:
marie.harvey6@btinternet.com

Or Barbara, tel: 01463 741352

Highland Foodbank

We would like to thank everyone in both congregations who kindly responded to our appeal for the food items we were short of during the month of May. This has been a real boost to our stock. Please feel free to leave any dry or tinned items in the "foodbank box" during the summer months.

Also, a big thank you to everyone who donated 40p for 40 days. Please feel free to contact us at any time if you would like to know more about the Foodbank.

Margaret Birkbeck at Kirkhill

tel: 01463 831518

Elizabeth Fraser at Kiltarlity

tel: 01463 783080

OPEN the BOOK

Delivery of "Open the Book", the source of presentation of Bible stories enacted and read weekly to young children in both Kiltarlity and Kirkhill schools has now been completed for yet another session.

Both schools have warmly welcomed the "teams" each week; Mondays in Kiltarlity, Tuesdays in Kirkhill. Indeed recently and after a spell of absence (school holidays!) in Kiltarlity, members of the team on arrival were greeted with a host of youngsters clamouring to tell team that they had been missed and where HAD they been, delightful to hear. Also delightful to hear is the children's recall, with amazing accuracy, details of THEIR favourite stories, this extending to recall by the older children of primaries 6 and 7 who are regularly "called upon" to assist with acting roles, particularly in Kiltarlity. Often Team members

are met en route with a number of those older children requesting that THEY might be allowed to help on that day! In Kirkhill, at the end of the session, children were presented with their own personal Bible Story book, this hopefully each one of them will re-read and treasure for many years to come. Two dedicated teams of adults from the two churches lead these presentations, giving of their own time of approximately 1 - 1 ½ hours weekly for this very worthwhile task. if any additional church members, adherents, or visitors to the church feels that he /she would like to become involved in this please speak to either Eileen / Alasdair Morrison, Kirkhill or Ellenor Thomas, Kiltarlity. Volunteers are always MOST welcome, and will find the effort they make to present the stories and the pleasure derived from, will be repaid 1000 + times.

Ellenor Thomas

Churches at Kiltarlity Gala

The sun shone, brightly, a complete contrast to last year's weather which saw torrential rain all day! Wonderful weather, for a wonderful atmosphere which pervaded the afternoon activities on Saturday 4th June 2016.

Many stall holders displayed their wares, for sale, display or merely general awareness raising of potential opportunities abounding.



Into the last of these categories came the focus of the "stalls" hosted separately by each of the two Kiltarlity Churches. The Free Church invited both young and old to have a go on the greasy (or not so greasy) pole, for an opportunity to challenge a bold opponent to a most amusing pillow fight, whilst the Church of Scotland invited young persons to have their face painted. Many weird and wonderful personages emerged! In addition, at the Church of Scotland "stand", an enlisted artist drew sketches to order of willing "sitters", excellent was the overall resultant cry!

Both Churches had ulterior motives too, the Free Church drawing attention to the present and on-going initiative to develop Christian outreach to teenagers, through the Young Life project described in a previous issue of The Anchor. The Church of Scotland, while partnering in this initiative with the Free Church, was also involved, together with the Barn Church and The King's Fellowship in encouraging awareness of what the church, can offer to enrich and enhance the lives of those it seeks to support, through compassion, prayer and healing. Jonathan, minister of the Church of Scotland was delighted at the large number of people who attended the Gala many of whom benefited in some small / large way from the Church's presence on site - very much a first, and most encouraging. It is hope that both churches will be represented at future gala meets in the playground of the Kiltarlity School, a central and focal point in the village.

Ellenor Thomas

Kiltarlity organ

For 5 days during the month of April, Gerhart and Alexander Walcker, all the way from Stuttgart in Germany diligently and meticulously dismantled the organ, restored with original replacements any parts requiring this upgrade, rebuilt the instrument (in time for the Sunday service) and tuned it in accordance with its worthiness !

A magnificent task, carried out with efficiency, demonstrated the unique insight these gentlemen have in an organ such as this one, of their own manufacture. The organ, now well into its second century is now "fit" for purpose for at least another 50 years.

Tonya, organist, who plays the instrument weekly, was able to be present to meet with Gerhart and Alexander, and was able to glean further knowledge and insight into the history of "her" organ, and also to share her recent experience as organist to our congregation. George Fraser, who as a young lad recalls "pumping" the organ to create sufficient "wind" to enable it to be played, also met with the gentlemen so concerned with the restoration of the instrument, George too was able to recount HIS experiences weekly "behind the scenes"

It was delightful to have Gerhart and Alexander attend Sunday worship too, to both experience that fellowship and to hear the organ in action. Both gentlemen expressed delight in that opportunity.

Gerhart and Alexander have assured Kirk Session that they WILL return, in perhaps 2 years time, to check up on their / our organ, and ensure that it will indeed endure for many years to come.

Ellenor Thomas

Final word

Editors of YOUR ANCHOR would love to receive feedback from you. Please feel free to approach any one of us with your thoughts, helpful hints or any issues you would wish to raise with us.

(Editors are Frances Grant, Kirkhill; Ellenor Thomas and Sheila Moir, Kiltarlity.)

Also, the editors would draw your attention to the Churches' web site, where each issue of The Anchor is published. Please check our website (www.kiltarlityandkirkhill.org.uk) and Facebook page (www.facebook.com/kiltarlitykirkhillchurches/) if you are able, for regular updates on activities past and future in both parishes.



Most notices will also appear on the notice boards in both churches, please read and update yourselves regularly.