

Scottish Registered Charity: SC015322



PORTOBELLO BAPTIST CHURCH

*Messenger*

June 2008

[www.portobellobaptist-church.org.uk](http://www.portobellobaptist-church.org.uk)

A Thought

THE PROMISES OF GOD

"All the promises of God in him are yes, and in Him Amen, unto the glory of God"

2 Cor. 1:20

1. When upon life's billows you are tempest-tossed,  
when you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,  
count your many blessings, name them one by one,  
and it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.

*Count your blessings, name them one by one,  
count your blessings, see what God hath done!  
Count your blessings, name them one by one,  
and it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.*

2. Are you ever burdened with a load of care?  
Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear?  
Count your many blessings, every doubt will fly,  
and you will keep singing as the days go by.

3. When you look at others with their lands and gold,  
think that Christ has promised you His wealth untold;  
Count your many blessings—wealth can never buy  
your reward in heaven, nor your home on high.

4. So, amid the conflict whether great or small,  
do not be disheartened, God is over all;  
Count your many blessings, angels will attend,  
help and comfort give you to your journey's end.

In this wonderful hymn we see God's blessings in action. He is present with us every moment. He says, "I am with Thee always".

1. He has given us Himself (Salvation) greatest of all Blessings.
2. Christ is changing us from Glory to Glory!
3. Christ is our Strength in the midst of trouble!
4. Christ is our Hope in the midst of sorrow!
5. Christ is our Burden Bearer! ( Burdens are lifted at Calvary).
6. Christ is our Provider!
7. Christ is our Encourager!
8. Christ has sent us the Comforter (The Holy Spirit).
9. Christ has given us His Love!
10. Christ has promised, He is Coming Soon!

So Count your blessings today, see what the Lord has done, is doing, and will do, yes in your life and in mine, if we look up and see Him!

May God bless you and keep you in His Love.

Rev Terry Gallagher

## THE PULPIT

Rev T. Gallagher will conduct the services in June except on the 8th June when Rev J. Barclay will take both services.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

June 13 - 15th "Praise Gathering" concerts in Glasgow City Hall. Tickets, priced £9 and £12.50, are now on sale at the box office.

26th 7.30 p.m. Management Committee

July 12th Marina Korneva, Love Russia, concert tour 2008, Kelvinside Hillhead Parish Church

## FROM LINK MISSIONARY LYNNE BROWN

Dear folks at Portobello,

It was lovely to meet up with some of you during my visit to Edinburgh. There is such a real sense of us being together in the work in Angola. I know you pray for me often and care and that is such an encouragement to me. I just wish we could have had more time together.

Thank you too for the practical ways you care for me, for the gift of £200.00 and for the copies of the Messenger and calendar.

I was delighted to hear that you have a new Pastor and that the work on the lift is finished. I'll be praying for you as you look ahead to what God is going to do in you and through you.

Love,

*Lynne.*

## MONTHLY PRAYER POINTS FOR P. E. P. E. ANGOLA

This month pray for:

Luanda -- Kikolo (Mama Sala, Ernesto, Kiako, Madalena)  
The PEPE Network which links PEPE worldwide.  
Terezinha Candieiro, the International Director.



## MYANMAR (BURMESE) BAPTISTS SUFFER A HEAVY TOLL

Baptists in Myanmar were among those hardest hit by Cyclone Nargis, which struck the country on May 2 and 3, packing winds of 200 kilometers per hour and causing widespread flooding.

The Myanmar Baptist Convention (MBC) lost more than 10,000 members who died as a result of the cyclone. More than 94,000 other members have suffered loss of home and other property. Many church buildings were destroyed, and the headquarters of the MBC was badly damaged. The estimated cost of repairing the headquarters building is US\$100,000.

A leader of the MBC, whose family narrowly escaped death and injury when a tree fell on their home during the storm, reported to the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) that Myanmar Baptists have put plans in place to assist those affected by the natural disaster.

The “Myanmar Baptist Convention organized the Nargis Relief and Rehabilitation Central Committee, including the leaders of MBC, and the Nargis-struck areas of Kayin, Pwo Kayin, MBCU and Asho Chin conventions,” he said. The MBC is divided into more than 20 other smaller conventions and those the MBC leader named are in the hardest hit areas.

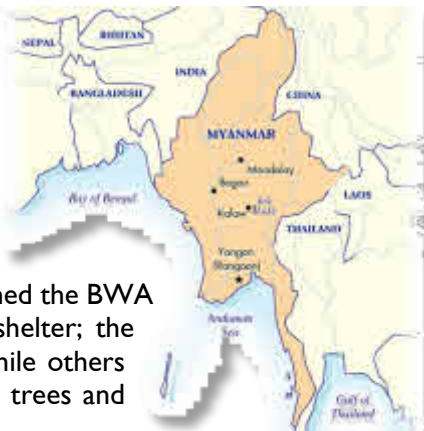
The leader informed the BWA that “at present the basic needs of the people are foodstuffs, clothes and tents or construction materials,” but stated that “it is advised to assist in cash instead of in kind.”

BWAid Rescue24, a search, rescue and relief effort of Baptist World Aid, the relief and development arm of the BWA, sent a team to Myanmar to do assessment of the damage and needs and to offer aid.

BWAid Rescue24 registered with the United Nations Development Program and opened an office in the damaged MBC building in Yangon, the largest city in the Southeast Asian country. The team is working through MBC and the Karen Baptist Convention, one of MBC’s smaller conventions,

to offer aid to six camps where internally displaced persons (IDPs) are housed.

The team reported that “the assistance is literally saving lives at this point, with situations of widespread diarrhea, and serious electricity and water shortages.” They further informed the BWA that “the IDP’s are desperately seeking shelter; the more fortunate get plastic sheeting while others are trying to fabricate huts from palm trees and bamboo.”



Reporting that the total death toll is now at 134,000, they said, “Cyclone Nargis destroyed the greatest rice productive fields and the animals used in agricultural work, leaving thousands with no hope for food for the next year.” Furthermore, fishing, a major source of food, is not being done, “due to the fact that the masses of dead bodies could not be buried, local officials had to throw them into the rivers... Locals refuse to continue fishery from the contaminated water.”

A round table meeting of Baptist convention and relief and aid leaders is planned for Saturday, May 24, in Bangkok, Thailand, to assess the situation in Myanmar. The BWAid Rescue24 team will attend the meeting and give a report.

Please pray for our Burmese Baptist brothers and sisters at this very difficult time. The Baptist Union of Scotland plans to send a donation to the BWAid Emergency Response Fund for Burma relief. If churches and individuals would like to contribute to this gift, please send your contribution through the Baptist Union at 14 Aytoun Road, Glasgow G41 5RT, cheques payable to “The Baptist Union of Scotland” but earmarked for the Burma Appeal.

Thank you for your prayerful and practical support for our suffering brethren in Myanmar.

Yours sincerely in Christ

Bill Slack  
*General Secretary, Baptist Union of Scotland*

## SLEEPING “CONVERT”



“And yes, I was a deep, deep believer in Christ. I woke up.”

The Bible says that false converts do “believe,” but it’s only for a while (see Luke 8:13). It is temptation, tribulation or persecution that exposes the hypocrite, although many stay asleep within the Church, and will be exposed on Judgment Day. That will be a day of awakening (see Matthew 7:21-29 for details).

Judas lasted for three and a half years until his love of money was exposed by temptation. The above false convert confesses that he “woke up,” so he was asleep, revealing how easily he was deceived by sin. Now he no doubt is sure that he’s not deceived. Again.

(Taken from <http://raycomfortfood.blogspot.com/>)

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A good wife can bring balance to your life

## BAPTIST UNION OF SCOTLAND PRAYER LINK

You are invited to pray for the following churches in the weeks commencing the dates shown:

June	1st	Aberdeen Christian Fellowship & Bridge of Don
	8th	Crown Terrace & Gerrard Street
	15th	International & Sheddocksley
	22nd	Airdrie & Alexandria (Vale of Leven)
	29th	Alloa & Alness

## HERE'S THE DIRT



Pasadena scientists rejoiced recently when their robot landed on Mars. Their expedition cost \$420 million, took years to plan, and required an amazing ten months for the flight. The robot will collect soil samples and look for evidence that Mars could support life. Does the red planet have the “building blocks of life”?

I was excited when man first brought back samples from the moon’s surface. We waited while the amazing samples were tested. We waited for a long time. I guess enthusiasm waned a little when they discovered that God had made the moon from dirt. What did they expect? I’m sure that they will find that God also made Mars of dirt. Dirt. A \$420 million discovery. How amazing.

Maybe we should spend our time and money on cleaning up the dirt in our own backyard. There sure is plenty of it.

If we ever discover intelligent life forms in space, it's a given that we will start a war and kill them.

(Taken from <http://raycomfortfood.blogspot.com/>)