

Scottish Registered Charity: SC015322



PORTOBELLO BAPTIST CHURCH

Messenger

May 2008

www.portobellobaptist-church.org.uk

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A Thought

People change, fashions change, and conditions change but God never changes

This is a wonderful statement to be able to make. It is so reassuring and strengthening.

Society has gone change mad. A new fad every week. Especially our young people. Styles continually change. Music changes, even language changes, ways of education.

However, not all changes are good.

The moral core of society has changed so much over the past fifty years. In many instances not for our good. New Laws have been implemented and not all have been to society's benefit. Acts that 50 years ago had been criminal are now legal.

Every minority group in our land has been given legal rights to safe guard their own beliefs.

The Christian church has had its right systematically withdrawn, again and again by new legalities implemented by the so called Human Rights bill.

We seem to be the only part of society that no longer has any rights. We can be laughed at, made a mockery of publicly. Made to legally close our mouths and our minds about what we as Christians have believed in for centuries.

These are but a few of the changes that have taken place over the past few years, right here in our nation. Some good some not so good!

But as the heading wonderfully states, God never changes.

John1:1-5 ¶1. In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

In these wonderful words we are assured of the immutability of God. He was and is and evermore shall be. He is the same yesterday today and forever. He has no need of change, He is the Creator.

So, in the midst of a chaotic world, be assured Christian, God is still in control, He is on the throne.

God bless,
Rev Terry Gallagher

THE PULPIT

May	4th	Minister
	11th a.m.	Minister
	p.m.	Christian Aid Dedication Service -- Rev Alan Montgomery
	16th	Minister
	25th a.m.	Minister
	p.m.	Rajan Abraham (Bhopal, India)



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

May	11th	6.30 p.m.	Christian Aid Dedication Service
	15th	7.00 p.m.	Management Committee
	16th	7.30 p.m.	Love Russia Praise & Worship Event (St. Mungo's Church, Penicuik)
	17th	7.00 p.m.	Lynne Brown, Home Assignment Combined Rally at Duncan St. Baptist Church
	28th	7.00 p.m.	Quarterly Church Meeting

INDUCTION OF REV TERRY GALLAGHER

A congregation of approximately 100 gathered from the four parts of Scotland, as well as three members of Fareham Baptist Church and two members of Tottenham Baptist Church, were present on Saturday 12 April for the Induction of Rev Terry Gallagher. The Interim Moderator, Rev Alan Berry, chaired the service and officiated at the Act of Induction. Rev Robert Gemmill, Pastoral Assistant, led the Prayer of Dedication. The Sermon was preached by Rev Colin Cameron, a personal friend of Mr Gallagher.

Greetings were conveyed by Mrs Joy Webb, Fareham Baptist Church Secretary; Rev Andrew Rollinson, Baptist Union of Scotland; Rev Dr Stewart Weaver, Local Council of Churches; and Rev Ralph Dunn. Other greetings were received by letter from local ministers and friends.

The services of Rev Alan Berry and Rev Robert Gemmell, throughout the vacancy, were acknowledged and monetary gifts were presented to both. Bouquets of flowers were given to Mrs Berry and Mrs Gemmell for “*lending us their husbands.*” Mrs Joan Gallagher was welcomed and presented with a bouquet of flowers. A presentation from the members was made to Mr Jack Spiers, Secretary during the vacancy.

A buffet tea was provided in the church hall to bring the ‘happy proceedings’ to an end.

Rev Terry Gallagher preached at both services on Sunday.

Jack Spiers

INDUCTION THANK YOU

FROM TERRY

I would just like to thank everyone who helped to make my Induction to Portobello Baptist Church such a success. So many people have remarked on the friendly welcome they received and all commented on how much they had enjoyed the day. We are grateful to all who worked so hard behind the scenes, and all who cleared up. It is a joy to see people work together in unity.

Rev Terry Gallagher

FROM JOAN

Thanks so much for the lovely flowers I received on Terry's induction. They were really lovely and brightened up the house. They kept well too. It was a lovely surprise.

Mrs Joan Gallagher

FROM ALAN

A very big Thank you.

I want to thank you all for your kind words at the induction and the very kind gift on that occasion both to Anne and myself. My car and I are both slowly getting used to the fact that we are not heading for Portobello. I was calculating on the back of an envelope and reckon I have driven at least 10,000 miles to and fro across the bridge and out past the Eastern in the last 5 years. I certainly knew the way.

On a more serious note, I have enjoyed these 5 years working with the Portobello Baptist Church fellowship. I feel I know you all and appreciate your faithfulness in the work of the Lord.

Our prayers are with you in this new chapter of the Church's history - that the members and adherents will be nurtured, loved and encouraged and that many new people will be added to the Church.

Thanks again for allowing me to serve over these last 5 years.

Yours in Him

Rev Alan O Berry

FROM ANNE

Dear Friends at Portobello,

Thank you for the beautiful bouquet of flowers. They look lovely in the sitting room and the scent is delightful too.

Thanks too for your prayers for us in recent days when Mum was in hospital and then when she went to be with the Lord. It was much appreciated.

God bless for the future.

Mrs Anne Berry

FROM BOB

Just a note to say thank you to the church for your gifts to Marion and myself. We both appreciate your thought and kindness.

As you know I have thoroughly enjoyed serving the church over the last four years and thank you for your support over that period.

I hope everything goes well in the new ministry.

Yours sincerely

Rev Bob Gemmell

FROM JACK

Dear Friends,

May I express my sincere thanks for the gift I received at the Induction Service. It was a surprise and I think my response was quite inadequate. The wallet and monetary gift were very generous and to those who contributed I can only say it exceeded anything I deserve. A vacancy, especially when protracted, and where a building project is involved, can be difficult but I have been grateful for the help, support and understanding I have received. Please be assured of my grateful thanks.

Jack Spiers

PRAYING FOR THE PROFANE

Give away a tract whenever you can; better still, give a little book that will not be torn up, one that has a cover on it, for you will probably see it upon the table when you call again. Speak a word for the Master whenever it is possible; and offer a short prayer at every convenient opportunity. I think we should make it a rule, whenever we hear a foul or blasphemous word in the street — (and, alas! We constantly do so) — always to pray for the person who utters it. Perhaps then the devil might find it expedient not to stir up people to swear, if he knew that it excited Christians to pray. Try it, at all events, and see whether it may not have a subtle power to stop the profanity which is so terribly on the increase.

(taken from the book Spurgeon's Gold, by Ray Comfort)