

Scottish Registered Charity: SC015322



PORTOBELLO BAPTIST CHURCH

Messenger

September 2011

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A PASTOR'S THOUGHT

"Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much"

Luke Ch 16 v 10

Sir Christopher Wren was building St. Paul's Cathedral. On one occasion he was making a tour of the work in progress. He came upon three stonemasons at work. To the first he said, "What are you doing?" The man said: "I am cutting this stone to a certain size and shape." He came to the second man and asked him what he was doing. The man said: "I am earning so much money at my work." He came to the third man at work and asked him what he was doing. The man paused for a moment, straightened himself and answered: "I am helping Sir Christopher Wren build St. Paul's Cathedral."

How would you answer if Jesus came and asked what you are doing with your life? This cathedral builder reminds us of two things:

No task we do for God's Kingdom is unimportant to God. That cathedral would not have been complete without that one stone placed in the proper place.

No person is unimportant to God. You may be unable to do the same work you did in your youth. You may say "All I can do is pray..." Yet your faithful prayers may have called down God's power to bring the hope and vision now being shared in our church.

Allow God to entrust you with the smallest of tasks and wait to see the miracles that come as a result of your faithfulness.

Your Pastor



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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

		Tues	10.30 a.m.	Weekly Hour of Prayer <i>(all are welcome to stay for all or part of this time)</i>
		Wed	7.30 p.m.	Midweek Prayer & Bible Study
September	6th	Tues	8.00 p.m.	Management Meeting
	24th	Sat	9.30 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.	“God’s Glorious Gospel of Grace” 2011 Bible Conference at Duncan St. Baptist Church
October	2nd	Sun		Harvest Thanksgiving Weekend (Provisional)

FUTURE SERMON PLAN

September	4th	(Pastor – (new series))	What on earth is the church for? Touching Heaven
	11th	(Pastor)	What on earth is the church for? Continued
	18th	(Rev Robert Gemmell)	What on earth is the church for? Belonging theme of fellowship
	25th	(Pastor – (new series))	What’s So Great About Being a Christian (Colossians 1:1-7) Against The Tide - Colossians

HELP NEEDED – PRAYER REQUESTED



At the Quarterly Church Business Meeting it was agreed that the sale of the current manse in Park Avenue is a priority for the following reasons:

- It will release much needed funds
- It is important that Andy and Moira are able to live locally as soon as possible – currently they travel from the other side of Edinburgh

To expedite the sale of the manse it was agreed to reduce the current asking price from offers around £325k to the region of £300k, the latter being a more realistic price in the current market.



It was also agreed that, rather than viewing by appointment only as at present, we have an open viewing time on Thursday evenings (and possibly Sunday afternoons if enough people volunteer). If you are interested in helping with this you would be required to be present at the manse on occasional Thursday evenings, 6.30 – 8.00 (and/or possibly Sunday afternoons 2.00 – 3.30 depending on availability). Two people would be on the rota at

all times so you would never be alone in the property. Responsibility would involve being at the manse when it is your turn so that you can show any prospective buyers around – not complicated but guidelines will be provided.

Please give your name to Moira Scarcliffe if you can help:

We trust that this will help with the manse sale and we are praying that, by the next Church Business Meeting at the end of November there will be good news to share – join with us in prayer!

(Moira Scarcliffe)

TEA/ COFFEE AFTER CHURCH SERVICE

I have been approached by a number of ladies in the Church offering to serve Tea/ Coffee on a Sunday morning. With this in mind, I should be grateful if those ladies who are willing to help in this way would be kind enough to give me their names in order that I can proceed to draw up a rota system.



Thank you all for the interest shown in this regard.

(Margaret Parry)

B.M.S. LINK MISSIONARY NEWS (rec'd 25 August 2011)

Hi Folks,

Just wanted to let you know what is going on here so you can praise God and pray. The last weeks have been pretty full with the seminary workshop, we now have a new curriculum and timetable after a week of intensive meetings. I came back from the workshop with a stinking cold but managed to do my lessons and not much else and this week we have had the Church assembly. Amazingly we finished early, but it feels like a lot was left not discussed. We have a new president, a good man and forward thinking. Pray that he would work well with our General Secretary and that God would protect them both.



I also had a meeting with Manuel and the Coordinators. It was so good for us all to be together again after more than a year. Thanks for your prayers for Januario, as you can see from the photo he is on his feet, feeling much better and doing well. I was really pleased with the way Manuel handled the meeting and to hear positive news from the provinces. Paying the teachers is a difficult issue in Baia Farta and some PEPEs in Uige, as always. Please pray about that.

Finally please lift Maria Teresa and her children up in prayer. Just two days after the photo was taken she was called back to Benguela. Her husband Tomas took ill and died very suddenly. Sounds like he had a heart attack although he was not old and seemed fairly fit. It's a huge shock to us all. He was a lovely man with a good sense of humour, always ready with a joke. He and Maria Teresa had just been appointed deacons in the Church. We rejoice that he is with Jesus but it's so hard for Maria Teresa, Sesky and Madalena, their children. The funeral is tomorrow and Manuel has gone down to represent PEPE.

Thanks for your prayers

Lynne

AUGUST OFFERINGS



7th	£773.00	21th	£332.00
14th	£504.00	28th	£423.00

MAN'S GREAT END



LORD OF ALL BEING,

There is one thing that deserves my greatest care,

That calls forth my ardent desires,

That is, that I may answer the great end for which I am made –

to glorify thee who has given me being,

and to do all the good I can for my fellow men;

Verily, life is not worth having

If it be not improved for this noble purpose.

Yet, Lord, how little is this the thought of mankind!

Most men seem to live for themselves,

without much or any regard for thy glory,

or for the good of others;

They earnestly desire and eagerly pursue

the riches, honours, pleasures of life,

as if they supposed that wealth, greatness, merriment,

could make their immortal souls happy;

But, alas, what false delusive dreams are these!

And how miserable ere long will those be that sleep in them,

for all our happiness consists in loving thee,

and being holy as thou art holy.

O may I never fall into the tempers and vanities,

the sensuality and folly of the present world!

It is a place of inexpressible sorrow, a vast empty nothingness;

Time is a moment, a vapour,

and all its enjoyments are empty bubbles,

fleeting blasts of wind,

from which nothing satisfactory can be derived;

Give me grace always to keep in covenant with thee,

and to reject as delusion a great name here or hereafter,

together with all sinful pleasures or profits.

Help me to know continually

that there can be no true happiness,

no fulfilling of thy purpose for me,

apart from a life lived in and for the Son of thy love.

(taken from 'The Valley of Vision')

B.M.S. WORLD MISSION – HARVEST APPEAL



SACRED SOIL
HARVEST IN PERU

An old, partially-sighted, farmer scatters seed by hand in a field with a beautiful backdrop of the sacred valley of Peru.

Unfortunately the picture doesn't show the severe flooding that destroyed the previous harvest or the damaged homes of a small farming community in the Yucay valley.



To help this community face a more certain future, BMS World Mission provided the seed to help them plant new crops. However, this traditional method of sowing seed seems so inefficient and out of date. It may cause us to ask, "Why couldn't each seed be planted in better-prepared soil? Why couldn't all the weeds and stones first be removed before planting?"

The Sacred Soil appeal is about planting seeds in broken places. A community in the sacred valley of Peru receives practical and spiritual help after floods destroyed their crops.

GREAT QUOTES with Kirk



"If a man is called to be a street sweeper, he should sweep streets even as Michelangelo painted, or Beethoven composed music, or Shakespeare wrote poetry. He should sweep streets so well that all the hosts of heaven and earth will pause to say, here lived a great street sweeper who did his job well."

~ Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Just as God speaks on tops of mountains, He also paints sunrises with light and clouds, composes symphonies with birds, crickets, and frogs, and sculpts massive rock statues with wind and water. God is not only a preacher; He is also a writer, a musician, an engineer, a carpenter, a father, a son, a brother, a King, and a servant. What has God called you to be? Don't wish you were something else. Be the very best at what you do. As a fellow actor once told me, "There are no small parts, only small actors," likewise, there are no insignificant roles to play in the Kingdom of God; they're all important. There are however, people who fail to see the significance of doing what they've been called to do with all their heart. Go all out. Be all in. Don't quit. Don't back down. Don't stop till you cross the line and finish the race. Then after you've been faithful, you may hear the heavenly words, "Well done, my good and faithful servant."



~ Kirk Cameron

SCOTTISH BAPTIST PRAYER LINK

September	04th	Ayr & Barnton
	11th	Bathgate & Bearsden
	18th	Bellshill & Bo'ness
	25th	Bourtreehill, Irvine & Brae