

The magazine of Portobello Baptist Church

# MESSENGER

www.portobellobaptist.co.uk • November 2012



*How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news*

Scottish Registered Charity: SC015322

NEWS • TEACHING • ENCOURAGEMENT • LETTERS

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

		Tues	10.30 a.m.	Weekly Hour of Prayer
		Wed	07.30 p.m.	Midweek Prayer & Bible Study
November	6th	Tues	08.00 p.m.	Management Meeting
	17th	Sat		Church Open Day
	18th	Sun	11.00 a.m.	B.M.S. Link Missionary Focus [Provisional] (Guest: Mrs Lynne Brown Laussu)
	25th	Sun	11.00 a.m.	115th Church Anniversary (Guest: B.U.S. Gen. Director Alan Donaldson)
December	21st	Fri	07.30 p.m.	Carols by Candlelight

## FUTURE SERMON PLAN

November	04th	– “Jacob”
	11th	– “Joseph”
	18th	– “Moses”
	25th	– “Lyrics of life”
December	02nd	– “The Gift of Hope” (Isaiah Ch 11 vv 1 – 10)
	09th	– “The Gift of Peace” (Isaiah Ch 2 vv 1– 5)
	16th	– “The Gift of Joy” (Isaiah Ch 35 vv 1 – 10)
	23rd	– “The Gift of Love” (Isaiah Ch 7 v 14)
	30th	– “Faith for the Future”

## SCOTTISH BAPTIST PRAYER LINK

November	04th	Mr Adam Plenderleith (Chaplain, Glasgow Royal Infirmary) Mr Jim Simpson (Royal Cornhill Hospital, Aberdeen)
	11th	Mull & Musselburgh
	18th	Nairn & New Prestwick
	25th	Newburgh & Newton Mearns

November 2012

Dear Friends,

"I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD,  
"plans to prosper you and not to harm you,  
plans to give you hope and a future."  
(Jer Ch 29 v 11)

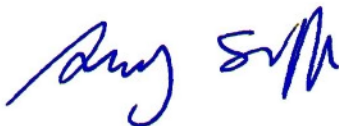
David Burnham was an American architect who developed the master plans for a number of cities including Chicago and downtown Washington D.C. He also designed several famous buildings in New York City and Washington D.C. During his career Burnham said:

Make no little plans. They have no magic to stir men's blood and probably themselves will not be realized. Make big plans. Aim high in hope and work, remembering that a noble, logical diagram once recorded will never die, but long after we are gone will be a living thing, asserting itself with ever-growing insistency. Remember that our [children] and [grandchildren] are going to do things that would stagger us.

This month sees our (115th) Church Anniversary on 25th November, with Alan Donaldson bringing the inspiration for the next year's work. The challenge for us, under God, is to "Make no little plans". Those who had the original vision to plant a church in Portobello saw their plans realised. We owe it to them, and all that have kept the vision alive, to "pray as if everything depended on God, and work as if everything depended on us".

It is awesome to realise that God had plans for our lives, and our Church before the world began. That gives us great hope and great security, as we step into His own footprints, leading us into a glorious future.

Your pastor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andy Smith', written in a cursive style.

Tommy had his own ideas and views about matters and did not hesitate to make them known. But to his credit he held no grudges and would readily shake hands with his adversary. He also had a high regard for the Ministers.

*[Two of the former Ministers, Rev Alan Montgomery & Rev George Mitchell, were in attendance at the funeral service with Rev Charles Gelliatry sending his condolences]*

## TRIBUTE TO MR TOM KING

In paying tribute to Tom King who died on 24 October, aged 88 years, we remember a man who lived life to the full. His wife Helen, who died in 1999, spoke of his interests in alliterative terms – his Boys, the Boys Brigade, the Baptist Church and not forgetting the Bowling! He was proud of his sons achievements. He played bowls well into his 80's, he was a Captain of his Boys Brigade company and a devoted member of this Church for 54 years. Before this he was a member of Duncan Street Baptist Church. He and Helen involved themselves in the various activities of the church unfailingly throughout their lives. He attended the services week by week until earlier this year. He had a reputation for falling asleep during the preaching but always claimed that he heard what was being said. Helen had to keep nudging him. Tom occupied several offices of the Church over the years. He was a deacon, Church Treasurer, Fabric Convener, Sunday School teacher, Missionary Secretary, Social Convener – everything but the Minister!

His friendly disposition resulted in his many friends. He and Helen, and my wife Peggy and I, became friends after we moved from Shotts to Portobello 45 years ago. It has been a long and enduring friendship through the up and downs and all the changing circumstances of our lives.

Tom King was a good man who exercised his Christian beliefs and teaching in a practical way. People appreciated his kindness. He worked for Bertram of Sciennes and was widely travelled at home and abroad. His interest in the BMS World Mission prompted him to look out Colleges/Hospitals of the Society, or where missionaries worked, particularly when in India.

Following the death of his wife, and with the help of his family, he sought to look after himself but as the years caught up with him he required more assistance. He attended the Older People's Project in the Church Hall where for many years he had been Treasurer. Latterly however, he was admitted to hospitals and he died in the Royal Edinburgh last Wednesday afternoon.

My last visit to Tommy was two weeks ago. He looked quite well and was quiet, although confused. Before leaving I said “let’s pray, Tommy” and he closed his eyes. After I prayed with him I said I would go but I would see him again soon. We shook hands and he said “Thanks Jack for coming to see me”. That was Tommy King as I knew him.

“(He has) fought the good fight, (he has) finished the race” para. 2 Timothy Ch 4 v 7. His faith has given place to sight.

(Jack Spiers)

## EDINBURGH CITY MISSION



Behind the public face of an affluent and rapidly

advancing city such as Edinburgh, there are areas of real deprivation and poverty.

People of all ages find themselves caught up in a downward spiral of helplessness and powerlessness, some who are homeless or in temporary accommodation, escaping from domestic or other kinds of violence, unemployed, while others are caught up in the web of debt problems. In seeking to address some of these issues and bring practical relief, Edinburgh City Mission, as part of its program of care, have a project called Basics Bank. Basic Bank provides a friendly, non-threatening atmosphere where individuals, parents and children can find the kind of help they need, whether that be a listening ear or a couple of bags of food and hygiene items.

### **Meaningful Partnerships:**

In partnership with city churches, schools and individuals who provide food, hygiene items etc, Edinburgh City Mission, together with a local network of voluntary and charitable agencies who refer clients for assistance through a voucher referral scheme which ensures that help is given to those with genuine needs. Basics Bank does not offer permanent help – it is here to help people on their way out of crisis. Help can be provided for up to two months, after which we will re-assess the need

for further assistance. Basics Bank also provides tuition in English as a foreign language on request.

### Making a difference:

To achieve this, the Mission depends on individuals, churches and schools who will guarantee regular support to the project, in terms of food or hygiene items. ECM encourages people to sign up to a Basics Bank Covenant, and provides guidance concerning the items which participants should supply.

### Basics needs:

Tinned meats

(ham, corned beef, hot dogs)

Tinned Fish and Tinned fruit

Breakfast Cereals

Tea, Coffee and Sugar

[\(edinburghcitymission.org.uk/ministries/basics-bank/\)](http://edinburghcitymission.org.uk/ministries/basics-bank/)

## CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

If anybody has any small straight-sided jam jars suitable for holding candles these would be ideal for use at this year's candlelight service. Any you can spare would be gratefully received between now and mid-December



(Susan Third)



## WHEN OTHERS WERE AT THEIR AMUSEMENTS

(Thomas Watson, "The Lord's Prayer")

The more pains we have taken for Heaven – the sweeter Heaven will be when we come there. When a farmer has long been working hard – it is pleasant to enjoy the fruit of his labours. Just so, when in Heaven, we shall remember our former zeal and earnestness for the kingdom – which will sweeten Heaven.

It will add to the joy of heaven, for a Christian to ponder, "Such a day I spent in examining my heart. Such a day I was weeping for sin. When others were at their amusements – I was at prayer. And now, have I lost anything by my devotion? No! My tears are wiped away, and the wine of paradise cheers my heart. I now enjoy Him whom my soul loves! I am possessed of a glorious kingdom! My labour is over – but my joy remains forever!"

*"Better is one day in Your courts  
than a thousand elsewhere!"*

(Psalm 84 v 10)

**Heaven will make amends for all!**

(taken from [www.gracegems.org](http://www.gracegems.org))