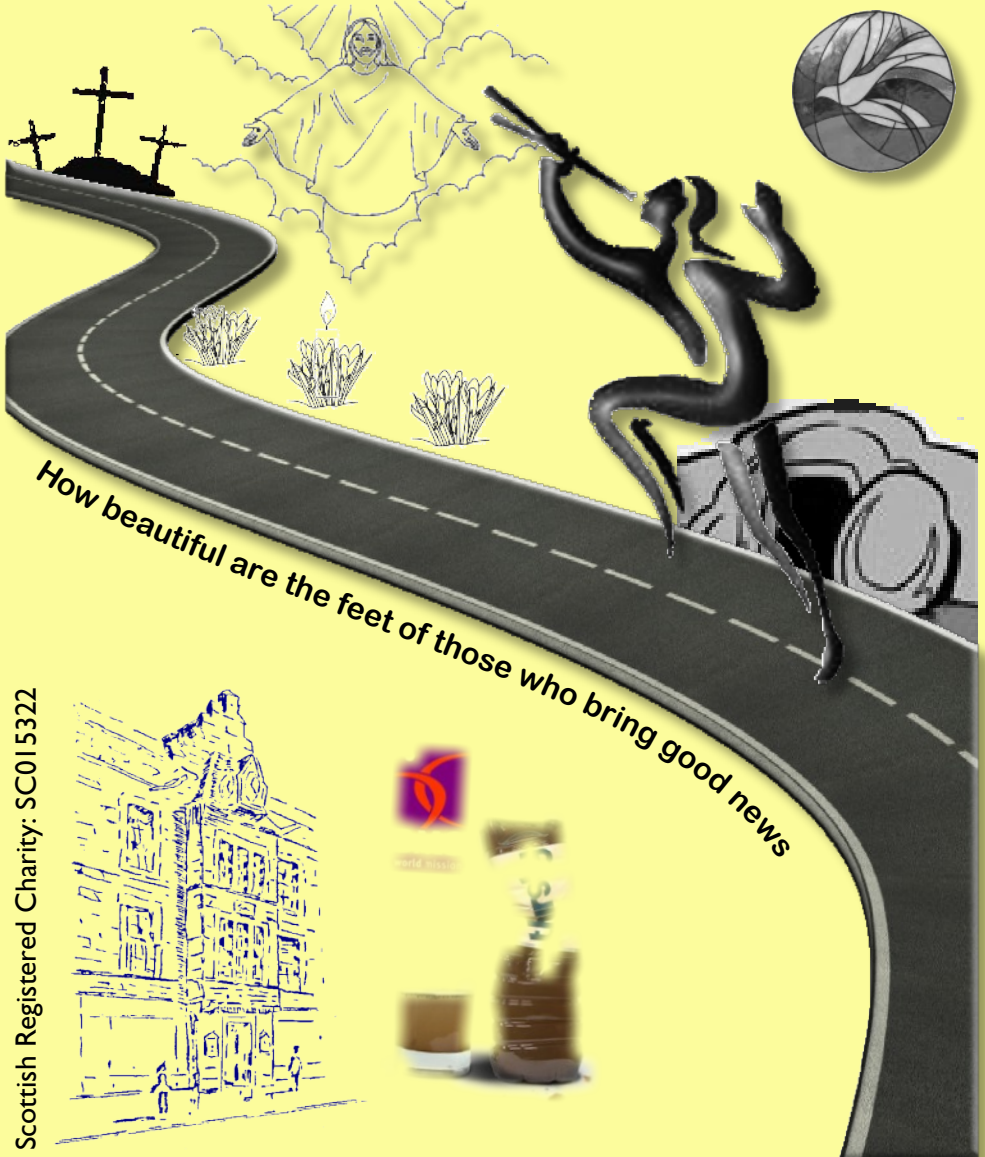


The magazine of Portobello Baptist Church

# MESSENGER

[www.portobellobaptist.co.uk](http://www.portobellobaptist.co.uk) • September 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	7.30 p.m.	Midweek Prayer & Bible Study
September	8th	Sat	2.00 p.m.	Robbie & Theresa's Wedding
	29th	Sat	9.30 a.m. – 3.30 p.m.	2012 Bible Conference @ Duncan Street Baptist Church
November	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)

## FUTURE SERMON PLAN

September	2nd	Rev. 2: 18-29	– “Thyatira – A Corrupted Church”
	9th	Rev. 3: 1- 6	– “Sardis – A Feeble Church”
	16th	Rev. 3: 7-13	– “Philadelphia – A Faithful Church”
	23rd	Rev. 3: 14-22	– “Laodicea – A Foolish Church”
	30th		– “Water for thirsty souls – BMS in Haiti”
October	7th		– “Gentle Jesus: meek & mild? As if!”
	14th		– “Lyrics of life”
	21st		– “Abraham”
	28th		– “Isaac”

## SCOTTISH BAPTIST PRAYER LINK

September	2nd	Jim Meighan (Chaplain, Stobhill Hospital) David Middlemass (Army Chaplain)
	9th	Larkhall & Leith
	16th	Lerwick & Leslie
	23rd	Leven & Linwood
	30th	Lochgelly & Lochgilphead

A PASTOR'S THOUGHT

*"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching."*

*(Heb. Ch 10 vv 24-25 N.I.V.)*

Dear Friends,

Have you ever wondered why the Canadian geese fly only in the V formation? For years specialists in aerodynamics wondered the same thing. Two engineers calibrated in a wind tunnel what happens in such a V formation. Each goose, in flapping his wings, creates an upward lift for the goose that follows. When all the geese do their part in the V formation, the whole flock has a 71 percent greater flying range than if each bird flew alone. Each depends upon the other to get to its destination. Something else – when a goose begins to lag behind; the others "honk" it back into place.

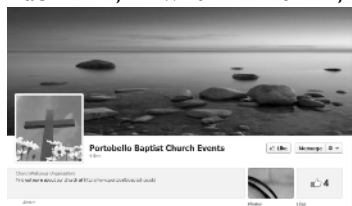
This illustration from the animal kingdom points to the way the Church should be. As the writer to the Hebrews puts it, we should "spur one another on toward love and good works". We should be in the business of cheering each other on. Encouraging and blessing one another.

At our recent prayer and thanksgiving evening, that was precisely what we did. Nearly twenty people packed the manse, giving thanks, laughing, sharing and spontaneously singing our thanks for God's amazing goodness. We thanked him for new people in the church, "old" people in the church, a new front to the building, new hope, new faith and new life!

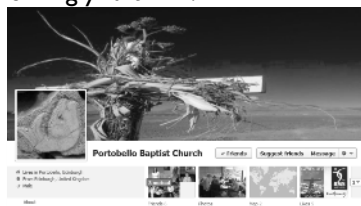
So remember, use your spiritual gift of encouragement to bless as many of your sisters and brothers as you can!

Your pastor

[To compliment our website, [www.portobellobaptist.co.uk](http://www.portobellobaptist.co.uk) we now have a presence on Facebook – a general profile page and an events page. If you are already signed up to Facebook, or would like to be, then we look forward to seeing you there.



Anyone wishing to assist Theresa with managing these pages then speak to Andy.]



Each month this new section will include a cluster of names taken from the Church Directory so that we can uphold them particularly in prayer over this month.

### GOLD MEDALLIST!



In the aftermath of London 2012, Jane Penman was proudly displaying her 'Gold medal' for the new Olympic sport of Carpet Bowls!

(Ewan Sinclair)

### PRAYING FOR THE FLOCK

(1 Thess. 5:17; Acts 6.4)

*(Eph 6:18) "praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints"*

### TRANSFORM 2012

Transform 2012 was an outreach programme run by Operation Mobilisation which I was involved in this summer. It started with a preparation conference in Rome for five days, then 300 or so of us, (mainly young people in their 20's) went in teams of about 12 to countries all round the Mediterranean Sea for two weeks to share the gospel in different ways; there were dance teams, a trekking team, a surf boarding team, refugee camp visits, children's camps, literature distribution and outreach at the Olympic Games in London too! My team was based in Malta in the centre of the Med at the Prayer Room where we tried to keep praying for the outreach teams 24 hours 7 days a week with the help of local Maltese Christians! Praying through the night from 10.00 p.m. till 6.00 a.m. was the hardest! I confess I only did it once and preferred getting up early to relieve the night watch!

My best experience was being invited to a Maltese home by a lady I met on the bus and getting to pray for the whole

family! We are keeping in touch by text, and I hope to see them if I go back to Malta on holiday with my husband.

It was great to join ordinary folk in being a short term missionary, and we can only pray that people all over the world will hear the gospel and believe in Jesus and have their hearts transformed by God's love and grace!

**SO KEEP PRAYING!**

(Denise Halcrow Burns)

## PRAISE & THANKSGIVING

Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus"

1 Thessalonians 5 v 18

Nineteen of us gathered together on 22 August to give thanks to God. As part of the evening we each wrote down one or two things to give thanks for, particularly with regard to our church. They are listed below. Pray as you read through and if you were not there why not add your own prayers of thanksgiving ....

*Thank You for all the kindness and support given by the members of this Church in sickness and in health.*

*○ God, I thank You for new people with special gifts, for young lives attending Church, for unity of spirit and love within the Church.*

*Thank You for friendship and prayer support.*

*Thank God for all that He has done in the past, but thank Him for all that He is going to do in the future, because He has given us a vision.*

*God's guidance to here - the peace of knowing this is God's will to be here; Andy's pastoring.*

*Bill and Bett - such warm welcomers every Sunday!*

*I thank You mighty God for my son and family and for my health - and I tell You that I hope to meet David again.*

*Thank You for our fellowship and our new minister and all the work that has been done over the past year.*

*Give thanks for God's mercy and grace in keeping a remnant through thin times.*

*Thanks for the café and all the helpers who are so friendly!*

*Thank You for new friends and loving people.*

*Thank you for unity, friendship and new people coming.*

*Thank You for the praise band and worship.*

*I am so thankful and grateful for God's prompting and bringing me to Portobello Baptist Church. I have been attending Church activities for about six months. The leadership, friendship and teaching are a gift from God.*

*Thank You for new members who have become new friends.*

*Thank You, ○ Thou Great Jehovah for bringing Andy and Moira to be*

*with us and bless them in all they do. Thank You for making all good things possible.*

*Thank You for the children and families that are coming.*

*Thank You for natural friendships, for God's presence and for expectancy.*

*Thank You Lord for leading me to PBC.*

*Thank You Lord for Your grace. Your love endures forever.*

## 2012 BIBLE CONFERENCE

A warm invitation is extended to join with the fellowship of Duncan Street Baptist on Saturday the 29th September for their annual Bible conference. At this year's conference they will be looking at '3 Marks of a Healthy Church Member.'

At a time where nominalism and apathy is sweeping across Scotland, this conference is most certainly a timely one. If the local Church is to be a place where the Gospel is visible and where the glory of God is clearly displayed, it's so important that the local Church has healthy members. The 3 Marks of a Healthy Church Member that we'll be looking at are as follows:

A Healthy Church Member is

- (1) Converted
- (2) Committed
- (3) Connected

Our first session will be led by Pastor John MacKinnon. John is a popular conference speaker throughout

Scotland and is a gifted Bible teacher and evangelist. John is currently the Senior Pastor of Calderwood Baptist Church in East Kilbride. Our second session will be led by Pastor Jim Turrent who many will remember warmly from our inaugural Bible conference in 2010. Jim is a popular conference speaker throughout Scotland and is well known for his faithful expository preaching. Jim is currently the Senior Pastor of Central Baptist Church in Dundee. The third session will be taken by Pastor Mark Schenk (Duncan Street Baptist Church)

## GREAT QUOTES with Kirk



"The idle man tempts the Devil to tempt him."

~ C. H. Spurgeon

"Adam was made to tend and keep, to beautify and protect. It is also not good for man to be alone. Some men (*and women*) think it is the mark of luxury and accomplishment to not have to work, and instead live a life of leisure and relaxation. Ironically, this is a proven recipe for personal disaster. There is a kingdom to be built and a bride to be won! We are God's agents of the transformation of this sin-sick world. We are wired to work, built to build, and the old saying is true – "Idle hands are the Devil's play-things." Laziness, sloth, and even prayer without accompanying action invites a whole army of demonic soldiers to wreak havoc on your life. Wake up. Get busy. Work hard. Pray and then do!"

~ Kirk Cameron

