

The magazine of Portobello Baptist Church

MESSENGER

www.portobellobaptist.co.uk • June/ July 2014

LET EVERYTHING THAT YOU DO,
LEAD OTHERS TO THE CROSS.



Scottish Registered Charity: SC015322

How beautiful are the feet of those who bring Good News

NEWS • TEACHING • ENCOURAGEMENT • LETTERS

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

		Tues 10.30 a.m.	Weekly Hour of Prayer [drop-in for all or part of the time]
		Wed 07.30 p.m.	Midweek Prayer & Bible Study
July	15th	Tues 07.30 p.m.	Management Meeting

SCOTTISH BAPTIST PRAYER LINK

July	6th	Roberta Hope, BUS Administrator Granton Baptist, Edinburgh: Revs Ian Dickie & Garry Ketchen Grantown on Spey: Rev Richard Moeller
	13th	Jenny Wilson: PA to BUS General Director Greenock: Rev Paul Coventry Hamilton: Rev David Wilson
	20th	Ivy Young, BUS Ministry Administrator Hawick: Rev George Mackenzie Helensburgh High Blantyre: Rev Stephen Younger
	27th	Hillhead, Glasgow. Rev Catriona Gorton Hillview Community Church, Aberdeen. Pastors Martin Clarke & Scott MacDonald Hopeman

MAY OFFERING

£201.00 – May Cafe Day
for Portobello Monday Centre



4th	£570.00	18th	£663.00
11th	£807.00	25th	£841.00

JUNE OFFERING

£155.00 – June Cafe Day
for Christian Aid



1st	£634.00	15th	£386.00	29th	£677.00
8th	£671.00	22nd	£632.00		

Building Fund total, so far :- £8,843.68

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

“The apostles returned to Jesus and told Him all that they had done and taught. And He said to them, ‘Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while.’ For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves.”

(Mark Ch. 6 v 30 – 32)

Mark here refers back to Jesus’ sending out the disciples in verses 7-13. They had healed people’s illnesses, performed exorcisms and proclaimed the Gospel of the kingdom of God. They now report back to Jesus what they had done and taught.

After hearing their report, Jesus tells them all to go away to a remote place to rest for a while. They were tired from their missions trip. Ministry to others is demanding work. Plus, the demands of ministry were continuing. “For many were coming and going.”

The needs of others never ceases. People’s needs are always present, they never go away. According to the verses, the disciples didn’t even have enough time to eat! So Jesus forced them to get away in a boat and go to a place where there weren’t any people. There they could rest and recharge their batteries.

Jesus was basically saying to them and to us, “If you don’t come apart, you’ll come apart.” All people, especially those caring constantly for others need regular times to escape the pressure of constant care and go and rest. That’s why God ordered a Sabbath weekly, one day of rest where we can escape and recharge. Humans aren’t machines.

Make sure you rest, especially if you’re constantly caring for others! Do so daily, if possible. Find a “desolate place,” perhaps in your own home, a place where you can close the door and have a few moments of rest and reflection with God without anyone demanding anything from you. Take your Sabbath day of rest weekly, one day that is set apart to worship and renew your life. Finally, if possible, do what Jesus demanded here of His disciples: find a “desolate place” out of town, a place to where you can go that is away from the demanding crowds. Is it the beach? Or the hills? Over the summer, perhaps if you get away for a break, find time for God. Find time to be still.

The needs of others will always be there. They will all continue to need your care. The needs of others will never cease. But to serve over the long term, Jesus knew that if you don’t come apart, you’ll come apart!

Your Pastor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Amy Smith', written over the printed name 'Your Pastor'.

THE CHURCH FAMILY

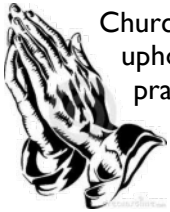
We continue to remember, in prayer, all those who have been so faithful in the service of the Church and are no longer able to worship with us:

—

PRAYING FOR THE FLOCK

(1 Thess. 5:17; Acts 6.4)

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.



(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"

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FLOWER CALENDER

If you would like to add your name to any blank space then please see either Alistair or Ewan



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20th
27th

FROM THE ARCHIVES

[Extracts from Church Minutes going back in twenty five year increments]
(Moiria Scarcliffe)

This time 25 years ago - July 1989:

Earlier in the year, Winnie Beattie had been appointed president of the Women's Auxiliary and Jean Gee Treasurer.

Minister George Mitchell announced he planned to move to Harestanes Baptist Church, Kirkintilloch. Consequently a vacancy committee was set up with Jack Spiers as Secretary.

Fabric - Gas board closed down the gas supply due to excessive leakage in the atmosphere.

This time 50 years ago - July 1964:

Deacons' attention was drawn to the rising cost of heating both church and

hall and subsequently it was agreed to look into ways of doing this more economically.

Ivan Milsted, minister, reported that the opening Open Air Service on the beach at the foot of Tower Street had been well attended and profitable.

This time 75 years ago - July 1939:

The Secretary raised the question of the prices of prizes for the adult races at the annual church picnic. He had had some complaints to the effect that too much was being spent on them.

The Pastor, William Whyte, was keen to do some work among the young life of Portobello and was getting literature ready for same.

This time 100 years ago - July 1914:

The church was meeting in the Stanley Street building. A jumble sale had been held in aid of the building fund and, after expenses, this raised £4-6-6d.

The matter of the pastorate was again under consideration and, as circulars sent out had not been returned, it was decided to delay the question for a few months in order that the financial strength of the church be ascertained.



The Celebrate Recovery programme at Portobello Baptist is now in Week 10 and has focused on the first of four topics for teaching and discussion - "Stepping out of denial into God's grace".

This biblical and balanced programme is to help people overcome their hurts, habits and hang-ups. The programme is forward looking, strengthens personal responsibility and emphasises a spiritual commitment to Jesus Christ.

In addition, Celebrate Recovery addresses all types of hurts, habits and hang-ups. It stresses the biblical truth that we need one another in order to grow both spiritually and emotionally. We are seeing lives changed in dramatic ways.

You can join the programme at any stage - we meet on Mondays from 7.30p.m. to 9.30p.m. in the church cafe.

(Robert & Denise Burns)

WITHOUT THE GOSPEL
EVERYTHING IS USELESS AND VAIN.

JOHN CALVIN

COMMONWEALTH GAMES 2014

Please pray for the personal witnessing that will take place at our Gideons National Blitz during the 2014 Commonwealth Games which will be held in Glasgow, Edinburgh and Carnoustie (Near Dundee) from Wednesday 23 July to Sunday 3 August 2014.



AND FINALLY ...

Plans are now well under way and it is encouraging that a number of Gideons from Scotland and England will be attending for which we thank God.

Gideons from all over the country will be attending this unique event.

Please remember in prayer: More members involved; More opportunities for contact; More New Testaments given to people who need the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

One of our own members received an award recently – Miss Jane Penman, photographed below, won the Gold medal in a recent tournament at Braeside for playing carpet bowls!



We thank you for your prayers, and generosity, which are an enormous encouragement to us. This is a wonderful opportunity to reach the lost for Christ.

VISITOR RESPONSE

I am a visitor and would like

- Information about the Church
- A visit from the Minister
- Information about becoming a Christian

PLEASE FILL IN YOUR CONTACT DETAILS BELOW
and either place in the offering bag, hand to a steward or post to
189 Portobello High Street, Portobello, Edinburgh, EH15 1EU

NAME:

PHONE:

EMAIL:

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