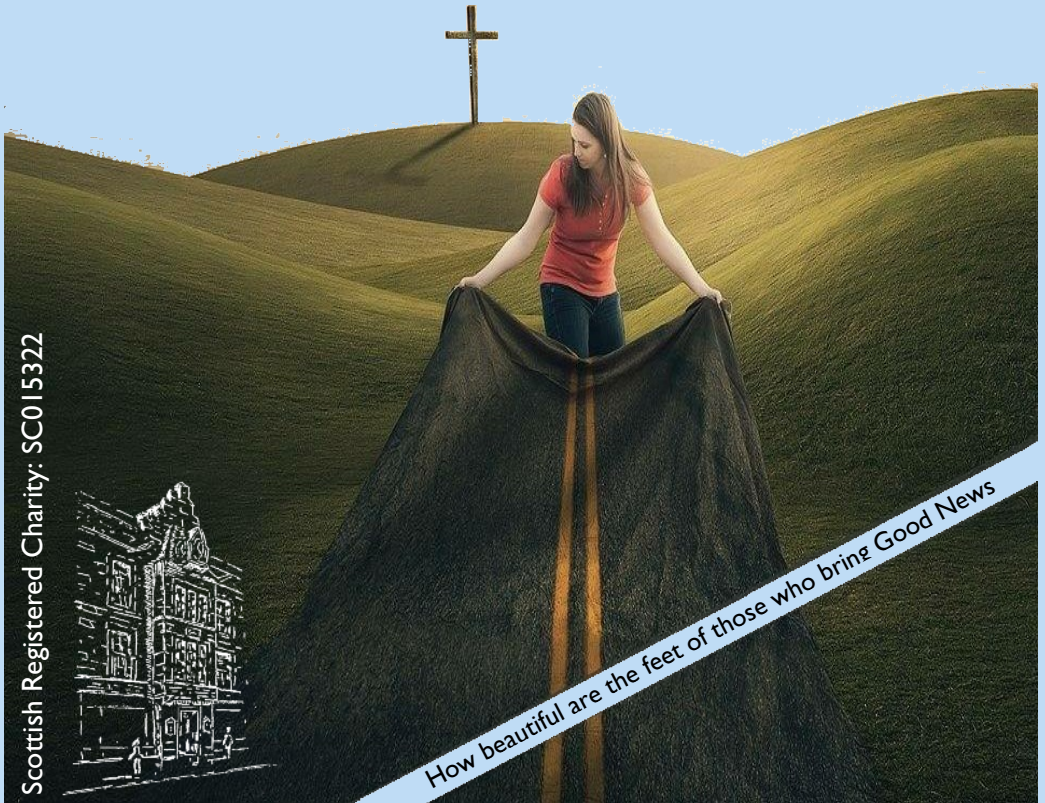


The magazine of Portobello Baptist Church

MESSENGER

www.portobellobaptist.co.uk • September 2015

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



Scottish Registered Charity: SC0153322

How beautiful are the feet of those who bring Good News

NEWS • TEACHING • ENCOURAGEMENT • LETTERS

dates for your diary

2015

March
2

May
18

March
30

February
26

April
27

August
27

Tues 10.30 a.m. Weekly Hour of Prayer
[drop-in for all or part of the time]

[check 'Buzz' newsheet for last minute details]

SCOTTISH BAPTIST PRAYER LINK

September	6 th	Baptist Union of Great Britain; Lerwick BC;
	13 th	Leslie BC; Leven BC; Linwood BC;
	20 th	Lossiemouth BC
	27 th	Milestone Christian Fellowship (Girvan); Scottish Baptist College

FUTURE SERMON PLAN

September	6 th	Psalm Ch I [Get into the habit of success]
	13 th	Which is the greatest – Faith
	20 th	Which is the greatest – Hope
	27 th	Which is the greatest – Love
October	4 th	What's in a name – Christian

AUGUST OFFERING



2 nd	£655.00	16 th	£619.00	30 th	£653.00
9 th	£884.00	23 rd	£720.00		

Building Fund, running total :- £51,502.75

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



*"Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good. His love endures forever.
Give thanks to the God of gods. His love endures forever.
Give thanks to the Lord of lords: His love endures forever.
to him who alone does great wonders, His love endures forever."
(Psalm 136 v 1 - 4)*

I've recently packed up my electric razor, choosing disposables instead. It gets a closer shave, and for some reason, I enjoy the act of throwing it in the little metal bin next to the sink.

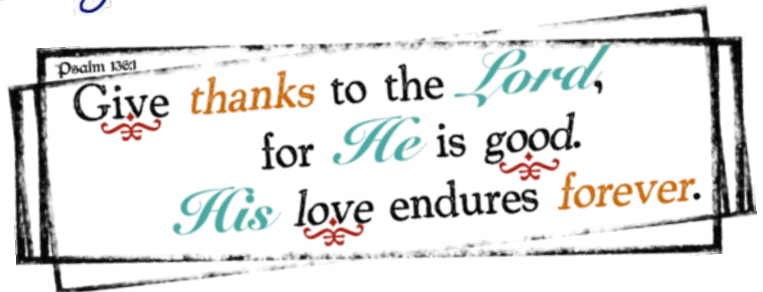
More than ever, we live in a disposable culture. Think for a minute about some of the things that are made to be thrown away—razors, water bottles, lighters, paper plates, plastic eating utensils. Products are used, tossed, and then replaced.

This disposable culture is also reflected in more significant ways. Many times true commitment in relationships is seen as optional. Marriages struggle to survive. Long-term employees are discharged just before retirement for cheaper options. A highly revered athlete leaves to join another team. It seems as if nothing lasts.

Our unchanging God, however, has promised that His loving mercy endures forever. In Psalm 136, the singer celebrates this wonderful promise by making statements about God's wonder, work, and character. He then punctuates each statement about God with the phrase, "For His mercy endures forever." Whether it is the wonder of His creation (vv.4-9), the rescue of His people (vv.10-22), or His tender care for His own (vv.23-26), we can trust Him because His mercy will never fail. In a temporary world, the permanence of God's mercy gives us hope. We can sing with the psalmist, "Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever" (v.1).

Your pastor,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Amy Smith".



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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M
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FLOWER CALENDAR 2015

S 2nd
E 9th
P 16th
T 23rd
E 30th
M
B
E
R



TRIBUTE TO MRS MORNA VYSE

As a fellowship it was with sadness that we heard of the passing of Mrs Morna Vyse on 9 July 2015.

Morna was baptised in the church in June 2000 by Rev. Donald Currie and was received into membership at that time. She was of a quiet and gentle nature and although she did not take an active part in the church her gift was in speaking to people and getting to know them. She attended the church very regularly until her health started to give her problems. But she never lost her interest in it.

We who knew Morna Vyse are grateful for every remembrance of her. Her frailty is over and she is now at rest with the Lord.

To all her family we extend our sincere sympathy at this very sad and difficult time in their lives.

(Winnie Beattie)

HOW TO GET THROUGH WHAT YOU CAN'T GET OVER

"Do you ever feel invisible
because of your blindness?"

That was the question Doug asked me. I laughed and said, "It's funny. I am the one who can't see, but, often, it seems the other way around."



I went on to explain what I meant ...

Often when I'm out with Phil — you know, like at a party or having coffee — someone will ask Phil, what do you want to drink? Phil answers. Then, they will ask Phil, what does she want to drink? It's like they're the one who can't see that I'm right there perfectly capable of answering that question!"

Doug sighed. "How do you feel when that happens?"

I told him how much it used to bother me. It made me feel insignificant and lesser.

I fight that with blindness anyway. Sometimes, people think that because I can't see, I can't think! But, actually, I have realized that it's really less about that and more about the fact that they feel awkward and don't quite know how to get my attention or relate to me.

But, still, I admit, it is humiliating no matter what their motive. Any time you are ignored, you will feel invisible.

"Well, you seem like you've tackled it. You seem so confident. How have you reconciled it — you obviously can't change it — how have you overcome those feelings of invisibility?"

I paused and thought about Doug's question.

Have I overcome it?

My answer surprised me.

"I haven't overcome it," I told him, "I overwrite it." I am not even sure if it was a word — overwrote — but it said what I meant!

Sometimes, I think we put a ton of pressure on ourselves to get over feelings of insecurity or insignificance. We strive, believe truth, and then — wham! — we make a mistake, embarrass ourselves, or

have a humiliating moment when someone treats us like we are invisible.

When that stuff happens, our insecurity button can get pushed and the feelings of insecurity or insignificance can spring up. We may think, "I thought I had overcome that." Then, we get down on ourselves, feeling like a big spiritual failure and, again, we have a new feeling we need to overcome ... guilt!

So, I don't dog myself for still feeling invisible or insecure every now and then. I don't get discouraged just because I haven't totally overcome those things. Instead, I overwrite them.

I overwrite them with truth.

**My statement of truth is:
how I feel is not who I am.**

Just because I feel invisible doesn't mean I am! God sees me. I can't find my significance in how someone else sees me (or doesn't see me), I find my sense of self in how God sees me.

Oh girl, if you can't overcome it, overwrite it!

It may still lurk underneath for a while, but, eventually, you will have so many layers of truth overwriting that feeling that it won't even be able to break through!

We all have times we feel invisible, but when you do, spend less time trying to overcome it and more time overwriting it with the truth that you are not how you feel!

(taken from jenniferrothschild.com)



Grace Gems!

A special privilege and comfort of old-age

("A Discourse Concerning Old-age,
Tending to the Instruction, Caution and Comfort
of Aged People" Richard Steele, 1688)

*"The silver-haired head is a crown of glory
– IF it is found in the way of
righteousness."* (Proverbs 16:31)

Now the older a man grows – the wiser
should he grow. And the wiser he
grows – the less likely he is to chose evil.
The more divine strokes and judgments
he has seen upon evil-doers – the more
he should be afraid of tampering with it.

A special privilege and comfort of old-age
is that it is richer in experience than any
other age. The aged believer can tell
experimentally . . .

- of the wisdom and justice of God's providence,
- of the truth of His promises and threatenings,
- of the devices of Satan,
- of the deceitfulness of riches,
- of the wisdom of integrity,
- of the vanity of all carnal delights,
- of the wickedness of his own heart.

Old-age is rich in the experience of these
things, whereby they are able to govern
themselves, and to advise others.

Their . . .

- judgments are more refined,
- passions are more sedate,
- graces are more strong,
- actions are more consistent,
- and their spiritual stature is taller.

Trace some godly aged men from morning
to night, you shall still find them . . .

- so discreet in their charity,
- so grave in their counsels,
- so savory in their discourse,
- so constant in their piety,
- so considerate in their resolutions,
- so faithful in their reproofs,
- so poised in their temper,
- so charitable in their censures, and
- so uniform and useful in their lives –

that their practice may be a perpetual
sermon – and an example to teach others
their duty to God and man.

By long experience, aged believers are
taught to avoid many dangers, which
others fall into. Their manifold experience
of the deceitfulness of the flesh, of the
world, and of the devil – has enabled them
to counter and somewhat conquer them.
And their experience renders them able to
give the most prudent counsels, and to
forewarn others of those consequences
which they easily foresee – IF they have
treasured up wisdom according to their
years.

*"The silver-haired head is a crown of
glory--IF it is found in the way of
righteousness."* (Proverbs 16:31)

(www.gracegems.org)

LOVE IS NOT
SOMETHING WE CAN
SIMPLY MUSTER UP
FROM DEEP WITHIN
OURSELVES. LOVE HAS
A SOURCE. THAT
SOURCE IS JESUS.

BOX OFFICE SUCCESS FOR FILM
ABOUT POWER OF PRAYER

A low-budget Christian film has shot to incredible success in the US, faring better than some of the latest Hollywood blockbusters.

War Room, the story of an elderly woman who helps a couple through marital difficulties by turning a closet in their house into a 'prayer room', grossed over \$11 million on its opening weekend.



It is the latest film by independent producers the Kendrick brothers, whose company goals include seeking to "honour Jesus Christ by making His truth and love known worldwide".

PASSIONATE PRAYER

Last weekend, the film, starring three relatively unknown actors, was shown in around 1,000 cinemas and did better than

Tom Cruise's latest Mission Impossible instalment, which was shown in more than 3,000 locations.

The brothers' film focuses on a middle-aged African-American couple whose marriage is threatened when the husband is tempted to be unfaithful.

Through the guidance of an older Christian lady and passionate prayer, the family are able to survive through adversity.

“ God totally gets the credit for what's happening. Thousands of people have been praying for this movie. ”
Stephen Kendrick

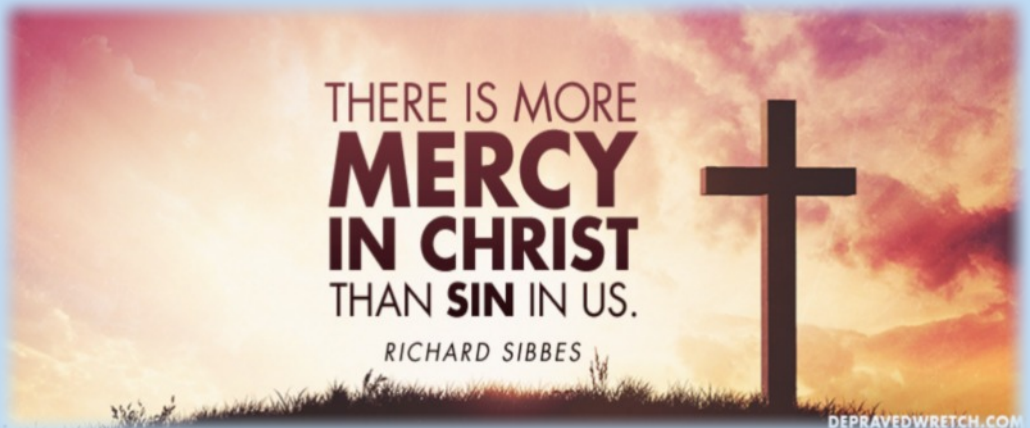
After hearing of the film's box office success, Stephen Kendrick said: "God totally gets the credit for what's happening. Thousands of people have been praying for this movie."

'CORE VALUES'

Stephen and his brother Alex are both active members of Sherwood Church in Albany, Georgia.

A statement on their website explains the "core values and standards" of Kendrick Brothers Productions.

Their goals include: "To encourage, edify and equip others in their spiritual journey. To strengthen relationships in marriage,



parenting, friendship and beyond” and “To inspire faith, hope and love in others”.

'USEFUL TOOL'

The brothers distributed Bible study plans to churches and ministers who use their film for discussion with their congregations.

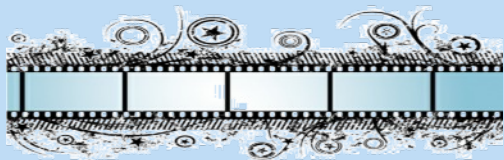
Rich Peluso, senior vice-president of Affirm Films, the company which made War Room, said of the Kendrick brothers:

“They are intimately connected to faith leaders across the country and work hard to integrate themes within their movies that resound with these leaders and provide resources that allow the use of the movie as both entertainment and a useful tool to change lives and hearts”.

[Watch the official trailer online at <http://warroomthemovie.com/>]

A previous film produced by the Kendrick brothers called Fireproof, which is about marriage, also astounded media critics when it came out. Made with a budget of just \$500,000 it made over \$12 million in the days after its release.

(taken from christianinstitute.org.uk)



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:
EMAIL:

PHONE:

Give Thanks

WITH A GRATEFUL HEART

Give thanks with a grateful heart

Give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because He's given Jesus
Christ, His Son (x2)

And now let the weak say, "I am strong"

Let the poor say, "I am rich

Because of what the Lord has done for
us" (x2)

Give thanks with a grateful heart

Give thanks to the Holy One

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And now let the weak say, "I am strong"

Let the poor say, "I am rich

Because of what the Lord has done for
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GIVE THANKS

CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE

