POLLOKSHIELDS CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, GLASGOW Charity Number 5C013690

No. 2

October 2010

NEW VISION

As long as the world exists, there will be a time for planting and time or harvest Genesis 8 vs 22



Our Mission Statement:

' Showing forth the Love of Christ

in a

Multi-faith Community'

Minister:The Rev David Black423 4000Session Clerk:Mrs Mary Morrison632 1659

Services in October

- 3rd October Harvest
- 10th October Guest Preacher: Rev Ainslie Walton
- 17th October Guest Preacher: Rev Stephen Pacitti
- 24th October Morning Worship
- 31st October Morning Worship



Big Event in November

Back to Church Sunday & Gift Day Sunday 11:00am – Commitment followed by lunch



Remember to turn your clock back on the 31st October.



The old joke begins I have good news and bad news, which would you like first?... and usually its all bad... but that's true for the mix we have received this month.

The bad news in that the Presbytery of Glasgow is required to shed 31 full time ministry posts in the next 4 years and so is creating a fresh plan for how ministers are deployed across the city.

But we have good news in that the General Trustees of the church have agreed to support a full scale Options Study on all our buildings as we plan for the future here.

And I have even better news that the success of the Hear I AM series keeps building and has now led to the setting up of a Prayer Support Network within the congregation.

We can all pray and so our challenge this month is to accept that truth and to share in some common praying this month.

(See article on Hear: I AM for October).

As a praying people, looking to develop our ministry out into our community and parish, we offer a visible sign of the Christian faith to... the world beyond our doors.

Pray that God will continue to bless us as we seek to serve and follow Jesus.

Rev David Black



Harvest Thanksgiving to support Pakistan Floods Victims

Almost 21 million people are thought to have been affected_by serious flooding in Pakistan.

The floodwaters have washed away millions of hectares of crops, submerged villages and destroyed roads and bridges. Disease is spreading among the flood victims.

Our Harvest Service will be held on 3rd October.

The Church will be decorated as usual by the Flower Club. This year we will have a retrial offering in aid of the Pakistan flood victims to be sent via Christian Aid and D.E.C.



The Scottish Christian Asian Fellowship invites you to a service on the 2nd October which is also in aid of the Pakistan flood victims.

The Service at 11:00 am will be followed by a buffet lunch and will be attended by leaders of Scottish Churches.

Prayer Support Network

"Pray on every occasion, as the Spirit leads. For this reason keep alert and never give up; pray always for all God's people". (Ephesians 5: 18)

The bible is full of references to the importance of prayer as it is our way of communicating with God. As Jesus intercedes on our behalf we are asked to intercede on the behalf of other people who are ill or needing support. God's promise to us is that the prayers will be answered. Maybe not in the way we would want, but in the way that fulfils his design.

The prayer support network is aiming to give people a way of requesting prayers. People will be able to pass on their prayer requests either using the prayer cards, or via the church web site, and as co-ordinator will pass on the requests to the people in the support network. The requests can be as detailed or as vague as people like, as God knows what we are asking for and who it's for.

Prayer is a powerful weapon against loneliness, isolation, illness and feelings of worthlessness. It can take many forms: continuous talking to God; more structured quiet time; using physical props to enable better understanding of the process; etc. It is as varied as the people within the church as no two people will pray alike. However the strength it generates is never to be underestimated and the healing properties are very real.

A network is as a network does - it is simply people who commit to praying in their own place at their own time and pace for the people and issues for which we have requests.

It most naturally builds into people's own regular pattern of prayer.

If you would like to be a member of the support network you would be very welcome, so please give me your details.

• See also the insert sheet on prayer as the October Series of "Hear I AM"



Cathy Thompson

A View From the Pew

The oldest sins of the Christian church are unbelief, worldly ambition and cowardice. They are also the most persistent. Small wonder, because the seeds of them were in the apostolic band of men who became the pillars of that church. On one occasion, we read, *"Jesus rebuked them for their unbelief";* on another occasion *"they argued who among them should be greatest";* on another, *"they all forsook him and fled*". The Gospels are nothing if not brutally honest. But look at the transformation we see in these men in the book of Acts!

It has been all the more heartening, then, in these past few days to witness a Pope, who never wanted to be Pope, proclaiming his faith to a sceptical world, and fearlessly confronting the moral and spiritual bankruptcy of secular society. I would not be surprised if one day Pope Benedict's visit is seen more as a Visitation than just a visit.

There is a story told about Pope John Paul II's visit to Cuba in 1998. When Fidel Castro went to meet him, he boasted about Cuba's economic miracle and his plans for the people. "Your Holiness," he declared, "I have vowed that when our plans are achieved, every peasant in the land will have a fine chicken on his table at least once a week!" "Very good, my son," said the Pope. "And your Holiness," went on Castro, "you will of course be aware that I do not believe in God." "Just so, my son," replied the Pope, "and you will, of course, be aware that God does not believe in your chickens. "

God is not a great believer in human schemes. God devises His own schemes. And it is the church's task - which is to say it is *ours* - to work humbly and faithfully and fearlessly to bring them to fruition.

David Knowles, writing on the decline of mediaeval monasticism in England, demonstrates how an institution and an ideal is modified as it passes through the centuries, and takes its colour from its surroundings. "In such a gradual transformation the crisis comes when the *ideal* has lost its force and the surrounding world has imposed its *spirit* as well as its pattern, *ff*

This is surely the real crisis of the modern church, not lack of money or ministerial manpower. The Church of Scotland, and we may say the Christian Church in general, has moved on, adopting new methods, and being shaped according to new patterns in an increasingly liberal - not to say libertine, world. As it undergoes this transformation would it not do well to ponder Professor Knowles' words?

Anonymous

Out of the Mouth of Babes

On Thursday evening, my grandson, Findlay phoned me from his mum's car, He was so excited saying 'I saw the Pope, I saw the Pope'. I asked him if the Pope waved to him, but he replied that he was in a limousine not the Popemobile. What he had seen was the motor convoy travelling from Edinburgh to Bellahouston Park. I asked him if it was exciting and he said it was almost as exciting as finding Anne Arctic in Club Penguin.

(Club Penguin is the latest computer game that he is playing and Anne Arctic is hard to find.)

Elizabeth McKissock

Church Magazines

LIFE AND WORK

This is the time of year when we need to know the number ~ Life and Work magazines that the Church needs to order for next year.

Included in this magazine is the Life and Work Order Form, if you wish to order the magazine please complete the form and return it together with your remittance to the treasurer by the 14th November. If you do not return your order form we will be unable to order a magazine for you. If at the start of the year you then decided that you wish a copy there will be a delay in you receiving it.

Please note that the price of Life and Work is to be increased to £1.80 per copy. This is the first price increase in five years, and is still good value for money.

NEW VISION

As we still do not have a permanent new editor, as of 2011 our magazine may not be a monthly magazine but quarterly. We will keep you informed.

Regular information updates are available on the Church website: www.pollokshieldschurch.org.uk

HEAR: I AM 2010

September's Theme:

'Exploring the Word together through Tasty Tangible Texts'

On the first evening we explored food found in the Bible.

We also discussed what fruit got Adam expelled from the Garden of Eden? If you answered Apple then I am afraid that you were wrong, apples were not found in that area. It was most likely an apricot.

The second night we looked at religious foods. We spoke about how food was used in the Bible. One person pointed out that as she now reads her Bible she became aware of how much food she came across.

We were then invited to take part in a Passover Sedar which has fourteen points to the proceedings.

The third night we brought an object found in the Bible. Those present were to guess where in the Bible it could be found.

The fourth night we reflected on the past weeks on how we use all our senses in worship.

Hear: I AM for October

The October series is about Prayer and comes as a supplement to this magazine. Please share in our praying together throughout the month.

In November we will look forward to Advent & Christmas.

THE GUILD

The Guild theme for 2010 – 2011 "Called to Love Mercy"

The Guild meetings for October are

4th October	2:00pm	My Journey of Faith	Andy Gillies
11th October	7: 30pm	A Place of Hope	Rev E McMahon
18 th October	2:00pm	The Guild & My Hats	Janette Henderson
25 th October	2:00pm	Salvation Army	Mjrs John & Joan Swan

Rainbows

Rainbows meet on Tuesday 6:00pm - 7:00pm for ages 5 - 7 years in the all. Rainbows play games; do craft work and have lots of fun. They then progress to Brownies at the age of 7 years.

Brownies

Brownies meet on Wednesday 5:30pm - 7:10pm for ages 7 -11 years in the Hall. Brownies are involved in badge work, games and have lots of fun. They progress to Guides at the age of 11 years.

Guides

Guides meet on Wednesday 7:30pm - 9:00pm for ages 11-15 years in the Hall. Guides play games, learn to cook and work towards Guide badges.