

# The MESSENGER

April 2014





## A View from the Manse

Dear Friends,

I would like to tell you about my three best friends. They have been my three best friends since I've been 19 years old. I didn't really go looking for them, rather they came looking for me.

They found me one night as I was kneeling at the side of my bed asking God to help me. They came beside me and one of them whispered into my ear that God loved me. Another one said that he would stay by my side all my life and another one promised to love me forever.

You may have guessed by now that my three best friends are Faith, Hope and Love. But the wonder and beauty of these friends is that I see them in the lives of other people. They don't just befriend me but they are the friends of many people who are living in a relationship with God. They are friends who will stick by you and never let you down.

We live tomorrow  
the dreams of today  
Our hopes of the future  
gives us faith along the way

Love is the river  
of this wakened state  
It's never out of time  
it's never too late  
It gives us life  
as it flows through our lives  
It cuts through confusion  
loneliness and strife

Of course, I have my best human friend, Susan but we also share the same friendships with Faith, Hope and Love.

Faith, Hope and Love have been around for a very long time. They were introduced by their Master Jesus who was sent into this world to show us how we can come to know them as friends.

In his life, he firstly revealed to us Faith.

Faith is ever daring  
in the face of defeat  
It can bring you courage  
that nothing can beat

Faith is never doubting  
in yourself or your beliefs  
Holding on to what you know  
when content is just a dream

Faith can give you strength  
to face what the future brings  
Combined with hope and love  
you only need the three of these.

Without faith we will struggle to find our way to God. Faith leads us on an amazing journey and Faith is our constant companion, giving us strength along the way. Hebrews 11 v1 "Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see." Faith is a true friend who will not let us down.

Then there is Hope. Hope is what we long for and look forward to. Hope is not a pie in a sky dream but Hope is based on Jesus Christ. Hope is not subjective but objective. It trusts in the death and resurrection of Jesus and this gives us the hope of eternal life.

Hope is a power  
that can't be taken away  
It can pull you through  
even the toughest of days

Hope can keep you going  
when everything else fails  
It keeps you company  
on the loneliest of trails

Then there is another friend called Love and he is arguably the greatest because he will never let us down. What type of friend is love? He is patient, he is kind. He does not envy, he does not boast, he is not proud. He is not rude, he is not self seeking, he is not easily angered; he keeps no record of wrongs. He does not delight with evil but he rejoices with the truth. He always protects, always trusts, always hopes, and always perseveres." 1 Cor 13 v4-7 Isn't that a brilliant friend to have?

Love cuts a clear path  
through the test of time  
you can see where it has been  
and watch it unwind

Free as a river  
that you can't control  
you can't even say  
where it might flow

So, these are my three friends. They are always near me. Sometimes I wander from their company but I know that they keep an ever watchful eye out for me. They will never let me down and I know that they have my best interests at heart. The amazing truth about their friendships is that they are going to be with me for ever and one day in eternity I will meet them when I meet their Master Jesus.

So these are my friends but they are not just for me, they want to be friends with everyone they meet. They only need to be invited. Perhaps today you are looking for these three friends? Perhaps today, you need their company? Why not set time aside and ask them to come into your life and befriend you. If you want to know them better, then read one of the gospels about the life of Jesus and there in every page, you will find these three amigos appearing.

As we prepare ourselves for the greatest time of the year...the time when we remember that faith, hope and love sacrificed themselves for our souls. The time when we remember that their Master Jesus Christ died on a cross for our sin and rose for our eternities. May we open our hearts afresh to faith, hope and love and may we also as with the Apostle Paul receive them into our hearts and have them in our minds - 1 Thessalonians 5 v8

Love is like a River  
Hope is like a dream  
Faith is just believing  
with nothing to be seen

So dream of tomorrow  
and Love for today  
Hope with all your heart  
Let Faith show you the way  
The poem quoted is by poet Rusty (Ed) Gibson

With Every Blessing,

*John*



## **62nd Glasgow Girls Brigade**

Unbelievably, we are now planning for events as we come towards the end of our session – it's been a busy and quick year !

The Les Miserable movie evening in November was well attended and enjoyed by those who came along. We are grateful as always, for the support we receive from the Congregation at Hillington Park.

Our Christmas event for the girls went very well, with the girls enjoying a Circus show and then taking part in a Circus skills workshop. There was lots of juggling, making balloon animals etc.

We also really enjoyed taking part in the Choir Christmas concert. Silviya's enthusiasm and talent was an inspiration to us all and the girls really enjoyed her piano playing - especially her renditions of several One Direction songs !!

Our badgework focus this year has been on the Commonwealth Games and we've enjoyed many different activities related to this. To commemorate this special event, the girls will be presented with a unique 4 Organisations (GB, BB, Guides, Scouts) Commonwealth Badge at our Presentation of Awards Evening in April.

Our final evening of the session will be on 6<sup>th</sup> May when we will be taking the girls Ten Pin Bowling at Xscape.

Best Wishes,

**Elaine Balfour**  
**Captain**



Many thanks to our Minister Rev. MacGregor and all who visited me while in hospital recently, and for the beautiful flowers delivered to me by Karen Gibson on behalf of the Church, on my return home.

I greatly appreciate all your kindness and support.

Betty Baldock.

On behalf of our brother Tom we would like to thank our friends in Hillington Park for the support and prayers they gave us in the weeks prior to his death. A special thanks to the ladies of the Guild Committee who stepped in at short notice to take the Guild meeting.

Also thanks to John for his visits to Tom which he greatly appreciated.

It is at times like this that we feel blessed to be part of Gods Church.

Christine, Allister, Helen and Isabell

# GUILD

GUILD: The following are the items for the months of March and April:-

## **MONDAYS at 7.30p.m**

31st March - A.G.M. and Quiz (this will be held in the North Hall)

26th April - Spring Tea - Held in the Large Hall at 2 p.m.

Tickets for this can be obtained from any member of the Committee priced £2 or payable at the door on the day.

## **TUESDAYS at 2 p.m. in the Large Hall**

25th March - Heart for Art (Guild Project)

## **Reviewing our Eldership**

At the moment our Kirk Session are reviewing the role of eldership within our church and in the near future a general survey is going out to all members asking for their opinion on how they would be best served by our elders.

We will value your opinions and your comments and this will help us develop the eldership at Hillington Park Church.

Sadly, we have lost some of our long standing elders due to bereavement and also other elders due to moving out of the Parish, so until the review process is completed, the business team comprising of Rev John MacGregor, Tom Smith, Gail Vasey, Mike Nolan and also Barrie Drummond will cover for the neighbourhoods who are without an elder.

If you are without an elder and you require the service of an elder, could you in the first instance contact Helen Shanks – 0141 427 3025.

***Rev John MacGregor***



## **Leprosy Mission Scotland**

I would like to thank everyone who gives so generously and faithfully to the Leprosy Mission. This terrible disease is still found in 31 countries across Africa, Asia, Indonesia and South America.

The people, who catch this disease, are in many places, still outcasts; shunned by society. The Leprosy Mission is working in those places but without your help they can do very little.

Last year with your help I raised £631.10 to the mission. Your money does help and is needed If you would like to help please see me.

**Helen Shanks.**



## **The Flower circle**



The ladies of the flower circle would like to thank the following people for donating towards the flowers in the month of January/ February 2014:

- Jan and Ken Blackie
- Mrs McDairmid
- Guild
- Flower boxes

Once more I would like to thank the ladies for doing the flowers so beautifully. They are much admired every week.

**Isabell Nugent**

# PARISH REGISTER

## FUNERALS

NAME	ADDRESS	DATE	MEMBER
Agnes Spellacy	Oakbridge Nursing Home	25th February 2014	Yes
Neil McKinnon Moir	15 Ralston Path	4th March 2014	No
Jessie Connolly	Ailsa Craig Nursing Home	2nd March 2014	No

*Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life"  
"In my Father's house there are many rooms if it were not so I would  
have told you".*



## **PRAYER POINTS FOR EACH DAY OF APRIL**

***Matthew 7v7 " Ask and it shall be given, seek and you shall find, knock and the door shall be opened to you "***

This month we have a prayer request for each day of the month. Please take time each day to pray for each item.

Please remember in your thoughts and prayers.

1. Pray for our Presbytery and for the Moderator and Presbytery Clerk.
2. Pray for the Light Zone – it`s leaders and the children who attend.
3. Pray for Craigton Primary School – teachers and pupils and give thanks for the good relationship that we have with the school.
4. Pray for Rosshall academy and also for the good relationship that we have with the school.
5. Pray for all our members who are ill at home, in hospital or Care homes.
6. Pray for those on our prayer list – if you want to receive a prayer list please see Louise Stewart.
7. Pray for the children in the local community as they begin their school holidays.
8. All who are struggle with loneliness or depression.
9. All who are grieving the loss of a loved one.
10. Remember all the countries who are at war and people who have had to flee their country.
11. Prayer for the people of Philippines as they rebuild their lives.
12. Pray for Asylum seekers and refugees
13. Pray for the church and all Christians are celebrating Palm Sunday
14. Pray for the work in Govan of the Preshal Trust and that the children would be blessed with their Easter Eggs.
15. Pray for the children of Dwelling Places.

16. Remember those who are serving their country in Afghanistan.
17. Remember CAP – (Christians Against Poverty) and ROC (Redeeming Our Communities).
18. Pray for the G52 Churches Together as they walk together for Good Friday
19. Pray for the work of The Trussel Trust Food banks in our church – give thanks to God for the good work being done through our church.
20. Thank God the Resurrection of Jesus and pray for his blessing to come upon this community
21. Pray for all our Office bearers as they lead us forward.
22. Pray for Cindy as she grows in her role as Youth Developer.
23. Pray for our community and all who make important decisions for it.
24. Pray for people struggling with cancer and give thanks for those who care
25. Pray for the School Assembly at Craigton Primary and that the children would hear about the love of God
26. Pray for marriages and we give thanks for those in our church who are celebrating a Golden Anniversary this year.
27. Pray for Children who struggle with disabilities. Pray for the good work done at Hazelwood School.
28. Pray for Rosshall Academy and for the members in our church who are hosting a coffee morning for the staff.
29. Pray for the Girls Brigade as they gather for their Awards Evening – Give thanks for the leadership and the girls that attend faithfully.
30. Pray for our church as it develops using the principles of Natural Church Development

# KIDS ZONE

## EASTER WORDSEARCH!!!

Z H V N K R W F Q Q O N F M U  
K O Z M O A G Y S F O E Z Q X  
P S E M A T D S V I G Q X S I  
S A A P W K O T T A W Y T F R  
U N L N C R U C I F I X I O N  
S N F M C Y E K N O D W D J N  
E A O D L R B I S M Z W L L X  
J B D D R E T B O W A H F G C  
M P P U Y I A Y E R F J T Q N  
D N S D J Y M F C B H E X A L  
A E T M L C O J D H O U Q J P  
R D O A Q F Z H S U Z C X N K  
K Q S S Z L U C R O W N H D P  
S U E F T X I U O H V L K V L  
Z O Z B Z J Q M Y W V S C M G

# **Easter Services**

- Palm Sunday 13th April
- Maundy 17th April with communion - 7p.m.
- Good Friday 18th April - walk of witness leaving Lady and St Georges - 10.30 a.m. walk to Hillington Park Church for 11.00 a.m. service
- Good Friday Evening Service - 7p.m.
- Easter Sunday - early morning service 9.00a.m. in the carpark followed by a light breakfast and 11a.m. service

## **MESSENGER**

All articles for inclusion in the May 2014 issue of the Messenger must be submitted no later than **Tuesday 15th April 2014.**

Articles can be left in the Pigeonhole marked "Messenger" or e-mailed to us at

**L.Drummond@sky.com**

*All submissions should include a name and contact number.*