

Messy Church BBQ - The Prodigal Son



This months theme explored the parable of the Prodigal Son, who learned what it is to be lonely and also what it is to be loved and forgiven. A supporting range of crafts and activities, some as part of the celebration time in church, made this a great way to celebrate God. We finished off the afternoon with a barbecue in the church hall garden.

The son in the parable made a choice: he took what was important and went his own way, on a path that led him away from his father, a path full of sin and discomfort. He ended up so hungry that he would have happily eaten the food meant for the pigs.

What did he do? He decided to go back to his father – not as one of his sons, but to be used as a servant, as he had sinned against God and his father. When his father saw him coming, he ran to welcome him – he wanted his son back, no matter what he had done. God feels like this when we take our eyes off him, when we get lost in our sinful nature and turn away from him.



Our craft activities included:

**Sad/Happy faces** - using fly swats to create a face, thinking how the son might have felt as he walked home, and what he was sorry for. How do we feel when we know we have to say sorry?

**Seen from Afar. Binoculars** - we made binoculars from two tubes taped together, decorated, with a ribbon or string to hang them from. What can they see? We talked about the father who was scanning the horizon for his son, hoping he would come back, then about things or people we have watched out for/looked for.

**Welcome Gate** - used the sticks to make a gate, decorating and adding the word “welcome” and maybe you name. We talked about the father waiting at the gate for his son to return. The gate marks something the son was afraid of (the place where he would have to ask for forgiveness). But it also is the entrance to the father’s loving embrace.



**Family Tree** - We drew members of our family on a separate piece of card and hung them on the tree, while talking about our heavenly father who loves us and watches out for us.

**Painty Feet Picture** - the children painted one foot a happy colour, the other one a sad colour on to a sheet of card. We talked about how some colours look cheerful, others look sad. When have we felt happy/sad? When did the people in the story feel happy/sad? When did they change?

Sheila Anderson welcomed us to the Celebration Time in the church. Andrew Don led the story of the prodigal son, but with a twist. We had lots of actions and movement as part of the story. We heard about the farmers son's with everyone joining in for the eating, sleeping, and party time actions in the church, finishing with the Fischy Music song 'Bring it all to Me'.



Soon it was time to return to the BBQ where John Jacobs and Iain Anderson had been busy creating lots of nice things to eat. Many stories to tell and fun to be had in the garden under the sunshine.



You can listen to the time of celebration in the church on the website [stmungos.freeuk.com](http://stmungos.freeuk.com)

**Lookout for Messy Church fun day in the park at the end of August. Until then have a great summer holiday**

For more information on Messy Church contact Joan Cape 674276

Bible Study Group

The Monday Bible study group will continue to meet over the summer. The next meetings are July 10th and 24th (7.30pm in the hall). We have just begun a new series called "Discipleship", which looks at what it means for each of us to be a disciple. For further information contact Joan or Neil Cape 674276.



Church Register

Removed by Death		
Mr William Thomson	Windsor Drive	9 June 2017

Mungo’s Diary

Summer break for most of our activities

3 July, 7.00pm	Joint Congregational Board and Kirk Session Meetings. Church Hall
8 July, 10.15am	Prayer Request Uplift. Meet at 82 Eskhill
10 & 24 July, 7.30pm	Monday Bible Study Group. Church Hall
10 August 7.00pm	Induction Rev John Urquhart in the church.
13 August 11.00am	Rev John Urquhart 'preach in' service

Christian aid Week 2017 - Janis Hogg



The Christian Aid total amount this year was **£1505 .02.**

Thank you again to all collectors and to those people who handed in donations directly to me.

This total also includes over £40 donated by the organisers of the Celebration of Gifts lunch. Many thanks!

Ellen Whalley of Christian Aid emailed to say that the Penicuik total for this year is **£6,527.93**

She thanked everyone for their efforts. She also reported that over £2000 was gift aided ( St Mungo's had over £500 which was gift aided) so that's a good bit extra going to this appeal.

Every year we suspect that our efforts haven't gone too well - yet every year we are wrong!

**Thank you St Mungo's!**

# Mungo Messenger

monthly newsheet from St. Mungo's Church Penicuik

Penicuik: St. Mungo's Parish Church (Church of Scotland). Scottish Charity No SC005838

## July 2017

You can sign up to the “e” version of this newsheet, which will be delivered to your email each month, saving paper and other resources. Use “eSignup” on St. Mungo's website [www.stmungos.freeuk.com](http://www.stmungos.freeuk.com).

Church mouse

From the mouse of Editor's PC



The great news this month is Presbytery sustaining Rev John Urquhart to lead our church forward as our new minister.

This has been a long road but we can now rejoice that we have finally come to the end of our search.

Our journey into a bright new future can now begin.

Summer has brought us exciting activities, the Summer Fair, and Sponsored Walk provided a great opportunity to get together socially and chat, while still raising funds for our church, and keep fit at the same time.

Our treasurer Frank Duns reports that this past month our Gift Day raised £2438, coin boxes £910, Summer Fair £765, and £1074 from the Sponsored Walk, the largest amount ever raised. A remarkable £5187 to our fabric account. Well done and thank you to everyone who contributed.

We also managed to raise funds for good causes, with thanks from Christian Aid for the good work by St. Mungo's people during Christian Aid Week, and the good causes fund donation to alleviate blindness and disability in other countries.

Hope you enjoy this issue.

Jim Paterson  
Newsletter Editor  
[stmungos@freeuk.com](mailto:stmungos@freeuk.com)

Rev John Urquhart sustained by Presbytery - 29 June

**It is now official - the Rev John Urquhart will be our new minister, following Presbytery sustaining the Call at their meeting on Thursday 29 June, ending 5 years of vacancy for our church.**



St. Mungo's congregation, after being cited to appear, was well represented at the Presbytery meeting on Thursday 29th June. 29 members of your church made the trip to St. Andrews High in Musselburgh, on what was reported as the wettest day for the Edinburgh area since records began.

Sandy Robertson spoke to the gathering of ministers from across Lothian Presbytery in support of our case, and John McCulloch of Presbytery reported that 102 people voted on 30th

April after John preached to us, with only 1 against. This resulted in the Call being signed by 217 members and papers of concurrence, representing an impressive 70% of our church membership.

Our anticipation was palpable as we listened to the case unfold. The heart stopping moment is always when Presbytery members are asked if they wish raise any concerns. Silence, you could hear a pin drop. Only when the vote was carried in favour did we dare let our breath out. Success.

John will be officially inducted into his new charge at St. Mungo's on Thursday August 10th at 7.00pm in the church, where he will be welcomed into our church and community by other ministers and dignitaries in the town. This will be followed by a social gathering in the hall. Members from all the churches across Penicuik and beyond will be invited. John will then be 'preached in' to our church at the Sunday 13 August service.

A moment to rejoice and thank God, for His guidance to send John to us, and to everyone for their prayers that this time would come.

Holiday Club  
Monday July 31 to Friday August 4



A Penicuik Churches Working Together (PCWT) with Scripture Union held in St. Mungo's Church Hall.  
**For P1 to P7 children.**

Epic Explorers takes children through Mark's Gospel as they explore the life of Jesus together. On the way they will discover who Jesus is, why he came, and what it means to follow him.

Contact Margaret Webster or Joan Cape in church for more information and to register your children on this exciting event.

**Pastoral Care** - If you would like to help with visits, or request a visit, please contact Margaret 672347.

Good Causes Fund

Do you ever wonder what happens to the money you put in the plate at coffees and teas on a Sunday morning? Well, **one Sunday a month it goes into the Good Causes Fund**, set up a few years ago by the Kirk Session to enable us to respond to one-off appeals from charities.



This year the **Christian Blind Mission (CBM)** has been appealing for support in a programme to eliminate blinding trachoma from Uganda. This agonising disease leads to complete, irreversible blindness unless treated in time and is the leading infectious cause of blindness worldwide. It can be treated effectively by surgery and antibiotics, and the CBM in Uganda is aiming to eradicate it there by 2019.

The Kirk Session have sent **£700** on our behalf towards the appeal. This will pay for two surgeons to undertake life-changing operations on around 280 patients at four outreach camps.



## Summer Fair - 17 June *Report - Jim Paterson*



The brilliant sunshine brought out the visitors to join the Summer Fair at St. Mungo's church hall on Saturday 17 June. Avis Anderson welcomed visitors at the door before they headed for the tables full of home baking, with a great selection of cakes and home made jams and marmalade.

The bottle and tombola tables joined hands this year, with Mary Paterson and Barbara Sprott enticing visitors to try a single dip for tickets, which resulted in many prizes for those taking a 'flutter'.

A new selection of books, CD's, and DVD's attracted interest too, Jenny Ramage had set out a selection of great novels, travel books, even a set of encyclopaedias for some young mind to delve into. If your into cookery we had three wartime recipe books, one dated 1942. How to cook on a budget is still as relevant today as it was 75 years ago.

The home baking stall was laden with a wide variety of cakes and delights, with individual cheesecakes topped with a strawberry, fruit loaves, and my favourite tea loaf. Joyce Hunter and Helen

Sutherland helped me choose one, which I bought early as they always disappear quickly.

Jars of home made marmalade, made by church members with oranges, lemons and limes donated by the Food Facts Friends foodbank, after all the visiting people in need had picked their selection, promised to brighten up any slice of toast at breakfast time.

Olive Darling and Eleanor Wilson were on the toy stall, while Marion Mather and Linn Kinloch were serving behind the bric-a-brac counter, with gift ideas for house and home.

Susan Duns, assisted by Isabel Donachie, were on the raffle table, serving a steady queue waiting to buy tickets after viewing the fabulous range of prizes to be won.

But the main attraction was the strawberry tea included in the ticket price. It was strawberries with everything, scones, tarts, bite size tartlets, or just good fresh strawberries from a bowl. Add fruit cake, pancakes, or is that drop scones, someone shouted! There was plenty to eat, complete with an endless supply of tea and coffee as ladies of the social team and volunteers, Barbara Ramsay, Carol Lough, Margaret Barry led by Christine Jackson, circled the tables keeping cups topped up.

Soon it was time to draw the raffle prize winners. Debbi McCall, one of our new Midlothian councillors in Penicuik, joined us to draw the winners. With Agnes Ovenstone keeping the bag of tickets well mixed, no cheating here then, Debbi called out the winners with Margaret Black handing out the prizes. Lots of happy faces.

**Agnes Ovenstone announced to the congregation at the service on Sunday 18 that the summer fair made £675. This rose to £765, following a further donation, and more sales of home baking during our after morning service tea and a chat. A record amount for our summer fairs.**



All laughs at the Bottle and Tombola stall



Debbi McCall has a laugh drawing the raffle winners

## Sponsored Walk - 10 June

The walkers gathered at St. Mungo's on the morning of Saturday 10th June, just as a downpour commenced. Did we really want to do this? echoed around the vestibule as we huddled for shelter, dripping on the floor!

By time the preliminaries were covered the rain had stopped. Someone looking down kindly on us poor souls? As you see the photo in front of the church as we prepared to depart shows how quickly the weather changes in Scotland, supporting the old adage, 'if you don't like the weather in Scotland, wait 5 minutes!'

This years walk was around Dalkeith Country Park, last visited on a walk back in 2014. We met up with friends from Roslin, that we see often on these walks. The park has changed a lot in the past four years, with more facilities for families with young children, walkers and cyclists.



Stepping out in the park

Kitted up we set off, still keeping a close grip on our waterproofs, just in case. We headed for the Kings Gate, which offered great views of Dalkeith

Palace. Built in 1711, and designed for the Earl of Buccleuch by Scottish architect James Smith. It is built on the site of an earlier Dalkeith Castle dating back to the 12th century.

We crossed Montagu Bridge. This Robert Adam designed bridge built in 1792 crosses the North Esk River connecting Dalkeith Palace with the main Edinburgh road, (Kings Gate)



Jungle trekking

We swung off the road into Lugton Haugh, through thick tree cover, some still dripping the raindrops they had captured earlier. This led to Westgate Park, where we took care on the sometimes slippery paths, especially those that were

narrow and muddy. Carol Lough began to wish she had not come in white trainers! We arrived nearer the Kings Gate to cross the road and walk into The Belwoods woodland. By now the weather was drying well and the trees stopped showering us.

Following the route, uphill and down dale, following the North Esk River we reached the 'Meeting of the Waters' where the north and South Esk rivers join to form the River Esk heading to the sea. We were now in the 'Old Wood'.



designed by William Burn in 1832, and recently refurbished. I

More modern for the younger at heart is Fort Douglas, what we would call a tree house. This one is far more ambitious and a great hit with the kids.

Refreshed we headed off on our second stage, crossing the 1740 William Adam designed Laundry Bridge over the Esk. The extended route took us on asphalt roads this time past Sandyriggs Wood to cross the bridge over the A68, passing Cecil's Field, home to a few horses from the nearby Equestrian Centre. Crossing the River Esk at Smeaton Bridge we walked back along the riverside the 'Meeting of the Waters' to find those who had taken a shorter route.

Reunited we made our final stage of the day to Restoration Yard, based in the converted Stables and Coach-house were designed in 1740 by William Adam with additions in 1840 by William Burn, who added the famous clock tower and belfry.

Our final farewells to our friends from Roslin complete we all headed home to Penicuik. Our thanks to Ian and Moira Dickson who planned this walk for us. Join us next year when Ian and Moira will once again take us to another walk that will open your eyes.

**The sponsored walk raised £1074 helping to fund the upkeep of our church buildings.**

These woodlands are hundreds of years old and now a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) with some trees over 900 years of age, allegedly planted by monks from nearby Newbattle perhaps?

From the Old Wood we passed through Steel Park to emerge at the picnic area in front of the Georgian Laundry room. The rest was well received and we saw the fabulous Orangerie,



Lunch break



## June Sunday Services

### Adventurous Faith - Sunday 25

Rev Hugh Davidson took Matthews gospel when Jesus talked to his disciples about the future, after he had gone. The trials and tribulations the world would encounter, and to 'Be Ready'.



Have we been adventurous with our faith? Hugh related The story of the rich man entrusting his wealth to three servants. Two invested wisely and grew the wealth, while the third buried his share in the ground. The two who took the risk were welcomed back into their masters home, the other thrown out.

We are blessed with the treasure of Christian faith, and should not bury it. We must take our faith out into the community. Take risks; that way we will see it grow.

### Love, faith, hope, and endurance - Sunday 18.

Hugh took the subject of Love as covered by Paul in his letter to the Corinthians, describing love as patient and kind, not jealous, boastful, arrogant, selfish, or gloating. There is no limit to its faith hope and endurance.

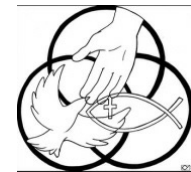
Hugh continued about love and religious people, describing some terrible sermons he had sat through, and a few that he had given, which raised light laughter.



The sermon was followed by the baptism of Brodie Henderson.

### Trinity Sunday - 11 June

Our Interim moderator, the Rev Yvonne Atkins, opened with a 'haunting question' - Who dreads Trinity Sunday More? The preachers who have to explain it to the congregations, or the congregations who have to listen to those sermons?



Yvonne delved into the explanation of the Holy Trinity contained in the creed of St. Athanasius, which has been used by Christian churches since the sixth century. Trinity is where there are not three, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, but one eternal and incomprehensible. Clear, as Mud?

Yvonne simplified, using two analogies, taking the three states of water, ice, liquid and vapour, where all states are still water. Similarly the three petal shamrock, three petals one plant. The sermon built on these examples, in an intriguing tale, that displays the enormity of the 'Trinity', and why we should praise this everlasting presence.

### Pentecost - Sunday 4 June

Pentecost is the day the Spirit descended upon the apostles, and on which, under Peter's preaching, so many thousands were converted in Jerusalem.



Hugh theme took the role of Banks, where money from those with surplus money on deposit is loaned to those requiring money for immediate needs, with the Bank gaining interest on the transaction.

He then looked back some 500 years to medieval times, where a serious shortage of 'goodness' worried the populace. We heard about the 'Goodness' Bank, or 'Treasury of Merits', and how Luther started the reform in the church that followed.

You can listen to all these services, and more at [www.stmungos.freeuk.com](http://www.stmungos.freeuk.com)