



Mungo Messenger

October 2016

Monthly Newsheet from St. Mungo's Church Penicuik

You can sign up to an "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 <http://www.stmungos.freeuk.com>. Full feature stories are also on the website.

Life and Work

Sheila Haig will be putting in the order for next year's Life and Work magazine for members and friends of the congregation shortly. If anyone wishes to order a year's subscription and is not already on her list, please let Sheila know by the middle of October.



The cost for the year from January 2017 is £28.00 and this can be paid either monthly or in a lump sum. The magazine has interesting items, as well as information about the Church of Scotland.

Sheila Haig (Tel no 672094)

Hats & Gloves

To make sure we can deliver your knitted hats, gloves, scarves and cardigans in time for winter reaching eastern Europe, we have moved the usual November date to **Sunday 30 October** for the display in the church. This allows us to deliver the items to Blythwood Care the following week as requested. This enables Blythwood Care to complete the shoeboxes, and get them 'trucked' across to Romania and have them handed out in time for Christmas.



The church will be open 10.00am to 12 noon on Saturday 29 to receive your items. Many thanks to all who help by knitting or buying and donating.



If your appetite was whetted on Sunday 25th, look out at church for a sheet where you can sign up for a new group/groups that we plan to start, looking at the rest of the New Horizons material. Morning, afternoon or evening depending on what people can manage. The Monday evening group will be starting a new series looking at some of the Psalms. Similar to what we did in church. All welcome

St. Mungo's welcomes new members

On Sunday September 4 we welcomed Mark and Grace Wells by 'profession of faith' into the membership of St. Mungo's church. Readers of this newsletter will be familiar with the names, both Mark and Grace being founder members of the Food Facts and Friends drop in centre and foodbank, which operates in our church hall every Monday and Friday.

The Rev Hugh Davidson returned from his time during August helping out at St. Giles in Edinburgh to lead the confirmation service. It is always a time of celebration when someone joins our church at St. Mungo's and having two committed Christians, who both give their time and talents to progress the teaching of Jesus, in supporting the poor and vulnerable in our community.

After the service, Hugh set off on his holidays, something he has not really had in the past 6 years he told me. While he was away on his well earned rest and recuperation (R & R) we welcomed the Rev Jim Black to lead our congregation in our Sunday worship.

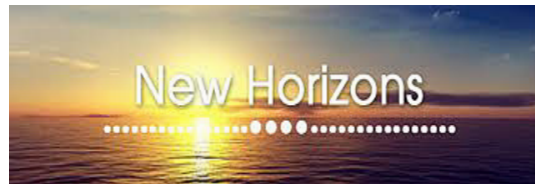
One of Jim's sermons talked about being lost, and the feeling of uncertainty and desperation that can arise. Using the example of a trip to Falkirk, a journey he had made many times in his car, he recalled how a wrong turn on his well established route suddenly found him with no idea where he was. Trying to get back on route simply led to being even farther away, and totally lost. Desperation, confusion, and frustration set in, which can quickly turn to exasperation. In this case his Sat Nav came to the rescue, leading on to the right road, restoring his self confidence. Spiritually we can also become lost, bringing with it anxiety desperation and despair. Having faith in God and the teachings of Jesus can bring a sense of proportion to our problems knowing that He is with us in our daily struggles.



Later Jim returned to preach and took as his theme Discipleship and the word of God. For the children's address he had members of the Sunday School come to the front of the church and make a small sound by clapping their hands. He then asked the congregation to clap their hands and we found the sound much greater, displaying that our own voice may be small, but together as a church we can make a big sound. If we all work together as one church we are not only stronger but feel committed to spreading the word of God.

You will see from a later article in this issue, just how YOU can help your church to be a better place.

Concluding our services in September was a change of scene and format. Held in the church hall, and led by Joan Cape, with help from the Bible Study group we sat in groups at tables randomly spread around the floor. Though a familiar format of hymns and lessons, Fiona Hutcheson gave us an insight into what the Bible Study group is, and how it does not need members to already know their Bible before coming along. We took a couple of readings, and worked in our groups to discuss our reaction to the reading and later reflection on the message of the passages.



We hope to start a new series of "New Horizon" Bible studies very soon. The material will be similar to what we used in the church hall, time and venue to be decided according to who wants to take part. Give your name to Eric, Fiona or Joan if interested.



October will see the return of Rev Hugh Davidson to lead us in our worship, fresh from his holiday. His first service will be the Harvest Thanksgiving on Sunday 2nd October.

Pastoral Care

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

St. Mungo's members - your help is needed

Your Church and hall need constant attention, both taking the toll of weather and use, and occasional abuse!

To keep both in good repair we need volunteers to help with the following



- The railings outside the church need painting
- The wood above the windows in the hall needs to be stained on the inside, and timber above windows on the outside requires to be repaired or replaced and decorated.
- The garden seat in the hall garden needs repairing
- We need a notice board outside the hall, the door becoming peppered with pinholes from years of ad hoc notices.
- The boiler house door outside the hall needs repainting

If you are able to help with all or any of these repairs please contact Gordon MacDonald 674522. All materials, e.g. brushes, paint etc, will be supplied, as will refreshments. How could you say no?

Guild announces new season programme.

All meetings start at 7.30pm in the church hall.

2016	Topic	Presenter
Oct 3	Crystal Radio	
Oct 17	Mission International	Hugh Henderson
Oct 31	Coffee Evening with the Junior Jazz Group	Graham McDonald
Nov 14	Red Cross	
Nov 28	Commodity Night	
Dec 12	Christmas Party	
2017		
Jan 9	Sick Kids Foundation	
Jan 23	Scots Night	
Feb 6	Ageing Well Choir	Vivian Wallace
Feb 20	Voluntary Service Overseas	Karen Craig
Mar 3	World Day of Prayer	St. James the Less church
Mar 6	Care for the Family	Kate Allan
Mar 20	Larch Housing Association	Lady Clerk

Volunteers for FFF - 2 September

Members of St. Mungo's congregation attended a meeting with Mark Wells to hear about what a volunteer for the drop in centre and foodbank entails.

Also speaking was Kris Chapman who also works with the poor in our community. He was absolutely delighted to be invited to speak at the Food Fact Friends foodbank and drop in centre in Penicuik. The topic was tackling poverty in our communities.

Did you know 1 in 5 children are in poverty in Scotland right now? Together we can take a stand and make sure every child gets the best start in life and 'Make Poverty History'.



Kris, on right with team of volunteers

Thank you

I would like to thank everyone who sent me cards and good wishes, when I was in hospital and after I returned home. Margaret Black.

Church Register

Admitted by Profession of Faith

Mr Mark Wells & Mrs Grace Wells 11 Deanburn 4 Sept 2016

Mungo's Diary

3 Oct, 7.30pm	Guild start of new season. See above. church hall
5 Oct, 10.45am	Friendship Circle - venue TBA For help with transport phone Margaret, 672347
11 Oct, 7.00pm	Joint Congregational Board / Kirk Session - Church
12 Oct, 7.30pm	Wednesday Housegroup. 21 Mauricewood Bank.
26 Oct, 7.30pm	Wednesday Housegroup. 21 Mauricewood Bank.
30 Oct, 4.00pm	Messy Church to 6.00pm. Church Hall

Messy Sports and BBQ - 28 August

The new Messy Church season after the summer break on 28 August remembered the recent Rio Olympics with sporting action taking centre stage for an afternoon of fun and enjoyment for the children, and their parents. It all happened at the playing fields on Bog Road in Penicuik.



A range of sporting events, designed by Joan and Neil Cape, some seen in Rio, but many were just a bit of fun. These included dribbling a ball through a course of cones in the fastest time, throwing balls into a bucket of water, and water carrying, without dropping any into a bucket at the end of the course. Just to make this one tricky the carry cups had holes in them!!!

A favourite was 'welly throwing'. Here the objective was to throw a welly boot the farthest. The experts soon discovered that the best way to get the most momentum was to heave the welly boot over the shoulder, looking as if you were throwing it backwards. Amazing what a difference that makes. Once seen the others soon caught on.



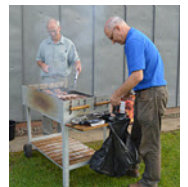
We had French bowls (Pétanque), swingball competition (remember that when you were young?), and sailing. Where is there a sailing pond in Penicuik? Well this was a bit different. Here the pond was a basin full of water, and the sailing boats were made of tin foil. The objective was to load each sailing boat with as many glass marbles as possible before the boat sank. Quite a feat with one or two making the 40 mark, before the inevitable happened. I can vouch that the basin was full of cold, very cold, water as recovering the marbles from the bottom left my hands numb as if I had been making snowballs.

Talking of cold winters, we also had family skiing. Now snow in Penicuik in August I can believe, but not this time. We were on grass. Now I have seen this done before and I can vouch it is not easy. Each set of skis have four ropes to allow 4 people to stand on them at one time. The trick is to move forward, or for the experts, backwards too, in unison. Getting everyone in step, is the trick, literally, and a drummer keeping the beat would have been a good idea, if we only had one.



Celebration time had a novel twist. We gathered in the tent and Sheila presented a story with the aid of the puppets and some of the girls to operate them.

Soon it was time to eat, and Neil Cape and Iain Anderson had been busy on the BBQ grilling a great selection of burgers, sausages, and veggie burgers too.



A wonderful start to the new Messy Church season, and we look forward to seeing all the children next month for something new and different again, to hear about the love and good work of Jesus and God, while having some fun at the same time.