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Summer 08

Haggs Manse

EDITORIAL

Hi folks,

“All of you are Christ’s body and each one is a part of it”

1 Corinthians 12:27

Since my last letter Haggs Church has seen the 1st Haggs Boys Brigade celebrate their 75th Anniversary and it was a great pleasure to welcome some of the ‘old’ boys in church on Sunday 18 May. One of the guests had been a boy at the beginning of the company and took the time to come and join our service of celebration. The Boys Brigade had made a difference in his life and in the lives of many others. I wish the officers and boys of our present day company God’s blessing on their continued service.

As a church we have also been celebrating how by working together we can make a difference in our own community and also in the wider work of Christ in our world. We have held three gatherings which gave an opportunity to see displays of our different organisations within the Church followed by a short presentation expanding on the work of the Church in Scotland and our own church in particular. This was followed by eats and chat and I believe was enjoyed by all who attended.

A brochure has been produced for all our members and I hope you will take the time to read it and consider how, in any way, you can help us continue to make a difference. The Church is its people, each of us are part of the body of Christ. For the body to work properly each of us needs to play our part.

Come and join us at our Service of Thanksgiving on Sunday 29th June at 11 a.m. in Haggs Parish Church.

God bless you all
Helen F Christie

By the time you read this editorial we will be well into our Together We Make a Difference stewardship programme. Invitations will have given out and the Gatherings will have taken place. Did you manage to find time to attend one of the gatherings? I hope so. The purpose of the whole venture is to tell everyone about the church and what it does and to re-energise our membership.

Being a member of the church brings responsibilities, as does being a member of any other organisation and, if we take those responsibilities seriously, we need to make sure that we do enough to honour them. There is no written down list of things that we have to do as members of the church. It is up to each one of us to search our conscience and to ask if we have done enough so that on the day we meet our Maker he will say to us “well done thou good and faithful servant”.

At the beginning of May I helped Elizabeth with her Christian Aid Week door-to-door collections. The responses received at the door ranged from willing giving to a brusque refusal. At the end of it my thought was: and we claim to be a Christian nation? – I wonder.

Summer is upon us and we will no doubt be thinking of and planning some form of holiday. If we are, we are among the lucky ones. Not everyone can afford a holiday, even in this country. So, as you enjoy your summer break, remember that not everyone can do the same, some even struggling to survive. Think of recent events in Burma and China. Pray for the survivors in these and other countries, even better, make a donation to one of the many charities that will help those who are much worse off than we are. If we do, we are “making a difference” and also helping to maintain our nation’s Christian heritage.

Together we make a difference.

The magazine committee wishes you a peaceful and relaxing summer.

Jack Dunn

Church Without Walls

On Saturday 4th May a small group of us paid a visit to The National Gathering at the Royal highland Centre, Ingliston. It was a larger version of our Stewardship gatherings and was arranged by Church Without Walls. Its aim was to get as many church members together away from their local church environment, to get them to talk to each other and to share their successes and their problems.

There were activities for adults and young people alike. These were a mixture of fun, discussion, music and worship. There was a marquee set aside for prayer and reflection and others for seminars from people from as far away as Trinidad.

A big feature was the tented village. In this individual churches, or groups of churches, bought a tent which they used during the gathering to exhibit their church and its activities. At the end of the event all of the tents were donated to worthy charitable organisations.

The opening worship was attended by about two thousand people. It contained modern and old music and was addressed by Michelle Guinness whose childhood had been Jewish but had become Christian. It was a service that we don't often get the chance to be part of and one not to be missed.

The whole day was peaceful and relaxing and it was nice to be able to stroll and talk to other Christians, to learn that we all have the same problems but also to realise that we all follow the same Saviour who supports and sustains us through all our difficulties.

Keep Fit

We are meeting at an earlier time of 7p.m. during the summer months. The Club donated the money to pay for the catering which was enjoyed by everyone at the gatherings. Come along on a Tuesday evening and get toned up for the beach!

Christian Aid 2007-2008

This is the 10th year that Liz Herbert and Sue Storrar have been organising Christian Aid out-reach work from Hags Parish Church.

Despite a falling number of collectors this year the Door – to – door collection for Christian Aid raised the magnificent sum of £1,975.88. Many people, moved by recent natural disasters in Burma and China, were keen to make generous donations.

Sue Storrar also led a school assembly at Fallin Primary School, using Christian Aid teaching materials. The theme for the talk and action prayer was that everyone, however small, could help to change the world through supporting the work of aid agencies such as Christian Aid. This inspired a Primary 5 class of ten year olds to organise a 'Bring and Buy Sale' for the whole school that raised the sum of £235.00 for Christian Aid. Liz Herbert came in to help with the money counting and she thanked the pupils on behalf of Christian Aid.

Unfortunately the Forth Bridge Cross sponsored walk planned for 26th April was cancelled at very short notice because of emergency repair work on the bridge. The walk has been rescheduled for Saturday 20th September 2008 2-6 p.m. Anyone who needs sponsor forms for this event can get them from Sue Storrar. This year's walk will be in memory of the Rev. John Carrie who initiated the walk 36 years ago and who remained a passionate supporter of Christian Aid until his death earlier this year. We hope as many people as possible will take part in the walk on September 20th.

We trust that we can rely on your continued support in the coming year to sustain our contribution to this valuable outreach work done in God's name. Also if anyone feels that they would like to become involved in the organisation of Christian Aid fund-raising then please contact Liz or Sue.

Thank you again for your support.

Sue Storrar & Liz Herbert

Stewardship – Together we make a difference

At the end of May we held 3 gathering which we hope were informative and for those who attended, a chance to meet with other members socially while enjoying tea and sandwiches.

We have issued a brochure and response card to all members and our thanks to those who have returned the response card, there is still time to take a few moments to complete this. Just tick the boxes we will do the rest. A box is still available in the Church or post it back in the envelope provided. The church in Hags needs its members to provide a service to our community and worldwide. I know we keep repeating the same message but with an ageing congregation we need your time and talent to ensure the church is there for the community. New talents mean new ideas and new ideas can expand your church and provide a better environment.

The committee would like to thank all those dedicated members who visited, helped set up the displays and assisted with the catering and brochure etc. Without you the gatherings would not have been possible. Thank you all for the “Ties that Bind Us”.

Stewardship Committee

The Flower List

After the gatherings held in Hags Church over the past few days an attempt was made to show what the church had to offer and what if anything the congregation could do to enhance the life of the church in our community.

On behalf of Jean and I, thank you for your continued support in providing flowers for the chancel of our church at Hags.

The list for the summer months is at the front door of the Church.

God bless you all and enjoy the summer

Moiria Martin

75th Anniversary – 1st Hags Boys’ Brigade Company

After a year of preparation our celebration began at Lodge St Andrews, Cumbernauld on Sat. 26th April at 7.30 p. m. On show was part of the company’s history with DVDs of camps, football games and Parents Nights, photographs going back to 1933 with a founder member, Mr Archie Fleming being able to come to all three events. Also on display was the company’s trophies and achievements over the past 75 years.

On Sat. 17th May our anniversary display took place at Denny High School with Mr. M McCurry as Inspecting Officer. The evening began with the opening service and inspection. The boys did some of the activities that they do throughout the year. This year, however, we had a play linking all items together with the theme **A Special Birthday**. After the items were completed the awards were given to the boys, Inspecting Officer and Rev. Christie’s remarks and then the closing service.

The following morning at church we had our thanksgiving service for 75 years of the company with ex-members in attendance. The following week at all sections a birthday cake was eaten!

I would like to thank everyone for the help in the preparations for all functions, social evening display and the church service. Also to the ex-members, some who came from afar, Aberdeen, Inverness, Port Patrick, Dewsbury and the daughter of the 1st Captain – Mrs McLeod who attended.

E. Firth, Captain

The simple words, "Forgive me"
 Can be a cooling balm,
 When hot words have been spoken
 And temper needs to calm
 Two simple words, "Forgive me",
 Will help to make amends
 By soothing wounded feelings
 So once again you're friends.

Perhaps the true secret of life is in having
 Enough happiness to keep us sweet
 Enough trials to keep us strong
 Enough sorrow to keep us human
 Enough hope to keep us happy
 Enough failure to keep us humble
 Enough success to keep us eager
 Enough friends to give us comfort.

Submitted by Nan Ure

Baptism 'Suffer little children to come unto me'

May 11 Charlie Sidney Stewart McQueen
 Cooper Stephen Craig McQueen

Marriage 'Whom God has joined together'

March 7 Yvonne McKinnon to Graham Douglas-Dowden
 8 Catriona O'Connor to Paul Smith
 21 Gillian Stevenson to Colin Forshaw

April 25 Kavita Kennedy to Andrew Brownlie
 13 Lorna Hughes to John Valentine
 27 Emma Traynor to Bryan Higgans
 28 Claire McAulay to Alan Graham

May 4 Laura McComb to Scott Fraser
 25 Jodi Hainey to Paul Gallagher
 26 Alison Douglas to Philip Lynas
 31 Karen Muirhead to Richard Benei

Deaths 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord'

March	James Mitchel	Douglas
	Mrs Jean Walls	Bonnybridge
	Mrs Jean Hannah	Bonnybridge
	Mrs May Ferguson	Bonnybridge
	Mrs Betty Duncan	Bonnybridge
	Mrs Bethia Geoghegan	Bonnybridge
	Stanley Thrall	Denny
	George Nimmo	Larbert
May	Ronald Plant	Lennoxton
	Baby Mackay	Larbert
	Mrs Retta Thrall	Denny
	Mrs Anne Walkowska	Arbroath
	Mrs Williamina Arthur	Banknock
	Margaret Murray	Bonnybridge