

SCOPE

february 11



Contact Us:

Minister: Rev. Ian Cathcart	01968 674692	reviac@yahoo.co.uk
Session Clerk: Joyce MacLean	01968 677714	jemaclean@talktalk.net
Scope Team: Mary Darling	01968 675260	marydarling354@btinternet.com rosshadwen@gmail.com
Housegroup Team: George & Helen Hogg	01968 673041	
Child Protection Co-ordinator: Sandra Stewart	01875 815824	

www.penicuiksouthchurch.org.uk

Minister's Letter

Hello, and forgive me if it's too late, I hope you had a great Christmas and a Good New Year.

Presumably, you'll be like most everybody else and just happy to get back to a snow-less normality and get back to a slightly more normal routine through the rest of the year. The snow did seem to 'sentence' lots of people to an informal 'house arrest.' Obviously some normal routine would be nice. Clearly some people find a routine to be simply boring. Many people have a personality that means they need to be doing new things every new day. But equally I know many people who find a security in routine, pattern and predictability.

Adjusting after the loss of a loved one; dealing with moving to a new house; coping with a new job – all of these are situations where a recurring pattern can be tremendously settling when all around seems to be change and constantly 'up-in-the-air.'

The parallel in preaching is that I have always valued the freedom to select what I thought was necessary to be preached in a church situation – I resisted the set pattern that you find in the three year lectionary series of readings. It's much more common in England and in the Church of England.



I'm Scottish! "Real, teaching evangelical preachers always preach through whole books!" It's what I like and what I know and enjoy. Christmas and Easter was enough predictability for me. What I clearly can't reject however is the need to get folks into a pattern of daily Bible reading and reinforce that through the Sunday morning services. The congregational response to the series on the Ten Commandments with J. John's Just 10 focus was very positive. Moreover, George Barna, who heads up a US church surveying organisation, notes that the churches that have significant children's work integrate the teaching programme across all the age ranges. I think we need to try to do that with some Lent daily readings - everybody doing the same thing daily and coming together in house groups and children's groups to reflect on what God's been teaching us. Last year, while preparing the Bible Sunday service, I came across some

(cont'd p4)
3

Minister's Letter (cont'd)

resources that I thought could help us. This year the lectionary is going through Matthew in Lent. I know Penicuik South has gone through the gospel of Mark on Sunday mornings. Let's ask God to teach us what this church needs to know as we go through Matthew everyday in Lent? (Check out the back pages of Scope to see what it would mean in terms of daily reading.) There's a book by N.T. Wright with daily notes through the gospel of Matthew (£3.15 if we bulk buy – £6.99 in the shops – so wait if you want to buy). (Find out more at <http://bigbible.org.uk/>). But there's more. I got an email from David Hill of 'trypraying.' They are bringing out a Lenten Prayer Guide to direct our prayers and lead us in a 'trypraying' outward focus in the run-up to Easter. They are backing it up with a bus poster campaign to maintain the emphasis on faith sharing in Lent. Then there's one more Lenten aspect to our trinity of disciplines to contemplate in the run-up to Easter. Once again I didn't even come up with this one. Last week one house group member spoke of a particular night in prayer when various members were all brought to the same conclusion: that fasting was something they had to do and something they had to ask me to flag

up to people to contemplate. The church Council of Nicea (325AD) laid down the celebration of Lent as a period of forty days preparing Christians by Scripture and prayer ... and fasting! New converts used to fast for the whole forty days – don't worry, I'm not asking that of anybody. Indeed, there are people with physical conditions and on certain medication who must not fast at all (please ask your own doctor if you are in any doubt at all). But for the rest of us we need to remember fasting has always gone hand in hand with prayer. And not just giving up chocolate for a few weeks – I mean fasting for a day per week throughout Lent or a week long fast or just one meal which you decide to give up for Christ because He gave up all for you. (Find out more about fasting in the right way at www.eccenter.com/316940.ihtml) You could turn it into a fund raising effort by asking people to sponsor you as you fast. Operation Mobilisation is running a 'Fast for Food' sponsored fast to fund a feeding programme for Dalit children in India – could you help them? The S Club learned about these children some years ago. (Find out at www.uk.om.org/giving/fast-for-food.html) You could contemplate doing all three: Scripture; prayer; and fasting. You could consider what to commit

to together as a house group. For folk who don't want to get into a house group long term we could put together a Lent House Group. Remember this could be dangerous – competition with other Christians is not the point. Attitude is everything – you could read the whole of Matthew, pray through the 'trypraying' guide and fast for forty days and still do so with the wrong attitude. Pride can taint anything – but it doesn't mean we don't do it – we just need to make sure we do it properly. What does God want you to do, individually, as a house group and as a church? What can we decide to do in the year when the BBC is broadcasting various programmes on TV and radio about the 400th anniversary of the King James Version of the Bible? Following on from a Christmas Day speech last year from the Queen that placed the Bible squarely at the centre of national life, how squarely will we place the Bible into our Lent? You can get the chocolate Easter eggs now if you want 'prepare' early for Easter - Tesco has got them. Let's get prepared in the most important way to have the Easter God wants for us.

Yours in Him

Ian Cathcart

Parish News

Robert Burns and Denise Halcrow were married in Penicuik South Parish Church on Wednesday 22nd December.

Church Website

I feel that it's time I handed over the day-to-day updating of the church website to other people. I'm very happy to continue to take care of the admin (until someone else wants to do this), by which I mean, the behind-the-scenes stuff like backup, system updates, web hosting control, user accounts etc. What I'd like though is to pass on the day-to-day updates e.g. sermon/magazine uploads, to other folk. The site is designed to allow people with responsibilities in particular areas to update the content with respect to their areas e.g. sound desk folk could upload the sermons to the website. I would like to encourage folk to try this out and so I've created a set of video tutorials to help with this. These can be found on the website in the left column at 'CMS Help'

Please contact Paul Toms 670483 if you are interested.

World Day of Prayer

World Day Of Prayer Service
7.30pm Friday 4th March 2011
St Mungo's Parish Church

The service for the World Day of Prayer is in St Mungo's Parish Church at 7.30pm, 4th March, 2011.

Women, men, old and young from around the world are invited to this service. In the sunrise of the Island of Tonga to the sunset over Alaska 36 hours later, people in over 180 countries make time to come together to sing, reflect and pray around a common theme every year.

Bearing in mind the horrific earthquake which occurred just off the coast of Chile on 27th February last year, it is highly appropriate that the world-wide service has been written by Christian women from Chile.

Buildings, bridges and roads were destroyed in many parts of Chile at that time, and yet the resilience of the people looking ahead to God restoring their nation is echoed in the service.



Regional CLAN

Last year it was Mini-CLAN! Now they've changed the name. This year it's called a Regional CLAN.

The important thing to remember is that it's a weekend of great speakers, great worship and a time to meet with God.

Last year it was just for adults – this year youth ministry has been added to the event for the first time. So hopefully there's opportunity for more folk to be involved and have a great weekend.

Just to make it clear – this is not an advert for CLAN in St Andrew's – this is a weekend event organised by New Wine Scotland in our local area. It's a great way to 'try' CLAN without going all the way to St Andrews – if you like this then you can go to St Andrews for the whole week!!

Regional CLAN in Dalkeith
Fri 11th & Sat 12th March 2010
Dalkeith High School
2 Cousland Road, Dalkeith EH22 2PS

“Marriage Unlocked” - Discover the keys to a healthy relationship

A special evening event for every couple who want an even better marriage.

- Learn more about:
- Talking honestly
- Satisfying sex
- Growing deeper in love
- Making decisions without arguing
- How to avoid 'deadlock' situations
- Open the door to a stronger, deeper relationship

Whether your marriage is in good shape or things are tough for you right now, and whether you've been married a few months or many years – you can discover the keys to unlock the potential of your relationship at this Care for the Family event.

Please note - NO group work or embarrassing questions!
To book: Call on (029) 2081 0800 to book for this event.

Tickets: £12 per couple
Special offer: Order tickets for a second couple for just £8
Friday 18 February 2011 7:30pm to 10:00pm
The Faith Mission Centre
548 Gilmerton Road

Women Walking with God

inspired worship - dynamic teaching -
practical seminars

Edinburgh International
Conference Centre
4th – 5th March 2011

This conference is for Christian women of all ages across Scotland. Through worship, teaching and seminars women will have the opportunity to be enriched and equipped in their faith. We are delighted to welcome Amy Orr-Ewing back as the main speaker. She will be sharing with us from the book of Romans and what it truly means to be "FREE". Once again Lou Fellingham and Phatfish will be leading worship and new for this year the Saltmine Theatre Company will entertain and provoke through a production guaranteed to make us laugh amidst the learning.

If you want to know more about the seminars then see
www.womenwalkingwithgod.co.uk/seminars

Tickets:
Women Walking with God,
74 Ravelston Dykes Edinburgh
EH12 6HF
Tickets cost £48. Concession tickets for students and over 60s are £30.

pull it out! **What's On?** pin it up!

Wednesday 2nd February	Women's Group - Discovery with Louise Turner	West St. Hall	7.30pm
Saturday 5th February	Men's Ministry - Breakfast - Theme: Encouragement	West St. Hall	8.15am
Saturday 5th February	Healing on the Streets	Penicuik Precinct	10.00am
Sunday 6th February	Morning Service - The Beatitudes for Today: Matthew 5;5 - All Age Service - Communion	South Church	11.15am
Sunday 6th February	Evening Service - Prophecy for today - 1 Kings 22:1-12	South Church	7.00pm
Thursday 10th February	Kirk Session	South Church	7.00pm
Sunday 13th February	Morning Service - The Beatitudes for Today: Matthew 5;6 - Readings Proverbs 11:1-10 & Psalm 85:1-13	South Church	11.15am
Sunday 13th February	Traditional Service	South Church	3.00pm
Sunday 13th February	Evening Service - Praise Night	South Church	7.00pm
Saturday 19th February	Healing on the Streets	Penicuik Precinct	10.00am
Sunday 20th February	Morning Service - The Beatitudes for Today: Matthew 5;7 - Reading Joshua 2&6 selected verses	South Church	11.15am
Sunday 20th February	Evening Service - Prophecy for Today - 1 Kings 22:13-40	South Church	7.00pm
Sunday 27th February	Morning Service - Church AGM - The Beatitudes for Today: Matthew 5;8 - Reading Philippians 1;3-11	South Church	11.15am
Sunday 27th February	Evening Service - "Why are you here today" come full circle and nothings changed. 1 Kings 22:41-53	South Church	7.00pm
Friday 4th March	Men's Ministry - Social Evening: 10 Pin Bowling	TBC	TBC

ECM Basics Bank

Please donate tins of soup, meat, fruit and fish, custard and creamed rice, coffee, tea and sugar, spaghetti and pasta sauce and breakfast cereals for the Edinburgh City Mission Basics Bank.

Boxes will be placed in the vestibules on Sundays which will then be delivered by Robert and Denise. This is to be an ongoing service.

Thank You

**Deadline for articles
for next issue of Scope:
Monday 21st February 2011**

Healing on the Streets

We have continued to meet in the Precinct on the 2nd and the 4th Saturday of each month with the exception of Christmas Day. Unfortunately we missed Saturday 8th January due to the bad weather. We have 10 committed team members and normally have at least 6 team members on duty each Saturday. Over the weeks since we have started we have been able on average to pray for 9 people each Saturday, most of the people receiving prayer have been non churched people. We have however found the last few weeks very difficult with few people sitting for prayer – we think this is largely due to the cold weather – this has been the same experience of the other Edinburgh Partnership groups. As a team we are not disheartened by this and believe it is important to continue to witness for God. Although we have not had many people for prayer the last few weeks we continue to meet and have conversations with people every week. We have also had people come and speak to us to tell us how things have improved for them after we prayed with them. We have made a further contribution of £100 to the Edinburgh Partnership of churches. We have been provided

by the partnership with a significant amount of resources – 2 boxes of printed fliers, a box of Why Jesus booklets, a box of envelopes and a box of explanation letters. The resources should last us for a long time – probably more than a year. News from the partnership is that it has expanded to other churches in Edinburgh with interest in churches from Dalkeith and Musselburgh to set up their own teams. There has also been contact made from the Stirling street pastors to be trained to be able to give healing prayer to those they help in their own ministry. We believe the team have made a wonderful effort in establishing this ministry and pray that, with God's blessing, the ministry will continue to bear fruit and that the team will get bigger with other Penicuik Churches joining us in the Precinct to work together to witness and see his Kingdom fully established and see His power and grace at work.

Yours in Christ
Helen & George Hogg

Church of Scotland Children's Assembly 2010

In October 2010 46 primary 6 & 7 children, 14 young leaders from S2 and S3 and 9 adults from all over Scotland, Liverpool and the Netherlands met at the Oban ferry on Saturday 16 October for the third Church of Scotland Children's Assembly. The theme this year was "Digging Deeper" focussing on Micah 6:8. That's the verse that tells us to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with God. You may have seen an article about it in December's Life and Work. I'd managed to get hold of a CD entitled "The Micah Challenge" which began to get me into the mood when I set off for Oban at 7am. After meeting my puppet workshop co – leader (14 year old Natasha, a puppeteer from Dunfermline) the music changed to puppet songs and we knew we were en route to Iona. On Tuesday morning we were back in Oban. Only a few days later but we had all dug deeper into what Micah 6:8 meant for us, firm friendships had been made, I had been vomited on and a truly life changing weekend had taken place. Highlights for me were the services in the abbey, the creativity and the leadership shown by the young leaders. The services followed the traditional Iona community format

with a few additions. Music was provided by the Iona community and Fischy music and transformed by Ken, a mime artist. WOW! Children were involved in leading each of the services, including communion, where we took bread, grapes and a chocolate coin. These were truly all age services and extremely powerful. Creativity was evident in all aspects of the weekend and included artwork produced on the theme which adorned the abbey, treasure boxes which held Iona memories and a talent show which included elements from all the music, mime and puppet workshops as well as a hilarious drama performed by the female young leaders and one boy who did a very good interpretation of an adolescent girl and a wealth of other talent. The young leaders asked if they could help the younger children to understand the Church of Scotland workings and together they produced a graphic representation of the impact the Children's Assembly has had on them in the form of a tree. They finished their time by drawing up a letter and petition to the Mission and Discipleship Council who are yet to decide the future of the Children's Assembly. I think we will hear of these young people in the future.

Sheila Anderson

Mission Worship International Conference 2010, Eastbourne

“Removing the Scales Expanding our Vision of Worship”

Where to start? Speakers and worship leaders included Martin Smith, Graham Kendrick, Miriam Webster, Stuart Townend, Lou Fellingham, Aaron Keyes, Chris McClarney, Nivea Soares, Godfrey Birtle, Kelly Minter, Marc James, Kees Kraayenoord, Andrew Wilson and Graham Cray. Chances are if you don't know the name you will have sung one of their songs or read something they have written – and if you haven't then maybe you should look into changing that.

This is the third year I have volunteered as a steward at this annual conference. I really enjoy serving in this way and it's also a fantastic way of hearing some amazing music and teaching. In previous years I thought I was there as a volunteer because I had no reason to go as I was not involved in leading worship. This year was different. It was clear from the teaching that everything we do as Christians is worship. Graham Cray, Archbishops Missioner and leader of the Fresh Expressions team (making him Mike Pilavachi's boss) showed why he has the job he has when he explained that Christian life is designed to be in stereo and 3D. This should result in an inseparable

relationship between worship and witness. (Just imagine watching a film in surround sound without sound). He pointed out that it was in the context of worship that the disciples received the great commission in Matthew 28. He also highlighted that the Israelites had to practice their witness on the lost in their community. Other notes I took during his talk included: “When you meet the risen Jesus, how can you not worship? When you meet the risen Jesus, how can you not witness?” “Worship which is not worked out in mission is spiritually self indulgent..... we become weird (using jargon and are culturally irrelevant). This leads to burnout for those individuals who are doing it right as they have no corporate support.”

Martin Smith spoke from the heart during his music set when he told us about his life after Delirious. “My soul needed a jet wash. I'm waiting for an encounter with the Holy Spirit and I'm not leaving (i.e. touring) until I've had it.

In addition to the main teaching and celebrations there were more seminars than you could imagine. Where possible, stewards serve at seminars of their choice. In previous years I have requested all age worship but this year my seminars of choice were led by Cindy West of Woodmen Valley Chapel in Colorado Springs. These were on using images

and graphics, lighting, multiple screens and putting together a production team. For an example of her work google the church name and I guarantee you'll be impressed. What impressed me most was that although she can produce amazing, amazing videos and graphics she insists that the background is used only to enhance and will not take away anything from the words that are to be sung.

Being part of a 1700 strong band is truly awesome (Godfrey Birtle always insists that in corporate worship the whole congregation are all band members). Even if you don't like loud music good fitting ear plugs make it fantastic (so I was told). I intend going back in 2011 to be in the band with Darlene Zschech and Matt Redman. What about you?

Sheila Anderson

St Matthews Glass Church

While on holiday in Jersey in September, Charles and I visited St Matthews glass church, recommended to us by Bill and Maisie Bruce. Many of the fixtures and fittings inside are made of glass, making the church quite amazing.

However as we all know the church is not the building but the people. We were even more thrilled by how God is working through his people there. I would like to share a few of the many ways God is being served there and quote from their leaflet.

“Continue to develop our healing rooms, healing on the streets, intercession, prophetic ministry, prayer ministry, prophetic teams and soaking ministry.”

To do this they have healing on the streets every Saturday and healing rooms every Thursday. Prayer meetings on Thursdays and encourage attendance at their prayer meetings. Prophetic words and pictures in their services. Does all this sound familiar? Isn't it exciting to be in a church where God is moving? I felt and still feel so thrilled to read that God is working in the same way in Scotland as he is in an Anglican church in Jersey.

Mairi Tulloch

13

Going Through Matthew Daily and Together in March and April

Ash Wednesday 9th Mar: Matthew 1-2, Highlighted Passage: 1:18-25
Thursday 10th March: Matthew 3, Highlighted Passage: 3:1-12
Friday 11th March: Matthew 4, Highlighted Passage: 4:18-25
Saturday 12th March: Matthew 4:1-11
Sunday 13th March: Psalm 32
Monday 14th March: Matthew 5, Highlighted Passage: 5:1-12
Tuesday 15th March: Matthew 6, Highlighted Passage: 6:5-14

Week 1: God's People

The Bible is the family history of the Christian church

Wednesday 16th March: Matthew 7, Highlighted Passage: 7:15-23
Thursday 17th March: Matthew 8, Highlighted Passage: 8:23-34
Friday 18th March: Matthew 9, Highlighted Passage: 9:9-17
Saturday 19th March: Matthew 17:1-9
Sunday 20th March: Psalm 121
Monday 21st March: Matthew 10: 1-16
Tue 22nd March: Matthew 10:16-42, Highlighted Passage: 10:16-25

Week 2: God's Promises

The Bible contains 'his precious and very great promises' (2 Peter 1:4) for us to 'read, mark and inwardly digest'.

Wednesday 23rd March: Matthew 11, Highlighted Passage: 11:1-19
Thu 24th March: Matthew 12. 1-21, Highlighted Passage: 12:15-21
Fri 25th March : Matthew 12.22-50, Highlighted Passage: 12: 27-32
Sat 26th March: Matthew 13, Highlighted Passage: 13:31-33, 44-46
Sunday 27th March: Psalm 95
Monday 28th March: Matthew 14, 22-33
Tuesday 29th March: 15:1-20, Highlighted Passage: 15:1-9

Week 3: God's Provision

The Bible reveals how God who created the world provided his Son, Jesus Christ to redeem it from sin through a new creation.

Wednesday 30th March: 15.21-38, Highlighted Passage: 15:21-28
Thursday 31st March: Matthew 16, Highlighted Passage: 16: 21-28
Friday 1st April: Matthew 17, Highlighted Passage: 17: 14-20
Saturday 2nd April: Matthew 18, Highlighted Passage: 18:21-35
Sunday 3rd April: Psalm 23
Monday 4th April: Matthew 19, Highlighted Passage: 19:16-26
Tuesday 5th April : Matthew 20, Highlighted Passage: 20:1-16

Week 4: God's Parables

Through the stories that Jesus told, the Bible allows us to gain insights into his role and our Heavenly future.

Wed 6th April: Matthew 21, 1-22, Highlighted Passage: 21:1-17
Thur 7th April: Matthew 21 23-46, Highlighted Passage: 21:33-45
Friday 8th April : Matthew 22, Highlighted Passage: 22:1-14
Saturday 9th April: Matthew 23 Highlighted Passage: 23:29-39
Sunday 10th April: Psalm 130
Monday 11th April: Matthew 24 Highlighted Passage: 24:15-28
Tuesday 12th April: Matthew 24, Highlighted Passage: 24:45-51

Week 5: God's Purpose

The Bible sets history in the perspective of Christ's resurrection, the building of God's people and Kingdom and His promised return.

Wednesday 13th April: Matthew 25, Highlighted Passage: 25:14-30
Thursday 14th April: Matthew 25, Highlighted Passage: 25:31-46
Friday 15th April: Matthew 26 1-13
Saturday 16th April: Matthew 26 14-27-66
Palm Sunday 17th April Psalm 31 9-16
Monday 18th April: Matthew 26 14-35
Tuesday 19th April: Matthew 26 36-56

Week 6: God's Power

Wednesday 20th April: Matthew 26 57-75
Maundy Thurs 21st April: Matthew 27 1-32
Good Friday 22nd April: Matthew 27 32-56

Holy Saturday 23rd April: Matthew 27 57-66
Easter Sunday 24th April: Matthew 28 1-10
Monday 25th April: Matthew 28 11-15
Tuesday 26th April: Matthew 28 16-20

Week 7: God's Perspective

The Bible in history, and the bigger picture.

Wednesday 27th April: Matthew 2 1-12
Thursday 28th April: Matthew 5 25-34
Friday 29th April: Matthew 13 1-23
Saturday 30th April: Matthew 22 34-40

Please note - Sunday services will focus on Matthew - not the Psalms listed above.

Ian Cathcart

Seek justice for the oppressed

www.ijmuk.org

SCOPE

Penicuik South Parish Church
Scottish Charity SCO11871