

contact

ROSYTH METHODIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

November 1990

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*If after Church you wait awhile
Someone may greet you with a smile.
But if you quickly rise and flee
We'll all seem cold and stiff maybe.
The one beside you in the pew
Is perhaps a stranger too.
All here, like you, have fears and cares.
All of us need each others prayers.
In fellowship we bid you meet
With us around God's Mercy Seat.*

(Contributed by a recent visitor to Grassere Methodist Church)

EDITORIAL

I should have taken the decision earlier this week to expand this Newsletter by an extra 4 pages. An Editor receives too much or too little! I give your news items first priority and fit in quotations only if there's space. So keep up your contributions, but please don't be too disappointed if I can only fit in a selection. It is helpful to receive contributions for consideration before the deadline.

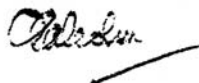
This is the 6th edition delivered by our Church Pastoral Visitors to your door. I have been working from a list of contacts prepared before my arrival. Gradually those lists are being revised. If you feel that your contact with Rosyth Methodist Church is past rather than present, *and we cannot persuade you to renew it*, please let us know if you no longer wish your Visitor to deliver the next one.

If you know of other friends we should *add* to our list, let your Visitor, Alf Lines (411741), or me know.

"Newsletter" seems a bit bland, so I thought I would experiment with the name "CONTACT" for it. The name suggests its purpose. What do you think? I know that you read it since several responded to my request last time for spare plants to fill the manse garden. My grateful thanks. Only one person mentioned a mistaken date last time. A small prize will be awarded for the first child under 10 who correctly counts how many times the word "CONTACT" appears in this edition, and contacts me. You could ask a parent if you may contact me by phone (or answer-phone).

Sorry that some of you had poor copies last time. The church duplicator has seen better days. I'm exploring the possibilities a buying a modern electronic typewriter for the church which would produce a sharper image than my computer, but like most things, it boils down to finance.

Jean Cook, on behalf of Brownies and Guides, thanks you for raising £314 by buying bulbs this year. Our gardens will be ablaze with colour next spring. I look forward to my next contact with you in church or in your home. God bless you.



SHARE JESUS MISSION

As we prepare for our Easter Mission, let's be encouraged by this report of similar missions by Paula & Rowland Lines.

Spending ten days on mission with people you've never met before but who share similar love for Jesus can result in an incredible bond of fellowship. We learn to accept each other's limitations and weaknesses, and to pray for healing of personality problems. If everyone had to wait until they were perfect before going to the frontline of witness - there would be no witnesses!

Rowland led a team to a church of 30, mainly elderly members, in a run-down part of Stoke on Trent. The church people were very supportive, and had prepared well. The church hall was in a poor state of disrepair, being frequently vandalised. The kitchen was OK but the toilets were outside. The hall is used for various community organisations. Their task was to witness to them bringing folk into the life of the church. So they spoke to people not usually associated with the church - at youth clubs and assemblies, at a disco, at old people's lunches and homes. They joined them at bingo and sequence dancing classes!

They found a greater hunger for the Gospel than Rowland had seen elsewhere. People gave their lives to Christ. The team bought Bibles for some who had none. They left praising God for new Christians and a church with new zeal.

Paula was Pastor to a Team in Crewe 10 miles from Rowland. She was helped by an assistant she already knew. Their mission was primarily to church members and adherents. They visited homes, started a mums and toddler club, visited clubs for youth, senior citizens and disabled. They started house groups and motivated Sunday school teachers to undertake training. The faith of church members was stimulated, encouraging them to re-commitment and regular Bible study.

It is vital that we all prepare for our Mission by Prayer. Come to Springboard - dates on page 7 - and share in our planning. Fuller details in next Newsletter.

CHURCH BENEVOLENT FUND

In the last Newsletter mention was made of the various charities our Church supports. The Church Council has decided that instead of taking up a second collection during each Communion Service, a retiring collection (a plate left at the door) will be taken at both services once a month. The collections will be linked to the church calendar, and will usually be taken on the 3rd Sunday of the month. This will often co-incide with the monthly morning communion. Sometimes envelopes may be available during the month for those not at church that particular Sunday. Informational inserts will be included in this newsletter when available.

Four of the collections each year will be for the local Church Benevolent Fund. By tradition this is used to buy Communion Wine, to send Christmas Cards to our pensioners and Easter Cards to housebound friends. Small gifts may be made anonymously from this fund by the minister to friends in particularly difficult circumstances. Any balance at the end of the year goes to "top up" other charities.

The following table shows the new pattern. Those in brackets indicate that house-to-house collections or "flag days" are arranged by our church friends.

Sep	Methodist Relief and Overseas Development Fund (National Children's Home)
Oct	Church Benevolent Fund
Nov	Overseas Missions (Earl Haig - Remembrance)
Dec	Church Benevolent Fund (National Children's Home)
Jan	Auxiliary Fund for retired needy ministers or spouses
Feb	Home Missions
Mar	Church Benevolent Fund Easter Offerings
Apr	Junior and Youth Missionary Association
May	Retired Ministers' Housing Society
Jun	Local Preachers' Mutual Aid Association
Jly	Methodist Homes for the Aged
Aug	Church Benevolent Fund (Cancer Charities)

Clearly the list is far from complete - but we only have 12 months in the year. We must avoid taking too many collections, and learn to be selective. The Church Council will revise the list each year in September. If the church is to continue supporting Easter Offerings and Earl Haig it will mean double collections in March or April and November. Other urgent appeals will naturally invite a high priority.

This is difficult. Even as I write today's post invites our church to assist the National Bible Society of Scotland in placing 30 million Bibles and New Testaments into the hands of Christians in the USSR & Eastern Europe. The appeal is accompanied by the offer of free videos on Romania and Russia. No - I am not appealing for your money - but invite you to examine the appeals I'm placing on the crush hall notice board. See also "This month's good cause." (MFT)

REMEMBER REMEMBER . . .
from January 1991 (apart from holidays)

2nd Sunday of month at 11am - Family & Church Parade
2nd Tuesday of month, Minister speaks at Shoppers' Service
1st & 3rd Tuesdays of month at 2pm - Retirement Fellowship
1st & 3rd Tuesdays of month at 7.30 - SPRINGBOARD
2nd & 4th Tuesdays of month at 7.45 - Housegroup
1st Thursday of month at 7.30 - Kirkcaldy Church Fellowship

Please inform Cathy Dusator (822977) of changes to bookings and Jean Cook (728861) by Thursday for the weekly notices.

Information for this Newsletter should be in the Minister's hands no later than 9pm on Sundays for publication as below:

<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Publication</u>	
2nd December	9th December	Short items about organisations and activities are particularly needed.
6th January	13th January	
10th February	17th February	
10th March	17th March	
21st April	28th April	
2nd June	9th June	Cut this out ... and stick it in a prominent place!
25th August	1st September	
13th October	20th October	



"His faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did." James 2:22 (NIV)

James here refers to Abraham who folded his tent, packed his belongings, loaded his camel, and with his tribe, headed west. 1500 miles later in his new homeland he recognized that God had fulfilled all that he had promised. Abraham's faith and actions worked together.

We read of others in Scripture and elsewhere who also proved their faith by their actions. Jeremiah, goaled by the King for forecasting that he and his countrymen would be force-marched to Babylon was visited by his cousin who sold him a piece of land. Imagine buying land when you expect to become a refugee! Money thrown away? Jeremiah records in his diary "Houses, field and vinyards will again be bought in this land." In our lingo - "We'll be back!" Jeremiah's faith and actions were in harness.

The Roman Centurian in Luke 7 was highly commended to Jesus by the local Jewish big-wigs. His message to Jesus was "Sir, there's no need for you to travel to my home to heal my seriously ill servant. Just speak the healing word and he'll become well." Such faith!

Noting such positive affirmations of faith in God and his Son Jesus our Saviour, what must we do to prove our faith? We should show our confidence in the future of Christ's church here in Rosyth by:

(a) Worshipping regularly. A former President of Methodist Conference said "Worship is the Christian community's celebration of its faith in a living God and a Christ who is living Lord of his world."

(b) Offering more of our wealth, time and abilities to God as part of our response in worship. By giving more, we re-act as Jeremiah did to the demands of his faith.

(c) Being neighbourly in the fullest, world-wide sense following Jesus' words "Inasmuch as you do it to the least, you do it for me."

Let our faith and action be seen working together.

(Extract from a Sermon preached by Alf Lines on 30 Sept)

SUNDAY WORSHIP

11 Nov	10.55am	Rev Malcolm Trew	Remembrance Communion
	6pm	Mr John Hardy	
18 Nov	11 am	Mr Alan Whitson (Edinburgh)	
	6 pm	Dr Gordon Murray	
25 Nov	11 am	Mrs Carol Bunn (Glenrothes)	
	6 pm	Rev Malcolm Trew	Youth Service
2 Dec	11 am	Rev Malcolm Trew	Family & Parade (Gifts of Toys received by WRVS)
	6 pm	Rev Malcolm Trew	Holy Communion
9 Dec	11 am	Rev Malcolm Trew	Holy Communion
	6 pm	Mrs Margaret Collins & Rev Malcolm Trew	

CHURCH REGISTER

BAPTISM

We have welcomed the following child into the congregation of Christ's flock.

7 Oct. Tara Jan Hammond CURRIE (30.1.81) daughter of Linda and Robert, 72 Woodside Avenue, Rosyth

WOMEN'S OWN

Wednesdays at 2.30

November 7th Mrs Iris Lines
14th Mr John Buchanan
21st Members' Afternoon
28th Allsorts Singing Group

RETIREMENT FELLOWSHIP

1st & 3rd Tuesday at 2pm

November 6th ROF Dunfermline - L. McCran
20th Games Afternoon

THURSDAY CLUB

Thursdays at 7.45pm

November 15th Theatre Visit - Saints' Production
29th On Tour with the Cooks & Dempsters

HOUSE GROUP

- Tuesdays 13th & 27th November at 7.45pm

SPRINGBOARD

- Thursday 8th & Tuesday 20th November at 7.30

NOVEMBER

- Thu 8 7.30 Springboard - Prayer Preparation for Mission
Fri 9 7.30 King's Praise at Abbeyhill
Sat 10 - Sun 12 ROSMYC weekend at Stirling Methodist Church
SUN 11 10.55 Remembrance Sunday - Holy Communion
Tue 13 10.30 Minister speaks at Shoppers' Service

Thu 15 7.30 Saints Drama Group presents
"Finger of Suspicion" by Jean Marks
Tickets £1 & 50p - Tea & Coffee at Interval
Programmes sold in aid of MacMillan Nurses

- Sat 17 Scout Group Outing to Newcastle Metro Centre
Tue 20 7.30 Springboard
Sat 24 9.30 - 4.30 District Local Preachers and Sunday
School Teachers' Training Day at ROSYTH
led by Judy Jarvis (Youth Dept - LONDON)
SUN 25 3.30 - 7pm Youth Workshops and Youth Service

DECEMBER

Sat 1 2pm Annual Christmas Fayre - all the usual
stalls - see posters for fuller details.

- Sun 2 Deadline for Christmas Newsletter items
Sun 2 11am Family & Parade - Toys received for WRVS
Tue 4 7.15 Circuit Local Preachers' Meeting
Wed 5 7.30 Rosyth Church Council
Thu 9 7.30 Kirkcaldy Church Fellowship Group
Sun 9 Christmas Newsletter published
Fri 14 7.30 King's Praise
Tue 18 NCH Carolcade at Central Hall

This Newsletter is published 8 times a year.
It is delivered to your home today by:-

.....
..... your area VISITOR
who with the Minister aims to strengthen the CONTACT between
home, church and God. Do please contact us if there is any
way in which you would like to make this contact stronger.