

Kirkliston Parish Church of Scotland

Scottish Registered Charity No. SCO13924

Newsletter May 2014

www.kirkliston-parish-church.org.uk

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MINISTER

"This is what the Lord says... 'Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.'" Isaiah Ch 43 v 16 - 19 (NIV)

Dear Friends,

I am sure that by now you will all have received a copy of the extremely useful Kirkliston Guide outlining all the services that currently exist in our community. In going through it, I could not help noticing how much Kirkliston has changed over the years from the photographs included in the Guide. There is, firstly, the High Street pictured in the early 1900s and how it looks today. Some old houses have gone and shops that were once so familiar have been replaced by modern housing. But the photograph that outlines the greatest change is the aerial shot from the

early 1900s showing a rural village surrounded by fields that stands on the Almond River. You can pick out the Old Kirk and the Free Kirk quite easily in the photograph. But go to the 2007 shot and we see a community which is almost unrecognizable from the earlier view. You can still make out the church, if you know where to look, but it is tricky to find it in the midst of so much development, and if an aerial shot were to be taken today, the village would have changed again and expanded even more.



Whether we like it or not 'our village' has changed a great deal over the years and continues to change. Many of the shops have gone and in the space of two or three generations the whole landscape has altered, The church seems to have got smaller in the midst of all these changes and instead of standing out as the heart of the community we now struggle to be noticed in it.

At the time of writing, it has been reported that the Church of Scotland has suffered another fall in membership - for the first time ever, membership falls below 400,000.

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Many of us will remember when our numbers were three times this figure – so are we doomed, is this the end of the road for the Church of Scotland and the church in our community?

Look again at the developing picture. In terms of the shops and houses we have mentioned, many of them have closed or changed, new ones have arrived and the shape and feel of our once rural village is shifting, making it difficult for some of us to appreciate or embrace these changes. The thing is - the people moving in are seeking what we have always had: that sense of community which Kirkliston and its churches have always offered. This is what we value and what we want to hold onto. Some buildings have gone - the railway station, the distillery - but the homes in our community have simply adapted to a new generation and a new century.

Does the church show similar signs of adaptation and renewal? Thankfully yes, but like many forecasts in

national financial reports, it's patchy. We see change in evidence as great debates are rocking the church about future priorities, beliefs and standards. At one extreme she seems to be tearing herself apart, and at the other, there are a myriad of newer churches and fellowships springing up. Does this mean the church is finished then?

Not a bit of it - but we might not manage to preserve the structure or shape we have been used to. Indeed as the surge of secularism increases and the way of faith is more and more marginalised, satirised or even vilified, the pressure is probably set to continue. Historically though, the church has tended to grow stronger under pressure, and the two great truths of the scripture are ever more real as we face up to this. On the one hand Jesus said, *"I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it"* and on the other, the promise of Isaiah 43 is that of a continuing renewal by the God not only of yesterday, but of today and forever. The choice facing us therefore is a relatively simple one. Do we go with the "doom merchants" and grow despondent, take shelter in what's "aye been", or, do we look with new eyes and a new conviction for the fresh move of the Spirit of God, the very presence of God, which will yet bring revival to our land?

May the Lord bless you and yours at this time of transition as he calls us all to new journeys of faith.

Your friend and minister,

Maggie

COPPER COLLECTION - This quarter I am sending £50 to Crossreach for the work of T.W.O.S. (Threshold West of Scotland), which provides a service that enables people with learning disabilities and autism and their carers to experience and enjoy quality living within their community and to have short holiday breaks. Thanks to all who give me coppers and now, also, 5p pieces.

Muriel Naylor

**HOLY COMMUNION
SUNDAY 1ST JUNE 2014**

10.30 a.m. in the Church

3.00 p.m. in the Sheltered Housing Lounge

6.30 p.m. at Café Church in the Church Centre

You are warmly invited to attend.

When you plan your garden:

Plant three rows of peas:

Peace of mind
Peace of heart
Peace of soul.

Plant four rows of squash:

Squash gossip
Squash indifference
Squash grumbling
Squash selfishness.

Plant four rows of lettuce:

Lettuce be faithful
Lettuce be kind
Lettuce be happy
Lettuce really love one another.

No garden should be without turnips:

Turnip for service when needed
Turnip to help one another
Turnip the music and dance.

Water freely with patience and cultivate with love. There is much fruit in your garden. Because you reap what you sow.

To conclude our garden, we must have thyme:

Thyme for fun
Thyme for rest
Thyme for ourselves
Thyme for God.

PARISH REGISTER

MARRIAGES

"Love never gives up; and its faith, hope, and patience never fail." (1 Cor 13:7)

8th March 2014

Ella Marshall & Peter Marsden
7 Almondhill Steadings, Kirkliston

BAPTISMS & BLESSINGS

"Let the children come to me." (Luke 18:16)

23rd February 2014

Angus Greer
19 Glendinning Drive, Kirkliston

23rd March 2014

Noah Hogg
10 Marshall Road, Kirkliston

13th April 2014

Eriska Paterson
Oliver Paterson
Imogen Paterson
11 Crawford Gait, Kirkliston

FUNERALS

"I am the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25)

25th February 2014

George Fairley
39 Newmains Road, Kirkliston

7th March 2014

Hollis Smallman
39 Allan Park, Kirkliston

11th April 2014

Hugh Erskine
87 The Glebe, Kirkliston

2nd May 2014

Maureen Inglis
3 The Glebe, Kirkliston

8th May 2014

Ina Burnett
48 Riverside Drive, Newbridge

9th May 2014

Alex Rosie
26 Bridge Street, Newbridge

15th May 2014

Charlie Hardwick
41/4 Kirklands Park Gardens, Kirkliston

LENDRICK MUIR 5TH -12TH JULY; SU HOLIDAY FOR P5- S1 - We were called late to take on the leadership of a SU holiday after the previous leader was unable to lead this year. We were delighted to step in and are looking forward to being back at Lendrick Muir. SU holidays are a great opportunity to tell young people about the Christian faith and to encourage those who already go to church and have a personal faith. This year we have 33 young people booked for this event and a team of leaders - however we still need a team of cooks, a few more group leaders and travel leaders. If you have some spare time during that week, please do come and have a chat with us about what it involves.

We would love it if you would commit to praying for us on the lead up to and during the holiday. We will provide updates through the week so if you would like to receive these please let James or Helen Hogg know – Hedgehogg@me.com.

SAFEGUARDING NEWS - We now have until October 2015 to make sure that everyone who is working with children or vulnerable adults in the Church joins the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme or is updated. I will be checking with organisation leaders and identifying people who have not previously been eligible to be checked by the Church, as this is being done in stages. It is not onerous, but it does mean completing a form: I need to know if you already are a member of the PVG Scheme (e.g. through work or other volunteering) or not, so that I can get you the correct form. Many thanks.

Paula Roots

MISSION - Every two months, World Mission focuses on different issues around the world. This winter it has looked at clothing production, highlighted by the tragedy in Bangladesh in 2013, when 1,100 people died when their workplace collapsed in Dhaka. Another 2,500 people were injured and for some these injuries will be life-changing. Our church community seeks Christ's justice in this world and we are urged to consider carefully where our clothes come from when we are buying garments: if it is very cheap, maybe it has not been produced in good and fair conditions. Please, think fairness: just rewards for labour and safe conditions for workers. The 'fair trade' label is a guarantee of good wages for garment workers: many big stores do stock them.

Did anyone try the 'Place at the table' idea from the Christmas newsletter? Refugees around the world - especially the 4 million displaced people in Syria - desperately need our financial support and prayers. The latest reports focus on Sudan, in the midst of tribal violence - your prayers are needed for those in the midst of fighting, including Christians trying to mediate peace, at real danger and risk to their own lives. Small magazines are placed in the church centre every 2 months, please feel free to borrow them and keep up to date with these issues of justice.

Paula Roots

PRAYER CORNER

May there always be work for your hands to do.
May your purse always hold a coin or two.
May the sun always shine on your windowpane.
May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain.
May the hand of a friend always be near you.
May God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.

FABRIC REPORT - The alteration of the pathway has been completed at a final cost of £7,000 and has resulted in making the descent to the Church Centre a lot easier for wheelchairs. Some decoration work has been completed in the Manse and the painting of the crush area in the Church Centre will be started soon. The Dorcas lunch ladies were feeling the heat in the kitchen so a cooker hood was fitted over the gas cooker to lower the temperature. The water heater in the Church Centre decided it had done enough work heating water over the past 10 years. As there were no longer spare parts to be had, a new one was fitted costing £970 plus VAT. I finished off my last newsletter by hoping there were no major projects round the corner. Famous last words! It seems that parts of the Church Centre roof require to be re-slanted. If nothing else this will keep me from wondering what to do next.

Charles R Wright, Fabric Convenor

GALA DAY - We are delighted to be taking part in the Gala Day again, and, plan to have the c.a.b. and a float in the parade. Pulling the float together and decorating it (maybe this will be the year that we get a rosette!) is easy if there are lots of helpers. Can you knit, paint, sew, blow up balloons or do you have any other hidden talents? If so - then we need you for the float. The float is for all ages and is being entered under the name of "Kirkliston Parish Church" so be you 8 or 80, come along and have great fun. Please speak to Helen if you would like to get involved.

Helen Hogg

WHAT IS A CHURCH MEMBER? - Is becoming a member of Kirkliston Parish Church something you have been thinking about or would be interested in exploring? Do you have questions concerning Christian faith and what it all means? A new enquirers group will meet in the manse (43 Main Street, Kirkliston) on Thursday evenings for 6 weeks beginning 24th April to explore faith, ask questions and discover what it means to become a member of this church. If you are interested in joining this group please speak to the Minister, Rev Maggie Lane, or call her on 0131 333 3298 or email: margaretlane@btinternet.com.

THE GENESIS PROJECT - It is great to be able to inform you that the funding that was needed to extend Rev Drew Kuzma's time with us for at least another year as leader of Genesis – our Youth and Family Outreach Project - has been achieved, thanks to the amazing generosity and faith of the congregation and the matched funding that has been secured through the Church of Scotland 'Go for it' Fund. We can now positively move forward and sow further into our vision of reaching and enabling young people and their families in our parish. May I offer a huge "well done" and "thank you" to all who have supported this venture.

Rev Maggie Lane

GODS LITTLE WORSHIPPERS (CRÈCHE) - Two years ago we gave crèche a wee revamp. Our aim is simple - to encourage the children with 'great teaching,' give them a 'great experience' in a 'great atmosphere' with 'great friends' leading to a 'great relationship' with a 'great big God'. How do we do this? We have a team of incredible volunteers who love the children, get to know them, listen to them and plan a programme that is age appropriate as well as really good fun. This year we are using a set of sticker books that take us through stories in the Bible. Last week we made trumpets, then marched round Jericho (our small table), blew our trumpets and made lots of noise! The most exciting thing is the way that the group is growing - we have moved from 2 children consistently week on week to 5 or 6 and often more. In total we have 10 regulars and we are seeing more of the Little Coffee Stop families coming along too. If you would like to get involved in this exciting ministry, please come and talk with us.

Helen Hogg and Margie Kuzma

SUNDAY CLUB - The children have really enjoyed learning about Joshua this term. We have painted river rocks, made a mural showing the red cord that Rahab hung from her window and played giant Jenga to allow the walls of Jericho to come tumbling down!

Presentation Day will be on 15th June this year. This is also Father's Day, but we are hoping for a full house and that the children will be in good voice as they have prepared a song to sing to the congregation. The following Sunday, 22nd June, will be the last Sunday Club before the summer break – although there will be children's activities on offer on Sundays throughout the summer. On 22nd June we are planning to have a prayer walk around Kirkliston followed by some tasty snacks in the church hall to replenish our energy – so please make sure that children wear shoes that are comfortable to walk in! We are planning to resume Sunday Club on 16th August with games followed by a lunch-time Barbecue in the Church Centre. In the meantime, we wish everyone a fun-filled, exciting but restful summer break. Thanks again to all who help us in any way – your input is very much appreciated.

Ella, Jane, Kirsteen, Liz, Moira, and Morag

FAMILY FEVER - We have recently started a young families evening taking place every two months on a Saturday night. We want to provide a place where families can come together to socialise and have fun, where their children are safe and entertained. We offer a meal, a place to sit and a mini disco – nothing fancy, just space to be together. We encourage people to bring their own drinks so parents can enjoy a glass of wine with dinner. We ask families to pay towards the cost of hall rental, equipment hire and food and suggest a donation of £10 per family. As a community, we want to build relationships and unite people together - Family Fever is an opportunity to do just that. Giving folks a wee taste of holiday in the middle of family life! Flyers are on the table in the Church Centre. See Helen Hogg for further details.



GOOD NEWS AND A BIG THANK YOU

Most of you will remember that in December 2011 our daughter Tabby was diagnosed with Leukaemia. We are pleased to say that on Wednesday last week, Tabby had her final dose of Chemotherapy and her bone marrow biopsy showed no evidence of residual tumour cells. We would just like to thank everyone at Kirkliston Parish Church for their continued love, support and prayers over what, at times, has been a difficult journey.

Tabby still has a summer of antibiotics to go and monthly check-ups and blood tests over the next year. Indeed she will be having follow up visits for the next 10 years! However, she has done wonderfully well so once again, thank you all so much for everything.

The Lawsons

An elderly woman had just returned home from an evening church service when she realised that an intruder was in the house. She yelled: "Stop now! Acts 2:38!"

The burglar stopped still in his tracks. The woman calmly called the police and explained what she had done. Soon the police arrived and, as the officer handcuffed the burglar to take him in, the policeman asked him, "Why did you just stand there? All she did was yell a scripture to you."

"Scripture?" replied the burglar, "She said she had an AXE and two 38's!"

Kirkliston Parish Church of Scotland (SC013924) BALANCE SHEET

	As At 31/01/2014	As At 31/01/2013
Fixed assets		
1400AV: AV Equipment	16,529.80	20,637.50
1400CA: Carpet Ch	1,174.00	1,761.00
1400PB: Praise band equipment	517.41	776.12
1400RM: Ring Main CH	1,225.78	1,530.39
1400S: Sanctuary	4,032.56	5,044.73
1450: Ogilvie Growth Fund	50,212.54	42,917.74
1460: Ogilvie Investment Fund	116,094.00	115,988.46
1465: Income Fund Reserve	11,099.00	11,088.91
Total Fixed assets	200,885.09	199,744.85

Current assets

1550: OGILVIE CofS a/c	1.20	1.20
1551: WEDDEL CofS a/c	2,463.08	2,443.05
1560: High Int A/c + cofS inv 145387	24,070.69	20,738.85
1580: Current A/C Bank 00185079	13,828.50	11,690.98
1581: Projects Fab BANK ACCOUNT	1,446.66	738.11
1583: flower acc	1,332.99	1,495.52
1584: BENEVOLENT a/c 00162362	1,283.62	1,283.11
1585: ss account	442.90	500.12
1586: KPCG A/C	807.28	838.95
1587: ACTION BUS A/C	2,459.75	980.27
1588: Genesis project	800.08	2,976.27
Z05: Accounts Receivable	—	—
Total Current assets	48,936.75	43,686.43

Liabilities

Total Liabilities	—	—
Net Asset surplus (deficit)	249,821.84	243,431.28
Reserves		
Excess / (deficit) to date	(12,501.65)	—
Z01: Starting balances	254,913.06	243,431.28
Z02: Gains and losses on investments	7,410.43	—
Total Reserves	249,821.84	243,431.28

Represented by Funds		
Unrestricted	34,851.79	39,033.42
Designated	40,322.79	36,312.24
Restricted	8,339.52	9,178.22
Endowment	166,307.74	158,907.40
Total	249,821.84	243,431.28

LITTLE COFFEE STOP - It's been a great term with lots of new mums coming along as well as some familiar faces - we still have a good number of grans and grandads popping in to enjoy a bacon roll and the hall is as busy as ever on a Friday morning. During Gala week, we are also hosting a Teddy Bears' Picnic at the Little Coffee Stop which will take place on Friday 13th June at 10am with a suggested donation of £2 per child. I would however like to take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers who help in the crèche and café - your help is priceless and your willingness to serve others is incredible. There is a tangible sense of love and welcome when you come in on a Friday morning ... almost as evident as the smell of bacon wafting through the Square!!!

Helen Hogg

cab UPDATE - The c.a.b (Children's Action Bus) continues to be our church's detached work with children who don't necessarily come church. The cab is, in fact, church for many of them. We continue to take the love of God to the children and we hope we do this in a friendly and fun way. The leaders go out in all weathers to interact with the kids and may I say that the weather can be a challenge! A dozen or so kids trying to fit into c.a.b. on a very wet night can be fun ... We have now started our monthly cooking /games night where we leave the c.a.b. at home and walk the kids to the Church Centre from 7.00 until 8.30pm. The children really enjoy it and we have fun whilst teaching them how to cook and some basics about healthy eating. We hope to get into Newbridge from the start of June and are currently working out the best place to go where the children can safely come and join us. We will continue going out until mid-July and then take a break over August. The c.a.b. can be found down at Gateside from 7.00-8.00 pm every Friday night. We seek to do the Lord's work and would appreciate any offers of help to join our small band of willing volunteers. If this is something you feel called to do, please contact Christina Pearson 0131 333 0333 or Morag Carnall 0131 333 3420.

Every blessing from the c.a.b. Team

HEALING ROOMS - The Healing Room in Kirkliston is open in the Church Centre from 11.30am—1.00pm every Thursday. A Healing Room is a place where you can come to receive prayer for healing for any condition, physical, emotional or spiritual. When you arrive at the Healing Room you will be made to feel very welcome and be offered a cup of tea or coffee and asked to fill in a short form. A team of trained volunteers will then pray for you in a relaxed and confidential environment.

“I am the God who heals you!” Exodus 15: 26

For more information please ring 07768 530 800 or 07910 766 6539

TRANSPORT TO CHURCH ROTA JUNE – SEPTEMBER 2014

JUNE	1	Keith Moss	0131 333 3779
	8	Maggie/Gordon McConnachie	0131 333 3123
	15	Helen McPhee	0131 333 2479
	22	Ann/David Denholm	0131 333 1834
	29	Anne Reilly	0131 629 1488
JULY	6	Peter Marsden	0131 333 0799
	13	Keith Moss	0131 333 3779
	20	Maggie/Gordon McConnachie	0131 333 3123
	27	Helen McPhee	0131 333 2479
AUG	3	Ann/David Denholm	0131 333 1834
	10	Anne Reilly	0131 629 1488
	17	Peter Marsden	0131 333 0799
	24	Keith Moss	0131 333 3779
	31	Maggie/Gordon McConnachie	0131 333 3123
SEPT	7	Helen McPhee	0131 333 2479
	14	Ann/David Denholm	0131 333 1834
	21	Anne Reilly	0131 629 1488
	28	Peter Marsden	0131 333 0799

If you would like a lift to church please contact the person on the rota for that Sunday by 9.00 am. If you have any queries contact Ann Denholm - 0131 333 1834



"...he's one of the results of our
'Risk Assessment Survey'!"



FIT FOR A KING – HOLIDAY CLUB – “Fit for a King” is the theme for this year’s holiday club. The club was written especially to run alongside the Commonwealth Games and has a very Scottish feel.

Here is a comment from James Gill who used the material recently: “We used "Fit for a King" at the SU Mission in Perth this Easter. It is marvellous Holiday Club material. There is so much in it, including an amazing amount of Bible teaching.

Each day's programme is very cleverly sewn together. Team members need to be aware that, more than ever, you can't just read up what to do the night before you deliver it, if you really want to let God help you get the most out of it. Plenty of prayerful, thoughtful and careful planning will bring rewards.”

If you would like to help at the holiday club or have/know of children who may like to attend please speak with Drew or email him - Drew.Kuzma@yahoo.co.uk

CLAN - CLAN (Christians Linked Across the Nation) took place at Central Halls in Edinburgh at the start of May. It was truly a wonderful weekend of worship, praise, fellowship and inspirational speakers, encouraging us all to take our faith out into our community and workplaces and share our love for Christ with everyone, every day – not just keep it for Sunday.

I'd like to share a moving moment at one of the seminars, “Creativity in worship.” We were invited to help to make a banner, dance or move with ribbons, large pieces of colourful chiffon or just soak in the music from the praise band. “Not everyone’s cup of tea!” I hear you say. Whilst soaking up God’s presence in the music I watched for a long time a young woman in a wheelchair giving her praises to God with ribbons. One of the dancers knelt in front of her and moved the ribbons with her to begin with, then they moved her amongst the dancers on the floor. She obviously couldn’t sing her praises, but her joy and freedom of arm movement to the praise band music was a joy to see and brought tears to my eyes – a moment I will never forget.

I pray that the next time we feel uncomfortable about worship which isn’t in the traditional vein we have grown up with, we’ll remember the joy of that young woman, and remember that God wants our worship in all shapes and forms and wants us to embrace all variations within our church family.

Joan McConnachie

GRATITUDE IS THE BEST ATTITUDE - Gratitude can be good for you! That's right, grateful people are healthier, happier and even nicer, according to a recent study. The study divided adults into two mixed groups. Some of the members of one group were encouraged to jot down things they were grateful for. Others were asked to keep a diary in which they expressed thanks for stuff that had gone well. This group also included people with incurable diseases. As for those in the other group, they were told to forget about thanksgiving but to keep track of hassles and annoyances. At the end of the study, those in the grateful group - including the people with incurable illnesses - felt better and were more optimistic than the grouchy group. The grateful group also turned out nicer! It seems that people who made it a point to "count their blessings" showed greater kindness to others.

Of course, this research doesn't tell us anything new. Centuries ago, the Apostle Paul had this to say about the life-changing power of thanksgiving and gratitude: "Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank him for all He has done. If you do this, you will experience God's peace, which is far more wonderful than the human mind can understand." (Philippians 4:6-7, NLT).

No doubt about it, a grateful heart is powerful medicine. But it not only makes us feel better, it also helps us worship and get closer to God. Just look at these words from Psalm 100: "Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name" (verse 4, NIV).
Morag Carnall

THE GUILD

We continued with our Guild theme for this session, "A Fellowship to Build" and had several interesting and informative talks with which to conclude our Syllabus. Our annual Spring Tea took place in April and *Ferry Blend* gave us an excellent evening's entertainment, followed by the usual delicious home-baking. We now have our outing to look forward to – not far from home on this occasion – as we are going to Dunfermline Abbey and Abbot House.

The Committee has already started on next session's syllabus and, indeed, all the speakers are in place. We, therefore, look forward to welcoming everyone back, and some new faces we hope, on Wednesday 24th September at 7.30pm, when Rev. David Black will be our guest speaker.

On behalf of the Guild, I hope everyone has a pleasant summer break.
Jan Wemyss, Guild Secretary

FLOWER CALENDAR JUNE TO SEPTEMBER 2014

June 1 Mrs Thomson, Maitland Road 8 Mrs Sibbald, Kirklands Park Gardens 15 Mr Henderson, Maitland Road 22 Vacant 29 Mrs Moss, Almondhill Road	July 6 Mrs Naylor, Almondhill Road 13 Mrs Drysdale, Almondside 20 Mrs Murray, The Glebe 27 Miss Innes, The Glebe
August 3 Mrs Baird, Nethershiel 10 Mrs Gilchrist, Allan Park 17 Mrs Sibbald, Dundas Place 24 Mrs Tait, Newliston Road 31 Mrs Nutley, Main Street	September 7 Mrs Paterson, Winchburgh 14 Vacant 21 Mrs MacKay, Main Street 28 Mrs Hamilton, The Glebe

FLOWER DELIVERY

JUNE Mrs H MacDonald, Mrs Denholm, Mrs J Fyfe, Mrs D Irving
Mrs Rooney

AUG Mrs A Reilly, Mrs L Woollven, SEPT Mrs A Denholm, Mrs M Gaynor
Mrs A Thomson

Thank you to everyone who has helped with the flowers over the past few months. It would be useful to have another helper for deliveries in July and September - please let me know if you could lend a hand. Even if you can only deliver on one Sunday it would be a great help and I can assure you it will be much appreciated. If you know of anyone who is in need of cheering up please tell me (333 3710) or the ladies who are on the flower deliveries.

Joyce Brooks, Flower Convenor

Messages that give us feedback about life

Interruptions that should cause us to reflect and think

Signposts that direct us to the right path

Tests that push us to greater maturity

Awakenings that keep us in the game mentally

Keys that we can use to unlock the next door of opportunity

Explorations that let us journey where we've never been before

Statements about our development and progress

John C Maxwell

BUT: A mistake is proof that someone was at least trying to accomplish something.

YOUTH - Many people ask me about the future of youth ministry. I could never really hope to answer that question as it is beyond me to comprehend. I will however weigh in with what I think are some necessary ingredients to see the future of youth ministry flourish in the coming years.

1. Love ... in the form of support, encouragement and affirmation at a congregational level. Loved people succeed and love must include 'tough love' as well. We are being watched more than we realise. It is a good reminder.
2. Training ... in the Word, prayer, teaching, how to share and live our faith. This is best done side by side with people who are mature in faith. Most importantly, how to know the grace of Jesus through the lives of those they live and worship with. When someone messes up and misses the mark they learn how to share and receive that grace through the example of others. It's just basic discipleship really. There is more than enough judgement to go around in the Bible ... let's seek to restore some balance within our land.
3. Opportunities ... to contribute to the life of the church, to explore roles of service and practice servanthood. Youth want something to believe in and causes to uphold. The sooner they are given a role and purpose the more likely they are to engage with their faith in a lasting fashion because they own it. They are given the chance to put words and beliefs into action.
4. Role models ... Superheroes of faith! Yes, that is actually you and me. This is not a call to perfection but rather what the life of faith really looks like ... warts and all. Young people can smell a rat miles away. They want the real deal these days. Daily they are bombarded with examples of things they cannot achieve, are encouraged to aspire to an unrealistic way of life and then expected somehow to be capable of coping with the real world when it hits. Be real examples of Jesus followers, for your benefit and theirs.

Just a few musings of one who seeks to inspire young people to reach their potential in Christ.

Drew Kuzma

- All Christians are organ donors, because they gave their heart to Jesus!
- Give all your troubles to God, he's awake all night anyway!
- Heaven is real, don't miss it for the world!
- Too blessed to be depressed!
- Brush up on your Bible to avoid truth decay.

KEY CONTACTS

Minister:	Rev. Margaret Lane The Manse, Main Street TEL: 333 3298
Youth Pastor:	Rev. Drew Kuzma Drew.Kuzma@yahoo.co.uk
Session Clerk:	David Buchanan 21 Allan Park TEL: 333 3393
Clerk To Board, Orders of Service, Newsletter:	Jan Wemyss TEL: 333 4228
Treasurer:	Robert Brechin TEL: 333 3252
Roll Keeper:	Karen McKay TEL: 01506 202125
Gift Aid Convenor:	Brian Hepburn TEL: 333 1656
Organist:	David Denholm TEL: 333 1834
Website:	Morag Carnall TEL: 333 3420
Fabric Convenor:	Charlie Wright TEL: 333 3115
Hall Management:	Gill Davidson TEL: 333 2214

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