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Puzzle Answers

Sudoku starter numbers in order
5,7,6,4,8,9,2,1,3

S	T	O	P	C	A	L	L	P	O	N		
T	R	C	B	L	L	U	O					
R	E	G	U	L	A	R	O	C	T	E	T	
A	A	E	A	Y	E	E						
I	N	N	E	R	H	U	D	S	O	N		
G			I	A		L	I					
H	O	L	Y	C	O	M	M	U	N	I	O	N
T	A			S		S				N		
M	Y	S	E	L	F	S	E	E	T	O		
B	D	N	A	H	N	C						
A	B	O	U	T	I	T	E	R	A	T	E	
L	W	E	T	R	C	N						
M	O	N	A	R	C	H	Y	S	T	E	T	

G	E	N	T	F	N	E	L	W	E	E	A	
I	A	F	L	A	M	E	C	M	O	O	R	
L	E	T	N	K	R	R	E	Y	A	R	P	S
R	N	D	O	E	Y	L	O	H	E	T	E	T
I	O	E	I	N	A	H	M	T	R	R	T	I
T	I	Y	S	S	G	O	T	I	P	I	Y	S
E	S	O	U	P	C	U	N	R	R	U	S	B
S	N	R	F	W	R	I	E	I	A	N	L	T
T	E	R	N	A	T	N	P	S	I	E	N	P
J	C	J	O	Y	T	S	O	L	S	O	E	K
T	S	K	C	S	I	H	W	S	E	T	L	O
L	A	N	G	U	A	G	E	S	E	S	I	T
R	T	E	W	B	W	D	R	O	P	F	L	

St. Machan's News



June 2015

From the Editor

Welcome to the Summer edition of the magazine. I feel I should apologize for the misnomer. This certainly does not feel like summer. However, I hope as you light your fires and draw your curtains, the magazine will bring some warmth into the season.

I remind you that there is now a CD version as well as the large print version of the magazine for those with failing eyesight. If you have a problem in seeing the print then please tell your elder, magazine deliverer or myself so that you can receive a CD or large print edition.

Thank you once again to all those who submit contributions.

I hope you enjoy your read.

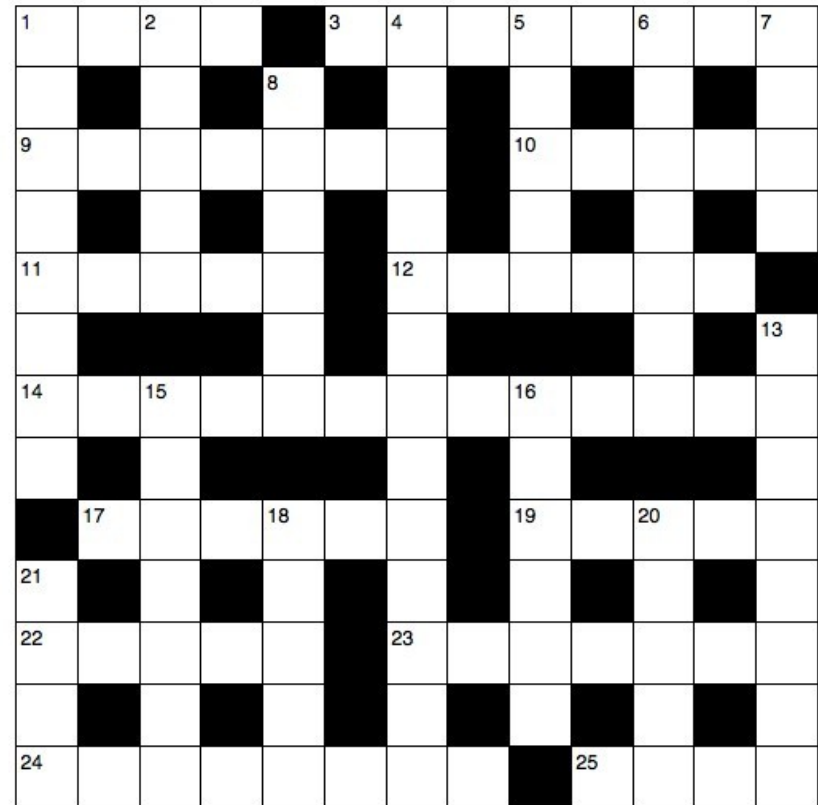
Fay Allan

Editors Note

In the last edition of the magazine, I included a list of contact numbers for Elders and associated districts. We have a diminishing number of active Elders which means that some members do not have an Elder. This list was for the benefit of those members. It made **NO** change to existing Elders and their districts. I hope this clears up any misunderstanding.

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- 15 'Greater love has no one than this, that he — — his life for his friends' (John 15:13) (3,4)
- 16 Archbishop who calculated that the world began in 4004BC (6)
- 18 'No one can — the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit' (John 3:5) (5)
- 20 Establish by law (5)
- 21 Product of Gilead noted for its healing properties (Jeremiah 46:11) (4)



Wanna do

When I was young my parents told me what to do. Now I am old, my children tell me what to do. When will I be able to do what I want?

Crossword

Across

- 1 'Therefore let us — passing judgment on one another' (Romans 14:13) (4)
3 'I — — these persons here present' (Marriage service) (4,4)
9 According to a prearranged timetable (Numbers 28:3) (7)
10 Group of eight (5)
11 The cell into which the Philippian jailer put Paul and Silas (Acts 16:24) (5)
12 — Taylor, pioneer missionary to China (6)
14 Otherwise known as the Eucharist, Breaking of Bread, the Lord's Table (4,9)
17 'So that after I have preached to others, I — will not be disqualified for the prize' (1 Corinthians 9:27) (6)
19 Attend to (3,2)
22 Approximately (Acts 4:4) (5)
23 Tea rite (anag.) (7)
24 Rule of sovereign (8)
25 Test (anag.) (4)

Down

- 1 The name of the street where Judas lived in Damascus and where Saul of Tarsus stayed (Acts 9:11) (8)
2 'The playing of the merry — , sweet singing in the choir' (5)
4 'We have been saying that — — was credited to him as righteous' (Romans 4:9) (8,5)
5 Dr Martyn — Jones, famous for his ministry at Westminster Chapel (5)
6 Port at which Paul landed on his way to Rome (Acts 28:13) (7)
7 Observe (Ruth 3:4) (4)
8 Minister of religion (6)
13 'I am — of this man's blood. It is your responsibility' (Matthew 27:24) (8)

View from the Manse



“Noah obeyed God and built an Ark in which he and his family were saved.”

(Hebrews 11:7)

Dear Friends

A few glimpses of that unfamiliar, circular, yellow object in the daily sky called the sun has stirred up our expectations and our hope: Maybe this year there will be a heat wave and our summer will be filled with sun cream and sunglasses and not Wellingtons and umbrellas!



Roll on the holidays, even all the preparations from washing the clothes and ironing to digging the suitcases out of the loft and packing them: There's nothing I love more than trying to pack myself into a small suitcase – I can hardly contain myself! When I was a little boy a week on the beach at Largs was the ultimate experience but, now that I am a big boy, I have discovered the incredible blessing of having a holiday on a boat, a big boat! It seems to me that a cruise is like having ten holidays all rolled into one!



Would you like to go on a cruise? In your daily life are you in danger of being swamped by unpredictable tides, soaked by unstoppable breakers, sunk by unexpected waves? Get away from it all with a once in a lifetime opportunity to escape!

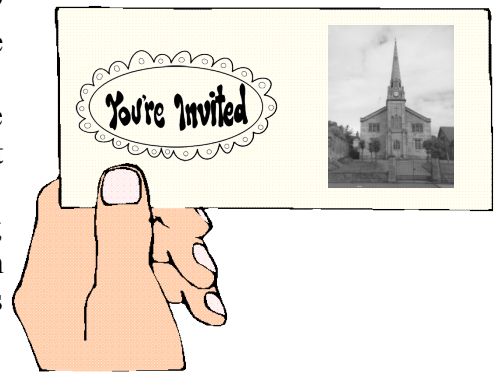
**No cost for a ticket! No reefs or rocks
can spoil your sail!
No dangerous ports can divert you from your
final destination!
No boredom on board for the "wild life" is found on every deck!**

**If Noah had given such an invitation would there have
been more than one family with a berth on the Ark?**

**To a world full of doubts and fears, Jesus tells of a once in a
lifetime opportunity for peace!
"Trust in God; trust also in me!"; "You will know
the truth, and the truth will set you free!";
"Come to me, all you who are weary and
burdened, and I will give you rest!";
"I have come in order that you might have
life, life in all its fullness!";
"Whoever believes in the Son has
eternal life!"**

If Jesus gives this wonderful, 'irresistible' invitation to all who have ears to hear: Why are so many churches in our land almost empty? Why are there so few crew members on board His 'Spiritual' Ark?

Have you received your invitation? Perhaps it's lost somewhere in the childhood memories of Sunday School picnics; Perhaps it has been laid aside through doubt and disbelief; Perhaps it has been severely damaged and distorted by the flash floods of life; Perhaps you are holding the invitation in your hands and in your heart at this very moment!



- For D1, B2, G6, F9**
How many days old was the Christ child when he was named "Jesus"? (Luke 2:21)
- For G2, E3, B5, D7**
What number plus three was the age of Jesus when He stayed behind in Jerusalem instead of joining Mary and Joseph for the journey home? (Luke 2:42)
- For H1, 15, D6**
When Tabitha (or Dorcas) died, how many men were sent to get Peter in the nearby town? (Acts 9:36-38)
- For H3, F5, C6, A7, 18, E9**
How many nights did God warn Abimelech in a dream about Abraham's wife, Sarah? (Genesis 20:3)
- For I1, F3, D4, E7, H9**
What number was part of the name of the inns or taverns that Paul saw on his trip to Rome? (Acts 28:15)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									
9									

Bible Sudoku

1. Each puzzle begins with a blank 9 x 9 grid. A coordinate system—with the letters A through I across the top and the numbers 1 through 9 down the left side—will help you place the "givens," or starter numbers, generated by the Bible trivia questions.
2. For each puzzle, trivia questions will be answered by the numbers 1 through 9. The coordinates with each question (for example, *A1, C9, H3*) indicate where you should insert that particular answer into the sudoku grid. If you don't know the answer and want to find out from the Bible, references are provided.
3. Once you've inserted the givens into the grid, you can solve the sudoku puzzle. The goal of sudoku is to place the numbers 1 through 9 in each row, each column, and each of nine 3 x 3 minigrids (the shaded areas) within the larger puzzle. Numbers can never be duplicated in a row, column, or 3 x 3 grid—so use your skills of deduction to determine what numbers can or can't go into a particular box.

For A1, D3, H4, E6, B7

How many Midianite kings did the Israelites, under Moses, kill?
(Numbers 31:8)

For B3, F7, G8, C9

How many heads did the huge red dragon of Revelation have?
(Revelation 12:3)

For C3, A4, B8

On which day of creation did God make people? (Genesis 1:27-31)

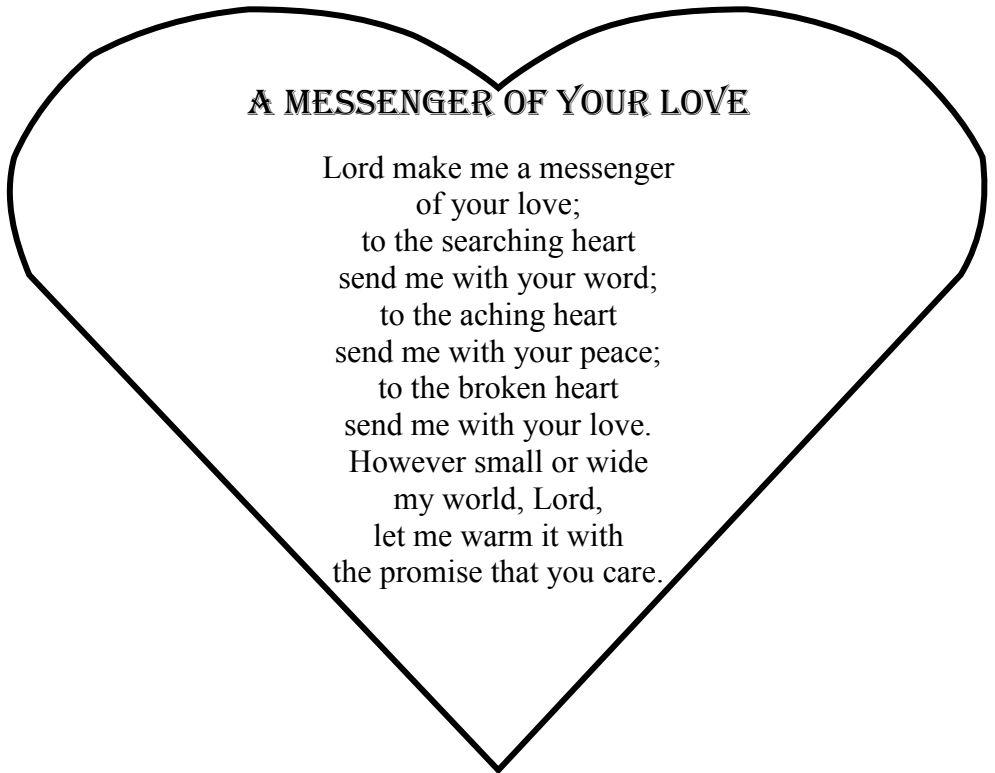
For F1, B4, 16


On which day of creation did God make the sun and moon?
(Genesis 1:16-19)

**Have you received your invitation?
Shall you accept by responding in faith to the Saviour who
sends it?**

Yours in Christ

Alastair McKillop





BAPTISMS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Matilda May Lenson-Wade	19/04/2015

Parker Place

As a means of creating a stronger link with the residents of Parker Place, we have been arranging an entertainment programme to cover the months from September through to May.

The Jolly Beggars from Stonehouse gave a great show in April and Danny Sweeney is scheduled for a night with his accordion in May.



The remainder of this year's evenings will be:

Wednesday September 9th. - Graham Duncan on the flute.

Wednesday October 14th. - An evening singing with Holly and Fiona.

Tuesday November 24th. - Entertainment by St Machans Women's Guild.

Wednesday December 9th. - Carol singing with Nan at the organ.

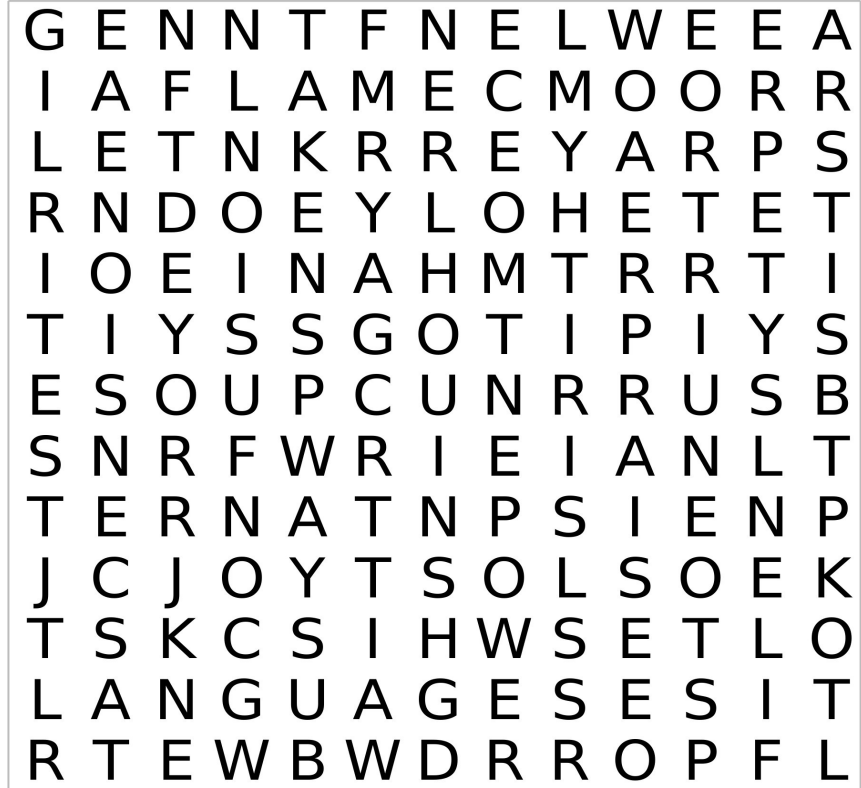


Tea and home baking will be served on each Evening.

Anyone willing to assist in any way or to come along and assist with the teas would be most welcome.

We also hope to start holding praise / worship meetings with dates to be arranged. Anyone willing to assist with this will also be most welcome.

Please contact John Gilroy for more information.



For MPs only



At the pearly gates, St. Peter greeted a minister and a member of parliament and gave them their room keys.

"Vicar, here are the keys to one of our nicest single rooms. And for you, Mr MP, the keys to our finest penthouse suite."



The vicar began to protest that this was unfair. "Listen," St. Peter said, "ministers are a ten a penny up here, but this is the first MP we've ever seen."

Puzzle Corner

Wordsearch

The month of May sees the Church celebrate the Ascension of Jesus, the sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, and the fact that our God is a Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. After the Resurrection, Jesus was seen on the road to Emmaus, by the Sea of Galilee, in houses, etc. He encouraged his disciples, and said that He was sending them to all corners of the earth, as his witnesses. 40 days after Easter, Jesus ascended into heaven; his work on earth was done. The disciples returned to Jerusalem, and on the fateful morning of Pentecost, there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues – to the astonishment of those who heard them. That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell all those who believed in Jesus: the Church was born. And so we have a triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.



ASCENSION	PRAYER	TONGUES	LANGUAGES
BLESSED	POWER	FLAME	EARTH
TAKEN	ONE	JOY	PETER
JERUSALEM	ROOM	PRAISE	HOLY
WAIT	DISCIPLES	CONFUSION	SPIRIT

The Bible is the only book where the author is always present whenever it is read.



Prayer of hope

Father,
Thank you that nothing is impossible with you. When circumstances seem to conspire, when situations are entrenched, when relationships feel fragile, help us to remember that you are the God who breaks through barriers, who opens eyes and transforms lives of even the most unlikely people. Help us to remember Paul - who he was and what he became – to be encouraged and full of hope and thanks,
In Jesus name,
Amen.



Keep it short

The minister stood up and said: “Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. You’ll be glad to know that when I asked my secretary to type this sermon out for me I asked her to eliminate any - thing that was dull or confusing. So in conclusion....”



Children's Pages

Mouse Makes

What happened when the Holy Spirit came at PENTECOST?
READ Acts 2:1-41

HOLY SPIRIT teaches us about God
John 14:26

HOLY SPIRIT helps us to pray
Romans 8:26-27

HOLY SPIRIT is with us and in us
John 14:16-17

HOLY SPIRIT helps us to speak about God
Acts 1:8

There was a sound like a blowing of a violent wind... and what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each one of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit.

BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT

EPHESIANS 5:18

Colour the flames, cut out and tie together to make a Pentecost mobile.

How many believers were baptised that day?

Funerals: Jesus said:

Let not your heart be troubled: believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you.

John 14:1-2

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Nancy Mundle	86	13/02/2015
John Frame	66	14/02/2015
Julia McMunn	80	25/02/2015
Dr. Hamish Smart	69	02/03/2015
John Robertson	88	10/03/2015
Lily Adams	85	11/03/2015
William Cossar	35	24/03/2015
Jean Nicol	91	05/04/2015
Elaine Cuthbertson	54	07/04/2015
Rosemary Hogg	68	30/04/2015



Wednesday Morning Prayer and Worship Services

Prayer Service 10.15 am

Worship Service 11am

Tea and fellowship after Prayer Service

Newspaper headlines where you know what they meant, *but....!*

Couple Slain; Police Suspect Homicide
Red Tape Holds Up New Bridges
Man Struck By Lightning: Faces Battery Charge
New Study of Obesity Looks for Larger Test Group
Astronaut Takes Blame for Gas in Spacecraft
Kids Make Nutritious Snacks
Local High School Dropouts Cut in Half
Hospitals are Sued by Seven Foot Doctors



Pancake Morning

MENU

Pancake (butter / jam)	50p
Pancake (plain)	40p
Coffee	60p
Tea	50p
Juice	10p

Fridays 10.00am—12 noon

Holiday Complaints

1. “The beach was too sandy.”
2. “We found the sand was not like the sand in the brochure. Your brochure shows the sand as yellow but it was white.”
3. “It took us nine hours to fly home from Jamaica to England it only took the Americans three hours to get home.”
4. “I compared the size of our one-bedroom apartment to our friends’ three-bedroom apartment and ours was significantly smaller.”
5. “It is your duty as a tour operator to advise us of noisy or unruly guests before we travel.”
6. “I was bitten by a mosquito - no-one said they could bite.”
7. “We bought ‘Ray-Bar’ sunglasses for five Euros from a street trader, only to find out they were fake.”
8. “No-one told us there would be fish in the sea. The children were startled.”
9. “It’s lazy of the local shopkeepers to close in the afternoons. I often needed to buy things during ‘siesta’ time - this should be banned
10. “On my holiday to Goa in India, I was disgusted to find that almost every restaurant served curry. I don’t like spicy food at all.”



Men's Club



The indoor Bowls Section of the Men's Club ended the season on Monday 27th April when 18 members attended. The usual hot pies were provided at the interval and these were kindly donated by the club's Vice President, Alan Curtis.

The new session begins on Monday 7th September at 1.30pm in the hall. All men of the congregation and friends are cordially invited to come along. You will be made very welcome.

The Men's Club Syllabus for 2015/16 has been finalised and it is hoped that there will be something in it to suit all tastes.

Two dates for your diary are, firstly, the annual St Andrew's Night Concert to be held in the church on Monday 2nd November when, by popular demand, Stonehouse Male voice Choir and Coalburn Intermediate Silver Band will provide the entertainment.

Secondly, the club will be joining forces with The Guild to present a concert in the church in March 2016 featuring The Dukes of Uke, Ukele band.

Tickets prices for both these events will be announced nearer



shall Street in Larkhall, just behind St Machan's Church in Larkhall.

If you are over 16 and would like to help at any of our activities please call the Volunteer Co-ordinators on 01698 305674/07888655097.

Hymn for distraught Conductors

Immoral, impossible, God only knows
How Tenors and Basses, Sopranos and Altos
At service on Sunday are rarely the same
As those who on Thursday to choir practice came.



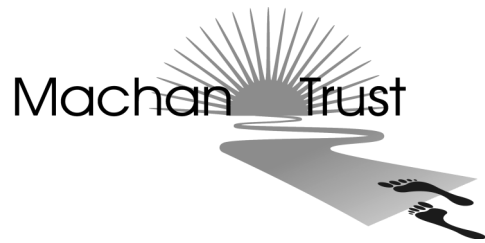
Unready, unable to sight read the notes
Nor counting, nor blending, they tighten their throats
The descant so piercing is soaring above,
A melody only a mother could love.

They have a conductor, but one wonders why?
No one in the choir ever turns him an eye.
It's clear by his flailing, he wants them to look
But each singer slouches with nose in the book.



Despite the offences, the music rings out,
The folks in the pews are enraptured no doubt.
Their faces are blissful. Their thoughts appear deep,
But it is no wonder, for they are asleep.

Evangelism is not selling Jesus, but showing Jesus. - Lee Camp



The Machan Trust is very excited about our summer programme. Our recent grant from The Big Lottery Fund has meant that our services have now extended to children aged 5-9 and our Summer Programme is now packed with activities and events for children and young people aged 5-18. We are again partnered with South Lanarkshire Outdoor Resource Base to deliver a range of adventure days like Archery, Rock Climbing, Camp craft, and Raft Building etc. These outings will be every Monday throughout the summer school holidays.



We will also be running adventure days away every Friday which will include Teddy Bears picnic, Zoo visit, a day at Ayr Beach, cycling and many more. And to top it all off, every week we will be running activity days in Netherburn, Hareleeshill, Strutherhill and Central Larkhall which will start with breakfast at 10am and there will be games, crafts and cooking this will also include lunch and will run until 3pm. Please check our website www.themachantrust.co.uk (click on the blog page) or our Facebook page facebook.com/Machan.trust for more news and details as specific dates for venues are confirmed. Alternatively give us a call on 01698 305674 or even pop in and see us at 2 Mar-



the time.

Meantime the Club's thanks go to everyone who supports our various concerts and to the Session and Congregational Board for their continuing support.

John McLean
President

The Unseen World

There is a world not seen with the eye
But as real as the world of which we know
Where spiritual forces are all at work
And where Satan wanders to and fro.

Our fight is not against flesh and blood
But against the powers of darkness unseen
The devil prowls like a roaring lion
To undermine and confound the redeemed.

The armour of God is for our protection,
With God on our side we cannot fail
As all of his fiery darts are deflected
With the shield of faith Satan cannot prevail.

When we look to the Lord, the mighty Victor,
Satan's defeat is plain to see,
The Destroyer destroyed and stripped of his power
With the death of God's Son at Calvary.

By Megan Carter

Christian Aid



Christian Aid week started very wet and windy but as the week progressed the weather settled down and we were able to get round our areas while it was dry although very cold.

We had a good response to can collectors this year with half a dozen new recruits. The Co-op, who supports us every year, allowed collectors inside the store but unfortunately Asda did not respond to our request to collect in-store which was a shame as we did very well there last year.



With the dreadful news of two earthquakes in Nepal, the need to raise more money is greater than ever. The Right Reverend Albert Bogle has urged people to give generously. Mr Bogle, minister of St Andrew's Parish Church, Bo'ness, made his appeal after a second massive earthquake wrecked havoc in Nepal.



Aid workers were already dealing with the after-math of the first earthquake which killed thousands of Nepali people and tourists and virtually brought the landlocked Asian country and its fragile economy to its knees. Then a second major earthquake struck the east of the country.

Christian Aid partners and other agencies were still working to get relief through to some of the nearly three million displaced people when the second earthquake struck. Nick Guttman of Christian

and faults to fill them with His Spirit and transform them into workers for God. Today, Jesus works with us, despite our frailty and stubbornness. He patiently draws alongside us to change our attitudes and behaviour so that we show God's love wherever we are.

Jesus came to build His church: a community of believers who would work and serve together to change society for good. So let's be aware of the Holy Spirit's direction and be encouraged that we are all partners together.

Help to carry one another's burdens, and in this way you will obey the law of Christ. (Galatians 6:2)



When Children and RE mix...

When children meet the Bible, the result can be unpredictable. As in these answers to a school chaplain's efforts to teach RE....

The main purpose of the prophets was to set up the lights for when Jesus came on the stage.

The Kingdom of God is no ordinary place like the bathroom at home.

Jesus said: If you want to divorce your wife leave a note for her on the table.

Jesus healed a man with a weathered hand.

Some of the seed from the sower was carried off by Satan.

The last verses of Mark's gospel were written later by a unanimous person.

Jesus first proclaimed the gospel to the Jews: He told them to make love to each other.

An altar is a stall for candles.

An example of Holy Orders are the Ten Commandments.

An epistle is the wife of an apostle.

Lester Amann considers why Jesus chose the disciples

All Together

Why, do you think, did Jesus choose 12 men to be His disciples? What was the point, as Jesus was a miracle worker and a very eloquent speaker. He could walk on water; change water into wine; multiply food for thousands of people; heal the sick and forecast future events. So why did Jesus choose some fishermen, a tax collector and a few lesser known guys to be with Him everywhere?



Doesn't it appear odd that Jesus wanted disciples who, as time passed, were slow to learn; argumentative; frightened; amazed and puzzled? Right from the start of His ministry Jesus must have known He was bringing together a motley group of characters who would not understand Him; doubt Him; and let Him down. Surely, Jesus would have been better off going it alone without having the hassle and frustration!



Well, what is amazing, is that Jesus decided to limit Himself. He wanted the fellowship of close friends to share their good and bad times. He wanted to be involved with them no matter what happened. He enjoyed meal-times, discussions and, no doubt, a joke or two! Jesus came from Heaven to show that in God's Kingdom there is togetherness.

This world can get messy, troubled and nasty, and it is into this cauldron that Jesus came to be involved with its problems. He wanted to share His mission of love and compassion, participating with others, to change places of darkness into God's healing light.

He chose ordinary people, with their weaknesses, anxieties, hang-ups

Aid had just arrived in the country to monitor initial relief efforts. "Everyone stood up and then everything began moving. Outside the ground looked like it was rippling" he said. "We didn't know where to go and stayed under some corrugated iron".

The conditions in Nepal were already shocking: More than 130,000 homes destroyed, people sleeping outdoors due to aftershocks and lack of access to food, water and shelter. Since the earthquake, Christian Aid has reached over 32,000 individuals with safe drinking water, food packets, hygiene kits and temporary shelters.



The race is now on to get relief through to the worst hit areas in the east of Nepal and to those affected by the devastation as well as continuing the work already started in Kathmandu and surrounding areas. Thank you for your support this Christian Aid week.

Grace McGhee

Don't interrupt!



Sir Winston Churchill rehearsed his speeches at every opportunity. A true story about him relates how one morning, when Sir Winston was in his tub, his valet heard his voice above the splashing. Opening the door, he asked; "Were you speaking to me, sir?"

"Not at all," Churchill replied, annoyed at the interruption. "I was addressing the House of Commons."

New Members

St Machan's Parish Church, Larkhall were delighted to welcome five new communicants to the church family on Easter Sunday.

Reverend Alastair McKillop explained that in his twenty years of ministry this was the first time he had witnessed so many folks join at the same time.

All new members had participated in an Alpha course led by the minister.

One of the group expressed that part of the reason for joining was the warmth of the welcome within the church and the friendliness of God's people.

Below is a photograph of our new members.

Left to right, Graeme McDonald, Alastair Gilroy, Paula Smith, Pat Nelson and Graham Preston.

More Alpha courses will follow.



In one church, the pastor, apparently fed up with all the excuses given over the years as to why people don't go to church, included

"Ten reasons why I never wash" in the Sunday bulletin:

1. I was forced to as a child.
2. People who wash are hypocrites — they think they are cleaner than everybody else.
3. There are so many different kinds of soap, I can't decide which one is best.
4. I used to wash, but I got bored and stopped.
5. I wash only on special occasions, like Christmas and Easter
6. None of my friends wash.
7. I'll start washing when I get older and dirtier.
8. I can't spare the time.
9. The bathroom is never warm enough in winter or cool enough in summer.
10. People who make soap are only after your money.



One of golf's immortal moments came when a Scotsman demonstrated the new game to President Ulysses Grant. Carefully placing the ball on the tee, he took a mighty swing. The club hit the turf and scattered dirt all over the president's beard and surrounding vicinity, while the ball placidly waited on the tee.



Again the Scotsman swung, and again he missed. The president waited patiently through six tries and then quietly stated, "There seems to be a fair amount of exercise in the game, but I fail to see the purpose of the ball."

Stupidity

The following examples of heroic stupidity have recently come up for a special award:

When his 38-calibre revolver failed to fire at his intended victim during a hold-up in Long Beach, California, would-be robber James Elliot did something that can only inspire wonder. He peered down the barrel and tried the trigger again. This time it worked...



An American teenager was in the hospital recovering from serious head wounds received from an oncoming train. When asked how he received the injuries, the lad told police that he was simply trying to see how close he could get his head to a moving train before he was hit.



As a female shopper exited a New York convenience store, a man grabbed her purse and ran. The clerk called 911 immediately, and the woman was able to give them a detailed description of the snatcher. Within minutes, the police apprehended the snatcher. They put him in the car and drove back to the store. The thief was then taken out of the car and told to stand there for a positive ID. To which he replied, "Yes, officer, that's her. That's the lady I stole the purse from."



The Ann Arbor News crime column reported that a man walked into a Burger King in Ypsilanti, Michigan, at 5 am, flashed a gun, and demanded cash. The clerk turned him down because he said he couldn't open the cash register without a food order. When the man ordered onion rings, the clerk said they weren't available for breakfast. The man, frustrated, walked away.



Prayer Diary

- For Alastair and Lorraine's wellbeing
- Wisdom and encouragement for our church elders.
- For those members of our church family who are experiencing physical or emotional pain
- For the progressing of the vision for St Machan's
- For the large number of people facing the debilitating effects of unemployment
- For those who are in war torn countries
- For Christians throughout the world who are being victimised and persecuted for their faith
- For our governments that they may be guided by God's justice and mercy.

Wednesday Morning Prayer and Worship Services

Prayer Service 10.15 am

Worship Service 11am

Tea and fellowship after Prayer Service

Political systems

What is the difference between Capitalism and Socialism? Capitalism is the exploitation of man by man. Socialism is the exact opposite.

The Guild



Our 2014-2015 session will come to an end on 21st May when our outing will be to Dundee and Nan has booked theatre tickets for the afternoon matinee of the - 'The Mousetrap'. On the way to Dundee we will be stopping at Dobbies for their multiple piece breakfast! Then on to Dundee shopping Centre before our visit to the Theatre. Another stop for a meal before returning home. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us.



Our AGM on 17th November was well attended and Etta gave us a demonstration of how Emotional Freedom Therapy works. Fascinating to learn that a few well aimed taps on certain parts of the body along with telling yourself that you are a good person, could help allay your fears.



There were a few changes to the Committee June McKinney, Treasurer has stepped down but will continue to be a committee member. Liz Meek had taken on the role of Treasurer. Betty McLean is stepping down as a committee member after a long and dedicated period as a member and we

thank her for all her hard work, she will be missed. Anne Dewar was proposed by Phyllis and seconded by Katriona and she has agreed to come on board. The rest of the committee will remain the same.

The 2015-2016 syllabus is almost complete and we hope our members enjoy the next session as much as this past session.

Dates to note in your diary:-

'What does love mean?' A group of professionals posed this question to a group of four- to eight-year-olds. The answers they got were broader and deeper than anyone could have imagined:

Love is when you tell a guy you like his shirt, then he wears it every day.
(Noelle, age seven)

Love is like a little old woman and a little old man who are still friends even after they know each other so well.
(Tommy, age six)



During my piano recital, I was on a stage and I was scared. I looked at all the people watching me and saw my daddy waving and smiling. He was the only one doing that. I wasn't scared any more.
(Cindy, age eight)

My mummy loves me more than anybody. You don't see anyone else kissing me to sleep at night. (Clare, age six)

Love is when Mummy gives Daddy the best piece of chicken. (Elaine, age five)

Love is when Mummy sees Daddy smelly and sweaty and still says he is handsomer than Robert Redford. (Chris, age seven)



Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day. (Mary Ann, age four)

I know my older sister loves me because she gives me all her old clothes and has to go out and buy new ones. (Lauren, age four)

When you love somebody, your eyelashes go up and down and little stars come out of you.
(Karen, age seven) (What an imagination!)

You really shouldn't say 'I love you' unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget.
(Jessica, age eight)

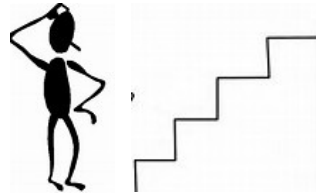


I Forget

Just a line to say I'm living,
That I'm not among the dead:
Though I'm getting more forgetful
And mixed up in the head.



I got used to my arthritis,
To my dentures I'm resigned.
I can manage my bifocals
But, God, I miss my mind!



For sometime I can't remember,
When I stand at the foot of the stairs,
If I must go up for something
Or have I just come down from there?

And before the fridge so often
My poor mind is filled with doubt;
Have I just put food away
Or have I come to take some out?



And there's times when it is dark
with my nightcap on my head
I don't know if I'm retiring
Or just getting out of bed.

So remember that I love you
And wish that you were near.
Now it's nearly mail time
So must say good-bye, dear.

Here I stand beside the mail-box
With a face so very red;
Instead of mailing you my letter
I had opened it instead



Our rededication service with communion will take place as part of the morning service on Sunday 1st November 2015 with ladies of the Guild participating in the service.

Our Soup & Crusty Bread lunch will be on Sunday 22nd November after morning service, with tea, coffee and biscuits for afters.



Tuesday 1st March 2016 - We have invited 'The Dukes of Uke' to come along this evening and it will be held in the Church. This is a ticket event and tickets are priced at £5. I will give out more details of this and other Speakers in the Summer Magazine. But please keep these dates free.



As you will see we are always busy in the Guild, never a dull moment and our membership is increasing steadily though we always hope to welcome new members. So please come along and join in our devotions and fellowship. We have

plenty of room for many more.

Kay Danks

Secretary

Noah had problems too

When Noah sailed the waters blue, he had his troubles same as you. For forty days he drove the Ark before he found a place to park.



Henry was visited by the Spirit of 1967

GENESIS YOUTH CLUB



It is hoped to re kindle Genesis Youth Club after the summer.

Enrolment night will be on Tuesday 18th August from 7.30pm. to 9pm.

Enrolment will be £5 with a £2 fee each evening thereafter.

The club will meet every 2nd and 4th Tuesday from August through until May.

All boys and girls aged between 11 and 15 are welcome to come along and enjoy the fun and fellowship.

We will start with a games night but we have many interesting topics planned, including guest speakers, visits, quiz nights etc.



We hope to organise a coffee morning early in September in order to create some initial funds to allow us to purchase equipment etc. Details to follow.



This is a further sign of God's vision to bring the youth of Larkhall in to our Church surroundings.

Any help or ideas would be most appreciated.

For more information, please contact Graham Preston, Alastair Gilroy, Holly Taylor, Jeannette McDonald, John Gilroy or our vision development worker Ann.

THE CHIEF PURPOSE OF MAN



How clever man is, he has conquered the skies,
Reached for the stars and stepped onto the moon,
But he still does not know why he is here
Or what is the purpose, or why he was born.

And did it all start with one big bang
As stars and galaxies burst into space?

Or was it the hand of a mighty Creator
Who lovingly fashioned this wondrous place?

Into this world God planted a garden
And placed man there to enjoy its delights,
But he soon disobeyed and sin entered in,
And so man was banished and thrust from God's sight.



How gracious God is, He has reached out again
To reconcile man and bring him back home,
Sin's debt has been paid by the death of His Son,
To know God as Father is why man was born.

By Megan Carter

An exasperated mother, whose son was always getting into mischief, finally asked him, "How do you expect to get into Heaven?"
The boy thought it over and said, "Well, I'll just run in and out and in and out and keep slamming the door until St. Peter says 'For Heaven's sake, Dylan, come in or stay out!'"



ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN

Our annual spring clean will take place on Monday 29th June from 7pm until 9pm.

This is our chance for an evening of fellowship while tidying up the grounds, cutting the hedges, discarding of unwanted rubbish and a general spring clean around the halls.



We will have a skip on site on Monday only.

Would any organisation wishing to discard anything, please leave it at the rear of the hall. Please also identify anything in the loft area that requires to be kept, otherwise the loft area will be cleared.



Anyone willing to come along on the night will be made most welcome.

For more information, please contact John McLean or John Gilroy.

Dial

They have Dial-a-Prayer for atheists now. You call up and it rings and rings but nobody answers.



Two blind pilots wearing dark glasses board a plane. One is using a guide dog and the other is tapping his way along the aisle with a cane. Nervous laughter spreads through the cabin, but the men enter the cockpit, the door closes and the engines start up. The passengers begin glancing nervously around, searching for some sign that this is just a little practical joke. None is forthcoming.



The plane moves faster and faster down the runway and the people sitting in the window seats realize they're headed straight for the water at the edge of the airport. As it begins to look as though the plane will plough into the water, panicked screams fill the cabin. At that moment the plane lifts smoothly into the air. The passengers relax and laugh a little sheepishly and soon all retreat into their magazines, secure in the knowledge that the plane is in good hands.



In the cockpit, one of the blind pilots turns to the other and says, 'Ya know, Bob, one of these days, they're gonna scream too late and we're all gonna die.'

From A Basket of Gems Mark Stibble, Monarch Books
Monarch Books



A teenage girl had been talking on the phone for about half an hour, and then she hung up.

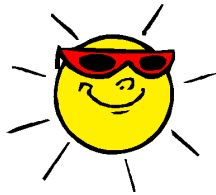
“Wow!” said her father, “That was short. You usually talk for two hours. What happened?”

“Wrong number,” replied the girl.

From A Bucket of Surprises J. John & Mark Stibble, Monarch Books

Fabric Convenor's Report

Hello everyone, I trust that you are all now ready for summer and enjoying some better weather.



This is now the time to be getting on with repairs and the fabric committee have been organising some essential repairs.

Up at the Manse, we have all but completed our repair programme for the year although we still have some decoration work to complete.

Following all previous repair work at 2 Marshall street, We have now upgraded the security system which has been out of use for a number of years, and so the cottage is now secure.

And so to the church.

I hope you have all managed to have a look at our new notice boards and I'm sure you will agree that they fairly brighten up our notices.

We still have one new notice board to replace and this should be completed shortly. We intend to use this to highlight all activities throughout the week.

We will be fitting non slip hazard tape to the edges of the stairs to the external steps when the weather allows. This will assist the partially sighted.



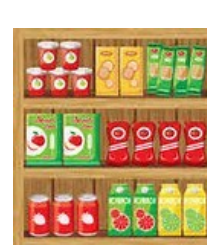
The new projector screen has now been fitted in the main hall and by the time you read this, we should have a video link from the Sanctuary to both screens in the large and small halls. This has also allowed us to record the service which you can view via the website.

New black-out window roller blinds have now been fitted in the main hall which will help allow the organisations to show films etc. during the day.

Cottage to provide them with fares to get home.

The trend continues that parents use what money they have to feed their children and are still having to choose between paying rent, utility bills and eating.

The genuine concern for those in need in our community is reflected by the overwhelming donations received. A huge thank you must go to our local community which has been very generous in its support for the foodbank. Both food and monetary donations have come from individuals, churches, schools and local businesses. The foodbank could not operate without the dedication of the volunteers who willingly give their time, staffing the foodbank, Tuesday mornings 11.00am / 1.00pm and Friday 11.00am / 2.00pm. The volunteers continue to do a sterling job.



As I have said before it is not just a case of welcoming clients when they come through the door assuring them that they are there to help. It is the weighing in and weighing out of food. Date marking and getting food on shelves and this makes it a bit easier to fill the requests from the clients. These tasks are just the tip of the iceberg they do carryout a myriad of tasks too many to list.

We wish everyone a warm happy summer.

Huge thanks goes to a gentleman who arrived at the foodbank just before Easter and handed in two boxes of Easter Eggs for the 'Bairns'. God bless him and all of our donators.

If you have any enquiries about the Foodbank Kay Danks continues to be St Machan's representative on the Steering Group.

Kay Danks

CLYDE, AVON & NETHAN FOODBANK

Foodbank Statistics

Up to 31.03.2015



632 Adults and 422 Children = 434 vouchers = 1054 people were supplied with food, which most of you have so graciously contributed, since opening. We continue to be overwhelmed by the magnificent donations of food and money, without which we could not operate.

We, the volunteers are experiencing more clients in the foodbank with no means of money to get them to Larkhall. These clients walk from Stonehouse or Netherburn. This situation arises from the sanctions that are imposed on them. i.e. not attending meetings or being 5 minutes late for a meeting and a growing number because they have filled in online applications wrongly and they have to wait before they can apply again. The main crisis continues to be Benefit delay and low income. There has been a rise of 38% in users of foodbanks despite there being an economic recovery over the past year.



We did have two clients who walked from Kirkmuirhill only to discover that there is no Social Work Department in Larkhall. On these occasions the Steering Group can supply and issue emergency vouchers. Because there is no Social Work Department in Larkhall, Money Matters, Child & Family Unit, Social Works from Hamilton if they are alerted by telephone and local ministers have been seeing these people and issuing vouchers. Team leaders and volunteers were giving bus fares out of their own pockets but we now have means in the

The fire exit doors in the hall and kitchen have been repaired as well as the front Church doors and the chair storage cupboard in the hall.



The Church gutters have also been cleaned.

Several other repairs have been carried out around the buildings and a full range of brushes, buckets and shovels etc. have been purchased which are located in the hall cupboard.



The main ongoing repair in the Church is still the roof.

As you no doubt have heard, we have been allocated a grant from local company Viridor Credits which will help cover the roof, as well as the upgrading of the heating system and redecoration of the Sanctuary.

All major repairs have now been accepted by the general trustees and the decoration of the Sanctuary has now been approved by CARTA.

Hamilton Presbytery have approved the roof repairs which should almost be completed by the time the magazine has been issued.

Hopefully again, by the time you read this, the remainder of the work should have been approved by Hamilton Presbytery and we can push on with this over the summer months.

We will keep everyone updated on the progress.

Due to ongoing problems with the roof windows in the main hall, we are currently investigating how we can solve the problem of continual drips and we hope to have some proposals shortly.

Our spring clean this year will be on the last Monday in June from 7pm until 9pm. There is a separate intimation on this elsewhere in the Magazine.



Please remember, if you notice anything around the Church which

needs attention, please contact one of the fabric committee.

Due to the high level of recent repairs, our fabric fund is running low and approaching a dangerous level. As we still have a number of repairs to carry out before the winter comes around, can I ask you to keep dropping a wee white fabric envelope in to the plate as this helps to maintain our fabric fund balance.



My thanks again to all who have assisted over the last few months

John Gilroy Tel: 886935

The following poem is interesting as it not only gives the names of the books of the *Old Testament* in their order, but the theme of each book. If you will memorize this poem, you will have at your command information that will be of value to you all your life.

In **GENESIS** the world was made by God's creative hand
In **EXODUS** the Hebrews marched to gain the Promised Land
LEVITICUS contains the Law, holy, just, and good
NUMBERS records the tribes enrolled, all sons of Abraham's blood

Moses, in **DEUTERONOMY**, records God's mighty deeds



Brave **JOSHUA** into Canaan's land the host of Israel leads

In **JUDGES** their rebellion oft provoked the Lord to smite
But **RUTH** records the faith of one well pleasing in His sight

In **FIRST** and **SECOND SAMUEL** of Jesse's son we read

Ten tribes in **FIRST** and **SECOND KINGS** revolted from his seed



The **FIRST** and **SECOND CHRONICLES** see Judah captive made

But **EZRA** leads a remnant back by princely Cyrus' aid

The city walls of Zion, **NEHEMIAH** built again
While **ESTHER** saved her people from the plots of wicked men



In **JOB** we read how faith will live beneath Affliction's rod

And David's **PSALMS** are precious to every child of God
The **PROVERBS** like a goodly string of precious pearls appear

ECCLESIASTES teaches us how vain are all things here
The mystic **SONG OF SOLOMON** exalt sweet Sharon's rose

While Christ the Savior and the King the rapt **ISAIAH** shows
The warning of **JEREMIAH** apostate Israel scorns

His plaintive **LAMENTATIONS** their awful downfall mourns
EZEKIEL tells in wondrous words of dazzling

mysteries
While kings and empires yet to come, **DANIEL** in vision sees



Of judgment and of mercy **HOSEA** loves to tell
JOEL describes the blessed days when God with men shall dwell

Among Tekoa's herdsmen **AMOS** received his call
While **OBADIAH** prophesied of Edoms final fall

JONAH enshrined a wondrous type of Christ our risen Lord
MICAH pronounces Judah lost--but again restored

NAHUM declares on Nineveh just judgment shall be poured
A view of Chaldea's coming doom **HABAKKUK**'s vision gives

And **ZEPHANIAH** warns the Jews to turn, repent and live
HAGGAI wrote to those who saw the temple built again

And **ZECHARIAH** prophesied of Christ's triumphant reign

MALACHI was the last to touch the high prophetic chord

Its final notes sublimely show the coming of the Lord

