

Minister's Letter

Dear Friends

If you like to keep up to date with things in the Church of Scotland and in Great Britain you will know that each denomination and most congregations are going through one of the most difficult times in our history. That is to be expected. Matthew wrote in his gospel that Jesus told us `...because lawlessness will increase, the love of many will grow cold.' So that is no surprise. Are you not so grieved to see so many members of the Church of Jesus Christ, those who are truly born again of the Holy Spirit, who do not attend or do so irregularly for no apparently good reason?

What is surprising is that those whose love has not grown cold are so unresponsive and apparently so unconcerned. Has this tragedy prompted any more to cry out to God in concerted prayer as the great need of the hour? In all the busyness of our lives are we not going to spare time to plead with God for our nation, our friends and family who do not know God?

I am sure you would do that in the quietness of your own home. However, when the Church is in full vitality of its life its members devote themselves to `...the apostle's teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of

the bread and the prayers.' This was done as a fellowship and in order to strengthen the church family which in many ways is your new, real, and eternal family.

As God has given us time and grace, let us heed the warning of Hebrews not to neglect meeting together and grow up in our most holy faith together. The Lord asks of us one day of rest and a morning and evening service of praise and scripture reading, and we have arranged one evening of Bible Study per week so that we can learn about what it is to be a Christian.

Do not be discouraged, and never give up.

Yours sincerely

Richard G. Buckley

Bible Reading Notes – Our Daily Bread



Any member of the congregation who would like to have the Bible notes 'Daily Bread' delivered directly to their home address should contact Isabel Whyte as this can be easily arranged.



"I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the congregation for the kindness and support shown to me during my recent stay in hospital. It was such a comfort knowing that so many people were remembering me, with prayers and beautiful cards and get well wishes.

I am on the road to recovery and hope to back with you in the near future."

Norma McKenzie

"I would like to thank everyone for their cards, flowers, and especially their prayers when I was in hospital having my hip operation – they were very much appreciated.

Thanks again!"

May Black

"We would like to thank the congregation and friends for their cards, prayers and get-well wishes. We are feeling better and are hoping to be amongst us again soon."

Derek and Linda Christie

Willie Young writes: "It is with considerable appreciation I write to convey my earnest heartfelt gratitude to everyone in the congregation for the warm blessings that you have shown to me since I joined some three years ago. You all have accepted me into your fellowship and I have been greatly blessed indeed by your care and love. I can now count many of you as dear friends and I have, as an Elder, been given a district of warm-hearted people – a task which has filled my heart with joy!

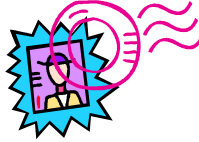
I would also pay a warm tribute to our Minister, Rev Richard Buckley, and his excellent ministry. There is a (true!) saying that behind a good man there is a very good woman – that's certainly true of Mrs Buckley and their excellent family. May our good Lord continue to bless them in the work He has called them to.

I feel I must also express my gratitude to my very good friends Peter Kay, Robert Wilson and John Broadfoot. They have been great encouragers to me. Last year I was inflicted with an eye problem which meant I had to sell my car. Peter was a real friend and he ran me to and from my house to church, as did Bob and the Minister. How glad I am of these men, and of John who has been a great encouragement.

Despite these problems I was enabled to continue and I give warm thanks to them and all the congregation for their love, interest and practical help in a difficult situation.

May our good Lord bless you all for your generosity of heart to me as I came among you"

Used Postage Stamps

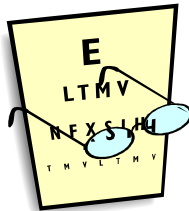


Please remember to save your stamps for the New Marie Curie Centre at Huntershill.

Stefan is doing a great job in collating and sorting the stamps and then delivering them to the centre and without your help this would not be possible.

Many Thanks!

Old Glasses



Please remember when you renew your glasses that your old ones can be used by and distributed to developing countries. These are of vital importance and can make a real difference to the lives of people with sight impairments, who otherwise would not have access to eye care. Please place your old spectacles in the box in the vestibule.

Women's Hour

Another successful session has just finished and the ladies who meet on Tuesday afternoons have enjoyed fellowship and friendship. They have enjoyed many excellent speakers over the winter both from within our own congregation and from outwith.

The end of session was topped off by a great trip to Helensburgh where the ladies visited the 'The Hill House' and a very enjoyable tea at 'The Commodore'. The sun shone and it was a lovely day and all 30 ladies had a great time!



Some of the ladies enjoying a cuppa and the sunshine on the promenade in Helensburgh.

Special Collection – February 2010

The special collect at the February Communion was given to St Andrews Clinics for Children. This is a charity which supports primary health care for children and mothers in sub-Saharan Africa where the stark facts are that the probability of a child aged less than five years old will die is approximately 250 per 1,000 – in the UK this is 6 per 1,000!

As a congregation we were able to donate £200.00 to this charity – a sum of 50 pence can de-worm a child and give hope for the future David Crompton one of the Directors STACC writes:

Dear Ms Whyte

I have just received, through Gillian Robinson, cheques from your Church to the value of £200.00 in support of the work of St Andrew's Clinics for Children.

Please give our sincerest thanks to the congregation. Their generosity will help many children feel quite a lot better and relieve family anxiety; we all worry when our children are ill.

Please accept this letter as a receipt.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

David Crompton

New Baby Celebrations 2010...

Two Church babies made their appearance recently -
Rebekah Hope Laing - Andy and Esther's daughter was
born on 19th April 2010!



Rebekah Hope Laing - and grandfather!

Following close behind, Joshua Richard Buckley was
born on 8th June 2010 - a wee brother for Samuel!



Grandfather and Joshua Richard Buckley

...and Old Baby Celebrations 2010!



Mark Girvan - eldest son of Morag Anne and Stuart Girvan - celebrated his 21st Birthday with a party in the National Piping Centre in McPhater Street (the old Cowcaddens Church of Scotland)

A great night was had by all.



The Girvan Family at the party!

L to R: Stuart, Jonathan, Joshua, Mark and Morag Anne

The Reformation – 450 Years On

It is now 450 years since the Reformation and the Church of Scotland officially began. For the past two years we have organised church history trips. Two years ago we looked at the Covenanters in Ayrshire and Lanarkshire. Last year we went to St Andrews and remembered the sacrifice of Patrick Hamilton and George Wishart.

This year the bus trip will, for obvious reasons, focus on Haddington, the birthplace of John Knox and a place steeped in church history. George Wishart preached there and so did John Wesley. John Brown of Haddington became famous for his translation of the Bible (*Brown's Bible*) and his Bible dictionary.

The trip will be sometime in August.

We would like to commemorate the Reformation in October over a weekend with a lecture on the Friday evening, a dinner with guest speakers on the Saturday, and a service to commemorate the Reformation on the Sunday morning. Planning is still embryonic but the event will take place in October.

This is not something you would want to miss!

And in Germany...*Reformation Day is a public holiday in five states in Germany on October 31 each year to remember the religious Reformation in Europe. It commemorates Dr. Martin Luther's posting of his Ninety-five Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany on October 31, 1517.*



While it had profound and lasting impacts on the political, economic, social, literary, and artistic aspects of modern society, the Reformation was at its heart a religious movement - the great rediscovery of the doctrine of justification, that is, the good news of salvation by grace through faith for Christ's sake:

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no-one can boast”
Ephesians 2:8

Friendship Club

Rita Archibald says, “In May the members of the Friendship Club had our annual bus run. The trip

included a visit to Callander, a sail on Loch katrine, and a meal at Aberfoyle. Everyone had a great time and were blessed with fine weather! "

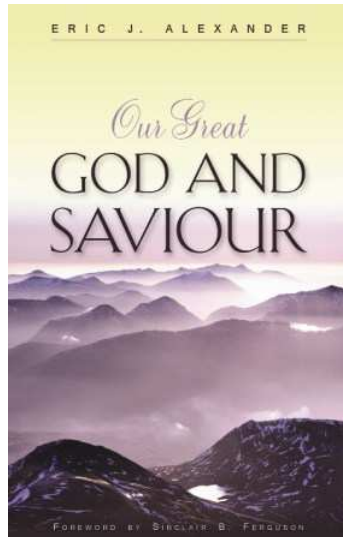
Coming Soon!

Our Great God and Saviour

by **Eric J. Alexander**

with Foreword by

Sinclair B. Ferguson



Eric Alexander's great concern in this series of studies is that the people of God should know how rich they are in their gracious God and Saviour, and in his perfect work of salvation. Each study brings out a fresh aspect of this theme, as we contemplate in turn the character of God, the salvation of God, and the church of God. In words which the author quotes from the works of the Puritan Stephen Charnock: 'If rich men delight to sum up their vast revenues, to read over their rentals, to look upon their hoards, how much more should the people of God please themselves in seeing how rich they are in having an immensely full and all-sufficient God as their inheritance.' These warm and pastorally-directed studies will provide satisfying food for the hearts and minds of Christian readers everywhere.

ERIC ALEXANDER has been a minister of the Church of Scotland for over fifty years and has served churches in Glasgow, the city of his birth, and in Newmilns, Ayrshire. Although retired from parish ministry, he continues to preach at conferences in the United Kingdom and overseas.