

OUTREACH

St. James the Less Scottish Episcopal Church, Penicuik



The happy couple leave the church!

Issue No 150 Lent/Easter 2009

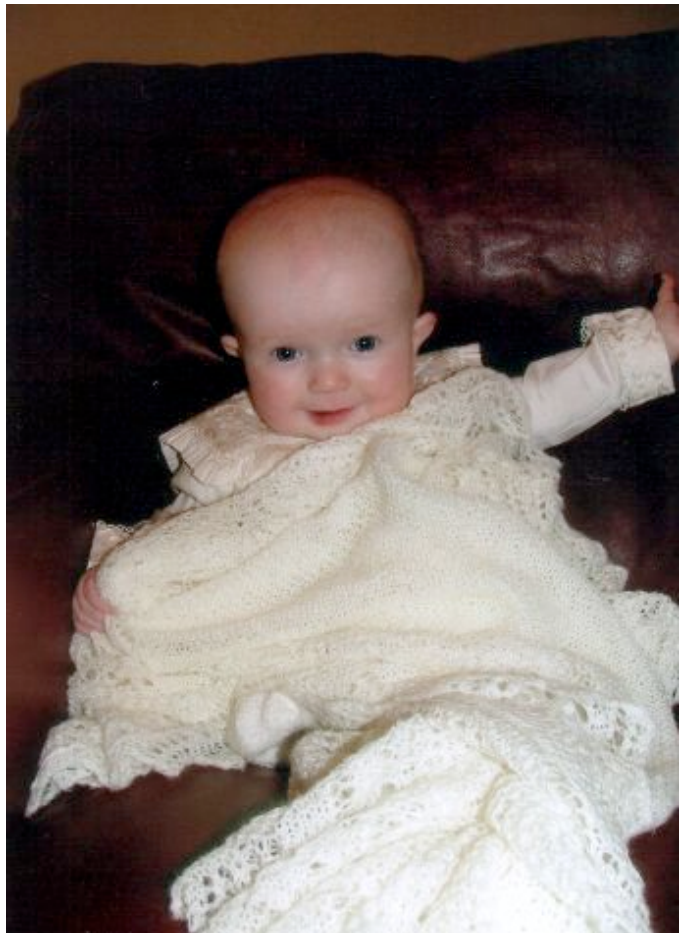


Kenny and Gill tying the knot!

**James David Marwick born
13.6.08**

**A third son for Theresa and
David, and a brother for Peter
and Robert.**

**Baptised at St Devenick's
Church by Neville on 22.02.09.
A fifth grandchild for Tilly and
Neville**



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Service Times

Sundays: 11.00 am Choral Communion
Evensong as announced
Wednesdays: 12.15pm Midweek Eucharist

On the first Sunday of the month the 11.00am Sunday Service is a Family Communion; on the other Sundays the young people go out to Young Church during the first hymn and return in time for Communion.

Holy Week and Easter Services 2009

Palm Sunday 11:00 am Procession and Holy Communion at St James
7:30 pm Service at St Mungo's Penicuik
Mon 6 Apr 7:30 pm Service at Penicuik South Kirk
Tue 7 Apr 7:30 pm Service at Penicuik North Kirk
Wed 8 Apr 12:15 pm Holy Communion at Saint James
7:30 pm Service at the Sacred Heart
Maundy Thursday 8:00 pm Holy Communion at St James
Good Friday 10:30 am Stations of the Cross at St James
2:00 pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion at St James
Holy Saturday 8:30 pm Ecumenical Vigil Service at St Mungo's
Penicuik
Easter Sunday 5:30 am Sunrise service beginning in the Churchyard of
St Mungo's Penicuik and ending at the top of the hill
behind St James' Church
11:00 am - Holy Communion at St James

Groups and Activities

(please contact the appropriate person listed inside the back cover)

Sundays: 7.30pm Youth Group for 10-16s
Tuesdays: 9.30am "J-Tots" Playgroup
10.00am Bible Study at 24 Mauricewood Park
7.30pm Mauricewood Housegroup at 6 Arras Grove
Wednesdays: 7.00am "Earlybirds" Prayergroup
Thursdays : 7.00pm Choir Practice

Editorial or Confessions of a two-time editor

Like a number of retired people I know, I am heard to complain from time to time that I am so busy and wonder how I ever found time to go to work. Well of course it's being busy (for the most part) doing the things you are happy doing. Still there comes a time when you realise that you are over committed and/or want to head off in a different direction. Well that's where I find myself at the moment. As Pat is now also retired, we want to see a bit more of the world before the financial

crisis totally erodes our savings. So I have, albeit reluctantly, decided to resign from the post of Outreach Editor, although I still intend to contribute from time to time. The decision has been made easier by the willingness of Georgina to take over.

I have greatly enjoyed my second session in the hot seat – the first was in the pre-Hindlean era, before the great computer revolution when Charlotte Kemp typed out the manuscript which was then taken to the YMCA for final typing and duplication in black and white with few if any photographs. My memory was that it was much harder then to persuade people to contribute – we sometimes had to resort to reprinting articles from former issues. Some things, however, do not change and Outreach was, and still is a team effort. So I say a big thank you to all who have contributed articles, poems or photographs, to Angela who despite being bereft of Excel, still manages to dream up new rotas and to Diane for production and (along with Jean) distribution, but most importantly to Mike whose technical wizardry has totally revolutionised the appearance and who does far more work than any of us to ensure that we have one of the, if not the, best magazines in the diocese. Long may it continue!! Please continue to support the Outreach team.*[..and many thanks from all of us to Graham for all his work - sub-Ed!]*

Rector's Letter

I remember my first trip to New York City. You see the top and bottom of the social ladder in a single glance. In Manhattan, you can look out the window of one of the better restaurants in town and see a man sleeping in a cardboard box.

The word “homeless” ceases to be an adjective in the United States. Where we’d be inclined to say “I saw a homeless man sleeping in a cardboard box” one tends to hear in New York (and possibly elsewhere in the U.S.), “I saw a homeless sleeping in a box outside our restaurant” or “buncha homeless lit a fire in a trashcan down the street”.

My father would occasionally lapse into this sort of language when he referred to patients and where “the part” became the term used for “the whole”.

“Joan, I’ve got a hip in the morning and two knees in the afternoon. I’ll be home after that.”

We slip into this sort of language. It doesn’t stem from any active hatred on our part of classes and types of people. It’s a circumlocution really – a way of getting around things.

I can remember winter days at the Old Brewery Mission when the place was just packed with people. Clattering dishes and arguments between disturbed men in the dining hall. It was a tough time of year for employees as well and there would be a number of complaints and grievances in the in-box. The snowplough would have buried my car during the night. I’d have dug it out of the snow bank on a dark morning and come in to work to spend a day navigating “clients” and “employees”. Waiting to see me would be two grievances, a psychosis and a ‘hard to house’. John at the front desk will deal with a couple of “infested” before they’d be allowed upstairs.

We’re none of us immune to taking this sort of shortcut.

Jesus tells a story about the “returning Son of man” judging the nations on the basis of their treatment of those who were “easily forgotten”.

“I was naked.....I was in prison.....I was thirsty”.
“Lord.....when were you any of these?”

You remember the rest. The King was there in “...the least of these”.

Jesus, the King, disguised as one of the least of these.

It is no test – no trick or prank that Jesus identifies himself with people who we would class under broad definitions because we’ve no time or inclination to learn their names or look into their eyes. He is, **in fact**, found in the midst of small things which we neglect or painful realities we avoid.

Just prior to Advent this year we endured readings about “outer darkness” and “gnashing of teeth” for three weeks running in our Sunday lectionary.

It was beginning to look like a pattern of unrelenting threat.

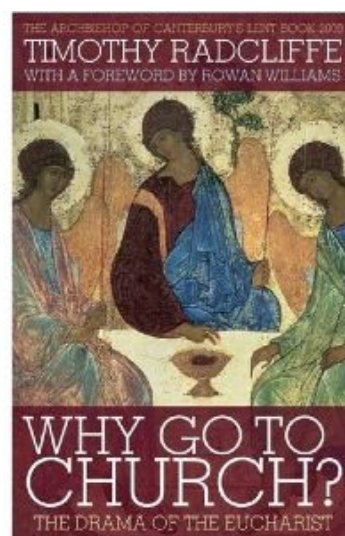
A walk on the Penicuik Estate with an expert will reveal to you the names of all these trees we'd simply classed as 'hardwoods' or 'conifers'. An examination under a rotted log will reveal to you the various hierarchies of bugs and worms which generate life and health for all the other plants and animals. The same thing goes for the river bed and the same again for the tree tops.

For those inclined to stop and listen - to enquire - or to poke and prod about for an answer, the world and all its people present a limitless opportunity and Jesus is more readily found there than in some insulated and protected pocket of "self".

Father Rob Warren

Lenten Course

This is taking place at St James on Wednesday evenings 11,18 and 25 March. The "set book" is The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book for 2009 - available at Cornerstone Bookshop underneath St John's Church in Princes Street. Telephone number of the bookshop is 0131 229 3776 and the website for ordering the book online is <http://www.cornerstonebooks.org.uk/catalogue/index.php>



Penicuik for Africa (PfA)

Penicuik for Africa Rides Again!

Readers may have got the impression from the last 'Outreach' that PfA was about to expire: well it won't if I have my way and your MSP is partly to blame!

Holyrood MSP's are allowed to host occasional evenings for their constituents in Holyrood on themes of their choice and it came to pass that Jeremy Purves invited about 100 people to a 'PfA evening' to

celebrate two achievements, Penicuik High School's (PHS) growing partnership with Thyolo Secondary School in Malawi and PfA's delivery of the Chitambo Ambulance. With the PHS band 'Burnt Out Records' playing their unique (Afro-Alba?) blend of music, performances by a school dance troupe and a fine presentation by a senior pupil, Michael, about Thyolo, PHS stole the show. As Jack McConnell said in his closing speech 'these occasions are usually as dull as ditchwater, but this one certainly wasn't!'. PfA was not forgotten: Jo Vallis gave a brief powerpoint presentation about Chitambo and its ambulance and Jack was effusive in his praise for PfA. In the audience was Kim Farmer and her two boys from Zambia, who had represented us at the handover ceremony in Chitambo a few months ago. She had passed the ambulance, in action, on her way to Lusaka airport and said 'it will undoubtedly be saving many lives'. How could we wind down after that?!

Africa Fair We are going to stage another Fair in the Town Hall on Saturday, September 25th and our youth group, under Ruth's guidance, have offered to help with its organisation. PHS will be able to showcase their fine project and no doubt Sarah Topham will be there because she is due to visit Malawi in October in the first 'pupil exchange'. Invitations will go out to all the organisations doing things for Africa in Penicuik and Edinburgh- watch this space **and help to fill it!**



Chitambo Midwifery School Our fellowship lunch on Sunday March 15th may well be in progress by the time you read this and at it we will present the case for our next project. It seems sensible to build upon the many friends and contacts we have made in Chitambo through the 'Ambulance Project' rather than starting from scratch elsewhere. Chitambo Hospital once ran a midwifery school with hostel accommodation for students. Following the Western trend, midwifery was accorded low national priority and the school was closed some

years ago. With maternal deaths in childbirth and infant mortality unacceptably high in Zambia, as in other parts of Africa, the government is now seeking to reverse the trend and re-open Midwifery Schools. A Nursing Council has assessed Chitambo but the now neglected state of classroom and hostel facilities has put a brake on the re-opening. PfA therefore propose to launch an appeal to upgrade the school facilities. Estimates of costs are being obtained but should not be beyond our reach, given the success of the Ambulance Appeal. Once more we should be able to get photographic evidence of need and proof of progress towards our objective. As well as meeting the national need for more midwifery skills, the expansion of a school in Chitambo for a throughput of 30 students every two years would be a boost to the local economy and eventually save more lives.

Jockey appeal If we are to successfully ride again, we need more people to 'saddle up'! Our former secretary Jo Vallis ran herself into the ground for PfA and we desperately need more volunteers to share the workload. You will not be over-burdened with committee meetings- a year can pass without one! An easy beginning is to help on the stall on Sunday mornings. Please help us if you possibly can by word of mouth, phone/fax (673819) or email.

Neville

Lorna Alexandra Colman 21.8.1911– 26.1.2009

Georgina and Richard Phillips and family would like to thank everyone who helped make Lorna's funeral such an uplifting and affirmative occasion. Rob spoke effectively, and the music was splendid, as always. The spring flowers looked lovely. Special thanks to Alison and Angela, (aided by Linda McDonald), for all their hard work with the refreshments. Geoff came to our rescue when the car wouldn't start! We were very touched by so many people braving the awful weather to come to support us; it meant a lot to us. Many thanks, too, for all your kind prayers, messages and cards.

Lorna Alexandra Horne was born in Wimbledon in 1911, the second youngest of 7 surviving children. The family always had dogs and there is scarcely a photo that doesn't show the current pet! Lorna also loved horses and riding; perhaps that's why her granddaughter is so horse-

mad! Lorna worked in the Civil Service until her marriage, when, in common with women of her generation, she was required to resign. In 1938 Lorna married Frank Colman, whom she had met at work. They bought a house in Surrey, where, apart from a few years in Malaya, they lived until Frank's death. She had none of the benefits of modern household appliances, so worked hard to make a family home, was a good cook, and loved her garden. Helen and Martin have fond memories of helping her pick lavender.

Reading was one of her favourite pastimes and whenever we visited a castle or stately home, Mum always knew all about the background and the people who lived there. After Frank's death in 1993, Lorna joined her family in Scotland. She made a good friend in Bea Bremner, who visited regularly and the two set the world to rights each week. Mum had eventually to enter residential care, where she was well looked after. She had her life and family framed on her bedroom wall and a view out to the green hills. Lorna was immensely proud of her grandchildren and was delighted to become a great-grandmother. Mum was a modest woman of her time who elected to be a wife, mother and homemaker; and this she did well. Lorna is at peace now. We shall miss her.

Georgina

Communication and Welcoming

Last Sunday at Family Service, I realised that there were no welcomers at the church door, so I decided to stand in and what a joy it was to say welcome and good morning to all those who arrived for the service. It was good to see the smiles on people's faces and it gave me joy too.

It reminds me of a story from our holiday last year on a caravan park in Southport. We wanted to find a church for Sunday morning service, so I went to the information board to see if any churches were advertised. There was one very welcoming poster which said clearly where and when the services were and how to get there. So we set off and as we neared the building there was a man waiting outside who welcomed us, then took us inside the building and introduced us to another couple of people, who then took us into the church itself and left us in the hands of another two people while they went to find the vicar, who came and spoke to us and who just happened to be from Edinburgh!

After the service the people in the row behind us told us not to leave until we had a chat. We were very impressed with the welcome and the love that was poured out to us and we were only holiday makers!

It made me think that if I hadn't stood at the door last Sunday and some visitors arrived, what would they have thought as they tried to find their way into our church through an empty corridor?

We may not be a holiday town but should we not have our posters and leaflets, as has been suggested, out there in the community where those who are seeking may find them and even more importantly, have a smiling face at the door to meet folks on Sunday mornings.

If you would like to be a "Welcomer" then Angela will add your name to the rota, you will enjoy it!

Val McGavin

Choir News

I've been a rather "absentee landlord" over the last few weeks, and I'm very grateful to David and Alison for "keeping the show on the road" while Ros and I fulfilled (most enjoyably) family commitments! The sequence of music for Passion Sunday evening which Alison has compiled is very beautiful and thought-provoking, and I do hope that a large number of you will come and join in that service (Sunday 29 March at 6.30pm).

On Sunday 10 May, the BBC has suggested that as part of its Mendelssohn weekend (celebrating the 200th anniversary of his birth), churches throughout the country should be encouraged to include his very well-known "O, for the wings of a dove" in their music for that day. We still have to look at the practicalities of this, but I hope that we will be able to join in this venture. The last time I did something similar was the Bach "Tocatta and Fugue in D Minor" rendition, some years ago, along with countless other organists on the same day.

We're beginning to think about "Music for a Summer Evening" (doesn't time fly!); the date for this isn't absolutely decided yet, but it looks like Saturday 6 June. Further details in due course.

A reminder, too, that we are always happy to consider suggestions of pieces to perform, or hymns to sing in the services. Just let us know your ideas! *Mike Hay*

Proof-reading is a dying art!

These are actual headlines in various newspapers across the US:

- Man Kills Self Before Shooting Wife and Daughter
 - Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Expert Says
 - Police Begin Campaign to Run Down Jaywalkers
 - Panda Mating Fails; Veterinarian Takes Over
 - Miners Refuse to Work after Death
 - Juvenile Court to Try Shooting Defendant
 - War Dims Hope for Peace
 - If Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It May Last Awhile
 - Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures
 - Enfield (London) 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 7 Foot Doctors
 - Typhoon Rips Through Cemetery; Hundreds Dead
- Contributed by Jean Hindle*

Proposed Fundraising Plans

2009

Date	Event	Venue	Leader	Other
28 March 09	Curry Evening	St James' Church hall	Ruth Green	Raffle prizes
19 April 09	Penicuik House Gardens Open	Penicuik House	Geoff/ Marion	Baking Stewards/ Helpers
14 June 09	Penicuik House Concert	Penicuik House	Kathleen	Catering
.....	SUMMER	BREAK
Sept 09	Car Treasure Hunt	Various	Adrian/Karen	Date TBC
Oct 09	Slide Show	St James' Church hall	Geoff (N Johnston)	Date TBC Wine and nibbles?
Nov 09	Silver Band Concert	St James' Church and hall	?	Refreshments Raffle

2010

Date	Event	Venue	Leader	Other
January 10	Burns Supper	St James' Church hall	Youth Group	
February 10	Shrove Tuesday Party	St James' Church hall	Kathleen/ Marion	Catering
April 10	Daffodil Tea	St Mungo's hall?	Kathleen/ Marion	Baking
May/June 10	Flower Festival	St James' Church and hall	Marion/ Floral Art Club	Sponsors Baking
.....	SUMMER	BREAK
Sept 10	Sponsored Walk	Old Railway?	?	Date TBC
Nov 10	Ceilidh	Bowling Club	Geoff/ Marion	Catering Raffle prizes

Agreed at Fundraising meeting on Thursday 9.2.09 in Church hall.

Present: Geoff, Kathleen, Karen, Marion, Ruth Green

ROTAS

March 2009

	01-Mar-2009	08-Mar-2009	15-Mar-2009	22-Mar-2009	29-Mar-2009
	Lent 1	Lent 2	Lent 3	Mothering Sunday	Passion Sunday
St James Organist	Jean	Jennifer	Mike	David	Mike
St Mungo's Organist	Mike	Jean	David	Mike	Jean
Sidesmen	Young church	Des Frantom Elizabeth Clark	Tom Moffat Margaret Coull	Nigel Johnston Andy Longmore	Isobel Stenhouse Alan Sibley
Bread and wine	Young church	Johnstons	Hindles	Sibleys	Barretts
<i>1st Reading</i>	<i>Genesis 9:8-17</i>	<i>Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16</i>	<i>Exodus 20:1-17</i>	<i>Numbers 21:4-9</i>	<i>Jeremiah 31:31-34</i>
	Young Church	Marion Mather	Andy Longmore	Alan Murray	Margaret Coull
<i>2nd Reading</i>	<i>I Peter 3:18-22</i>	<i>Romans 4:13-25</i>	<i>I Corinthians 1:18-25</i>	<i>Ephesians 2:1-10</i>	<i>Hebrews 5:5-10</i>
	Young Church	Susan Crosfield	Gillian Little	Joyce Black	Fay Clerk
<i>Gospel</i>	<i>Mark 1:9-15</i>	<i>Mark 8:31-38 or Mark 9:2-9</i>	<i>John 2:13-22</i>	<i>John 3:14-21</i>	<i>John 12:20-33</i>
Prayers	Susan Crosfield	Mike Hay	Andy Longmore	Jean Hindle	Alan Murray
Pray for	Bible Study Group	Choir	Church Women's Fellowship	Early Birds Prayer Group	Fabric Team
Server	Angela/Steven	Val/Sara	Angela/Alice	Val/Steven	Angela/Sara
Coffee	Kathleen Cox Susan Crosfield	Hays Smiths	Margaret Vesco Joyce Black	Isobel Stenhouse Jean Wright	Gillian Little Marion Mather
Flowers	Lent				
Cleaning	C & M Leavy	Mona Bennett Ruth Green	Mona Bennett Ruth Green	-----	Robert Clerk Fay Clerk
Welcomers	Elizabeth Clark	Carol Hodgkin/ Andy Longmore	Nigel Johnston/ Robert Clerk	McGarvas	Elizabeth Clark
Care Van			*		
Pentland House					*

(Where an alternative reading is given, the first reading is used unless clergy notify readers otherwise)

April 2009

	05-Apr-2009	12-Apr-2009	19-Apr-2009	26 Apr-2009
	Palm Sunday	Easter Day	Easter 2	Easter 3
St James Organist	Jean	David	Jennifer	Mike
St Mungo's Organist	David	Jean	Mike	David
Sidesmen	Young Church	McGarvas	Des Frantom Elizabeth Clark	Tom Moffat Margaret Coull
Bread and wine	Young Church	Dicksons	Clerks	Leavys
1 st Reading	<i>Isaiah 50:4-9a</i>	<i>Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 25:6-9</i>	<i>Acts 4:32-35</i>	<i>Acts 3:12-19</i>
	Young Church	Robert Clerk	Jo Bullough	Georgina Phillips
2 nd Reading	<i>Phillipians 2:5-11</i>	<i>I Corinthians 15:1-11 or Acts 10:34-43</i>	<i>I John 1:1-2:2</i>	<i>I John 3:1-7</i>
	Young Church	Ruth Green	Joyce Black	Adrian Marchant
Gospel	<i>Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39, (40-47)</i>	<i>John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8</i>	<i>John 20:19-31</i>	<i>Luke 24:36b-48</i>
Prayers	Georgina Phillips	Elizabeth Clark	Ruth Green	Valerie McGavin
Pray for	Clergy Team	Vestry	Mothers' Union	Young Church Leaders
Server	Angela/Sara	Val/Alice	Angela/Steven	Val/Sara
Coffee	Elizabeth Clark Robert Clerk	Mona Bennett Margaret MacLennan	Mrs Neish & Family	Kathleen Cox Susan Crosfield
Flowers	Lent	Easter		
Cleaning	Gill Amos Isobel Stenhouse	Gill Amos Isobel Stenhouse	Ros Hay Susan Crosfield	Ros Hay Susan Crosfield
Welcomers	Carol Hodgkin/ Andy Longmore	Nigel Johnston/ Robert Clerk	McGarvas	Elizabeth Clark
Care Van			*	
Pentland House				

May 2009

	03 May 2009	10-May-2009	17-May-2009	24 May-2009	31 May 2009
	Easter 4	Easter 5	Easter 6	Easter 7	Pentecost
11.00 am organist	Jean	Jennifer	David	Mike	David
St Mungo's Organists	Mike	Jean	Mike	David	Jean
Sidesmen	Young Church	MacLennans	Nigel Johnston Andy Longmore	Isobelle Stenhouse Alan Sibley	McGarvas
Bread and wine	Young Church	Barretts	Sibleys	Johnstons	Dicksons
1 st Reading	<i>Acts 4:5-12</i>	<i>Acts 8:26-40</i>	<i>Acts 10:44-48</i>	<i>Acts 1:15-17, 21-26</i>	<i>Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14</i>
	Young Church	Georgina Phillips	Ruth Green	Jo Bullough	Elizabeth Clark
2 nd Reading	<i>I John 3:16-24</i>	<i>I John 4:7-21</i>	<i>I John 5:1-6</i>	<i>I John 5:9-13</i>	<i>Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21</i>
	Young Church	Bridget Fuge	Ian Fuge	Mike Hay	Adrian Marchant
Gospel	<i>John 10:11-18</i>	<i>John 15:1-8</i>	<i>John 15:9-17</i>	<i>John 17:6-19</i>	<i>John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15</i>
Prayers	Geoff Mather	Jean Hindle	Angela Sibley	Sue Crosfield	Mike Hay
Pray for	Pastoral Care Group	Vestry	Young Church	Youth Group	Bible Study Group
Server	Angela	Valerie/Steven	Angela/Sara	Valerie/Alice	Angela/Alice
Coffee	McGarvas	Hays Smiths	Joyce Black ?	Isobelle Stenhouse Jean Wright	Gillian Little Marion Mather
Flowers	<<<<<<<<<	<<<<<<	Marian Hunter	>>>>>>>	>>>>>>>>
Cleaning	Marion Hunter Ruth Frantom	Marion Hunter Ruth Frantom	Chris and Margaret Leavy	Chris and Margaret Leavy	Jennifer Edge Moira Rendall
Welcomers	Carol Hodgkin/ Andy Longmore	Nigel Johnston/ Robert Clerk	McGarvas	Elizabeth Clark	Carol Hodgkin/ Andy Longmore
Care Van			*		
Pentland House		*			

Congratulations

to Alice, Sarah, Ross and Rhiannon who entered Bishop Brian's competition to design the official Christmas card for the diocese. Bishop Brian had a very difficult time deciding on a winner and was very impressed with all the entries. Alice, Sarah, Ross and Rhiannon received special diocesan badges and a letter of thanks for their super designs. The winner was four year old Charlotte from North Berwick.



To all our friends and family at St James.

We'd like to thank you for your kindness in making our wedding day on January 10th so special. We had a wonderful day and it meant a lot to us to be married in St. James. We were the fourth generation of McGavins to be married in St. James - a tradition we were proud to uphold. We'd like to thank everyone who gave their time to make the church look and sound so special and for the warm welcome for all our guests.

*With love and thanks,
Kenny and Gill McGavin*

World Vision Christmas Card

Thank you to everyone who so generously contributed to the Church Christmas Card. We have raised £172 this year and the money will go towards the work of reconciliation in Uganda which World Vision is undertaking.

Thank you again!

Ros

Prayer Group Proposal

Would anyone be interested in joining me in a Prayer Group? The idea would be mainly to pray for and support each other, pray for our families and our church and any other relevant topics.

If this is something you might like to do, please speak to me about it and time and venue can then be decided.

Valerie McGavin

Letter to the Editor!

Dear Graham,

No doubt you will be surprised at receiving this email communication after such a long period of silence! However, believe it or not, I did write some time ago (though by snail mail with photographs), but it obviously failed to arrive and I neglected to follow it up. I do hope this attempt will be successful and meet the Wednesday 18th February copy deadline for the March edition of "Outreach".

I have for many, many months been uplifted in body and spirit by my name being included in St James' magazine "Your prayers are asked for....." section and now believe it is an appropriate time to ask for my name to be withdrawn from the list as I am now feeling as well as can be considering the march of time.

I wish to thank you very much for continuing to include my name in the prayer list over such a long period of time. I especially also wish to sincerely thank all those who included me in their prayers and send all my love and appreciation.

We continue to receive "Outreach" each month and relish with interest keeping as up to date as possible with all your activities. We promote the standard and quality of "Outreach" to the editorial team of our church magazine in the hope it will result in an improvement, but to date with little effect! However, we persevere.

Eric and I send our love and best wishes to all our friends, hoping you have a successful Lent course and enjoy a happy Easter.

My sincere thanks once more for including my name in the magazine prayer list over such an extended period. We still consider ourselves so lucky to have spent many happy years worshipping together with our friends at St James.

Kind Regards

June Virtue [Great news that June's feeling better! - Ed]

Mothers' Union News

MU Scottish web address is: www.muscotland.org.uk or via St James web page link. Theme for this year is: "Time for Relationship 2008".

Retreat Tue 17 - Thu 19 March at Kinnoull Perth, to be conducted by
Bishop Bob Gillies - cost £85

25 March - ? World Day of Prayer Bible Study

28 March Lady Day in St Mary's Cathedral - B&B, Cake & Candy,
Literature, Teas

Wed 15 April 10.15 for 10.30 Diocesan Council at Christ Church
Morningside

Wed 22 April Communion + Lunch – Danish Apple cake – Karen
Topham

Wed 29 April 10am for 10.30 - Quiet Day – Rev Jennifer Edie

Wed 27 May Visit of World-wide president Rosemary Kempzell - details
later

Outing; possible visit to a Mosque - details later.

Mon 8 June Annual Meeting in Croyden - Details from Joyce Black

Wed 7 Oct 10.15 for 10.30 Diocesan Council at Christ Church
Morningside

This is the year for Triennial Elections

World Day of Prayer – Recipes from Papua New Guinea

NB 1 cup = 8 fluid ounces

Coconut Cream

To make coconut cream – (which is used in cooking in Papua New Guinea). Scrape the flesh away from the coconut shell so that it resembles desiccated coconut. For each scraped coconut add one cup of water to the mix. Squeeze the mix between your hands and strain the resulting cream into your prepared dish for later.

Alternative recipe (*for those who don't have lots of coconuts!*)

Ingredients

- 1 tablespoon cornflour
- 500 ml skim milk
- 2 teaspoons Coconut Essence

• **Method**

Mix milk and cornflour in small saucepan and simmer until thickened to creamy consistency. Allow to cool. Add coconut essence and stir – refrigerate. Use volume for volume as a replacement for coconut cream.

Baked Sweet Potato

Ingredients

- 3 cups mashed Sweet Potato or Kau Kau
- 3 Tablespoons butter
- 3 Tablespoons finely sliced onions
- 3 eggs
- ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 Tablespoon milk
- Salt and pepper to taste

Method

After mashing the cooked sweet potato, mix in the butter, onion, milk, cinnamon, salt and pepper. Separate the egg whites from the yolks and beat them separately. Fold the egg yolks into the mashed potato followed by the egg whites. Place the mixture in a greased baking dish, and brush the top with butter. Place the dish in a pan of water and bake in oven for 35-40 minutes at 160°C.

Coconut with Mixed Vegetables

Ingredients

- 6 cups of mixed vegetables (*whatever is available ie carrots, snake beans, kau kau or sweet potato, zucchini, green or red peppers, egg plant, potatoes and peas*)
- 1 crushed clove of garlic
- 2 fresh chillies, seeded and chopped
- ½ cup fresh coconut cream
- ½ cup grated coconut
- 2 tablespoons of oil

Method

Boil a cup of water in a saucepan. Boil each vegetable separately in the same water. Ensure that each vegetable is lightly cooked but still firm to bite. Use more water if it has evaporated and do not throw away the water once you have cooked the vegetables. Mix together together all the ingredients, except the vegetables, with the saved vegetable water and bring to the boil. Add all the vegetables and simmer gently for 5 minutes. Serve with plain, boiled white or brown rice.

Banana Cake

Bananas are a primary food source in PNG and can be found in many dishes

Ingredients

- ½ cup margarine or butter
- ½ cup of sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla essence
- 3 medium size bananas (mashed)
- 1 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
- 1 ½ cup of self-raising flour – or enough to give right texture, wet not runny
- 1/3 cup of milk

Method

Pre heat oven to 180°C. Beat butter, sugar and vanilla essence until creamy. Gradually beat in eggs and add mashed bananas. Mix milk and bicarbonate of soda and fold into banana mixture with flour. (note the amount of milk will vary depending on the mushiness of the bananas). Pour batter into a round greased 20 cm deep sided cake tin. Bake for 45 – 50 minutes in the hot oven.

Thomas Joyner writes:

Hi all, I thought you might enjoy seeing a picture of me from our diocesan convention. I'm up against the wall with some new clergy in my city trying to look respectable, am I doing it?



with love, Thomas.

[Looks pretty respectable to me! - Ed]

Some thoughts:

"If we were all to pass on what we have to offer more freely, and with fewer strings and expectations, we'd all be richer in the things that count."

"Sometimes just a few hours of trial-and-error debugging can save minutes reading manuals!"

"Some people walk in the rain, others just get wet."

Angela's son dog-sledding in Canada. As Angela says, "Some people do this for fun"



Your prayers are asked for.....

Please pray for all those known and unknown to you who through sickness, need, bereavement or any other trouble are in need of God's comfort and support, remembering in particular:

Those who have recently lost loved ones including Georgina and Richard, Frances' family, the Fraser family in their tragic loss, John Ford, and Rose and her family.

Pray for healing and support for Margaret Vescoe, Florence Petrie, Mae Mann, Elizabeth Black, Ruby Graham, Ralph, Eiliah, Cliff, and Margaret Paton.

Pray for continued progress towards peace and reconciliation between Lebanon and Israel and especially for the people of Gaza. For those suffering as a result of natural disasters, remembering in particular those affected by extreme weather and from famine and drought, and those in Australia whose lives have been devastated by the bush fires. Pray for the release of all who are enslaved, for those held captive unfairly or illegally and for the work of Amnesty International. Pray for those suffering under corrupt and uncaring political regimes, remembering especially the people of Zimbabwe.

Pray for people of countries torn apart by conflict and civil war in Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia, Iraq, Kenya, Zimbabwe and Afghanistan, remembering especially the MU in St George's Church Baghdad and in Harare. Remember also the British troops and the families of those overseas or about to go overseas, particularly those based at Glencorse Barracks. Pray for those who have been victims of terrorism, remembering especially the tragic events in Mumbai.

For those who staff the Bethany Trust Care Van as they minister to the homeless on the streets of Edinburgh, and for the homeless themselves. For the work of Penicuik in Africa, remembering especially those working to combat the ravages of AIDS in Mombasa and other African countries.

(The Prayer Request book is either to be found in the chapel or on the altar, waiting to be used. Please do make use of it by adding your concerns and prayers. The requests are prayed for on other days as well as on Sundays. Also let the clergy know the progress of the person held in prayer. The list is updated every two to three months. Thank you!)

Financial Matters

Most, if not all of you should have received my letter explaining the need to increase giving to meet our 2008-09 budget. If you did not receive a copy or wish to question me on it please get in touch.

Space constraints did not allow me to include the following table, although it was alluded to in the text, which summarises our income from regular givers. As I said in the letter c.70% of our income comes from less than one third of givers. The problem with this position is that, should we lose one or more of the higher givers (through death or moving away from the area), we would be in serious financial difficulties. Hence the need to encourage those in the lower giving brackets to give more. Please help make this a year of change at St James

Range of giving per month £	No of givers	total annual giving £	% of overall annual giving
4-10	10	924	3.1
11-20	16	3436	11.6
21-30	6	1944	6.6
31-40	5	2456	8.3
41-60	5	3300	11.1
61-80	4	9496	12.6
81-100	5	5932	20.0
101+	3	7905	26.7
	54	35,393	

Collections

	Jan	Feb
Cash	172	158
Gift aided cash	60	10
Envelopes	752	781
Direct giving	1408	1498
Total	2392	2447

Special Collections in January: Seaman's Mission £408

Bishop's Lent Appeal

The Appeal for 2008 raised over £19,000 across the diocese. Many thanks to those at St James who contributed. Details of the 2009 recipients to follow.

Events coming soon...

Wednesdays	11, 18 & 25 March	7.00pm Lenten Course
Sunday 15 Mar		PfA Fellowship Lunch
Saturday 28 Mar	7.30	Curry Night
Sunday 29 Mar	12.15pm	Congregational meeting
	6.30pm	Passion Sunday Words and Music
Thursday 9 April	8.00pm	Maundy Thursday Eucharist and Vigil
Sunday 19 April	2.00 - 5.00pm	Gardens Open Day
Sunday 14 June	7.30pm	Concert at Penicuik House

“Outreach” can also be viewed on the St James website: <http://www.stjamespenicuik.co.uk> The May 2009 edition will be published on Sunday 3 May. Information about events, and contributions, should be with the Editor, Georgina Phillips 661039, Merlewood, The Loan, West Linton, EH46 7HE, phillg13@toucansurf.com, by Wed 22 April at the latest. If sent by email, please copy to Mike Hay, mike@hayfamily.co.uk.

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CWF	Joyce Jones	674187	
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A market stall in Salzburg, with garlands on sale for Palm Sunday and Easter - taken Saturday before Palm Sunday 2007.

Photo: Kathryn Topham



Neville with Jack McConnell at Holyrood (see “Penicuik for Africa”)



ST JAMES CURRY NIGHT

Saturday 28th March 2009
7pm in Church Hall

Tickets: £10 (£7.50 concession)
from Marion Mather (678081)
or Kathleen Cox (673567)

BYOB and a Raffle prize please

non-Indian food available if pre-ordered

Last year's CURRY NIGHT was a sizzling success, setting the taste buds popping! Only a limited number of tickets available, so don't delay, buy them straightaway!

Did you know?.....

- the first curry restaurant opened in London in 1809, although it was popular before then
- in 1846 Thackeray wrote a "Poem to Curry"
- "curry" is generally accepted to be from a Tamil word, "kari", meaning "spiced sauce"
- according to the Rice Association, there are over 40,000 varieties of cultivated rice!
- chicken tika masala, Britain's most popular dish, is widely believed to have originated in Glasgow in the 1950's
- rice is linked to fertility, hence it was thrown at weddings
- how to make a delicious mango lassi drink from plain yoghurt, mango pulp, milk, sugar and crushed cardamom pods
- www.curryfocus.co.uk gives an extensive glossary of ingredients and dishes