



Juniper Green
Parish Church

Church News

Spring 2015





Friends,

One day, long ago, a skylark flew in joyous loops about the sky. As she swooped near the earth, she heard a merchant cry out “Worms! Worms for feathers! Delicious worms!” The skylark circled about the merchant, hungry at the mention of worms, but puzzled at what the merchant meant.

Cautiously, the skylark landed and became aware that she was quite hungry. The worms looked bigger and tastier than any she had ever dug up for herself out of the hardscrabble ground of the desert. She hopped closer and put her beak up close to the worms. “Two worms for a feather!”

**“Let us fix
our eyes
on Jesus.”
(Hebrews
12:2)**

The skylark was unable to resist. After all, she had so many feathers. So with a swift motion she pulled out just a small feather from beneath her wing and gave it to the merchant. The skylark quickly snatched up two of the plumpest worms and swallowed her meal with delight. Never before had she tasted such wonderful worms and off she flew into the sky.

Day after day the skylark returned and always the merchant had wonderful worms to offer. But one day, after eating her fill, the skylark leapt into the air again – and to her horror fell to the ground with a thud. She was unable to fly! She had grown fatter and fatter on the worms – and she had no feathers left. She remembered how, slowly, imperceptibly, it had been getting harder and harder to fly. She could always stop before it was too late! The merchant, with a sly grin, picked up the

helpless bird, put her in a cage and walked away laughing!

The Cage of a Thousand compromises is the way in which the book featuring that story describes our Christian lives at times. “Tragically... little by little we give up our freedoms in Christ, only to end up in a cage made of a thousand little compromises.” The writer argues that we have lost the art of being disciples learning to become more and more like Jesus and have become content with lots of little, seemingly harmless, compromises, till we have lost the ability to fly!

Disciples spend time with Jesus. How many of us, consciously, deliberately, take the Bible off the bookshelf every day and read a piece of it? Or make time and space to pray, giving it our whole attention? Spending that kind of time with Jesus has a value beyond any price!

Disciples work hard to become more and more like Jesus. Yet, most of us are content to be as we are. We don’t want to change the habits of a lifetime, even if these habits are based on superstition rather than faith. We become content with second best and have become persuaded that second best is good enough. In the meantime, we have lost the ability to fly!

Churches are meant to exist for mission. We are meant to tell people about Jesus and share good news. In the same book, an English bishop is quoted: “everywhere Paul went he sparked a revolution. Everywhere I go, they serve tea and crumpets!” The gospel turns the world upside down; spend time with Jesus; work to be like Him; be mission-minded!

Jim



Treasurer's News

Christmas Fayre:

Thanks are due to everyone who helped and supported this event last December. It raised £843 in just a few hours on the Saturday morning and after the service on the Sunday. There will be a Fayre next year so start saving new or nearly new items now!

Accounts for 2014: The Annual Report and Accounts for 2014 has been approved by the Trustees and is now available. There was a deficit of £2,769 in the Net Movements of Funds during the year but our Funds held by the General Trustees increased. Details of the Accounts will be presented at the Stated Annual Meeting on 18th March and you should bring your copy along to the Meeting.

Budget for 2015: An increase in Offerings of 2.5% has been set in the budget and it is hoped that this can be achieved. Members who pay tax but do not give by Gift Aid are invited to sign up to this method of increasing Givings by 25%. The use of Bank Standing Order and weekly Freewill Offering envelopes also help you to keep a record of your Givings.

Fundraising: It is important that we continue to carry out fundraising events to meet the ever increasing costs of maintaining the church premises in good order. If you have any great ideas please bring them forward and we will work together to put them into practice. The budget set for Fundraising is £1,750 so let's see if we can beat it!

Douglas Buchanan
Treasurer

STATED ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual meeting of the congregation will take place on Wednesday 18th March. We will start with a meal at 6.15pm; tickets are free, and you can get one from the Catering Team so that we know numbers. At 7.45pm we will begin the business part of the evening, with the Annual report and the accounts being presented. After the 2011 Census the Church made available to us the statistics of our own parish, so after the business we will take a look at the make-up of Juniper Green Parish; who lives here? What do we do? What do we believe? With a little bit of help from the Community Council and some others, we will look at the nature of the parish community together with some of the Shaping the Future results, and think about mission in our community. Do come; listen well and give us your ideas and insights.

Jim Dewar





Guild of Friendship

Since the last report, Guild of Friendship activities have continued with an interesting and enjoyable series of meetings. Unfortunately we had to cancel our Christmas Service and tea because of the icy weather on that particular day, but all our other meetings have gone ahead, with good attendances, even when it was extremely cold.

We completed the autumn programme with a chocolate-making demonstration by "Delightful Chocolates". The young entrepreneur who started this business was unable to come because of a bad cold, but he was replaced by his mother, who explained how it had all started, and brought enough chocolate for everyone to try and buy.

Since January we have had three meetings up to the time of writing; our annual Communion Service taken by Mr Dewar, which is always a heartening way to start our year; an entertaining and informative "Afternoon w/ Burns"; and a fascinating talk by Joan Wightman about her visit to South Korea. Her pictures showed a colourful, sunny and friendly Seoul, and we saw some of the countryside, as well as a "visit" to North Korea, at least the Demilitarized Zone between North and South.

There are still a number of meetings to go before our AGM in May, and anyone wishing to attend or join is very welcome. The programme is displayed on the notice board in Hall 2.

Elaine Wilson,
Secretary.



BIBLE READING

Booklets and a Daily Reading List are available in the vestibule at the front door of the Church to encourage daily reading of God's Word.

The material available is as follows:-

- "Every Day with Jesus" Booklet
- "Our Daily Bread" Booklet
- "Word For Today" Booklet
- "Word 4u2Day" Booklet for Young People.
- 3 Year Bible Reading Plan "Every Word in the Bible" to take you completely through the Bible, reading every word. (Scottish Bible Society)
- "Gideon Bible Helps"

Taking, say, a Booklet, with daily readings supported by a commentary can be a way of opening up your spiritual journey or can be helpful in keeping you on that spiritual journey.

There is also the opportunity to join other people sharing a Bible Study at Church Wednesday led by our Minister.

If you wish more information about Bible Reading Material please speak to Ian Aitken or Yvonne Hunter.

Nurture Team

"...and will give our attention to prayer and

WANT TO GO PAPERLESS?

You can now receive your Church News, and all inserts, by email, please email

jgchurchnews@gmail.com
to opt in to e-Church News!



**READ IT AGAIN!
READ IT FOR THE FIRST
TIME!
LISTEN TO AN AUDIO
VERSION ON THE WEB
SITE!**

Did you want to read the **Minister's Sermon** from last Sunday? Did you miss it? Were there bits of it you didn't understand? Go to the Church website at www.jgpc.org.uk and follow the link to 'sermons' and you will find them there. Alternatively, go to the publications area in the Sanctuary for paper copies. There are also sets of Sermons from back to 2009 in titled folders for read and return. Or get a CD copy of a Morning Service from Sandra Paulin.



Halls Cleaning

Our cleaning teams have continued to do an excellent job during the winter, keeping the halls neat, tidy and clean, and ready for use by all the groups who use them. We do have two teams which are not up to full strength, which can be a problem if one of the members is not available, and so please consider if you would be willing to help. Just two or three hours every six weeks is not so much, done at a time to suit the team members.

Elaine Wilson



ANTIQUES ROADSHOW 17th April

Have you ever wanted to know the value of an antique or a prized possession that you have in your home?

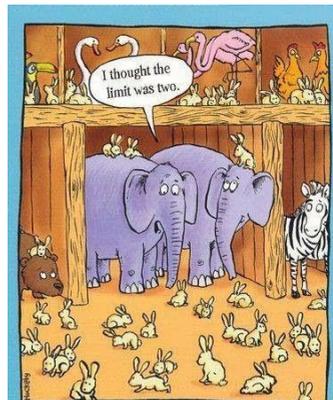
If so the opportunity to find out its worth will be available to you on Friday 17th April. A highly respected and independent valuer, Mark Medcalf, will be in the Church Hall and will look at your chosen item and provide a valuation.

Please do not bring jewellery but photographs of larger items will be accepted.

For more information contact Douglas Buchanan or Bill Blair.

Tea, coffee and home baking will be served.

Tickets (£5) are available with proceeds going to the Church.



DAY 39 ON THE ARK.

Tearfund's "Big Bake" Challenge



A big "thank you" to all those who came along and supported our "Big Bake" in aid of Tearfund's "No child Taken" campaign, helping and protecting vulnerable children from disaster, poverty and trafficking. We managed to raise **£320**.

There were 2 challenges:

- 1) Technical Challenge, whereby the same recipe for scones was followed by all participants.
- 2) Showstopper, a fun or special cake.

We had the choice of entering one or both challenges, taking part in the blind tasting and the judging of ALL the scones and cakes on offer and enjoying them with a cup of tea or coffee. What a delight and what a feast!!!

Good voting criteria were taste, presentation and complexity. After everyone's votes were counted our winners were announced:



Technical Challenge: Alison Buchanan (Scones)



Showstopper: Fiona Elliot. (Orange / Lemon Cake)

Thanks again and well done to everyone who took part.

Yvonne Hunter

Weekly Freewill Offering

Weekly Freewill Offering (WFO) envelopes are due to be issued for the financial year 2015 – 2016. If you give to the church by this method you should receive your new set of envelopes by the middle of March. Please get in touch if you do not receive them.

Now would be a good time to join this scheme, but it is not necessary to start at the beginning of the financial year. Another option is to set up a standing order. Please contact our Treasurer if this is your choice.

Lesley Grieve, WFO Administrator.

Getting to know you...

Linda Gray

1. A bit about Linda:

Linda lives in Balerno with her husband Hamish. She is a Primary teacher; a National Executive Member of the largest teaching union in the UK; an Adjudicating Panel Convenor on the GTC(S) and currently being treated for Oesophageal cancer.

2. How long have you been a member of the church?

I joined Greenbank Parish Church, Edinburgh on 17th March 1972 .

3. What is your favourite hymn and why?

I can't name just one- different hymns for different occasions. Love Divine because we sang it at our wedding; Once in Royal David's City at Christmas; Will Your Anchor Hold for affirmation and Do Not Be Afraid for support in difficult situations.

4. What has been the greatest moment of your life so far?

No one but many – the birth of my girls and grandchildren, my wedding, the joy of seeing my brothers all happily married, passing my driving test, LIFE in general has been great.

5. And the worst?

7.30pm on 23rd December 2014 when I was told I most probably had Oesophageal cancer although this experience is showing me just how much people care which I very much appreciate.

17th March 1983 , the day my Father died.

6. Do you have any hobbies?

Genealogy; sewing – to be resumed after a few years off; redesigning the house and making work for Hamish which he sometimes agrees to.

7. What are you most grateful for?

My family. My parents for choosing me (I am adopted) although my Dad maintained I chose them; Hamish for being my rock for over 40 years; my girls who, although completely different are wonderful; my three little people- Euan, Eilidh and Glenn who bring endless joy and sunshine; my brothers and my mother in law who despite her age (98) and blindness is determined to help when she can.



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Nurture Team has arranged a Dinner Meeting for **Thursday**

5th March 2015 in the Baberton Golf Club from 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start.

The format as before will be an excellent meal, non-golfing conversation, and then an After-Dinner Speaker to address the gathering for about 20 minutes followed by a short discussion. The invited speaker is **Mr Paul Drury, Director of Income Generation and Development of Bethany Christian Trust** speaking about "The work of the Trust". For many years Members of our Church have given support to Bethany Christian Trust through food donations, Care Van Ministry team membership, and team members of the Winter Night Shelter in Edinburgh.

The Nurture Team are now planning 2 further Breakfast meetings, one in April and the other in June 2015.

Anyone wishing more details about the Fellowship Meetings or have suggestions concerning speakers or format please speak to either Ian Aitken, Edward Campbell, Gordon Laing, or Michael Merriman, all members of the Nurture Team.

Nurture Team

"... those who have trusted in God maybe careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone."

Titus 3 vs 8



VISIT TO CAMBODIA

I'm thinking about the possibility of a trip to Cambodia to visit our friends at CHO. The visit would be to Poipet on the Thailand border, probably in February of 2016. All that I'm asking at the moment is that if you might be interested you tell me. Depending on the response, we'll see what happens next.

Jim



The Green Strollers

The Green Strollers welcomed in the new year with a meal at the Kingsknowe Golf Club. This has become an annual event and, as always, the meal and the social chat was enjoyed by all.

The Strollers have had some varied walks throughout the year, culminating in our annual 'get-away' to Tarbet, Loch Lomond. A great time was had by all and some new talent was discovered among the group. Come along to our next weekend away later in the year and join in the fun.

We will be planning some fairly challenging, and some not so challenging walks, when we meet in February. If you would like to lead a walk, please see Beth Walker, or Jeanette Campbell, who will give you the details of where and when we are meeting.

Keep strolling!

Jeanette

and

Beth

Community Activities

MONDAY

Zumba Fitness Class	9.30am	Lynne Langmead
Rainbows	5.45pm	Sandra Gibb
Scouts	7.00pm	Chris Welch
Pentland Pilates (Intermediate)	7.15pm	Sara Wood

TUESDAY

Open Door Café	10.00am	Inez Paisley
Brownies	6.30pm	Jean Dewar
Scottish Slimmers	7.00pm	Susan Shaw
Edinburgh Budgerigar Society^	7.30pm	Bill Miller

WEDNESDAY

Ladies Badminton	10.00am	Alison Buchanan
Pentland Probus Club	10.00am	Leslie Hannaford
Guides	7.30pm	Susan Gibson

THURSDAY

Zumba class	10.00am	Lynne Langmead
Guild of Friendship*	2.30pm	Elaine Wilson
Yoga Group	7.00pm	Maureen Clarke
Pilates	7.50pm	Judith Rintoul

FRIDAY

Freestyle Fitness Yoga	9.30am	Lynne Langmead
Cubs & Beavers	6.30pm	Lorrette Nicol

SATURDAY

Messy Church~	3.30pm	Jim Dewar
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SUNDAY

Kids' Church	10.30am	Gill Hales
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^ Monthly

+First and third Wednesdays, September to May

*Alternate

~ First Saturday of the Month

Family News

Congratulations to



NEW MEMBERS
"All the saints salute you"

By Certificates of Transference
Mrs Margaret Forsyth

Mr Eric and Mrs Rosalind Jansen



Liz and **Ian Gilmour**, Juniper Green, on the birth of their grandson, in Australia, **Archie Jack Mackenzie Sappey** on 5th December **and**, in Scotland, the birth of their granddaughter, **Florence Elizabeth Mary Gilmour** on 10th December.

Liz May, Baberton Mains, on the birth of her granddaughter, **Emily Rose Watson** on 20th December

Margaret and Graham Thomas, Juniper Green, on the birth of their sixth grandchild, **Violet May Hook** on 21st January.

DISJUNCTIONS
"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you"

By Certificates of Transference
Mr Ian and Mrs Eileen Marshall



FUNERALS
"I am the Resurrection and the life"

Jan 10th Mr David Carmichael

Jan 16th Mrs Amelia Hopper

Feb 6th Miss Helen Buchan

Feb 17th Mr James Robson



Bernard and Betty Povey, Juniper Green, who will celebrate their **65th** Wedding Anniversary on 31st March.

John and Linda Sharp on the marriage of their elder daughter, **Christina** to **Dr Lee Carins** on 14th December 2014.



Mrs Anthea Grierson on her appointment as Head Teacher at Juniper Green Primary School.

Summer Church News

Articles for the Summer edition of the Church News should in by 27th May 2015. They can be handed to Alison Robertson or sent to jgchurchnews@gmail.com.

The Noticeboard



Communion Services

Thursday 2nd April –

7pm Maundy Thursday Communion in Currie Kirk

Sunday 5th April – 9.30am Easter Communion;

Sunday 3rd May (after the morning service);

Sunday 7th June – 10.30am communion service

Church Wednesday at 7pm in Hall 3 for The Prayer Time and thereafter a mixture of Bible Study and other discussion events in Hall 2 at 7.30pm; see the leaflet for details.



Prayers for Healing take place after the morning service on the third Sunday of each month; we have a list of names of people who are

ill and have asked for prayer, there is then a short Bible reading and a prayer in which we include the list of names. It is quite a simple 'service' but many have found this prayer time to be significant.



Messy Church

March 7th, March 28th

Girlguiding Thinking Day Service

March 8th

Stated Annual Meeting

Wednesday March 18th

Sunday@Seven March 15th, April 12th, May 10th, June 14th (or as otherwise intimated!)

Thursday services – 26th March, 16th April, 28th May, 18th June – in St Margaret's Court at 10.30am.

Lorimer House services - 29th March, 26th April, 31st May, 28th June – in Lorimer House at 3pm.

Baberton History Group are to give a talk to Juniper Green SWRI about the history of the area on Monday 9th March. Interested local non members are very welcome to attend, men included. We meet in the village hall at 7pm. There will be a 50p visitors fee.

Diane Johnston,

WRI Secretary.

WHO'S WHO

CONTACT

NAME

Minister	Rev James S Dewar
Session Clerk	Ross MacKay
Treasurer	R Douglas Buchanan
Beadle	George Anderson
Bereavement Care Team	Jim Dewar
Catering	Sandy Watt
Christian Action Team	Jean Dewar
Church Halls Cleaning Team	Elaine Wilson
Church Secretary	Alison Robertson
Communications Team	Shona Cook
Crèche	Aileen Hardie
Flower Convener	Hilda McNeil
Freewill Offering Administrator	Lesley Grieve
Fresh Start Organiser	Marilyn Godon
Garden Team Co-ordinator	Jean Dewar
Gift Aid Treasurer	Douglas Buchanan
Girlguiding District Commissioner	Jean Dewar
Green Strollers Walking Group	(Jeanette Campbell (Beth Walker
Global Church Co-ordinator	Fiona Elliot
Guild of Friendship	Elaine Wilson
Halls Convener	Alison Robertson
Kids' Church	Gill Hales
Ladies Badminton Club	Alison Buchanan
Leprosy Mission	Sheena Blair
Magazine Distribution	Isabel Campbell
MSM	Martin Elliot
Nurture Team	Yvonne Hunter
Open Door Café & Toddlers' Group	Inez Paisley
Organist and Choirmaster	Florence Kinnear
Prayer Team	Greg McIntosh
Joint Property Conveners	(Ian Gilmour (Andrew Watson
Recordings of Church Service	Sandra Paulin
Roll Keeper	Isabel Campbell
Safeguarding	Maureen Heathwood
Youth Group	Fiona Elliot

Church Office is open on Friday mornings 9.30 – 11.30am

458 5147

**Church Website : www.jgpc.org.uk,
Email : jgpc@supanet.com
Facebook – Juniper Green Parish Church**