

# NORTH NEWS

FEBRUARY 2012



**FROM PERTH NORTH CHURCH**

## God calls us all

**To know Christ  
and make him *known***

Within our congregation  
In our parish  
Throughout our city  
And beyond

**By**

Worshipping God  
Building faith  
Spreading the Good News  
Serving in Christ's Name  
Bringing help and healing and hope

**That**

God may be glorified  
Christ's Kingdom advanced,  
and lives changed.

**"Go... and make disciples"**

**DO YOU KNOW OF ANYONE WHO NEEDS A  
PASTORAL VISIT OR IS IN HOSPITAL?**

Please give details below, cut out, and leave in the box on the Welcome Desk, or if preferred, telephone or send an e-mail to the Church Office.

Name .....

Address .....

Phone Number .....

Referred by .....

Phone Number .....

A visit will be arranged and made by our Minister or one of the Pastoral Care team members.



Dear Friends

I wish you a belated Happy New Year, and for us in the U.K. we pray that it will prove to be an Happy Olympic Year! This year we will witness and have reported many races and athletic events for which hundreds of Athletes will have been training for not just months but years. This London Olympiad will, for many, be the pinnacle of their athletic career. The climax to the Olympics is surely the marathon which tests the endurance of the individual to the very limit. In 1968, at the Mexico City Olympics, the last runner to finish the marathon represented Tanzania. During the race he stumbled and was badly injured. He was bruised and bloodied but against advice he carried on. When he arrived, the stadium was emptying and there were less than 7000 spectators left in it. The Tanzanian came struggling in, the last person in the marathon race. It was 7.00 pm and already dark outside. As he entered to run his last lap and finish the race, the crowd rose and gave him a standing ovation. Later he was asked, "Why didn't you quit when you were hurt, bruised, and bloody? Why didn't you give up?" He replied, "My country did not send me 7000 miles around the world to start the race, but to finish it."

The Bible teaches very clearly that the Christian life is like a race. The Apostle Paul wrote and spoke about this. He made it clear that he did not want to miss God's best. In Acts he says "I consider my life worth nothing to me if only I may finish the race and complete the task that the Lord Jesus has given me." At the end of his life Paul wrote a letter to a pastor named Timothy. In the last chapter of the letter Paul wrote, "I have finished the race." Of course he had encountered hurdles along

the way, and so do we. Some of them trip us, others slow us down and others seem to try to make us fall flat on our face.

There will be times when we become discouraged and perhaps times when we want to give it all up - you may be there right now. Life can be tough for the Christian and non Christian alike. Those early Olympiad competitors in ancient Greece competed to win a little crown made of either oak leaves or laurel leaves. Those crowns quickly perished. Athletes in London this year will compete for trophies and medals which will also tarnish and, latterly, perish.

Paul looks beyond the end-zone in which he stands and he sees a day when the Lord Jesus Christ, the chief official in the race of life, will give him a crown that will never fade away. The Bible tells us that the same reward is there for all who run and complete the race in Christ.

Your friend

**Hugh O'Brien**

Hugh, Valerie, Scott and Caitlin wish to thank all who sent the many lovely cards at Christmas and for the kind gifts we received.

All were much appreciated.

Wit from a recent newspaper

"Hi! I'm your new organist - where do I plug in my keyboard"

## Walking Group



### Sat 11 Feb

Moncrieff Hill (Rhynd Road)

5.5 miles woodland paths  
Leader – Joe Mayland

### Tues 27 Feb

Coronation Road

6 miles undulating paths  
Leader – Peter Bing

### Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held in the Tryst at 7.30 pm on Thursday 1 March.

All walks meet at  
Broxden Park & Ride car park  
leaving at 9: 30 am

## Tuesday Friendship Group

- 07 Feb** A Little Tipple
- 14 Feb** Love is in the Air
- 21 Feb** Can we help you?
- 28 Feb** Mmm... Tastes  
Delicious

## The Guild



- 08 Feb** Hospital Radio
- 22 Feb** Hospitality  
Management  
*Giselle Reid*

**Everyone, male or female, is welcome at all Guild meetings**

## CHRISTMAS GIFT SERVICE



Once again we would like to thank everyone who so generously donated gifts which were distributed to a number of households in our congregation and our parish.

Other recipients were Anchor House, Crieff Road Nursery, Tulloch Primary School, Tulloch Net and PKAVS.

We are most grateful to everyone who donated gifts which brings much joy and pleasure to those who receive them.

## Girlguiding



### Rainbows

Over the holidays, one of our girls had her seventh birthday and we said good-bye to her as she joined the Brownies. We welcomed two new girls to the unit **but** we still have spaces for more. By the time you are reading this, the girls will have taken part in the Perth and Kinross Rainbow Games. This is to celebrate the coming Olympics. Lots of activities were enjoyed and shared with Rainbows from all over the County.

### Brownies

In January two of our girls were delighted to get a place in Guides and are now enjoying that experience. The pack has welcomed two new leaders, Violet Cargill, who has lots of Brownie experience, and Cathy Marquess who is new to Guiding. We are delighted they have settled in and enjoy sharing their talents with us. Recently the girls gained their Artist badge and are now working towards their craft badge.

### Guides

After Christmas some places became available and we welcomed two Brownies. A busy time lies ahead as the girls work on chosen "Go For It Challenges". One of our leaders will be off for a while as she gained some crutches over the holidays!! We hope she makes a speedy and full recovery.

Some of the girls and the leaders are off to a World Jamboree in Iceland this summer. The last time this happened was in 1999 when both the leaders and girls had a great experience. There's a lot of work involved, but the end product is well worth the effort.

### Rangers

They all enjoyed their trip to the Pantomime in December and are full of great ideas for this term.

### Guiding

All four groups are looking forward to Celebrating Thinking Day on 22 February when we remember our founders and Guiding Round the World. Some of our girls are joining others from the City to take part in The Sangam Challenge. There will be an afternoon of Indian themed activities. By doing them and gaining the badge we will have helped our Guide House in India to raise vital funds for their work.



## OPEN DOOR – DONATIONS 2011

BURKINO FASO	£200
FINLAY LOCKHART (Bicycle)	£500
CHRISTIAN AID (East Africa)	£1,000
BLYTHSWOOD CARE (Talitakum Project for Children)	£1,000
NOSH AT THE NORTH	£400
VINE TRUST	£500
PKAVS (Christmas Parcels)	£300
NORTH CHURCH	<u>£2,000</u>
	<b><u>£5,900</u></b>

These are the amounts we've donated in 2011 and we also intend to fund a new dishwasher for the church kitchen.

It's natural to focus on sums of money, but I would like us to think about people who've raised it. The words conscientiousness and commitment sum up their work. Last year the words stuck in my head when a helper who is in her late eighties and has poor health said "I can't stand much but I could wash the dishes sitting". Also there are other helpers and bakers who are not 'young' and for many years have shown the same qualities in spite of having health and family difficulties.

Thank you very much to them and to everyone who has supported the Open Door in any way.

Margaret Nicolson  
Treasurer

## Sunday Services

### 9.30 am Service

Feb

- 05 Band Led
- 12 Sidewalk - James Ballantyne
- 19 Star Trekkiing
- 26 Women of the Bible - Ruth

### 11 am Service

Feb

- 05 Favourite Hymns and their message
- 12 With Sidewalk Slot - James Ballantyne
- 19 Star Trekking
- 26 Women of the Bible - Ruth  
Holy Communion




## 6.30 pm Service

Feb

- 05 Faith in Action 1
- 12 Faith in Action 2
- 19 Faith in Action 3
- 26 Lent Series begins - Who is this Jesus?

## Prayer Opportunities

There are three regular prayer meetings in the North Church.

- |                         |   |  |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Prayer Time</b>      | Mondays 8 pm to 9 pm in the Upper Room and at home a few minutes before going to bed. |  |
| <b>Prayer Drop-in</b>   | Thursdays at 11.45 to 12.25 pm in the Youth Room                                      |  |
| <b>Prayer Breakfast</b> | First Saturday of each month 8.30 am to 10 am in the New Hall                         |  |

**You are encouraged to attend any of these, however you may also leave a prayer request with any member of the groups. Alternatively, send an e-mail to : [prayer@perthnorthchurch.org.uk](mailto:prayer@perthnorthchurch.org.uk) with your request also stating whether you wish to remain anonymous. The items will not go further than the groups unless so requested.**

## NOSH @ NORTH

During 2011 Nosh@ North served hot meals every Thursday (except 29 December when the Church premises were closed). Over 1200 meals were served, and the number of visitors varied between 12 and 38. Some of our guests are homeless, others are lonely or find it difficult to cook for themselves. We don't ask about their circumstances, but they all appreciate a good hot meal.



This time last year we were concerned that Nosh @ North would not be able to continue due to the lack of volunteers, however our prayers were answered with more people being willing to help, and we now also have two house groups involved. The success of the project is entirely due to the support we have from all the helpers, some of whom are from other churches.

Thanks to generous donations from Open Door, from some members of the congregation and the donation of ingredients by many of the cooks, we have not had to request funds for the project from the Kirk Session, but are grateful for the use of the kitchen and the hall to enable this outreach.

Many of the people who come along regularly are very interested in learning more about Christ, and are happy to be given Bibles to take away. Thanks to one of our volunteers we have been able to supply 20 Bibles this year.

We would welcome any member of the congregation to come along on a Thursday about 7.00 to join us in extending a hand of friendship to our guests.

**Rona Archibald**

## Discipleship Explored

Wednesdays, 7.30 pm in the Tryst

07, 14, 21, 28 March two week break (Easter)

18 & 25 April, 02 & 09 May

Video and Discussion, tea and coffee. All Welcome

Discipleship Explored is an informal 8 week series of meetings for anyone who wants to make the most of their Christian lives. DE is perfect for you if you have recently decided to follow Christ or have been a Christian for many years. Looking at Paul's letter to the Philippians we will explore the meaning of Paul's words "for me to live is Christ and to die is gain".

Register at the welcome desk at church or on line at [www.perthnorthchurch.org.uk](http://www.perthnorthchurch.org.uk)



**BLYTHSWOOD CARE**  
*Perth Support Group*



### James Campbell Blythswood Care Chief Executive

The Support Group were pleased to hear from members of both morning services how moving and interesting they found the DVD Presentation and Talk about the work of Blythswood Care given by James Campbell when he visited on Sunday 20 November.

### 2011 Shoebox Appeal

Thank you to everyone who supported the 2011 Appeal with the total number of gift filled shoeboxes donated throughout the UK reaching 118,000, the same number as received in 2010, bringing laughter and joy to needy people in Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and the Ukraine and helping to make their Christmas special. Gifts have also been sent to India and Pakistan and will be distributed during January and February. Thank you

Blythswood Support Group

*Christian care for body and soul*

## 16<sup>th</sup> Perth Boys' Brigade



Please note that due to the school holidays in the week commencing 12 February 2012, there will no BB on Friday 17 February, but will resume as normal on Friday 24 February.

**Kenneth Simpson, MBE**  
Acting Company Captain

## Attic Flats

When we went to press the two attic flats at 209 High Street were empty and available for rent.

If you know anyone interested in renting one of these flats please contact Mandy at Jameson & Mackay in George Street.

## "Toddle Inn" Café



We invite Young Parents and /or Grandparents to *toddle in* with their young ones to the new hall on Friday mornings from 10 - 12 noon for a free cup of tea or coffee, friendship and a chat while their children play with toys etc.



This is not a toddler group (as there is already a great group on Mondays and Thursdays in the main hall) but an opportunity for you and your very young children to *drop-in* together when you are in Town. Pop-in even for 20 minutes.

For further information visit our church website or contact the Church Office on 622298.

## MINISTRY OF FLOWERS



In the January Life and Work Muriel Armstrong has written an excellent introductory article emphasising the importance of flowers in Church which many will have read. She says "decorating sanctuaries is a custom thousands of years old with the symbolism of flowers dating far beyond Christianity". "Flowers are the illustration of all our moments of joy and sorrow. From the beginning of life in the celebration of a birth or baptism, a romantic gesture of red roses, a wedding ceremony embellished with scented lilies and roses..... - life without flowers would be a bleak place".

Without flowers in our Church the sanctuary would not be the same and it has occurred to me that there could be quite a number in our congregation who are not aware of how the flowers arrive in our Church every Sunday and this has prompted me as Flower Convener to keep you informed.

We, in the North Church find that having a rota for the whole year is the most efficient method of ensuring that there are flowers in Church every Sunday. This is done prior to the beginning of a new year and is made up of ladies (some men) in the congregation who generously and willingly support the Flower Team each week. We try to accommodate those who have special dates, perhaps to commemorate the loss of a loved one, a birthday, wedding etc. Each supporter (donor) has the choice of arranging their own flowers or they can choose to have one of the team of flower arrangers do this for them.

Our "ministry of flowers" is continued with the delivery of flowers to the sick, housebound or bereaved after the morning service and the many acknowledgements of thanks from the recipients is testimony to how gratefully they are received. There is a small team of dedicated volunteers who carry out the deliveries with a message of God's love and prayers from the congregation.

Our Ministry of Flowers in the North Church is entirely self-financing and we are most grateful to everyone for their support whether it be financial, arranging, delivering or in any way at all.

To quote Muriel Armstrong again her final paragraph reads, "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these".

Margaret MacLeod



## February Reminders

**Deadline for next edition  
North News  
12 noon  
Sunday 19 February 2012**

**Traidcraft Stall**  
Second Sunday of each month  
in the New Hall  
Between morning services  
and after 11am service

**KIRK SESSION MEETING**  
The next Kirk Session meeting will be held in the  
Church on Tuesday 21 February at 7.30 pm.



### Next Blythswood collection

Asda car park, Dunkeld Road, Perth

Thur 23 February

8.30am - 11.30am



Please ensure your goods are clean and labelled prior to delivering to the lorry.

## CHURCH FLOWERS

**We are most grateful to the following for their generosity in donating the flowers in church on the undernoted dates.**

Date	Name
05 Feb	Catherine Steele
12 Feb	Heather Neil
19 Feb	Moira Stewart/Marion Ramage
26 Feb	Kathleen Perry

**Please contact the Church Office if you require into the church to arrange flowers.**





**PERTH  
NORTH CHURCH**

## Church Register

District numbers are shown in brackets with each entry.

### *Deaths*

21 Dec Mary Haggart, \_\_\_\_\_ (48)  
03 Jan Ronald Cook, \_\_\_\_\_ (44)  
05 Jan Pamela Reid, \_\_\_\_\_ (36)  
16 Jan Stanley Wheeler, \_\_\_\_\_ (46)

### *Changes of Address*

Greta Donaldson, \_\_\_\_\_ (24)  
to \_\_\_\_\_ (33)  
Arthur and Joyce Mailer, \_\_\_\_\_ (40)  
to \_\_\_\_\_ (17)

**Roll Keeper: Mr. Alex Boyd, \_\_\_\_\_ Tel (01738) 629829**

**Holy Communion** is celebrated on the last Sunday of each month at the services detailed below:

At 9.30 am service : October, January, April and July  
At 11 am service : November, February, May and August  
At 6.30 pm service : December, March, June and September  
After the lunchtime service on the following Thursdays : Last Thursday in January, Maundy Thursday (Holy Week), last Thursday in August and Advent Thursday.  
At 6.30 pm service : December, March, June and September