



Balshagray Victoria Park
Church of Scotland

The Herald

October 2019

A Message from our Interim Moderator

I've never been a person who likes change. From my earliest days as a child I didn't like it when my folks were out and we had a sitter, and I wasn't especially happy when the family holidays relocated from our usual Britany campsite. I don't like moving house, moving job or change that disrupts my routine. Change can seem upsetting and unhelpful. It is different from the comfortable norm and if there are children in your house and you are familiar with the Dreamworks film, *The Croods* I have often identified with the father figure Grug, 'Everything new is bad'.

Of course as a Christian this perspective on change has itself had to change. It is difficult to think of spiritual growth or a drawing closer to God in scripture that doesn't involve change. Usually very major change. Almost without exception each one of the fathers of the faith had to undergo major change to know anything about God at all, often change in their circumstances and surroundings, and the more things changed the more God was revealed (Up sticks from your home and go to a land I will show you...). Think of God's people Israel; the disciples; the apostle Paul; the churches the epistles address – in each instance significant change of circumstances or situation was a major factor in God's character being revealed. And in the church, that is what we are all about.

So it seems pretty clear -whether we like it or not – that change is good. BVP is in the middle of change. Many of you probably don't like it but it would be remiss of me as an interim minister not to point out

what is biblically quite obvious - change is opportunity. Opportunity for what we all in the church count as more precious than gold – knowing God better. Change increases the wattage (or LED lumens) to illuminate more of the God we have. Change is God's very effective means of showing his hand to the people he loves.

Let's be sure to pray for one another in the months ahead, and maybe begin to anticipate what more we will discover about our God through this season of change.

Jonathan Keefe

Church Roll

Members Leaving by Certificate of Transfer

Rev Campbell Mackinnon. (District 4)
Mrs Janice Mackinnon (District 4)
Mr Fergus Shaw. (District 1)
Mrs Fiona Shaw. (District 1)

Change of Address

Mr A Gosland (District 14)
Mr Ranald McTaggart (District 16)
Mrs Christine McTaggart District 16)

*Andy Coghill
Rollkeeper*

On Sunday 8th September, after our Communion Service, members and friends had a buffet lunch together in the church halls to give our best wishes to our minister Revd Campbell Mackinnon and family on his retiral. The following two items are from that farewell. Ed

Remembering Campbell on his Retirement

By now, some of you will have heard of a certain singer, Ruby Turner. One of my favourite tracks is 'Remember Me'. I was listening to this last week and I thought, how would we want to be remembered? Then I thought, how would we remember Campbell? Would it be for his children's addresses that went wrong, like the time he informed us over a 6-month period how to make the perfect cup of coffee. Or, maybe the time he was explaining the dynamics of flight when he shot a foam arrow straight into the face of Agnes Chalmers. Perhaps it was the time he introduced us to the wonders of the soup machine. I told him after the service that we have had one of these for years. He seemed incredulous, then I said, it's called a pan!

Perhaps we will remember him for his mastery of technology, like the time he was conducting a funeral and he set the satnav for the crematorium. It was sometime later that he realised he was heading for the borders. Then there was the time he was buying a new car and waxed lyrically about the technical benefits of the Mazda. After he had been to the showroom, I asked how he got on and he sheepishly admitted he had managed to lock himself in the back of the car and could not get out.

Perhaps it was his thoughtfulness. Campbell said this morning that Graham Thain had given him a beautiful book on Leviticus. It goes to show where he thinks my theology lies as he came to visit me after I was in hospital and gave me a book on the tales of Para Handy!

Perhaps we will remember him for the care, compassion and guidance that he had for probationers. Then I remembered the time the Jim Teasdale was at the manse and the phone rang. Campbell said, no, but I know a man who can, and passed the phone to Jim, landing him

with a horse drawn funeral that was to go through the Clyde Tunnel. On the day the tunnel was shut off and the horses refused to go uphill once they had reached the bottom.

Maybe we remember him for his love of attending presbytery. Some thought he struck up a pose like Rodin's 'The Thinker', but it was really just exasperation.

Perhaps we remember him for knowing how to have a good time, reading Augustine, Calvin and Luther.

But to be serious, how will we remember Campbell?

When Campbell first came to BVP, his prayer was that he would be able to enable the congregation to experience God's Grace and I think that he has achieved that without a shred of doubt. Campbell has pointed out to each and every one of us the joy of God's love and forgiveness. He has given us hope as a congregation and we can continue to have that hope as we move on to the next chapter. We have not only been blessed by having Campbell as our minister, but also by having Janice and Calum too. The whole family have become such a big part of all of our lives and we want to thank them for their love and commitment.

I would like to take this opportunity now Campbell, on behalf of the congregation, to wish you well in your retirement, to wish you all God's richest blessings as you move to your new home, and on to the next stage of what He has planned for you.

Derek Robertson

Ode to Cambell

He came to us, he was just a lad
His teaching and preaching weren't that bad
But from the north, they did incline
But he does like to drink some wine.

We've listened to him through the years
Extolling the Word without any fears
Some of his sermons were mighty fine
But he does like to drink some wine.

Over the years we've heard of his reading
To me, none of them sound much of a laugh
The authors all dead, the language misleading
He says with a glass of red in his hand, "it's my
mind I am feeding".

The coffee machines.....he's bought quite a few
And of course, different coffees to go with them too!
The coffee machines that man has to try
But coffee or wine, what do you think he'd buy!

He also likes a gadget, the newer the better
But can he work them, well that's another matter
Poor Calum is called on to help his old dad
When he's trying to work out his latest fad.

Poor Janice, she goes to work for a break
She's just had about more than she can take
Of washing all the wine glasses and putting away
And finding space for coffee machines to stay.

He had funerals to do, weddings too
Presbytery meetings to attend – well, just a few!
Students to mentor, things to sort out
And many other issues to deal with, no doubt.

So, what now for our minister, what will he do?
With all this time at his disposal
Well, there's golf, more reading, more wine tasting too
And a few old musty books for his perusal.

To all the MacKinnons' we wish you well
How we'll fare here – only time will tell!!
We wish you good health to enjoy your new life
And all of God's blessings to you and your wife.

Jane Belmore

Compassion

As you may have seen on the rolling intimations, we are now supporting a little girl called Martha who is four years old and lives in Bunangwe in Uganda. Her mum works as a farmer. Martha's favourite food is rice and beans, she likes the colour red and enjoys playing hide and seek. It will be lovely getting to know Martha and sharing her journey in the coming years.

A little reminder that following the Harvest service on Sunday 6th October, we will be holding a lunch in the large hall to raise funds for Compassion. It is through this event we raise a large majority of the funds we need to support Dinar, Jose and Martha in the year ahead so if you can, please come along and join us.

Thank you once again for all your support. This really is greatly appreciated and makes such a difference to the lives of the children and their families.

Joan Canavan

The Guild

The Guild Dedication will be part of the morning service on Sunday 6th October. Guild members or prospective members are asked to sit together at the front of the church on the pulpit side.

The first meeting of the new session will be on Wednesday 9th in the small hall at 2 p.m. We will hear about "Humour in Television", so come along for a laugh!

On the 23rd we sing our favourite hymns under the heading of "Desert Island Hymns", and there will be some readings as well.

Any ladies or men can come to any or all of the meetings, and you will be given a warm welcome!

We generally meet every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month.

*Christine Hay
Guild Secretary*

Church Flowers Rota

The Flower Rota for October and November is

6th October Harvest
13th October Sharon Fergus
20th October Fiona Robertson
27th October 101st BB

3rd November Sarah Hay
10th November
17th November Susan Gibson
24th November The Guild

Balshagray Victoria Park Parish Church Christmas Fayre

This year the Christmas Fayre is on **Saturday 23rd November** 2019 from 10am until 1pm. The cost of a ticket is £2 per person, children up to 12 years are free.

The committee hope that everyone at BVP will take this opportunity to support the church in this very important fund raising event.

Can you help? Yes, you can. If you can spare an hour or two on the 23rd then please see Shirley Robertson. The more people that help means a rota system can be used and everyone gets the opportunity to enjoy all aspects of the Fayre.

Our stalls include the following:

Baking: This is always very popular and we try to bring you a good selection of cake and candy. If you can bake or donate any baking items towards this stall then please see Shirley Robertson.

Bric-a-brac: This is an ideal opportunity for you to clear out your cupboards. Please bring any items you have to the church clearly marked "Bric-a-Brac"

Gifts: If you have any unused or unwanted gifts please bring them along to church between now and the Fayre clearly marked for the Gift Stall.

Books/CDs/DVDs: This year we have decided to sell fiction only books as we have found in the past few years there has not been a big demand for reference books and such like. Please bring any books/CDs or DVDs you have along to the Church between now and the Fayre.

Other Stalls include Craft and Soft Goods, Christian Book Stall and Roll and Sausage Bar.

We will keep you posted with any updates or changes to the above. Thank you for your support.

The Committee

The Scottish Bible Society

It is estimated that there are 2.4 billion people in the world who identify themselves as Christians. Sadly, at least one in ten or 240 million are facing discrimination in one form or another. Such discrimination and persecution is widespread, particularly in those countries where the government is communist, as in China. China has a population c.1.4 billion, of which c. 97 million are Christian. Despite severe opposition to Christianity and the spread of the Gospel, the good news is that the Christian Church in China continues to grow and is flourishing, thanks in no small measure to the work and support of the Scottish Bible Society.

The Scottish Bible Society together with the British and Foreign Bible Society and the American Bible Society were involved both practically and financially in the production of the *Chinese Union Version* of the Bible, which has remained the most popular translation of the Bible in use throughout China. The CUV was first published in Shanghai in April 1919 and it remains the most significant Bible translation project undertaken by the Chinese Protestant Church to date. Before the arrival of the CUV, there were about 27 different Bible translations being used in China, many having been produced by missionaries from different countries and denominations. It was widely acknowledged that there was a need for just one new unified version of the Bible and this was approved at a Conference held in Shanghai in 1890.

The new 'Mandarin CUV' was an immediate success and it continues to play a significant roll in spreading the Word of God and contributing to the extraordinary growth of the Chinese Church. The Scottish Bible Society are proud of the part they have played in bringing God's Word through the CUV to the people of China. 100 years on, their commitment to produce and provide accurate and reliable versions of God's Word remains, and this is at the heart of the work they undertake. The Scottish Bible Society is currently involved in raising funds to enable paper to be purchased for the Amity Press who are based in China, so that increasing numbers of 'subsidised Bibles' can be produced, to meet the ever-increasing demand.

To find it how you can financially support this vital work visit; scottishbiblesociety.org/china or speak to me in church.

Robert Belmore



Safeguarding

It has now been intimated that all those who have PVG clearance for a regulated post must attend a refresher course every three years. Please see the list of date below and if you need / want to attend a course please contact me and I will book you onto the course.

As ever, if anyone is considering volunteering for a regulated position, then please seek PVG clearance at you earliest opportunity. Attendance at a training course is compulsory.

Thank you,



Colin Murray, Safeguarding Co-ordinator

bvpsafeguarding@gmail.com

Volunteer training 2019 / 20 (All at 7.00-9.30 pm)

Wed 23 Oct	Blawarthill Church Hall, 33 Kinstone Ave., G14 0EB
Mon 18 Nov	St Paul's, 30 Langdale Street, G33 1DR
Wed 22 Jan	Rutherglen URC, 69 Johnstone Dr., Rutherglen G73 2QA
Thurs 20 Feb	Queen's Park Govanhill, 170 Queen's Dr., G42 8QZ
Thurs 26 Mar	Kelvinbridge, 62 Belmont St., G20 6JR
Tues 21 April	Campsie, 130 Main St., Lennoxton, G66 7DA
Mon 8 Jun	Mearns Kirk Church Halls, 404 Mearns Rd., Newton Mearns, G77 58U

Kirk Session training 2019 / 20 (All at 7.00-9.30 pm)

Thurs 10 Oct	Lenzie Union, 65 Kirkintilloch Rd., G66 4LD
Mon 2 Dec	Baillieston St Andrew's, 2 Bredisholm Rd., Baillieston, G69 7HL
Thurs 23 Jan	Williamwood, 4 Vardar Ave., Clarkston G76 7QP
Wed 11 Mar	Easterhouse, 30 Boyndie St., Easterhouse, G34 9JE

Offerings for period to 22nd September

	2019	2018	
Open Plate	3396	3679	- 283
FWO	<u>12469</u>	<u>14864</u>	- <u>2395</u>
	15865	18543	- 2678
Gift Aid direct to bank	<u>20795</u>	<u>21950</u>	- <u>1155</u>
Total	36660	40493	- 3833
Average per week (37weeks)	990	1094	- 104

Campbell Joss, Treasurer

Rota for Readings and Prayers

Here is the rota of people doing a reading or prayer in October.
Thanks very much to those who have volunteered! As always, the
rota may be subject to change.

Date	Name	Prayer / Reading
6 th Oct	Sarah Hay	Prayer of Adoration & Confession
13 th Oct	Robert Belmore	Reading
20 th Oct	Christine McTaggart	Prayer of Intercession
27 th Oct	Colin Murray	Reading

Fiona Hay

Prayer Points

Experiencing fear and faith

'Be strong and of good courage.'

Deuteronomy 31:6 NKJV

Any time you attempt something for the first time, or something you've failed at before, or something you think is too big for you, you'll experience both fear and faith. They go together. One will win out over the other, but they never go away. Because Israel had no idea what challenges awaited them or what life would be like in the Promised Land, God told them, 'Be strong and of good courage...for the Lord your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you.' And today that's His promise to you too! It's fear of failure that stops us most of the time. Yet as you look back, you realise that most times failure doesn't do permanent damage at all; you actually grow through it. Dr Joan Borysenko writes: 'When I was admitted to Harvard, I was sure there had been a computer error and I'd be exposed as a fraud. A lawyer friend of mine stops short of terror every time she has to give a final argument before a jury. Even when you're an expert, fear doesn't necessarily go away. It's accepting fear as part of the journey instead of running from it, that helps you to conquer it.' To go anywhere, you must launch out from somewhere, or you'll get nowhere. American essayist Hamilton Wright Mabie said, 'The question for each man to settle is not what he would do if he had the means, time, influence, and educational advantages, but what he will do with the things he has.' So, confront your fear, step out in faith, and believe God for success.

Copied with permission from "The Word for Today." Free copies are available from UCB Operations Centre, Westport Road, Stoke-on-Trent, England, ST6 4JF

*Christine Hay
Prayer Secretary*

Tea Rota

Date		
Oct 6	Harvest	
13	Neil Francis	Marion Francis
20	Janice Glass	Hazel McCalden
27	Carol May	Lindsay Fergus
Nov 3	John Glass	Ken McCalden
10	Jane Belmore	Veronica Goddard
17	Sharon Fergus	Susan Gibson
24	Margaret Paisley	Andy Paisley

Dining with Friends

This month's *Dining with Friends* is on **Friday 25th October** at **7.30pm** at **Dining in The Den (Mother India), Kelvingrove**

A date for your diary:

Thurs 28th Nov - 7.30pm Celinos, Partick

Please sign up for the next *Dining with Friends* on the notice in the Small Hall

Sarah Hay

Service Duty Rota

Oct – Nov 2019

Please report for duties in the church vestibule by 10.30 a.m. If you cannot manage a duty it is your responsibility to ensure that a substitute is found. Please advise your Team Leader (*) of any such arrangement **and amend on noticeboard in Church vestibule.**

N.B. Changes may be made to these arrangements – please see noticeboard for current details.

6 th October	A. Coghill	D. Hay
13 th October	Mrs P. Joss	Mrs M. Thomson
20 th October	Mrs S. Gibson*	R. McTaggart
27 th October	I. Fergus	Mrs F. Robertson
3 rd November	Mrs J. Sinclair*	Mrs C. McGowan
10 th November	J. Massey	Miss L. Fergus
17 th November	A. Thorburn*	Miss A. Richardson
24 th November	W. Methven	A. McKendry

Standby List: D. Robertson

Calendar of Events

There is still a lot going on at BVP and, when space permits, it is hoped to summarise these in the Herald as a simple list of events coming up in the next few months. This list will also be posted on the church notice boards. If you know of any suitable event which can be publicised, please let us know. It may be happening in our church or it may be a church related event elsewhere. Here is the initial list.

October 6th	Harvest Lunch following the service
October 9th	Guild. Humour in Television
October 23rd	Guild. Desert Island Hymns/Readings
October 25th	Dining with Friends. 7.30pm Dining in the Den, Kelvingrove
November 13th	Guild.
November 22nd	Christmas Fayre set up
November 23rd	Christmas Fayre
November 28th	Dining with Friends 7.30pm Celinos, Partick

Campbell Joss

Thanks to all who provided material for this October issue.

Please send items for the November issue by

Sunday 20th October

to

edbvpherald@gmail.com

Worship Services at BVP - October

Sunday 6th October

11.00 am Morning Service

Harvest Festival

Guild Dedication Service

There is a Harvest Lunch after the morning service.
Donations for *Compassion*

Sunday 13th October

11.00 am Morning Service

Sunday 20th October

11.00 am Morning Service

Sunday 27th October

11.00 am Morning Service

The J team and Bible Class join in the morning worship before they leave for their own classes