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The Individual Easter Story

Dear Friends

Another Easter has come and gone.

So huge, so momentous is the Easter story of the death and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth that even for a believing Christian it takes a special effort to make it register in your emotions. The events of Holy Week are so familiar to most people in the Church that nothing comes as a surprise. We know that Judas betrayed Jesus. We know that Jesus was set up by the Temple authorities. We know he was beaten and spat at and ridiculed. We know he was nailed to the cross and strung up. We know that he called out to God in his desolation. We know that he died before the day was done. But the familiarity of the story can rob it of its utter horror. Even the resurrection can seem ordinary and predictable. Perhaps we went to Holy Week services in the company of fellow-believers in a calm frame of mind.

I was struck when listening a couple of weeks ago to Ray Houghton, the Glasgow-born Irish international and Liverpool footballer. On a radio

programme he was recalling his experience as a member of the Liverpool team on the day of the Hillsborough disaster. Ninety-six football fans died that day in the crush that developed in the crowded terraces. It was very moving to hear Houghton say: "I won't be at the 25th Anniversary Memorial Service. As I've done for years now, I'll be at home watching it on TV, crying my eyes out."

It was as if the deep sorrow of his memories he could best address when he was on his own, away from other mourners.

I think that the same is probably true about individuals and the Easter story. It is when we are on our own, thinking deeply about desolation, isolation, loneliness that we are able to reach – and be reached by – the power of God's love, demonstrated in Christ's death and resurrection.

A blessing.

John Miller

New Moderator

Rev John Chalmers has been named as Moderator Designate to take office at the General Assembly this month. The 61-year-old replaces Rev Dr Angus Morrison, who earlier this year had to stand down because of ill-health.

Mr Chalmers, as long-standing Principal Clerk to the General Assembly, is well placed to take on the role of Moderator at short notice. He said: "It is an unexpected privilege and a real honour to be entrusted with this role at this time."

He was born in Bothwell, South Lanarkshire, and attended Marr College, Troon. He and his wife, Liz, now live in Dunfermline, Fife. They have three children and three grandchildren.

At Strathclyde University he studied chemical engineering before transferring to Glasgow University to embark on a degree in divinity. During the early eighties he was minister in Renton Trinity Parish, West Dunbartonshire, and from 1986 to 1995 he was the minister at Palmerston Place Church in Edinburgh's West End. These contrasting parishes have given him a breadth of understanding of the challenges facing the Church.

Mr Chalmers, whose older sister June

had Down's Syndrome, has spent most of his life supporting the work of Enable. For 20 years he was a member of the board of Donaldson's, the National School for the Deaf, and in his moderatorial year he hopes to visit many special-needs facilities because he believes that some of the greatest works of service are done by people who do not get enough affirmation or public recognition.

In 2011 his youngest son, John-James, was injured in Afghanistan while serving with the Royal Marines. Mr Chalmers says at that time he and his family experienced the Church as a healing and supportive community. In a society in which so many people are friendless and lonely, Mr Chalmers hopes that in his role as Moderator he will be able to encourage people to find faith, friendship and the spirit of Christ in the community of the local Church.

Addressing the urgent challenges that face the Church, the new Moderator Designate went on to say: "My focus will be on those things that unite us. Within the Church we have to learn to live with our differences. We have an urgent need to recruit women and men to train to be ministers and it's time to let society know that there is something very meaningful about living the life of faith."

Plant Sale



Orchardhill's Fundraising Committee has decided to postpone the planned plant sale until spring next year. In order to make the event a big community affair and a great success, we need your help.

Would you be willing to take cuttings from your shrubs, perennials or

house plants or allow someone else to do that? Are you able to sow seed – biennial and perennial this year and/or annual seed next year? Do you have space in your polytunnel, greenhouse, cold frame, garden or balcony to store plants? We need to start creating plants now.

Please contact Fergus Cook if you can help in any way (644 1354).

Collection Rota

May



4	Fiona Thomson 571 7153; Bill McMurtrie 571 2512; Margaret Howard 571 7854; Ronald Carswell 638 6639
11	Fiona Thomson; Bill McMurtrie; Margaret Howard; Ronald Carswell
18	Ann Pope 616 4809; Steve McAslan 589 4289; Roseanne Henderson 571 7375; Neil Mackenzie 638 0591
25	Ann Pope; Steve McAslan; Valerie Clarke 638 6148; Neil Mackenzie

June

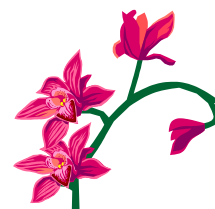
1	Pauline Young 562 9906; Norma Hannah 638 7515; Valerie Clarke; Hilary Kennedy 638 6114
8	Joyce Winning 571 7617; Norma Hannah; Colin Williamson 571 9119; Anne Anderson 638 0689
15	Joyce Winning; Maureen Park 638 0273; Colin Williamson; Anne Anderson
22	Shona Fletcher 639 4523; Maureen Park; Alex Mall 585 7169; Gillian Brogan 639 6269
29	Shona Fletcher; Ian Cartlidge 571 7839; Alex Mall

July

6	Nanette Davidson 638 1570; Angela Peacock 638 0026; Lisel Tait 638 8345
13	Nanette Davidson; Angela Peacock; Lisel Tait
20	Nanette Davidson; Jeanette Birnie 638 0457; Norma Hannah 638 7515
27	Nanette Davidson; Jeanette Birnie; Alastair Borland 638 0958

Flower Delivery

Can you help with the much appreciated Flower Delivery service over the next few months? If so, please add your name and contact details to the sheets on the Welcome Table as you enter the sanctuary.



For further information, contact Norma Hannah (638 7515: norma@mikehannah.plus.com).



Eastwoodhill Coffee Morning

Thanks to everyone who supported the Eastwoodhill Coffee Morning last month. The event raised more than £1650.

Orchardhill Lent Labyrinth



Orchardhill's Lent Labyrinth was held in the church from 17 to 28 March. This was a multi-sensory experience which took the individual on a journey through the 40 days of Lent leading up to

Easter Sunday. It offered an opportunity for some personal reflection and interaction, prayer and quiet contemplation.

The nave of the church was cleared to accommodate a pathway winding through various interactive stations. These included reflections on Feasting, Penitence, Giving something up for the World, Love and Companionship, Loss, Emptiness, and Rebirth. Among various linked activities, visitors were invited to sit at a Last Supper table, untie a trouble at the Problem Tree, and leave a mark in Sands of Time trays.

The starting point for the Labyrinth was a reflection on the journeys of pilgrims of old, who often travelled with a scallop shell as a symbol of their

converging paths. The Labyrinth welcomed people of all faiths or none, adults and children.

Every morning of both weeks the Labyrinth was visited by a class from Giffnock Primary School (14 classes in all). Pupils were escorted round by their teachers and helpers from the church.

The children showed great enthusiasm during the journey, and many interesting dialogues were exchanged. Their comments, recorded at the finish, indicated their enjoyment of the interactive learning style. The school was very supportive of the project, which was rounded off at their end-of-term spring service.

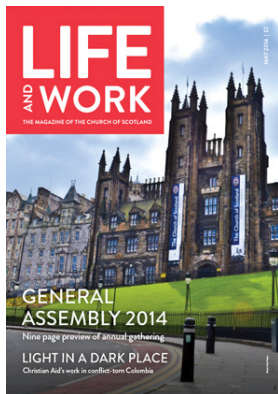
In the second week, mornings and evenings, the Labyrinth was open to everyone, and it was visited by adults and children from Orchardhill and the surrounding community.

The Labyrinth team would like to thank all who helped in the installation and running of this project, including the doorkeepers who gave up their time. Thanks also to everyone who visited for their support.





We Would Like to See Jesus



A former Orchardhill member, Rev Dan Carmichael, features in the Life and Work magazine this month with an article headed "We Would Like to See Jesus". His subject is the importance of encounter in worship.

Mr Carmichael, minister at Lenzie Union, still has strong family connections with Orchardhill

through his mother and brother.

This being May, the Church of Scotland monthly magazine also features the General Assembly with an article on the new Moderator, Rev John Chalmers, and a preview of the Heart and Soul celebration in Edinburgh's Princes Street Gardens on Sunday 18 May.

Also included are articles on the Assembly's key reports as well as the timetables for the Assembly itself and

the fringe events. The Assembly runs from 17 to 23 May.

May is also the month of Christian Aid Week. That, too, is featured in Life and Work, headlined with a report on the work of a Christian Aid partner in Colombia

Other articles include:

- A Scottish chaplain working with women in Kenya's prisons.
- The principal of New College, Edinburgh, Rev David Fergusson, highlights the hardship now faced by ministry students.
- Rev Dr Martin Fair considers Acts 6: 1-7 and explains why everyone has a gift of ministry.

XX Commonwealth Games

You're invited to watch the Opening Ceremony **live** at Orchardhill on Wednesday 23 July from 6.30pm.

Be part of the biggest party Scotland has seen in a lifetime. Enjoy the spectacle on a giant screen with family and friends.

Watch the Orchardhill website for further details: www.orchardhill.org.uk.



MORE THAN
GOLD
2014

Guild Allocations

In March, at the end of the session, the Guild decided on the allocation of the money we had raised throughout the session. The allocations are:

Friends of Eastwoodhill	£50
Orchardhill Church:	
Fabric fund	£200
Heating and Lighting	£300
Guild Projects:	
Out of Africa...into Malta	£125
A Passage from India	£125
Lodging House Mission	£40
National Bible Society	£25
Church House, Bridgeton	£40
Leprosy Mission	£25
Pathfinder Dogs	£35
Dwelling Places (rescuing Uganda's street children).....	£35
Total allocated from Guild Funds	£1000



As usual, half has been allocated to Orchardhill Church. The rest of the donations are a little different this year as we wanted to give some support to a few of the charities whose speakers had inspired us over the last session.

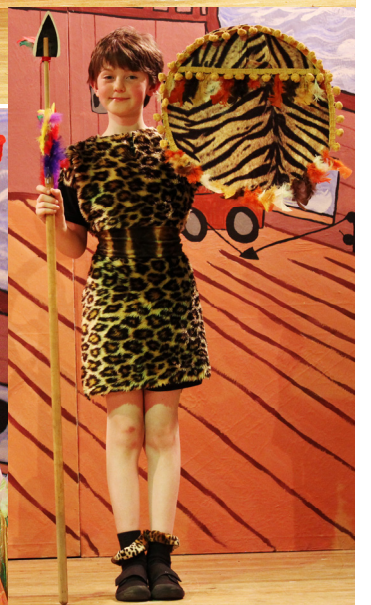
Earlier in the year The Guild donated £1904 (Sunshine Bag money) to Mary's Meals (Haiti) and £10 to South East Council.

Jeanette Birnie

SoundWaves' Pirates

SoundWaves ended the session on a high with a successful show. The boys and girls worked very hard and had great fun as they entertained us with "Pirates" in March.







Christian Aid Book Sale



The Christian Aid book sale will be held at Morrison's supermarket on Saturday 10 May from 10.00am to 1.00pm. We invite your support once again for

this popular event.

We are looking for extra help from new door-to-door collectors during Christian Aid week from 11 to 17 May. If you are able to help please contact Ian Anderson (638 0689) or David Howard (571 785).

Choir Concert

Orchardhill's choir and guest singers will present a variety of musical items on Sunday 11 May at 7.00pm in the church. Entry is by donation, with all funds going

to Orchardhill, and refreshments will be available at the conclusion. We look forward to welcoming you that evening.

Good Food for a Good Cause

Social Bite is one of Glasgow's newest coffee shops. Situated in St Vincent Street (just round from Renfield Street), it is a Social Business, donating 100% of its profits to good causes.

Many of the employees have a background of homelessness, and you can read some of their stories on the café walls. They also run a "suspended food and coffee" scheme, where you can pre-pay for any item on the menu for a local homeless person to claim later. They feed about 30 people a day through this scheme.

All the food, from a menu created by a Michelin Star chef, is freshly prepared

on the premises, such as soup, a choice of hot meals, sandwiches, and wraps. The seating is limited as it is mainly a takeaway, and it is busy at lunchtime. But it is worth popping into for a cup of excellent coffee or tea at very reasonable prices.

Projects currently being supported include Shelter Scotland, a micro-finance programme in Malawi, and Grameen Eye Care Hospital in Bangladesh. Find out more on www.social-bite.co.uk or on Facebook or Twitter@Socialbite_.

Tried, tested and recommended by members of your experienced café team!

Irene Kinniburgh

Junior Badminton Club

Saturday morning badminton in Orchardhill's junior club has come to an end for another season. The club has been well attended with around 20 children aged 10 to 16 playing most weeks. During the year the juniors have enjoyed a Crazy Tournament, received coaching, visited the Scottish International Badminton Grand Prix at the Emirates Stadium, and played with members of the senior club. They competed twice in matches against Cumbernauld juniors at the Cockburn Centre and at the Tryst Sports Centre, where they had the opportunity to play in different venues and against new opponents.

The annual mixed doubles for the Tricia Murray Trophy was held in February, with Lila and Bob Murray making the presentations to the winners, Andrew Hood and Niamh Flockhart, and the runners-up, Cameron Walker and Catriona Sinclair.

The season finished with the club singles tournament, where our elder, Colin Williamson, presented the trophies. Andrew Hood and Ruth Flockhart retained the respective trophies: Callum MacLeod and Catriona Sinclair were runners-up.

Junior badminton restarts at the end of August, and anyone aged 10 to 16 interested in joining should contact Barbara Mackenzie (638 0591: neiljmackenzie@msn.com).





Tricia Murray Trophy Winners and Runners Up



Championship Winners and Runners Up

Internet Vulnerability

You may have read articles or seen TV news regarding a new potentially very damaging vulnerability that can occur on websites, email and other areas of the internet where you have to log in via a previously thought secure access called OpenSSL. This intimation is to advise you that our website www.orchardhill.org.uk does not use the OpenSSL that is vulnerable, and so you do not need to take any action regarding your log in or password. All @orchardhill.org.uk email addresses have been reset and passwords renewed since the mail servers were patched on and are all now secure again. I will keep you informed as to further developments.

In the interim you would be best advised to check with all websites where you have to log in to ascertain

whether or not they are vulnerable. If they were and have now patched their site and updated their certificates then you should immediately change your password.

It goes without saying that you should not use the same password for more than one site. There is a tool available to help you check out a website, which, though not foolproof, will assist you. It is available at the following address: <https://lastpass.com/heartbleed/>. Simply type in the address of the website you are concerned about, and it will give you the information. As I said, it's not foolproof as it showed Orchardhill as unknown whether it was updated or not.

If you have concerns you can contact Dave Thomson. My phone number is in the directory or you can email me at Dave@G46.co.uk.

Orchardhill Record – Summer Holiday

Following previous years' policy, the Orchardhill Record will not be published in June and July. The deadline for the August edition will be Sunday 13 July.

Orchardhill Parish Church: Scottish Charity number SC 009774

COMMUNION ROLL

Death

On 12 April 2014 Mrs Jean Aithie, 4 Orchard Court, Orchard Park, Giffnock G46 7BL (district 47)

Disjunction

Mrs Alyson Perry, Westacres Nursing Home, Westacres Road, Newton Mearns G77 6WW (district 10).

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

Change of Address

Mrs Shiona Reid from 13 Bulloch Avenue, Giffnock, to 1d Brisbane Court, Giffnock G46 6LX

Orchardhill Diary

May 2014

May

Sun 4 10.30am Family Worship Rev John Miller

Sun 11 10.30am Family Worship Rev John Miller

7.00pm Choir Concert

Sun 18 10.30am Family Worship Rev John Miller

Sun 25 10.30am Family Worship Rev John Miller

Tue 27 7.30pm Congregational Board

June

Sun 1 10.30am Family Worship

Sun 8 10.30am Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Sun 15 10.30am Family Worship

Sun 22 10.30am Family Worship

Tue 24 7.30pm Kirk Session

Wed 25 11.00am Giffnock Primary School Leavers Celebration Service

Sun 29 10.30am Family Worship

July

Sun 6 10.30am Family Worship

Sun 13 10.30am Family Worship

Sun 20 10.30am Family Worship

Sun 27 10.30am Family Worship

August

Sun 3 10.30am Family Worship

Mon 4 Start of Mission Week (Huntly Hound and CHIPs Café)