

NO.178

SUMMER 2021

GRAPEVINE



DUNDEE WEST CHURCH

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GRAPEVINE

Material for the Sept/Oct issue of the Grapevine should be with the Editorial Team by Sunday 22th August.

PASTORAL LETTER

Dear All

From time to time, I receive emails about Church history that give me pause to think and in doing so I am encouraged by the faithfulness and providence of God at work in our lives and in the lives of those who were before us. At the time of writing, I received such an email.

It concerned a worthy by the name of William Law. You may not have heard of him but I can tell you that his work was required reading in my early days of ministry and we do well to re-discover his work today. He was an early 18th century Anglican priest who was unwilling to take the Hanoverian oath having previously given his oath to the House of Stuart. This was a man of integrity who found himself caught up in the changing political and ecclesiastical turmoil of his day. His lasting influence on the Church comes through his mystical and theological writings. *'A Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life'* was written in 1729 and was claimed by William Wilberforce, John & Charles Wesley and George Whitefield to be influential in their life and ministry.

Here was a man, like many before and since, who was prepared to acknowledge his place and trust in Christ. Unlike those mentioned above - you will not find many, if any, statues of him - his words are his legacy. Words such as, *'There is nothing that makes us love a man so much as praying for him'* or *'Humility is nothing else but a right judgement of ourselves'*.

Law reminds us that we have a Holy God who delights in our worship and encourages us in our witness. In all life's challenges and difficulties, we have one Lord and Saviour who has promised that our life, although hidden in Him, will, if surrendered to Him, reveal His love and mercy and demonstrate true life, one that is full of joy and peace. So he can write - *'Receive every day as a resurrection from death, as a new enjoyment of life'*. No matter the turmoil, political, economic or ecclesiastical the Lord is on the throne.

Little wonder he influenced so many for good - may our lives likewise be of use in the Lord's hands.

James Connolly

CHURCH FLOWERS

June 13th - Mrs Alison James : June 20th – Mrs Lynda Ross : June 27th – Miss Avril Novak
July 4th – Miss Jean Dorward & Mrs Elizabeth Blair : July 11th – Mrs Anne Coleman
July 18th – Mrs Dorothy McGill : July 25th – Mrs Christine Webb
August 1st – Mr Paul and Mrs Heather Preece

ANSWERS TO PUZZLE (APRIL/MAY)

TH/RA/SH

THE GUILD

Now that the Covid restrictions are easing slightly, we are very hopeful that the autumn will see us all in a much better place, and so the Guild are starting to make some plans with a view to starting up meetings again round about September. We would like to think 18 months of staying at home will not put anyone off, but, in fact, they would look forward to reuniting with friends to once more enjoy the tea and biscuits and interesting talks, not to mention the fun and chat we have together.

We are very much aware that coming out of an evening is less attractive now, and so we are arranging for future meetings to be held in the afternoon. We hope that maybe this will prove popular enough for some more church friends to come along. Remember that the Guild is open to men and women and also that you don't have to be a member of Dundee West to join in. A number of churches have lost their Guilds over recent years and we already have some Guild members from other churches. You don't even have to be a church member - just interested in what we are doing. Our branch is a very friendly one and we welcome new members and visitors. However, if you would like to come along but are not sure of coming for the first time by yourself, bring a friend/husband with you.

So many of you have been very supportive of what we have done in the past, particularly our fund raising events, but if you would like to know more about our organisation, get in touch.

One more bit of good news! Many of you will know by now that Dr Connolly has been instrumental in setting up a recording studio in one of the rooms of the old church officer house, and the first recording was an information video about the Guild. We are very pleased and privileged that the Minister chose the Guild as the first organisation to be highlighted in this way. If you haven't seen it so far and have access to a website, you can go into the Dundee West Church website, Organisations, Guild and you will be able to see this short video.

Let's be positive and look forward to meeting up again before too long.

Elizabeth Blair

WHAT IS CHRISTIAN LIFE

Christian Life is lived in relationship with GOD through JESUS CHRIST and, in common with other CHRISTIANS, seeking to deepen that relationship and to follow the way that JESUS taught.

GOD IS FOR US.

Central to that relationship is knowing we can TRUST GOD.

SAINT PAUL says at the end of the EIGHTH CHAPTER of his letter to the Church in ROME, "IF GOD is for us, who can be against us"? And this is the heart of FAITH.

How do we know that "God is for us"?

Because JESUS CHRIST, the one HUMAN BEING who is completely in tune with GOD, with what GOD wants and what GOD is doing – he has carried the burden of our HUMAN BETRAYELS of GOD and running away from GOODNESS.

Death did not succeed in silencing him or removing him from the WORLD.

He is alive, and that means his love is alive, and that means his LOVE IS ALIVE, having survived the WORST WE CAN DO.

AMEN

Wilf Lakie

CHURCH NEWS

We are currently holding services in church on a Sunday morning with the usual restrictions, although the number allowed has gone up to 60. The choir are now allowed upstairs again (but still no singing).

There will be a Communion Service on Sunday 27th June at 11am, using the 'all in one' communion elements, to which you are invited.

Still no visits from your elder or Grapevine visitors meantime, but hopefully soon.

The Café has reopened and Alison & Nikki welcome you to join them for Coffee/Tea/Cake, or Lunch, Monday to Friday from 10am-4pm.

Still no organisations are meeting on our premises (except Badminton and MDH) but again this will change hopefully as soon as they are allowed.

QUIZ SEARCH

Use the clues below to search for the objects in the grid

5 Garden Objects

4 British Rivers

3 African Countries

2 English Counties

1 Comedy Actress (7,4)

N	C	U	F	V	H	C	N	E	B	O
C	I	W	I	L	T	G	H	I	R	E
T	R	A	H	A	D	N	A	R	I	M
D	H	L	T	O	U	N	E	A	L	S
E	G	A	S	N	A	O	Y	K	I	P
G	C	D	M	M	U	N	R	L	M	N
Y	S	G	I	E	E	O	L	D	E	R
P	O	B	N	K	S	E	F	E	R	E
T	I	L	A	O	R	B	R	E	S	V
A	U	S	O	T	M	A	T	W	E	E
C	P	A	T	I	O	E	D	T	Y	S

REGISTER

Death

In May, Mr Dempster, of Minto Place.

We extend our prayers and sympathy to his family and friends.