



# The Net

Autumn 2010

## **Editors' Note ~**

Articles for inclusion in the Christmas 2010 issue of the magazine should be in the hands of the Editors – Eleanor Forbes and Shirley Kirk – **no later than Sunday 21 November 2010**. Articles may be emailed to [eleanor.forbes60@btinternet.com](mailto:eleanor.forbes60@btinternet.com) or handed to either Eleanor or Shirley.

*Priestfield Parish Church  
Registered Scottish Charity  
Charity Number SC014499*

## *From the Manse ~*

### *Special Services*

Between now and Christmas we have a number of special services. The details for some of these have still to be finalised but I thought that it would be good to give you advanced warning so that you can look out for them. On Sunday 12 September we will be having a visit from Pete Edwards of Friends International. Many international students come to Edinburgh each year and a foreign city can be a lonely place. FI help recruit people who will give some hospitality to international students during their time of study, and this is one way in which we can express our faith while also fulfilling the terms of our Reviewable Tenure. It would be good to have a number of people/families offering this hospitality. Pete will explain more of what's involved.

Our Harvest Thanksgiving will be on Sunday 3 October. We hope to have breakfast at GodSpace then an all-age service at 11am. Do come and bring your harvest gifts which, after the service, will be given away to those in need.

The Kirk Session and Congregational Board agreed to recommend to the Congregation that we move from the Model Constitution to the Unitary Constitution. For those who know little about these things, a copy of each hangs on the noticeboard and we will put them on the Church website as well. On 26 September, after the service, I hope to do a short presentation to show what difference it could make to us and then, some weeks later, probably on 10 October, we will have a formal Congregational Meeting to decide.

Remembrance Sunday this year will be on 14 November. Last year I felt that things on the whole went well, but that it was unfortunate we had to leave the other members of the community after the act of remembrance in Prestonfield. The Kirk Session will be thinking about how we might do things differently this year and put something in Connections.

### *Fabric Developments – update*

Over the years I've discovered that things always take longer than you expect or hope, and that's the case with our ideas for developing the Lounge. We have received initial drawings from the architect and have put

together a narrative explaining everything that we want to achieve within our building so that Historic Scotland will have the full picture when they reflect on the project.

That full narrative includes the need for the redecoration of the sanctuary and the re-siting and development of audio-visual equipment. It has been the intention for some time for the Congregational Board to hold a Gift Day towards an identifiable project, so when the cost details are clearer the Board will intimate the timing of the Gift Day and the elements of the project it is intended to support. Look out for it in Connections and more information will be circulated when available.

### *Fiona Tweedie*

On the 5 September we will be joined on placement by Mrs Fiona Tweedie, who will be undertaking her probationary period for Auxiliary Ministry. Fiona is already known to some of our members through the Mission Shaped Intro course last year, and she is presently organising the follow-on year long course, Mission Shaped Ministry, as part of her duties. We will be sharing Fiona with the Presbytery Clerk's Office as she uses her professional expertise with the Unless the Lord Builds the House project and similar work.

### *Martin, Nora and EunA*

We said a sad farewell to Martin and Nora during the summer, and Nora sent this message to us just a few days after her arrival in Basel. Please remember them in your prayers as they find their feet in this new situation.

*Dear friends at Priestfield Church,*

*after a few days in Basel, I am now in Austria in order to help my brother and my future sister-in-law with their final wedding preparations.*

*I would like to thank all of you for the wonderful time in church that Martin and I have experienced over the last two years. It was a real pleasure for us to be part of the "Priestfield family". We are very grateful for the warm welcome which we received every week and we really enjoyed the Sunday services as well as all the other church activities.*

*Sitting in my parent's house in Austria, I am thinking very much about all of you. I hope you are all well and I miss you very much. Martin asked me to pass on his greetings as well and we hope to see you all again soon.*

*Best wishes, Nora.*

We give EunA Kim a very warm welcome as our new organist and look

forward to her and her family sharing in our congregational life.

*Conference – 30 October 9.30am – 4pm Faith Mission College*

It's good to get together from time to time not only for worship and fellowship, but thinking and discussing. This year we hope to join with Granton Parish Church as we think how we can continue to put the terms of our reviewable tenure into practice.

Leading us in our thinking will be Rev Dr Martin Fair of St Andrew's Church in Arbroath. St Andrew's is a thriving church, but it took years of development and change for it to become a church that has such an impact on the community around it. A few of the members of St Andrew's will be coming to share their journey with us and to tell us what worked and didn't work for them. Some of you will have seen a very interesting article about them in *Life and Work* earlier this year.

I know this conference will be of benefit to us so please keep the date free and sign up to come. The cost will be around £10 p/p to cover lunch and expenses and the booking forms will be out soon.

*Some Personal Reflections*

It's been an interesting summer for us as a family. Catriona completed her schooling and then went off immediately to Kenya for a month on a school trip! The youngsters worked at an orphanage for the first part of their time and then climbed Mt Kenya, finishing off with some safari and beach time. It was the trip of a lifetime. As I write, she is on her first holiday with friends on Zante, so her parents are praying hard! Thankfully, she achieved the results needed for a place at Lancaster University to study Psychology and she begins there on 1 October. Ian did well in his 4<sup>th</sup> year exams (Standard Grades and Int2) with straight As. But this year he will have to work a bit harder, I think.

Jane, Ian and I really enjoyed our holiday in Tuscany, with the dominant theme being the Renaissance – visits to Florence and other historic cities of that period proved to be really interesting. It was just marvellous, with lots of lovely food. But there has been a down side to the summer as well. My health has not improved in the way that we had hoped and I've been working with the GP to exclude 'the nasties' from diagnosis. Blood tests have done that and he has given me some advice to try out – more exercise and less stress. While I'll be taking that advice, my feeling is that

the tiredness I feel could still be related to the virus I had earlier in the year so I would appreciate your prayers and understanding during this process of recovery. To help manage my energy levels better, I have resigned from the Ministries Council, with which I've been involved for the last three years, and will look carefully at other areas of involvement.

It has been some years since I have taken Study Leave, but on each occasion I have used it there has been real benefit to both congregation and minister. I'm trying to put together plans for the early part of next summer when the students are on exam leave and work is usually quieter. The draft plan is to take five or six weeks that have a mixture of study time away from home, looking, reading and thinking about how other churches engage in mission, time at home listening and talking to people in the community, and some time either at Taizé or a monastery for personal reflection. When the plans are complete and the Session has seen them, I'll make them more widely known.

Blessings,

Jared.

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*A Date for Your Diaries...*  
**CONGREGATIONAL CONFERENCE**  
*Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> October*  
*at*  
*Faith Mission, Gilmerton Road*  
*with*  
*Rev Dr Martin Fair of St Andrew's Church,*  
*Arbroath*



The official letter of thanks from Christian Aid is on the Lounge Bulletin Board. Priestfield, in May this year, collected £3,402.90. Thanks to all those who were involved in this worthwhile venture.

Isabel Murray

# WHAT'S ON? WHAT'S ON? WHAT'S ON? WHAT'S ON?

## SEPTEMBER 2010

Thursday	2	1930	Praise and Prayer in the Lounge
Sunday	5	1000	<b>GodSpace</b>
		1100	Communion Service
		1830	'Surprised by Hope' 1 - with Communion
Wednesday	8	1930	Congregational Board
Thursday	9		Home Groups
Sunday	12	1000	<b>GodSpace</b>
		1100	Morning Service with Pete Edwards of 'Friends International'
Tuesday	14	1930	Kirk Session
Thursday	16	1930	Praise and Prayer in the Lounge
Sunday	19	1000	<b>GodSpace</b>
		1100	Morning Service
		1830	'Surprised by Hope' 2
Thursday	23		Home Groups
Sunday	26	1000	<b>GodSpace</b>
		1100	Morning Service - followed by an information session on ' <i>The Unitary Constitution</i> '
Thursday	30	1930	Praise and Prayer in the Lounge

## OCTOBER

Saturday	2	1000	Coffee Morning
Sunday	3	1000	<b>GodSpace Harvest Breakfast in the Upstairs Hall (to be confirmed)</b>
		1100	Harvest Service for all ages
		1830	'Surprised by Hope' 3 – with Communion
Thursday	7		Home Groups
Sunday	10	1000	<b>GodSpace</b>
		1100	Morning Service - followed by a Meeting of the Congregation to consider and vote on ' <i>The Unitary Constitution</i> '
Tuesday	12	1930	Kirk Session

Wednesday	13	1930	Congregational Board
Thursday	14	1930	Praise and Prayer in the Lounge
Sunday	17	1000	<b>GodSpace</b>
		1100	Morning Service
		1830	'Surprised by Hope' 4
Thursday	21		Home Groups
Sunday	24	1000	<b>GodSpace</b>
		1100	Morning Service
Thursday	28	1930	Praise and Prayer in the Lounge
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>30</b>		<b>Congregational Conference at Faith Mission in Gilmerton</b>
Sunday	31	1000	<b>GodSpace</b>
		1100	Morning Service

## NOVEMBER

Thursday	4		Home Groups
Saturday	6	1000	Coffee Morning
Sunday	7	1000	<b>GodSpace</b>
		1100	Morning Service
		1830	'Surprised by Hope' 5 – with Communion
Thursday	11	1930	Praise and Prayer in the Lounge
Sunday	14		Remembrance Sunday

**Details of services on Remembrance Sunday will be given in 'Connections' nearer the time**

Thursday	18		Home Groups
Sunday	21	1000	<b>GodSpace</b>
		1100	Morning Service
		1830	'Surprised by Hope' 6
Wednesday	24	1930	Congregational Board
Thursday	25	1930	Praise and Prayer in the Lounge
Sunday	28	1000	<b>GodSpace</b>
		1100	Advent Sunday Morning Service
Tuesday	30	1930	Kirk Session

## DECEMBER

Thursday	2		Home Groups
Saturday	4	1000	Coffee Morning



### Organist

The Kirk Session agreed to appoint a Group to interview Eun-A and hear her play.

### Forum

Jared indicated that, since its inception, 'Forum' had failed to attract significant numbers of students or 'new' people and was attended by a core of people who also attended Home Groups and/or 'Praise and Prayer'. This raised the question about whether it was an effective use of limited resources. Options might include running the six week DVD/book series, 'Surprised by Hope' from September to Christmas, or having a more informal 'meeting' with students at a local café. Moving away from the twice per month evening 'Forum' model would raise the question about evening Communion. It was agreed that the change would give the opportunity to consider afresh the place of Communion in our congregational life, perhaps moving to a once a month 11.00am Communion, including GodSpace. The Kirk Session approved in principle and agreed to consider the matter again after the summer.

### Congregational Conference

Jared outlined discussions that he had had with Rev Martin Fair of St Andrew's Church, Arbroath and Rev Norman Smith of Granton Parish Church. The developing idea would be for a team from Arbroath to come to Edinburgh one Saturday in the autumn and speak at a conference about their missionary journey.

### Unitary Constitution

When the Kirk Session and Congregational Board agreed to support the move to a Unitary Constitution in April, the key issue of how to deal with elected members of the Board had been left unresolved. After discussion the Kirk Session unanimously agreed the following points:

1. That existing elected Board members should be offered ordination to the eldership.
2. That it should be made clear to elected Board members that there will continue to be a place on the Kirk Session committees for non-elders to make a full contribution to the life of the congregation.
3. That opportunities will be given to the congregation to nominate members as elders or as committee members, although decisions would remain with the Kirk Session.
4. That the move to a Unitary Constitution should be accompanied by a commitment to have more frequent congregational meetings, perhaps three or four per year.

5. That the Clerk should write to each elected Board member setting out the above points so that they can consider their positions at leisure over the summer period.

## *08 August. Joint meeting with the Board*

### Flood Crisis in Pakistan

Jared spoke about the emerging crisis in Pakistan, where flooding of the River Indus had already resulted in thousands of deaths and the displacement of millions of people. Elders and Board members expressed horror and sympathy and the meeting agreed to have a retiring offering on Sunday 15 August.

### *Next Meeting*

The next meeting of the Kirk Session will be on Tuesday 14 September.

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# ~ Student Ministry Group ~

### **Priestfield 'TNT' \***

What is that? A group for students on Sunday evenings. You can find the programme on the bookmarks in the lounge. To advertise the welcome students will receive at Priestfield, these will be given out at the Church Search in George Square on the first few Sundays of the new session by Kirsty, Fraser, Andrew and others and also be in a fun bag, along with some freebies, distributed by Jared outside the Freshers' Fair in the Pleasance. June and Norman will also drop them into 'student-looking' flats on Dalkeith Road. Please take some to give to any students living near you.

### **Breakfasts**

These have continued over the summer, enjoyed by visitors and regulars alike. Pat Smith and Helen Douglas have now joined the clear-up team but more volunteers would be welcome to secure its long term future.

### **Meeting international students**

Why not befriend an international student this session? The commitment can vary – a meeting for a coffee and a chat once a month or entertaining

a student at Christmas or showing them around Edinburgh. It can be a very rewarding experience for both parties. Forms are available in the lounge and/or speak to Norman Henderson.

### **Church Website**

As the website could be the way to discovering Priestfield for students, we aim to set up a dedicated page for them. Amongst other information, there will be news of the 'TNT' programme.

### **Working with others**

There are some exciting possibilities being actively pursued with Newington Churches Together (NCT). Watch out for more detailed information in Connections.

### **Prayer Points**

- Pray for the freshers as they arrive and study in Edinburgh, many living away from home for the first time.
- Pray for the international students and their families as they settle into life here and adapt to culture shock.
- Pray for Christian students that they can continue to follow Jesus in a new environment.
- Pray that all returning students, wherever they come from, will hear the Good News and we will be part of spreading it.
- Pray that students will come along to 'TNT' and find out more about God's love.

*June Henderson*

\* TNT = Teens and Twenties

## *~ A Message from the Treasurers ~*

Offerings for the first half of the year are very encouraging, amounting to £29,025 compared with £22,809 for the same period in 2009. We are grateful to all who have prayerfully considered their giving.

We have also received £2935 for use of the premises and a £1000 legacy.

Expenditure is broadly to budget, with lower figures for both heating and lighting compared with the same period in 2009.

Fabric expenditure to the end of June was £2121. This does not include refurbishment expenditure, the main items of which were £1016 for the dais extension and safety rail and £1744 for the lectern (for which a specific donation of £500 was received.) At the end of December 2009 the Refurbishment Fund stood at £1383. We have now spent that amount plus a further £1377. No specific budget was set for refurbishment costs but, as previously agreed, a Gift Day will be held in the autumn to fund these.

Outreach expenditure amounts to £1757, which includes the church sign, banners and breakfast goods (towards which donations of £145 have been received).

*Fiona Ferguson and Andrew Steven  
Joint Treasurers*



## ~ GUILD ~

The Guild will start session 2010-2011 on Tuesday 12 October, looking at the theme "What does the Lord require of you? - To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God". The discussion topic is being called to "love mercy".

On 26 October Mr Simon Fairnie will be giving a talk on "The Fisherwomen".

November's programme consists of a talk, on the 9<sup>th</sup>, by CrossReach, titled "On the other side", followed on 23 November by a Musical Evening by our own Priestfield Choir.

Mr John Graham will be speaking on "Scottish Islands" on 7 December, and this year's programme will end with a Christmas Evening on 14 December.

The New Year sees Mr Eric Melvin speak on 11 January on "Mary, Queen of Scots". A Burns Supper will be held on 25 January.

Our Minister, Rev Dr Jared Hay, will be the speaker on 8 February with a talk entitled "User's Guide to the Bible". On 22 February, Dr Donald Smith,

Director of The Scottish Storytelling Centre, will have as his topic "Faith in Stories".

The speaker for 8 March has still to be finalised and the season will end with the AGM on 22 March.

**A warm welcome is extended to everyone - male and female - to attend any or all of our meetings, which start at 7.30pm, finishing around 9pm after tea and biscuits.**

*Shirley Kirk*

## *~ Social Life Group ~*

We hosted an extra monthly coffee morning on Saturday 5 June at Balfour House, which was well attended, and we will be doing it again next year. Our 33<sup>rd</sup> year of these coffee mornings resumes on Saturday 2 October and is in the hands of the Uniformed Organisations. From 10am till nearly noon. **£1.50 – Proceeds from this day are for 'Bethany Trust Summer Days'.**

Around 50 attended the Soup & Cheese Lunch in the upstairs hall on Sunday 30 May after the morning service and, although it was free, a most generous £100.24 was received in donations.

On Saturday 26 June another Garden Open Day was held in Elizabeth Wall's garden at Kirkhill Terrace, and was thoroughly enjoyed (in fine weather) by around 82 people. The day raised a most wonderful £481.40.

Our Strawberry and Cream Teas afternoon took place on Saturday 14 August in the Upstairs Hall, but with stalls for plants and books in the garden. Some 56 people attended and we raised an excellent £262.88.

Grateful thanks to all who support our events in whatever way, and we look forward to the following concert in October:

**REMEMBER** – we have booked two male voice choirs, each of 40 voices, to give a concert in Church on FRIDAY 1 OCTOBER. Please put this in your diaries and do your best to **come and bring a friend (or two!)**. We are expecting numbers, with the choirs and their friends alone, to be over 100.

*Ian Williams*

## ~ ELEMENTARY FOOD HYGIENE COURSE ~

A few places are still available for anyone handling food in Priestfield Church to attend a day course in Elementary Food Hygiene in November in the Church Hall. **If interested, contact June Henderson or Ian Williams for further details.**

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*Alternate Thursdays in the Lounge  
from 7.30pm to 9.00pm*

*Praise  
and  
Prayer*



*See 'What's On?' for details*

## *Prayer and Meditation ~*



**Trust God! Trust God! Trust God!**

“YOU ARE MY REFUGE, MY PORTION IN THE LAND OF THE LIVING”  
*PSALM 142:5*

**Hard times energise some people, yet paralyse others.**

Look at David. Everything he touched turned to gold:

Samuel anointed him to be king;

he defeated Goliath;

Saul chose him as a musician and warrior;

the army loved him and wrote songs about him.

**Then his life fell apart.**

He lost his job and his marriage failed;

Samuel his old mentor died;

his best friend Jonathan couldn't help him,

and Saul's soldiers hounded him until he had to hide in a cave.

**At some point we all do time in the cave!**

- It's where you end up when all your earthly supports are gone.
- It's where you learn important things about yourself that you can't learn anywhere else.
- It's where God does some of His best work in moulding you into the likeness of Christ.
- It's where your worst inadequacies confirm that you're out of your depth,
- **and where God sends His power to flow through your weakness.**

When David prayed, 'You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living,' he'd no way of knowing there was a crown in his future, or that he wasn't going to die in hiding. For all he knew, this cave he was in right now might be as good as it gets.

**When you're in a situation you can't fix, can't change and can't escape, trust God! Trust God! Trust God!**

As long as your sense of security is tied solely to your success,  
it'll always be fragile.

**But when you know that God is with you even at your lowest point,  
you can handle the cave and come out stronger!**

## *Prayer and Meditation ~*



### **Pour Out Your Heart to God!**

“...I POUR OUT MY COMPLAINT BEFORE HIM...”

*Psalm 142:2*

**Learn to pray the Psalms.** They run the gamut of human emotion from thanksgiving, to anger, to fear, to loneliness, to grief.

The Psalmist doesn't miss a beat when it comes to life.

Not life as we wish it was, but life as it is:

'I pour out my complaint before him; before him I tell my trouble.'

He vents his pain to God, he allows himself to 'feel it.' That takes courage, especially when you just want to put on a brave face.

John Ortberg wrote:

'I regret the pain of failure so keenly that I backed away from owning it and learning from it. I could not heal and move on. I wanted to bury it so deeply that no one would ever guess it was there—not even me.'

### **Sound familiar?**

The Bible doesn't discourage the grieving process, it just warns us not to get stuck in it. '...Weeping may remain for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning...' *Psalm 30:5 NIV*

### **To reach your morning of rejoicing you must go through your night of weeping.**

FB Meyer writes:

'There are some who chide tears as unmanly, un-submissive, un-Christian. They comfort us with a chill, bidding us to put on a rigid and tearless countenance. We may well ask if a man who cannot weep can really love?

### **Sorrow is just love bereaved; its most natural expression is tears.**

Jesus wept. The Ephesian converts wept on the neck of the Apostle Paul whose face they were never to see again.

### **So go ahead and pour out your heart to God. It's a vital step to becoming whole.'**

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*These daily devotional excerpts are taken from Word for the Day  
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Free issues of the daily devotional are available.*

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## ~ The Story of The Broken Old Guitar ~

When I arrived in Zimbabwe it was to be part of a huge crowd of people coming off many planes into several separate parallel long, long, lines of people in Harare Airport.

The gifts and supplies which had been stacked on the Communion Table for one of the Missionaries from our Church, now followed in several airport trolleys. After a very long time, standing in the tropical African heat, everything was opened and checked by the Customs, and everyone given a detailed body search.

The laden trolleys were then towed away until after we had spent many days in long queues at various Government Offices in Harare to get all the documents and licences. We eventually turned up at the Customs Hall, older, but waving our fists full of papers.

Our cargo was now wheeled out from their store into a circle in the foyer of the huge Customs Hall for us to take away. We just all sat on the boxes and cases waiting during the tedious process of checking them once again, by people who were not fast readers, checking, word by word, letter by letter, that all the documents were complete. But after all the weeks, this was taking hour after hour.

It was then a very strange thing happened which speeded the whole thing. On top of the huge pile of luggage lay an old guitar which had a bash in its body, its varnish badly scratched, its strap knotted, and some strings missing. It was a battered old mess. I knew how it felt - for I was feeling the same! I held it up and said, "You men must all be very clever or you would not have been chosen to work for the government at the airport. I am going to ask you a strange question."

"Now here's a strange thing! Here is a guitar! As you can see, it is a broken guitar. Its body is broken and has a hole here where the wood is split. If you look at it, it has not got all its strings." Only two were playable. Another hung from its side.

“Now why do you think an intelligent man would pay for a broken old guitar like this to be flown by plane from London all the way to Zimbabwe? Can you think of a reason?”

I asked each of the men standing round in turn. Each gave that head lowered, cheeks inflated, head shake of bewilderment.

“Can you?” I asked. “Or you? Or you?” I asked all round.

By this time the Customs Hall was filled with a huge crowd.

“Now here’s a strange thing!” I went on. “Not a single person in this intelligent company or crowd, can tell me why an intelligent being would spend all the money to fly a broken old guitar without all its strings, all the way from London to Harare. Well, I will tell you!”

By this time all work had stopped and a significant crowd of staff and public had gathered watching. “There is no good reason! That is why no-one in London with all its wealth wanted this guitar. But here there is not great wealth. Many people are poor. Many have no work. Many haven’t enough to eat.” Had the hangar doors had hinges, they would have rattled at the draught created by the nodding heads.

“Here the people do not have a lot of money, but that does not mean they are stupid!” Again the great doors would have rattled.

“They may not have lots of money, but they do have very clever, nimble fingers; and as soon as that luggage gets through your customs shed your people will be able to take that broken old guitar to pieces. They will draw the shape of each part. They will cut wood and plane it. Within a very short time they will have made another guitar. Then another! Then another! You have plenty of wood, and plenty of fingers. Then they will get others to come and help them. Soon there will be many guitars. They will then take these back to the airport and send them to London. Then the people will buy them and send the money out here to Zimbabwe.

And do you know what is stopping your people here getting that money? It is your own people. I have come all this way bringing this old guitar, with all its means of helping your country, and your own good people, and it has taken all these weeks simply to clear it through your Customs. This is blocking our efforts to bring help to your people. I ask you all to do something which will help your people and your country. Instead of being impatient with us, I ask you all simply to join me in singing patiently and happily, while the Customs men work to clear all our luggage which is delaying you!”

So, sitting on the suitcases piled upon the trolleys in the Customs Hall, surrounded by a very large crowd, we all made the place ring and the crowd clapped hands, and joined in as together we all sang well known hymns, and choruses, picked out on the remaining two strings of a broken guitar, while the officials went through it all. When we left the Customs Hall to enter Zimbabwe, it was with loving handclaps and welcome hugs from smiling officials and the huge crowd around us.

I wish I could sound exultant, or even clever, but the truth is there are tears in my eyes as even now I remember their welcome.

*Rev William D Brown*

## *Prayer and Meditation ~*

### **Settle Your Disagreement**



“...PLEASE...SETTLE YOUR DISAGREEMENT...”  
*Philippians 4:2*

Euodia and Syntyche were two women who worked hand in hand with Paul in building the church. Yet sadly, the only mention of them in Scripture is that they couldn't get along with one another. That's not good, because God's blessing is predicated upon our willingness to forgive, and to love one another.

Jesus said:

“Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them. And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses”.

*Mark 11:24-25 NKJV*

You can't pray effectively when you have 'anything against anyone.'

**Even if the other person is wrong,  
let God use you as a paramedic of His mercy.**

Tell them you want to see the relationship healed,  
apologise and be reconciled.

It may take more than a U-turn to make up the distance between you, but each step you take will make the road shorter, and if you stay on course you'll get to where you ought to be on time.

Don't argue over 'who did what to whom.' Be bigger than that! Show grace!

You've been asking God to restore things; well, this is part of it.

Yes, your ego will rebel.

And if you let it, fear of rejection will stop you dead in your tracks.

But do it anyway and see what happens.

**Remember**, when you forgive someone, you position yourself beyond condemnation; at that point God can bless you.

**Can you afford to live without His blessing?**

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*Early Church for Families*

*Sundays at 10am*

# Church Flowers

## FLOWERS

## DISTRIBUTION

### SEPTEMBER

5 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs J Flett	Mrs H Douglas
12 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs N Miller	Mrs H Douglas
19 <sup>th</sup>	Miss N Watson	Mrs D Cross
26 <sup>th</sup>	CHURCH FLOWER FUND	Mrs D Cross

### OCTOBER

3 <sup>rd</sup>	HARVEST THANKSGIVING	-----
10 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs A Stiff	Mrs S Kirk
17 <sup>th</sup>	Miss M Weir	Mrs S Kirk
24 <sup>th</sup>	CHURCH FLOWER FUND	Mrs S Messer
31 <sup>st</sup>	Mrs C Williams	

### NOVEMBER

7 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs D Cross	Mrs S Messer
14 <sup>th</sup>	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY	Mrs I Murray
21 <sup>st</sup>	Mrs Jess Henderson	Mrs I Murray
28 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs H Douglas	Miss M Mason

### DECEMBER

5 <sup>th</sup>	Miss M Robertson	Miss M Mason
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~ Within the Congregation ~

Death ~

August Mrs Grace Richardson, 17 Kirkhill Terrace