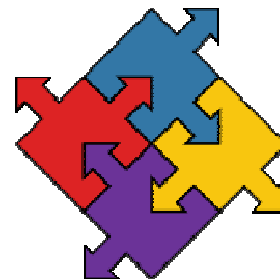


March 2011

# The Net

The Magazine of Priestfield Parish Church, Edinburgh  
*Living in the Way of Jesus*



Web: <http://priestfield.org.uk>

Minister: Rev Dr Jared W Hay



## Jared's Napkin Scribbles

### ***Lent – Taking Up and Giving Up***

It's awfully tempting not to do anything for Lent – after all, it's not something engrained in our tradition and it can be quite irksome having to give up things that we enjoy. But let's not view Lent as something to be avoided. Let's think of it as something to be embraced, and we can do that in both positive and negative ways, by 'taking up' an activity and 'giving up' something.

This is a period of preparation for the joy of Easter that follows the sorrowful journey of Jesus to the cross, so it's right that it should include an activity or sacrifice that identifies us with the pathway Jesus walked. Giving up chocolate and alcohol are favourites, but the danger is that we simply use Lent as a way of losing weight rather than as a spiritual discipline. Make it something you enjoy doing and that would be a sacrifice, and use the time or money saved to develop your relationship with God and to serve his Kingdom

But be positive too and 'take up' something – like following Lenten reflections on your own or in a study group; or a special activity like giving some hours a week to a charity. Dedicate them to Christ as a way of following him and you will find blessing in the discipline. Remember, too, that Sundays are not included in the 40 days – Sunday is our weekly Feast of the Resurrection and is a time to celebrate.

Lent begins on 9<sup>th</sup> March – Ash Wednesday – and we will have a short

devotional service in the Church that evening at 7.30pm.

### ***Try Praying***

Try Praying is an outreach project running across the whole of the city of Edinburgh during Lent. Soon you will see buses with TP adverts on the side and it's hoped that most people in the city will see these many times during the period. The aim is to encourage people to pray – that is, people who don't normally go to any kind of church.

Everyone who attends Priestfield on the first Sunday of March will be given a TP booklet to use for one week, and the following week they will be encouraged to give it away to a friend who might find it helpful. The friend will then have the opportunity to discuss what they think of the booklet and things that have happened to them during the week.

To help prepare us to take part in the project, there will be two special meetings of The Forum, the first on the evening of Sunday 13 March (6.30pm – 9pm – people can come and go) to help us think about prayer, the needs of the Parish and to pray. The second will be on 10 April (6.30pm - 9pm) with an invitation to those who have participated in TP to share stories, ask questions and to pray. Put the dates in your diary.

### ***One.Life – Jesus calls, we follow – by Scot McKnight***

A number of people have bought this book on discipleship in today's world and we'll be reading and thinking about it over the next few weeks. If anyone else would like a copy, they can either find it on Amazon or ask me to source one at a cost of £7. Look out in *Connections* for details of another meeting of The Forum to discuss the issues it raises.

### ***Sunday Mornings***

While it's good to have both GodSpace at 10am and our service at 11am, with time for coffee and chat after both, it would also be good if there was the opportunity to share some worship time together. The Kirk Session has agreed that we should aim to have an all-age start to our 11am service, to which GodSpace families are welcome, and after which they will be free to leave, or for the parents to stay and the children to complete GodSpace crafts in the Crèche.

To work towards this, over July and August there will be one all-age service at 10.30am and in September we hope to begin an experiment with an all-age start to the 11am service.

### ***Annual Meeting – 27 March***

Our Annual Meeting this year will be on Sunday 27 March at the close of the 11am service. God willing, there will be two main items to report: the financial accounts (which, by that time, will have been approved by the Kirk Session as Trustees); and an update on the redecoration of the Sanctuary, with the hope that a definite proposal will be ready to be put to the congregation for decision. Please pray for the Refurbishment Group as it seeks to prepare plans and to guide us through the civil and ecclesiastical decision making processes – nothing is ever simple!

### ***Fabric Developments – update***

Representatives of the Refurbishment Group met with our Architect recently to discuss what is required for the redecoration of the sanctuary, in order to obtain quotations for the work. These are now being sought. The Architect is also preparing drawings and indicative costs for the work in the Lounge so that we can enter into discussions with Historic Scotland, the Presbytery and the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland. A report will be given to the Annual Meeting.

### ***Easter – Festival of New Life***

If Christmas is the Festival of Incarnation, then Easter must surely be the Festival of New Life. All around us we are seeing signs of Spring, and we are fortunate in the Northern Hemisphere that we have such a vibrant sign in nature pointing us to the Resurrection of Jesus. But just as the new life of Spring emerges from the death of Winter, so the joy of Easter follows the sorrow of Good Friday. We can't have one without the other. Join us in sharing the journey of Jesus from Palm Sunday to the cross, and our all-age service of celebration on Easter Day.

You will find details of our Holy Week and Easter Services elsewhere in *The Net*, and they also appear on our Parish Easter Card. It would be great if you could help with distributing these.

### ***Study Leave***

I heard recently that my Study Leave has been approved, subject to an appropriate supervisor being appointed. Olive Fleming Drane has agreed to be my supervisor and I hope that she will be accepted by the relevant committee. Olive and her husband John are well known across the world for their involvement with churches engaging in mission in today's culture.

They have authored several books on the subject and teach courses in the UK, the USA, Australia and elsewhere. I'm privileged that she is willing to take me on!

Plans are being put in place for reading appropriate books, interviewing people in the Parish who are not part of the church, and travelling to Yorkshire to learn from people at a major centre for mission research within the Church of England. Please pray that these plans will come to fruition and that the Study Leave will bear fruit in the life of our congregation.

### ***Roll away the stone – General Assembly 22 May***

Now that the GA Garden Party at Holyrood is a thing of the past, those planning the week have come up with the idea of having a big celebratory event in Princes Street Gardens on GA Sunday – 22 May. Look out for more details in *Connections* and in this issue of *The Net* for opportunities to be involved and activities to attend.

### ***And Finally...***

Jane and I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Easter and fresh experiences of Christ's new life of the Age to Come.

Blessings,

Jared.

## **PRAYER POINT**

*Newington Churches Together is seeking to develop a group of Street Pastors who will work in the area on Friday nights. Street Pastors do a tremendous job helping young people, especially those who are in need or are vulnerable to danger, often because of their own actions. The aim is for folks to be on the ground by Festival time.*



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

## MARCH

Wednesday	2	1930	Kirk Session
Thursday	3	1930	Praise and Prayer
Friday	4	1430	World Day of Prayer Service
Saturday	5	1000	Coffee Morning (Choir)
Sunday	6	1000	<i>GodSpace</i>
		1100	Communion Service
Wednesday	9	1930	Ash Wednesday Service
Thursday	10		Home Groups
Sunday	13	1000	<i>GodSpace - with pancake breakfast</i>
			<i>from 9.00 am</i>
		1100	Morning Service
		1830	'The Forum' – Try Praying: think about prayer, the needs of the parish and pray
Thursday	17	1930	Praise and Prayer
Sunday	20	1000	<i>GodSpace</i>
		1100	Morning Service
Thursday	24		Home Groups
Saturday	26		<i>Put your clocks forward one hour before you go to sleep!</i>
Sunday	27	1000	<i>GodSpace</i>
		1100	Morning Service followed by the <b>Annual Meeting of the Congregation</b>
Wednesday	30	1930	Kirk Session
Thursday	31		Praise and Prayer

## APRIL

Saturday	2	1000	Coffee Morning (Kirk Session)
Sunday	3	1000	<i>GodSpace</i>
		1100	Communion Service

Thursday	7	1930	Home Groups
Sunday	10	1000	<i>GodSpace</i>
		1100	Morning Service
		1830	'The Forum' – Try Praying: share stories, ask questions
Thursday	14	1930	Praise and Prayer
Sunday	17	1030	<b>Palm Sunday Family Service</b> incorporating <i>GodSpace</i>
Thursday	21	1930	<b>Maundy Thursday Communion Service</b>
Friday	22	1930	<b>Good Friday Service</b>
Sunday	24	1030	<b>Easter Day Celebration</b> incorporating <i>GodSpace</i>
Tuesday	26	1930	Kirk Session
Thursday	28	1930	Praise and Prayer

## MAY

Sunday	1	1000	<i>GodSpace</i>
		1100	Communion Service
Thursday	5		Home Groups
Saturday	7	1000	Coffee Morning (with proceeds to Christian Aid)
Sunday	8	1000	<i>GodSpace</i>
		1100	Morning Service
Thursday	12	1930	Praise and Prayer
Sunday	15	1000	<i>GodSpace</i>
		1100	Morning Service
Thursday	19		Home Groups
Sunday	22	1000	<i>GodSpace</i>
		1100	Morning Service
Thursday	26	1930	Praise and Prayer
Sunday	29	1000	<i>GodSpace</i>
		1100	Morning Service

**WHAT'S ON? WHAT'S ON? WHAT'S ON?**

## ~ SNIPPETS from the KIRK SESSION ~

### 16 January 2011

- Shirley Kirk and Andrew Steven were ordained as elders.

### 19 January 2011

- The Christmas offerings came to more than £500, significantly more than usual. £232.59 had been sent to Bethany Christian Trust for the Night Care Shelter and £272.58 had been sent to Mary's Meals.
- Jared had raised approximately £1,600 for the Sarcoma Trust by the sponsored removal of hair; his '*Baldathon*'.
- The Session approved the distribution of a special edition of 'The Net' to the people of the parish later in the year. This would probably take the form of a single folded A4 sheet, professionally printed.
- Jared had taken boxes of sweets and Christmas cards to the doctors' surgery, Costa Coffee and the Centre Management at Cameron Toll, Prestonfield Primary School teachers, the Community and Neighbourhood Centres, Prestonfield House Hotel, Scout leaders, the Royal Mail sorting office and the Recycling Centre. This was a beginning and we would continue to bless people in this way.
- The Kirk Session agreed to the Korean Language School for Children, a not-for-profit educational group, using the Church Hall for an afternoon each week.
- The new audio visual system in the Church was being upgraded/installed.
- There would be a Bruce Davies concert on Saturday 26 February at 7.30pm.

### 13 February 2011

- The Kirk Session approved a proposal to distribute Easter cards throughout the parish area. The cards would include a cover picture, details of the church's location, an Easter message and details of services over the Holy Week/Easter season. Mini-posters and large (A1) posters would also be designed and printed.

- On Palm Sunday and Easter Day there would be single morning services at 10.30 am. This would follow the successful pattern followed at Christmas.
- The Kirk Session approved the purchase of a new computer to show visual presentations during Sunday services and at other times.

## 2 March 2011

- The next meeting of the Kirk Session is on Wednesday 2 March at 7.30 pm in the lounge.
- The meeting after next will be on Wednesday 30 March; same time and place.

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### SUPPORTING WWF EARTH HOUR

**Show you care by turning off your lights on 26 March  
between 8.30pm and 9.30pm**

From London to Sydney, New York and Singapore, people all across the world will be switching off their lights for one hour to show they care about tackling climate change and protecting the natural world. Since its debut in 2007, WWF's Earth Hour has grown to become a truly global event. In 2010 hundreds of millions of people in 128 countries and 4,000 cities participated, with some of the world's best known landmarks, including the Eiffel Tower, the Empire State Building and the Great Pyramids, switching off.

In Scotland, thousands of people switched off at the same time as iconic

landmarks, such as Edinburgh Castle, the Scottish Parliament, Falkirk Wheel, Kelvingrove Museum and the Wallace Monument. At Priestfield, we ensured that the floodlighting of the church building was switched off at 8.30pm and, indeed, that moment was the end of our floodlighting season for 2010. Many individuals in the congregation also took part by switching off the lights in their own homes for one hour.

We have registered our church for Earth Hour again this year and will be extinguishing the floodlighting at 8.30pm on Saturday 26 March. As Christians, we have a responsibility to protect God's creation and this is a great opportunity not only to save resources, but also to show others in the community and beyond that this is an important issue for us.

Please support Priestfield Church and WWF by switching off your lights at home for that hour (but take care if using candles!) Your action will have more effect if you register your intention to take part. You can do this at the Earth Hour website: [earthhour.wwf.org.uk](http://earthhour.wwf.org.uk)

*Fiona Ferguson*

---oooOOOooo---

As a congregation, we support Christian Aid each year by doing a door-to-door collection in the parish. This year Christian Aid week starts on Sunday 15th May till 21st. If you have helped in the past, I will be delighted to accept your input again this year. If you haven't managed to be involved in the past, please will you consider lending a hand - and legs - this year? The more people are involved, the fewer number of houses each person has to visit. **Please come and help.** I will be pleased to answer any questions. See me, or phone me on 661 7651. **THANK YOU!**



## **BRIDGE WALK**

The Sponsored Walk across the Forth Road Bridge is on Saturday 30th April this year. All walkers are encouraged to join in this event. See Dorothy Haynes. It's usually a great day - young and old, slow walkers and fast walkers. One trip over and back, or several. Do try and join in this event if you can.

*Isabel Murray*

# ≈ STUDENTS ≈



TNT, the Priestfield student group, invites students and young people to our weekly lunch, from 12.30pm following the 11am service and coffee. Visit the student page on our website [www.priestfield.org.uk](http://www.priestfield.org.uk) to find out the information for each Sunday.

**Breakfasts** - The congregation and students continue to enjoy the muffins and coffee after both Sunday services. Is this a service you could undertake? See Fiona Ferguson or June Henderson for more information.

## Prayer Points -

1. Pray for students as they continue with their studies and work towards exams.
2. Pray for international students who are finding out about Jesus for the first time in the cafés and study groups organised by Friends International.
3. Pray for all Christian Unions in Edinburgh as they continue to follow Jesus and bring others to know him.
4. Pray that students will come along to 'TNT' and find out more about God's love for them.

## ~ FINANCIAL REPORT ~

The Treasurers are pleased to report that the total income from offerings (including Gift Aid) for the year to 31 December 2010 amounted to £61,575 compared to £57,419 in the previous year. Total income was £68,210 and, following a reduction in the amount required from us for Ministries and Mission, the ordinary expenditure for the year came to £67,049, leaving us with a small surplus of £1,161.

As a result of the Gift Day, which raised a magnificent total of £23,765 (including Gift Aid), and after settling the final accounts for the stonework and railing repairs and the cost of the Audio/Visual improvements, we are left with £15,739 towards the cost of the redecoration of the Sanctuary. We also hope to recover a further amount in respect of Value Added Tax paid on the repairs but a figure has not yet been agreed with the Authorities concerned.

The full accounts for the year will be available shortly and presented formally at the Annual Meeting on Sunday 27 March.

# PRIESTFIELD CHURCH - EASTER SERVICES

## *Walking with Jesus through Holy Week*

### **Sunday 17 April**

10.30 am *Join the crowd at Jesus' entry to Jerusalem*  
Palm Sunday Family Service

### **Thursday 21 April**

7.30 pm *Sharing 'The Last Supper' with Jesus*  
Maundy Thursday Communion

### **Friday 22 April**

7.30 pm *A time for quiet reflection on Jesus' death*  
Good Friday Service

### **Sunday 24 April**

10.30 am *A service for all ages to celebrate Jesus' Resurrection*  
Easter Day Celebration



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## *Prayer and Meditation ~*

### **Become God's Friend (1)**



“...”I HAVE CALLED YOU FRIENDS”...”  
*John 15:15 NKJV*

In his book, *The Practice of the Presence of God*, a French monk called Brother Lawrence suggests we pray short conversational prayers throughout the day rather than long, complex ones.

To maintain our focus and counteract our wandering thoughts, he writes:

‘I do not advise you to use a great multitude of words in prayer, since long discourses are often occasions for wandering.’

What great insight! In the age of attention deficit disorder (ADD) this centuries-old suggestion to ‘keep it simple’ still works.

Paul writes, ‘...**Pray all the time...**’

*1 Thessalonians 5:17, The Message*

**‘But how can I do that?’** you ask.

One way is to use **‘breath prayers’**, as many of the great saints and writers have done through the ages.

You **choose a simple phrase** that can be repeated in one breath:

‘Lord, You are with me’; ‘I am depending on You’;  
‘I want to know You better’; ‘Help me to trust You more’.

You can also **use short phrases of Scripture**:

‘For me to live is Christ’; ‘You will never leave me’;  
‘You will supply all my needs’.

**Repeat it** until it’s rooted deeply in your heart and begins to reflect in your attitude and actions. **This is a skill, a habit you can develop.**

Just as musicians practise their scales every day in order to play well, you can discipline yourself to think about God at different times in your day.

**‘But sometimes I don’t feel God’s presence,’** you say.

If you’re seeking an emotion, you’ve missed the point.  
**Your goal is not a feeling, but a continual awareness  
that God is always with you!**

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## *Cameron Toll Chaplaincy*



*When Cameron Toll Shopping Centre (CTSC) opened in the 1980s, the idea was sparked in the minds of local church leaders of having a chaplain available for the staff of the Centre and the retail units within it. In March 2002, two part-time lay chaplains took up their posts in Cameron Toll, and both were well known in the Centre by the time they relinquished their duties in 2006. When their successors also moved on to pastures new, a further two retail chaplains were appointed to ensure the continuation of the service of providing a Christian "presence" in CTSC's commercial setting. The 'newest' chaplain, **Colin Campbell**, introduces himself...*

Hi, my name is Colin and I am the new Cameron Toll Shopping Centre Chaplain. I took over from Nicola in November and will be working alongside my fellow chaplain, Rosemary Davidson.

The Cameron Toll Chaplaincy exists to provide a friendly, confidential, listening ear to those who request it, with the offer of time for a private chat. We promote the Christian ethos and values of compassion, kindness, truthfulness and integrity by example and in discussion and encourage Christian people at Cameron Toll in their faith and lifestyle.

I have worked in retail for most of my professional life, working as a member of management for HMV for five years and eventually owning my own fair trade clothing and craft store in Edinburgh.

I attend Barclay Viewforth Church of Scotland in Tollcross and play right-back for the football team in the East of Scotland Churches Football League. My other main hobby is playing guitar and I am currently taking lessons in folk guitar.

With my retail experience, I am very familiar with the stresses and strains of retail. The long hours, the list of tasks 'as long as your arm', and the challenging financial targets that must be met, all the while keeping a smile on your face to ensure your shop is a welcoming place for customers. It's not an easy job. I hope that during my time as chaplain I can be of some help to the people who face these challenges day to day. It's also been wonderful to meet the customers that use the shopping centre and I'm looking forward to getting to know lots of them on my weekly visits.

**Rosemary and I would very much appreciate the prayers of Priestfield Parish Church over the coming year, as we seek to develop relationships with workers and customers in the shopping centre and look to find fresh opportunities to serve their needs.** If you have access to a computer there is a list of prayer points on our blog at [camerontollchaplaincy.blogspot.com](http://camerontollchaplaincy.blogspot.com). The chaplaincy can also be reached by phone on 0795 221 0185 or via email at:

[camerontollchaplaincy@gmail.com](mailto:camerontollchaplaincy@gmail.com)



bright care  
choose independence



*Tim and Louise outside the Bright Care office at Summerside, by Sheriffhall roundabout.*

Bright Care is a Christian-run service providing in-home care and companionship for the elderly to residents across Edinburgh. A family run homecare business, set up by Tim and Louise Cocking, Bright Care provides choice and control to clients looking for a top up to an existing social services package or as a complete alternative to the care the council can offer.

The service can include anything from general housekeeping and shopping errands to personal care, even getting clients to appointments and social activities, including church! The core focus of their service is in providing long term companionship by spending quality time with clients on every visit.

Tim says: 'In helping our clients to live independently in the comfort of their own homes, they can age gracefully and maintain social connections in the community'. 'In this way we can not only lift their spirits, but also

relieve the care burdens of families, so they may enjoy more relaxed and meaningful family time with their elderly loved ones.'

Tim and Louise are clearly passionate about helping the elderly. Tim says: 'Providing elderly care is an honoured responsibility, it is a privilege to serve our elderly population and hope to continue helping families for many years to come!'

*If you are interested in finding out more about Bright Care's services and how they could help you, they can be contacted on **0131 524 8181** or visit **[www.brightcare.co.uk](http://www.brightcare.co.uk)***

*caring for the generation that first cared for us*



## **The Apostle Paul and Robert Burns - Saint and Sinner?**

As our 2010/2011 Guild Session draws to a close, we can look back on some interesting evenings with fine speakers on a variety of topics. We especially enjoyed our evening in the company of our Minister, Jared, who gave a talk entitled 'The User's Guide To The Bible'. With lots of detailed information, Jared began to guide us through all the Books of the Bible, beginning with the Creation in Genesis and right through until the Apocalypse in Revelation, showing how God, through the ages, had been planning his purpose for the world. We are very grateful to Jared for all the time and effort he put into preparing this extremely interesting talk for us. On a lighter note, we also enjoyed our musical evening with the Church Choir, but perhaps the highlight was our Burns Supper on 25<sup>th</sup> January, to celebrate the birthday of our National Bard, with haggis, tatties, neeps and a' - and with some of our members giving a fine rendering of Burns' poetry followed by some lively singing of his much loved songs.

Some time ago, an enthusiast of Robert Burns suggested that Burns had a lot in common with the Apostle Paul. You may well say 'nonsense', they were two entirely different men - one was a Saint and the other was a Sinner! They were certainly both great writers - Paul with his wonderful

letters in the New Testament - and Burns who immortalised himself by leaving behind a bounteous legacy of poetry and song, with the wish that it would weave humanity worldwide closer together. His highest hopes have been recognized, with Burns Suppers now being held in every corner of the earth. They were both men of great compassion for their fellow-men and they both wanted to see a worldwide brotherhood of man. They both loved God - and Burns often spoke of his love also for God's creation and for his creatures. They were very outspoken on the evils in our society and frequently landed in trouble as a result. Paul landed in jail for proclaiming the Gospel of Christ - and Burns earned the wrath of so many people, even the Church Hierarchy. They both had no time for hypocrites, as Paul says in the passage from Galatians chapter 6 - 'People seeking favour with God for their own prejudices'. Burns writes in the same vein, even mentioning the 'Holy Willies' - people with one face for a Sunday and another for the rest of the week. They were both honest men and only too aware of their own weaknesses. Paul frequently asks people to pray for him so that the Spirit may come to his aid in his weakness - and Burns was only too aware of his own personal weaknesses - especially with the lassies - and knew he was doing wrong; yet, in today's society, would many think of him as a sinner?

Burns and the Apostle Paul - two very different men and both still loved and revered today. They both had the ability to touch the hearts and minds of people, and they both tried to bring about the brotherhood of man in their own different ways. Did they have something in common? Let God be the judge.

We did enjoy our Burns Supper!

*Mary McKendrick*

## PRAYER POINT

**trypraying.**

*Priestfield is one of many churches across Edinburgh that will be participating in the city-wide **trypraying** initiative during Lent. **trypraying** aims to give people, who are not religious and who don't go to church but might want to try praying, an opportunity to discover God. Advertising on Lothian buses and banners displayed on churches will raise the profile of prayer across Edinburgh and there is a **trypraying** website: [www.trypraying.org](http://www.trypraying.org)*

## *Prayer and Meditation ~*

### **Become God's Friend (2)**



“...”I HAVE CALLED YOU FRIENDS”...”

*John 15:15 NKJV*

Friendship with God is maintained and strengthened through continual meditation. It's impossible to be God's friend apart from knowing what He says.

You can't love God unless you know Him, and that's only possible through the Bible.

‘...He revealed himself to Samuel through his word.’

*1 Samuel 3:21, NIV*

Now you can't spend all day studying the Bible, but you can think about it throughout the day, recalling verses you've read, mulling over them in your mind.

Meditation isn't some mysterious ritual,  
it's simply focused thinking – a skill anybody can learn.

When you think about a **problem** over and over, that's called **worry**.  
When you think about **God's Word** over and over, that's called **meditation**.

If you know how to worry, then you know how to meditate.

Just switch your attention from the problem to the solution!

The more time you spend meditating on the Scriptures,  
the more you'll understand their secrets.

The Psalmist said,

‘The Friendship of the Lord is for those who fear  
him, and he makes known to them his covenant.’

*Psalm 25:14, ESV*

After Jesus told his disciples, ‘...“I have called you friends”...’, He went on to say,

‘...“I chose you and appointed that you should go and bear fruit,  
and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the  
Father in My name He may give you.”’

*John 15:16, NKJV*

The benefits of friendship with God include abundant living and answered prayer. So **if you want to become God's friend, read, digest and meditate in His Word.**

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*These daily devotional excerpts are taken from Word for the Day  
and are used by permission from  
United Christian Broadcasters Ltd, P.O. Box 255, Stoke-on-Trent, ST4 8YY.  
Free issues of the daily devotional are available.*

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## **STEWARDSHIP AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Volunteers are required to act as Stewards at the General Assembly (Saturday 21 to Friday 27 May inclusive). Stewards are normally on duty for "shifts" of two to three hours.

If you are interested in stewarding and have not already done so, please send your name and contact details to David McColl,  
Tel: 220 1690, Email: [mccoll@palmerstonplace.plus.com](mailto:mccoll@palmerstonplace.plus.com)  
10/1 Palmerston Place, Edinburgh, EH12 5AA.

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*ROLL AWAY THE STONE* is an exciting celebration planned for the Sunday afternoon of the 2011 General Assembly.

On 22 May 2011 from 1pm till 6pm, the Church will take over a large area of Princes Street Gardens in Edinburgh for a time of **Celebration**, **Inspiration** and **Discovery**.

At the Ross Bandstand, in the picturesque avenue and fountain areas, and in St Cuthbert's Church at the west end of the Gardens there will be space for worship, praise and singing; there will be children's and youth areas, picnic space, places to eat and chat, displays and stalls

representing the whole breadth of the Church's life and witness. Some of the major items include: the New Scottish Arts chamber orchestra and soloists, Fischy Music, the Scotland African Massed Choir and a rock gospel band. You will see scenes from the Easter Play, clowns, puppets; you will hear organ recitals by young organists, drumming workshops, school choirs, interviews, stories, comedy and much, much more. Entry to the event is completely free.

The Church of Scotland, the event sponsors, are keen that as many people as possible should take part and there are many ways in which we can do so, over and above simply attending. Two of these need some advance preparation and are noted below – is there something that appeals to you? If so, why not encourage others to join you?

### ***Music***

Does your church have a choir, or singing group? Our finale will feature a massed choir - and you can take part. Simply register on our website, and in the weeks to come you'll be sent some music to practice. There will be a short rehearsal on the day with all the participating churches and then you will lead us in worship around 5.00pm . It will be a fantastic sound!

### ***5-A-Side-Football***

Join us in a national football tournament. We'd like to invite junior and senior 5-a-side teams from your church to take part in regional heats around the country finishing up with the finals being played at this special church event. If you're interested then register at our website and we'll send out some more information soon.

For further programme information, please go to the event website:  
[www.rollawaythestone.org.uk](http://www.rollawaythestone.org.uk)

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### **Editors' Note ~**

Articles for inclusion in the Summer 2011 issue of the magazine should be in the hands of the Editors – Eleanor Forbes and Shirley Kirk – **no later than Sunday 22 May 2011**. Articles may be emailed to [eleanor.forbes60@btinternet.com](mailto:eleanor.forbes60@btinternet.com) or handed to either Eleanor or Shirley.

## ~ LECTONARY READINGS ~

March to May 2011

The Revised Common Lectionary, created in 1983, is a three-year cycle of Bible readings, used by churches around the world. It is planned so that passages of Scripture are read at appropriate times and so that the whole Bible gets read. The weekly readings given below (except those for Palm Sunday 17 April) each suggest passages to read from the Old Testament, Psalms, an Epistle and a Gospel.

### *Sunday 6 March ~*

Exodus 24:12-18  
Psalm 2  
2 Peter 1:16-21  
Matthew 17:1-9

### *Sunday 13 March ~*

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7  
Psalm 32  
Romans 5:12-19  
Matthew 4:1-11

### *Sunday 20 March ~*

Genesis 12:1-4a  
Psalm 121  
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17  
John 3:1-17

### *Sunday 27 March ~*

Exodus 17:1-7  
Psalm 95  
Romans 5:1-11  
John 4:5-42

### *Sunday 3 April ~*

1 Samuel 16:1-13  
Psalm 23  
Ephesians 5:8-14  
John 9:1-41

### *Sunday 10 April ~*

Ezekiel 37:1-14  
Psalm 130  
Romans 8:6-11  
John 11:1-45

### ***Palm Sunday 17 April ~***

Matthew 21:1-11  
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

### ***Easter Sunday 24 April ~***

Jeremiah 31:1-6  
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
Colossians 3:1-4  
Matthew 28:1-10

### *Sunday 1 May ~*

Acts 2:1-14a, 22-32  
Psalm 16  
1 Peter 1:3-9  
John 20:19-31

### *Sunday 8 May ~*

Acts 2:14a, 36-41  
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19  
1 Peter 1:17-23  
Luke 24:13-35

*Sunday 15 May ~*  
Acts 2:42-47  
Psalm 23  
1 Peter 2:19-25  
John 10:1-10

*Sunday 22 May ~*  
Acts 7:55-60  
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16  
1 Peter 2:2-10  
John 14:1-14

*Sunday 29 May*  
Acts 17:22-31  
Psalm 66:8-20  
1 Peter 3:13-22  
John 14:15-21

*Sunday 5 June ~*  
Acts 1:6- 14  
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35  
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11  
John 17:1-11

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## PRAYER POINT

*Alongside this opportunity with **trypraying** to share our faith with others we should pray ourselves! In Acts 4:31 when the believers prayed together the place where they were meeting was shaken. 'They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.' We will be effective when we experience the boldness that comes from being filled with the Holy Spirit.*

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'[Jesus] got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him. . . . When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.'



*John 13:4-5, 12-15 (NIV)*

