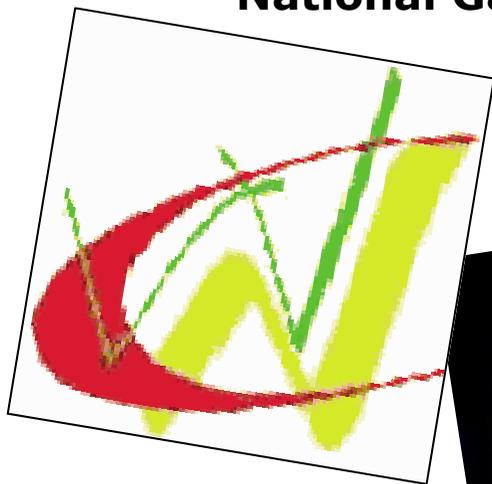




INSPIRE



Church Without Walls National Gathering



**Royal Highland Centre
Ingliston
3-4 May 2008**

MANNOFIELD CHURCH

CHURCH CALENDAR

MAY

Sun 4	9.30 & 11 am	Morning Worship
	6.30 pm	Evening Worship with Holy Communion
Sun 11	9.30 & 11 am	Christian Aid Sunday
	6.30 pm	Evening Worship
Sun 18	9.30 & 11 am	Morning Worship
	6.30 pm	Evening Worship
Sun 25	9.30 & 11 am	Morning Worship
	3.15 pm	Craigielea
	6.30 pm	Evening Worship

JUNE

Sun 1	9.30 & 11 am	Holy Communion at all services
	6.30 pm	

Flower Calendar

MAY

4	Mrs I Brown
11	Miss H S Milne
18	Mrs J Bonner & Mrs Dimambro
25	Mrs S McAdam



Biscuits for Basra

We are collecting biscuits for the troops in Basra.

Do you want to contribute?

There will be a box in the kitchen for donations-sweet or savoury-but since the temperatures are over 34C we can't send chocolate or cream biscuits!

They'll be put in shoe boxes and shipped "free" by the Post Office. We were only asked to pray for them, their families and friends but we can also send morale-boosting parcels with your help!!



PLEASE NOTE

The deadline for the next issue of *InSpire* is 22 May

Material for *InSpire* should be deposited in the Church Office or emailed to:

roddy@mccollassociates.com

office@mannofieldchurch.org.uk

Dear Friends

One of the most common questions that clergy are asked is: “Where is God?” Usually the question accompanies a time of crisis, pain or loss.

Most of us have perhaps asked such a question – sometimes relating to events in our personal situation and at other times relating to events we witness in the world. The question we ask often leads to other related questions: *If God does not seem present in the current time, then where does He go? Does God choose not to be present or is that a human decision? Could the lack of God’s presence be our misperception?*

Questions relating to “Where is God?” are not new phenomena. These are probably the oldest questions that exist and both Hebrew and Christian scriptures address them in great sincerity. In the Hebrew texts Abraham and Sarah found themselves a God, but had to leave their homeland to find Him. Solomon created a temple to try and contain God so the people could find Him. The prophets spoke of a God whose presence would depend upon the behaviour of His people.

In the New Testament the search for God continues but it becomes much more a personal relationship. The disciples obviously felt God was found in Jesus and that posed them an initial problem after His death.

Paul and other writers of his time began to see the spiritual relationship that God cultivated with each person and they encouraged the openness of mind in order that God could find the person.

In our lives the search for God continues. Often (mainly in the good times) we never feel like having to look too far; we just know He is there.

In the midst of the experiences that lead us to struggle, however, we inevitably ask “Where is God?”

I like the old Jewish response to the question “Where is God?” The response is to ask another question, **“Where are you?”**

The search for God will continue throughout our lives. Our relationship with God is a fluid and evolving one. This never means that God is not present in the world or present for us. It just means that the way we experience His presence is different at different times.

If we seek God – then remember – we actually find Him wherever we find ourselves in life!

Best Wishes

Keith

As we prepare to welcome Alisa Ferlicca to Aberdeen and to her position as Assistant Minister at Mannofield Church, I wonder if anyone might be able to help with housing requirements.



Neither Mannofield Church nor the Church of Scotland in Edinburgh (who are responsible for Alisa's appointment at Mannofield) has a manse to provide for her accommodation. Alisa will therefore receive an allowance from Edinburgh as a contribution towards housing costs. Rental prices as we all know (particularly in the West End of Aberdeen) are extremely high but it would seem important for us and Alisa that she finds accommodation near to or within the parish area. To this end I am wondering if there is any person in our congregation who might be able to suggest an option for accommodation.

It might be you or someone you know who owns a flat in this end of the city; perhaps once used by a son or daughter while studying at one of the Universities. There might be a room available in such a flat that Alisa could consider as a housing option.

It might be you have basement or other accommodation attached to your house or another house you know of which has its own separate front door. Again this might provide an option for Alisa to consider. In both cases a business arrangement will be discussed!

Alisa will be moving to Scotland in the early part of August and I appeal to anyone in the congregation to get in touch with me if any of the above options might be a possibility or if you can suggest other alternatives.

The matter of accommodation provision is something we would like to have resolved as quickly as possible. So if you have any options to offer please get in touch with me as soon as you can.

Keith Blackwood

Tel: 315748; e-mail: k5blackwood@btinternet.com

During the 10.00am Service on Sunday 29 June we will have the chance to say thank you to George for the care he has given while serving the congregation as Assistant Minister. George leaves his position at the end of July.

A presentation will be made to him during the Service and a few words said at a proposed soup and sandwich lunch after the service. Those who would like to contribute to the presentation can make a donation by putting it in an envelope (marked 'George') and leaving it in the offering plate over the next couple of months, or by handing it in to the office.

Dear Friends

We've had a busy and productive few weeks at work, school and at home. My successor at Green Pastures has been named. She is Sandra Boone, a physiotherapist from Belfast, who already lives in Pokhara and speaks fluent Nepali. We were able to spend a very encouraging morning together last week and I look forward to being able to hand over to her on the 15th April, after which I will act as an aide and helper as she learns the ropes.

It's exam time in the local schools. One of our young patients, Chandraman, sat his exams from the hospital and we are waiting to hear if he was successful or not. He is 11 years old and has been in the hospital for most of the last 2 years as a result of repeated leprosy reactions. He develops painful lumps under his skin from the top of his head to the soles of his feet and the only way we can control the reaction is to give him thalidomide. Thalidomide is a controversial drug and many people feel that it has no place in medical treatment anywhere in the world. I once read a very indignant letter in a medical journal, written by a lay person who was horrified to hear that it was being used to treat leprosy patients. However, for a core group of patients it is the only drug which keeps the leprosy reaction away. It can only be prescribed within a designated specialist leprosy unit and you can't take the tablet outside of the hospital. As a result we have around 10-15 patients who will spend between 1 and 3 years simply living here so that they can receive their thalidomide tablets under controlled conditions. For children and young people this can be devastating as they lose 1-3 years of their education as well as a large chunk of their childhood. To try and compensate for this the hospital has a school and it was through this route that Chandraman was able to sit his exams. His results are due on the 2 April.



As well as finishing off here we're realising that we probably need to do some re-orientation back to the UK. Without trying terribly hard we feel quite comfortable in Nepali culture and almost inevitable we've picked up some local habits along the way and missed some of the significant cultural changes in the UK that have happened in our absence.

Slurping tea - Nepalese people to a man (or woman) slurp their tea. I must confess to having developed this habit. You should try it! Your tea will taste much better as a result.

'Namaste' - this is how you greet every one you meet in Nepal and has become a deeply ingrained habit. During my brief trip back to the UK I had to consciously stop myself from saying this to everyone I met. This might be a problem!

Holding hands - in Nepal men holds hands with other men. For a man to hold hands with his wife would be regarded as quite scandalous. Fortunately I've never quite felt comfortable holding hands with other men, so I should be OK on this one.

UK language - I understand that everything in the UK is now 'awesome'. For someone who is still trying to work out if 'pants' means something is good or bad, the language might be a problem.

Anyhow it will be 'awesome' to see you all after we return in June.

Give thanks: Chandraman was able to sit his end of year exams; only minor election related violence in Pokhara; Sandra Boone's appointment **Please pray for:** Continued safety as we walk, cycle and motorcycle around the country

Update 18 April

The election day passed off peacefully. The turnout was high and our local polling station had an atmosphere more akin to a church picnic. Although the counting is not quite complete, the Maoists appear to have won by a huge margin. No one is disputing the result and therefore it does seem as though we may be about to enjoy a period of peace and stability that Nepalis have not enjoyed for some time.

Counting Sheep.....Margaret Malloch

A small farmer in England sold up and emigrated to Australia where he bought a farm of a similar size. After some years he became an Australian citizen and decided to do things the Aussie way.

He phoned a large sheep-shearing contractor and said, "I say, could you send a few chaps along to shear my sheep?"

The contractor said. "Well we're in a bit of a strife at the moment. The A team are down on the Riverina and they've got 22 thousand to shear so that'll take them a couple of weeks. The B team are up on the Darling Downs with 13 thousand still.....how many sheep have you got?"

"42!"

"Thousand?"

"No no - individuals don't you see."

There was a stunned silence then the man said with a break in his voice, "Can I have their names?"

In some countries, one's name has more significance than in others. In Ghana there are day names and children are born into them. Kofi is a boy born on a Friday, like Kofi Annan former Secretary General of the United Nations. Kwame is a boy born on a Saturday, like Kwame Nkrumah, first president of an Independent Ghana. The girls hardly ever use theirs. The given names are most meaningful. One of the names of my elder son is Dako (pronounced Daako) which means a daily victorious fighter. A name my daughter has is Kensema which is the spirit of the little stream that brings water in the dry season.

"The Hebrews believed that the name is filled with mysterious power and significance, for it represents the innermost self or identity of the person." Bernhard W. Anderson: The Living World of the Old Testament.

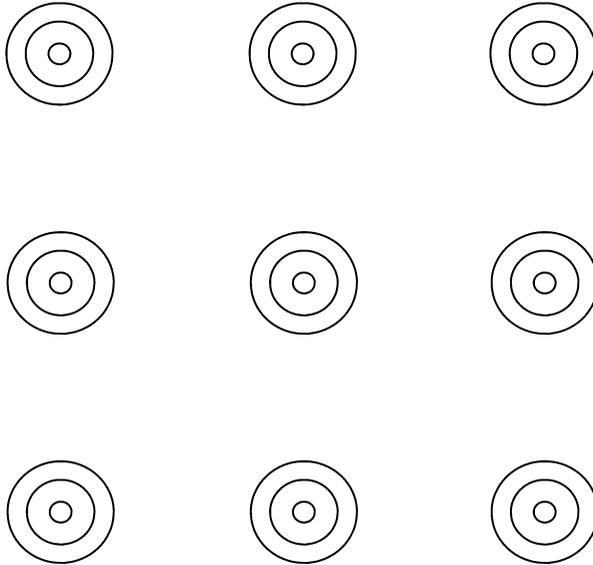
That's why it was especially outrageous for a Nazi to obliterate the identity of a Jew and replace it with a tattooed number.

When we read in Isaiah 43.1:

"Fear not for I have redeemed you. I have called you by your name. You are mine," it's not just the name we have on our schoolbag or bus pass. It implies a much deeper, all encompassing knowledge of us.

It is mesmerizing to read Exodus 33 v11 and 17 (NKJV)

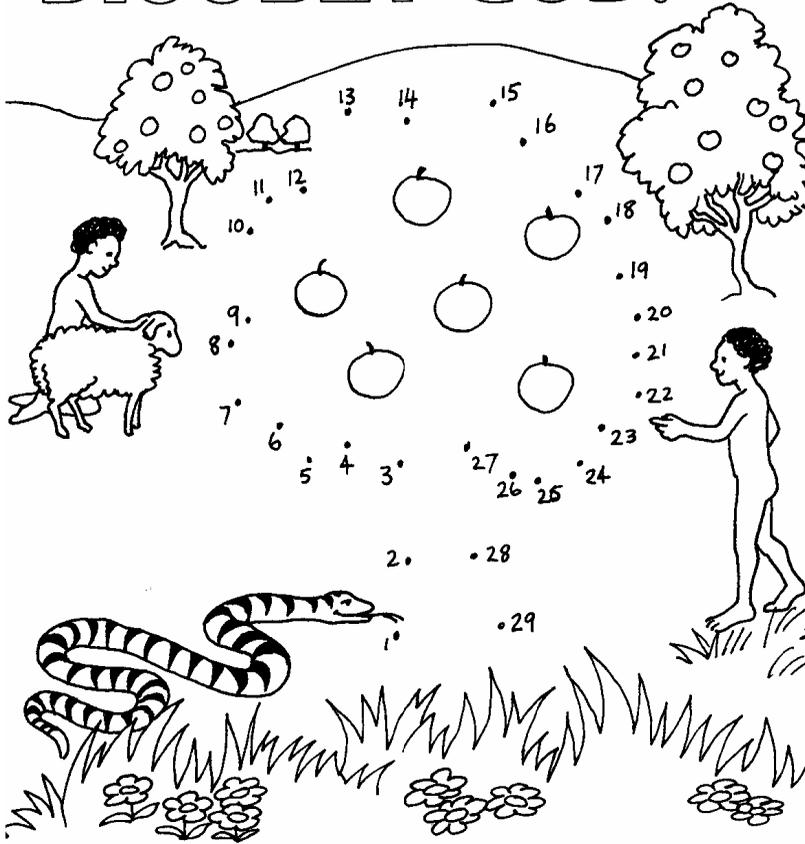
"The Lord spoke to Moses face to face as a man speaks to his friend..... I will do this thing that you have spoken; for you have found grace in my sight and I KNOW YOU BY NAME."



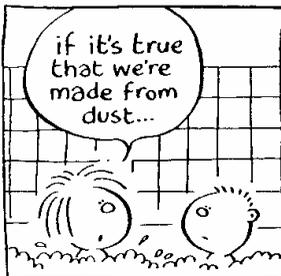
Cross all the centres with four straight lines, without folding
The paper or taking your pencil off the surface



ADAM AND EVE DISOBEY GOD.



the mouths of babes



The serpent said to Eve

"□△ 1□Γ·1ΞΔ 7□Γ ƒ□□'Γ

T3Δ 3△ 7□Γ Δ·Γ 703Ξ

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ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
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Q. Who put things right?

A. **AJOELSTUS**
EMDOBIC

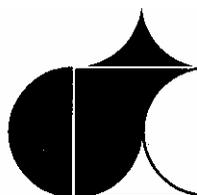
Colour the dotted letters

Genesis 3:1-15.

COME DOWN IMMEDIATELY (LUKE 19:5)

- | | | |
|--|--------|-------|
| 1 Jesus was passing through which city? | ----- | v. 1 |
| 2 A man was there whose name was | ----- | v. 2 |
| 3 The man was wealthy and also a | ----- | v. 2 |
| 4 Whom did he want to see? | ----- | v. 3 |
| 5 Being a short man he could not see because of the | ----- | v. 3 |
| 6 His best plan was to climb this tree | ----- | v. 4 |
| 7 As Jesus came near what did he do? | ----- | v. 5 |
| 8 And he said to Zacchaeus 'Come down | -----' | v. 5 |
| 9 Zacchaeus obeyed and welcomed Jesus | ----- | v. 6 |
| 10 As Jesus went home with Zacchaeus the people began to | ----- | v. 7 |
| 11 Saying 'He has gone to be the guest of a | -----' | v. 7 |
| 12 But Zacchaeus addressed Jesus as | ----- | v. 8 |
| 13 He promised to give half of his possessions to these people | ----- | v. 8 |
| 14 Anybody he had cheated, he would pay back four times the | ----- | v. 8 |
| 15 What did Jesus say had come to his house? | ----- | v. 9 |
| 16 And who was Zacchaeus a son of? | ----- | v. 9 |
| 17 And who did Jesus come to seek and save? | ----- | v. 10 |

April's solution:



Third World Centre, St Mary's Chapel

Read at the service of thanksgiving and remembrance for the volunteers of the Third World Centre

Don't undermine your worth by comparing yourself with others.
It is because we are different that each one of us is special.

Don't set your goals by what other people deem important.
Only you know what is best for you.

Don't take for granted the things closest to your heart.
Cling to them as you would your life, for without them life is meaningless.

Don't let your life slip through your fingers by living in the past.
By living your life one day at a time, you live all the days of your life.

Don't give up when you still have something to give.
Nothing is really over until the moment you stop trying.

Don't be afraid to admit that you are less than perfect,
It is a fragile thread that binds us to each other.

Don't be afraid to encounter risks:
It is by taking chances that we learn how to be brave.

Don't shut love out of your life by saying it is impossible to find.

The quickest way to receive love is to give love;
The fastest way to lose love is to hold it too tightly;
And the best way to keep love is to give it wings.

Don't dismiss your dreams,
To be without dreams is to be without hope.
To be without hope is to be without purpose.

Don't run through life so fast that you forget
Not only where you've been but also where you're going.

Life is not a race,
But a journey to be savoured each step of the way.



Boys Brigade News

Some news from the 44th Boys Brigade this month. We have had a busy few months and in Company Section have enjoyed some success in Battalion competitions. Back in November our junior team won the basketball tournament and in January they won the new volleyball competition which we hosted at Mannofield. In cross country too we came in 1st and 2nd in the junior race and Craig Wallace & Mark Clayton went on to come 2nd and 4th respectively in the Scottish national finals in Falkirk. Well done boys!



In March we held a sponsored ball marathon to raise funds for the Company. The boys played ball games in the large hall for 12 hours from 10am until 10pm. During the day we invited Dads along to challenge the boys at volleyball, pool & table tennis. We also ran a pool and table tennis competition. Well done to the winners, Andy Gibbon & Lewis Millar. Some new games were tried for the first time and one called Eddylongball went down well – it's best described as a mixture of rounders and dodgeball.

In our Junior Section the boys have won the Bisset Trophy where their skills at a variety of activities are tested including figure marching and drama.

Our Anchor Boys sadly have lost two leaders since September, so on their behalf I have a plea. If you or anyone you know would be interested in helping out with our 5-7 year old boys for an hour on a Thursday evening then please get in touch with either myself or Steve Bennett.

Dave Tait, Captain

Quiz Night

Are you feeling intelligent? Is your brain full of interesting facts which until now have been frankly of not much use to you? Well, here is your chance to dazzle us all with your immense knowledge.



The Young People & Families committee are planning a quiz night, to take place on Friday 23 May at 7.30pm in the church hall. It's a team event, and there will be questions for all ages, so get a group of up to 6 people together and come along – there might even be some prizes up for grabs....

Watch out for more information in the weekly intimations, but get the date on your calendar now, and start cramming! And don't worry if you're not part of a team beforehand – we can form more teams on the night, or you can join up with people looking in need of your extra brain power!

Pam Gourlay

NOTES & NEWS

Church Outing to Bennachie

Saturday 10 May



We have all seen Bennachie but how many of us have climbed the hill?

On Saturday 10 May you will get the chance when Mannofield Church visits Bennachie!

The plan is for folk to travel in their own cars and meet at 13:00 at the Visitor Centre just off the Blairdaff to Chapel of Garioch road. Then we will have a picnic. In the afternoon there will be several options for walks either up the hill or keeping to lower ground. Boots are advisable if you intend to climb the hill. The Visitor Centre will be open.

All are welcome: members, friends and their families. Tel 313721

Fairtrade Stall Sunday 11 May

Sunday 11 May is the beginning of Christian Aid week.

There will be a Fairtrade stall between the morning services that day.

If there is anything, e.g. large tins of coffee, which you would like Lynn to bring to the stall please contact her on, Tel 323206



THE GUILD



MAY

Thursday 1 May

Monthly Coffee Morning in the large hall 10-11.30am.

All proceeds will go towards the Guild's Bluebell Project which aims to raise awareness of, and help develop support services for, sufferers of post natal depression.

Sunday 25 May

Guild Walk

Saturday 31 May

Plant, Book and Bric a Brac Sale
(Please no CDs, Videos or DVDs)

BOOK REVIEW

My book review this month is of "The Spirit is among us: renewal and the local church," by Philip Hacking, published by Marshall Pickering in 1987.



The author has been a popular leader of parish missions throughout his ministry, mainly in the north of England, and was chairman of the Keswick Convention when the book was written.

The first two chapters are by way of introduction. Chapter 3 is a potted biography and much of what he writes is based on his experiences in mission outreach. A most interesting read.

Edna Cromarty

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

Baptisms	<i>"Suffer the little children to come unto me"</i>
23 March	Morven Louise MacLean
Deaths	<i>"I go to prepare a place for you.....that where I am you may be also"</i>
9 April	Mrs Catherine Wallace, Summerhill Eventide Home (formerly Gordondale Court).
13April	Mrs Isobel Goodall, Riverside Care Home (formerly Louisville Avenue) Mrs Catherine Robbie, Cowdray Club
15 April	Mrs Jessie Reid, 43 Airyhall Drive



The Youth Programme

Where Everyone is Someone and Jesus Christ is LORD.

Praise Band

Sundays 2-4pm in the Church.
Rehearsals 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th May
All musicians and vocalists welcome!

The Project

Sundays 6.30pm Evening Service (Church!) to 9.30pm (Large Hall)
4th May Street Theatre & Ludicrus Act 1
11th May Street Theatre & Ludicrus Act 2
18th May Street Theatre & Ludicrus Act 7
25th May Street Theatre & Ludicrus Act 8

Home Bible Study

61 Don Street, Woodside 7.45pm onwards.
5th & 19th May
We continue our study of Romans.

The Pickled Cow Drama Group

6.45-8.15pm Church
1st May Ludicrus, the Extended Acts Acts 5&6
8th May Ludicrus, the Extended Acts Acts 7, 8 & 1
15th May Ludicrus, the Extended Acts Acts 2, 3 & 4
22nd May Ludicrus, the Extended Acts Acts 5 & 6
29th May Ludicrus, the Extended Acts Acts 7 & 8

Youthie

Thursdays 8.30-10.00pm in the Large Hall
1st May Genesis 5v32-6v22 Noah
8th May Genesis 7v6-8v22 The Flood
15th May Genesis 11v1-9 The Tower of Babel

22nd May Genesis 12v1-20 Abram -The Call
29th May Genesis 13v1-18; 18; 19Abram & Lot

The Early Church

4th May Peter Raising Dorcas (Acts 9v31-43)
11th May Peter: The Gospel to the Gentiles (Acts 10v1-48)
18th May Peter in Prison (Acts 12v1-19)
25th May Paul's Salvation (Acts 9v1-25)



Sundays 9.30am, Large Hall

RiSE, Hazlehead Academy

Every Tuesday lunch time in the Lecture Theatre (Internet, EyeToy and Bible Time in Luke's Gospel!)

CHURCH CONTACTS

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Pastoral Assistant	Rev George Goldie 27 Broomhill Avenue goldiegm@goldieg.fsnet.co.uk	322503
Youth Worker	Mr Stiubhart MacChoille stiubhart@fsmail.net	481359
Secretary	Mrs Gill Terry office@mannofieldchurch.org.uk	310087
Church Officer	Mr. Nick Youngson, nicholas.youngson@which.net	322239 M 07850 733402
Session Clerk	Bob Anderson Nnikibob@aol.com	743484
Website	www.mannofieldchurch.org.uk	

John Ledingham

A tribute

After service in the Gordon Highlanders, John joined the Police and was latterly Station Sergeant at Queen's Street. He and his late wife Margaret had 2 children Gordon and Elaine.

John was a faithful member of Mannofield and was for many years a serving elder.

He and Margaret took over the running of the Junior Section of the Boys' Brigade. Most of the trophies in the cabinet in the Large Hall are Junior Section trophies from the *Ledingham era*.

When he retired from the Junior Section he was involved for some years in the Airyhall Community Centre and latterly in the Broomhill Centre.

He and his second wife Jean had happy years together.

Everything John did was with dedication and enthusiasm and he will be sadly missed in the community.

Donald Laing

A tribute

Donald saw active service with the Hampshire Regiment during the War and upon his return continued his Chemistry studies.

He worked at the University for a while before a long career with the Macaulay Institute.

We knew him as an Elder of Mannofield Church of many years and with thanks he is remembered for the contribution he made to this church. He is survived by Elizabeth and sons David and Malcolm and their families, who have received the prayer and support of the church and many friends in their loss.