

## Boghall Manse

Preparations are underway for our Harvest Festival service. This year we will be hearing about the work of 'Malawi Fruits'. Malawi Fruits works with farmers and small holders in exploring farming practices, cash crops, small scale production and markets. Raw materials are increasingly de-valued and produced materials carry a higher price. Markets benefit the developed world rather than those producing the raw material. Malawi Fruits works through this chain, from the field to the sale.

What we buy can say a lot about what our values are. Have a look at your bank statement, keep a note of where you spend over a week or two, it will show what you value. It may not be the same as the values you and I express as important to us. The contradiction between expressed values and the way we use our money can be a bit of a wakeup call.

Over the last few months the supermarkets have been moving away from the recognised Fairtrade accreditation to set up their own classification. The Fairtrade model is being stretched under the pressure of global economics. Malawi Fruits may be at the forefront of a new model of 'from the bottom up' production and consumption, giving the poorest producers a little access to the global wealth.

Scripture gives us story after story of challenges to 'top down' structures. Just now the trickle down economic model is the only one on offer, but a new one will come. Let us hope for one that benefits all. But we can also learn a lot about gratitude from Jesus' teaching. Our harvest festival is a time when we express our gratitude for all the things of the earth which we consume. It is also a time of being grateful for the labour that makes our lives a bit more special. Being truly grateful for our food, homes, education, work, communities, can be the start of being happy.

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Jesus was the master teacher when it came not just to being grateful but to grateful living, where every moment is lived gratefully. For one week try and spend a little time each day and write down, or post on your Facebook page, three things that you have been grateful for that day. Each day choose something different. You will see that there is much to be grateful for.

We should all be grateful for the work of Malawi Fruits and for the opportunity to hear about the work that they are doing.

Be blessed, be a blessing and be grateful.

Chris

**1517-2017 500 years on, do we need to remember  
The Reformation?** *Bathgate Churches Together*

Rev. John Bremner of Bathgate E.U.Church will be leading a series of meetings looking at the origins and significance of The Reformation. All meetings will take place in the **Bathgate Partnership Centre**, South Bridge Street on the following Thursday evenings starting at 7.30pm. They will include plenty of time for questions and discussion.

Thurs 26 October: **The Background to The Reformation** –  
a changing world and the call for reform in the church.

Thurs 2 November: **The Reformation Generation** – who were  
The Reformers and what did they wish to achieve?

Thurs 9 November: **What does The Reformation say to us today?**  
A look at the effects of The Reformation and at some of the  
issues which continue to cause friction and which still divide  
the churches.

All welcome!

## WORSHIP IN OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

- 1 Oct 10.30am: ALL AGE WORSHIP – HARVEST  
led by Outreach Group  
Donations for our Harvest Thanksgiving Appeal, ‘Malawi Fruits’,  
will be gratefully received at this service.
- 2 Oct 5.45pm-7.30pm: *Messy Church*
- 8 Oct 9.45am: *Fellowship Breakfast*  
10.30am: Morning Worship
- 15 Oct 10.30am: Morning Worship
- 20 Oct 2pm: *Norvell Lodge Service All welcome*
- 22 Oct 10.30am: Morning Worship-  
6.30pm: David Brackenridge, Venture Scotland
- 29 Oct 10.30am: Morning Worship
- 5 Nov 10.30am: ALL AGE WORSHIP – Dedication of  
Girls’ and Boys’ Brigades
- 12 Nov 10.30am: Morning Worship – Remembrance
- 19 Nov 10.30am: Morning Worship- Guild Week
- 26 Nov 10.30am: Sacrament of Holy Communion  
6.30pm: Sacrament of Holy Communion

As you have read, there will be a **Fellowship Breakfast** prior to Worship on the morning of 8 October starting at 9.45am. Anyone wishing to attend, please see Murray McLauchlan and indicate your choice of breakfast!

**Events :-** Mon. 2 Oct Memory Café, Rosemount Gardens at 1.30pm  
Mon. 2 Oct Meditating Community at 7pm, Session Room  
Mon. 9 Oct Mindfulness Course at 7pm, Session Room

## ROB HALLIGAN CONCERT WED. 25 OCTOBER at 7PM BOGHALL PARISH CHURCH

Rob will be performing at Boghall as part of his tour for his new album, *Wild Horses*. **Tickets**, available from Chris, are **£5** and you will have an opportunity to buy Rob’s new CD. Money raised during the tour will go to **Global Care** and their work on the Lebanon/Syrian border, building and staffing Shack Schools for refugee children in the camps. Rob has had a busy summer. *“I’ve just finished a run of festivals including a fantastic night on the main stage at Warwick Folk Festival. Bit of a landmark gig to be second headline with the likes of the Oysterband, Barbara Dickson, Steve Tilston and Jez Low also performing. It was packed and the crowd were incredible – singing, clapping and laughing in the right places.”*

Those who have seen Rob perform, will know that he is a skilled musician and songwriter. Woven into his songs are the daily struggles and joys of everyday folks he has encountered. Some songs are autobiographical. He also writes and sings about his work promoting the educational rights of children across the world.

**Be sure to get your tickets soon!**

### SINGING GROUP

Katie has indicated that she would like to start a Singing Group that would contribute to worship occasionally. This is **not a choir** and you don’t need to be a great singer; just enjoy singing to take part. Anyone who is interested should see Katie, our church organist. The proposed start date is **Sunday 29 October** after morning worship.

### FUNERAL

*Jesus said, “I am the Resurrection and the Life.”*

4 September: Jenny Hamilton, Thurso (late of 1 Starlaw Walk)

**VENTURE SCOTLAND SUNDAY 22 OCTOBER 6.30PM**

**David Brackenridge**, an elder at Portobello and Joppa Parish Church, will be coming to Boghall on the evening of 22nd October to talk about Venture Scotland, a charity based in Edinburgh and the Lothians, who work with some of our most disadvantaged and vulnerable young people. Venture Scotland offer young people who have a history of homelessness, addiction, criminal behaviour, mental health issues or who are isolated from their communities, the chance to take part in a year long personal development course based in the outdoors. Young people are challenged to take part in weekly activities including hillwalking, paddling, rock climbing, gorge walking and coastering along with monthly residentials to remote mountain bothies and wild camps in the mountains. The results are often life changing! This is a chance to hear about what the charity do and how young people from some of the Lothians' most disadvantaged backgrounds empower themselves to make positive changes.

But this is also a story about David's 20 year journey, led by God, from being an architect, through running a church youth club, to discovering his passion in life in the mountains of Scotland, to turning his passion into his job.

### **DR GRAHAM'S HOMES, KALIMPONG**

We continue to sponsor Rebecca as a boarding student, but in mid-June this year, a general strike was called by various political parties warring internally with one another. This was followed by civil unrest. The entire community was brought to a standstill with all services suspended. Unfortunately, all Dr Graham's pupils (both boarders and day children) were evacuated and sent home. Sadly, many of the children who were receiving an education are likely to have been sent out begging as their return has meant another mouth to feed.

I have recently spoken to Jim Simpson (our sponsorship secretary) who advised that he is going out to the Homes to see for himself what the current situation is. There is a ban on all communication so it has been impossible to get information from Kalimpong. There doesn't seem to be an end in sight and so for now, all we can do as a congregation is

pray for the safety of all at Dr Graham's Homes. Hopefully there will be positive news on Jim's return.

*Kirsty McAlpine*

### **CHRISTIAN AID**

Many thanks to everyone who helped with events for Christian Aid this year. A cheque has been sent to Christian Aid for £3926.57 (*£1279 of the total came from Boghall Church congregation collection and the Ceilidh which was hosted by Boghall.*)

There is the **Thrift Shop** still to come, and we appeal for volunteers to help in the shop in 2 hourly shifts. There is a sheet in the Hall of Fellowship for you to add your name if you'd like to help.

The Thrift Shop will be in the precinct in George Street from **Wednesday 11 October until Wednesday 18 October.**

**Saturday 30 September: Christian Aid Coffee Morning in High Church Hall - 10am – 12noon**

Leaflets for **Blythswood Care Shoebox Appeal** are available in the Hall of Fellowship. If you'd like to fill a box, please return it to church by **Sunday 5 November** ready for the collection lorry which begins its long journey to Eastern Europe. Thank you!

**THE GUILD** meet on **Wed. 11 October** at 7.30pm for their A.G.M. and Cupcake Tea. Then on **Wed. 25 October** for a Music Night.

**ALL ARTICLES** for the November edition of the church magazine to be in the editor's hands by **Wednesday 18 October.**

Mrs K. Dunleavy     4 Starlaw Gardens     Tel:630763