

Minister:
The Rev. D. W. RUTHERFORD, M.C., M.A., B.D
The Manse, Aberdour

Session Clerk:
Mr. W. H. CHALMERS, C.A.,
"Lynton," 18 Dovecot Park.

Clerk to the Congregational Board:
Miss I. C. H. SIMMERS, M.A.,
"Kilravock."

Treasurer:
Mr. J. DAWSON MACFARLANE, C.A.,
"Braefoot," 99 Main Street.

Organist:
Mr. R. WALKER, Dip. Mus. Ed. (R.S.A.M.)
26 Glenfield Road, Cowdenbeath.

Proclamations Officer:
Mr. R. C. LYON,
"Park View," Park Lane.

St. Fillan's Church News

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Congregation will take place in the Church Hall on Wednesday, 19th March at 7.30 p.m. At the meeting six members of the congregation are due to be elected to the membership of the Congregational Board. It is hoped that those elected will be representative of the whole membership of the congregation. Members should think out beforehand those whom they consider suitable and have their permission before nominating them.

The following have completed their term of office:—

Mrs A. L. Drummond, Mrs J. C. Ford, Mr D. Gunn, Mr A. D. Lowe, Mr G. M. Pollock, Mr A. Smith.

We thank them for the work they have done on your behalf.

At the meeting the usual reports will be given by representatives of the organisations. Tea will be served when the business has been completed. All who worship with us are invited to this gathering, though only members may vote.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

At the morning service on 9th February the Kirk Session presented the following children with a book-token as an award for attendance at church throughout 1974:—

Susan Chalmers, Catriona Duncanson, Andrew Fergus, Gillian Fergus, Gabrielle Hodge, Clare Hughes, Richard Hughes, Ann Hynd, Karen Hynd, Calum Murray, Jill Murray, Martin Murray, Alison Meiklejohn, Donald John Nicolson, Amanda Palmer, Candida Palmer, Phillipa Palmer, Stephanie Palmer, Amanda Maxwell, Becca Maxwell, Margaret Rankine, Claire Thomson, Lorna Thomson.

FINANCE

We understand that on a recent Sunday when Mr Rutherford was speaking from the pulpit on Christian Giving that some thought that it was inappropriate that he should be asking for money at a time like this. He was not in fact asking for money; he was merely stating the facts — that if we are to continue to meet our own rising costs and to give away just the same as we have done in previous years that we require an increase of between £1,000 and £1,200 in our congregational giving in 1975. This is just another factor in inflation as it affects you. If you want bread you have to pay more for it; if you want sugar you have to pay more for it; if you want the church you have to pay more for it; if you want to help other people you have to pay more for it; if you want to spread the Gospel you have to pay more for it. No one will expect those who have had no increases, or whose income has gone down to contribute more, but we do expect those who have had increases to increase their contribution. Who wants to be subsidised by another's generosity?

RESIGNATION

Rabbi Hayyim of Zans used to tell this about himself.

"In my youth, when I was fired with the love of God, I thought I would convert the whole world to God. But soon I discovered that it would be quite enough to convert the people who live in my town, and I tried for a long time but did not succeed. Then, I realised that my programme was still much too ambitious, and I concentrated on the persons in my household. Finally it dawned on me that I must work upon myself. But I did not accomplish even this."

How different to the Apostle Paul, another Jew, who wrote.

"I have strength for anything through him who gives me power.."

A THANKSGIVING

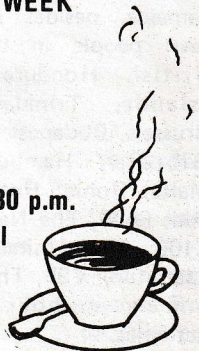
We are all familiar with the story of our Lord's healing of the ten lepers, and how out of the ten there was only one, and a Samaritan at that, who felt that he must say 'thank you' for what had been done for him. Thanksgiving to-day is still not all that common, so it is refreshing when two of our young men now in Calgary, Canada, John and George Simpson, who at one time lived in Humble Terrace, expressed a desire to gift two Communion cups to the congregation as a token of their appreciation for the Christian upbringing which they received during their youth in Aberdour. These cups are almost ready and it is hoped that it will be possible to dedicate them and use them at the Sacrament on Sunday, 16th March. They are being inscribed:— "Gifted to St. Fillan's Church, Aberdour in Thanksgiving. John and George Simpson. 1975."

COFFEE MORNING

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

On SATURDAY
24th MAY, 1975

from
10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
in the Church Hall



BRING AND BUY STALL
Tickets 15p.

CHRISTIAN GIVING

As a congregation we give in so many ways that it is not easy to arrive at a grand total. Some give through the open plate on a Sunday, some through the Weekly Freewill Offering Envelope, some through Bonds of Annuity, some by Donations some at the Annual Sale of Work or the Coffee Mornings, some through the organisations such as the Sunday School and Woman's Guild, some through special collections, some through door to door collections undertaken on behalf of the Blind and the Bible Society, some by the phials for the Leprosy Mission. A rough calculation suggests that the total raised by the members of the congregation for other people and their organisations amounted last year to the sum of £2,750. This is what we call 'our give-away'. It is a large sum of money to be raised by five hundred and sixty one members, and those who have contributed to it may be justly proud.

This sum of money has been roughly divided between Home Needs and Overseas Needs. The Home Needs include the care of the needy in the parish, the Old People's Committee, National Church Extension: £260, Aid to the Stipends of Poorer Congregations: £350, Work of the Home Board: £145, Social Service Work: £90, Shelter: £110, Scottish Council for Spastics: £35, Muscular Distrophe Group: £35, Earl Haig Fund: £26, Aged and Infirm Minister's Fund: £95, Christian Education: £45, The Royal Blind Asylum and School: £90, and lesser sums to the Multiple Sclerosis Society, Telephone Samaritans, The Fife Marriage Guidance Council, the Aged Christian Friend Society, Abbot House, Dunfermline and British Sailor's Society.

Our givings for Work Overseas has the same wide spectrum, and includes our contribution to our own missionary work in India, Pakistan, Nepal, Ceylon, Yemen, Zambia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Mauritius, South Africa, Israel, Taiwan, Jamaica, besides our work amongst our own people in the Bahamas, Bermuda, British Honduras, Argentine, Falkland Islands, Trinidad, Chile, Amsterdam, Brussels, Budapest, Cyprus, Geneva, Genoa, Gibraltar, Hamburg, Lausanne, Lisbon, Malta, Rome, Rotterdam; £675, Christian Aid; £400, The National Bible of Scotland; £100, The United Society for Christian Literature; £35, The Leprosy Mission; £45, and a number of other missionary activities.

When we give, it is a good thing to think of all that God is achieving through us.

REV. JOHN WILKINSON

P.C.E.A. Hospital,
P.O. Box 45,
KIKUYU,
KENYA.
December, 1974

Dear Partners,

This will be our last partner plan letter to you from Kenya. In March we come on leave to Scotland and we shall not be returning from leave.

We were both appointed missionaries of the Church of Scotland in 1946 and came to Kenya as the first post-war missionaries from Scotland. So when we return next year we shall have completed almost twenty-nine years of service in this country.

In these twenty-nine years we have seen tremendous changes in every aspect of life here. In the political field we have seen Kenya change from a colony to an independent republic which has won the esteem and the confidence of the world by its achievements and its stability. It is now one of the leading countries of independent Africa.

Economically, it has developed from a dependent country to one which is increasingly independent with a steadily rising economy. The new four year development plan is based on the expectation of a 7.4% annual increase in the economy which is a very high figure for a developing country. However, this figure does not look like being achieved because of the world-wide influence of inflation, so the figure has been revised to 4.5% in the past month.

Socially too, there have been great changes. One of the most striking is the spread of education which now accounts for over 25% of the annual budget of the country. This year free primary education was introduced in the first four years of school by presidential decree, which means that from now on every child who enters primary school will have the opportunity to learn to read. There has been a great increase in the standard of living of the people, and this is reflected in the patients in the wards of the hospital. No longer do we see the severe cases of malnutrition in children which we used to see. Our people are living longer and sometimes the wards look more like those of a geriatric hospital than of a general hospital because of the increased number of elderly patients who stay with us longer than younger ones do.

On the Church side of the work there is tremendous cause for encouragement, and many signs of widespread interest in the gospel. About 8 million of Kenya's population of 13 million profess to be Christians, and every Sunday our Churches are overcrowded with people hanging round the doors and windows or sitting on the grass outside to join in worship. You are seldom out of sight of a Church in Kikuyuland today, and more are being built. Baptism and confirmation services for 100-200 new members are not uncommon. Last year almost 1.8 million Bibles or Scripture portions were distributed in Kenya which leads the countries of Africa in Bible distribution and has done so for the last four years.

So although we have made our decision not to return to Kenya next year, we do not leave in any mood of pessimism. There are many signs of hope in the situation which we leave behind us and we leave greatly encouraged by the progress of the gospel in this land. Although many problems remain, many of them are the problems of success such as the effective shepherding of the new members of the church and their establishment in the Christian Faith as strong and effective Christian witnesses.

We would solicit your prayers for ourselves as we come home to face a new sphere of service, wherever and whatever that will be, and also for the Church in Kenya in all its responsibilities, and not least for its medical work. With a hundred doctors coming out from Nairobi University each year from next year, there should be no problem in finding staff for Church hospitals.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN WILKINSON.

PROPHECY

In a letter dated, January 1956 Dr. Wilkinson wrote,

"Previously I told you something of the Revival Movement which was slowly spreading through the Church in Kikuyuland. It has continued to spread and to demonstrate in a remarkable way that it is indeed the work of the Holy Spirit."

In the beginning no one could have foreseen that this Revival Movement was God's providential preparation of the Church and His people for the onslaught of the Devil which was to come. One of the early Church fathers called the Devil

"God's Ape", and in some respects the Mau Mau movement may be regarded as the Devil's attempt to copy the Revival Movement. The Revival Movement was hardly ever mentioned in the news, but the Mau Mau immediately became world news and still remain such. The Church became the focal point of the Mau Mau attack, and it underwent a severe time of trial and testing. The points where resistance was greatest were those where the influence of the revival were strongest. The Church has come through this time reduced in numbers, but strengthened in witness, and is now faced with boundless opportunities for service and evangelism.

Do pray for Kenya."

PRAYERS
WHICH HAVE BEEN ANSWERED

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Many folk outside the congregation have commented on the excellence of our Sunday School — well organised and well staffed with able and mature teachers, using up to date methods. This has been in large measure due to the work of Mr Alex Elder, who has just retired after being superintendent for ten years. Through his active participation in both Presbytery and Church Youth Committees he has made himself familiar with all the latest developments in Sunday School work and introduced them into our own Sunday School in Aberdour. He has had an unbounded enthusiasm for the work, and also a very personal interest in the individual children. In all this he has been most ably helped by Mrs Elder, who has played a full part as teacher, pianist, and librarian. Children, parents and friends met at Sunday School on 9th March and presented Mr Elder with a portable typewriter as a token of their thanks and esteem.

Mr Elder's place has been taken by Mr Gordon Maxwell, 72a High Street. We are most fortunate in having someone with his training and experience. He also has a great enthusiasm, and we look forward to his able leadership.

We are always in need of new helpers — even those willing to take an occasional class, when the regular teacher cannot be present. Besides worshipping, the training of our young people is the most important function of the church to-day. We need your help.

This year the Sunday School Outing breaks new ground — the park at Townhill, Dunfermline. It is a pleasant park with every amenity. The congregation of Townhill has granted us the use of the Church Hall should the weather prove inclement. It is fixed for the usual Saturday — the third Saturday in June — 21st June. 'Buses as usual from the clock, We hope for good weather.

THE BENEVOLENT FUND

Once again the Benevolent Fund was divided equally between the needs at home and the needs in other countries. £70 was sent to Shelter (Scotland) and £70 to Christian Aid. We had letters of thanks from both organisations. Shelter told how it was being applied to the first Rural Housing Aid Project in Perthshire, where a very mobile case worker has aided many rural families in unfortunate circumstances. This is the sort of experimental and exploratory work which independent charities are uniquely placed to undertake.

The Christian Aid letter was shorter but it ended:—

"Your St. Fillan's Church is the most regular giver we have on our books and that's a fact."

TWENTY YEARS AGO

The Billy Graham Campaign is hitting the headlines. Anticipating that there will be a good number of folk in Aberdour and Dalgety who will wish to go to Glasgow, reservations have been made for 41 seats in the Kelvin Hall on Friday, 8th April, and a bus chartered to convey us there. Mr Amos has kindly agreed to take the names of those who want to go. To prevent disappointment I must emphasise that there are only 41 seats and arrangements for more cannot be made. First come: first served.

We must not allow practically fifty years of service by Mr Gillespie, our organist, to go unnoticed. Had he lived until this year we should have been engaged in planning a presentation to him, for it was in October 1905 that he took up duties in St. Colme's Church. The Kirk Session have in mind a small plaque near the organ in St. Colme's to mark his generous service to the Church and the community.

(This plaque was later transferred to St. Fillan's Church and is placed on the left of the organ console)

BAPTISMS

1974
17th Nov. Steven Andrew Henderson
29th Dec. Stewart Cameron McAndie
1975
2nd Feb. Jennifer Louise Dagger

DEATHS

1974
10th Sept. Mr George Maclachlan,
Clachaig,
Seaside Place
15th Sept. Mr Stewart McIntyre,
19 Morayvale
17th Sept. Mrs J. Stewart,
57 Main Street
28th Oct. Mrs L. M. Moir,
4 Sands Place
28th Oct. Mrs J. M. Wells,
25 Humbie Terrace
16th Dec. Mr William H. Doidge,
24 Morayvale
1975
6th Jan. Miss E. McGlashan,
64 Main Street
9th Feb. Infant — Sally Milne,
Dalgety Bay
10th Feb. Mr John Fairley,
84 Main Street
11th Feb. Mr Robert Bald,
29 Main Street

ACCESSIONS — BY CERTIFICATE

Mr and Mrs George Burns,
Golf Club House
Mrs Janet B. Mackay,
24 Dovecot Park

BY PROFESSION

Miss Fiona MacDonald,
The Schoolhouse
Miss Aileen Wallace,
62 Main Street

DISJUNCTIONS

Mrs M. J. Serridge, 7 Inch Avenue
to Hosforth
Mrs M. Morris, 4 Murray Place
to Upper Largo
Mrs A. Adamson, 30 Main Street
to Sauchie
Mr and Mrs W. H. Main, 15 Bellhouse Road
to Edinburgh
Mr and Mrs H. Livingston, Shore Road
to Kirkcaldy
Mrs K. J. Dagger, Wallacestown
to Polmont South Church

ABSTRACT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR TO 31st DECEMBER, 1974

1 - GENERAL FUND

1973		INCOME		1973		EXPENDITURE	
£1,128	Collections -				Allocation of Funds -		
2,350	Cash Collections	£1,056.04		£310	Assembly Funds -		
	Weekly Freewill Offerings	2,530.43		101	Maintenance of Ministry Fund	£350.00	
	Bonds of Annuity and				Aged & Infirm Ministers' Fund	111.34	
974	Income Tax Recovered	908.92			Mission & Service Fund	£1,350.00	
257	Special Collections	298.24			<i>Less</i> Contributed by		
	Donations -			840	Congregational Organisations	160.00	1,190.00
	Woman's Guild	£928.60			National Church Extension Fund	17.34	
56	Other	118.12	1,046.72	44	North West India Relief Fund	0.00	
1	District Collections	0.00		£1,295			£1,668.68
44	Assembly Funds	17.34		518	Outside Organisations	632.05	
£4,810			5,857.69	£1,813			2,300.73
	Coffee Morning & Sale of Work				Ministers' Stipend (part of) and Expenses -		
129	for Christian Aid		188.76	1337	Stipend	£1,629.60	
	Extra-Ordinary Income -			240	Travelling Expenses	209.14	1,838.74
	Sale of Pewter, Old Chairs						
316	and Special Donation		0.00		Pulpit Supply Expenses -	£138.78	
	History of St. Fillan's Church -			28	<i>Less</i> : Recovered	126.60	12.18
129	Sale of Copies		19.60	685	Salaries		816.63
	Income from Trust Investments -				Upkeep of Church etc. -		
168	For Stipend	£176.75		175	Rates, Insurance and Feuduty	£189.32	
7	For Benevolent Fund	7.18		257	Heating, Lighting and Cleaning	388.24	577.56
47	For Assembly Funds	47.44		24	Repairs and Upkeep (other than to Fabric)		36.90
13	For Sunday School	12.60		201	Printing, Stationery and Publications		210.00
1	For Other Church Purposes	23.58			Revised Church Hymnaries -		
			267.55		(a) For Visitors	£96.00	
£5,620			£6,333.60		<i>Less</i> : Donation towards cost	50.00	
561	Balance brought forward		498.42			46.00	
					(b) For Members	£92.00	
					<i>Less</i> : Proceeds of Sale	80.40	11.60
							57.60
					Miscellaneous -		
				18	Communion Expenses	£19.88	
				71	Assembly, Synod and Presbytery Dues	88.23	
				36	Telephone	43.29	
				50	Sundry Expenses	55.96	207.36
				135	Benevolent Fund		143.12
				13	Payments to Sunday School		12.60
				100	Donations to Other Congregations		0.00
				200	History of St. Fillans Church - Cost of Printing		0.00
				300	Transferred to Fabric Fund		0.00
				£5,683			£6,213.42
				498	Balance on Hand		618.60
£6,181			£6,832.02	£6,181			£6,832.02

2 - FABRIC FUND

1973		INCOME		1973		EXPENDITURE	
91	Collections	£87.77		£437	Repairs to Fabric		£168.89
7	Income from Trust Investment for Repairs	6.40		2,780	Balance on Hand		3,031.18
123	Interest	325.61					
300	Transferred from General Fund	0.00					
£521		£419.78					
2,696	Balance brought forward	2,780.29					
£3,217		£3,200.07		£3,217			£3,200.07

3 - LEGACY FROM THE EXECUTORS OF THE LATE DOUGLAS R. McLAUCHLAN

Balance brought forward	£100.00	Balance on Hand	£100.00
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Note: The foregoing financial statements are abstracts of the transactions and funds of the Congregational Board of St. Fillan's Church, Aberdour for the year to 31st December, 1974.

J. DAWSON MACFARLANE, C.A., *Treasurer.*

The above accounts represent a true and fair view of the income received and expenditure made during 1974 and of the balances standing to the credit of the accounts at 31st December, 1974.

11th March, 1975

IAN M. STUART, F.C.I.I.

G. MALCOLM MURRAY, F.F.A.

Auditors.