

REVIEW & OUTLOOK



PALMERSTON
PLACE
CHURCH
EDINBURGH

November 2011

www.palmerstonplacechurch.com

Scottish Charity No SC004291

MINISTER'S LETTER TO THE CONGREGATION

Dear Friends

We live in uncertain times. As I am writing this, economists are worrying about another financial recession, weather forecasters are talking about snow by the end of October (how wrong they were!) and within our own denomination a number of ministers have resigned. How do we respond?

The Bible was written through uncertain times, and fear, real or imagined, was a companion to many men and women of God. One of the reasons why people find comfort in God's word is that it has that "ring of truth". God's people were encouraged to turn afresh to God in hard times. In the Bible, God reveals himself in various ways, but one of these is found in the names he uses. One of the names for God, found in the Old Testament, is Yahweh Shammah which means "God is there". You could unpack that to say "God is there, God is here, God is everywhere". I am sure you can all think of times when you knew nobody and you weren't sure of your way. You felt both lonely and alone. Perhaps you even began to feel a bit afraid. And then, the Lord reminded you that He was with you. In a large city you might have lonely but you were not alone because *Jehovah Shammah* was with you.

In our E100 readings we have repeatedly come across the phrase "The Lord was with..." The Lord God had been with humankind since he "walked in the garden in the cool of the day" Gen 3:8. Enoch walked with God. God was with Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses and Joshua. Moses had on one occasion said to God "*If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here.*" Ex 33:15. God revealed his presence in a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night, and later the Children of Israel built a tabernacle in the middle of their camp where God's presence was to be found.

Much later David testified that God could be found everywhere (Psalm 139) and even when his son, Solomon, built the Temple they knew by then that God was bigger than any Temple. The years passed and there were bad times and good times. The bad times became more common but the trust in God's presence was not lost. At the very end of Ezekiel we read "*And the name of the city from that time on will be: THE LORD IS THERE.*"

For us today we can say that God can be found in Jesus, who is "God with us—Immanuel". God also dwells within us by his Spirit and can be found within the Church. So in hard times don't turn your back on God but turn to Him, put your trust in Him, and live for Him right now. In the midst of uncertain times you can be the one to help bring God's peace and presence to others.

Every blessing

Colin



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



NOVEMBER

Monday	7	7:30pm	Kirk Session
Tuesday	8	7pm	Presbytery Prayer Night
Wednesday	9	2:15pm	PPP 'Parliamentary Prayer Scotland'
Thursday	10	2pm 7:30pm 7:30pm	Friendship Club Bridging the Gap Thursday House Group meets in Ron and Dorothy Steel's home. Newcomers always welcome.
Sunday	13	10:50am 3pm 6:30pm	Remembrance Sunday service Sutherland Street Service Parable of the Ten Virgins—Matthew 25
Monday	14	6:30pm 7:30pm	Monday House Group, Annan House Property and Finance Team
Thursday	17	2pm 7:30pm	Friendship Club Diaspora Ministries (OMF)—reaching scattered people groups.
Sunday	20	11am 6:30pm	Shoe Box Sunday All Age Service Parable of the Talents
Tuesday	22	6:35pm	Coordinating Team
Wednesday	23	12:15pm	PPP "Did it all really happen?" Margot Grosset
Thursday	24	2pm	Friendship Club
Sunday	27	11 6:30pm	Worship and Wisdom—Proverbs 3 Mark's last Sunday with us Student and young adult lunch at the Manse Parable of the sheep and goats
Tuesday	29	7:30pm	Service Team

DECEMBER

Thursday	1	7:30pm 7:30pm	Prayer Meeting Choir
Sunday	4	11am 6:30pm	New world coming - Isaiah 53 Gift Service Message for Advent
Monday	5	7:30pm	Kirk Session

The Prayer Page

PRAYER FOR THE VICTIMS OF WAR AND ALL WHO STRUGGLE FOR PEACE

Lord of all
hear us now as we pray for the victims of war and for peace in our world.
We pray for those across the world who bear the scars of conflict -
the injured, maimed and mentally distressed,
those who have lost their limbs, their reason or their loved ones
through the horrors of war.

We pray for those left homeless or as refugees,
those who have lost their livelihoods and security,
and those who still live in daily fear for their lives.

We pray for children who have been orphaned,
parents who mourn their children,
husbands and wives who have lost their partners
countless families whose lives will never be the same again.

We pray for those in the armed forces,
charged with keeping the peace in countries across the world -
their work involving months away from family and friends,
and often danger to themselves.

We pray for world leaders and rulers, politicians and diplomats -
those whose decisions and negotiations affect the lives of so many,
and in whose hands peace ultimately lies.

Lord of all, give wisdom to all who work for peace,
so that a more secure future may be ensured for all.
Give courage to those who strive for justice,
so that the causes of conflict may be overcome.
Give strength to those who seek to break down barriers/
that divisions over race, colour, creed and culture may be ended.
Grant that wherever war, or the threat of war, continues to haunt lives,
a way of reconciliation may be found,
and harmony established between people and nations.
In the name of Christ. **Amen.**



WHAT'S ON?

Presbytery Prayer and Praise Evening

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray..." (2 Chronicles 7.14)

Presbytery Prayer and Praise evening will take place at 7pm on Tuesday 8th November at Palmerston Place Church. All welcome.

... a call to prayer for each other and for our city.

Presbytery Offices

NATIVITY CAROL EVENT

This year's City Nativity Carol Event will be in St. Andrew's Square on Sunday 27th November at 4:00pm.

The service, hosted by Edinburgh City Council, will be led by some of our Edinburgh Church Leaders with the music once again from Origin in partnership with school children from Edinburgh. Look out for information in the local paper and in City Council publicity which will be released shortly.



Edinburgh Churches Together



GIFT SERVICE

Once again, we have received a request from Saughton Prison asking our congregation to supply Christmas gifts for the children of the prisoners. The gifts received are used to help the children have some "normal" happy time with their fathers and, for the first time, mothers at Christmas. Any gift vouchers or money received will be given to our local school – Dalry Primary. The Headmaster in Dalry is extremely grateful for any monies received and usually uses them to buy items which otherwise could not be afforded from the school's limited budget. At this time of year, there are lots of requests for help and our congregation is absolutely wonderful with their support. This appeal for help is a bit different in that it is for a local cause and both the Prison and the School are entirely dependent on local support to make the children's Christmas extra special. Please indicate on the gift whether it is for a boy or a girl, or bring it along unwrapped with some Christmas paper. Gifts can be handed in any Sunday before the Gift Service to me.

David McColl

WHAT'S ON?

THE EDINBURGH NATIVITY

The Edinburgh Nativity will portray the event of the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem from 2,000 years ago with a contemporary twist (you have to come and see this for yourself!). The Edinburgh Nativity is taking place in Festival Square, Lothian Road from 6-7pm on Thursday 1st December. In the event of wet weather, it will take place in St. Cuthbert's, 5 Lothian Road, Edinburgh.

We are delighted that the Edinburgh Nativity has been generously supported by the City of Edinburgh Council who are making available Festival Square, and by BBC Big Screens who have given permission to use the big screen for live action. Similarly, we are very thankful to trusts, churches and organisations for sponsoring this event and to various companies and individuals in their technical and administrative support. A very big THANK YOU!

In order to attend this free event, you need to apply for FREE e-Tickets, which are essential for entry, by going online to The Red Shed Tickets.com website—www.redshedtickets.com. We look forward to seeing you!



VOLUNTEER STEWARDS NEEDED

Volunteer Stewards are required for The Edinburgh Nativity on Thursday 1st December from 5pm to 8pm. If you are interested in volunteering at this very first exciting nativity event in Edinburgh, please contact me or see me at Church any Sunday evening. I will then be in touch with further details.

Susan Kidston

PALMERSTON PLACE ALL AGE CHRISTMAS PARTY

We look forward to our All Age Christmas party which will once again take place in the Creative Arts Centre of Stewart's Melville College. The party is on Saturday December 10th and following feedback on last year's event will take place this year from 3-6pm.

The programme will look something like this

3-4.30	Welcome, games, dancing, quizzes
4.30	A special visitor for our younger guests
4.50- 5.30	Buffet tea
5.30	Community Singing and Carols
6pm	Finish



The cost of the Christmas Party will be £6 per person, £20 for a family ticket and free for pre-schoolers.

Colin Sinclair

PALMERSTON PLACE NEWS

SCAFFOLDING AT THE CHURCH DOOR

You will have noticed scaffolding at the entrance to our church. A few weeks ago it became apparent that water (probably caused by the severe winters of the last two years) had penetrated the stone work above our main entrance and was damaging the stone work. We have taken the opportunity of using the scaffolding, erected to facilitate the stonework repairs, to have the Church Hall Windows repainted. As you can imagine the whole process will not be cheap and we are fortunate that we have received some legacies which can be used to meet the cost.

STEPPING DOWN AFTER YEARS OF FAITHFUL SERVICE

As we have welcomed a number of new elders to our Session this year so in the last couple of years a number of elders have stepped down from active involvement in our Session. These include four elders who have stood down recently Margaret Thomson, Sheena Watson, David Holt and Aileen Collie. In the last year we also saw Jim Hall and Marjorie Thwaites retire from Session. We are so grateful for the service that each of these elders has given to Palmerston Place, sometimes over a number of decades. Three other elders, Olive Kinnear, Bill McCulloch and Haldane Tait, remain on the Session but are giving up their districts, so there are a lot of changes. As I write, the Roll Keeper, Helen Macpherson, and I are just completing a review of the Elders' districts and I am approaching our new elders to invite them to take on a district, brief them and arrange a suitable handover. I hope all districts will have an elder by the end of this year and you should each meet your new Elder before the January Communion.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

As is the custom our Remembrance Sunday Service will begin at 10.50am to allow us to observe the two minutes silence with the nation at 11am. Currently we know of several families from our congregation who have family members in the armed forces including Linda Cunningham's son Struan; Kenneth and Gretta Pritchard's son Gavin; Colin Stewart's son, Robert (Colin was an elder for some time with us) and of course our former minister's son, JJ Chalmers.

Colin Sinclair

*They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We will remember them.*

Laurence Binyon



PALMERSTON PLACE NEWS

FUN GAMES NIGHT

Mosquito was flying again for yet another evening when some of the congregation came together with the Brownies, Guides and their families and friends. The church hall reverberated with noise and cheerful enthusiasm as everybody had a great time with plenty of prizes for everyone young and old. It was a wonderful privilege to be involved with the Brownie and Guide activities. One Brownie and one Guide took their promises. Four Brownies were presented with their Hostess badges having very ably given out the delicious traybakes at the break as their last task to earn their badges. Another Brownie was awarded a Musician badge underlining to us the updating in badges from the days when some of our members were Brownies and Guides!! The Brownies had made very attractive bracelets which all helped to raise the grand total of £352.70 to help sponsor a student nurse in Chogoria Hospital.

A big thank you to everybody from both the church and the Brownies and Guides who made the evening such a success. A date for your diary for 2012: Wednesday 3rd October for a Mosquito/Beetle Drive!

Michael Wilson

HANSEL STALL



During the run of the Handsel Stall this summer, the sum of £420 was raised. This has been divided equally and donations have been made to Christian Aid and Chogoria Hospital. The success of the Handsel Stall is due to the kindness of our members in giving donations of baking and garden produce, which have been sold on the Stall, and also the generous support of our regular customers who buy from the selection each week.

Every Sunday morning, before the service, from early May to the end of September, the Handsel Stall has been set up in the Lothian Room, where our church attenders have an opportunity to buy from the Stall and thus make a donation to the two charities. Each Sunday, there has been a great selection of home baking, ranging from chocolate muffins and fruit loaves to pancakes and biscuits to choose from and warm thanks are extended to everyone who has baked for the Stall over the summer. Many thanks are due too to those who have given lovely plants, flowers, fruit and vegetables to be sold. These are always enthusiastically purchased and contribute enormously to the sum raised by the Stall. It has been good to have a number of different people helping run the Stall each week and many thanks are due to everyone for their assistance over the summer. Look out for the Stall again next year, from the beginning of May.

Joan Meikle



NOTES FROM THE ORGAN BENCH

As the month in which we find the end of the Christian year, November begins with an appropriate reflection and thanksgiving for the past. Sunday 6 November is the first after All Saints' Day (1 November), when Christians often give thanks to

God for the example and service of believers now in glory. At this time of year we often sing Bishop William Walsham How's fine hymn 'For all the Saints', set to Ralph Vaughan William's stirring tune *Sine Nomine*.

The morning service postlude on that Sunday will be a set of variations on *Sine Nomine*, composed by the Canadian organist Denis Bédard. Bédard is among a rare breed of contemporary composers that writes in an undeniably modern style, yet retains an appealing tunefulness and warmth.

The preludes that morning will be the elegiac *Berceuse* by organist of Notre-Dame in Paris, Louis Vierne (1870 – 1937), and a *Berceuse à la mémoire de Louis Vierne*, improvised in 1973 in tribute to Vierne (and later transcribed), by one of his successors, Pierre Cochereau.

The following Sunday is Remembrance Sunday. The first morning prelude is *Coronach: A Highland Lament*, composed during the devastation of the First World War by Helensburgh organist Edgar Barratt. 'Coronach' is a Scottish term for a lamentation or dirge; this solemn but moving piece starts quietly, builds to a dignified climax, with just a hint of the skirl of the pipes and a Scotch snap or two, and dies away again in calmness. The postlude will be the famous 'St Ann' fugue by Johann Sebastian Bach, so-called as the first seven notes of the fugue theme are coincidental to the hymn-tune *St Ann* that we use for the hymn 'O God our help in ages past'.

In keeping with the theme of remembrance and longing for heaven, the first evening prelude is a set of variations by Victorian composer William Spark on the hymn tune *Ewing*, long associated with the hymn 'Jerusalem the Golden'.

Sunday 20 November is the last Sunday of the Christian year, often known as 'Christ the King'. Where appropriate, it is often stimulating to mark the anniversary of a composer. That Sunday falls three days before the 50th anniversary of the death of English pianist and composer York Bowen. Bowen wrote swathes of Romantic piano music, now under re-appraisal by a new generation. At the morning service I will play his complete organ works (all two of them!) – a short *Melody in G minor* before the service, and for the postlude the substantial (we'll get the coffee in early that day) *Fantasia*, composed for the 1951 Festival of Britain. After the evening service I will attempt to play the piano, with the second of his *Three Serious Dances*, a beautiful and reflective work.

Space precludes me from describing the music on the following two Sundays, the first of Advent. More in December! I hope you enjoy all this music.

Andrew Caskie

LOOKING AHEAD...



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS IN THE R&O

If you'd like an alternative to sending Christmas Cards this year, why not consider using the R&O to send seasons greetings to your Palmerston Place friends? All you need to do is to send your greeting to the Church Office by Sunday 20th November (at the latest) and I will include it in the December/January edition. We ask that you give a donation to use the service—perhaps what you would have spent on Christmas cards? This will go towards the work of our church. Cheques can be sent to the Church Office. Please keep your greeting to 2-3 lines e.g.

Mrs Mistletoe wishes all her friends at PPC a very Happy Christmas and a good New Year.

Mr & Mrs Holly would like to wish everyone at PPC peace and joy this Christmas, and all the best for 2012.

Fiona Baker

SONGS OF PRAISE

In 2012 New Year's Day falls on a Sunday. So we hope to do something different to mark the New Year. I would like to start the year with a Songs of Praise and I would like you to help me choose what we sing.

I would like to ask you:-

- ◆ For your favourite hymn/song (no more than three allowed!!!).
- ◆ Whether, if one of yours is selected, you would be willing— for up to a maximum of two minutes— to explain why you have chosen that particular one.

Please will you choose hymns and songs

- ◆ that you think we know, that mean something to you and
- ◆ that would be good to sing at the start of the New Year.

There will be forms in the vestibule from the middle of November to allow you to submit your choices. If your hymns are not sung on January 1st I will refer to them when making my hymn choices and hopefully you will be able to sing them at some point during 2012.

Colin Sinclair

GALA ORGAN ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

On the evening of Tuesday 31 January 2012, Palmerston Place Church will be hosting a special concert to mark the 20th anniversary of the installation of the Wells-Kennedy Partnership organ in the church.

The international recitalist and Birmingham City Organist Thomas Trotter (described by BBC Music Magazine as "one of today's greatest living organists") will perform a virtuoso programme of music to celebrate the occasion. Full details are provided on the leaflet enclosed within this copy of R&O, also available in the church vestibule and on the church website.

Please tell all your friends and mark it in your diary!

Andrew Caskie

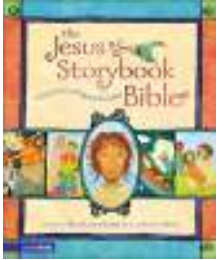


BOOK REVIEW

We've all been there. Christmas, a birthday, or a baptism is coming up, and you'd like to gift a good book. So far, so easy. But what if your intended recipient is under three years old? With the closure of *Wesley Owen* in Edinburgh and the daunting array of Christian children's literature available online, how can you be sure if your choice will appeal? To help streamline your shopping here are three books which have been "tried and tested" on a very discerning, demanding, and vocal toddler...

The Jesus Storybook Bible

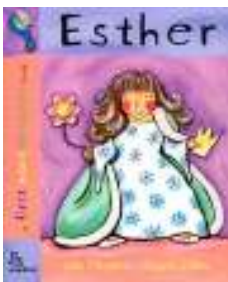
by Sally Lloyd-Jones & Jago (Zonderkidz)



Currently available on the *10ofthose* website and Church bookstall on Sundays, this beautifully illustrated bible hits all the requirements: bite-size chapters perfect for a bedtime story: check; language which is clear and child-friendly, yet has integrity: check; each and every page positively bursting with colour: check. Although it is aimed at 4-7 year olds, it can be used effectively with younger children as a first bible and has proved to have more appeal and hold interest longer than the more traditional "baby bibles", both to the toddler and the adult reading! As a bonus, children should be able to grow with this bible and progress to reading it aloud themselves once they reach school-age.

***My Rainbow Book of Bedtime Prayers* by Su Box & Jo Brown (Lion)**

This fabulously bright board book is perfectly pitched to keep little ones' interest while introducing them to the concept of prayer. It features seven coloured tabs down the side - one for each colour of the rainbow - which open up seven double page illustrations, each with a short prayer thanking God for such things as: friends, food, water, the stars, and toys. We have been pleasantly surprised by the versatility of this book: use it to teach colours and find the right colour in every picture, talk about the pictures and relate these to the child's own life, use the prayers as "starters" which the child can then add to, pick a favourite colour/prayer, use one for each night of the week... the list goes on. This flexibility keeps the book interesting and has no doubt contributed to its enduring popularity in our household!



***Esther* by Julie Clayden & Angela Jolliffe (part of the "first word hero and heroines series" by Pufffish)**

At only £3.99 the *First Word Heroes/Heroines* series represent good value for money. Each book is made of robust board material, and is small and light enough to be easily portable - a key bonus when toddlers need entertaining out and about, which is pretty much constantly!

Each book tells the story of a different well known bible character in very simple language, using a "one word per page" story-telling technique which allows the adult to use the word as a prompt to tell the story as simply or elaborately as they wish. While initially skeptical, I found it was indeed possible to tell the story of Esther being only prompted by twelve words: Esther, cousin, beautiful, queen, danger, afraid, heard, brave, tell, cross, help, and safe. Give it a go! This clever concept finishes with all of the words being incorporated into the story which is written out in about a hundred words - perfect if you lack confidence or are too tired to make the story "child friendly" from memory alone! The Esther book from the series is clearly tailored for little girls with a pink, purple and glittery cover, but each title features colourful drawings and fabulously expressive faces on each of the drawn characters. Once the child is familiar with the story the one-word prompts can be used to let them tell the story to the adult using the pictures. A gem of a book.

Amanda Ferguson

SESSION CONFERENCE REPORT

Saturday 1st October was memorable not only for Scotland's early exit from the 2011 Rugby World Cup, but also for the merry band of elders and leaders from Palmerston Place who met at Heriot Watt Chaplaincy Centre to spend a day sharing our experiences, fears and hopes about our church. The day was based on a Natural Church Development survey which helped us to take an objective look at the strengths and weaknesses of our church measured on eight quality characteristics:

- ◆ Loving Relationships
- ◆ Effective Structures
- ◆ Inspiring Worship Services
- ◆ Passionate Spirituality
- ◆ Needs-oriented Evangelism
- ◆ Holistic Small Groups
- ◆ Gift-based Ministry
- ◆ Empowering Leadership

The survey was completed by around 50 people and was valuable in highlighting a number of areas where we can be thankful for the love, gifts and welcome that is shared amongst our congregation. It also helped us to identify areas to which we need to give some prayerful attention in order to continue to build up a healthy church that serves God, cares for its members and looks to the needs of the wider world. There was too much to cover in one day so we had a follow-up meeting on 31st October where we will look to start developing this deeper understanding of where we are as a church, into a shared vision of what God wants to do at Palmerston Place. (For anyone interested the results of the survey are available from the church office).

Roddy Ferguson



SAMARITAN'S PURSE AND OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 2011

Is your shoe box ready yet? If so, please bring it to Church on any Sunday in November, in time for the Shoebox Sunday Service on Sunday 20th November when we will give thanks for all the shoeboxes received, and get ready to send them on their way to Belarus in time for Christmas.

For the past 18 years Operation Christmas Child has been sending shoeboxes to Belarus. Last year 33 loads of shoeboxes were sent to the country for distributing to orphanages, hospitals and poor homes. Here is a letter from the Baptist Church in Tekhteen, Mogilev region, Belarus, which helped distribute the shoeboxes, showing the high regard they have for the boxes, and highlighting the difficulties they have in that country.

Dear Friends in Samaritan's Purse and OCC partners,

From the bottom of our hearts we thank you for your care for Belarusian children. We appreciate all your hard work in collecting gift boxes, your offerings with finances, time and efforts. You deliver "Love in a Box" and you in the UK give us a chance to pass God's love on to needy ones in Belarus.

We are a small Baptist Church in the rural area of East Belarus, close to the Chernobyl zone. There are many forgotten and affected villages around us. High levels of unemployment, drinking parents, neglected kids—all this is our daily reality. Many parents don't pay much attention to their kids and they cannot afford to buy gifts for them. OCC shoeboxes are like a bright light in darkness!

With your gift boxes we can and do organise many special OCC events in our church and schools. Many children come to Christmas performances and later to our Sunday school even from far away. OCC helps us to open hearts and open doors!



If you have not yet made up a shoebox, there is still time. There are a few empty ones in the Lothian Room and some of them have already been covered with pretty paper. You need to pick up a leaflet from Samaritan's Purse and follow the instructions given in it when choosing gifts to put in the shoebox. Choosing gifts to put in your shoebox is a really fun part of getting involved in Operation Christmas Child. There is something very rewarding about giving to a child you will never meet—especially when you know your simple act of kindness will be felt and appreciated in more way that you can ever imagine.

Once you have decided whether to give your shoebox to a boy or a girl, you need to think carefully about gifts that that would be most appropriate for the age group you have selected but before spend all your money on gifts, don't forget to put £2.50 aside for the shoebox donation.

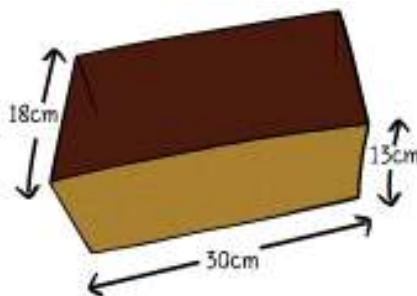
This year we would like to be sure that each of our boxes contain the following items which we consider essential:

- ◆ A face cloth
- ◆ A wrapped bar of soap
- ◆ A toothbrush
- ◆ A tube of toothpaste
- ◆ A soft toy to love ... even if you are making a box for an older boy or girl.

Other ideas for gifts are listed in the leaflet and all items must be new. Remember to make your box both fun and educational. Or, instead of making up a shoebox yourself, we would be delighted to receive some gifts to include in shoeboxes which we will make up ourselves and we would also be very pleased indeed to receive donations to buy the items we need for our boxes.



Help us to support this annual Shoebox Appeal and fill a child's life with joy this Christmas by joining in the fun of wrapping, packing and sending gift-filled shoeboxes to children in need through Operation Christmas Child.



Joan Meikle
Norma Rolls





Whilst working, we had daily contact with locals in the form of our guides, our cooks and our hosts. During one week, I was based in the tiny village of Buenos Aires, where I lived in the house of an elderly lady called Rosa. The village people loved communicating with us and cooking us traditional dishes, and the children took great pleasure in watching us work and trying to sell us the jewellery they had made. They showed great passion and

enthusiasm in hosting us, which was rather touching considering how little they really had to offer.

I wish to thank the Ronnie Williamson Trust Fund for the extremely generous sponsorship it gave me. Whilst in Honduras I met like minded individuals and academics of whom I have made great friends, and I was given the chance to work on a scientific programme which enabled me to broaden my understanding of the importance of conservation built up over time through links with local communities. My work with the bird team has really strengthened my desire to continue with avian research, and indeed, I am now in talks with a lecturer at St. Andrews to work with her next year on her research into hummingbird behaviour, to aid towards my fourth year final dissertation. My sincerest thanks to all at Palmerston Place who supported my application, and in doing so, to those who gave me an experience which was truly unforgettable.

Caitlin Hamilton

FAREWELL TO MARK AND FAMILY

Mark's last Sunday with us will be at the end of November when he will take both services. It has been a real pleasure having Mark and Caroline with us, as well as Hannah and Jacob. It has been great working with Mark over these last 16 months and watching him develop in his calling. We wish them all well in their future, wherever that future turns out to be. We assure them of our love and prayers and a warm welcome whenever they return to Palmerston Place. As is our normal custom we would like to give a gift to Mark when he leaves. There will be an opportunity to do so through a box that will be placed in the vestibule each Sunday during November, or by sending a cheque to the Church Office made out to Palmerston Place Church, but clearly indicating that it is for Mark's farewell.

Colin Sinclair

FAIR TRADE NEWS

A big Thank You to all of our supporters! We really enjoy serving you at our monthly fair trade food stall and hope you enjoy choosing from all the quality products on offer.

We plan to have a **Fair Trade Christmas Stall** again this year. It will be on 27th November, in the vestibule after the morning service. There will be Christmas cards and paper, advent calendars, Christmas decorations and a small selection of lovely gifts for adults and children.

Traidcraft Christmas catalogues are also available now in the vestibule, to take away, for those of you who would like to place an order directly.

A lot of people involved in the production and growing of fair trade products have had their lives transformed after receiving a fair price for their work. A small change in our shopping list can make such a difference to the people and families you support by buying fairly traded products. According to a recent survey figures show that even in these difficult economic times fair trade sales are still growing compared to 12 months ago.

Here is a recipe to try in the run up to Christmas. Christine Watson, a friend and a great baker, has provided it! You will be able to buy some of the ingredients needed at our food stall on the 13th November. Do let us know what you think if you decide to make it.

Border Tart

Pastry	Filling
4oz butter	4oz butter
5oz plain flour	4oz brown sugar
2oz ground almonds	2 large eggs, beaten
1dessertsp caster sugar	14oz raisins
Pinch salt	zest of lemon
1 large egg, beaten	1teasp mixed spice



Preheat oven 400 deg F, 200 deg C, and Gas Mark 6. Use a 9-inch Pastry Tin.

Pastry – Rub butter into dry ingredients. Add egg and mix to a dough. Wrap in cling film and chill for 1 hour.

Roll out and place in tin. Line with foil and bake blind for 10 minutes.

Remove foil and bake for a further 5 minutes.

Reduce oven temp to 375 deg F, 190 deg C, Gas Mark 5

Filling – Cream together butter and sugar. Stir in remaining ingredients and mix well. Turn into pastry case and bake for 25 – 30 minutes until set.

Let cool then serve in slices.

I have seen this tart with glaze icing on top. A dredge of icing sugar would do just as well, or simply plain. I have even scattered Demerara sugar over the top, but not all three!

I will live my life according to these beliefs.

God does not exist

It's just foolish to think

That there is an all knowing God with a cosmic plan

That an all-powerful God brings purpose to the pain and suffering in the world

Is a comforting thought however

It

Is only wishful thinking

People can do as they please without eternal consequences.

The idea that

I am deserving of hell

because of sin,

Is a lie meant to make me a slave to those in power.

"The more you have, the happier you will be."

Our existence has no grand meaning or purpose

In a world with no God

There is freedom to be who I want to be

But with God

Life is an endless cycle of guilt and shame

Without God

Everything is fine

It is ridiculous to think

I am lost and in need of saving

NOW....READ IT FROM THE BOTTOM UP.

***It's all in how
you read it!***

Brownies

Guides

Calling girls aged 7 - 14 years.

Places currently available.

Why not come along to Palmerston Place Brownies or Guides for fun and games on Wednesday's during term time. Brownies are for girls aged 7-9, and Guides are for girls aged 10-14.

We have fun making crafts, baking, entertaining, taking part in challenges and sometimes even go camping or to pack holidays.

For more details contact Nicola McDermid.

We hope that you can join us!

SUNDAY SERVICES IN PALMERSTON PLACE CHURCH

*"bringing Christian worship, fellowship
and service back to the heart of everyday life"*

11.00am Morning Worship
6.30pm Evening Service

Crèche is available every Sunday morning.
Beginners, Seekers, ESMS Boarders and Senior Horizon
normally meet during the Morning Service.

KIRK SESSION

Next meetings will be held on Monday 7 November
and Monday December 5
at 7:30pm
in Annan House.

Meetings of Kirk Session are held in public.
You are welcome to come along.

PROPERTY AND FINANCE TEAM

Next meeting will be held on Monday 14 November at 7:30pm
in Annan House.

THE REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

All material for the **December/January** double issue
should be in the hands of the Secretary
by **Sunday 20th November.**

Rev Colin Sinclair asks those who read the *Review and Outlook* to please inform him and his team about ways in which they can help, such as requests for hospital and other visits, and also about changes of address. The card in the cover of the congregational hymnbook can be used for this and for the use of those visiting the congregation. You may wish to draw visitors' attention to it.