

ROTAS

Week Begin	Communion	Door	Cleaning
August 6	Sylvain/Irina	Sheila	Karen
13	Kath/Anne	Kath	Michael
20	Jim/Helen	Karen	Bob/Kath
27	May/Lorna	Anne	Gillian
Sep 3	Sheena/Sheila	Kevin	Tom/Dorothy

Wednesday Nights:

Aug 9	Deacons
16	In Conversation
23	Bible Study
30	
Sept 6	Bible Study

Prayer Meeting: 7:30
Tom and Dorothy - 90 Manse Road
Tuesday 8th and Tuesday 22nd
August, 5th Sept

Bob's Bit (Continued)

Our world it seems is about what I can get or how my family can benefit. The kingdom, to which Jesus has called us to be part, is more about giving than receiving, about putting others first and ourselves last, about doing the right thing in every circumstance.

Our world also seems to be about big systems and big solutions. Jesus seemed to take things more simply and personally. He helped the sick. He spoke to the lonely. He shared what little he had with others. Perhaps if we did the same, spent time with someone who is lonely, did shopping for the person who is sick, made a pot of soup for someone who is hungry. Just look around there is something you can do.

(written initially for MT August 2 2017)

Motherwell Baptist Connect

August
2017



Reach Out and Don't Give Up

Whats Ahead

This month schools go back and the new Church session restarts. Soon we will be back to Messy Church, Messy Movies, Sunday School. There are though somethings happening that are more than just the usual.

In May we celebrated some of our number Zip Sliding across the Clyde and raised a small amount of money for Bethany Christian Trust. Now on 26th August 20 people will be doing the same venture this time to raise money for our work in the Community. Among those 20 are some of our own folk from the Cafe; Jim, Helen and Alan Frew, Gillian and also 5 people from Tesco Wishaw. If you want to sponsor one or more

of these folk please speak to them or to Gillian who has all the names.



One week before 19th August we will be doing a general clear up inside the church in particular clearing out the gallery and the wee store room upstairs. Please

join us to help.

On 30th September we will be holding an Coffee Morning/Autumn Fair to raise funds for the Church Fabric. Please think about what you could make to sell etc and get busy.

Bob's Bit

This morning I was gently stirred from sleep by a radio article about the trial of Cristiano Ronaldo for tax fraud. It was quickly followed by an interview with a single mum who is struggling to live within the limits of the new benefit cap. Later there was an article on attempts to battle the number of closed retail units on our high streets and the disadvantage this brings to the poor and elderly in our society. From millions of pounds of tax owed to the difficulty of a widow finding a shop to buy a wee drop milk to see her through the day.

My bible reading for the day included these verses from Romans 13 "Give to everyone what you owe them: if you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honour, then honour. Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another,..... 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Love does no harm to a neighbour. " (Continued on Back Page)

Gills Gab

Last month I wrote about the need to identify and belong within community and how we want to create a place where people feel loved and accepted 'just for who they are'. I would like to develop that thought a little because the reality is that when people come to us they are often simply very difficult to love. They challenge our thinking and attitudes with both their behaviour and lifestyle choices. We reach out to them and they often hit out or back away. Genuine love seems too hard for them to accept. If we look beyond the behaviour we mostly find that it's fear that drives this reaction. So how do we help them to face the future without fear? In his online sermon talking about fear, Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks says that relationship, identity and responsibility are the keys. When we the people come together and share our stories, our dreams and aspirations, when we think less of I and more of we, when the strong care for the weak, that's when real fear is dispelled and true freedom take its place.

More News

Saturday 30th July saw our Church Outing to Strathaven Park and what a great day we had.

All the old fashioned Sunday School races and competitions. Including a Oldies race, which the young pastor won. An Egg and Spoon race which the oldies team led by the young pastor won. (When did May Higgins exchange the teaspoon for an ice cream Scoop). And a Tug of War which the young boys won only after the oldies team was



reduced to the young pastor.

It was a great day and after lunch boating putting bounced

castle and rides on the steam train followed by loads of ice cream was the order of the day.

The rain kept away until the very end and it was really touching to see two of our young boys running back along the path in the rain to make sure two of the older ladies (Sheena and Lorna) were OK.

Thank you to all who arranged such a great day.