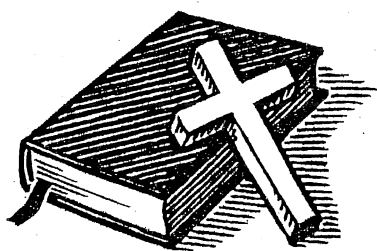


CONTACT

The Newsletter of

Rosyth Methodist Church and
St. Margaret's Scottish Episcopal Church,
Queensferry Road, Rosyth. Tel: 418752



No 40

December 2007

Methodist

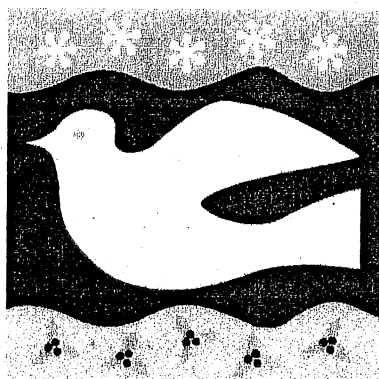
Minister

Rev Deborah Cornish, 22 Mortimer Court, Dalgety Bay.
(822556)

St Margaret's

Minister

Rev Tembu Rongong, Holy Trinity SEC, Dunfermline.



For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named:

Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

(Isaiah 2: 6 - NRSV)

This was part of Isaiah's message of hope to a people living through dark days, and this Prince of Peace will bring with him Justice, Peace and Well-Being to all.

For the Christian church, this message of hope part of its fulfilment in the birth of Jesus Christ. Born in the backwater township of Bethlehem, he was greeted and welcomed by lowly shepherds and astrologers from another culture, whilst folk from his nation went about their daily business apparently oblivious to what was happening.

Over the coming few weeks people all over the world will join in the holiday celebrations, in that they will give and receive presents, send greetings cards, and travel hundreds of miles to join friends and family for the holiday period, whilst others prepare

their homes to welcome them. Yet for these people the real message of the holiday season has been lost because they do not believe in Jesus Christ, the one whose birth Christians celebrate.

Many of us will have friends and family members who do not believe in Christ, but are happy to go with the flow in celebrate something they do not understand – simply because it's a public holiday and they enjoy the excuse for giving and receiving gifts.

Isaiah's message of hope isn't lost, the hope of the Christian Church, is still founded upon Jesus. My hope is that all of us who believe in Jesus take time to share our faith this Christmas, in whatever way we can, as we celebrate the birth of our Saviour – the Prince of Peace.

May you and yours know the blessing of Christ's Peace, Love and Joy
and may the coming year bring more opportunities to share that blessing with others

Deborah

Editorial.

Thank you to all contributors for this seasons Contact. Some of you have included messages of thanks and seasons greetings in this edition. I hope you will see Contact as a platform for getting your messages, thoughts and thanks published in the future. My personal thanks go to all of you who have prayed for my daughter Katie, through the last few weeks. She's still a bit poorly and we still don't quite know what ails her, but hopefully we'll get her sorted out soon!

I would like to draw your attention to our upcoming Outdoor Carol Service on the evening of Tuesday 18th December. Last year it was a wonderful event and everyone gave it their all and enjoyed themselves. If you're like me and can't sing very well, just stand near someone who can and it's amazing what an improvement it makes to your voice! Remember to dress warmly and bring a torch.

It is traditional to wish everyone you know a peaceful and prosperous Christmas and New Year, but ever one to flaunt with tradition, I wish you all whatever you wish for yourselves, whether it be peaceful or riotous.

Susan Hitchon.

From Mary Dempster.

For Contact:

To encourage you in your personal devotions.

The booklets Inspiring Women Every Day and Every Day With Jesus are highly recommended to you all because, in our personal experience, both these publications help you to enjoy, get satisfaction and some understanding of the Scriptures, in your daily devotions.

Please give the possibility of using these booklets your serious consideration and contact Audrie Pollard or Mary Dempster. When you do use these publications, you will see the difference they make!

There are some old issues of both books on the leaflet stand in the Crush Hall for you to take and try out.

From the current users of both booklets.

Christmas Coffee Morning.

Thanks to all who came along and supported this event we managed to raise £460 approx. Thank you to all the people who helped by serving tea/coffee, washing up, and serving at the stalls. The Playgroup had a stall and there was also face painting, which brought in the young Mums and Dads who enjoyed going round the other stalls too. The older folk loved seeing the wee ones with their painted faces – even a young lad had the Scottish Saltire painted all over his face!

* * * * *

Samaritan's Purse International Appeal.

Christmas Gifts – Shoe Box Appeal.

Thank you to all who took part in this appeal. We were delighted to hand over 32 boxes, which included some from our Scout Troop. This was a greatly appreciated effort and hope that everyone enjoyed filling the boxes as much as I did. I have a DVD which you can borrow showing some children receiving boxes last year.

Mary Dempster.

White water rafting on the River Tummel.

I am organising another white water rafting day on behalf of Scottish Churches Housing Action and wondered if anyone would like to join us. This day can be purchased for yourself or as a Christmas gift to your friends or family. We will spend either the morning or afternoon having fun negotiating your way through the rapids of the River Tummel. This is an exciting day which offers a great adrenalin rush as it reaches the grand finale of the exhilarating double waterfall.

A great day was had by all last year and we invite everyone to join us this year to get **wet and wild**. This event is suitable for anyone who is over 15 years old.

The cost for this day is **£55 per person** which includes all the equipment and instruction supplied once again by activ8s. Included in this price is a donation to the work of Scottish Churches Housing Action, this money will be used directly to support homeless people throughout Scotland.

Date of this event will be **Saturday 28 June 2008 (to be confirmed)** If you would like more information on this event or if you would like to purchase this as a gift please contact me on 0131 477 4500 or val@churches-housing.org



Messages

From Iris Lines,

Said the Robin to the Sparrow, 'I should really like to know why these wretched human beings rush about and worry so' said the Sparrow to the Robin, 'friends, I think that it must be that they have no heavenly Father such as cares for you and me'. Matthew 10, 29-31.

From Valerie Sparling,

This year I have decided that instead of sending Christmas Cards I will be making a donation to the charity wwf who work throughout the world on environmental issues. May I take this opportunity to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. God Bless from Valerie Sparling. For more information on wwf please see their website <http://www.wwf.org.uk/core/index.asp>

From David Slater,

Another year has quickly passed by with its joys and its sadness. For my friends who read this Contact may this Christmas Season be a joyful time in welcoming the birthday of our Lord Jesus. My card (imaginary) this year, as in the past, portrays the Nativity Scene with a wish for a peaceful and restful Christmas to all.

From Eileen Wright,

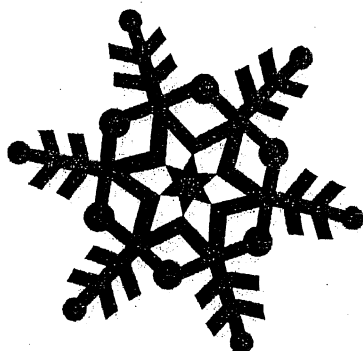
How time flies, it will be ten years on the 10th December that I came to Rosyth. I can truthfully say my change from Edinburgh to Rosyth has held no regrets. In fact it has been the happiest days of my life as regards Church and outdoor social life with great friends and neighbours where I live in Calum MacDonald Court. So thanks once more to you all.

From Dennis Cook,

Through the pages of Contact, I would like to wish all my friends at Rosyth a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful and blessed New Year.

From Thelma Couch,

Hello fellow Christians. We almost come to the end of a year which has been very stressful to me and my family because of my husband David's illness. He was given only 2 to 3 months to live, but with much support from my family thankfully David is still with us. Along with this, I would like to thank all of you for your continuing interest and support which has helped us all to cope with our situation. David and I would like to wish you all a healthy and peaceful time. Gods' blessings to you all.



The children of our Church.

I asked our children what their Christmas wish was this year. This is what they said;

Abigail – she was looking forward to going to see 'The Singing Kettle' and also getting together with family and friends.

Anna – mainly looking forward to playing with her playhouse with Mum and Dad and watching some television.

Edward – was looking forward to his trip in 2008 to Gibraltar with the Scouts. He also thought Christmas would be special because that's when Jesus was born.

Eleanor – she is looking forward to getting some special food, decorating the tree and seeing Grandma and Granddad.

Lewis – He says that Christmas will be a happy and nice day. He will have lots of food and some presents and likes the advent calendar. He is also very happy about having baby Ewan to share it with.

Robert – He loves the whole thing, the day, the food, the presents and especially the Christmas tree and all the decorations.

The Children who will be with us at Rosyth on Christmas day said they will enjoy bringing in a special present for us all to see.

Susan Hitchon.

The Bookcase No.4.

By Jack Fowell

We have a number of videos in the bookcase such as;

1. Windows on Home Mission – narrated by Wendy Craig with interviews with the Reverend Donald English who was the secretary of the Home Missions Division and presents Mission work of Churches in England.
2. We have a set of six videos entitled 'Jesus then and now' covering the following subjects:
 1. Origins of Biblical Writing.
 2. The Temptations (unfortunately this part has a fault and should be fast forwarded but not much is lost to the sense of the script).
 3. Disciples – discipleship and our attitude to it. (There is also a fault in this part but not long enough to fast forward).
 4. Miracles Suffering – this episode I find to be very thought

provoking.

5. Lifestyle (unfortunately this episode too flawed for the first 9 minutes but that which is alright is also very thought provoking).
6. Prayer – no problem with this episode, but may raise questions about your prayer life.
7. Jesus the Man – who is this man that we hear about in Church?
8. Opposition – in this programme the various people and sects are discussed.
9. Crucifixion – a discussion on the crucifixion of Christ.
10. Resurrection – lawyers discuss this subject.
11. The Spirit – this episode deals with the Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Disciples and the beginning of the early Church.
12. The New Age – the future. This episode is a bit dated through it's reference to bygone TV programmes and the powerful Countries of the time. The two main people leading this episodes are Tina Heath and the Rev. David Watson.

More is the next issue.



Help required

As some of you may know, Susan Hitchon and I take part in the Food Run in partnership with other churches in Inverkeithing, Crossgates, Dunfermline and Cowdenbeath, we receive food from Marks and Spencer's on a Saturday night and deliver to people in the community who require a helping hand. We require help with this task and wondered if you would be able to help out. What will you do – you will need to have a car and be physically fit enough to lift small crates of

food, bag this up and distribute this to a list of address which will be given to you – this will be in the Dunfermline area. You will be required to do this approximately once a month on a Saturday evening starting at approximately 5.45 pm and finishing approximately 8.00 pm. If you feel you would be able to assist us or if you would like to chat further about this please contact me on 01383 413992 (after 6.30 pm) or email valerie98home@aol.com your help would be gratefully appreciated and you would be making a big difference to people in our community. Thank you. Valerie Sparling.

Rob Frost

Rev Dr Rob Frost died on 11 November at the age of 57. He was a Methodist minister and founder of Share Jesus International. He initiated the annual Easter People event, was a regular broadcaster and had written more than 25 books. He had contacts with our Church through Rowland and Paula Lines and Colin and Avril Rogers who helped on his annual missions. Some of you will remember the Gospel Roadshow he brought to our Church and the performances of Visions and Gospel End held at the Carnegie Hall in which members of our congregation took part. Paying tribute to him in the Methodist Recorder, Rev David Deeks (General Secretary of the Methodist Church) said "Rob's passion for evangelism was boundless and he leaves a great legacy. Although he was a Methodist to the core, he loved working with other groups and anyone who shared his vision." Please remember Rob's family in your prayers - wife Jacqui, sons Andy and Chris and father Ronald.

Martin Rogers



Dates for your diary

December

Sun 2nd

Worship led by Dr. Jeremy Bradshaw

Sun 9th

Worship led by Rosyth Methodist Church Congregation

Sun 16th

Worship led by Mr. Martin Bethell

Tues 18th

Open Air Carol Service with St. Margarets (at the front of The Church). Approx 7pm.

Sun 23rd

Worship led by Rev. Deborah Cornish - Holy Communion

Sun 30th

Worship led by Rev. David Cooper

January

Sun 6th

Worship led by Rev. Geoffrey Baines

Sun 13th

Worship led by Mrs Sheila Lee - Family Service

Sun 20th

Worship led by Dr. Anne Pennington

Sun 27th

Worship led by Rev. Deborah Cornish and Rev. Tembu

Rongong - Covenant Service

February

Sun 3rd

Worship led by Mrs. Janice Clark

Sun 10th

Worship led by Ms. Nicola Jones - Family Service

Sun 17th

Worship led by Mr. Lyn Smallridge

Sun 24th

Worship led by Rev. Deborah Cornish