

NEWTON MEARNS CHURCH SUPPLEMENT

JUNE, 1959.

REGISTER.

Baptism.

"Suffer the little children to come unto Me."

Carolyn Stewart Stubbs, 14 Dunbeath Avenue.

Marriages.

"Whom God hath joined together."

Katherine Elizabeth Taylor and Ron W. G. Jarvie.
Irene Heather Cameron and Gordon A. B. Middleton
Agnes M. C. Ritchie and John G. McEwan.

Deaths.

"Christ the first fruits of them that are asleep."

Mr Donald Russell, 47 Woodend Drive, Glasgow, W.
Mr and Mrs George Slater, 2 Ashview Terrace.

New Members.

By Profession of Faith.

Miss Pamela Joyce Craig, 29 The Loaning.
Miss Adele Marion Ferns, Redcroft, Newtonlea Ave.
Miss Alison May Hamilton, 38 Broomvale Drive.
Miss Elizabeth Alexandra Linklater, 32 Hazelwood Avenue.
Mr Gilbert McKinlay, Ingoma, Beech Avenue.
Miss Judith McKinlay, Ingoma, Beech Avenue.
Mr David Anderson Roser, Shuna, Eaglesham Road.
Miss Janette Sheila Reid, 16 Neidpath Road East.
Miss Aileen Fulton Reid, 16 Neidpath Road East.

By Certificates from other Congregations.

Mr and Mrs Archibald G. Binning, 25 Limetree Crescent.
Mr and Mrs Ronald R. A. Cowan, Woodstock, Capelrig Road.
Mrs J. O. C. Hunter, 9 Broom Court.
Mrs McAlpine, 9 Broom Court.
Mr and Mrs Stanley Wyllie, 11 Forrestfield Crescent

Disjunction Certificates granted.

Mr and Mrs William Storrie, Treeside Cottage.
(Mr Blue's district.)

MINISTER'S LOG.

Our congratulations are given to the minister and the members of the Broom Parish Church on the building of it within about a year of the cutting of the first sod of earth. That is a wonderful

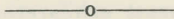
achievement and those of us who attended the opening on Friday, 16th May, as representatives of the Presbytery, including Mr Thom and Mr James A. Anderson, who formed part of the initial temporary Session of it, were charmed with the beauty of the edifice, and the extensiveness of the surrounding halls. It was in 1937 that Dr. Hall and Mr Dunnett stood with members of our congregation on the summit of the Old Mearns Road, and gave their opinion that our present Church should be rebuilt on its existing site, and that a new Church should be planted at Broom Road. Stay beside the school, they said. It is always wise for the Church to be in close proximity to it. Looking back and in view of the development of the district as a whole, I think that their judgement has been sound. Perhaps there is more wisdom at 121 George Street, Edinburgh, than we sometimes think!

The Boys' Brigade and the Life Boy Team closed their Session on Tuesday, 19th May, with a Display that was most exhilarating. It was quite inspiring to see the excellent work that has been done in this company. They say that the proof of the pudding is in the eating, and if that is true, and I think it is the infallible fact, then there is no organisation in the country that surpasses what a well run company of the Boys' Brigade can do for youth. Here was a set of boys who were alert, disciplined, and growing in knowledge of the essential things in life. One felt that in a few years they would be ready and willing to take their place in the life of the community and still further of the Church. For this they are indebted to the excellence of the leadership of Captain Orr, and in the Life Boy Team of Lieut. Stubbs. 10 boys go up this year to the Company bringing the strength to 25. May we urge parents to persuade their youngsters to come into these the official Church organisations. As long as it provides results such as we saw at the display, it will have, as will any such organisation for youth, the full backing of the Session.

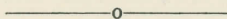
During the month of July the services will be conducted by the Rev. James N. Alexander, M.A., of Tollcross Central Church. For many years he carried on a very fruitful ministry there, and no Church has sent, I believe, more young men into the ministry than this one. We will give him a warm welcome to our Church. The pastoral work will be in the hands of Rev. W. J. Towart, B.D., of Giffnock South.

OBITUARY.

Mr Dan Russell, 47 Woodend Drive, Jordanhill, died in a city hospital on Monday, 6th April, 1959. He and his wife had, of course been resident in the parish for many years. He was an upholsterer by trade, at first having his own business at Mallets-heugh, and latterly being employed by Anderson's (Newton Mearns) Ltd., in the Coach building side. Moreover he was a craftsman in his work. Many will remember Mary Russell's confectionery shop beside the school. She was, of course, his sister. He was well known to everyone in the Mearns, and everyone had a good word for him. He was a man full of the milk of human kindness who was never known to have spoken ill of any man. A regular attender of the Church as long as he was able, he was latterly smitten with blindness which must have been a sore trial to him. Yet he bore it all with great patience, and his beloved wife was a great comfort to him. To her we offer our deepest sympathy, and also to Mr and Mrs Campbell who made room for them in their home, and brightened his last days.



Mr and Mrs George Slater of 2 Ashview Terrace, died within a few days of each other at the beginning of March. Perhaps it was nice that Mrs Slater did not know of her husband's death as it would have been a great sorrow to her when she herself was so ill. Mr Slater was by trade a Mechanical Engineer, and latterly head of the transport at Wallace's, Bleach Works, Newton Mearns. I think it would be right to say that they were both born in the Mearns and lived all their life in it, apart from George Slater's service in the first World War. Mrs Slater did not enjoy very good health, but her husband looked after her with a devotion that could not be surpassed. To Mrs Pardoe their daughter, and her husband who both helped to carry the burden, we extend to-day, and to all kith and kin, our deepest love and sympathy.



**" 220th ANNIVERSARY OF THE
CONGREGATION."—2 Kings 13; 20.**

This is one of the most unusual and graphic stories in the Old Testament how a band of Israelites were burying a man in the same grave as Elisha the prophet. And it came to pass that when the man touched the bones of Elisha, he revived and stood up on his feet. The message of the passage is

relevant to an anniversary Sunday, that when we look back on those in the Church who have gone before us, we should be revived, and stand up on our feet to fresh endeavour.

Firstly we recall with thanksgiving those who founded this congregation in 1739, when a group of men formed in this parish a praying society and joined the Secession Church founded in 1732 under Ebenezer Erskine. Perhaps to-day we are not fond of thinking of schisms in the Church. There is a very healthy movement towards unity. Perhaps we have grown more tolerant of each other. We believe that the things that unite us are bigger than those that divide us. Since that date the congregation has worshipped in 4 buildings, the first in 1743 at the south end of the Main Street, the second in 1754 at the north end of the same street, the third on the present site in 1826, and the fourth in which we now worship in 1939. In 1847 the Secession Church united with the Relief Church to form the United Presbyterian Church. Again in 1900 came another union between the United Presbyterian Church, and the Free Church that was formed at the Disruption in 1843. It was now named the United Free Church, and of course in 1929 the United Free Church which had now grown to be equal in size to the original Church of Scotland was united with her again to form the present Church of Scotland. John White was the great architect of this union. He did more than any single person to bring it to pass. To-night we honour those who began this congregation. Those who initiate anything valuable in life are deserving of special praise. But, of course, the Church of Scotland did not begin at the Secession, nor at the Reformation, nor even with St. Columba or St. Ninian. It goes back to the 12 apostles in the Upper Room, and still further to Jesus Christ Himself. You must take it even further back than that, to the Throne of God in Heaven where the wondrous plan of salvation was worked out in the gracious Mind of God. Rise you never so early, said Abelard to his monks, to offer your prayers, know this that God has been there before you. It is not that you are not called to labour in the Church, but you should always remember that God is there to guide us, and that ultimately it is His Church, and His salvation.

Secondly we should remember at an Anniversary those who have worshipped in this congregation through the years. Those who have ministered—the Rev. Andrew Thomson and his son, (their total ministry lasted for 80 years); Rev. Hugh Stirling; Rev. David Cameron, (uncle of the famous D. Y. Cameron); Rev. W. G. McConchie; Professor Robert Law latterly of Toronto, Dr. Boyd Scott who wrote

the history of the parish and of the Church; Rev. W. T. Morton; Rev. J. Marshall Robertson; Rev. A. G. Stewart, and the Rev. Godfrey Macfadyen. We think of the Session Clerks who have held office here. I have known two and both have been excellent—James Pollok and C. J. Thom. We recall the elders who have distributed the elements, those who have officiated at the organ and who have sung in the Choir, and those many folk who have worshipped here, including those whose families have grown up in the Church. Phillip Brooks once said that no man or woman of the humblest sort can ever be strong, gentle, pure and good without the world being better for it, without someone being helped and comforted by the very existence of that goodness. We do not believe in any mechanical doctrine of Apostolic Succession, but we do acknowledge that any man who has been with Christ in the days of His flesh, or who has walked with Him in the Spirit hands down to those who follow something of incalculable worth. Consciously in some cases, and unconsciously in others we have been influenced by those who have gone before us. There are two sides to the life of the Church (1) the work that is more external—the care of the buildings, the organisation of its affairs, etc., etc., and (2) the inner side which is concerned with reflecting the Spirit of Christ. Both are necessary, and to a certain extent they intermingle, but fundamentally the latter is more important reflecting the message of the everlasting Gospel of love. Field Marshall Montgomery in his Memoirs says that his mother was a strict disciplinarian. His father received 10/- per week for pocket money, and she took charge of all the rest. He did not love his mother. She ran the home efficiently but she showed no affection. In his life the 3 outstanding persons were his father, his wife and his son.

Thirdly we think on such a day as this of the passing of time. It is not altogether healthy for us to dwell on this unless we also remember that there is something that does not change, the Love of God in Jesus Christ. It was when the man who was laid in the grave of Elisha touched the bones of the prophet that he revived and stood up. Boris Pasternak the Russian novelist who was awarded the Nobel prize recently and forbidden to accept it describes in his book how Dr. Zivago found the country after the 1917 Revolution in complete turmoil. Everything had changed—home life, people business life; there was almost nothing to eat; bands of partisans spread fear everywhere. Deserted trains stood on the Trans-Siberian railway. His family left Moscow and made for the east. One day at a station he felt that life had altered so much that all that had been familiar to him was gone. Suddenly he came upon a waterfall he had

known as a boy. It was a thing of beauty and it had not changed. So to-day we give thanks for the everlasting Gospel. It abides all changes. Our life touches that of a great man Elisha and we are revived and stand up on our feet.

Rise up, O men of God!
Have done with lesser things;
Give heart and soul and mind and strength
To serve the King of Kings.

(preached on the evening of Anniversary Sunday, May 24th, 1959)

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SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Since our last report the Sunday School attendances have continued to be very good. Some scholars have left the district and are now, we hope, attending Sunday Schools in the vicinity of their new homes. On the other hand we have had several additions to our strength and we cordially welcome these children and trust they will find pleasure and benefit in our fellowship.

The end of this session approaches. Our picnic is on 13th June when we leave by bus at 2 p.m. for Bonnyton Moor Farm on the kind invitation of Mr and Mrs Lambie. We look forward to a happy time there and trust the weather will be kind.

The closing Service of the tSunday School will be held at 3.30 p.m. in the Church on Sunday, 21st June, and parents and friends are cordially invited to attend.

Further intimation of these two occasions will be made in Church and Sunday School.

Miss Esmae Ritchie who was with us as a teacher in the Junior Department for seven years was married in April. As an individual and as a teacher Miss Ritchie is much missed in our fellowship. We extend to Mr and Mrs McEwan our good wishes for their future happiness.

Mr Stewart Telfer.

It will no doubt come as a surprise to many to learn that Mr Telfer has resigned from the Sunday School where he so generously gave of his services as Organist, Class teacher and Offerings Treasurer over a period of 62 years. To those who have worked with Stewart Telfer the Newton Mearns Sunday School will not be quite the same

place again. Of him it may be truly said he was dedicated to service amongst the children, and many will recall with gratitude their association with him as teacher and friend.

It has been decided to mark the occasion by showing in a tangible form an appreciation of his long and faithful service to the Sunday School. Will those members who may care to contribute, kindly send their contributions to the Church Treasurer, Mr Walter Rodger, or put it in the Church door plate in an envelope suitably marked, not later than Sunday, 28th June.

HALL EXTENSION FUND.

BRICKS.

Although building operations will not commence on 30th June, 1959, the committee would like, nevertheless, to have as many "BRICKS" as possible on the "SITE" by that date.

This is the date originally set for the return of the BRICK Boxes which were kindly taken up by 260 homes of members of the Church and they may be deposited any Sunday in the Offertory Plate or handed to your Supplement Distributer.

We are sure those members would like to know what their systematic or occasional drop into the box amounted to in total and so a receipt will be sent for the contents.

In this connection we would point out that the amount of the contribution is secret—it operates in the same fashion as the "Systematic Scheme."

At the moment no arrangement have been made for a further general distribution of boxes but we shall be happy to supply a further box to any

member who wishes to have always "A Brick about the house"—Mr Marchant (Tel.: N.M. 3058) or your Supplement distributor can arrange this

AUTO TREASURER HUNT.

As the Supplement was in course of printing before the Treasure Hunt was held we are unable to report on it except to pay tribute once again to those tremendous workers, Messrs Carlaw, Ferns and Stubbs.

FUTURE EVENTS.

The Committee has intentionally made this year a quieter one than last for money raising functions and at date no event is lined up. The Committee is being augmented and they give fair warning however that major events will be forthcoming—£9000 or thereby is still required.

THE FLOWER LIST.

The committee desire to thank all those who so kindly added their names to the Flower List for year ending 24th April, 1960.

June	7—Mrs Mitchell.
„	14—Mrs Cameron.
„	21—Mrs Jarvie.
„	28—Mrs Gray.
July	5—Mrs Boyle.
„	12—Mrs Pettigrew.
„	19—Mrs Wood.
„	26—Mr Russell.
Aug.	2—Mrs W. Rodger.
„	9—Mr D. Buchanan.
„	16—Mrs J. McPhail.
„	23—Mrs Crawford.
„	30—Mrs J. Robertson.