

NEWTON MEARNS CHURCH SUPPLEMENT

DECEMBER, 1960.

REGISTER.

Baptisms.

"Suffer the little children to come unto Me."

Sheena Mary Porter, Pollok Castle Estate.
Donald Cranstown McDonald, 40 Netherplace Road.

Marriages.

"Whom God hath joined together."

Helen Joyce Waterson and Graeme William Murdoch.
Helen Houston Letham McMillan and James Adam Baillie.
Anne Elizabeth McCarrol and Iain McWilliam McMillan.
Judith Helen Bain and Archie Murray Hanna.

Deaths.

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

Mr and Mrs James Ure, 21 Beech Avenue.
Mr Andrew Russell, Newton House.
Mrs Low, 2 Eaglesham Road.
Miss Flossie Heyworth, 13 Main Street.

NEW MEMBERS ADMITTED AT THE OCTOBER COMMUNION

By Profession of Faith.

Miss Sybil Anderson, 12 Eaglesham Road.
Miss Maureen Barclay, 19 Larchfield Avenue.
Miss Carol Anne Bishop, 11 Beverley Road, Newlands.
Miss Anne Murray Todd, 202 Ayr Road.
Miss Valerie Jean Todd, 202 Ayr Road.
Mr Hugh Campbell Laurie, 166 Ayr Road.

By Certificates from other Congregations.

Mrs Hill, 78 Hazelwood Avenue.
Mrs Margaret Johnston, 8 Townhead Road.
Mr and Mrs Thomas McMillan, Townhead of Floak Farm.
Mr and Mrs Thomas K. Morrison, 26 Lauderdale Drive.
Mr and Mrs John Vickerman, 9 Moorhill Crescent.

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We are now in the season of Advent when the Church commemorates the greatest fact in history the coming of the Son of God to earth.

They were all looking for a king
To slay their foes and lift them high.
Thou cam'st a little baby thing
That made a woman cry.

We do not need to be reminded of the significance of the advent of Him Whose name was Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. We may sometimes be bewildered in thought as to how the Son of God could become truly man. Yet the story of His life on the earth shows us how it was accomplished. He who had the consciousness that He was the Son of the Father, and knew He could draw upon the mighty power of God, yet resisted every temptation to be different from His fellow man. He walked by faith. He did not use His power to ease His lot. He went down to the darkness of the grave trusting that God would not allow

His soul to rest in Hell or corruption. On the third day God by His mighty hand raised Him from the dead. He is indeed the Author and the Finisher of our faith. As we remember His Incarnation at this season of the year, we must not forget the full message of His life of which His coming was but a part though a notable one, yea a stupendous fact. "And when they were come into the Inn they saw Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger."

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AND ARRANGEMENTS.

The usual Watch Night Service on Christmas Eve will be held in the Mearns Parish Church, at 11.30 p.m., and will be conducted by the two ministers.

On Christmas Day at 11.30 a.m., there will be the usual forenoon service of worship. The Beginners' Class will meet at its accustomed time.

There will be no evening service on Christmas Day. We feel that with the Watch Night Service just previously it should be omitted.

On the 18th December, the Gift Service will take place at 11.30 a.m. The children of the Sabbath School will proceed down the centre aisle and hand their gifts at the Chancel. These will be given to Mearnskirk Hospital.

On the evening of the 18th December, the service will be conducted by the Youth Fellowship, at 6.30 p.m., in our own building. During the month of December the evening service will be in Mearns Parish Church, but on the 18th December, we will revert for that occasion to our own Church. The congregation of Mearns Parish will also, I am glad to say be with us at that service. The Youth Fellowship is preparing carefully for this act of worship, and we hope that many will worship with them that night.

OBITUARIES.

Andrew Russell, J.P., Newton House, died at his home on Thursday, 27th October, 1960, in his 90th year.

It is almost 18 years since a deputation from the Session comprising the Session Clerk, the Treasurer, the Roll-keeper and the Minister waited upon him in his house, and presented him with a bureau in the name of the congregation. The inscription read "Presented to Mr Andrew Russell, from the congregation of Newton Mearns on his retirement from the Sabbath School after 51 years as teacher and Superintendent."

His connection with the Church was so long, his interests so widespread, and his affection so great that in the story of his life it occupies the central place.

His first service to it was when at the age of nine he became a member of the choir as an alto singer during the ministry of Mr Cameron. On the death of the latter he could remember being sent over during the vacancy to obtain the list of hymns from Shawhill where the visiting ministers stayed the week-end. In no service of the Church he said was he ever happier than in the Choir of which he was a member for 25 years.

In the building of the Church in 1938-1939 he took an active interest. Although the former sanctuary was hallowed with association, he realised the need of a larger and more modern place of worship. Scarcely a day passed without a walk through the rising walls, and a careful scrutiny was made of the work done.

Few men had a greater knowledge of the history of the parish. Accordingly when Dr. Boyd Scott, came to write his book commemorating the 200th anniversary of the foundation of the congregation, it was to Andrew Russell that he turned for much of his information.

He took a great interest in the life of the community, being for 23 years a member of the parish and later the district council, and for 3 years its chairman. He served on the School Management Committee for 15 years, was a member of the Juvenile and Licensing Courts, and some years ago appointed a Justice of the Peace.

Perhaps he was best known to many in the realm of the Sabbath School in which he became a teacher in 1889 and Superintendent in 1920. He loved the child and was never happier than when welcoming him to the Sabbath School on a Sunday morning.

In addition to all these spheres in which he served, he was an elder of the congregation, and his wise counsel on the Session as well as his example in attendance in the sanctuary, together with his life of unselfishness in the home and in the community have by the grace of God borne a fine testimony through the years. It is difficult to believe that a generation has arisen that has not known him. Such is the passage of time. To those of us, however, who were privileged to enjoy his fellowship we would thank God for one who devoted his life and his gifts (how often has the Church been beautified by the flowers from his garden) to the building of the Church. His family has taken upon itself the mantle of their father, two of them being elders of the congregation, a third a minister's wife, and the fourth as active in the service of the Church as the others. I believe that one of Andrew Russell's favourite texts in the Bible was "Other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours." Although he never said so to me, instinctively I felt that is was. He found great joy all his life in thinking of those who had been labourers in the vineyard in days gone past, and he was grateful to God that he had been privileged to help to carry on the work. His greatest joy was to see those arising in the Church to-day who would be enabled to shoulder the task in the years to come. We will best honour his memory in dedicating our life to the work of the Kingdom.

Mr and Mrs James Ure, 21 Beech Avenue, died on Monday, 3rd October and Sunday 13th November, respectively. Mr Ure was in his 90th and Mrs Ure in her 88th year. They enjoyed a long and happy life together and perhaps it was fitting that it should draw to a close for both of them about the same time. Most of their married life was spent in Neilston. It was there the family grew up and it was not till the time of retirement from the responsible position of water Surveyor of the Corporation of Glasgow that they moved to this district. Here they began what proved to be a long period of eventide in life, which they were well able to enjoy through their good health and many interests. It was 12 years ago that Mr Ure lost his sight, and this was a heavy burden for him to bear. Nor was it easy for his wife who never left his side thereafter. He bore his infirmity, however,

with patience, and found solace in the programmes on the wireless, and in the visits of his family and his friends. He was a lover of literature, and of music and proficient in playing the violin. Mrs Ure was a woman of great charm, industrious in the house, and endowed with pawky humour. She and her husband had the satisfaction of seeing their family of three sons and a daughter grow up and settle happily in their own homes, and they were rewarded by retaining their devotion to the end of their life. It was a home in which the Church had an honoured place and in which one found enriching fellowship. To their sons and daughters-in-law and their son-in-law we extend our deepest sympathy.

Mrs Low, 2 Eaglesham Road, died on Monday, 31st October, 1960, at her residence. Her first husband died when her two daughters were only a few years old and she had the difficult task of looking after them, educating them and seeing them established in life. She married again and when her second husband died, came out about 6 years ago to live in this district. She, however, had a life that could not have been easy, and yet, if one could judge by the spirit of contentment that always seemed to pervade her, faced it with faith and courage. Her family was a great comfort to her, and she dedicated her life to making a happy home for them and by the grace of God was able to do so. To them we offer to-day our deepest sympathy in the passing of one they so justly loved.

Miss Flossie Heyworth, 13 Main Street, died on Tuesday, 15th November, 1960, in a city hospital. Her death at a comparatively early age has come as a great shock to a great number of people in the district. She was known to many through her work, her active participation in the life of the Church, and her own warm hearted personality. Her mother came from Lancashire to live in this parish after the death of her husband. At that time Flossie's heart was still in England. As the years passed she settled down more and more in this country until one day she acknowledged that Scotland was now her homeland. I remember the work she did during the war in the Canteen in the Church hall, and how she gave herself unsparingly to the soldiers. Those who knew her in business found her most obliging at all times. Looking back we know that there must have been days when she was suffering, but she never gave any indication of it. Her care of her mother will remain one of our lasting memories of her. On her afternoon off she would devote it to her. If our generosity is measured, as it should be, by what we have left after we have given, then in respect of time she had little remaining to herself. In addition she visited her aunt each week in hospital during the last two years. We shall miss her in the district and in the Church. She was a girl who had a deep faith in God and her last act in my presence was to commit herself into His care. To her sister for whom her death is a great bereavement, her aunt, her brother-in-law, and her nephew we offer our deepest sympathy.

VARIA.

There are to be 3 Christmas Trees in the Church premises this year. The one in the grounds will be the responsibility of the Board; the one in the Church of the Youth Fellowship; and the one in the Hall of the Sabbath School.

Appreciation has been expressed of the united evening services with Mearns Parish Church. Let us all support them by our presence.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

At this season our thoughts turn to Christmas parties and the Children's gift service.

The parties will be held on Saturday, 17th December, the Beginners and the Primary from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.; the Juniors and Seniors from 5 to 8.30 p.m. We hope to show two films and to have a jolly time thereafter. Perhaps Santa will be in attendance.

The gift Service will be on Sunday, 18th December. The children of all departments will meet in the large hall at 11 a.m., and at 11.30 will proceed by the centre aisle to the Chancel of the Church, where they will lay their gifts. These will be taken to Mearns Kirk Hospital in the afternoon for distribution to the children there on Christmas morning.

The Senior Sunday School, desirous of bringing some happiness into the lives of others less fortunate than themselves are at present gathering a fund to meet the expenses of such a venture. For this purpose they organised a "Sausage Sizzle" in the large hall on the 9th November to which they invited their friends. This was a merry evening and the resulting balance in hand is most encouraging.

At present the Junior Department is short of teachers and the Superintendent will be glad to hear from those who are prepared to come forward.

WOMAN'S GUILD.

The opening meeting of the Woman's Guild was held on October 10th. We saw some beautiful films taken and shown by Mr Maurice Anderson, also the interesting film "For God's Glory."

The last meeting for 1960 is on December 12th when we have our "Carols and Candlelight" Night. We are looking forward to an enjoyable evening with Guild members and friends. January 9th, 1961, will be our first meeting in the new year; when Mr Hodgkinson will give us a film lecture on the "Life of David Livingstone."

We take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped in any way with the Coffee Morning on 29th October.

FLOWER LIST.

- Dec. 4—Mrs T. Craig.
- " 11—Mrs T. Bain.
- " 18—Mrs Macdonald.
- " 25—Mr J. Russell.
- 1961
- Jan. 1—Miss Cowie.
- " 8—Mrs Mackay.
- " 15—Mrs R. Todd.
- " 22—Mrs Duncan.
- " 29—Mrs W. Blue.

NATIONAL CHURCH EXTENSION

OPERATION LAST LAP

Will those who have not yet returned their envelopes be good enough to do so not later than Tuesday, 27th December, 1960.

THE YOUTH ORGANISATIONS OF THE CONGREGATION
LEADERS AND TIMES OF MEETING

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL—

Primary and Junior Departments 10 a.m.
Class for small children. During the Morning Service.
Senior Department. 3 p.m.
Superintendent: Mr W. A. Menzies, 46 Beech Avenue.
Telephone: NEW. 2982

THE BIBLE CLASSES—

10.15 a.m.
The Minister.

THE BOYS' BRIGADE—

Parade Friday, 7.30 p.m.
Bible Class Sunday, 10.15 a.m.
Captain: Mr John A. Orr, 47 Beech Avenue.
Telephone: NEW. 3171.

THE LIFE BOYS—

Parade Friday, 6 p.m.
Leader: Miss Helen Macgregor, 81 Beech Avenue.
Telephone: NEW: 2063

THE GIRL GUIDES—

Parade Thursday, 7.30 p.m.
Captain: Miss Barbara Pirret, 2 Paidmyre Road.
Telephone: NEW. 2647.

THE BROWNIES—

Parade Thursday, 6 p.m.
Leader: Miss Joan MacPhail, Hightrees, Gilmourton Crescent.
Telephone: NEW. 2898.

THE YOUTH FELLOWSHIP—

Meeting Sunday, 7.45 p.m.
President: Mr David Roser, Shuna, Eaglesam Road.
Secretary: Miss Joan Duncan, Fairhaven, Arthurlie Drive.
Telephone: NEW. 2872.

THE RECREATIONAL GROUP:

BADMINTON SECTION—

Meetings Tuesday, 7.30 p.m. and
Saturday afternoon.
President: Mr George Robertson, Calvine, Glebe Road.
Secretary: Miss Sybil Anderson, Shawlinn, Eaglesham Road.
Telephone: NEW. 3262.

VISITING ELDERS TO THE YOUTH ORGANISATIONS.

SUNDAY SCHOOL—Mr W. G. Dinsmor and Mr James M. Mitchell.
THE BOYS' BRIGADE—Mr A. B. McClure and Mr F. J. Burns-Reid.
THE LIFE BOYS—Mr Robert Armour and Mr George Wallace.
THE GIRL GUIDES—Mr H. Gray and Mr G. A. Roser.
THE BROWNIES—Mr W. Blue and Mr A. Murray Hanna.
THE YOUTH FELLOWSHIP—Mr J. H. Frost and Mr A. M. McCance.
THE BADMINTON CLUB—Mr John Russell and Mr R. L. Todd.