

## The Annual General Church Meeting

The Annual General Church Meeting re-elected Mrs. Molly Millan as Church President, Miss Aileen Baird as Church Secretary, and Mrs. Eilidh Young as Church Treasurer, and also received pastoral, financial and other reports regarding the life of the congregation. We are grateful to all who serve the life of the Congregation, as Elders, leaders and members of the various committees and groups which work so hard during the year. A big "thank you" to you all!

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Material for the next Newsletter to be with the minister by April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

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### Contacts

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## Bathgate EU United Reformed Church

(Charity registered in Scotland - SC 014304)

### *Newsletter Easter 2010*



From the Minister – Easter 2010

“Father, into your hands I commit my Spirit!” (Luke 23 v 46)

Dear friends,

If you were to ask many ordinary people “out there in the world” which Christian festival meant most to them, then Christmas would probably be the choice of the vast majority. Yet at the true heart of the Christian faith stands the cross, for which all that came before was preparation, and all that follows is response.

The death of Jesus on the cross is the most important event in history, for in that event Jesus took upon himself the sin of the whole world. Luke’s Gospel shows Jesus humbly committing himself into his Father’s keeping, confident that he had done his Father’s will. Whilst Mark concentrates on Jesus’ union with us in our God-forsakenness (Mark 15 v 34), Luke concentrates on the fact that, just as Jesus committed himself to God’s keeping, so too may we be confident of God’s forgiving and saving love.

On the cross, Jesus committed his Spirit to his Father, and, in the Acts of the Apostles, Luke goes on to show how, after the resurrection and ascension of Jesus, that same Spirit was to empower the young Church in its mission. For Luke, the cross is the central point in the story of salvation – but that story continues with the church’s mission and, ultimately, with you and me.

The Spirit of Christ is alive and active in the world, not because Jesus avoided the horror and pain of the cross, but because he did so knowing it to be God’s will. Luke wants us to understand that, in Jesus Christ, God is with us in our own pain and suffering. He also wants us to know that in Jesus Christ even the worst pain and suffering cannot ultimately separate us from God’s love.

So let us celebrate this Easter. Let us celebrate the cross and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Gospel message of God’s all-conquering love.

Mirella joins me in wishing you all a blessed Easter.

Your friend,

*John S. Bremner*

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Services for Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday, March 28

11 a.m. Family worship led by the Elders

6.30 p.m. A Meditation for Holy Week at St. John’s Church

Monday – Saturday

7 p.m. Worship for Holy Week at Boghall Church

Maundy Thursday, April 1

7.30 p.m. Communion Service at the High Church

Good Friday, April 2

1 p.m. Service of Witness at the Steelyard

7.30 p.m. Communion Service at our own church, led by the minister

Easter Day

7 a.m. Sunrise Service at The Knock

11 a.m. Easter Worship and Communion Service, led by the minister