

Outlook Monthly

The newsletter of St. Leonard's Parish Church, Dunfermline

November 2006

Meet our Prayer Partners

On the 23rd of October, James and Kirsty Robertson came to St. Leonard's and spoke about their forthcoming move to China as Christian professionals. In a fascinating talk we came to understand that China is something of a paradox—a socialist country that wants to develop a market economy; a communist country that welcomes in Christian workers.

So often in church we hear sermons about how we should listen out for God and how we need to respond to God's call. Here was a very real example of God



calling and of two of His people responding. For those of us who were there, it was an uplifting and inspiring testimony of God working through ordinary people, made more poignant perhaps because many of us have watched James as he grew up within St. Leonard's.

St. Leonard's Parish Church have adopted James and Kirsty, otherwise known as 'Mr & Mrs China Jim' as *prayer partners*. This places a very real responsibility upon each and every one of us not just to remember James and Kirsty in our prayers but to actively pray *for them* as they set up home in a new country, learn a new language (or two), come to terms with a (very) different culture and share their love for God with those they live and work beside. Let's ALL get behind James and Kirsty and support them in every way we can. *OUTLOOK* will be reporting regularly on Mr and Mrs China Jim, so watch this space.

DRUG PROOF YOUR KIDS

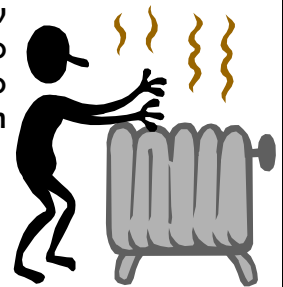
Another valuable event for every parent and grandparent is the "Drug Proof Your Kids" course which has been specially designed to offer parents a realistic plan to steer their children away from the harmful use of drugs. For more details, please see Chris Beattie.



HEATING UPDATE

A major upgrade to the McLaren Hall and heating system in the hall complex is being commissioned by the Congregational Board. This will involve the removal of the stage and the laying of a new floor; the installation of a gas boiler and fan-assisted heaters in the hall with new radiators in the office and disabled toilet. New time controls will be added to the electrical heating in the rest of the complex; repairs are to be made to windows and plasterwork throughout the complex. The estimated costs are in the region of £18,000 – work will begin shortly.

All organisations are asked to remove their equipment from the stage area (otherwise it will be disposed of).



The next edition of the OUTLOOK magazine will be the Christmas edition. All articles and notices need to be submitted to the office for November 12th at the latest.

St. Leonard's—The Family Church

In November's *Life & Work*

An Ethical Dilemma

The debate over the use of embryonic stem cells in medical research was one of the biggest talking points at the 2006 General Assembly. A range of commentators this month offer their views on this sensitive area of science.

Serving with inspiration

Drena O'Malley, a Church of Scotland elder in Lenzie and resources manager for the charity Deafblind Scotland, is the subject of this month's profile. She believes that Deafblind Manual should be taught in Scotland's schools to improve communication with the estimated 5000 people who live without sight or sound.

A silent tribute

In his regular monthly column, the Moderator, the Rt Rev Alan McDonald reflects on Remembrance Day and also contributes a special prayer for Remembrance.

Christians in Scotland

Laurence Wareing concludes his three-part analysis of the main Christian denominations in Scotland. This month he outlines the Scottish Episcopal Church, the Methodist Church and the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers).

Youth reflections

Three delegates at this year's National Youth Assembly which took place in Dundee in September, reflect on their experiences of the event and the Kirk.

The child in the midst

In a new series of reflections, the Very Rev James Simpson reflects on the impact of war on children.

And more monthly columns; for elders; and young people; book reviews; travel, finance, lively letters; news from far and near; monthly prayer; prize crossword; all for £1.60p

See Rosemary Annandale to reserve YOUR copy.

Diary

Sunday 5th Nov	St Leonard's: Communion at 9.30am Worship at 11am
	Pitcorthie: Worship at 11am
Sunday 12th Nov	St Leonard's: Worship at 9.30 am
<i>Remembrance Sunday</i>	Youth Parade at 10:50am
Tuesday 14th Nov	Kirk Session: 7pm for prayer 7.30pm for business
Sunday 19th Nov	St Leonard's: Worship at 9.30am
<i>Start of Guild Week</i>	Worship at 11.00am
	Pitcorthie: Worship at 9.30am
Sunday 26th Nov	St. Leonard's: Worship at 9.30am
	All age family service at 11.00
	Pitcorthie: <u>No service</u> in Pitcorthie
	SOUP LUNCH in Morris Hall after 11am service

"All are welcome"

Social events to look forward to

November 12th—The Youth Fellowship are running a quiz night. All are welcome (remember you are as young as you feel!)

On **December 9th** it is 'all aboard' on Santa's Steam Train setting out from Bo'ness.

We are looking into the possibility of joining with our chums at St. Ninian's for a **New Year's** Ceilidh—details to be confirmed.



Wrap up and walk off those extra pounds put on by too much choccies and Christmas pud on our winter walk in **January**. Details will be announced neared the time (when we see what the weather is like)

Anyone fancy some 10 pin bowling in **February**?

Come and see Concorde at the East Fortune Aviation museum in spring/early summer.

Don the tartan for a Christian Concern Ceilidh on the **4th May** at the Pittencrieff Pavillion

Come the better weather, our walking group will be taking to the highways and byways including a trip to the Botanical Gardens in Edinburgh.