

Girl who captured our love and imagination

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At our October Presbytery meeting, in presenting the World Mission Committee report, I spoke about the 81 worshippers of All Saints Church in Peshawar, Pakistan, who died when two suicide bombers entered the church on 22 September. As I spoke about the impact of that event on families in Scotland and what we were doing about it you could see from where I was standing the shock on presbyters' faces. But we are not helpless in the face of evil, we do have allies. I told Presbytery that we had secured a meeting at the Pakistan Consulate with the Governor of the Punjab, and at the meeting two senior members of the Muslim Council of Scotland issued the strongest condemnation of what had transpired that I have ever heard.

This led me to think about how we, as Christians, need more than ever to look to join forces with moderate and nonviolent Islam to help them fight extremism in their ranks. I draw inspiration from the stories of Malala Yousaf and Abdul Ghaffar Khan. Let me share them with you briefly.

Malala is the 16-year-old Pakistani girl who fought for education in the face of persecution from the Taliban. She says that "education is the power for women, and that's why the terrorists are afraid of education. They do not want women to get education because then women would become more

powerful."

In the face of persecution from the Taliban, Malala says she "spoke on every media channel I could, and I raised my voice on every platform that I could, and I said 'I need to tell the world what is happening in Swat and I need to tell the world that Swat is suffering from terrorism and we need to fight against terrorism'."

But it was what she said next that stole our hearts. She reflected upon what she would do if a member of the Taliban came to take her life.

If you hit a Talib ... then there would be no difference between you and the Talib. You must not treat another with that much cruelty and that much harshly. You must fight others, but through peace and through dialogue and through education. Then I'll tell him how important education is and that I even want education for your children as well. And I'll tell him, 'That's what I want to tell you. Now do what you want'."

There is certainly power in education, but we can use education for very destructive purposes. Look at atomic bombs and chemical warfare, for example. We all know that undisciplined intelligence can bring catastrophic destruction. That's why Malala's response to the Taliban was so powerful. Indeed, poor education is a problem that humanity faces, but our biggest problem is violence. Malala fought back, but she knew that fighting back with violence would only cause more problems. So she fought back

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with the power of peace and nonviolence.

Christians like myself must hear our Muslim brothers' and sisters' call for nonviolence as a result of their faith, not as a contradiction of their faith. For example, Abdul Ghaffar Khan played a crucial role in ending British occupation in India. His story is told in Eknath Easwaran's masterful book, "Nonviolent Soldier of Islam". Khan stated that "Islam is work, faith, and love and without these the name Muslim is a sounding brass and a tinkling symbol." His life of nonviolence was rooted in his faith. He stated: "There is nothing surprising in a Muslim or a Pathan like me subscribing to the creed of nonviolence. It is not a new creed. It was followed fourteen hundred years ago by the Prophet Muhammad all the time he was in Mecca, and it has since been followed

by all those who wanted to throw off an oppressor's yoke."

Like Malala, Khan was inspired by Islam to fight against injustice, especially the injustice of poor education.

As Christians, we must listen and speak with our Muslim brothers and sisters who are committed to nonviolence. A simple Google search for "Islam nonviolence" will provide many important results.

I love stories like Malala's and Khan's because they embody the power of nonviolence. They point us toward the Islamic proclamation that God's mercy and compassion encompass all things and, indeed, all people. Malala and Khan received God's grace and compassion and freely offered it to all people, including their enemies. Hopefully, their stories will continue to inspire us to follow in their footsteps.

Chris

Christmas Fayre

Orchardhill will be hosting a Christmas Fayre on Saturday 30 November from 1.00pm to 4.00pm in the Memorial Halls in aid of the church roof repairs. There will be a variety of craft and gift stalls as well as children's crafts, face painting, lucky dip, competitions and much more.

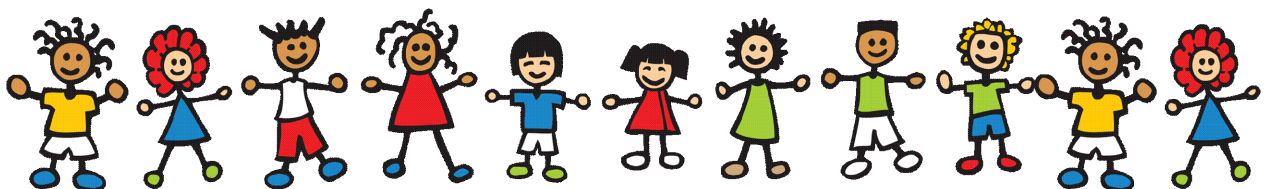
Tickets priced £2.50 for adults and £1 for children will be available after each Sunday service throughout November and from the church office. The ticket price includes refreshments.

Calling all crafters... If you or someone you know would like to rent a stall at this

event then contact Gillian Brogan on 0141 639 6269 or gilly_bean75@hotmail.com. Stalls cost £10, and as numbers are limited please book early to reserve your space.

In addition, we are looking for donations for a bottle stall, anything from Fairy Liquid to unopened toiletries or lemonade, even whisky! Please hand your bottles into the church office or leave in one of the boxes at the church doors during November.

We look forward to seeing many of you there on the 30th.



Welcome/ Collection Rota

November



3	Ian Brown 639 4776; Gordon Thomson 571 7153; Pauline Young 562 9906; Norma Hannah 638 7515
10	Ian Brown; Fiona Cameron 571 7656; Jim Blair 638 1901; Ian Anderson 638 0689
17	Ian Brown; Fiona Cameron; Jim Blair; Ian Anderson
24	Ian Brown; Dorothy Cartlidge 571 7839; Jim Blair; Dave Thomson 638 3289

December

1	Hilary Kennedy 638 6114; Dorothy Cartlidge; Jim Blair; Dave Thomson
8	Fiona Bissett 638 6394; Richard Park 638 0273; Andrew Flockhart 586 8867; Dave Thomson
15	Fiona Bissett; Richard Park; Andrew Flockhart; Dave Thomson
22	Fiona Bissett; Richard Park; Andrew Flockhart; Anne Anderson 638 0689
29	Fiona Bissett; Richard Park; Andrew Flockhart; Anne Anderson

The Guild



On Monday 4 November at 7.30pm in the Church Hall our minister, Rev Chris Vermeulen, will share his thoughts with us on the Guild Theme: "A Fellowship to Build".

The Guild has supported Church House for a long time, and we will learn how it helps today's young people in Glasgow's East End from Miss Margaret Beaton, who will give an illustrated talk on Monday 11 November at 2pm in the Fellowship Room. She grew up in the area and now runs the project, having been connected to it for more than 30 years.

On Monday 18 November at 2pm in the Fellowship Room Mr David Walker will give an illustrated talk on "Glasgow's Hidden Treasures". We look forward to welcoming everyone interested in these talks.

Mary's Meals in Haiti



Very many thanks to everyone who has returned a Sunshine Bag during October, all of the money going to the work of Mary's Meals in Haiti. One of the poorest countries in the world, Haiti still suffers from the devastating earthquake of 2010 as well as hurricanes, diseases and ineffectual government. The major effort by Mary's Meals in Haiti is to supply one nourishing meal a day for children in a school in Cité Soleil, a slum area in Port au Prince, the capital, an area run by gangs. Thus the children get an education as well as food to lift them out of their poverty.

Perhaps you missed taking a bag this year but would still like to support this work. You still have time: I will not be sending the money until January. Donations can be given to any Guild member or to me.

Jeanette Birnie

THINKING ALLOWED

Panel Discussion: "Enough Food IF Campaign"

Thursday 28 November 2013 Venue: Orchardhill 7.30 for 8pm

Panellists: Stuart McMillan MSP
 Ken Macintosh, MSP
 Kathy Galloway, Head of Christian Aid in Scotland
 Sally Foster-Fulton, Convener, Church of Scotland's Church and Society Council



Nearly one billion people go to bed hungry every night and two million children die from malnutrition every year. We've made progress in other areas, but hunger is still the great scandal of our age. All around the world, even in the UK, people are struggling to feed their families. In 2013 Scotland's politicians, institutions, organisations, faith groups, private companies and individuals have campaigned to end this scourge. This event is designed to reflect on their role and ours in tackling global hunger and to take action to ensure that Scotland plays its part in ensuring that every family and every child has a life free from hunger

Stuart McMillan MSP

Stuart, born in Barrow in Furness in 1972, graduated with an MBA (European) from the University of Abertay Dundee in 1997. He began employment with IBM UK Ltd and then worked for the SNP group in Westminster before returning to Scotland to be the office manager for Bruce McFee MSP in 2003. He is a keen piper and plays with the London Scottish Pipes and Drums. He likes watching and playing sports and supports Greenock Morton.

Ken Macintosh MSP

Before entering the Scottish Parliament, Ken was a television producer for BBC News. He also worked on programmes including Breakfast with Frost and as a researcher for both David and Jonathan Dimbleby. Ken was elected to the Scottish Parliament in 1999 and has held Eastwood ever since.

Kathy Galloway

Kathy is an ordained Church of Scotland minister and was, in 2002 the first woman to be elected leader of the Iona Community. She is patron of the Student Christian Movement along with John Saxbee and Michael Taylor.

She is also a published poet and hymn-writer. Her songs have been widely published in church hymnaries and those published by the Iona Community.

Sally Foster-Fulton

Sally Foster-Fulton is Associate Minister at Dunblane Cathedral and the Convener of the Church and Society Council of the Church of Scotland. Church and Society is responsible for social, political and ethical interface between the Church of Scotland and wider society.

A glass of wine or soft drink will be served from 7.30 pm.

Letter from Susan Clark

Dear Friends

I have returned to Scotland and taken a social-worker post in a specialist team in Glasgow working with an immigrant community.

I became a Mission Partner to work with exploited women in a project provided by Women's Development Service Society (WDSS) of Raiwind Diocese of the Church of Pakistan. I was excited by the job description and the opportunity to use my skills in a Christian setting. I realised living and working in Pakistan would be very different from Scotland.

The challenges began before leaving as it took several months to secure a visa. I knew it would take time to get work established, but it became clear after many months that the work of WDSS was more about health and education. There was little opportunity for me to use my skills as a social worker, and after consultation World Mission Council (WMC) decided to make the post with Diocese of Raiwind redundant.

I was able to help WDSS with funding applications, evaluation and concept papers for project development. This was important but did not fully utilise my skills or allow me to assist those working directly with women.

I looked for alternate placements in Pakistan, and WMC was willing to consider other situations. Due to the uncertainty I also applied for work in Scotland and was offered a job in Glasgow. I decided to accept the job in Glasgow and resign as Mission Partner.

Although I was only in Lahore, Pakistan, for just over a year it has been a great experience, and I return having learnt a great deal and I made

many friends. I have many stories and pictures, which I would love to share with you.

I was able to use your donations at Christmas to buy items for food parcels, which are distributed by the WDSS. They have also helped to pay for the doctor who holds clinics twice a week at the health centre provided by WDSS. Funding is always a challenge, and this money was very welcome.

Lahore is a very sophisticated city. It is possible to buy most things there. There are very good restaurants and shops. The traffic is very busy with everyone trying to be quicker than the next car or motorbike. It requires quite aggressive driving. Getting about, as a woman, required some thought, but I found people in the main helpful. Standing on the metro bus women were surprised when I laughed at something they said about me, indicating I understood.

I made very good friends. Rachel joined me in January, and she has a visa for a year. She is a teacher trainer with the Wesleyan Schools. These are schools, mostly primary, in areas that would have been rural but are now part of spreading Lahore. The children are mostly from poor Christian families. I will continue to keep in touch with Rachel and support her work. Ayra Indry, as Director of the Women's Desk of Lahore Diocese, has become a very good friend. We found we had much in common and enjoyed many conversations and meals together. She was very kind to me, and the weeks prior to my departure she took me to many places including Lahore Fort.

Your prayers, emails and letters have meant a great deal to me. They have supported me and encouraged me. I became frustrated at the lack of work I was doing, but the experience has helped

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me as a person and a Christian. I have a better appreciation of what is important and what is not. I am excited about my new job and looking forward to getting back to a work routine and able to go to bed knowing I have achieved something.

I would be happy to share my experience of living in Pakistan and

have many photos. Please contact me on 07775581613 or my email susanclark037@gmail.com God's Blessing and Peace

Susan Clark

Susan was our Mission Partner, and it is with great sadness that we publish this letter to you all. Please pray for her in her new job, and we will invite her to share her story with us in the New Year.

Life and Work Renewal

Orchardhill's order for next year's Life and Work is now due to be sent to Edinburgh for renewal. However, please note that your annual subscription is not due for payment until January. You will be pleased to know

that the price for the magazine will remain at £2.00 per copy.

If you wish to change or cancel your order please telephone Jim or Aileen Blair on 0141 638 1901 by Sunday 17 November.

Phone Prayer Chain

Irene Kinniburgh and I have had a discussion about the prayer life at Orchardhill, and we would like to start Prayer Chain. You receive the monthly Prayer Points with your Orchardhill Record, but what if we feel the need to support someone or an event in our world in prayer. Should we need to wait till Sunday?

This is a ministry that anyone can do from their homes without much effort. Irene will be continuing as our Prayer Ministry Co-ordinator. There are many different ways we could do this at our church; for example, phone Prayer Chain ministry, intercessory prayer group ministry, prayer email chain ministry, prayer text chain ministry, prayer list website ministry, and prayer ministry update website. We have opted for a phone Prayer Chain as this will be more inclusive.

How are we going to do this?

By the time you read this we will have launched the Prayer Chain at our 27 October service, and we will be encouraging you to sign up. If you are

interested in getting involved in our phone Prayer Chain ministry there will be a sign-up sheet in the Tower Door vestibule at the back of the church. You will need to leave your name, home phone and/or mobile numbers. This sign-up sheet will have been mentioned in the 27 October service announcements and in the church intimation sheet for about a month. This also gives housebound people a chance to sign up by getting in contact with the office, their elder, Irene Kinniburgh or myself.

After a month we will take the sign-up sheet and make a list for the Prayer Chain in order to get this ministry set up. Then we will make a list of names with phone numbers following their name for each person to call when there is a prayer need. This is how we intend to set it up. Of course, the co-ordinator's name and phone number will be first because that's the first person to be notified when there is a prayer need. Irene, as Prayer Co-ordinator, is the one to begin the Prayer Chain each time. It will all become clear as we work it through in the system. In the meantime be ready to sign up.

Chris

Jesus Christ Superstar



Jesus Christ Superstar paid a return visit to Glasgow on 1 October in the new SECC Hydro, and five Orchardhill ladies went to try it out. This version of the show transports

the ancient story into a current-day setting of civil unrest, riot police, mob protests, poverty versus corporate greed, tattoos, texting and talk shows. Behind the stage a giant video screen projects a range of fast-moving images, scenery and modern graphics.

The show focuses largely on the relationship between Jesus and Judas, but here Judas is not some one-dimensional traitor, motivated by money. Rather he is very much driven by his ideals of fighting poverty and injustice. He is getting frustrated after three years, believing that Jesus is losing his way, getting too close to women like Mary Magdalene and starting to believe his own press. While the crowds are desperate to label Jesus as the new Messiah or Son of God, Judas thinks that such talk is distracting Jesus from his original mission. In the Garden of Gethsemane they have a stand-up testosterone-filled row about it, though of course Judas later realises that turning Jesus in was not the solution.

Tim Minchin as Judas is superb at portraying all his agonised emotions, which are amplified on the big-screen backdrop. In Ben Forster we witness

the human side of Jesus as he becomes overwhelmed and exhausted trying to help all those demanding help or healing. They swarm over him, each trying to grab a piece of him, and he becomes frustrated at their expectations of a quick fix. In an outstanding solo, Gethsemane, he calls out to God while wrestling with his fate.

The show veers from the moving to the satirical, with the contemporary setting emphasising the unchanging nature of mob mentality. The modern press turn on Jesus the minute he is arrested, and the people display their fickleness when asked to vote "Lord or Fraud?" in Herod's cheesy talk show (featuring a hilarious turn by DJ Chris Moyles). But we are quickly whipped back to the emotional with a quite brutal scene of Jesus being flogged. In an orange Guantanamo Bay jumpsuit, he goes to a cross composed of lights on a metal frame. As Jesus hangs there, Judas reappears from on high (having hung himself most graphically earlier) to meditate on the whole experience through the show's title song, with accompanying angels. Lighting effects enhance the emotional power of the final moving crucifixion scene. After Jesus dies, cast members walk up all aisles of the arena carrying tiny lights which they place on a blue-lit stage before a projected backdrop of prayers and messages.

This electrifying version of the show is what 64-year-old Andrew Lloyd Webber recently said he has waited 40 years for. Deservedly it received a standing ovation. It was exhilarating to see the production smash through the barriers of time, propelling the story right into our modern world with renewed vigour and relevance.

Lindsay MacLeod

Orchardhill Diary

November

Sun 3 10.30am Family Worship Rev Chris Vermeulen

6.30pm Bereavement Service

Sun 10 10.30am Remembrance Sunday Rev Chris Vermeulen

Sun 17 10.30am Youth Service led by the Boys' Brigade

Tue 19 7.30pm Congregational Board followed by Kirk Session

Sun 24 10.30am Family Worship and Sacrament of Baptism Rev Chris Vermeulen

Tue 26 7.45pm Ministry Task Group

Wed 27 11.30am Afternoon Communion (followed by a light lunch)

Thu 28 7.30pm Thinking Allowed Series: Panel Discussion (Enough Food IF Campaign)

December

Sun 1 First Sunday in Advent

10.30am Sacrament of the Lord's Supper Rev Chris Vermeulen

Orchardhill Record – December Deadline

Contributions for the December edition of the *Orchardhill Record* should be in the editorial team's hands no later than **Sunday 17 November**. Contributions should be either sent by email to record-editor@orchardhill.org.uk before 1.00pm that day or left in the relevant slot in the rack in the church corridor no later than 10.30am.

We prefer contributions to be sent by email, and we cannot accept any handwritten or typed item that does not identify the source.