

Hopehall News

SPRING 2018

Welcome to our Spring edition, and I'm writing this as the snow is falling outside! When I think of Spring I think of yellow and green, daffodils and snow drops, lambs and little chicks (actually I think of the metal Slinky I used to have as a boy, which looked like a spring as it worked its way down the stairs, but never mind about that). Spring brings hope somehow, especially for those who seem to suffer sadness during the winter months. However, this Spring my thoughts are taken up with the recent birth of my second grandchild, a beautiful little girl called "Winter Skye". What an amazing name to have, to remind us of when she was born, and of the beauty of the winter skies as the sun breaks through the dark clouds. It reminds me of the birth

of Jesus who brought light into our dark world, and showed us how to live a pure selfless life, which we all aspire to.

And what name does Jesus call us who follow him?

We are his friends, his sons and daughters, his beloved, the apple of his eye and the love of his heart. Think of that this Spring, and let the truth of Jesus' love melt the coldness and bring warmth and light into your life. God bless you all.



Pastor Graham



TV NEWS REPORT

On Christmas Eve Sunday morning, the Kids' Church had a bit of fun, performing a spoof TV news report about Santa appearing in Paisley, accompanied by "live" video "interviews" of first hand witnesses presented by anchor men, Rhys and Ben. Created and written by one of Hopehall's Kid's Church team, Nikki, all the Kids' Church children took part enthusiastically, made possible by Hopehall's new IT software, it was a high tech presentation which bodes well for future "productions".



Students from UWS at Hopehall Ceilidh on Hogmanay - see more on Page 3

Through God's Strength

When you meet Pauline Carroll at Hopehall, she's usually helping in the kitchen with a warm smile on her face. You would never guess how much she has changed through inviting God back into her life. Throughout Pauline's life, she has faced many heart-wrenching difficulties. Born in Renfrew in 1970 she had a very hard upbringing. She has an older sister Irisann, and a younger brother, Robbie. After being in various places with the army, the family returned to Renfrew in 1981.

"In 1983 my mum fled with us to a battered women's refuge in Paisley" After moving to Shortroods, a neighbour invited them to Miracle Church and aged 13, Pauline became a Christian. Meeting Steven in 2000, they married in 2001. After an accident at work for which she blamed God, Pauline said "I didn't bother with God, or going to church any more, I think I just became lazy." Her daughters were born - Stephanie in 2002, Melissa in 2004. Then in 2005 Pauline's mum died "I blamed God for the death of my mum - it wasn't logical I know" Then in early 2007, seven weeks after Pauline gave birth to twins Olivia and Ryan, Olivia died through cot death "I blamed God for her death too". Depression followed - "Although we took the children to St Fergus Catholic church because they were in St Fergus Primary school, it didn't really mean very much to me at the time". Sadly in 2013 the children were

taken into care. Pauline and her husband divorced in 2017. "I shut myself away. Then I heard about Cornerstone Drop-In Centre for people with addiction and mental health problems. There I met Christine Murray from Hopehall who invited me to an Alpha course about Christianity. Alpha attendees, Maria and Iain Walker invited me to Hopehall's evening service 'Sunday Night Live'. The minute I walked in the door I thought 'This is where I need to be'.

**"I said sorry
for blaming
God for
everything
that had
gone wrong"**



That night I asked God to come into my life again and said sorry for blaming him for everything that had gone wrong. I haven't looked back since" Pauline joined a house group and is an important part of life at Hopehall. "I know I've got family and friends there and really feel God's love there - I've never had that before. I believe that God is my strength and can make new things possible."

WONDERFUL TOT'S NATIVITY @ HOPEHALL

The Tots' nativity at Hopehall was wonderful, on Sunday, December 17th when mums, dads and grannies along with their babies and toddlers re-told the story of Jesus's birth in Bethlehem. One of the highlights of the year, the church was packed to the gunnels with family members =- many who had never been to church before, gathered to see their little stars take part, along with regular Hopehall Evangelical Church folks.

Centre stage was the stable, made by elder Dave Clarke and in front a granny tells her grandchild the nativity story. Babies, toddlers, mums, dads, grannies told with Mary and Joseph looking for

somewhere to stay, when baby Jesus is born, the angels appearing to the shepherds, to tell them the good news and finally the wise men coming with their gifts.

Tots co-ordinator Jean Potts said "This is the fourth Tots' nativity, the children's enthusiasm was infectious and it was delightful to see them so relaxed at Hopehall. The nativity play is a brilliant way of bringing to life what Christmas is all about - the birth of the Son of God, Jesus Christ"

Hopehall Tots meet twice a week on Wednesday and Friday mornings. If you want to know more contact Jean Potts on 01505-814962. Hopehall has a "See & Know" group and crèche for Tots on Sunday mornings during the service.



New Year Ceilidh Fun

2018 was welcomed in true Hopehall style with a fantastic, fun filled New Year Ceilidh. Not only was there Scottish dancing, delicious food and daft games but also a great new addition - "Hopehall's Got Talent". Over 80 people came to the evening, Hopehall friends and family being joined by Crookston Baptist folks as well as a very lively group of students from the University of the West of Scotland which added to the fun. Hosted by Hopehall's pastor Graham Currie, who was ably assisted by church elder, David Clark who called the dancing steps. Scottish dancing and hilarious team games with a break for delicious chilli con carne made by church member Barbara, then as midnight approached all the folks were gathered for "Hopehall's Got Talent"

beginning with Eric and his excellent ventriloquist act. There then followed a very varied "cabaret" with Barry singing songs and playing his guitar; Noa a very talented piper (bagpipes), a comical song from the "Brave Hearts" aka David, Graham, David, Campbell, Scott and Ernie, a demo of football talent and tricks from Leon and Rhys with some budding football stars from the audience, Anne then told a Scottish story which involved roping in "volunteers" to be various characters with hilarious results, then the talent show was concluded by Graham doing an excellent tribute to Tommy Cooper. After everyone welcomed in the New Year and sang "Auld Lang Syne" pastor Graham Currie gave a short message and hymns of congregational praise were sung rounding off another fantastic Hopehall Ceilidh.



Well hullo, ah've only a couple of minutes to speak to you, because ah think Ruthinia is ordering a new window and wants me to do it. At least, she was talking to a friend about a pane needing removed, and was looking at me when she said it. Did you



know that a New Year resolution goes in one year and out the other? My New Year resolution, after much thought, is 1080 pixels, but, as the Good Book says "behold I make all things new", so there's hope for us all.
Yours Aye

March-May 2018

Weekly Meetings & Activities

Sundays

10.30am-12.00pm
Sunday Morning Worship*
10.45am-11.00pm
See and Know*
11.00am-12.00pm
Creche & Kids Church*
12.00pm
Tea and Coffee
6.30-7.45pm
Sunday Night Live
*Except Family Service Sundays

Weekdays

Monday 12.00-4.00pm
Hobbies Club
Tuesday 3.45-5.15pm
Fellowship Hour
Tuesday 7.30pm
Housegroup - Hopehall
Housegroup - Neilston
Wednesday 9.45-11.30am
Hopehall Tots
(Term Time)
Wednesday 12.30pm
Walking Group

Wednesday 1.30pm
Housegroup - Paisley South
Housegroup - Paisley Centre
Wednesday 7.30pm
Housegroup - Paisley West
Friday 9.45-11.30am
Hopehall Tots
(Term Time)
Friday 3.30-4.30pm
Hope Rock Club
(Term Time)

Monthly and Special Events

3 March 11.30am-2.30pm
Community Cafe Special
Spring Fairs
8 March 7.30-9.00pm
Elders Meeting
11 March 10.30am-10.45am
Communion
11 March 11.00am-12.00pm
Mothers Day Family Service
15 March 7.30-8.00pm
Diaconal Meeting
27 March 6.00-8.00pm
Family Fun Night
28 March 7.30pm-9.30pm
Ladies Night
28 March 7.30pm-9.00pm
Graham & Nik Report
& Prayer Time
30 March 7.30pm
Good Friday Dramatic Presentation

4 April 10.30am-10.45am
Communion
1 April 11.00am-12.00pm
Easter Family Service
7 April 11.30am-2.30pm
Community Cafe
9 April 7.30-9.00pm
Elders Meeting
19 April 7.30-8.00pm
Diaconal Meeting
21 April 6.30-8.00pm
Thai Evening
with the Dalrymples
25 April 7.30-8.30pm
Prayer Meeting

5 May 11.30am-2.30pm
Community Cafe
7 May 7.30-9.00pm
Elders Meeting
13 May 10.30-10.45am
Communion Service
13 May 11am-12pm
Royal Family Service
17 May 7.30-9.00pm
Diaconal Meeting
19 May 6.00-8.00pm
Family Fun Night
30 May 7.30-8.30pm
Prayer Meeting

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info@hopehall.org.uk | www.hopehall.org.uk

Trust God from the bottom of
your heart; don't try to figure out
everything on your own.
Listen for God's voice in
everything you do, everywhere
you go; He's the one who will
keep you on track.
Proverbs 3: 5-6

HOPEHALL EVANGELICAL CHURCH

COMMUNITY CAFE

SPRING FAYRE

SATURDAY 3rd MARCH
11.30am-2.30pm

COME AND JOIN IN



Crafts for sale
(all proceeds to charity)

Indoor bouncy castle

Join us for lunch or
just coffee & cake

Crafts to make:
Cards, Bonnets &
Easter Egg Painting

HOPEHALL TOTS

HOPEHALL EVANGELICAL CHURCH
ALICE STREET, PAISLEY, PA2 6DR

9.45-11.30AM
WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
DURING TERM TIME

£3.00
PER SESSION
(PER FAMILY)

LARGE SELECTION
OF TOYS
DIFFERENT CRAFTS
EVERY WEEK
SONGS AND
BIBLE STORIES
FUN AND LAUGHTER!

HEALTHY SNACKS
FOR THE TOTS
TEA, COFFEE, CAKES
AND A BLETHER FOR
THE ADULTS

NOTES

HOPEHALL EVANGELICAL CHURCH

FAMILY SERVICE SUNDAYS 11am-12pm

11 March - Mothers Day Family Service
1 April - Easter Family Service
13 May - Royal Family Service

FAMILY FUN NIGHT SATURDAYS 6.00-8.00pm

17 March, 21 April (Thai Evening) & 19 May



COMMUNITY CAFE 1ST SATURDAY MONTHLY 11.30am-2.30pm

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