

The families of Gerda Wright wish to express our gratitude to Rev. David McCarthy and the whole congregation of St Thomas' for your friendship and support of Gerda over the years. At her funeral and Service of Thanksgiving, we appreciated the welcome and hard work put in by you all, including the organist and the projectionist, and especially Jane Ross who mothered us through the catering arrangements and made the hall look so attractive. We are all full of praise and gratitude for the services and the welcome.

A total of £640 was very generously donated to the retirement collection in memory of Gerda. This will be divided between The Leprosy Mission Scotland and The Parkinson's Society, UK.

Thank you very much.

A new assistant St. T. C. U. P. (St T's Church Uber-hygiene Person) is needed as Philip Busby wants to retire from this role. If you feel you are called to help to maintain the hygienic standards of our kitchens then please speak to Rosemary Harvey or email rosemaryharvey@sky.com. This is not primarily a cleaning job as we employ a cleaner and we expect the various groups to clean and tidy the kitchens after themselves. Instead this role is more about restocking, checking, and passing on an understanding of food hygiene to kitchen users.

“Welcoming the World” is an event organised by Corstorphine Churches Together. It takes place on United Nations Day 24th October at St Kentigern's Church, Parkgrove Avenue from 7:00 -9:00 pm. The programme will centre around the welcome given to refugees and migrants in Scotland. Surrounded by worship the evening will have a small buffet, an interview with a Syrian refugee and a contribution from Sabine Chalmers of the Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees. There will also be a tasting of Syrian sweets! The cost is £3.00. Tickets available from David McCarthy



Pray for our World Concern Partners, Mike & Helen Parker.

Mike writes:

Warm greetings from Beirut, where we at our team's weekend away, and welcoming some significant visitors. We'll meditate on Isaiah 59-63 - four poems that focus on 'The Anointed One' who will come to rescue his people, build a new community, and finally judge the world with justice and truth.

Our partners in Evangelical schools continue asking us to help them find suitably-qualified teachers with vision and ability to present, explain and model God's word to students and staff alike. We're looking at new settings to place people. Our Lebanon team has been the largest for a long time; now, with the exception of Iraqi Kurdistan, it's the smallest. Would you join us in praying for that to change soon?

Mike is getting ready to teach four Wednesdays in October the 'Islam' component of Highland Theological College's 'Exploring Other Faiths' course.

Give thanks that our daughter Jo & her family are loving their new work on Islay, and Stephen & his family have finally moved in to their refurbished house in London. Helen is writing another novel and has been shortlisted in a writing competition.

We're delighted that Mike's successor is going through the affirmation process from our colleagues, and we look forward to introducing him to you soon. He's a generation younger, more widely connected, with clearer management and sharper strategy skills and better Arabic, so will bring a lot to being Area Director in the Middle East! He starts in January, and is asking us to continue visiting to support colleagues and maintain links with local partners, on a part-time basis, for a period of time to be agreed. That leaves us partly free to take on being Interim Minister at the Priory, South Queensferry this month.

Thanks be to God!"