

DEREK THOMSON

'K&F'

Kinloss & Findhorn Church News

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June 2010



### From the Manse.....

'Out of the frying pan into the fire', is a phrase we often hear. It means getting away from one situation, only to be confronted by another. I suppose in some ways that is where I have been during the past fortnight. The last week of June found me at the General Assembly in Edinburgh representing, along with others, our Presbytery and Church's interests. Commitment and endurance is the name of the game, as debates went on and somnolence enticed! It was a fairly bland affair this year, with perhaps predictable outcomes, though with more sombre storm clouds looming over the Kirk's finances and the very real need to reduce the number of buildings it is trying support! The 450<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Scottish Reformation was celebrated in words and in song, along with some gruesome historic tales of dealing with early churchmen (into the fire!). After that, returning home to the Manse was bitter sweet in the knowledge that the study, lounge and stairwell in the manse had to be re-plastered, with the ensuing chaos and moving of furniture. All this, as 'er-indoors' was won't to remind me, pales into insignificance whilst there is still homelessness, poverty and destruction in so many parts of the World. Of course, she is absolutely right! As we face up to these needs, perhaps we could do with a latter-day Nehemiah, who could suggest some of the answers and the direction that we ought to be taking as a Church. For certain we urgently need to re-think our mission as a territorial church and, with the Lord's help, to renew and rekindle our vision!

.. Yours aye, Duncan

Rev. Duncan Shaw - 4 Manse Rd, Kinloss - 01309 690931

## The Ten Commandments - A Refresher!

3. *You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.* The name of God represents the nature of God. There is much in the Bible which commands us to reverence his name, and in the Lord's Prayer we are taught to pray that his name may be hallowed. His holy name can be profaned by our loose language, and most of us could do worse than revise our vocabulary from time to time. But to take God's name in vain is not just a matter of words, but also of thoughts and deeds. Whenever our behaviour is inconsistent with our belief, or our practice contradicts our preaching, we take God's name in vain. To call God 'Lord' and disobey him is to take his name in vain. To call God 'Father' and be filled with anxiety and doubts is to deny his name. To take God's name in vain is to talk one way and act another. This is hypocrisy.

*(A Monthly series on the Commandments in K&F (By Rev John Scott. Publ..IVP)*

### Council suspends officer over 'God-talk' by Pat Ashworth

THE suspension of a homelessness prevention officer, Duke Amachree, for discussing his faith with a client is being challenged by the Christian Legal Council (CLC). Wandsworth Council took action after a complaint from the woman in question, who was due to be moved out of her home, and had been told by doctors that she had an incurable bowel condition. Michael Phillips, a CLC solicitor working on the case, said: "In general conversation, Mr Amachree asked the lady why she believed her condition was incurable, and, in encouragement, commented that sometimes doctors do not have all the answers. "So concerned was he that the lady was in despair and without hope, he suggested she put her trust in God. The lady, however, explained that she had tried religion and because she did not have any faith was satisfied with what the doctors told her and was able to move on. She thanked Mr Amachree and left." Mr Amachree was told in an interview with his employers on 17 March, at which Mr Phillips was present, that it was inappropriate ever to talk about God and that he should not even say "God bless." Other reports quote a senior source at Wandsworth Council as saying that the woman had been "subjected to a half-hour barrage and basically told it was her fault she was so ill because she had not prayed to God". Mr Phillips acknowledged on Tuesday that some of the facts were in dispute, but that it would have been impossible for Mr Amachree to have talked for half an hour and to have got everything else in during the original interview with his client. Investigators will present a report to the Council's Human Resources department to see whether there is a case to answer! (Is there no end to this nonsense ? -Ed)

# Notes from America - Ron Buford

After eight years with George W Bush as President, a desperate America leapt over centuries of deep cultural racism to elect a black man to the White House – an energetic and highly intelligent leader who is rapidly addressing America’s most pressing issues. Not since the Reagan era, and before that the Johnson era, and before that Franklin Delano Roosevelt, have so many Americans been so challenged by a presidential leadership on so many fronts. Change is a mixed bag, like a statistic about Americans who still believe in hell. They know other people who belong there – but almost no one thinks they themselves deserve to go. People who voted for the change Obama’s campaign promised are much the same. Their own ideals are just fine, it’s everyone else’s that need to change!

## Mini-Bible study with Lawrence Moore

*So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new - 2 Corinthians 5: 17*

I am constantly amazed by how the same people who are so disparaging about virtual reality (the online world of the internet) are quite content to operate with a virtual-only God. They are keen to argue that all resurrection talk in the Bible is purely and only symbolic – a way of expressing a sense of the ongoing presence of Jesus, for example. Any more literal sense of Jesus rising from the dead or of life beyond death is on a par with asking, “Do you believe in the Easter Bunny?” Those questions belong in the category of the miraculous – and we apparently did away with miracles once and for all in the 1960s. Virtual reality is not unreality or non-reality. People meet on the Internet and fall in love, have meetings, make decisions, plan policy. Virtual reality brings us “near” to other people via the internet – it is relating-at-a-distance; what is missing is touch!

## Baptismal Roll

30<sup>th</sup> May - Findhorn - Erin Rose Cook  
Daughter of Claire and Paul, 8 Shackleton Way, Kinloss  
*‘The Lord bless you and keep you’*

## Diary Date

Songs of Praise – The Piers, Findhorn 25<sup>th</sup> July at 6pm  
With the RAF Kinloss Voluntary Band

# Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 177

Luke 12:42-48

## Parable of the Returning Ruler

D A Y U N B E L I E V E R S H  
T E S U H E R E C N D W F L O  
E U S S T U C A R E E A I S U  
D X P E U T L N D E I V N S R  
E S P C R P A N A T T R I M E  
T E B E T V A K H W U S A G T  
S R L I C M I F I T O N A I H  
U V O P E T U N E N A L M M I  
R A W D Y L G R G G G E L O N  
T N S N O I S S E S S O P A G  
N T D R E P O R P G D R O L S  
E S U P P O S E I E R E M D D  
S M N E T A E B K Y H A W E N  
K N U R D A S S I G N D H E I  
F O O D A W A R E Y L Y P C F

ASKED  
ASSIGN  
AWARE  
BEATEN  
BLOWS  
CHARGE  
CUT  
DAY  
DRUNK  
EXPECT  
FAITHFUL  
FEW  
FINDS  
FOOD  
GIVEN  
GOOD  
HOUR  
LORD  
MANAGER  
MANY  
MASTER  
PIECES  
PLACE  
PROPER  
PUT  
READY  
RETURNS  
SERVANTS  
SUPPOSE  
TAKING  
THINGS  
TIME  
TRUTH  
WISE  
ALLOWANCE  
DEMANDED  
DESERVING  
ENTRUSTED  
POSSESSIONS  
UNBELIEVERS

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

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Psalm 54

MORE PUZZLES AT:

<http://biblewordgames.com>

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### and finally....

*In an advertisement by a Hong Kong dentist: Teeth extracted by the latest Methodists.*

Q: How do you open the windows in an orthodox church?

A: Click on the icons. (a bit technical that one! Ed.)

Thursday night - Potluck Supper. Prayer and medication to follow.

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