

Christmas Greetings!

Now that December has arrived it seems appropriate to send our best wishes for Christmas and the New Year! This year many people have put up their Christmas decorations in November as though they needed some Christmas cheer. Of course, we all need the 'Joy of the Lord' all year round. Nehemiah declares that it is our strength. (Nehemiah 8:10)

2020 will be remembered as the year of lockdown and restrictions, of keeping safe and thanking the NHS, of learning a new skill and taking essential exercise, of meeting on Zoom and watching online events, of missing hugs and wondering if we'll ever sing again. A few other things have happened too...



Back in March, we were able to enjoy a few days in Portugal just before Lockdown. Once lockdown was eased we have enjoyed seeing more of Scotland. We had a roasting hot week in Rothesay on the Isle of Bute. We bought an old caravan and have enjoyed spending some time in different places. We've been to Auchenlarie, Silverdykes, Innerleithen



and Rockcliffe. One advantage of church meetings online is that we have been able to be at our own church irrespective of our location.

Marion is enjoying her retirement although still looks after the grandchildren two days per week (lockdown permitting!)



She was unable to attend the Keswick Convention this year but we both enjoyed watching the online version. The little group of 'ladies who go to Keswick' have been meeting regularly online to enjoy each other's company and catch up with their news. Marion is still enjoying crochet although unable to go to the club. She made a rainbow in appreciation of the NHS, and a string of poppies to remember those fallen in war, as well as a unicorn balaclava for our four year old granddaughter.

Douglas continues working with The Open-Air Mission and is grateful to have been kept on full time in spite of Covid restrictions. During lockdown he learned a new skill in video editing and has made a few videos which can be seen on the OAM website, and some which have been shown at the Dimity Street Church All Age Service on Sunday mornings. Lockdown resulted in Douglas having only one week of Bible Exhibition and being on one OAM team event – and even that was a scaled down version. The extra time gave opportunity to review and revise the Bible Exhibition on the Life of Jesus, and to make a start on doing something similar to The Amazing Acts Exhibition which is still a work in progress. Healthwise, the mole which he had removed turned out to be a benign solar lentigo which should not cause any further problem.

Douglas' dad has been in hospital twice this year. He's delighted to be back at home with a bit of support and his sense of humour is still to the fore.



Rachel and Bobby, Andrew and Jill, continue with church as much as they can, and with work adjusted to comply with the Scottish guidelines.

We enjoy seeing the grandchildren as Marion provides childcare, and we are pleased to see our 'children' in passing as they drop off and pick up the wee ones.



May the Lord bless you over Christmas and into the New Year of 2021!

Douglas *Marion*

Douglas & Marion Young, 6 Westfield, Kilbirnie, KA25 7EF

Pray for Douglas Young



The diary had to be re-written again on 20th November when much of central Scotland went into Level 4. This meant the closure of non-essential shops and therefore the suspension of open-air work in the precincts. I have made some tentative plans for when this is next reviewed on 11th December, but I am aware that these might change again. Meanwhile we are preparing Christmas sermons, possibly making a further video to be published online, working on the review of The Amazing Acts Bible Exhibition, doing our best to pastorally encourage folks from a distance, and engaging online with our local church.

December 2019		
13	Barlinnie Bible Class	Written lesson
16	Ayr	Open-Air
17	Glasgow	Open-Air
18	Falkirk or Paisley	Open-Air
20	Dimity Street Church	All Age Service by video
21	Zoom	OAM Family Event to mark Jim Henry's retirement
22	Dimity Street Church WhatsApp	Devotional Thought
23	Kilmarnock	Open-Air
24	Glasgow	Open-Air
25 – 31	Home	Christmas Holidays
January 2020		

From 5th January I'll have open-air in Ayr on Tuesday, Kilmarnock on Wednesday, Glasgow on Thursday, and Paisley on Friday as far as weather and guidelines allow. There's likely to be a couple of interruptions to that when I take a few days out to make the physical changes to The Amazing Acts Exhibition and for the OAM workers conference. The details for both of these have still to be finalised.

Please also pray for wisdom and inspiration at other times as we engage in planning and preparation for future events. We intend to plan for the team events in the hope that they will be able to proceed. There may still be restrictions in place which could mean additional work to ensure that everyone is kept safe as we meet and work in a Covid secure manner.

If you are able to join me at any of the open-air, please
text 07515 435497
 for details or information
 about any late changes to
 the schedule.

