Dear Friends,

One of the things I loved about summertime in South Africa, apart from the fact that the weather was glorious nearly every day and we were spoilt, was taking my dad’s boat, Trinity, out sailing in Table Bay, in Cape Town. The view from Table Bay of the city and Table Mountain was always breathtaking.

Trinity began life as a lifeboat. She was rescued from a tanker that had blown up somewhere and she ended up in Cape Town. My dad bought her and converted her into a ketch. In fact he bought her for the youth at our church who braved a sail every now and then. Trinity wasn’t the most streamlined of boats and normally needed a gale force wind of biblical proportions to get her moving but we had great fun on her.

I can remember one day clearly. We were making our way back to the harbour when we were hit by an almighty squall. My sister, Linda, who was up on the deck near the bow got such a fright that she began to recite the Lord’s Prayer, out loud. I was hanging onto the tiller for dear life, the youth were wide-eyed and petrified, looking for anything solid to hang onto … and my dad?

Well, he was barking orders whilst remaining completely calm. And that was the thing, the reason why I was happy to go sailing on Trinity – because my dad was in complete control. What he didn’t know about seamanship and sailing wasn’t worth knowing. I, quite literally, trusted him with my life. All I had to do was listen to what he said and follow his commands. When I did, when I focused completely on what he had said, I didn’t notice the turmoil that was taking place around me, I wasn’t afraid of the wind or the waves.

I think, on a much bigger scale, obviously, that our lives are a lot like that with God. Life is scary at times, it often seems to hang by a thread, but when we trust in God and keep our hearts and minds focused on him, and listen to his voice, we can know the joy of God’s peace and calm. Think of the Israelites following Moses while they crossed the Red Sea or the disciples watching Jesus as he calmed the storm. We too can have that peace, that calm. It is found in God.

May your summer be warm and blessed.

Much love,

Peter

Fear not, for I am with you.
Isaiah 41:10 ESV

Newhaven Connections Café

The Café is open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10.00am-3pm (last orders 2.45pm)

Food for body, mind and soul
Cub Rescue!

No two nights at Boys’ Brigade are the same, but the evening of the 27th April was a bit more adventurous than normal!

A small fox cub had fallen down into the hole outside the kitchen of the church and we could hear it crying, but try as we might, we could not figure out how to rescue it and perhaps reunite it with its mother and siblings (we discovered that night that there is also a fox den above the hill behind the church).

We called the SSPCA and together we spent nearly one hour trying to figure out ways of getting the cub to safety, including using an animal control pole. It was having none of it and we had to admit defeat. The frightened cub had backed himself into a small crevice and looked set to stay there. We hoped the food we threw down for the cub would keep it going till the morning.

The SSPCA officer had organised for a cat trap to be delivered, so Saturday morning saw a renewed effort – Rev Bluett, Mr Weir, Ollie and I rendezvoused at 9am to wait for the SSPCA. Upon hearing that the SSPCA could be a while, we drew on our BB ingenuity and built a contraption from rope and a plastic box which enabled us to lift the cub out of the hole. It was cold and weak, but when the SSPCA returned, they were satisfied that the cub could be returned to health. The cub is currently at a wildlife rehabilitation centre.

Jack Liddall
20th Leith

Daffodil Tea

At Newhaven we’re lucky to enjoy fellowship every Sunday after morning service but there are a few people who can’t make it along to church regularly, especially among our more elderly members.

The Minister and Kirk Session decided to host a Daffodil Tea for those people and so on a sunny afternoon on the last Sunday in April, the main hall was the backdrop to a lovely event where people were able to catch up with some old friends and neighbours.

A couple of our young people from the youth group, along with various elders, served teas and coffees and home baking. Kate Aitchison entertained us with some wonderful accordion music.

There was a good turnout and the event was much enjoyed.

Lesley-Anne Weir
Session Report

The Kirk Session had a very full agenda for the May meeting. There are quite a lot of items which may be of interest to members of the congregation and others.

**Daffodil Tea.** This was a great success and plans are being made to repeat it, possibly some time in the autumn - inevitably without the daffodils then!

**Safeguarding Co-ordinator.** Jeanette Meek is taking over from Gillian Charles as our safeguarding co-ordinator. We are most grateful to Gillian for all the hard work she has put in and in updating all our records. Thanks also are due to Jeanette for taking on the important task.

**Church Cleaner.** Jeanette retired as our church cleaner and we have now appointed Sharon Dobbie in her place. Sharon has already started and she is very friendly so please make yourself known to her if you bump into her while she is going about her duties. Jeanette will be the link person with her as she knows the ins and outs better than anyone. Once again many thanks to Jeanette for all the years of service.

**Fabric Issues.** There has been a bit of a problem with the old boiler house roof and the fabric committee are looking into seeing what can be done about it. They are also looking at internal keys for the building and check that we have sufficient. If you have any issues on that front see Robert Weir the convener.

**Working Groups.** We are to review the present arrangements for working groups. It may be that some groups will be disbanded and new ones formed. If you have any special interests and would like to serve the church please let us know. More information will follow on the outcome of the review. Susan Edwards, Liz Thomson and John Hodge are on the review group.

**Possible church weekend away.** We are at a very early stage of investigating the possibility of a weekend away for anyone connected to our congregation. This would be next year and would be designed to suit all ages. There will be energetic activities for those with energy and more reflective activities for those who prefer that sort of thing. Fundamentally it is an opportunity to get to know each other better. All ideas and interest are welcome. Do speak to Peter or John Hodge about it.

**Membership.** We are aware that there are folk who attend regularly with us but are not members. If you would like to become a member please see Peter, our minister. By becoming a member you can become more involved in our fellowship. Others may feel that they might not want to commit to membership for various reasons but would still like to have a link with us. We would suggest that they become adherents. That way we have their contact details and can make sure that they are informed of church events. Again please speak to either Peter or John Hodge, the Session Clerk.

**Missionary Partner.** The church intends to become partnered with Rev John McCulloch, the minister of St Andrews Jerusalem. Further news will follow as to who the correspondent will be and hopefully we will be receiving news of his ministry and reports from the ground on life in Israel and Palestine.

**Presbytery Elder.** Heather Robertson has been reappointed. Hugh McDiarmid is also on Presbytery.

**World Day of Prayer.** We will be looking for a new representative to replace Louisa Mackenzie who has performed the role for many years. We are most grateful to Louisa for all the work she has put in. It was most disappointing that the weather prevented the service being held in our church this year. Louisa is happy to speak to anyone about what is involved and please see her if it is of interest to you.

**Café.** We are most grateful to Rachel, our assistant manager, for the vast extra load she has taken on in Yvonne’s absence. We are all hoping and praying that Yvonne will be able to get the treatment required to enable her to get back to full health. In the meantime to allow Rachel some holiday we will be closing the café for almost all of July and aim to open again on July 31st.

John Hodge
Session Clerk

The Haven

A warm welcome is extended to all at the Haven. We are a friendly, informal Wednesday morning drop-in centre for over 50’s - come for a chat over a cup of tea, join the art group or play dominoes. A short, informal service is held once a month for those who wish to attend.

Join us any Wednesday morning between 10 and 12!

Congratulations

Congratulations to Margaret Wilson who celebrated her 90th birthday on 18th March.
Youth and Children’s Worker

As most of you know, Cassie has been through a period of great uncertainty as to whether she would be able to continue with us. We are most relieved to be able to confirm that she has now obtained the visa and she will be serving a further 3 year term with us. It has been a particularly stressful period for her and we are relieved it has now successfully come to a conclusion.

Newhaven will now be funding all her work (which will still include some schools work in Leith and Trinity) and to help us with this project we have obtained major funding from the Church of Scotland Go for It fund. We are most grateful for that.

However we still need support from the congregation and if you are willing to help please contact me and we can discuss how best to do it. It could be a one-off gift or a pledge of support over the three years. We have been discussing with Cassie how we will work together in the new project and we are looking forward to a much closer working relationship. 

John Hodge

Leith Churches Holiday Club 2018 presents

Under the Sea

For children currently in P1-P7
Mon 2nd - Fri 6th July, 9:30am - 12:30pm
Leith Baptist Church, Madeira Street, EH6 4AJ
Join us for a week of fun, games, craft, challenges and more as we learn from the story of Jonah in the Bible.
£1.50 per child per day
Optional Family Lunch each day (free of charge)

Register by Monday 25th June by completing the form below and returning in person to Newhaven Connections cafe, 7 Craighall Road, EH6 4ND Tues, Wed, Thurs, 10am - 3pm or by post to Christine Hodge, 5 Wardie Avenue, Edinburgh EH5 2AB
For more info 07818 093931 @leithchurchshsc@yahoo.com

Committed to Serving Christ, each other, and the Community

Newhaven Church of Scotland
7 Craighall Road
Edinburgh EH6 4ND
Phone: 0131 476 5212 (Minister)
Email: enquiries@n-c.org.uk
Website: www.n-c.org.uk
Charity No. SC019117

Deaths
3rd May - Mary Rutherford

The Church Roll is more than just a list of members - it is a means of identifying those who have professed their faith in Christ and who are part of his Church at Newhaven.
It is also a vital means of communication.
For this reason, it is important that the Church Roll is kept as accurate as possible.
Please notify the Roll-Keeper (Elaine Greig), or your Elder, of any changes/updates relating to yourself or other members.

The next Harbour Lights will be the Autumn issue, covering September, October and November - copy deadline Sunday 11th August.
Please speak to the Editor, Elaine Greig, or email her at:
editor@n-c.org.uk
if you would like anything included in the next issue.

Come and join us!
Every Sunday at 10.30am
(All-Age Service on the 1st Sunday of each month;
Communion on last Sunday of each month)