



SUMMER
2021

ST MICHAEL'S TOWER

The Magazine of St Michael's Parish Church
Edinburgh

Dear friends,

“Summer Suns are glowing.....”

Do you remember singing that hymn? Do you remember singing...? Well, as I am writing, neither the sun is glowing, nor are we allowed to sing together yet. Winter seems to battle with springtime, cold blasts and showers making us wrap up for walks through lovely blossomed parks and gardens. In church only one person is allowed to sing behind a sheet of plexi glass, while the rest of us listen, read the words or at most hum along.

However how glad we are to be allowed to meet again in church and with increased numbers – as long as we keep 2m apart we can now admit more than 50 people.

And how lovely that we now have three people taking turns to sing for us: Fiona, Neil and Babs. Our thanks go to them, and Stuart, for uplifting our hearts with music. And last Sunday young Simon, aged 11, cheered us with his piano playing as well. What a talent.

What the blossoms are to the eyes, the song of birds in springtime, human voices and music are to the ears. New life is emerging slowly but surely. It is at times a battle and always has been. But God's creation is inviting us to rejoice in life again with each other.

*“O sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.” (Psalm 98:1)*

I can hardly wait to sing again with you in church or in choirs. I can hardly wait for us to gather again over cups of tea after church, at the Guild or Friendship Club, to share joys and sorrows.

Not everything will be the way it was. We may well need to sing new songs for new times in many ways. I hope that you will join in as much as you are able to fill St Michael's again with songs of praise whether in conversations, gatherings, worship or activities.

How about some gardening together in the summer? How about some storytelling to explore our faith in new times? How about some sharing of memories? All to build friendships and share the love of God among us.

Do come, and invite others to come with you.

God bless you all.

Andrea, the minister

Changes to the church Family

Members who have died:

Lilian Fawns

Fiona Gibb

Jean Hare

Summer 2021 at St Michael's Church

After months of lockdown, many people will be longing for a bit more company and some summer activities to look forward to. However, Covid restrictions are still in place as we are writing. Our halls are still closed.

But, we have a lovely garden around St Michael's, and we hope to offer some garden activities over the summer, for all ages and all people in the area, to come together and enjoy each other and God's creation – weather and Covid permitting.

We are planning to offer:

1. Walking Together:

1. How about a stroll around North Merchiston Cemetery to explore and discover some of the people buried over the road from the church, and also see the plants and animals, which have made it their home in the past hundred years.

When: Saturday 3rd July at 2pm from the church

2. A family walk along the canal to the water of Leith Visitor Centre. All ages are welcome and children will be able to do a treasure hunt on the way. Bring your own flask or buy a snack and coffee at the Visitor Centre

When: Saturday 31st July at 2pm from the church

3. On another day we may walk through the North Merchiston and Dalry Cemetery – visiting the ancestors, you could say – and further afield to the Dean Cemetery and maybe other destinations.

2. Gardening around St Michael's

It would be great to enjoy the church garden together again. While we are helping to maintain it, we also can enjoy each other's company, fresh air and God's creation. And maybe we can work together on a gardening project with advice from Stevie Stewart, our gardener, or Pam Martin, whose article you can read in this magazine. How about creating a labyrinth on the stony ground at the back of the church, or planting more perennials to give us more colour in the garden in future?

When: Tuesdays 2pm – 4pm. Starting on 8th June with a prayer and stop for coffee in the middle.

3. St Michael's Holiday Club

All ages can enjoy "Stories Jesus Told" in the church garden. With storytelling and prepared activities, we hope to offer a fun and safe get-together for everyone – if the weather allows.

When: Thursdays 2.30pm – 4pm

8th July: The lost sheep

15th July: The Prodigal Father and his sons

22nd July: Building a House

29th July: The Royal Wedding Feast

5th August: The good Samaritan

4. Morning Coffee in the garden

A chance to chat and to reconnect with each other - weather permitting of course - and just for fun

When: the following Wednesdays and Saturdays 10.30am - noon

30th June,

17th July

28th July

14th August

5. "All Aboard" Outings

Polwarth Parish church has, in partnership with the charity "People Know How", recently bought a canal boat, and we may be able to book some dates for trips. Outings will be limited to 12 people at a time on evenings or weekends. Sign up details to be announced.

6. Summer Concerts

Between 20th and 26th August 2021 we hope to advertise some evening concerts with Stuart Montgomery and others.

At the moment we do not have dates for all these activities. So listen to the notices in church, look at our Facebook page or website, or ask elders or the minister for more details. And do encourage others to join in. This is for all the community not just for us.

Thank You

On Easter Sunday afternoon I handed in 318 Easter Eggs to the Sick Kids Hospital here in Edinburgh. The eggs were donated from members of St Michael's Parish Church and various Masonic Lodges.

Thank you to everyone who supported me in this project.

Alex Anderson

Changes to the parking in front of St Michael's

On 20th May 2021, the red parking box from outside St Michael's Church on Slateford Road was removed. On inquiring from Councillor Gavin Corbett, we learnt that the solid single red line means that there is now no parking from 7am - 7pm Monday - Saturday, but there is free parking on Sundays.

This will of course result in severe impairment of activities to everything going on at St Michael's during the day. A letter, see below, was drafted last night, which will be handed out to people on Sunday to send to the Council's Transport Committee, asking for a review.

Could you help with this campaign by also sending letters and help give us back parking during the week to enable use of the halls for those needing to arrive by car for whatever reason?

We hope that physical letters will be taken note of and not be as easily ignored as an email or petition.

Could people please write their own name and address at the top of the letter and sign at the bottom.

Please get in touch if you need printed copies.

With many thanks for all your help.
Andrea

*Councillor Lesley Macinnes (Convener)
Transport and Environment Committee
The City of Edinburgh Council
City Chambers
High Street
Edinburgh
EH1 1YJ*

Dear Councillor Macinnes

As a regular visitor to St Michael's Parish Church, 1 Slateford Road, I am extremely disappointed that the Council has seen fit to remove the red boxed parking area in front of the Church as part of the Spaces for People Initiative. With the removal of this facility, the congregation will find it increasingly difficult to encourage the use of the halls by a wide variety of organisations and clubs.

Pre-pandemic, the halls were well used providing much needed social contact for many elderly and vulnerable groups in our community, as well as youth

organisations and musical groups. The lack of parking will make it increasingly difficult for all attendees, especially the elderly, disabled and toddlers, to be dropped off and collected safely. Without adequate access, the mental health and wellbeing of all will continue to be affected as we strive to return to some form of normality. The use of the Church for Weddings and Funerals will also be severely impacted by this decision.

I believe the lack of consultation in this decision, and the speed at which the initiative has been implemented during lockdown, has shown little regard for the wider needs of our society. Clubs and organisations, which were not in regular contact during the initial lockdown, were not given ample opportunity to respond to the proposals.

I look forward to a response on the rationale for the changes and hope that the committee will take note of my concerns and consider reviewing the decision.

Yours sincerely



Recently our session has decided that St Michael's church should register as an ECO Congregation. What is that you may well ask?

Eco-Congregation Scotland is a movement of Scottish church congregations, of all denominations and none, committed to addressing environmental issues through their life and mission. Founded in 2001, 450 congregations are now registered.

The aim of Eco congregation Scotland is to work for a Scotland that cares for God's creation, now and forever. In prayer, worship and conversation member churches work to discover what it means to care for God's creation.

This will lead to action in how we live our faith when faced with climate change. It may well change the way we want to live practically at home, at church and in the whole world.

This coming November, Glasgow will host the COP26 Climate Conference which will make important decisions for the future of the world's climate. Can we prepare and get involved in supporting positive change?

If you want to know more, if you want to link faith and care for the environment, or are just curious, then join Andrea for a monthly conversation on zoom for "Let's Talk about the Climate Emergency".

When: Thursday evenings at 7pm for one hour on:

- **20th May Plastic Fantastic?**
- **10th June Healthy Transport**
- **8th July Breathe - Fresh Air for All**
- **12th August Sharing the Things you Have**

Zoom Meeting ID: 899 6049 0876

Passcode : 977023



Arising from the first of the discussions, "Plastic Fantastic?" it was decided that St Michael's would begin to collect used, empty, plastic blister packs many tablets now come in. These will be sent to a specialist Recycle Centre where they will be converted into reusable raw materials, thus preventing blister packs spending a lifetime in landfill.

You can find the collection box at the back of the church, and, when back in use, in the hall.

"Noise on the Stair" By Ruth Andrews

"Granny, I've had a Scare, Ah dinnie ken where, but somebody's saying a prayer".

"Och no hen, it's just a wee noise on the stair".

"Granny, the echo is there, it sounds like a puir soul laid bare".

"Och no hen, it's just a wee noise on the stair!"

"Granny, white milk bottles glare on oor stair and whistling sounds heavenly and rare".

"Ah ken, my wee hen, it's just the music o' the stair!"

"Granny, I hear a bairn greetin' into a world that disnae care"!

"Och no, hen, it's just a wee weep on the stair".

"Granny, the coalman's cough sounds awfy sair, like he cannie dae yin step mair".

"Och no, darling fair, I'll stroke yer bonnie hair, It's just a wee noise on the stair.

"Granny, has an auld yin died and is going tae a place mair fair?"

"Och no hen, that's just another noise on the stair"

Kiltwalk 2021

Kiltwalk is a unique Charity that enables walkers annually raise money for any Scottish Charity of their choice. It was developed by Sir Tom Hunter in 2011 and has grown in size from 800 walkers that year to 11,000 this year. The event is underwritten by Sir Tom Hunter and the Hunter Foundation who support the event by increasing every pound raised by the walkers for Charity by adding 50%.

This year in spite of all the uncertainty caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, the 'virtual' Kiltwalk has raised £6.15 Million for 1,055 Scottish Charities (£4.1 Million raised by Kiltwalkers and an extra £2.05 Million from the Hunter Foundation).



I am very grateful to everyone at St Michael's for supporting my Kiltwalk 2021. My chosen Charity is Fresh Start and your support and kindness has meant St Michael's donated £500 to Fresh Start (increased by the Hunter Foundation to a total of £750). Fresh Start as many of you will know helps homeless people set up a new home by providing starter packs of food, crockery, pots and pans, bed linen, towels, white goods, cleaning items etc., and has been very busy during the pandemic. Due to the

Lockdown, Fresh Start was unable to take donations of items for an extended period of time and so had to spend £67,096 providing 16,868 starter packs which is an increase of 4,831 on the previous year (a 29% increase) so your donations are very welcome. (This total includes Emergency Food Packs).

Fortunately now, Fresh Start can resume taking our donations of items, left at the back of our Church, a task so ably co-ordinated by Babs and Alasdair Webster to whom St Michael's and Fresh Start owe a considerable debt of gratitude.

Sir Tom urged Kiltwalkers to "take his money" and added "At Scotland's time of need, when the Charities you really care about really need you, you have stepped up. From the bottom of my heart to all of you, thank you for your Kiltwalk Kindness" And, from the bottom of my heart I also wish to thank you all for your generosity and support. I hope I may see you all again during the Kiltwalk weekend

in 2022 when again I come to St Michael's wearing my kilt and collect again for Fresh Start. I am also very grateful to our Minister, Andrea, for allowing me to speak to you all briefly at the end of the Service and appeal to your kind hearts.

Thanks again, Allan

Fresh Start

Fresh Start Donations for Starter Packs

- Crockery – dinner plates, side plates, bowls
- Cutlery
- Glass tumblers
- Mugs
- Pots and Pans - soup pots, frying pans, milk pans, cooking utensils, can openers, potato peelers, wooden spoons
- Bed Linens – flat & fitted sheets, duvet covers, pillowcases, blankets (single, double, king size),
- Towels, tea towels, face cloths
- Curtains
- Small electrical items such as kettles, lamps, toasters, irons, hand blenders, alarm clocks, hair dryers, sandwich makers, microwaves, vacuum cleaners, radios, DV players, music systems
- Cleaning items – washing up liquid, toilet cleaner, toilet rolls, bin bags and liners, dustpan and brushes, all-purpose cleaners, laundry tablets, J-cloths

NO - Duvets, pillows or cushions

Food donations for Fresh Start Pantry

- Cereals such as Rice Krispies, Cheerios, Weetabix, Variety packs (children and families like these) Children friendly cereals such as Coco Pops, honey loops
- Pot/ instant noodles, rice, pasta, noodles, instant rice packets,
- Stock cubes, mayonnaise, ketchup, jam, sugar, herbs, spices, gravy granules
- Diluting juices, tea, coffee, juice cartons
- Tins of puddings such as rice pudding and custard, biscuits, crisps
- Tins of meats- hot dogs, corned beef, meatballs, curry, chilli, pork, ham
- Ready meals – spaghetti bolognaise, ravioli, macaroni cheese, soup, spaghetti hoops, spaghetti in tomato sauce
- Tins of fruit - peaches, grapefruit, apricots, mixed fruit
- Tins of vegetables - potatoes, carrots, sweetcorn, tomatoes, beans or mixed vegetables
- Tins of fish - as tuna, sardines, salmon, mackerel
- World Foods – coconut milk, black eye beans, kidney beans, jasmine rice, basmati rice, Old El Paso Tex Mex items, herbal teas, couscous, lentils, dried beans and pulses
- Toiletries – hand soap, shampoo, shower gel, toothbrushes (adult and child), baby wipes, toothpaste

I am the vine ... God is the gardener ... you are the branches (John 15:1-17)

This time of year, in late spring, it is about the last chance gardeners have to prune back trees and shrubs. So maybe it is time to walk round the church garden and just see what needs a short back and sides!

In horticultural terms you should be removing any branches that are dead or diseased or crossing over another branch in such a way that, when the wind is blowing, the two would rub against one another. This would damage the bark or outer skin of the branch and potentially let in bacteria which could cause damage to the whole plant. The canopy of a tree or shrub needs to be open so that light and air can reach all parts of it so photosynthesis can happen unhindered and so that rainwater can reach the roots of the plant close to the central growing point and not just beyond the extent of the canopy.

By pruning you make a healthier tree or shrub that is both more productive and also more pleasing on the eye. When I do this every year in my own garden, it reminds me of the passage in the Bible from John 15, in which Jesus describes himself as the vine, and God as the gardener.

"I am the true vine and my Father is the gardener. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit."(v 1-2)

Gardeners settle their plants in the soil, making sure to give them all the right growing conditions and they continue to care for them and make sure they have everything they need to flourish and be fruitful.

Jesus goes on to tell his disciples that they are like the branches of the vine. "Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine. You are the branches." (v4)

As any gardener knows, if a branch dies or is diseased it needs to be cut away completely so that it doesn't infect the rest of the tree – and healthy branches, or rather the leaves and fruit that they bear, need to be able to access sunlight without being crowded out, so unfruitful branches need to be removed too. Then fruitful branches also need to be pruned, and the wonderful thing is, if you prune correctly, by cutting back to just above a new outward-facing bud, the plant is strengthened by that process and produces new, stronger, healthy shoots.

I think we, as human beings, all have things that we spend our time on that are not particularly productive, and, like unproductive branches, these aspects of our

lives need to be cut away. But what we do that is productive may also need to be pruned or rationalised in order to strengthen us for the really important work God has given us to do and make us more efficient in his service.

There are some plants – like fruit trees, tomatoes and wysteria – that grow best as a cordon. That means that the natural growth of the plant is constrained in some way – branches or shoots are tied in and controlled at a particular angle to make them more productive. I see this as analogous to the training and discipline of following Jesus, which helps us to be more productive in our lives in the same way that we speak of training the branches of apples trees along horizontal wires.

Jesus said: "If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples (disciples and discipline are two words from the same root). As my Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love." (v 7-9)

"You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love on another." (v 16-17)

So at this time of spring pruning – let us look both at our gardens and at our lives and see what needs to be cut away and what needs to be pruned back so that both may flourish to the glory of God.



Pam Marlin

St Colm's @ St Michaels Guild

Although the Guild is not meeting as a group at the moment, members are still in contact through telephone calls, e-mails and texts etc.

Sadly our honorary member, Lilian Fawns, died on 14th April aged 100 and a bit. The winter edition of the Tower paid tribute and congratulations to Lilian on her 100th Birthday. She was a faithful Guild member for over 50 years and will be remembered for her regular presence at meetings and the wonderful table decorations she made and used for every occasion from Christmas, Easter, Harvest and all kinds of special teas and fund raising events we had. Woe betide anyone who didn't match up the Guild logo on the china cup with the logo on the china saucer! Standards had to be kept up, and in this casual throwaway society, that is not a bad thing. Her funeral took place on 5th May and it was good that up to 50 people could attend. Such a pity that we could not sing out loud especially 'Will your Anchor Hold', a fitting tribute to Lilian who, in her earlier years, served the Church as a Lifebuoy leader. A long life well lived.

The Guild sent congratulations to another of its members, Cath Ross, who reached 90 years of age on 13th May. Cath is a regular attendee at Guild, ably supported by her husband Ginge, who brings her along to meetings. Many Happy Returns to you, Cath.

The 6 new Guild projects for the years 2021- 2024 were announced in April. The project partners are:

- **BEAT.** This project addresses eating disorders and named Blether with Beat,
- **Home for Good**, finding homes for vulnerable children
- **Pioneers UK, Chocolate Heaven**, to help local farmers in South East Asia harvest seed pods from high in the cacao trees into delicious chocolate.
- **Starchild**, finding the light in every child, supporting children with additional needs in Uganda.
- **UNIDA, Hear our Voice** , training women for Ministry and service in Brazil
- **The Vine Trust, Kazunu:** Village of Hope, Tanzania, Bringing building and medical programmes in Tanzania into closer collaboration.

As is our usual practice St Colm's @ St Michaels Guild will choose 3 of the projects to support during the 3 year strategy, Look Forward in Faith.

It was gratifying to see that the £85,551 raised for the 2018-2021 project Malawi Fruits, which supplies solar pumps to fruit growers in Malawi has been matched pound for pound by the United Nations. This shows the esteem that the chosen projects are held in globally. Overall during the last 3 years, despite Covid having an effect worldwide, the total amount raised by the Guild nationally for all projects is in the region of £550,000!

It is hoped to resume Guild meetings in the autumn, if regulations allow. Meanwhile the Guild wish that the coming summer brings better health and enjoyment of the season to all.

Traidcraft: The Regenerators - Monira's Story

Monira lives in Bangladesh - home to 160 million people, and among the countries most vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

"All my life I grew up seeing six seasons in my country. But now the hot season is so long, it's burning all the time. Winter comes for a very short time and too late, so we cannot grow vegetables like before. There are many frequent cyclones. The monsoon season begins when it is time to harvest. Due to the sudden rains our crops get ruined! During the last cyclone, our trees fell to the ground and our houses collapsed. All the crops on the land have been destroyed in the cyclone. We are already very poor, and this climate change is making our days miserable."

But Morina and others like her are working with Traidcraft Exchange to fight back. They are the Regenerators – people on the frontline of the climate crisis who are taking action to protect their land and livelihoods. They know what they need to do – they just need support to get started. With your help, they can come together to fight back against climate change – by planting trees, reducing plastic use, and switching to alternative fuels and climate resilient crops. Alongside this, they can come together to find new ways to earn a decent living, and save collectively – meaning that when disaster strikes, communities are better prepared.

"We learn and understand something new from this project in every meeting. This project is changing our lives and making us aware about climate change. We are trying to plant trees. We are trying to build our houses stronger and on a higher place. We no longer want to be dependent on agricultural work only. We are trying to learn different skills of income. Together when we stand side by side, we are able to deal with many problems. We can help each other with wisdom; we can deal with any danger together."

Support Traidcraft Exchange and donate to the Regenerators appeal between 8th March and 7th June 2021 and the UK government will double your gift to help the most vulnerable stand strong in the face of climate change.
www.traidcraftexchange.org/regenerators

St Michael's continues to support a Traidcraft stall, which operates each Sunday morning. The sale of goods from this stall generates a small profit and over the years this has been accumulating. We plan to split the money equally between the Traidcraft Exchange Regenerators Appeal and St Michael's General Fund. This way our donation to The Regenerators Appeal will be doubled by the UK Government. Thank you to all who support the stall. Your purchases, whether big or small, really do make a difference.

Please contact Sheila Bremner (sheila.bremner@blueyonder.co.uk) if you would like to place an order for Traidcraft goods. These can be delivered locally.
www.traidcraftshop.co.uk

Tales from the Friendship Club

What makes you happy?

During the lock-down we have had cause to be unhappy about many things. However, I believe that the time has come to count our blessings and think about what makes us happy.

Some members of the Friendship Club have felt happy watching snooker. Other members have mentioned simple pleasures that have brought them great happiness. The laughter of children, especially the gurgling chuckles of babies has brought joy, also meeting up with friends for coffee and a chat has gladdened hearts. Handicrafts like knitting, sewing and crocheting made many people happy, along with baking and entertaining.

We all have memories of events that have brought happiness in the past. One lady recalled a day in the 1950's when she was given a ball-point pen! At that time Biro pens were the very latest in cutting edge technology. Some ladies remembered taking a slate to school to write on. Later, they progressed to using a scratchy pen, dipped into an ink-well. When pen nibs became worn they were difficult to control, causing blots to appear on jotters! Then too many blots would be an excuse for sadistic teachers to administer the belt. The busy belt made handwriting more difficult and memories of school days more unpleasant. The black Lochgelly tawse has left an indelible stain on the copy books of crabby old teachers! However, we survived, and most people have fond memories of their first bicycle, or their first pet. Our first pet was a beautiful blue budgie. He was a good speaker and a very good natured pet. We were all distraught when he passed on to Budgerigar Heaven; we missed his chattering and whistling tunes.

The composer Mozart, (another billiards fan), had several pet canaries during his life-time. His favourite bird was a pet starling that was said to be able to sing a theme from Mozart's 17th Piano Concerto in G Major. Mozart wrote that "His heart was riven apart" when his beloved pet passed away.

Music has the ability to change our moods. Joseph Haydn's Patron, Prince Esterhazy of Hungary, was considered to have suffered from a manic/depressive illness. Scholars have spent time researching what music Haydn may have written, either to change, or to chime with his Patron's extreme mood swings.

Today, musicians have more freedom to express their musical ideas, but some still have a tough time, especially when starting out on their careers! I like the story about a young Folk Group who travelled to Wales to do a Gig. One of the boys of the Group 'phoned home and told his mum, "It was awful, there was two sheep in the hall". His mum said, "Oh no! Two sheep, what did the audience think about that?" Her son replied, "They were the audience"! I don't know if the Folk Group could have played Bach's "Sheep may safely graze".

Many years ago, the more popular pieces by Bach and Handel were played on the wireless, on "Housewives' Choice". When I was a child, I remember hearing the Hornpipe from Handel's Water Music on the wireless and thinking it was the most, cheerful, uplifting piece of music in the whole world! "Rejoice Greatly" from Handel's Messiah is another piece guaranteed to lift the spirits.

We all have favourite pieces of music that gladden our hearts. However, before I listen again to some of my own particular favourites, I will give the last words to Plato:

"Music gives a soul to the Universe,
Wings to the Mind,
Flight to the imagination and
Life to Everything."

Ruth Andrews

Church House Chatter

Recently my eldest grandchildren have watched, in fascination, caterpillars turn into chrysalis before transforming into butterflies. Each day eager to see what changes to the insects might have taken place overnight.

It could be said that over the past 14 months, our lives have mirrored the cycle of development of the caterpillar. Up to end of March 2020 we were able to go about doing what we liked, when we liked, where we liked: the caterpillar stage. Suddenly, on 25th March 2020, we became chrysalis, forced to stay at home, isolate from family and friends and "hide" behind our front doors and face masks: our cocoon of protection against the Covid virus.

As this edition of the "Tower" is being prepared, some Covid restrictions are being relaxed, enabling more of us to meet together, eat out in restaurants and travel further afield: our butterfly stage.

The media talk about "Getting back to normal" but, like the caterpillar becoming a butterfly, we will have to get used to changes; things around us will be different and we ourselves are changed from the people we were over a year ago. For some, this experience of getting back to "normality" will be frightening and challenging. Thankfully we have access to people and groups who can help us deal with these transition fears. In addition, as we approach Pentecost, we are reminded that God has not left us; he has blessed us with the Holy Spirit that moves among us, and we read in *Malachi 3:6*

"For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed."

As we step out into a changed and ever changing world, let us hold on to the constancy of God, his grace and love enabling and strengthening us to face all that lies ahead.

TOWER MAGAZINE – three ways to receive it

1. By email: To save paper and ink, we propose to send future Tower magazines to everyone with an email address for free. If you would like to receive your copy this way please check we have your current email address

2. In church: If you would like to receive a hard copy of the Tower magazine you can pick it up from church. A donation for the cost of printing is very welcome and collected at the back of the church.

3. Hand delivered or posted: If you are unable to come to church, we ask you to let us know and “subscribe” to a hard copy, which we will deliver to you if possible. If we need to post your copy regularly we suggest a donation of around £5 per year to cover costs. Please do fill in the slip below for this option:

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Andrea, the minister, is always pleased to talk with you about any ideas or concerns you might have

Tel: 0131 443 4355 or email: aprice@churchofscotland.org.uk

St Michael's Treasurer, Moira Gray, can be contacted on 0131 337 9028 or e-mail: moira_gray@blueyonder.co.uk

Follow the service via Facebook or if you know someone who has no computer facilities but a telephone with a good local tariff you could encourage them to listen to our service on **Dial a Service Telephone Number: 0131 3221356**

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