

METHVEN MESSENGER



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www.goodnewspertshire.com

Welcome to the **METHVEN** **MESSANGER**

Welcome to the first edition of the **Methven Messenger**, a brand new magazine which seeks to bring good news to the people of the village. The magazine is produced by **Good News Perthshire** and will be distributed to homes throughout Methven.

Good News Perthshire was set up in early 2017 by some Christians from **Perth Gospel Hall** (which is home to an independent, evangelical church on Huntingtower Road, Perth). You can find out more about Perth Gospel Hall at www.perthgospelhall.com.

The simple aim of Good News Perthshire is to share the life-changing **Gospel of Jesus Christ** with the people of the district. In a nutshell, the good news is that out of love for us, God sent His only Son (Jesus Christ) to pay for all our wrongdoings on the cross. As a result of His death and resurrection, God now offers to forgive our sins, transform our lives, and grant us a home in Heaven, if we are willing to place personal faith in Jesus Christ and surrender control of our lives to Him.

In this magazine you'll find a range of short, interesting articles. We'll also include a simple, but delicious, **recipe** for you to try, and a special **FREE giveaway** for you to claim, in each issue.

We'd love to get your **feedback** on the **Methven Messenger**, so please get in touch with any thoughts you have on the content, or anything you'd like to see in future editions.



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GOOD NEWS FORTNIGHT IN METHVEN



Back at the end of May, the Good News Hall arrived in Rorrie Terrace for its first visit to Methven. A fortnight of special events kicked off with a well attended community barbecue.

Over the following two weeks, a crowd of enthusiastic children (and some equally enthusiastic parents) gathered night after night for the Faith Factor Kids' Club, where children sang songs, heard Bible stories and learnt verses from the Bible off by heart.

The final Friday took the form of a prize-giving when the children were rewarded for their attendance and efforts. The Good News Hall was packed to capacity, with around 50 people crammed inside!

A number of adults also attended Good News Meetings in the evenings, and 'Lunch and Learn' sessions which focussed on the story of John Colman from WW1 and the 1969 Longhope Lifeboat disaster.

On the closing Saturday of the fortnight, we were delighted to participate in the Methven Gala Day. Due to the weather, the event was moved into the community centre, but it proved to be a busy afternoon with many people coming along.

Over the fortnight of special events we met so many lovely people in Methven. We hope to return to the village in the future with more activities, but in the meantime, thank you for making us welcome, and please keep in touch.



THE BIG QUESTION...

IS THERE REALLY A GOD OUT THERE?

This is perhaps the most significant of all questions, so let's look at **3 pieces of evidence** which lead us to believe that God really does exist.

The Evidence of Creation

Human logic tells us that there can be no painting without a painter and no building without a builder. The same **logic** tell us there can be no creation without a Creator!

To believe that the breathtakingly beautiful world we live in is the result of an unexplained explosion in an empty universe, or a **'big bang'** as some call it, is surely beyond the realms of reason. **The Bible** presents a more logical explanation. *"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."* (Gen 1:1)



God is the **mastermind** behind the **masterpiece** of creation.

The Evidence of Conscience

In contrast to the **theory of evolution**, the Bible explains that human beings were created in the likeness of God Himself, **distinct** from the animal kingdom. *"God created man in His own image."* (Gen 1:27)

As such, we have all received a God-given moral compass called a **conscience**. God has written His moral standard upon every human heart.

Our conscience convicts us of our wrong-doing and produces a feeling of **guilt** inside, even when no-one else is aware of what we've done. It creates an awareness deep within our hearts that there is a Higher Power to whom we are **accountable**.



The Evidence of Christ

The Bible tells us that **Jesus Christ** came down from Heaven to reveal the character of God to the people of earth. Jesus demonstrated God's **holiness** in the perfect life He lived. He showed God's **power** in the miracles He performed. He expressed God's **wisdom** in the teaching He gave. Finally, He proved God's **love** by voluntarily dying on the cross for our sins to provide a way for us to get to Heaven.



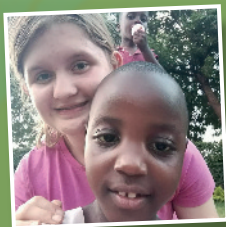
Jesus Christ backed up His claims to be the **Son of God** by rising from the dead and appearing to over 500 witnesses.

God continues to communicate with us today through **His Word**, the Bible. The amazing message of this unique book is found summarised in **John 3:16** *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."*

Find out more...

www.goodnewsperthshire.com

KATY'S TRIP TO TANZANIA...



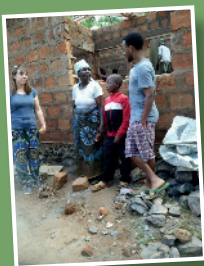
Sixteen year old Methven girl, **Katy Paterson**, was one of twenty youngsters who enjoyed the trip of a lifetime to the east African country of **Tanzania** in early June.

Katy has lived in **Methven** all her life and became a Christian back in **April 2015**. Opportunity arose for Katy to go to Tanzania through **Perth Grammar School** and **The Vine Trust**.

Intrigued to find out how Christians live in **Africa**, Katy signed herself up to join the team, and set about **raising funds** through a variety of means, including a sponsored walk and quiz night.

Following a **16 hour** journey to get to Tanzania, the group stayed at the **Berea Bible College** and engaged in a number of activities whilst there.

Katy said, "We visited 3 orphanages, including one where we helped with some painting. We also helped build houses for two families who had absolutely nothing. The people were so appreciative."



It wasn't all hard work though, as the group also enjoyed a memorable two day safari.



When asked about the main differences between life in Scotland and Tanzania, Katy replied, "The weather! The average temperature was **28C!** The food options are a lot more limited in Tanzania, and the roads throughout the country are terrible. There are no traffic lights and no speed limits which makes for some interesting driving experiences!"

It seems that the **Tanzanian children** found a special place in Katy's heart. She told us, "Although the children didn't speak much English we were able to communicate with them quite well. They loved to take my phone to take photographs of themselves and others!"

The fortnight in Tanzania has left its mark on Katy. She said, "I've come to realise that we should be more thankful for the simple things we take for granted - even traffic lights! The people in Tanzania are so thankful for everything they have, even though they have so little. It was a brilliant trip. I'd love to go back sometime."



DEADLY DISEASE IN THE DEN!

In 1645 the dreaded **Plague** reached the city of **Perth**, claiming around **3,000 lives**. Two young women, the daughters of rich land-owners, **Mary Gray** and **Bessie Bell**, attempted to escape from the rapidly spreading disease, by fleeing to woods near **Methven**. They camped there for some time until eventually an admirer of one of the ladies came to find her. Unfortunately he was carrying the highly contagious disease and passed it on to both of the ladies.



All three died, and as no churches would bury plague victims in their churchyards, a kind-hearted local buried the two girls privately, on the **Lynedoch Estate** on the **Burn Braes**. The graves can still be seen today, inside iron railings which were erected for their protection in the 18th century.



In the **Bible**, God diagnoses each member of the human race with a deadly disease called **sin**. It isn't contagious, but it is **hereditary**. It's a spiritual heart disease which has been passed down through the generations with catastrophic consequences. The **symptoms** are seen in our lives day by day, as in various ways and to different extents we break God's laws. Sin makes us **unclean** in God's eyes and **unfit** for Heaven.

While there was no cure for the Plague back in the 17th century, thankfully God has provided a **cure** for sin. God sent His Son, **Jesus Christ**, to be the **Saviour** of the world. Jesus Himself was unaffected by sin, and was therefore able to bear the **judgement** of God for the sins of others upon the **cross**. Having suffered and **died** for our sins on the cross, Jesus was **buried**, and **rose again** on the third day, before being seen by over **500** eye witnesses.

According to the Bible, it's only through personal **faith** in Jesus Christ that



we can receive **forgiveness** and **cleansing** from sin, and be made fit for **Heaven** when we die.

Just as **Mary Gray** and **Bessie Bell** were unable to avoid the plague, we too are unable to avoid the disease of **sin**. However, the **good news** is that a cure is available to us all today if we're willing to accept it.

Life is short.
Death is sure.
Sin the curse.
Christ the cure.



KITCHEN CORNER...

The ladies from Perth Gospel Hall share some of their favourite recipes...



Gillian's Fabulous White Chocolate & Cranberry Fudge

INGREDIENTS

410g tin evaporated milk
500g caster sugar
150g butter
2tsp vanilla extract
100g dried cranberries
300g white chocolate



INSTRUCTIONS:

1) Put evaporated milk, sugar and butter into a heavy-based saucepan. 2) Heat slowly, stirring all the time, until sugar has dissolved and butter melted. 3) Bring to boil and continue to boil, stirring for 20 minutes. The mixture should become thicker, and a glossy brown colour. 4) After about twenty minutes test mixture by dropping a little of it into a cold glass of water - you should be able to pick it up and roll it into a ball between your fingers. 5) Allow the mixture to boil for a further 5-10 minutes, stirring all the time, then allow it to cool for 5 minutes. 6) Beat mixture until it starts to thicken and change texture. 7) Add vanilla extract, cranberries and white chocolate to mixture, pour into an 18cm square tin and leave to set. 8) Cut into small pieces and enjoy!

KIDS' COMPETITION...

Colour in the picture, then take a photo of the finished work of art and send it, with the child's name and age, by email to info@goodnewspertshshire.com or by text to 07584099498 to enter. The best efforts will win a prize.



GOOD NEWS PERTSHIRE ROUND-UP



Postcard distribution in Kinfauns, Guildtown, Balbeggie, Ruthvenfield, Huntingtower, Stormontfield, Almondbank & Harrietfield.

Good News Trailer at Pitlochry Gala Day & North Perth Community Gala Day.



'How well do you know Perthshire?' Quiz launched on Good News Perthshire Facebook Page

FREE BIBLE OFFER...

Contact us using the details below to claim your **FREE** copy of the Bible today.



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