SCOTLAND FOR THE LORD FOR OCTOBER 2014



MAURICE AND POLLY CHARLTON - ALLEN AND NICKY PHILLIPS

The summer has ended with a flourish – the glens and hills are full of a variety of magnificent colors, as the trees give up their variety of autumn clothing. Together, with the now growing number of stark, gaunt trees outlined against the horizon, the chill winds are giving us notice of God's progressive cycle of His earth.



Our saga of 'the missing boxes' continues – even after more boxes arrived in a second delivery. The Charlton's now only have one box missing (all our mementos of our three and a half years in Lubbock), while the Phillips also still have a couple of boxes adrift.

The congregation is eagerly awaiting Allen's return from the USA on Friday – while the smiles being paraded by Nicky and little Charlotte seemingly getting broader by the day. Polly and Nicky have been busy with our ladies in the continuing clearance of old teaching materials from store rooms. They continue to prepare soups and rolls for the congregational meetings. Our ladies also put together an enjoyable fun night on October 31st when we had a "Beetle Drive."

The proceeds were donated to the 'Maggie' charity - where they are used in the local community to help families with terminally ill relatives. The ladies are already busy making crafts for the Christmas sale of work where the proceeds will be share between 'Maggie' and the church.

This weekend several of the congregation will be travelling to support three different congregations in the Glasgow area – to attend a combined gospel meeting. Ian Starrs will be speaking on 'Different Perspectives of the 'CROSS.' Lomond (Friday pm) is north of Glasgow while Clarkston (Saturday pm) and East Kilbride (Sunday pm) are to the south – a total of about 400 miles for the three round trips. We all have some wonderful fellowship to augment really good gospel lessons at such meetings.

A lot of hard work has been done in the last month by members of the congregation, and contractors, to refurbish the exterior of the building. New guttering, roof fascia boards and dry verges with the painting of window sills have left the building looking much more attractive. The spire has had its (stolen) flashing replaced and when fully repainted will complete the job.

This last Sunday morning service saw our attendance rise above forty people plus several more children also. The singing is much improved and more are staying for a cup of tea afterwards.

Our visitation is proceeding with our older shut-in members – as well as with some previous members. After an evening of counselling, on our way to Cambridge, we rejoice that Suzanne has been restored to the church – please pray for her. Mentioned earlier, this younger lady is not of the Glenrothes congregation.

Maurice saw an orthopedic surgeon at the Victoria Hospital at Kirkcaldy, on the 27th October, where it was decided that he will enter for surgery early in January 2015. It is the same deteriorating right knee that was first replaced in South Africa in 1997. It has just worn out and needs an overhaul!!!

It really is spiritually rewarding to be back in harness again. The encouragement and prayers that we have received from our Hermleigh TX congregation, our supporting congregations and the many friends just adds to our motivation to serve the Lord here in Scotland – 'thank you' one and all.

In the name of our redeeming Savior, Jesus. Maurice & Polly Charlton and Allen & Nicky Phillip