



CHRIST CHURCH NEWS SUMMER 2013

The Quarterly Newsletter of Christ Church, Warwick, Bermuda

Louis Reddick

Well, my stay is nearly over now, and I'm still pinching myself to see if I'm really here! Bermuda is a truly amazing place, and I've fallen in love with it.

For those of you I haven't managed to meet yet, my name is Louis Reddick and I'll be working at Christ Church, Warwick until mid-August this summer as part of my training for ministry within the Church of Scotland.

I was accepted as a trainee minister (or 'candidate for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament' in Church of Scotland official jargon) last June and have just completed the first year of a Divinity degree at Glasgow University. (One down, two more to go!) I had wrestled with the decision about whether to apply to enter the ministry for a long time. Prior to that, I had worked for an electronics company, Freescale Semiconductor (formerly part of Motorola), in East Kilbride for 14 years. I spent most of that time as a project manager, helping to organize the design, development and testing of new silicon chips. I was initially very reluctant to swap microchips for ministry, but by the summer of 2011 decided I couldn't resist God's call any longer. For the previous six months, it had felt like virtually every sermon I had heard contained something about responding to God's call in it. Eventually I got the message and sent off my application form...

I then had an 'enquiry placement' at Lenzie Union parish church for 7 months. I had a lovely time there and had a real sense that that God was 'helping me along the way' towards the ministry, with many things falling into place at just the right time. I had thought that going to the overnight assessment conference (to determine whether or not I would be accepted for training) would be a very stressful experience, but it was quite the opposite. Many people were praying for me to remain calm, and I felt the most amazing sense of peace all through the conference.

The last year has been an exciting one though also a demanding one, returning to studying after a seventeen year gap. My wife Janie is a primary school teacher and has gone back to work full time (in Cumbernauld) to support us whilst I am studying, so I am now officially 'a kept man'.

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August 2013



I am writing this piece for the Newsletter while on holiday in Scotland, visiting some of our favourite places.

The photograph was taken at The Falls of Bruar in beautiful Perthshire near to Blair Castle the home of the Atholl Highlanders who visited Bermuda last year.

Scotland's most famous poet, Robert Burns, visited the falls in 1787 and found the Falls "exceedingly picturesque and beautiful" but remarked that "their effect is much impaired by the want of trees and shrubs". He was inspired to write the "Humble Petition of Bruar Water" with the poet assuming the voice of the water to plead with the landowner, the Duke of Atholl, to plant trees along its banks.



*"Would then, my noble master please
to grant my highest wishes?
He'll shade my banks wi'tow'ring trees,
and bonie spreading bushes.
Delighted doubly then, my Lord,
You'll wander on my banks,
and listen mony a grateful bird
Return your tuneful thanks".*

When Burns died, the Duke of Atholl created a forest in his memory planting larch and Scots pine all along the route to the head of the falls. The covering of trees is so dense that sometimes it is difficult to tell if it is raining or sunny.

As we walked the falls this week I was reminded again of the words of Psalm 121 and the assurance of God's protection.

*"I lift my eyes to the hills,
from where will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord
who made heaven and earth.*

*He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.
He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.*

*The Lord is your keeper;
the Lord is our shade at your right hand.
The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.*

*The Lord will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.
The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in
from this time on and for evermore."*

Barry Dunsmore

CHRIST CHURCH CALENDAR

Aug. 18 th	10am Service. Louis' last Sunday with us.
Aug 25 th	10am Service including baptism
Sept. 1 st	8am Service and 11am Service
Sept. 8 th	8am Service and 11am Service
Sept. 15 th	8am Service and 11am Service
Sept. 22 nd	8am Service and 11am Service
Sept. 28 th	Summer BBQ at the Manse 6.30pm
Sept. 29 th	8am Service and 11am Service

Don't forget!!! Two services start again today!!

That's about all we have for the calendar– summer's quiet as so many are traveling and away. What we do need help with is the Summer BBQ at the Manse. In the absence of the chairperson, David Thompson, I am trying to find some new faces to help organize the Summer BBQ, which this year will be held on Saturday, September 28th at 6.30pm at the Manse grounds.

We have had the stalwarts organizing this for several years, and we have recently lost two of our members – one has passed away and the other has left the island.

We usually have one or two meetings after Church which don't last very long. The main part of the evening is of course the cooking. A lot of prep work is done in the main kitchen in the Halls and then transported to Manse Road. On the afternoon of the BBQ, the area needs to be set up with tables, chairs, (tents will already be up), decorations, signage etc. We also need people to help clear up afterwards. So far, we don't have a theme confirmed, so if you have any ideas please let David or me know.

If you, or someone in your family, are able to help out with this, we would really appreciate it! You can contact either David (david100163@gmail.com) or myself (christchurch@logic.bm) and let us know your area of expertise.

Many thanks and God bless!

Liz Parker



Louis Reddick, cont'd from front page

There is a great camaraderie amongst the Divinity students at the university – there are another 4 Church of Scotland 'candidates' in my year (including Hilda & Barry's niece, Fiona) as well as several postgraduate students also heading for the ministry.

It's been a busy year because, as well as our academic studies, we also each had a training placement in a nearby parish. This involved doing similar activities to what I'm doing here at Christ Church, although only on a part-time basis and with rather less sunshine! In my case, I was placed at St Mary's, Kirkintilloch. I enjoyed my time there and met some wonderful people. It was also very interesting to see a very different style of church to my own. St Mary's has a large congregation (typically 250-300 on a Sunday) and a traditional style of worship whereas my home congregation (Garthamlock and Craigend East) usually has 30-40 people on a Sunday and a more informal style of worship.

A number of people have commented that I don't sound very Scottish. Although I have been living in Glasgow for the last 17 years, my family is originally from Belfast. I was born there back in 1972, but we moved to a town called New Malden, just to the southwest of London, when I was six. I grew up there and my parents still live there. I went away to study in Cambridge for several years in the early Nineties, and came to faith at the end of my time there. I moved up to Scotland in 1996 for a temporary job. I originally intended on just staying for a couple of months, but God had other plans, and I ended up moving into Glasgow's West End and attending St Silas Episcopal Church. I really enjoyed my time there, made many friends and, best of all, met Janie! She is a born and bred Glaswegian - so if you want a Scottish accent, you'll need to talk to her! In fact, you can have two for the price of one, as Janie's sister, Barbara, will be coming out to visit for a couple of weeks as well this summer.

Janie and I were married in St Silas in 2001 and had our wedding reception in the Bute Hall at Glasgow University. Little did I realise that I'd be back in the same hall sitting exams there twelve years later! We started our married life in Bishopbriggs (north Glasgow) but moved to Garthamlock in the East End of the city in 2006. Janie had been involved with the Girls' Brigade company there and we had started worshipping at Garthamlock and Craigend East parish church a few years earlier. We are still living in Garthamlock, although I haven't been at the church as much recently due to my placements in Lenzie and Kirkintilloch.

Our daughter Katie arrived in 2005. She is now 8 years old and loves dancing and drama. She also has a good Scots accent, which she put to good use winning a Burns Competition in Glasgow at the end last year. I'm sure she will love the beaches here.

Since I arrived on Bermuda, I've been enjoying the sunny weather. However, the warmth of the climate is nothing compared with the warmth of the welcome that I've received from the people here. I've been overwhelmed by people's generosity, providing us with a wonderful place to stay on South Shore (a huge thank you to the Parkers!), offers of cars and invitations for dinner. My family and I have really enjoyed spending the summer on this beautiful island, getting to know all of you and sharing some fun times together. Thank you Christ Church for making this all possible and letting me progress with my training in such a wonderful place!

Janie and Katie returned to Scotland on Sunday, and August 18th marks Louis' last day with us. We wish him a safe trip back home, and success in his continuing studies at divinity school!



Six hundred and fifty ringers.

Over three thousand Bells, and as many chimes... and a Hockey Rink....

Thanks to the generosity of one of the members of the Christ Church Handbell Choir, our ringers were able to attend the Handbell Musicians of America 'Area One' Festival & Conference in Durham, New Hampshire. If it sounds like a mouthful, that's because it reflects just how much was packed into a short period of just three days. The days were packed with workshops and rehearsals, and that was just while we were there! For many weeks leading up to it, our CCW Handbell Choir rehearsed, and we couldn't have done it without the efforts of Fran Griffiths and Lynelle Ponton, who conducted us while Alan was ringing with us.



So let's tell you how much fun we had: Seven of us traveled up in a mini-bus, three in a car from Boston's Logan Airport on Thursday, the 27th of June. We hit the ground 'ringing', settling into our accommodations at the University of New Hampshire's dormitories, trying to get our bearings and find the dining hall... Then after getting out to our first massed ringing rehearsal, we practiced the seven pieces we had been preparing since early April. After the rehearsal, we were treated to a concert by the Raleigh Ringers, who are unchallenged as THE best bell ringing group in the World (they are a completely volunteer choir of avid and talented ringers. These members also conducted many of the workshops over the weekend). From sacred and classical pieces to Bon Jovi, The Raleigh Ringers delivered the unexpected in jaw-dropping style and precision! They certainly set the bar to where we can only dream to be someday. What a great way to begin our weekend!



The next morning dawned early. It was chock full of rehearsals and workshops, starting at 8 and getting us in our beds much too late - so it was indeed a marathon event. The workshops ranged from ringing techniques / score reading / music theory and rhythm patterns to managing performance anxiety and yoga for ringers. There was such value packed into every day, each of us came away with newfound zeal for the art of ringing. We are very anxious to put our enthusiasm and refined skills into our future ringing. Friday and Saturday nights after evening rehearsals, the organizers arranged 'mini-concerts', where attending groups were able to ring a favorite piece for the rest of us to enjoy.

Before travelling to the conference, we had been persuaded to ring for the conference attendees at one of the evening mini concerts; Leading up to this night, we had been dubbing this moment 'The Great Embarrassment'. Much to our dismay, among the audience was the Raleigh Ringers!!!! We are happy to report that God is good, and we rang 'Spirit of God, Descend upon our Hearts', which, by His grace, - we performed most respectably, with mistakes, but nothing that was

Six Hundred Ringers, cont'd from p. 5

actually embarrassing! We looked respectable, too, dressed in our Christ Church Bell Choir shirts, thanks again to our colleague and dear friend's generosity.

Saturday extended the grueling schedule (some of us refer to it as 'Bell Boot Camp'), with more excellent classes, workshops, and rehearsals. Sunday morning, some of our Chancel Choir/ringers participated in the morning worship service by singing in the choir! That afternoon was our big concert with all the other ringers. We had rehearsed these 7 pieces all weekend for this 'climax', and we performed for about 400 people, on the University's hockey rink. (Not while skating of course, but our feet were cool at least!) We were conducted throughout the weekend - both in performance and in rehearsals - by two of the most respected handbell composers to date. Their grace and good humor propelled us through some very tiring days.

What more can we say but "What a great experience!" and we are all looking forward to adding to the worship at Christ Church with all the new things we learned. Great and heartfelt thanks to our benefactor, without whom none of this would have been possible. We would be seriously amiss if we did not also express our sincere gratitude to the spouse's and families of each ringer.

Without their support and sacrifices of time that allowed us to not only attend this conference, but also dedicate the many hours of practice to make our ringing possible. After taking a break over the summer, (not only to permit time for the work that the Fabric committee is committed to, but also there are too many ringers off island to make a choir!) the Christ Church Bell Choir is looking forward to sharing the joy of what we've learned in the fall and winter. Anyone interested in joining the Bell Choir (or filling in at practices to 'get the feel') should contact Alan Cameron at anurseries@northrock.bm or 734 9597. No experience is necessary- just the commitment and desire to make some beautiful music. We are also seeking a Flute or other 'C' instrumentalist in joining us for the Christmas ringing season!



Psalm 100 – Make a joyful noise unto the Lord...

A bell's not a bell 'til you ring it, a song's not a song 'til you sing it, Love in your heart wasn't put there to stay, and Love isn't love 'til you give it away!

Oscar Hammerstein II

Don't forget– CCY starts up again on September 8th!





Bermuda Overseas Missions

The BOM group was welcomed and given a prayerful send-off on July 14th. On the 31st of July, we received the following update from our own David Thompson, shortly after their safe arrival in Kerala, India::

"We had a day in New York, 14 hour flight to Dubai, 4 hour flight to Cochin followed by a 4 hour trip in a bus packed full with luggage on very windy mountainous roads and we are just recovering and settling into the Hotel – Birds Valley Resort in Munnar - a very beautiful spot where you really feel close to nature. As we walked through the gates the staff threw hibiscus petals at us and the manager greeted each one of us with a Lei. The hotel is built on the side of a very steep hill and the rooms are all separate villas so we will be getting lots of exercise just walking around the hotel. Some of the new team members are very impressed with these luxurious accommodations and I have to remind them that normally we stay in much less luxurious surroundings. Just had some lunch (in an effort to please us the spices are being kept mild for the time being) however there is promise to get it back to normal hot levels by the middle of next week."



We look forward to hearing more about their time in India now that they have returned.

Matthew 5:16 *In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.*

Fabric Committee Update

The Main Church Roof has been painted by an outside roof contractor the cost of which was underwritten by a generous donor. This should give us three years before we have to do it again.

The South Hall exterior walls have been completed as well as the Storage/LOL Building. The West Hall/ Kitchen exterior walls and West Porch walls have been 95% completed, the Thorburn Hall structure is about 30% complete. All exterior work requires two coats, so it takes a lot of time to do things, because it's all done TWICE! The lack of volunteers has affected the overall initiative and has somewhat dulled the enthusiasm, however, the very small core has accomplished a lot despite the difficult heat conditions. As of the end of July, over 260 hours had been used to get the buildings to this point, and doesn't include any



time spent in organizing the project and trucking paint and other supplies to make everything happen. We also haven't included any time spent in looking after the communications equipment and new set-ups, the development of a technical equipment booth area in the balcony for running sound and lighting for the stage, nor does it include time spent sorting out problems with the fire alarm and security systems.

In late August or Early September, we will begin removing the asphalt outside the Hall Porch area and this courtyard will be bricked. A wheelchair access will be installed on the SW corner

Fabric Committee Update, cont'd from p. 7

of the South Kitchen area and this will be done this week, weather permitting. Then a concrete perimeter edge will be installed from the playground entry to the wheelchair access walkway to provide the boundary of the bricking. To date we have pledges or cash to pay for 5.1/2 pallets of bricks... We still need another 3 pallets of bricks or \$1800.00 [one pallet is about \$600.00].

Interior painting of the Main Hall and touch ups will be ongoing and some cedar carpentry for the Balcony will be installed before the end of September.

Now that the drought has broken we will need large amounts of Mondo or Lily Grass, so anyone that has some to spare please bring a bucketful in water and leave it outside Liz's office. Alan Cameron and Hilda will be organizing the planting.

Now, as always, with this sort of work, we really could use some help, please turn up if you can or, if finances permit, more bricks or donations of grass would be most welcome. It really is gratifying to see the

Congratulations to Our Graduates!

Heartfelt congratulations to our recent High School Graduates: Connie Campbell from BHS, Ed Dawson from Warwick Academy, Katie Ewles from BHS, and Simon Thompson from Saltus. All the best as they continue their studies:

Connie will be working toward a Masters in Chemical and Materials Engineering at the University of Leeds in the UK. Connie has also been awarded Best Performance with an Instrument at the Bermuda's Youth Got Talent contest, and at graduation she received the Belco Math Award, 2013 and the PwC Bermuda Headstart Award for Excellence, 2013.

Ed will be attending the University of British Columbia.

Katie will be studying Music Composition at Johns Hopkins University (Peabody Conservatory of Music) in the US.

Simon will begin his studies at Wooster University in Ohio, where he will explore his interest in History and Sociology.

Congratulations again to Connie and Katie, who both won Outstanding Teen Awards, Connie in Service and Katie in Performing Arts.

Huge congratulations to Christopher Frith, on his recent completion of a Bachelor's Degree in Film Editing from the University of North Carolina, School of the Arts. Christopher has now moved to the 'Film Capital of the World' – Los Angeles to begin his pursuits in the Film Industry. WELL DONE CHRISTOPHER...we wish you SUCCESS!

GOOD LUCK TO ALL, SAFE TRAVELS AND GOD BLESS!!!

