

INVERNESS AND NORTH MISSION SUPPORT

MAY 2013
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GREETINGS

‘ I place no value on anything I have or may possess except in relation to the kingdom of Christ. If anything will advance the interests of that kingdom it shall be given away or kept only in reference to whether giving or keeping will most promote the glory of Him to whom I owe all my hopes in time and eternity. ’

So wrote Dr David Livingstone, medical missionary, explorer and

map-maker, who opened up large areas of south and central Africa to the preaching of the Gospel.

This year we celebrate 200 years since he was born in Blantyre, Lanarkshire in March 1813. He died in Africa in 1873.

Many followed in his footsteps and today churches in South Africa, Malawi, Zimbabwe and other African countries acknowledge their debt to Livingstone and later Scottish missionaries for bringing God’s Word to their people, for campaigning against the slave trade and for developing health and education facilities.

As we support Dumisani Theological Institute we are continuing the spread of the Gospel in Africa and promoting the glory of Him to whom we owe all our hopes in time and eternity.

FUND-RAISING

To date we have had three fund-raising events and you our supporters have given in a wonderfully generous spirit towards the work of Dumisani Theological Institute.

November 2012, Free North Church Coffee Morning - £1700 was sent to Dumisani.

February 2013, North Kessock Free Church - Lunch - £ 1600 was sent. £300 was given later and will be sent with the collection from the Coffee Morning in May.

March 2013 Hilton Free Church - Coffee Morning - £461.70 was donated.

We have one more event in May with a Coffee Morning in Dingwall Free Church.

COMMITTEE

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Vice-Chair/ Newsletter

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Robert MacKenzie

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AFRICA

We had Dr John Ross, minister at Glenurquhart and Fort Augustus Free Church, as our speaker after Lunch on 16 February in North Kessock.

He and Elizabeth are fairly recently returned from South Africa where he lectured in Church History in Dumisani Theological Institute and where they both were actively involved in the Free Church of Southern Africa.

Consequently, we were given a comprehensive overview of the history of the Church in the continent of Africa from the time of the early Church Fathers to the present day..

Although Islam became the dominant religion in North Africa in the 7th century, it did not quench Christianity entirely, as the survival of the Coptic Church in Egypt illustrates. Christianity in Ethiopia also goes back to the early days of the Church. Traders and explorers, e.g. Portuguese, created coastal settlements where the RC Church might be found.

The 19th century saw the rise of missionary work in Africa with men being sent out by Missionary Societies – David Livingstone for example.

Lovedale College, a centre for training men and women of all races in different trades and professions was set up by the Free Church of Scotland in South Africa in the 19th century and continued its work till apartheid closed it.

African people can talk about their faith in God more easily than we can and they are warm and enthusiastic about it – but their knowledge is very limited and they need good teaching and preaching. This is where Dumisani can help significantly.

Dr Ross ended by exhorting us all to give generously to the continuing work of Dumisani – and everyone must have paid heed, as the wonderful sum of donations showed.

PLEASE INTIMATE THIS EVENT IN YOUR CONGREGATION
ON SUNDAY 5TH MAY

COFFEE MORNING

DINGWALL FREE CHURCH HALL

Saturday 11th MAY 2013

10.30am

We are always pleased to receive donations of baking and bric-a-brac at the Coffee Morning.

Distribution

We are trying to save on postage by distributing this Newsletter on e-mail so if you have an e-mail address please send it to me at the address below.

mm.gillies@saqnet.co.uk

I have tried to identify one person in each congregation who would take responsibility for making copies of the Newsletter and ensuring that everyone who is interested in mission support will get one in October and April/May.

Last October this way of distributing the Newsletter seemed to work reasonably well. I hope everyone who supports the work received a copy.

I will use the same kind of mailing again this time.

If you do not have an e-mail address I am happy to send a copy by post.

*So let it be, Lord, when we know
The pressures of life's crowded street,
The ceaseless murmur of its flow,
The mud that lies about our feet
O lift our souls from star to star
We would ascend until we be
In heavenly places still, afar-
The while we walk life's street with Thee.*

Amy Carmichael