



ST DAVID'S HIGH KIRK DUNDEE

THE KIRK NEWS

ISSUE 99

MAY 2017

FROM THE INTERIM MODERATOR...

For the period of the vacancy, Presbytery has appointed me, Donna Hays, as the Interim Moderator of St David's High Kirk. I have been minister at Fowlis and Liff linked with Lundie and Muirhead for the last thirteen years. It is a rural charge with four buildings, three services on a Sunday and two Kirk Sessions – quite a contrast in many ways to St David's High Kirk. BUT, and it is a big 'but', despite these differences, we are all God's children, seeking to worship God and spread the Gospel message in our communities through all that we are and do. On a week to week basis you probably won't see much of me as a locum has been appointed, the Rev. Alastair Morrice. Alastair will be leading worship each Sunday and doing pastoral visits and funerals. He was highly recommended to me by friends in my home parish in Arbroath where he served them so well as Locum throughout their vacancy.

My duties as Interim Moderator include moderating Kirk Session meetings and having an advisory role on the Nominating Committee. I had the pleasure of leading worship on the first Sunday of the vacancy when I had the chance to meet quite a number of the congregation. As I said on that Sunday, you will no doubt be experiencing so many conflicting emotions as you embark on this vacancy – anxiety, excitement, trepidation as you step out into a new chapter in the life of your congregation. I will do my best to walk with you and be there for you in the coming months.

A vacancy is usually a fairly long drawn out process and this time we will not be granted permission to call an minister until the Presbytery have concluded some re-adjustment matters within Presbytery as a whole. Hopefully this will not take too long and we will then be able to form a Nominating Committee (formerly known as a Vacancy Committee). We will do our best to keep you as fully informed as possible of the current situation.

Meanwhile I would ask you to work together, supporting and encouraging one another, especially your Office Bearers who will inevitably be undertaking extra duties during the vacancy. Please look out for any ways in which you can be of service in helping your church to continue to show God's presence and to proclaim God's message both within the church and in your local community. It is only with God's help that we can do anything well so place your trust in God who blesses us with strength in adversity, comfort in times of trouble, vision in times of change and love at all times.

May you all know God's grace and peace in abundance.

DONNA

WELCOME TO OUR LOCUM

On Sunday May 28, the day this issue of 'The Kirk News' is published, we will welcome Rev Alastair Morrice to conduct our worship for the first time as our Locum. Alastair has written an article of introduction which appears elsewhere in this issue. From then on Alastair will conduct our Sunday services on a weekly basis and will also be carrying out one day pastoral work each week.

Sunday June 4 will be our Sunday School Prizegiving - the young people will present much of the service which will be conducted by Alastair. That morning we will also have with us Rev Kate McDonald, Dundee Presbytery's Mission Partner in Israel, who will tell us something of her work there.

COLIN WILSON, Session Clerk

FROM REV ALASTAIR MORRICE, OUR LOCUM MINISTER

I am so looking forward to joining with you at St David's High Kirk as your locum. In addition to the Sunday worship, I'll be happy to see any who would wish to meet with me at other times and I will depend on you all to point me to those who would especially need a visit.

Now just to fill you in a little on who I am and where I've been. Born in Forfar and with much of my life in the valley of Strathmore, Dundee was to me a great city where we ventured on shopping expeditions. Educated in Eassie School, Forfar Academy and Blairgowrie High School and then Edinburgh University. I experienced a very strong call from God to the ministry when I was fifteen and after university went on to be an assistant in Motherwell before having three parishes in Scotland - St John's Galashiels, Wester Hailes Edinburgh, and Rutherglen Stonelaw. We then went to found and pastor the International Church in Bishkek, the capital of Kyrgyzstan. I retired in 2008 and since have been locum in Edzell, Downfield, Arbroath and Montrose. My wife Mary and I live in Kirriemuir. We have four children and ten grandchildren. You'll get to know Mary as she joins me on as many Sundays as possible when she is free of responsibility in our local congregation in Kirrie.

Since becoming a Christian in my early life, I have found the Christian life a great adventure and I look forward to continuing that adventure in your fellowship. When a congregation loses its minister, for whatever reason, there can be a sense of loss but it is my task, by the grace of God, to encourage you as you continue in your service for Him and with Him who is Lord and Saviour.

Every blessing,

ALASTAIR MORRICE

THE VACANCY

Our vacancy from a Presbytery perspective is that nothing has changed and won't until at least the next meeting of Presbytery on June 28. At their May meeting, Presbytery agreed to a request from the plan review group (of which I am a member) that the group's remit be extended to cover the whole Presbytery rather than just the area which was suspended. The group will be reporting to the June meeting.

From our own perspective we can move forward in a limited way by starting the process for the compilation of the Electoral Register so that when the time comes to move on we are ready. This process will start with the reading of a Notice on Sundays May 28 and June 4. The Electoral Register is a list of all of the people who will be entitled to vote when the congregation is called to do so, eg to choose a Nominating Committee, to elect a minister, or to agree any basis of union or readjustment. The Electoral Register is not the same as the Communion Roll because it may also include regular worshippers (adherents) who are not members of the congregation. The purpose of the Notice is to give those who are not a member of our congregation but who are regular worshippers with us to have their names included on the Electoral Register. They have two weeks to make contact with me and obtain the necessary form. This same Notice gives anyone who is in possession of their Certificates of Transference and considering joining our congregation the opportunity to submit them. The Kirk Session will meet on Monday June 12 to consider these applications.

After that meeting of the Kirk Session there is a second Notice to be read, on only one Sunday, giving intimation that the Kirk Session will finalise the Electoral Register and giving everyone the opportunity to check their name is on that document. An essential part of that document is that every name and address is accurate – we cannot include names which are on the Communion Roll which do not have an accurate address as well. Having carried out the recent signing of Data Protection forms exercise, I am confident this is the case, but there are 5 names for which we do not have addresses so they cannot be included on the Electoral Register.

In previous vacancies the opportunity to check your name is on the register has been to intimate dates and times when the register would be available for inspection. With the implementation of the Data Protection Act this is no longer a suitable way of doing it. Instead the intimation will be to contact me.

This second Notice will be read on Sunday June 18. The opportunity to contact me to check that your name is on the Electoral Register will last until 10.20 am on Sunday June 25 at which time the Kirk Session will meet before that morning's service to finalise the register. It will then be submitted to the Presbytery Clerk in time for the meeting on Wednesday 28th June.

If this sound complicated, or if you want any other information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

COLIN WILSON, SESSION CLERK

SERVICE ON APRIL 30

Copies of the congregational photograph taken at the end of Marion's final service on April 30 and the sound track of the service on CD are available from Colin Wilson. The photographs are £1 each. There is no charge for the CD. A sample of the photograph is on display on the Lower Hall notice board.

COLDSIDE CHURCH is having a **Summer Fayre** on **Saturday June 17, 2 pm to 4 pm.** Adults £3, children £1.50. Cake and candy, books, gifts, plants, raffle, tombola.

FROM MARION

Dear Friends,

It seemed very odd this morning, setting off for church but walking in the opposite direction from St David's High Kirk and not carrying robes, books and something for the young people. This was my first Sunday at home since my retirement and I can tell you, it takes some adjustment! However, I wanted to write to you to thank you all for the wonderful sendoff you gave me.

It was good to see so many of you on April 30 and to have the opportunity to enjoy lunch together. So many people have said how much they enjoyed lunch so a big thank you to the Celebrations Committee for all their hard work. Thanks also to Colin who, as usual, had us all very well organised. Many of our visitors remarked on how smoothly everything went. I guess the Communion Service was hard for quite a few people besides Colin and myself but, as usual, St David's High Kirk did itself proud and the atmosphere of worship was maintained as it always is. I can't tell you how much I will miss being with you at worship on a Sunday morning although I am quite sure that it won't be long before I am leading worship somewhere else!

Most importantly, however, thank you for the very generous cheque you gave me. I have not yet quite decided how to spend it but while I was away, and following Colin's advice about relaxing, I went to look at Stressless chairs! They are incredibly comfortable and I have often thought I would like one although up to now I haven't really sat still long enough to justify it! Thank you also for the many cards and individual gifts that you sent – all very much appreciated. I have tried to thank everyone individually but am sure in the rush of my last few days I must have missed some people. Please forgive me and accept my thanks through the Kirk News.

Thank you also for allowing me to stay on in the Manse. Packing is underway but the actual move will certainly not be until the end of June at the earliest. When I visited my house recently some of the outstanding jobs were completed but there were still some to be done. I hope to meet the architect before I go to the General Assembly and to get a final completion date. But even then I have to wait for a Completion Certificate from the Council, which I am told can take up to a month. It is all so frustrating as the whole job was planned so that it would be finished by January past.

Now it's time to send this letter off to Wilma, so my final thanks is to you all for being the wonderful, friendly, supportive and loyal congregation that you have been for me. Please keep it up for the people who seek under God to look after you in the future. When my contact details are finalised, I will let you know what they are, for of course, you will be most welcome to visit in St Andrews.

With every blessing.

MARION

PROPERTY UPDATE

Regrettably there is still a problem with the LED drivers (the bit that converts the incoming electricity supply to work the LED lights) in the stained glass windows in the Lower Hall. The third version of the drivers is awaited from the suppliers.

The lightning protection system fitted to our buildings failed its annual check in February due a minor connection issue. The Kirk Session has approved the necessary repair work which will be done in early June, along with the re-fixing of one of the tapes which has come loose on the roof.

The damp patch in the ceiling in the south east corner of the underside of the gallery has been investigated and we are satisfied the staining is historic. The inside of the void is bone dry. We suspect the ingress of the water which caused the staining was cured when the outside stonework was re-pointed in recent years. The light fitting was found not to be hanging by very much and has been re-secured.

For around 20 years we have had a television, video player and DVD player available for use in the hall. It was recently found that the TV was no longer serviceable. The Kirk Session has approved the replacement of this equipment with a digital projector and a new screen. These are presently on order and once they have arrived and the most appropriate storage location identified training will be arranged in their use. Any leaders of organisations who may wish to use this equipment should contact me so that this can be arranged. **COLIN WILSON, Joint Property Convener**

CONGRATULATIONS, COLIN [or is it commiserations!]

At Presbytery on Wednesday May 10, Colin was appointed Depute Presbytery Clerk, the post vacated when Rev Dr Janet Foggie moved to Stirling in December 2016. I am sure Colin is more than able to cope with this position and will do a great job for Presbytery – and it will help to fill in his week!! Seriously, Colin, congratulations on your new post. *Ed.*

PRAYER TIME

Our final Prayer Time for this session will take place on Sunday June 4 at 10.30 am in the vestry. All will be made very welcome. If you would like us to remember someone or something in our prayers, please complete a prayer request form which can be found at both doors of the church. We look forward to seeing you.

FIONA ANDERSON

THANK YOU ALL [The Ravings of an Octogenerian]

In a few weeks' time I will be going off to live in Edinburgh (if they'll have me!). It is with a heavy heart as I will be leaving the city where I was born. Most of all I will be leaving the church which I love most dearly. I was baptised in 1932 by Rev Mclean Wylie in The High Church, known to many Dundonians as "The Heh Free". I went to Sunday School there [it was a fair hike for wee legs from Brantwood Avenue.] Then along came WW2, Dad in the Home Guard and Mum with a seven day job. So I transferred to St David's North Sunday School. (I had gone to the Life Boys there for SIX weeks - I really wanted a sailor's hat). 1942 brought us Rev Roy Hogg whom we all loved, especially us youngsters. Roy was with us for 35 years. After Roy we were lucky enough to have Rev Harry Gibson who carried on a much loved ministry for twenty years. I, like so many of my friends, were saddened at Harry's illness and death. The rest of this "sermon" is known to all of us.

Now, when "we" look into the future after Marion's well-earned retiral, we must just remember that God knows what He is doing and will take you all along the right path.

Finally, (what I really set out to do) I find difficulty in expressing my thanks to so many of you who so lovingly helped both Elma and myself through the past year. This, I know, was through kindly practical support and, importantly, prayer for both of us. Elma is now in the care of an exceptionally kindly and conscientious group of nurses. She is settling in as fairly well as can be expected. She sees one or two of the family most days, the family consisting of 4 children. 4 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren and 4 dogs! They don't all go at once! Seriously, words cannot express my gratitude to all of you. I can only say **THANK YOU ALL, AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL AND ST DAVID'S HIGH KIRK. DOUG GRAY**

[We all wish you well in your new life in Edinburgh, Doug. We will miss you at your usual place in the choir, and your lovely smile! Ed.]

THE GUILD

Thank you to everyone who supported our coffee morning in April when we raised £611. Although the Guild organises this event twice a year, all money raised goes to Kirk funds. Our outing is on August 12 to Pitlochry Theatre to see *High Society* and we restart on September 26 when the speaker is from Canine Partners. New members will be made very welcome – do come along and give us a try!

WILMA DUNCAN, Co-ordinator

SECURITY AND USE OF OUR CHURCH PREMISES

There has been an increase in recent weeks and months of the doors to both the hall and church not being secured properly and/or the alarm not being properly set when people leave. **THE SECURITY OF OUR PREMISES IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE. ALL KEYHOLDERS MUST PERSONALLY CHECK ALL DOORS ARE SECURE BEFORE LEAVING – DO NOT RELY ON OTHERS – AND MUST CHECK ALL DOORS IRRESPECTIVE OF WHETHER OR NOT THEY OR THEIR ORGANISATION HAS USED THAT AREA** (this particularly relates to the ramp door from the main hall and the door from the storage hut, and the door between the storage hut and Committee Room.

Additionally, in the early part of the year we had an infestation of rats in the hall and Youth Hut. It is possible this started because rubbish was not removed from the hall timeously. It is essential that all keyholders follow the guidance in the Information Book and remove all rubbish, however small the amount, from the hall to the external bin when they are leaving and that the instruction about not overfilling the external bin is followed.

COLIN WILSON, Session Clerk

SUNDAY SERVICES IN MAY

We are grateful to our Interim Moderator, Rev Donna Hays who conducted the morning service on Sunday May 7. On Sunday May 14 the service was conducted by our Worship and Pastoral Care Committee, and we thank them most sincerely for the work they put in preparing for it and their very personal thoughts in the delivery of the service. Thought provoking indeed. On Sunday May 21 the service was conducted by Rev David Collins. David retired from his parish in July 2016 and by all accounts has been busier than before ever since. We thank him for making time to conduct our worship.

EXPLORERS GROUP

A Children's **Explorers Group** will be taking place on Sundays 11th June - 2nd July and 6th - 27th August. This is for children who normally attend Sunday School or Creche, or for any visiting children. A few more Volunteers are still required, so if you can help on any of these dates please speak to either Christine Wilson or Margaret Mulgrew.

CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEE

I would like to say a big thank you to my wonderful committee for all the hard work and effort they put into organising the lunch after Marion's last service. It was the biggest event we have taken on and as usual we had a few laughs along the way. And before anyone else asks..... No, we won't be doing it every week!!!!!! Tickets are now on sale for the **Congregational BBQ at Monikie Country Park on Saturday June 3** and can be obtained from Margaret Edmonds or Kay Husband. We are having another **Soup & Roll lunch on Sunday June 11**. And don't forget our **Quiz Night at the Fort Bar, Broughty Ferry, on Monday October 30**. There are only a few tickets left for our trip to the Pantomime in Edinburgh on Saturday January 6, 2018. If you would like to come, don't delay and give your name to Wilma Duncan.

CHRISTINE OSWALD

KNIT AND NATTER GROUP

We are coming to the end of another very successful year. Lots of knitting, nattering and drinking tea. We have sent mini knitted Christmas stockings and Easter chicks to the Children's Hospice in London, knitted baby hats for Ninewells, mini knitted hats to the Innocence Smoothie Appeal for Age Concern, hats to Eagles Trust, knitted squares to Cats Protection, hats, blankets, cardies and vests to an African charity. We have some knitted teddies on the go and these will eventually go to the Teddies for Tragedies. So as you see we have been very busy. Most of us now are working on projects for ourselves at the moment but once we start after the summer am sure we will get started on our charity knitting again. As much as we enjoy knitting for others it is nice to be able to do something for yourself.

We would like to thank all who have knitted or donated wool to us and remember even if you can't come to our meetings but would like to knit hats etc just let one of our group know and we will be happy to drop off wool/patterns to you. We are always looking for new charities who take knitted items, so if you hear of any please let me know. We meet every second Monday in the Lower Hall, from 7 pm to 9 pm so if you fancy popping along for a natter please feel free. Remember you don't have to come to every meeting but I'm sure once you have been you will want to come back.

Best wishes to all.

CHRISTINE WILSON AND ALL THE KNIT AND NATTER GROUP.

THANK YOU

Can I thank all my friends in St David's High Kirk for their cards and good wishes on my 90th birthday. I was baptised in the High Kirk, a long time ago! Many thanks to you all for your kindness.

ROSE SOUTAR

THE BROWNIES

The Brownies have once again had a busy term. Most of the girls have now completed their circus skills badge, Brownie skills and First Aid. Our night at the Science Centre allowed them to get their Stargazer and also Scientist badges. Our numbers, thanks to the Rainbows, have grown quite consistently and we have 16 girls at the moment, though this will drop as four of our girls move on to Guides shortly. As always we would welcome any girls aged 7 -10 who wish to join or aged 5 for Rainbows. Please contact Guiding UK or Rhona at [REDACTED] Many are showing an interest in having a camping holiday. Watch this space.

RHONA DUNCAN

GUIDES

Our Guides are now quite well established with around nine every week. They are taking their more responsible roles very well and organising most activities themselves. Most of them are signed up to go the Tartan Gig in June and we are looking to go raft building before the summer. Emily, our newest leader in training, is a peer educator in guiding and has guided the girls through their Being Resilient programme (and badge). They have also completed the animal active unit and are planning their next schemes. We also welcome a new leader Gracie who is helping us in Guides. As always any girls aged 10 -14 would be made very welcome. Please contact Guiding UK or Rhona at [REDACTED]

RHONA DUNCAN

MIDWEEK SERVICES

There are no dates yet, but these services will continue after the summer break.

RAINBOWS

Happy Birthday to us. It's a double birthday! Rainbow Guides are 30 years old this year and the 50th Dundee Rainbows St David's High Kirk are 25! (I think we are a bit older than that but the official certificate says May 1992.) There is a special Mermaid challenge badge to celebrate the 30th birthday so we've been working towards that. So far we've had a treasure hunt around the church grounds, read the story of the Rainbow Fish (he learnt it was good to share his shiny colourful scales), made a rainbow fish and jellyfish/octopus from old CDs. There is a fish and octopus on our notice board, have a look. We also managed some ball games, skipping, songs and some fun with the Brownies. Our numbers are low at the moment as three girls went up to Brownies after the Easter holidays but we've had a couple new girls join. There's still plenty space if any girls aged 5 to 7 want to come along on a Wednesday.

JENNIFER KINNEAR, Rainbow Guider

RAMBLERS

Our **April** walk was to Auchtermuchty where we completed a circuit from the town centre, through farmland to Pitmedden Forest, finishing with a saunter through Glassart Community Woodland and across Auchtermuchty Common. The weather was beautiful, sunny with a wee breeze and so we had wonderful views to the Lomond Hills from the edge of the forest. We had been told to look out for red squirrels and woodpeckers in the forest but didn't spot any. The dappled sunlight in the forest was pleasant during our lunch break then we began our descent through the Community woodland. Most trees were beginning to show signs of leaves, and ferns were starting to unfurl on the woodland floor. All along the verges of the paths daffodils and even the odd tulip were in bloom and numerous wild flowers which even our floral expert couldn't always identify. Leaving the Community woodland, the path took us alongside the Glassart Burn, over a couple of wooden bridges and a section of duckboards to the car park at the Common. Here we looked north to the rolling countryside between us and the Tay then from the top of the hill southwards over the Lomonds, standing out a little hazily in the sunshine. Returning to the centre of Auchtermuchty - a bonnie, quiet town - we headed for Falkland and our coffee stop. All agreed this was a varied and interesting walk in an area few of us had visited before.

Even if summer is cool and cloudy, the Ramblers will always remember their **May** walk for the bright blue skies and warm sunshine they were fortunate enough to experience. We walked from Wormit to Balmerino on the Fife Coastal Path, enjoyed lunch at the Abbey, and returned the same way - a round trip of just over 5 miles, stopping frequently to admire the views over the Tay to Dundee. It's fascinating to see one's home city from a different angle, and to try to identify landmarks normally seen close up. The path is undulating but well maintained and goes eventually to Newburgh, 13 miles away, but we have yet to tackle the final stretch. Confining ourselves to the first part was, in places, a slight challenge, especially when ascending steps obviously designed for longer legs than some of ours but we all made it, almost without mishap. By the side of the track we spotted bluebells and primrose, wood sorrel and wild basil, and many ferns gradually unfurling their fronds. The trees, too, were almost in full leaf, some with blossom, and we watched a bird of prey, probably a buzzard, hovering above a rough pasture, studded with golden gorse. While enjoying the sunshine, it was, nevertheless a welcome sight to see the rail bridge gradually becoming closer as we approached journey's end. Next walk - June 3.

NORMA STURROCK

RAMBLERS RESIDENTIAL WEEKEND MAY 12-15

Six of us descended on Thurston Manor Leisure Park, near Dunbar, for a few days of walking in the East Lothian countryside. We stopped in South Queensferry for lunch then drove to Preston Mill near East Linton. Built in the 18th century, this was the last working water mill in East Lothian. We hiked to the Phantassie Doocot, on the rich farmland created by the agricultural reformer George Rennie of Phantassie. The walk forms part of the John Muir Way. John Muir was a conservationist, born in Dunbar, who founded, amongst other things, Yellowstone National Park. Arriving at Thurston Manor, we settled into our spacious caravan.

Torrential rain greeted us on Saturday morning but it soon cleared, although low mist threatened to conceal the fine views we had anticipated from the top of Pressmennan Wood. We set out on a good forest track, winding up to the top of the hill. With the mist lifting and the sun emerging, we were soon able to appreciate the views over the surrounding area. The wood is managed by the Woodland Trust who are gradually removing the planted pine trees to allow the ancient mixed deciduous woodland to re-establish itself. We counted many broad-leaved trees, with birch, oak, sycamore and beech, many garlanded by honeysuckle. By the side of the track were swathes of wild garlic, speedwell and ferns, just unfurling their fronds. We could hear birdsong but it was hard to spot them in the leafy cover overhead. One tree, growing over the path, had been festooned with trinkets and messages. We then descended to Pressmennan Lake, a man-made stretch of water. Here a handy bench provided us with a perfect place for a picnic and we were entertained by a spaniel and a black Labrador swimming into the water to retrieve sticks thrown by their owners. The water was extremely cold so we chose not to follow suit. Driving back to Thurston Manor, we detoured by Dirleton, a small picturesque village with a fine church and small castle. Thwarted by the recent closure of the only coffee shop, we headed to Gullane where locals were helpful in making room for six rather muddy customers. By the time we drove into North Berwick, we were in need of dinner and found a suitable restaurant at the fifth attempt. Who would have thought so many establishments were fully booked? Our evening was rounded off by a visit from Gypsy Rose Lee who read our tea cups but we were not too fond of the scent of the Lapsang Souchong tea leaves provided.

Sunday was a lovely morning and we embarked on a walk in the grounds of the park, descending to 'The Glen' with its fishing lake stocked with rainbow trout. Swans were nesting on the island in the centre of the lake, and a few keen fishermen were trying, unsuccessfully, to catch fish. The trail then headed out into rough pasture land before crossing at a ford. Two of the party returned by our outward route and were fortunate to be given a lift up the very steep hill. The others continued across the ford (one wet toe, and one wet foot) then were faced with a long flight of steps taking us to the top before retracing our steps to the caravan where we enjoyed tea and birthday cake. The flight of steps had a plethora of bluebells by the verges, as well as white sand wort, wild basil and red Campion. We spotted butterflies too - cabbage white, red admiral and a male orange-tip. Crows made a noisy accompaniment from their nests in the tall

trees. After dinner in Dunbar (we had booked!) we walked round the harbour, enjoying watching the sea breaking over the rocks.

Our plan on Monday was to walk round Linlithgow Loch but persistent heavy rain scuppered that plan so we had in a brief coffee stop and a walk round Ikea instead, meeting up in a busy garden centre for lunch before the final drive home. It was a fun, energetic [in parts] weekend, with no mishaps, so may be repeated in the future.

NORMA STURROCK

The power of prayer.....

The minister's little girl had been so naughty that her mother decided to give her the worst kind of punishment – she could not go to the Sunday School picnic. When the day came, her mother felt she had been too harsh and changed her mind. When she told the little girl she could go to the picnic, the child's reaction was one of gloom and unhappiness. "What's the matter? I thought you'd be glad to go to the picnic", her mother said. "It's too late", the little girl said, "I've already prayed for rain!"