

St. Andrew's Church, Kolkata
Roster for July, 2017.
Sunday services at 9:30 am

02/7/17. 4 Sunday after Pentecost: The source of truth and purity is in the heart.

Conductor and Preacher : The Revd. Dr. Swarup Bar
Genesis 6: 5-8 : Mr. David John
Matt. 5:27-30,33-37 : Mrs. Zeena Mondal

Kirk Session and Deacon's Court meeting after service

09/7/17. 5 Sunday after Pentecost : Our love for others souls be without any limit, like the love of God.

Conductor & Preacher : The Revd. Dr. Sunil Caleb
Genesis 50: 15-21 : La Martiniere for Boys
Matt. 5: 38-48 : Bishop's College

16/7/17. 6 Sunday after Pentecost : Be doers not merely hearers, of the Word.

Holy communion service

Celebrant & Preacher : The Revd. Dr. Swarup Bar
Jeremiah 7:1 - 7 : Mr. C.J. Nyss
James 1: 22-27 : Dr. G.R. Hart
Matthew 7: 21-29 : Rev. Dr. Swarup Bar

23/7/17. 7 Sunday after Pentecost: God himself commissions those who do his work

Conductor and Preacher : Rev. Dr. Sunil Caleb
Numbers 27:15-23 : La Martiniere for Boys
Matt. 9:35- 10:16 : Mr. Ashok Pasricha

30/7/17. 8 Sunday after Pentecost: Jesus teaches us to be bold in God's service

Conductor and Preacher : Women's Guild
Isaiah 41:8-13 : Ms. Louisa Jackson
Matt. 10:24-33 : Mrs. Devjani Samaradivakera

Parish News: On the 18th of June, 2017, the AGM of the Women's Guild was held after Church Service. New appointments were made for three years: Mrs. Devjani Samaradivakera- President, Mrs. Zeena Mondol-Secretary and Mrs. Reena Fletcher- Treasurer. Congratulations! The AGM planned for new initiatives and programs for the coming year.

Free Homeopathy Clinic every Wednesday from 12 noon to 2 pm



St. Andrew's Church Newsletter

JUNE 2017

Private Circulation Only



FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESBYTER-IN-CHARGE



Kolkata-Scottish Pioneering Relationships:

The Legacy of Rev. Lal Behari Day (1824-1894)

His Life: Lal Behari Day's original name was Kala Gopal De, who was born in a small village of Talpur in West Bengal. His parents were from the banker non-Brahmin caste. He came under the influence of Alexander Duff when he was studying in Scot Mission School in Calcutta and was converted and later came to be known as Lal Behari Day. In due time he became a full-time Christian worker of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland. He served the Church as pastor, evangelist, promoter of schemes of rural uplift and as an author. He married the daughter of Rev. Dhanjibhai Naroji of the Presbyterian Church of Western India. After the disruption of the Church of Scotland in 1843, Day however joined the free church. Later on after his theological education he was appointed a minister of the Khulna mission. In 1864, he became the minister at Cornwallis Square, which is now Duff Church., under the Diocese of Calcutta, CNI. He also worked as professor of English in various colleges in Bengal.

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Please visit our newly updated website : <http://standrewschurchkolkata.in/>
and LIKE our new fb page : St. Andrews Church, Diocese of Calcutta, CNI.

DAY'S Contribution: Day was an ardent nationalist and was the first person to formulate a scheme for church union of a national church of India on the basis of the Apostles' Creed which he presumed would include the Roman Catholics too. Day opposed racial discrimination between European and Indian ministers. He offered to resign if equality in pay and representation in committees were not practiced. His stand was vindicated which paved the way for Europeans and Indians to be treated equally in their mission stations. He planted mission schools, churches and orphanages and advised peasants in rural areas. Through his lectures at Duff Church, he provided critiques of *Brahma Samaj*. Day wrote *Govinda Samanta or Bengali Peasant Life*(1874) and *Folk Tales of Bengal* (1883) for which he won accolades from Charles Darwin. He was made a fellow of the University of Calcutta from 1877. He edited a Bengali journal *Arunodaya* for the village congregations and contributed in English journals too. **St. Andrew's Church is fortunate to have this stalwart's grave in the Scottish Cemetery, at 3 Karaya Road, which can still be visited.**

(Sources: M.M.Thomas & P.T.Thomas, *Towards an Indian Christian Theology*; <http://scotscemeteryarchivekolkata.com/>)

THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF REV. JOHN WEIR COOK, FORMER MINISTER OF ST.ANDREW'S CHURCH (1937-2014)

JOHN Weir Cook, who has died at the age of 77, was a minister in India and then a much loved and respected parish minister in Scotland. Born in Greenock, the eldest of three brothers, he was educated at Greenock Academy, the High School of Glasgow and at Glasgow University. After graduating in arts, he studied divinity at Trinity College, winning the prestigious Peter Marshall Scholarship to Princeton Theological Seminary, USA in 1960-61. In the late 1950s, divinity students were somewhat restrained, not to say *douce*. John Weir Cook was neither: -gregarious, boisterous, witty, iconoclastic, he won a reputation as a fine preacher, and someone who could captivate a teenage audience initially expecting to be bored even by a young minister. (Contd.p. 3)

Parish News: *Three new students joined us from Bishop's College this year: Mr. Dilip Ch. Sangma, Ms. Ira Solomon, Mr. Binyamin Das. We look forward to their contribution to the church in various ways even as we continue to pray for their studies.*

Following John's time in the USA, he took up his first charge at St Andrew's Church, Calcutta. The Kirk's General Assembly was told that within a year the congregation very readily responded to new initiatives proposed by him. A bursary was funded to support an Indian student through the divinity course at Serampore and up to 40 attended monthly discussion groups. Amongst his many achievements, he was proudest of including Indian families in the worship of the Scots Kirk by persuading the Session to agree to join the Presbyterian Church of North India. His pastoral work took him throughout Bengal and as far north as the foothills of the Himalayas where he formed a strong attachment with Dr Graham's Homes, the Kirk's school for orphans in Kalimpong. He welcomed many of the school's students during holidays in Calcutta and he helped sponsor Mary and Joan Chalke, graduates of the school in Kalimpong, to study nursing in his home town of Greenock. He left India in 1969 and became minister of Henderson Church in Kilmarnock. In 1988 he moved to Portobello, to St Philip's Joppa Church where he remained until he retired in 2002. He had boundless energy and a lively personality and is remembered as someone who always injected a freshness to worship and a contemporary interpretation of ceremonial order. He believed strongly in dignity and structure in worship, but neither excluded opportunities for laughter. His work in support of the Clinical Theology Association helped supplement his pastoral strengths as a counsellor and parish minister.

The Rev Dr Alison Jack, who was his assistant for several years, said of John Weir Cook, that he "taught me how to make every visit count. Take your coat off, sit forward in your chair, listen hard, and give people a hug. He was a great wordsmith, crafting his sermons and prayers with great care". He enjoyed rugby, golf, football but most of all cricket. His fanaticism for Greenock Morton and Scotland rugby together with his often asserted conviction that he would one day play cricket for Scotland, illustrate again his limitless faith. He was a noted after-dinner speaker and amongst Scottish and especially Burns' communities throughout the world. He had a large family and enjoyed nothing more than celebrating convivial occasions amongst his kin in the Gnomes of Greenock or at the family cottage on the Isle of Arran. He is survived by his three children, Peter, Sarah and Noel, six grandchildren, his wife Elizabeth and his partner Dorothy. (Reproduced verbatim from a report in the Sunday Herald, Glasgow, on the 4th June, 2014)