

Boarhills, Dunino and St Andrews: Holy Trinity Church of Scotland

NEWSLETTER:
JULY 2024

Mission Statement:
Boarhills, Dunino and St
Andrews: Holy Trinity Church of
Scotland lives to worship God
and to encourage faith in and
service to, Jesus Christ among
the people of today and
tomorrow

CHARITY NUMBER SC017173

EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Everyone,

As we continue to hope for better weather, at least the farmers are happy as the crops, which were planted so late because of the cold, are doing well in the wet weather (Remember last year when we had a drought).

I was reminded of this as I looked out of our window and saw, in the flower beds barley and wheat! A moment's thought, and I realized that these had grown from the seeds, messily spread from the bird feeder in the crab apple tree above.



We sing at harvest about scattering the seeds; we read of Jesus speaking of the seeds spread in the wrong places, so that they couldn't grow. But what about the seeds WE scatter, almost unthinkingly, every day. Are they seeds which share grumbles? seeds of criticism? seeds of negativity? (Especially at election time). Or do we leave behind seeds of encouragement, seeds of appreciation, seeds of hope, seeds of LOVE.

At this time of continued uncertainty about the future of Holy Trinity, let us redouble our efforts to share the good things that are happening. We are growing in membership, ordaining new elders and moving towards the alterations which will make our church a better place in which to worship.

Let us encourage those who are working so hard to progress the development of the congregation (I include Boarhills and Dunino), those who quietly go about their seemingly mundane tasks of maintenance, finance, outreach (Yes, we do have some) serving and cleaning. Too many of you to mention! And that's not to mention the preaching and prayer and pastoral work. So follow the old adage: "If you see someone without a smile, give them one of yours"

Especial thanks to those who have stepped up to be guardians. I know, from my shifts, that visitors can be greatly encouraged by a warm welcome and a listening ear.

And by the way, don't hesitate to offer a "Try Praying" booklet – (If you haven't read it DO have a look). It can be an encouragement to those who are hurting or lonely.

Blessings to you all,

Mike (S)

MARION'S PASTORAL LETTER

Dear Friends,

I couldn't believe it when I looked at the gospel reading for the Sunday after I came back from holiday, for it could not have been more appropriate! I had just returned from cruising in the Arctic and High Arctic in storm force winds and with a twenty-five foot plus swell. To say the weather was bad was an understatement. But the whole holiday was a great adventure. It was almost impossible to walk on an outside deck for much of the time, and decanting to small boats was certainly challenging. It was all very different from life at home.



Each night as I went to bed in my cabin, the words of an old hymn went through my mind as a prayer, and they were very appropriate for they said. 'Rocked in the cradle of the deep, I lay me down in peace to sleep. Secure I rest upon the wave, for Thou, O Lord, hast power to save'. Secure in that knowledge, I am told that I managed to sleep through the worst of the storm that woke almost everyone else up and kept the captain up all night! And certainly, I was one of very few who went to breakfast the next morning! My holiday was certainly an adventure and I look forward to the next one. But what was the gospel reading? Well, it was the miracle of calming of the storm.

We all have to face storms of various sorts in life from time to time. They may not be storms at sea, but they can be equally devastating if we allow them to be so. They can be storms of misunderstanding and anger, storms of argument, storms of ill health, storms of arrangements that have gone wrong and caused anxiety. And when they come about, we tend to look for someone or something to blame, and we often become very upset by them.

The disciples in the boat with Jesus expected him to do something practical to help deal with the effects of the storm, but instead he said to the wind and waves 'Peace, be still'. And that is exactly what happened. But surely the message of this miracle is more far-reaching than simply a rough sea, for we see that at the same time as he calmed the waves, Jesus calmed the storm of fear in the hearts of those who were with him in the boat. That didn't mean that they were able to stop sailing the boat. It simply meant that they had no need to be afraid because Jesus was with them.

We are living in very challenging times. The world situation is to say the least, volatile. The political situation in our land is uncertain. There are areas in our towns and cities where it is unsafe to walk the streets. And levels of mental health problems and substance abuse are frightening. But Jesus says to us 'Peace, be still'. 'Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?'

We would not be human if we did not worry about the circumstances in which we live and what the future holds both for our church and for our daily lives. But Jesus says to us 'Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?' 'Peace, be still'. And we all know that in the end our future in every respect is in God's hands and that he loves us. This means that we have no need to be afraid. We simply need to go on doing our best in every circumstance, safe in the knowledge that God in Christ through his Holy Spirit is always with us, and that he loves us.

It is sometimes hard for us to hold on to those thoughts, just as it was hard to hold on for the disciples in the boat, or indeed, for those on my cruise to feel truly safe. However, let us do our best to look forward in faith, for we are as the hymn says, 'Rocked in the cradle of the deep, ... and Thou, O Lord, hast power to save'.

Amongst my papers I found this poem, which I thought was very relevant.

LITTLE THINGS

It's the little things that matter
The comfort of a friend
When our world begins to crumble
And the tears don't seem to end.

It's the little things that matter
Remembering happy hours
The sight of something cheerful
Like a garden full of flowers.

It's the little things that matter
Kind things that people do
Those who take the trouble
With a friendly word or two.

It's the little things that matter
They add up to such a lot
I know I'm very lucky
With the many friends I've got

It's the little things that matter
And so it's nice to do
Some little acts of kindness
For other people too.

It's the little things that matter
The prayers we make in love
That remind us that we're special
And loved by God above

author unknown

With every blessing,
Marion

FROM OUR INTERIM MODERATOR

Dear Friends

We are delighted to welcome back to our church our dear friend Marion. She works so tirelessly on our behalf as locum minister and I trust that her North Atlantic excursion has left her refreshed and ready for the coming months.



We enjoy the summer months in Boarhills and Dunino and Holy Trinity as we welcome so many visitors from so many parts of the world. It is a joy to hear of their untold admiration for the church building and for the history which is attached to us. I am also grateful to the Guardians who help keep Holy Trinity open during a substantial part of the summer. As we look to a productive future for our recently united church so it is vital that we present our treasures to the community from across the world who come through our doors. I was delighted, for example, to meet a presbyterian from Brazil, three presbyterians from Atlanta and two reformed church members from the continent of Europe during my time helping out during Marion's vacation. If anyone else feels able to offer his or her services for a few 'shifts' as a Guardian, I know you would be made very welcome. Meantime, have a good and warm summer.

Yours in Christ

Alastair Symington (Interim Moderator)

FROM OUR SESSION CLERK

Mike Carslaw is on holiday. These notes are from the recent session meeting, extracted by the Editor.

Elders

Ms Tricia Caithness and Mr Stephen Donaldson were approved by Session to be ordained as Elders.

Mr Charlie Braid has intimated that he wishes to step down as an Elder, but he was keen to remain as a helper in church activities. (Charlie was ordained in 1966 and had offered outstanding service to the church for 58 years despite his role as carer for his son, Stewart. Always willing to stand in when necessary on a Sunday morning. THANK YOU CHARLIE.



Trustee training for Elders:

Trustee safeguarding training for elders is mandatory. Steve Watson would be in touch with those Elders who still needed to attend training. The next available dates for training were likely to be in the autumn.

Special service:

Marion, our Locum Minister is keen to hold a special service to celebrate new members, new Elders and the long service of a number of Elders who have served for more than 30 years.

Inspection of records:

This was completed, successfully, on 2 May 2024.

Congregational roll:

The roll needs to be attested Elders were asked to check their Districts - Helen Willis will recirculate the relevant information to Elders.

Archives:

The Session Clerk and Presbytery Liaison Elder intend to go through the archives, liaising with Helen.

**Boarhills and Dunino:**

Mike Foote to be appointed the Dunino Church Beadle. Katherine Matheson to be appointed the Dunino Liaison Elder and Jane Scrymgeour to be appointed Deputy Session Clerk.

Presbytery plan update:

The new Presbytery Mission Plan Implementation Group officer, is Rev Giles Dove.

Mr MacFarlane, the Presbytery Liaison Elder, noted that there had been no recent mention so far from Presbytery concerning the Presbytery plan or any review of the plan. The church has been in the guardianship of Presbytery for 9 years.

The Session Clerk was asked to write to Presbytery to request a review of the Presbytery plan, as per the law of the church

The next meeting of the 'Group of 12' was scheduled for 2nd June. The BD&HT representatives would be the Session Clerk, Mr Richard MacFarlane and Mr Steve Watson.

Mike (S) for Mike(C)

GUIDANCE ON VOTING

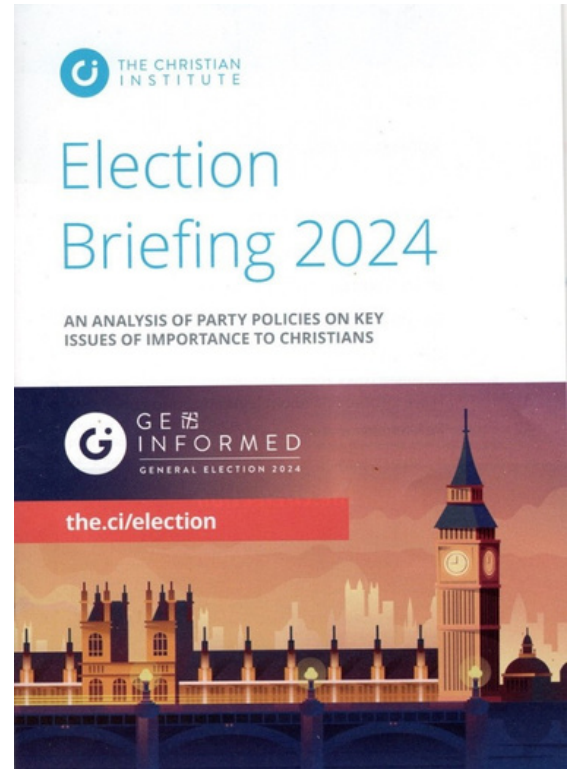
This edition may not be out before the vote, but in this publication, by the Christian Institute, gives a summary of those aspects of each party's policy which should concern us as Christians.

It is available, free from their website and is worth a read, even after the result (Ed)

The Christian Institute fights hard for Christian values in government, both in Scotland and the UK.

Their website is

<https://www.christian.org.uk/>



DOGS IN CHURCH



We have been blessed by having some VERY WELL BEHAVED dogs in the church over the past three months. Liz Currie organized for some 'Therapy dogs' to be present one morning. They are taken into care homes where they are welcomed and bring comfort to the patients. Liz's own dog is a therapy dog. And on the 23rd, Zoomie was reunited with her friend, Marion after her cruise to the far north, about which we will hear later.

Here is a picture of a therapy dog who is supporting a man who is very ill at present.

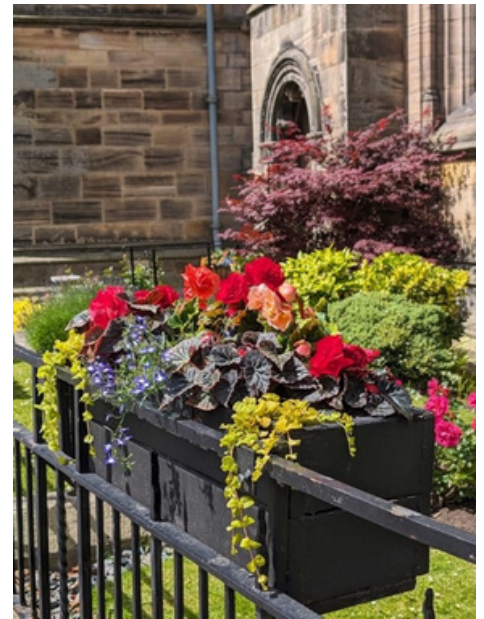
THE CHURCH GARDEN

Hello to everyone from the gardening team. Spring is here again in the church garden and we are all keen to get started, the helpers are our dedicated band of Dave, Rachel, Pat, Lorna, Peter, Nathan and Mike Dominiak.

We have already planted the beautiful Begonias and Lysimachus from Pathhead Nursery, delivered by Alan Barron.

It is hoped everyone who comes into the church or are passing the church garden really enjoy the display of the beautiful flowers.

There is now a collection box on the church gate for anyone wishing to contribute to the outlays.



Rachel and the team.

Thanks Rachel, for keeping HT Beautiful. (Ed)



This rewilding is getting out of hand!

look what's happening to the cathedral !

THOUGHTS 1

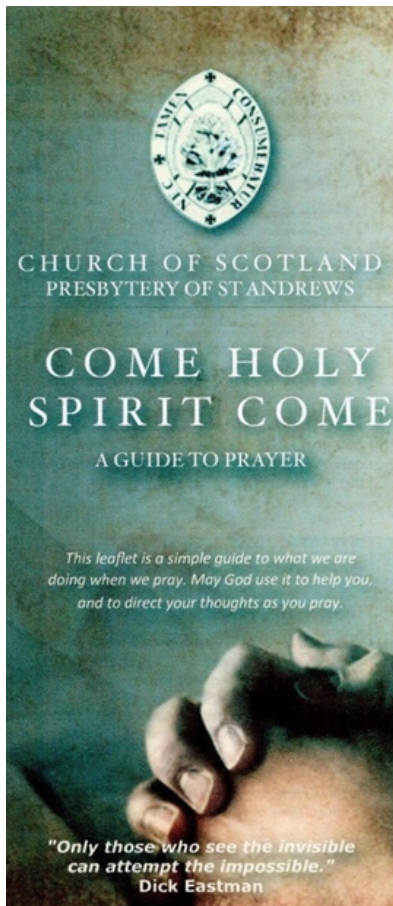
No other god can be called a Father
No other god can be called a friend
No other god can be called a redeemer
No other god is coming back again.

Chorus of We Love Your Name (Kiley Dean Lyrics)

SPECIAL SERVICES: Pentecost

We don't often celebrate Pentecost in a big way in Boarhills, Dunino and Holy Trinity, although it is the Birthday of the Church, as signified by the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples. Marion preached a powerful sermon on the day.

Our fellow Christians in Tayport made a great show this year with flames held up by helium balloons all along the church railings, and in the church in Inveraray, they had a new pulpit fall illustrating the risen Jesus.



This flyer surfaced recently, though it is not new, and we hadn't featured it before. I have no idea who, at Presbytery of St Andrews initiated it, but again it is an encouragement to ask for MORE.

The invocation "Come Holy Spirit" is a powerful prayer, which has been answered over the centuries by wonderful examples of His coming.

The review of Denis and Rita Bennet's book below describes what happened in the 1970s in a very strait-laced Anglican church.

More recently in the Praise gathering in the Glasgow Concert Hall, the presence of the Holy Spirit was described by some as 'palpable' after Rev Kenny Borthwick spoke, for only a few moments, followed by a long silence.

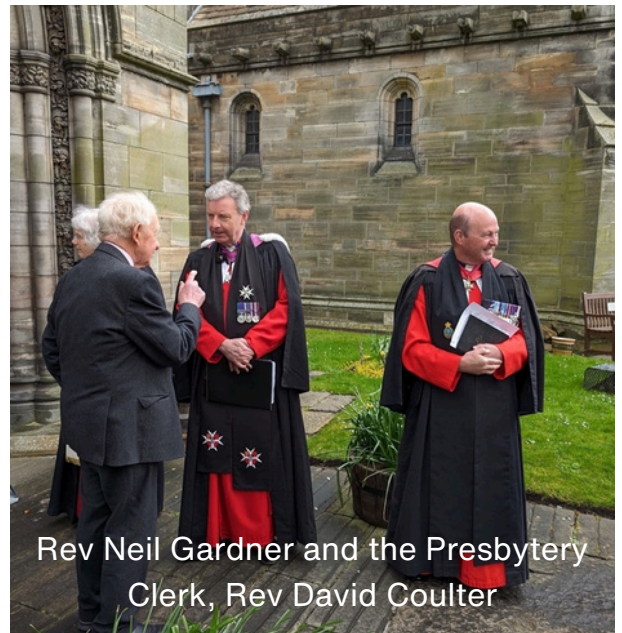
Are we missing out in Boarhills, Dunino and Holy Trinity?

SPECIAL SERVICES: Order of St John

The Order of St John service was held on 21st April after a lapse of a number of years. It was the 50th anniversary of the order in the UK. The Sermon was preached by the Chaplain, Rev Neil Gardner.

A number of our congregation are members of the Order, which nowadays operates eye hospitals.

In the past, the order of Knights of St John, originally founded in Jerusalem, moved to Rhodes and Crete after huge battles with the Ottoman empire and are now based in Malta.



Rev Neil Gardner and the Presbytery Clerk, Rev David Coulter

MINISTRY OF FLOWERS

Flowers are donated each week and distributed after the Sunday service to folk who are sick or housebound. If you would like to become part of the group please contact Rachel Raynor.

Thanks to all who have responded with thank-you cards



HOLY TRINITY TRUST - June Report

DISABLED ACCESS:

Following the last Session meeting, Graham Wynd and Bob Archer met to discuss how the plans for disabled access, prepared by architects in the recent Design Study, could be used as the basis for a permanent solution for disabled access to the Church.

It was acknowledged that the architects' plans covered access ramps for the John Knox Porch and West Door.

Adam Staniland, architect of Nicoll Russell Studios, visited the Church and produced a sketch of how a permanent ramp to the Hunter & Memorial Door could be built. This was available to the Session meeting on 6 June.

OPENING THE CHURCH TO VISITORS:

Alison and Graham Wynd, in collaboration with Bob and Joan Archer, have organised opening the Church to visitors this summer.

Drawing on experience from last year, it is planned to open three days per week (weddings and other Church events permitting) from 11 am to 5 pm, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, from 6 June to 31 August (13 weeks).

An appeal, made to those who volunteered as guardians last year, has yielded encouraging results and there are now comparatively few unfilled slots in the rota, which is available at the back of the church. Nonetheless, more guardians may be sought from outwith the Church, eg from St Andrews Rotary.

Another important need is for another, say two, volunteers to augment the Wynds and the Archers in acting as organisers on opening days, to open, prepare and close the Church and deal with any issues.



KEY ITEMS OF INTEREST TO VISITORS

1. The Atmosphere arising from centuries of devotional use.
2. The original Mediaeval Design, visible today in the restoration of 1909.

3. The **Tower** dating from 1412, used for a long time as a jail.

4. The **Stained Glass Windows**

- The West Window was given by the women of the congregation. It has the theme of the Work of Women for Christ and His Church, extolling the virtues of fidelity, charity, hope and patience.
- The East Window - inspired by the Te Deum 'we praise the Lord'.

Both are the work of David Strachan, 1875-1950.

5. The **Font** and **Pulpit** were given as a memorial and appreciation of A K H Boyd, Minister from 1865-1899. The pulpit's base is Iona marble with onyx and alabaster columns.

6. The **Organ** was rebuilt by Harrison and Harrison of Durham in 1966, and again in 2008.

7. The **War Memorials:**

- **First World War** - 18 Stained Glass Windows in the clerestory, which depict the badges of the twelve Scottish Infantry Regiments, the Royal Navy, the Royal Artillery, the Royal Engineers, the Royal Air Force and the Royal Army Medical Corps.
- **Second World War** - simple glowing window in the Hunter & Memorial Aisle.

8. The **John Knox Porch** commemorates the reformer. The ancient Church porch occupied the same site. In 1617, James VI stood here to receive an address of welcome.

9. There are two **Golfing Memorials:**

- a plaque at the back of the Church commemorates Tom Morris, the great golfer, also an elder of Holy Trinity Church;
- a bombard, a division of fanfare trumpets, was added to the organ in memory of the golfer Bobby Jones.

One item not mentioned in the guide this time round is the wonderful representation of the Ascension, which hangs near the John Knox door. This was painted by Eddy Turner, who came reluctantly to 'Breakfast at Trinity' and whose life was completely changed by the worship, teaching and fellowship. He donated it to the church in Gratitude (Ed)



The inflow of enquiries and bookings continues to be greater than in previous years and, already, the average number of paying events to the end of 2024 exceeds one per week. A number of concerts from regular clients have attracted audiences in their hundreds. The quality of music from professional and amateur musicians has been outstanding.

It is planned to hold a retrospective exhibition in the Sharp Aisle of works by Jurek Putter, local artist, known for his depictions of mediaeval St Andrews.

It is also planned to organise a Christmas Tree Festival in December, on the lines of the one that took place in 2022. Managing the increasing volume of events is a challenge that needs to be addressed.



Graham Wynd

BOARHILLS, DUNINO & HOLY TRINITY GUILD

Our programme of meetings for 2023-2024 has been well attended and has now ended. We celebrated by having a lunch at the Inn at Guardbridge. This was popular and appreciated, especially by those members who have limited opportunities to have a day out. There have been requests for a repeat and we hope we can arrange that.

We held an enjoyable and successful Spring Fair, raising over £1,000 for H.T.

The Guild starts again in September- the Syllabus will be available in the next edition of the magazine

Alison Johnson

PRESBYTERY PRAYER



Compassionate and ever-loving Lord,
we thank You, that in Your mercy,
You have brought us together today to worship You,
the one true, holy and everlasting Lord.
We ask that You would give us the
grace to grow in knowledge of You.

The Presbytery prayer group continues to meet every Tuesday morning at 9 am on Zoom. It is led by Irene Ure from St Margaret's Glenrothes.

Please feel free to join for half an hour any Tuesday- and meet some new friends from the whole of Fife.

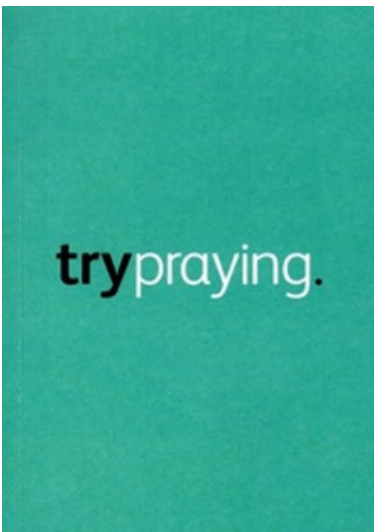
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OUR PRAYER TEAM

Please remember to let Jennifer know of those known or dear to you who are in need of prayer.

Answers to prayer are also a great encouragement, so let her know.

Everything is confidential



These little booklets are available in the church for those who wish to know more about prayer.

Guardians may want to offer one to visitors who express a need.

If you haven't read one, it might surprise you!

HISTORY of HOLY TRINITY

A couple of pictures from the rack at the back of the organ.

This one doesn't seem to fit in any way with the building as it is now.
Can anyone throw any light on it?



And here is a session photograph, undated. Again, can anyone put names to any of these men (No ladies in those days) who surrounded Rev Charles Armour?

(If anyone wants to help I can provide a larger picture. Ed).)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

There's lots available for children over the Summer holiday period.

These are in chronological order:



Shipwrecked Holiday Club REGISTRATION

The St Andrews Joint Churches Holiday Club Team are delighted to be running another FREE, fun filled week of activities. This year we invite children to jump onboard as shipmates ready to adventure through games, crafts and team challenges. They will also hear stories from the Bible about a man named Paul who really was Shipwrecked!

All volunteers at the club have been through a safe recruitment process and are PVG cleared.

Dates:- Tuesday 13th August to Friday 16th August.

Time: 9:45am Registration - Pickup at 12pm.

Location: Canongate Primary School playing fields, St Andrews.

Questions? Contact us at: standrews.churches.holidayclub@gmail.com



Big Celebration

Join us at Lendrick Muir on Saturday 24 August as we come together as the SU family to celebrate all that God has been doing through SU ministry in this past year. There's something for all ages; stay for all or part of the day, catch up with old friends and get to know some new people. There's so much to give thanks for and it's great to do that together!

Bookings open this month! Like last year, we will have lunch and dinner options, a children's programme and a ceilidh! We can't wait to see you there!

HOLY TRINITY KID'S CLUB - SUN FUN

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
(NO CLUB OVER SUMMER MONTHS OF JULY AND AUGUST)

Have a great Summer!

Next club – Sunday 1 SEPTEMBER.



At Easter the kids (with a little help from the leaders) made the banner below!

Our Minister, Marion, placed it in front of the Communion Table – and there it sat until Pentecost.

We have puzzles and quizzes too:

a brother and sister, members of the club, found the most words out of “**HAPPY EASTER**” – a fantastic 71! WELL DONE! How many can you find?



In May we had a discussion circle on the Bible Story of Daniel in the Lions' Den. Daniel was a faithful follower of God and his prayers were answered. The lions didn't hurt him – God sent an angel to shut their mouths

Every month we explore the amazing stories in the Bible.

Come and check it out – all kids welcome aged 6 to 14 approx.

This month we looked into two stories about fish. See below for a clues:



The BIG PICNIC - The story of The Loaves and Fishes and the feeding of the 5000;
and THE FOUR FISHERMEN – the first Disciples of Jesus and the miracle of their catch!

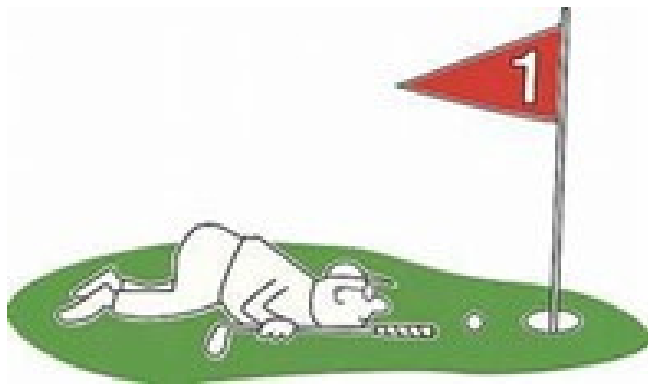
A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:

A PUTTING PICNIC - after Church and Kids' Club

DATE: SUNDAY 1 SEPTEMBER

VENUE: The Himalayas

Teams of TWO – mothers and sons; fathers and daughters; Grandparent and grandson... ALL WELCOME



MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW...

Children's Corner

Hello again, girls and boys,

This is the hardest puzzle I've ever given you, but it's a most remarkable one. Try to find 20 books of the bible, hidden here – but lurking somewhere. Have a go at it, using the contents page at the front of your bible to help!

Maybe something in my genes is what stopped me from seeing the hidden book names quickly. But a magazine, the Chronicle, surveyed 100 readers, who said that taking ages is normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well, if you're trying to beat your friends. People who have jobs in schools do well, but Ministers are often quickest, from answers I've seen; I met two of them at the wedding in church recently.

A girl who plays the banjo, Eleanor, found every hidden book. Faced with a hard quiz, she brews a cup of tea to calm her nerves. There will be books you'll spot quickly, and that's a fact. Some people, however, find themselves in a jam, especially if they're rushing.

But truthfully, those able to find every hidden book are a number seen rarely. And finally, remember that if you to solve the whole thing, please do so in a humble way.

Bye for now

Granger Brash

HOLY TRINITY CARE GROUP & BEFRIENDERS

HOLY TRINITY CARE GROUP
+BEFRIENDERS



In May, the Short Service of Thanksgiving and Remembering, which gives people the opportunity to come together and remember loved ones who have gone before us, was well attended. Thanks are due to our minister for taking this annual service – there are reports that it is much appreciated.

Friday, 7 June our Interim Moderator took the bi-annual Short Afternoon Communion Service, for which we are most grateful.

Below are the dates for the next 6 months – we look forward to seeing you.

If you know of anyone who would appreciate a visit or phonecall, or if you would like us to

get in touch with you, please contact, Janie Brash, in confidence.

ALL ARE WELCOME

5 JULY SHORT SUMMER SERVICE

2 AUGUST SHORT SUMMER SERVICE

6 SEPTEMBER SHORT COMMUNION SERVICE

4 OCTOBER SHORT HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE

1 NOVEMBER SHORT AFTERNOON SERVICE

6 DECEMBER SHORT CAROL SERVICE

We are very thankful to our Locum Minister for taking these monthly afternoon services, and to Marjorie Bruce, our organist for her playing.

The help of the members of BDHT Care Group + Befrienders, and others on the rota, is invaluable – thank you to all of you.

With all good wishes,

Janie, Convenor, HT Care Group + Befrienders

THOUGHTS 2

Hearing voices

One of the times when I hear my mother's or my grandmother's voice in my head is when I recall one of their sayings. They seemed to have a sharp or telling phrase for so many events in our daily life. "A lazy man takes the most pains". "Eyes bigger than belly" "You'll regret that in the morning" "You can lock away from thieves but not from liars!" "Try reading the instructions" "Two's company, three's a crowd" A few pithy words for almost every occasion and, yes I hear them still, and sometimes find myself using them.

Some of these phrases had biblical origins as my mother's family were churchgoers and my grandfather was a Methodist local preacher. "God will provide" he would say, or "Come ye apart", "Love your neighbour as yourself" "Do not be afraid for God is with you".

These family sayings and, particularly, my grandfather's, remind me that when he taught the crowds, Jesus, who like so many Jewish teachers and wise men, was steeped in the Old Testament, used quotations from it and references to it in his teachings which his Jewish hearers would pick up and understand but which must sometimes have bypassed those of other faiths who came to hear him and wonder at his teaching.

Those familiar words and examples used to illustrate the points Jesus made in his teaching often annoyed the well-versed Scribes and some of the ordinary men and women in the crowds. The Scribes became angry because Jesus' interpretation of the biblical truths he talked about was very different from their convoluted and over-complicated Interpretation of them and of the Law. The ordinary people in the crowds were amazed at the straightforward, simple and wise ways in which Jesus used them.

Spend some time re-reading one of the gospels, perhaps in a modern translation and see how simply and clearly Jesus interprets God's rules for life as set out in the Old Testament. Stop and see just how they could or should or do apply to your own life and ask God to help you keep them every single day.

That's exactly why Jesus came to the world and why his followers wrote their accounts of his life and teaching.



Bunny Slack

BOOKS

9 o' clock in the morning. Rev Dennis Bennet

A young couple, full of joy, suddenly started coming to everything in his church.

Two ministers discussed this warily. What had happened? They'd been to an enjoyable prayer meeting and had been prayed for to receive the Holy Spirit and were speaking in tongues!

The ministers had not been trained in this at theological college but the young couple explained "It's in the Bible", Acts 2. (Check out Acts and see what we're missing) The author did some research and found that there were 240 references to the Holy Spirit in the New Testament. His head was struggling so much but he knew his heart wanted what the young couple had and after 3 months he asked to receive the Holy Spirit fully without reservations. The Holy Spirit filled him as requested and ultimately he was asked to take this teaching all round the world and many lives and churches were transformed as the Holy Spirit brought new life.

Some very interesting episodes occurred as the Holy Spirit moved among them. The author's sons were challenged by other youths in a burger bar; their fists quickly clenched ready to take them on but suddenly the sons' hands dropped to their sides and they found themselves saying "We're not going to fight you. We're Christians." The two tough guys turned pale, took to their heels and ran away!

A stranger reported to the minister that "Two of your members prayed for me for 3 hours and got me straightened out. I was amazed they cared for me so much." (Of course, Jesus and Holy Spirit did the straightening.)

This should be the normal Christian life.

Moir Stewart



The Lord's orchard

This is the last book written by the late Colin Urquhart, who was greatly used by God in the renewal movement in the Anglican Church in the 1970s.

Biblically based on John Ch 15 "I am the Vine, you are the branches" This book is a MUST for personal study or a Bible study group.

Mike (S)

THEY SHALL EXPEL DEMONS by Derek Prince.

Confined to barracks by Covid my eye was drawn to this book. Although this topic is rarely mentioned in churches, Jesus did it all the time in His time on earth and commanded and gave authority to the disciples, Matt. 10:1, and to the Seventy who came back rejoicing 'Lord even the demons are subject to us IN YOUR NAME'.

So is this relevant today? Absolutely Yes. In South Africa, a white friend and I were talking about a course, 'Deliverance in the African Context'. Her comment was 'They need it!' Actually, the difference is that they know they need it. Europeans tend to dismiss this issue as a 'First Century concept' and don't know that they need it or indeed that it is available and that 'Jesus is the same, yesterday, today and forever.'

Derek Prince suggests 4 preconditions for deliverance:-

1. Be sure you have repented - that is turned away from any sin.
2. Look only to Jesus. He alone is the Deliverer.
3. Base your appeal solely on what Jesus did for you through His death on the Cross, not on any 'good works' of your own.
4. Be sure, that, by an act of your will, you have forgiven every person who has harmed or wronged you.

Jesus promises that everyone who calls on the Name of the Lord shall be saved and that in My Name you shall expel demons. We can do it through Him.

'Pigs in the Parlour' also advocates expelling demons. If a pig comes into your parlour, you don't invite it to sit down, you say get out and back it up with action fast!

Having done as directed, ask Jesus to fill you up with His Holy Spirit to prevent any return. Derek Prince provides many examples of the freedom that follows deliverance, both personally and in others. 'If the Son sets you free, you shall be free indeed.'

John 8:36

Moir Stewart



Moir acting out the disciples' ministry

LOCAL OUTREACH

Helping the needy in St Andrews



Please remember 'Storehouse' the Foodbank run by the Kingdom Vineyard Church in the HUB at the East sands.

You can leave food and other items in the box at the back of the church where it will be picked up.

If thinking of the right items is difficult, money is always welcome. There is a steady stream of needy folk who need our help



And Steve is hosting Family Movie Nights again in the church hall. A time, not only for children, but for those who are lonely or lack social interaction.

The nights are free (Donations welcome) and include POPCORN

WELL DONE STEVE, FOR YOUR INITIATIVE!



A farewell meeting for the two K2 workers, Jill Walker and Vanessa who have done so much to spread awareness of the Gospel among the young folk in North East Fife was held

in the Baptist church on Thursday 20th June. Holy Trinity was represented by Julie Torrance, our childrens worker, and Mike Stewart.

Julie Torrance, as Chair of Kingdom 2000, extolled the initiatives furthered by these two; prayer walks around the schools and Bible Alive teachings in a number of schools, are beginning to bear fruit.

Volunteers to support, financially and by encouragement, are greatly needed as the local K2 committee seek to appoint a new worker for the forthcoming term.

THE WIDER CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

There is a plethora of information and encouragement being issued by the Kirk at both National and Presbytery level. Much of this is encouraging (Despite what the Media says).

Please take time to visit the Church of Scotland Website and also the Presbytery news.

And perhaps start to read "Life and work" either in print or online.

"The times, they are a changing"



The Moderator's address at the General Assembly this year, showed that He, among many others, has grasped the future for the Kirk- if we are willing to CHANGE!

"We have to be realistic about the size of the Church and the number of buildings we have but today, on the Day of Pentecost, we need to believe that with God all things are possible." "Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, all things are possible".

Extract from the Moderator's address. The full text is on the CofS Website

Each month, the Church of Scotland's 'Talking Ministry' series shares a personal story from a Minister of Word and Sacrament. This follows on from 2021 and 2022's articles which also featured those in Ordained Local Ministry, the Diaconate and Readership.

If you would like to consider how God might be calling you to serve at this time, you may want to discuss further with your minister or be in touch with your Presbytery to explore local opportunities.

Ally Stark, who was a worship leader in 'Breakfast at Trinity' heard God's call here in Holy Trinity and responded.

It's a hard road to become an ordained minister and Ally had first to obtain a degree, while also training in several different churches in the East Neuk. Despite huge difficulties, he graduated last month. Here is his Facebook post:-

Ally and Jen on graduation day
CONGRATULATIONS!

Graduation 2024

"I am so grateful for the opportunity to have studied at this brilliant place over the past 3 years.

I'm also so thankful for the people I've met and learned from and for their endless ability to inspire me. But most of all, I share this achievement with my wonderful family - this has very much been a family venture and my poor wife could reasonably be given an honorary degree in theology for putting up with 3 years of my ramblings... especially given that I wrote part of an essay from the Vic's maternity ward

I'll really miss this place, but I'm really looking forward to taking the next step, trusting in the grace of God that has got me this far"



Ally Stark

CHANGES TO THE PARISH REGISTER

BAPTISMS

7 April	Leonardo Jamie Ballantyne	Dunino
2 June	Hector Graham MacLeod Kyle	Holy Trinity
23 June	Charlotte Anelle Lawson	Holy Trinity

WEDDINGS

30 March	Joseph Walmsley to Alice Bridges	Holy Trinity
20 June	John Dirkman to Pam Bailey (Blessing)	Holy Trinity
24 June	Douglas Reid to Kristina Kosrostii	Dunino
29 June	Jonathan Brooke to Georgina Choi	Holy Trinity

FUNERALS

9 April	Ian Paxton	Dundee
11 April	Anne Southby	Brewsterwells
19 April	Kathleen Leitch	Holy Trinity
7 May	Memorial Service for Sir Michael Bonallack	Holy Trinity
8 May	Breta Jordan	Cupar
29 June	Memorial Service for Judy Cox	Dunino

NEW MEMBERS

Mr Russell Cockburn	By certificate of Transfer
Prof John Connell	By certificate of Transfer
Dr Lesley Connell	By certificate of Transfer
Mrs Irene Donaldson	By resolution of the Kirk Session
Katherine Hogg	By resolution of the Kirk Session
Mrs Ann Keith	By certificate of Transfer
Fiona Neilson	By certificate of Transfer



A challenge!

In St Andrews, Valetta, there is a wonderful picture of Moses, being spoken to from the Burning Bush (incidentally, the symbol of the Church of Scotland) and being told

“Take off your shoes from off your feet, for the place where you are standing is Holy Ground”.



Recently I had an urge to revisit our 1412 year old tower (quite a climb) ...



... and was appalled to see what the old prison room looked like.

The Property committee, John and the Holy Trinity Trust have done a good job on the main sanctuary.

BUT Is it possible that God wants us also to clean up the ‘hidden places’ so that Holy Trinity can be truly regarded as ‘Holy Ground’?

(Ed)

HOLIDAY SNAPS

Well, since no-one else has as yet contributed, it falls to me to share a week with you.

(I am sure that in the next edition we will be able to feature Marion's epic trip in full colour!)

Malta, referred to above in the piece about the service for the order of St John, is where the knights finally ended up and were able to defend the island against the Ottoman Turks. It's also where St Paul was shipwrecked and healed the governor.



Enthralled as we were with the history (temples from 3500BC, the sieges of the 15th and 16th centuries and the defence of Malta during the second world war) we also wanted to catch up with the folk in the Church of Scotland in Valetta. It's an interesting charge, being jointly held by the C of S and the Methodists, with minsters rotating between the two.

The current C of S minister, Betsi, was married to the minister of one of the Churches in Largs who died very young. She was studying theology herself, felt called, just like Ally above, and proceeded to ordination.

St Andrews, Valetta is her first charge.

We were welcomed with open arms, although there was no 'cup of tea' since they were holding their Stated Annual Meeting after the service (On the same day as ours, which we missed)

Betsi Thane is no ordinary lady. Her preaching was clear, simple and animated and we were blessed also by the worship team of keyboard and flute. Interesting to see a dog collar on a pink T shirt! We passed on our greetings and they sent theirs back to us.

If you visit Malta, DO visit St Andrews church – also on South Street, Valetta! .



Mike and Moira

THOUGHTS 4

Then He said, “Go out, and stand on the mountain before the Lord.” And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.”

1 Kings 19:11-12, NKJV

Elijah was running away from Jezebel, as she had threatened to kill him. He was so afraid that he was praying that God would take away his life, rather than asking God to keep him safe. While he slept under the tree, he was twice woken up by an angel, who provided him with food to eat. That food sustained him forty days and forty nights, until he reached Mount Horeb, the mountain of the Lord (1 Kings 19:8).

Like Elijah, you may be running away from something you are confronted with. You may run from one country to another, or from one relationship to another. What is it that you are confronted with? Is it a threat, or is it control by someone? Is it that someone wants to bring you low, or to bring you humiliation and shame?

You need not catch the next flight to go to Mount Horeb, but you can run to the mountain of the Lord any time, wherever you may be, because the blood of Jesus brings us near to God. Sometimes, like Elijah, you may be experiencing weariness in your soul and body, which causes you to go to sleep. But look out for those divine visitations of angels from the Lord. It could be a friend, a family member, or a stranger, who may just be there to feed you right now. That will sustain you for the days, and months, and years ahead. But once you regain your energy, run to meet with God in worship, and in the word, and stand before the presence of God.

Like Elijah you may be expecting God to be in the strong wind, the earthquake, or the fire. But you may not find God speaking to you, concerning your situation, in the ways you think. Quieten yourself to hear His gentle whisper. **You will then receive strength to face whatever you are running away from.**

From “Seeds of the Kingdom”, a morning devotional from Ellel Ministries.org

WHAT TO WATCH

Rather than waiting up all night watching secular movies- or even the election results. Why not investigate this wonderful series of dramatic presentations of the gospels.



They are available free on the web. Just type in “The Chosen”

AND ONCE MORE...



You will have noticed that there is rather a lot of editorial input in this edition. If I don't receive any copy, there's little else I can do. Could I encourage you, again to send in stories, including visits to other churches or Christian events or your own experiences of God's goodness here in St Andrews over the summer.

I didn't meet Paul in Malta BUT:.....

Copy for the September Magazine by end of August please

