

KINROSS CHURCH FAMILY

Thanksgiving and Blessing

7 Aug Amelie Rose Agnes Porter
27 Nov Matthew Thomas Hill

New Members by Profession of Faith (1 January 2017)

Kirsten Clarke, North Street, Milnathort
Rowan Harvey, Burnbank Meadows
Emily McGuire, McWilliam Place

New Members by Transfer

Nick and Leah Malden, Levenbridge Place, from Kirkliston

Funerals

6 Dec Mae Morley, Thomson Place
9 Dec Anna Harper, formerly Whinfield Drive
16 Dec Bill Potten-Hamer, Springfield Road
21 Dec Ena McGregor, Alexander Drive

This issue's cover reminds us that Jesus rose from the dead on Easter. More information and Easter events can be found in articles throughout the magazine.

FROM THE MANSE

Dear Friends,

At the morning service on **26 March** our congregation will hold its Stated Annual Meeting when we will take time to reflect on the year that is past and also to look forward to what is to come. There are the formal aspects to that meeting – the presentation of the annual accounts and the election of members to the Congregational Board – but there will also be an opportunity to see some photographs from activities during the past year and to celebrate the many good things we have to be thankful for in the life of the congregation.

It is a time to say thank you to everyone for the role they play in the life of the church. Of course, there are some who have high-profile jobs, and we know the debt we owe to elders, office-bearers, teachers, group leaders, and committee members, but let's also be thankful for all the behind the scenes jobs which people do, usually unnoticed, often un-thanked. Thank you to those who change light bulbs and sweep rooms, who set out tables and tidy away chairs, who make phone-calls and send e-mails, who draw up rotas and who serve on them, who make tea and wash dishes, who rehearse music and prepare power-point slides, who count money and take care of babies. Thank you to those who go into their room and close the door and pray for the work of the Gospel here in Kinross.

It is also important that we take time as a congregation to look forward. At its last away-day, the Kirk Session took time to think and pray about what our church and community might be like in the year 2030. For us as the church, it is challenging to consider the fact that by then our babies will be teenagers, our teenagers will be settling down, and those with young families today will be experiencing an empty nest. It also means that those who are working today will be retired then, and today's senior citizens will no longer be with us. We trust in the God who is the same yesterday, today, and forever, and we have a resurrection hope that teaches us to fear death no more; but we have a duty to prepare the way for those who are coming after us. The Kirk Session is therefore giving consideration to the renewal of our church organisations and the development of our church buildings so that they are fit for purpose in the next generation, as well as to the ongoing task of keeping in step with the Spirit as the people of God. We want to engage the whole

congregation in a conversation towards a Vision 2030 and want to encourage you to complete the enclosed questionnaire about our buildings and to talk with your elder and with each other about your role in the church.

I hope you will be part of that conversation on **26 March** and over the coming months.

With all prayerful good wishes, **Alan**

Rev. A.D. Reid

TALKING WITH GOD

It was less than 100 years after the crushing of the Republic's political elites in the Roman Senate by emperor dictators, firstly Julius Caesar then in Apostle Paul's time Nero. Days when dictators and political elites had accumulated vast wealth, a time of moral declension, a time when one of Nero's generals crushed a revolt in Britain, when the Jewish province wanted to be free of Rome, and a little later the civil authorities started to persecute Christians. And Paul wrote (Rom 12:2) "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind".

Lord, when we lack a divine Centre our need for security has led us into an insane attachment to things. We see that the lust for affluence in historical and contemporary society is psychotic. Covetousness we call ambition. Hoarding we call prudence. Greed we call industry.

Lord Jesus, you declared war on the materialism in the days of the Caesars, when you condemned wealth as a rival to God (Luke 16: 1-18 v13); "No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other". A little later the writer to the Hebrews (Heb 13:5) counselled: "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said I will never fail you or forsake you".

Lord Jesus, you told us (Matthew 6:33) to seek the kingdom of God and the righteousness of His kingdom first – and then everything necessary will come in its proper order.

Lord Jesus, help us experience this reality and to know that what we have, we have received as a gift from you and not by our own

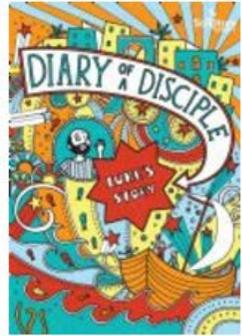
efforts; what we have will be cared for by you, because you are able to do it and we can trust you; what we have we should make available to others, for if God is who you said He is, the Almighty creator and our loving Father, then we can share because we know He will care for us.

Lord, help us to seek your kingdom first, to resist conforming to the pattern of this world, and to have an inward attitude of simplicity, secure in you and free from anxiety.

If you are interested in contributing a piece for 'Talking With God,' please contact the Editor.

JUNIOR CHURCH

Firstly, Junior Church staff and children wish to thank the congregation, especially the Choir, the Band, and Jampact, for helping to make the Nativity service so special. It seems a long time ago now, but we really enjoyed it.



So a New Year and we have started with a new resource: The Diary of a Disciple – Dr Luke’s story. Each week we have been looking at one of the many stories Dr Luke told us. We have read about Jesus being ‘dunked in the river’; the morning he got all his mates back together and chose 12 to them to be his apostles and how if you put God first, he’ll really look after you. The children have enjoyed this book and the way it has been written. If you would like to see it, please ask.



We have also enjoyed another parent/carer’s lunch; an opportunity to share a story, song, craft and some food.

The children need you! We are looking for adult helpers on a Sunday morning, just the occasional week to cover planned absence and no preparation needed, just a willingness to come and join in. If you think you could help us out, all I need is a name and

Dr Luke has a story to tell. It's a super incredible, massively, mind-boggling totally **AMAZING**, absolutely awesome, epically **HUGE** story. Luke wrote down **everything** that happened because he wanted everyone, everywhere in the whole  to hear what he had to say.

Luke's story tells you **who** Jesus is, **what** he did, the people he met, all the **SUPER INTERESTING** things he had to  say and it has a **pretty** jaw-dropping  twist right at the end...

contact details. Please consider this even if it is only for one week in the year.

Summer Sunday School: 2 July till 6 August 2017

For these 6 weeks, materials will be made available in the church meeting room. Parents are welcome to take their children through and listen to the service while their children colour in. The Happy Bags, kept at the front of the church, will also be available.

Finally, thanks for all your positive comments about the children's contributions into each week's service. All I can say is 'Bairns will be bairns!'

Children can be dropped off at the church centre from 10.15am. Team members are set up and ready to go at that time.

Until next time,

Lynn Caldwell (863271, lynnbcaldwell@btinternet.com)

CRÈCHE

Recently I was asked to give the statistical returns for the number of children attending crèche over the year. We had three children who came frequently. Around another twenty came only once, often as guests of a baptismal party, visitors from other church families, and sadly a few who did not settle as their families attempted to come to church. But reflecting on these statistics, potentially crèche is a touching point for many families which enables them to worship, participate, or lead in church life on a Sunday. Please keep us in your thoughts and prayers as we try to find the best way to do this.

Moira Hookham

PRAM SERVICE

We have been enjoying hearing about Paul, Barnabas, Lydia, and Timothy, who were all good friends of Jesus. Paul and Timothy reminded us how we can all share the story of Jesus, while Barnabas, who helped to clothe the poor, and Lydia, who opened her home to the new Christians, remind us how important it is to share with each other.



We will be moving on to 'If God was an animal, what would He be?' which sounds exciting! Then it will be time to prepare for our Easter celebrations including an Egg Hunt.

Sadly, a few of our members will be leaving to move on to nursery and mums going back to work, but we hope to welcome new members as well.

If you're free on a Tuesday, you're always welcome to visit us – bring your singing voice and dancing shoes!

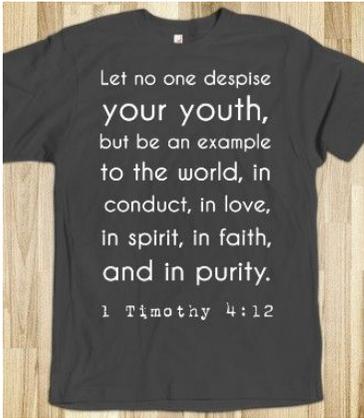
Evelyn Cairns (863990; revelyn@btinternet.com)

JAMPACT

On Sunday mornings, a bunch of teenagers can be found in the Garden Room at the Centre playing games, tucking into some nice snacks and drinks, reading the Bible, and talking about what it means in their daily lives. On alternate weeks this term, some of the older teens have gone upstairs to have a breakout group called Inspire, where they have been looking at some topics that are more geared to their age group. Both groups have been thinking about the theme of "prayer" and some of the young people took part in the Concert of Prayer at the beginning of January. All of this is made possible by a great team of volunteers. Thanks to all who help!

CROSSFIRE

Crossfire, our Sunday evening teenager's group, enjoy a wide range of activities and discussions. Every week is different and is a mixture of fun games, reflection and debate, as well as the important snack



and Christian fellowship. As group leaders and youth workers, we are encouraged by the enthusiasm and energy of our church's youth.

Here are some of our young people's responses when asked "Why do you like coming to Crossfire?"

"I like coming because we do a lot of fun stuff with a lot of fun people."

"We come to Crossfire because every week is different."

"Crossfire makes me happy even when I'm sad and having a bad week."

"I come for games and for the fun time."

"I like the good company and fun times."

"We come to see our friends."

Pray for your youth. They are our church's future.

If you would like more information or would like to come and join us, we meet every Sunday from 7.30pm- 9pm usually in the church centre during term time.

Jenny Masson (aism2001@yahoo.co.uk or 07534 886866)

KINROSS BB

All company members enjoyed their visit to Dunfermline's Alhambra Theatre for their production of Mother Goose just prior to the Christmas break. Anchors and Juniors also attended Perth Battalion's Christmas Carol Service in Perth.

Junior members took part in the Battalion chess competition at Scone and are also involved in a competition to build structures using pasta rods.

Company section members took part in Battalion's Scripture Search Competition with questions on passages from both Old and New

Testaments. The results will be announced once all the papers have been marked.

Forthcoming Battalion competitions are drill, five-a-side football, basketball, volleyball, and a midnight hike.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award programme continues throughout the winter months. Members carry out volunteer work and learn new skills, as well as take on a physical activity of some form. The outdoor expedition practicals will resume after Easter. The company D of E classes are not exclusively for BB members, and any youngster wishing to enrol should contact the Company Captain, David Munro. The D of E programme covers three levels: bronze, silver, and gold.



Company Section Summer Camp will take place from **1-8 July** in Yorkshire with the usual camp outdoor activities and visits to places of interest, e.g. Eden Camp, Jorvik Viking Centre, National Rail Museum, and, of course, a day visit to a nearby theme park.

David Munro, Company Captain



Brigade Anchors having fun at a meeting

NOUGHTS AND CROSSES

The Aspire Group held their first board games night in December in the Church. It was a great success, attended by 24 senior pupils. It was great to see so many young people from outwith the Church family coming to join the fun! We are hoping to host games nights monthly, serving mocktails and snacks. There are a range of games on offer ranging from classics such as Monopoly and Jenga to new up and coming games, such as Dixit.

Kirsten Clarke

GODLY PLAY

The Education group will be hosting a Discovery Day for Godly Play during May (date still to be confirmed as we go to press).

Godly Play is an exciting way to connect with children and young people and nurture them in the faith. You may have seen the report in December Life and Work of their conference in October. This is an opportunity for us in Kinross to engage with this programme, and I would encourage you to join in. There will be more details nearer the time, so watch this space.

Evelyn Cairns

ONE FRIDAY

'One Friday' is an event for children and their families that will take place in the Church on **Friday, 14 April** from 10.30am until 12.30pm. One Friday, almost 2,000 years ago, in the city of Jerusalem, Jesus set out on a journey that would change the world. We'll reflect on that journey through drama, songs, crafts, and activities. A light lunch will also be included. Everyone is very welcome to join us for this Good Friday experience. More information from Ruth (ruth@gngng.fsnet.co.uk) or any member of the Family Week Team.

Ruth Robertson

MEGA MAKERS – FAMILY WEEK 2017

Plans are already well under way for Mega Makers which will take place in the Church from **Monday, 31 July till Friday, 4 August**. It's that time of year when we'd like to invite you to help! Whether you can help every day, or only one day, it would be great to have you as part of the team if you are free any of those days. There are lots of jobs which need to be done, and we appreciate all those who are able to share their many different talents and skills. The training evening will take place in the church on **Monday, 22 May** (7pm for coffee and 7.30pm for the meeting), so that's a good opportunity to find out more.

There will be a several "inventors" leading the programme from the front so if anyone has a spare white lab coat that they could lend for the week, that would be great as we'll be needing quite a few.

Keep the dates free for your children and grandchildren, and invite them along. It's always lovely to welcome local children and those from further afield.

More information from Ruth (ruth@gngng.fsnet.co.uk)

Ruth Robertson

MARCH COMMUNION

RETIRING OFFERING: REFUGEE SURVIVAL TRUST (SC024328)

Helping Destitute Refugees in Scotland

"Increasing numbers of asylum seeker and refugee children in Scotland are seeking financial support due to destitution. One in five of the destitution grants awarded by the Refugee Survival Trust over the nine months from April to December 2016 included children – 125 cases, supporting a total of 307 children. Of these, 43 of the children were homeless at the time of application." (The Scotsman, 30 January 2017)

The Kirk Session has therefore decided to help destitute refugees in Scotland by supporting the 'Refugee Survival Trust' through our Retiring Collection at the Quarterly Communion Services on **Sunday, 5 March**, and it commends this to you. The RST is a small volunteer-led Scottish charity and the grants it gives are modest. Our

RST

Refugee
Survival
Trust

retiring collection could therefore make a significant impact. All the staff and administration costs of the Trust and all its advisory and legal services have already been covered by major trusts such as the Oak Foundation or charities such as the British Red Cross, so our contribution can be used to help people directly through the trust's grants:

- Destitution Grants, totalling £57,000 last year: Only available as a last resort and as a short-term measure when all attempts to access Home Office, DWP or social work support have failed and there is a real risk of destitution. The grants are minimal and reflect the current rate of Home Office support. From April to October 2016, 1031 people were supported with an average grant of £87.
- Access to Employment and Education Grants, totalling £1,743 last year: Travel costs to work and college, buying course books etc. These grants are partly financed by the British Red Cross.
- Bus Passes, totalling £1,034 last year: A £6 day-pass is a life line for destitute refugees allowing them to attend important meetings, go to the food bank or even just meet friends. The passes are given to those with no resource to other funds and the Trust can only afford to give a person a maximum of one pass per week.

If you are interested in the work of the trust look up their website www.rst.org.uk ,which includes typical case histories of people helped. Leaflets about the trust and a copy of its Newsletter and Annual Report are available on our Welcome Table.

Gordon McFarlane

STEP IN MY SHOES

Step In My Shoes (in conjunction with Edinburgh Cares) is a charity which has been backed by the Scottish Government and the Girl Guide Association. It was started as a direct result of experiences of

volunteers who were helping Syrian refugees on beaches who had no or inadequate shoes.

Although the news now has less photos of people arriving on beaches, the need for robust shoes is still there, and Step In My Shoes is collecting used shoes, new socks, and small donations of money to help with transport costs. The shoes are then sent on lorries or containers which are taking other supplies to refugees.

Please look at the Step In My Shoes Facebook page for further information, and if you have shoes or socks you would like to donate, please contact kjarvie@btinternet.com.

Karena Jarvie

THE GUILD

The Guild theme this year is 'Go in Joy.'

We have had a varied programme this winter, and it has been very good to have some of our own church members as guest speakers. Meetings have been well attended with most of our 47 members coming along each time.



We are hosting a coffee morning in the Church Centre on **Saturday, 25 March** from 10am – noon. All are welcome!

Our programme for the remaining few weeks of the season –

7 March Feed the Minds (Guild Project) – Speaker Marjorie Paton

21 March AGM – Guest Speaker-Brenda Frier

4 April Seamab School – Speaker –Susie Williamson

20 June Summer Meal – Milnathort Golf Club

Helena Cant

RETIRING OFFERINGS – SUGGESTIONS WELCOME!

Members of the congregation will be aware of the retiring offerings we take at the time of the quarterly communion services as an outward-looking expression of thanksgiving for God's goodness and

grace towards us. We try to support a wide variety of good causes, with at least one local, one national and one international charity each year. The Kirk Session is always open to suggestions for charities which might be the beneficiary of one of these offerings. If you would like to propose a good cause for consideration, please contact the church office.

ALL FRIENDS TOGETHER (PART OF PROSPECTS UK)

It is hard to believe that in May 'All Friends Together' will have been going for a year. We have had a great first year with friendships blossoming. We have been hearing stories about Jesus in a simple form as well as having lots of fun and food when we have gathered together. The group is open to adults with learning disabilities and their carers

The new Assistant National Co-coordinator for Prospects is Trish Archibald, known to many of us in Kinross as Patricia Bayne. She went to school and Sunday School here.

Dates for the next few months, meeting in the church:

18 March 11.00am – 1ish

13 April 5.30 – 7.00pm and an opportunity to stay on for the Maundy Thurs service at 7 30pm

18 May 7.00 – 8.30 pm

15 June 7.00 – 8.30 pm

Helena Cant (862923)

WELCOME LUNCH

The Kirk Session is hosting a Welcome Lunch on **Sunday, 12 March** at 12.30pm in the Church Centre. Those who have formally joined the church in recent years are invited, along with those who have recently come to worship with us. You have become part of our Church Family, even if you are not “formally” a member.

We would therefore like to extend the invitation to any of you who regard yourselves as new members of our Church Family. This invitation is extended to spouses, partners, and children.

To assist with catering, please contact the Church office by **Monday, 6 March** to give names and numbers attending (01577 862570; office@kinrossparishchurch.org).

Yours in fellowship,
Robert Mitchell, Pastoral Group Convenor

FROM THE TREASURER

Enclosed with this edition you will find a copy of our summarised accounts for 2016, and I hope you take a little time to digest my financial review and the numbers – there are a lot of them, even in this abridged version! You will see that we are in good shape, a satisfying message to deliver to you.

Looking ahead, I am a bit concerned that Offerings income – previously increasing – levelled off in 2016, just as we face additional costs in 2017, notably in Ministries & Mission and Fabric Repairs. We aim to hold bank balances equivalent to nine months' routine expenses, so that we are prepared for any ups and downs, so there is no cause to worry. However, we need to maintain a close watch on the trend.

If it's been a while since you reviewed your level of giving to the Church, this would be a good time to do so. And if you pay income tax and do not have Gift-Aid in place, we have a stock of forms!

I look forward to making a presentation on the accounts at the Stated Annual Meeting on **Sunday, 26 March**.

Alan McGhie

FOCUS ON... KYTHE (Kinross-shire Youth Enterprise)

Wow! Time is flying, the first month in the job has been a whirlwind. The school environment is a great launchpad for the KYTHE organization: I've met people in statutory services including Youth Workers, Community Learning and Development workers, a Community Links worker, and an Educational Psychologist. These are all important spokes of the youth work wheel of which I am now part.



My first month included a weekend in Aviemore that killed two birds with one stone: making a Scripture Union (SU) team day and Deep Impact. On the Friday, I travelled up with Gordon Roy (SU) to the North Team meeting and was introduced to the team; we shared a time of fellowship and some planning and discussion. I met my contemporaries from Fife, Oscar and Chris, who were both encouraging.

Later on Friday evening, I crossed the road and into the MacDonald Highland resort for Deep Impact, the annual conference of Scottish Christian Youth Work Forum (SCYWF). The topic of the conference was unity. This was very encouraging and reflects where KYTHE has come from: a place of unity, the joining together for a common goal.

I have also been with Ewan and Angus to meet the 'Hope to Oban' (H2O) team over in Taynuilt. Again this was very encouraging day, seeing the amazing things God is doing in Oban. There was a great honesty as the team shared the victories and challenges they have faced over the years. I believe we left feeling both supported in prayer and with new friends who are genuinely interested in our success.

It's already clear that there is much work to do. With this in mind, I am taking some time to observe and analyse as much as I can to pin down the needs of the young people in Kinross-shire. I have also set a group the task of designing our brand and Logo.

I believe that the best work will be done over the long term, and I have aligned myself with the Community Link worker, Pat Doran. I will observe and take part in some of the transitional activities that take place from the primary schools to the high school. I hope this will give the young people a familiar face when they come to high school. I am currently arranging to meet with the heads of the feed-in primary schools.

Having conversations with statutory youth workers, it's clear that resources have been stripped away from certain elements of youth that KYTHE are well positioned to pick up. The statutory youth

workers are trying to implement a youth development group, and I will be engaging in conversations as to how KYTHE can be part of this.

Finally, it's great to be part of such a vision: the management and trustees doing stacks of work and planning, building strong foundations for a work that will hopefully help shape and build a community for Him. Can I encourage the Churches to rely on God for all things?

2 Chronicles 16:8-9 "...Yet because you relied on the Lord, He gave them into your hand. For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to these whose heart is blameless toward Him."

Barry Dougall

CHURCH COFFEE MORNING

Plant Sale with Craft and Fair Trade Stalls

Saturday, 20 May

Church Centre

10 till 12 noon

More details to follow

CONCERT OF PRAYER

During the course of a 24-hour period from noon on Friday, 6 to noon on Saturday, 7 January, over 50 members of the congregation joined their voices in a Concert of Prayer. Some were there for an hour and some came and went several times. All in all, it is estimated that over 130 hours of prayer were offered for individuals in need, for our church and community, and for the world at large. We cannot underestimate the impact of the seeking after God's blessing which that represents, nor can we begin to imagine the ways in which God will bring blessing in all the circumstances that were lifted before Him. Keep praying! God is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine.

GIFT MEMORIAL BOOK

From time to time our church is offered a special gift, often given in memory of a much-missed member of the congregation. The Congregational Board has decided to keep a book from **1 March** where these gifts may be recorded, if wished by the donator. This will keep alive the memory of the person and provide details for future historians without the need for plaques, which could clutter the church and its surroundings. Gifts can also be less tangible, such as towards a special one-off project, and still be remembered.

A book recording gifts accords with guidance from the Church of Scotland's Committee on Art and Architecture (CARTA) which points out that the General Assembly as far back as 1960 "discouraged the mounting of plaques within the worship area of churches, and this has been more recently repeated."

The CARTA guidance on 'Gifts and Memorials' suggests a wide range of suitable memorial gifts from planting a tree to a bursary for ministerial training and emphasizes that gifts should be appropriate to the life of the congregation. A copy is on the Welcome Table.

Gordon McFarlane

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2017 – CAN YOU HELP?



This year, Christian Aid Week (**14-20 May**) marks 60 years of fundraising to bring an end to global poverty.

British churches founded Christian Aid in 1945 to support hundreds of thousands of refugees who lost their homes and possessions in the Second World War. This vital work was needed long after the war was over, so in 1957 we launched Christian Aid Week, appealing to the public to help fund the churches' relief efforts. The focus for this year will again be on refugees, and our efforts will be a clear demonstration that Christians won't stand by while our neighbours are suffering.

None of our work would be possible without the tireless dedication of our volunteers. Can you help in one of the following ways?

- House to house collection
- Hosting a “Big Brekkie”
- Taking part in a sponsored walk/cycle round Loch Leven
(**Saturday, 3 June**)

Sixty years ago, Christians refused to stand by while people suffered in refugee camps. Our generation is rising to that challenge again. We won't turn our backs on the plight of today's refugees. Please help.

Alisdair Stewart (alisdairstewart@yahoo.com; 07825 698613)

REQUEST FOR HOSPITALITY

We have received a request from a family in the Great Church in Debrecen whose 17 year-old daughter would like to spend an extended period in an English-speaking environment in the summer of 2017. She is looking for accommodation and (unpaid) work. If anyone in the congregation might be able to offer either or both of these things, please contact Alan Reid for further information.

STATED ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the congregation will be held during the course of morning worship on **Sunday, 26 March**. In advance of that, copies of the Trustees Annual Report and Accounts will be made available – this is the opportunity for members to ask questions of the Church leadership. If anyone is interested in standing for election to the Congregational Board (the body that manages the church's finance and property), please have a word with one of the ministers or elders.

If you have any questions to put or comments to make about the life of the church, please submit them in advance or on the day.

FOOD TIDINGS

Our Food Tidings scheme is now looking for people to support the project in a couple of different ways.

Food Tidings coordinates the provision of a home-cooked meal to anyone who might benefit from it – on a one-off, short-term, or a longer-term basis. Volunteer cooks buy, prepare, and deliver a meal to a family or individual as a gift freely given, no strings attached. Recipients might be going through some sort of crisis or may be convalescing from an illness. Meals might also be welcomed by families with a new baby or those who have moved into the area. Food Tidings is for anyone who would feel cheered, supported, and included by both the practical help and the reminder of love and community that it brings.

In some ways, Food Tidings is an extension of what many of us already do for friends and neighbours. However, a coordinated Food Tidings scheme can respond quickly wherever there is a need to support more people more often and to build the role of the Church as a generous supporter to our wider community. I would love for Food Tidings to become a fully integrated, everyday part of what Kinross Parish Church does – part of an expectation that we share what we have and make a practical effort to improve each other's lives. The gift of lovingly-prepared food may seem insignificant, but to the recipient it can mean so much.

What next?

- If you feel able to volunteer to cook and deliver a meal every now and then, please contact Esther Blackburn on estherjkent@hotmail.com or 01577 865556.
- Please think about linking up people you know with Food Tidings, and spread the word. There are no 'criteria' for being a meal recipient – Food Tidings is there for all of us. If you or someone you know would welcome a meal, please get in touch with Esther or call the Church Office. The Food Tidings admin system can match volunteer cooks with meals needed as well as handle the intricacies of dietary requirements, likes and dislikes, and delivery details.

Esther Blackburn

TRAIDCRAFT

Fairtrade Fortnight

27 February – 12 March 2017

Saturday, 4 March 10am-12pm Coffee Morning

Kinross Church Centre – “It’s Time To Put Fairtrade In Your Break”

Tea and Coffee and lots of Fairtrade goodies to sample!

Saturday, 11 March Fairtrade Fortnight Event in Perth!

Please support these events and look out for more information in March.



Kinross Churches and Perth & Kinross Fairtrade Group are taking part in the 90kg rice Challenge this Fairtrade Fortnight!



We are taking part in the 90kg rice challenge to support Malawian farmers and their families. Malawi is one of the poorest countries in the world, and less than 1 in 4 children in the country are currently able to attend secondary school. A farmer’s selling just 90kg of Kilombero rice at a fair trade price is enough to send a child to secondary school for one year.

By making a simple change and choosing to buy fair trade rice, you can help to make a significant difference to the lives of people in Malawi! So please buy a 1kg bag for £3 from the Traidcraft stall or Kinross Parish Church office and help us to change lives! Thank you.

Big Brew 2017

Back in 2012, Traidcraft used funds from the Catalyst Programme to research drought-prone areas of Kenya and see how we could help smallholder farmers there. Now almost 30,000 people are benefiting from the Flourishing in Vulnerable Environments (FIVE) project!



TRAIDCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade

We are holding a Big Brew after the service on **Sunday, 12 March**, with some samples of Traidcraft goodies and baking from Fairtrade ingredients.

Please stay and look at the stall, collect a new catalogue, taste some samples and give a small donation which we will send to the Big Brew campaign to help smallholder farmers who are struggling to grow their crops to support their families.

The Traidcraft Team

PERFECT SUNDAY AFTERNOON

If your Sunday afternoon is a bit quiet, why not come and join us for a Perfect Sunday afternoon on **30 April**? There will be afternoon tea, chat, and entertainment, including music from the in-house P.S.A. band. We'll be there between 2 and 4pm, but feel to drop in when you can, for as much or as little time as you want.

If you'd like to join in, please give your name to the Church Office (862570) or Evelyn Cairns (863990) so we can have an idea of numbers for catering. Come along and enjoy!

CROSSREACH COMPETITION

CrossReach, the Social Care council for the Church of Scotland, is sponsoring a children and adult competition to design a CrossReach Christmas card for 2017. Winning entries will be printed and sold through the CrossReach Christmas catalogue and website, and winners will each receive a supply of their winning design as printed Christmas Cards. Closing date is **27 March** for entries. More details about the competition can be seen on the Notice Board in the Church or from the Church Office.

WORLD MISSION STAMP APPEAL

We are very grateful to all who have saved used stamps and placed them in the box provided in the general meeting room. It is amazing that thousands of pounds are raised through the sale of these stamps. Please continue to collect them, but remember to leave at least a quarter of an inch (6mm) of paper around each stamp when cutting it off the envelope, or it has to be discarded.

The 2016/2017 Appeal is to provide support for the Eco-spirituality Centre:Othara, recently opened by the South Church of India in Kerala.

Mo Morrison and Kath Seaton

MID-WEEK WORSHIP

An update on our dispersal of funds during Christmas time: £200 went to Church Action for the Homeless (CATH) in Perth, and £200 to Children First in Scotland. We thank the Lord for large numbers of ministers and others who make themselves available to take services. Please join us on Wednesday mornings in the Reading Room in the Church Centre: 10.45-11am. The service lasts around 30 minutes.

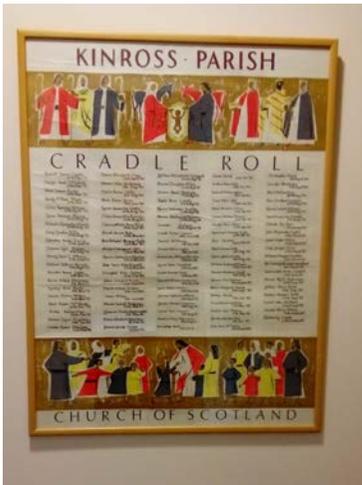
Jim Henry, Leader (07933 633539)

MISSING CRADLE ROLL CERTIFICATES

The church currently displays our Cradle Roll, listing the names of all those baptised in the Church, in the corridor outside the Upper Meeting Room (where the Crèche is held).

Unfortunately, our records are not complete, and we believe there may be three or more of the poster-sized certificates missing, including at least one from the former East Church.

At the time of our big Church refurbishment in 2005, all of our possessions had to be moved out of the building. Some were stored in rented premises, and some things were stored by members of the congregation. We are aware of at least one item – the top of our baptismal font – that was returned after the rededication of the



refurbished building. We therefore wonder if the missing certificates, which are in frames approximately 2ftx 3ft, might be lying forgotten in someone's garage or loft.

If you or your family was involved in the life of the Church at the time of the refurbishment, would you please check that these frames are not lying hidden in a forgotten space at home? Please also ask any friends or family who have moved away from Kinross or lost contact with the Church if they can recall anything. There are quite a few

current members of the congregation who know that their names are on the missing certificates, and it would bring great joy to them if we could find the missing frames.

Please contact me or the Church Office if you can help.

Robert Mitchell, Pastoral Group Convenor (865570)

SATURDAY MORNING: BOOKS AND COFFEE STOP

Every Saturday morning volunteers from the congregation serve in Coffee Stop from 10am-12pm in the Church Centre. An array of home baking is enjoyed each week by a faithful group who come along to enjoy the company and the fellowship. It is an outreach to the community, and, especially during the summer, visiting cyclists and tourists drop in, but we would like to encourage more from our own congregation to support the Saturday morning Coffee Stop. All proceeds go to Church Funds and during the past year almost £2000 was raised. We are fortunate to have a willing band of 14 volunteers who serve on a rota system and grateful thanks to them for their loyalty and home baking. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Margaret Michie and Jim Henry

CRAFT GROUP

2017 has got off to a good start with lots of enthusiasm, chat, and laughter. Since our last fundraising event in November, the ladies have enjoyed knitting around 200 blanket squares for the FREEDOM from FISTULA FOUNDATION (www.freedomfromfistula.org.uk) based in Perth.

We are knitting jackets and hats for babies at the special care baby unit (SCBU) in Ninewells Hospital, Dundee. This initiative came about through a conversation with the owner of Skeins & Bobbins in the High Street and uses a pattern supplied by the Ninewells SCBU.

We've used up our stock of yarn so if anyone has yarn lying around that they don't need any longer, we would be happy to put it to good use for charity work. It can be handed into the Church Office on any weekday 10am until noon.

New members are always welcome.

Margaret Clark

LOST PROPERTY

Anyone recognising any of the items as theirs should contact the Church Office. Thanks.

Margaret Hamblin, Office Co-ordinator



WATCH THIS SPACE

Over the past few months, we have been rehearsing and recording some of our Introsits, Anthems, and Hymns which are now being put together on a CD. We hope that there will be some of your favourites on the CD and that you will enjoy listening to the music we have enjoyed singing. We'll keep you updated on when the CDs will be available. They would make a lovely gift!

The Choir

SITUATIONS VACANT

Volunteers are sought for the following positions. Could you help out with one of these tasks?

Crèche Volunteer – If you enjoy being around young children, we would love to welcome you to our Crèche Team. Please contact Moira Hookham for more information.

Family Week Volunteer – Training will take place in the Church on **Monday, 22 May** (7pm for coffee and 7.30pm for the meeting). Please contact Ruth Robertson for more information

Kinross-shire Volunteer Group and Rural Outreach Scheme Shopping Volunteer –Driving folks to the shops, supermarkets, and community campus in Kinross. Please contact Mike Thomson (01592 840353; 07880 792763; mike.thomson3@yahoo.co.uk) for more information and an application form. You can also visit our website www.kvgandros.org.uk.

ST PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

On Sunday, 22 January, we were most pleased to welcome the Rev Alan Reid as part of the pulpit swap by Kinross-shire Churches Together. Alan preached at the 11am service. Following on from that, we had a Churches Together service at 4pm; some 70 people came to that service. We also have good news in that we have been funded to carry out major repairs to the exterior of the church.

Jim Henry, Sacristan (864452, 07933 633539)

KINROSS-SHIRE CHURCHES TOGETHER – LENT STUDIES

This year as our Lent Study we have selected “Another Story Must Begin” (see below). Whether you go to House Groups or not, this is an annual chance to make Lent a time of spiritual refreshment in the company of like-minded people from other churches. Starting on **Wednesday, 8 March** at 7.30 pm for the first of 5 Wednesdays, you can meet in Kinross Parish Church.



'Another Story Must Begin' is an original Lent course based on the film, the novel, and the stage adaptation of Victor Hugo's *Les Misérables*. Through discussion of some of the themes and principal characters of this epic narrative, the course explores the grace of God and our own fallen state as well as the opportunity for redemption. It helps us to reassess what we can do with our lives and for those around us.

Each session includes watching scenes from the Oscar-winning movie starring Hugh Jackman, Russell Crowe, and Anne Hathaway.

The course book (not essential) is £5.39 or £5.99 for large print. There is also an e-book version which is cheaper.

If Wednesday doesn't suit you, then there is an invitation from St Paul's Thursday morning group, which meets in the meeting room at St Paul's. Their course is a study of St John's Gospel with a series of studies on how we receive Christ to become children of God. The course lasts for the month of March on Thursday mornings at 10.00 for 10.30. The first meeting is at the house of Ian and Sue Jones, 5 George Drive KY13 8AE, but thereafter at St Paul's meeting room. Anyone is welcome.

Alex Cant

KINROSS-SHIRE CHURCHES TOGETHER HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2017

This year's **Walk of Witness** takes place on **Good Friday, 14 April**. The walkers meet at 1.00 pm, outside the Millbridge Hall, the home of Kinross Christian Fellowship, and then we make our way up the

High Street to the Church Centre, then the Parish Church, St James' and then St Paul's. At each stop we sing a verse of an Easter hymn and hear a reading. At St Paul's, there is the option to join the service in the Church for Good Friday, or indeed to go down to St James' for a similar event.

This year we are reverting to the far end of Kirkgate Park for our **early morning service** by the loch at 7.30 am on Easter Sunday. Park at the far end and walk round the wall of the old graveyard, and you will find us at the vista spot. After the service, you are invited to join us for breakfast at the Kirklands Hotel, where we will be offered coffee, tea, and a roll with bacon, egg, or cheese at a cost of £5 per head.

Alex Cant

FROM THE EDITOR'S LAPTOP



Hi y'all—

Once again, a bumper issue full of information and initiatives. The seasons of Lent and Easter always provide activities for both children and adults, so please do have a look and take advantage where you can!

I was particularly struck this issue as to the number of initiatives our church is actively engaged in to better the plight of others: Christian Aid, Step in Our Shoes, Food Tidings... not to mention the recipient of this quarter's retiral offering, the Refugee Survival Trust.

As always, if there are any suggestions or thoughts you have on the content, format, or any other aspect of the magazine, please feel free to contact me.

Ann Marie Neave (862271, amkcnsuit@yahoo.com)

TIME FOR PRAYER

The **Monthly Prayer Diary** (including a short Bible reading for each day) is available in print at Church and can also be accessed via the website or by email. If you require a large-print edition, please contact the Church Office.

- **Silent Meditation:** half an hour of guided stillness on the first Monday of the month at *8am (6 March, 3 April, 1 May)*.
- **A Prayer Breakfast** on **11 March, 8 April, and 13 May** at *8.30am*. A breakfast of rolls and coffee in the Church Meeting Room followed by a short time of prayer. Names in advance please, for catering purposes, to the Church Office 862570.
- **Compline** is 20 minutes of reflective readings and prayers, the perfect way to end the day on the third Thursday of each month at *9pm (16 March, 20 April, 18 May)*.

Holy Week and Easter Services

During Holy Week, there will be short reflective services at 9am and 9pm each day following the story of the last week of Jesus' life.

These will be held in the church.

Sunday, 9 April

10.30am - Palm Sunday Service at Kinross Parish Church

Thursday, 13 April

7.30pm - Maundy Thursday Communion at Portmoak Church

Friday, 14 April

10.30am – One Friday (for families) - Kinross Parish Church

1.00pm – Walk of Witness beginning at Millbridge Hall

2.00pm – Last Hour at the Cross at St. Paul's Church

7.30pm - Good Friday Service at Kinross Parish Church

Sunday, 16 April

7.30am – Lochside Service at the Kirkgate (far end)

10.30am – Easter Morning Worship at Kinross Parish Church

6.30pm – Easter Songs of Praise at Fossoway Church

DIARY OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Note: Guild meetings are noted on page 13; All Friends Together meetings are on page 14.

| Date | Event | Contact |
|------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| March | | |
| Saturday 4 10am-noon | Fairtrade Coffee Morning Church Centre | Church Office (862570) |
| Wednesday 8 7.30pm | Lenten study begin Weekly for 5 weeks in the church | Alex Cant (862923) |
| Sunday 12 12.30pm | New Members Welcome Lunch Church Centre | Church Office (862570) |
| Saturday 25 10am-noon | Guild Coffee Morning Church Centre | Helena Cant (862923) |
| Sunday, 26 | Stated Annual Meeting Church | Church Office (862570) |
| April | | |
| Friday 14 10.30am-12.30pm | One Friday Church | Ruth Robertson (865985) |
| Sunday, 30 2-4pm | A Perfect Sunday Afternoon Church | Church Office (862570) |
| May | | |
| Sunday, 14 – Saturday, 20 | Christian Aid Week | Alisdair Stewart 07825 698613 |
| Saturday 20 10am-noon | Church Coffee Morning Church Centre | Church Office (862570) |
| Monday, 22 7pm | Family Week Planning Session Church | Ruth Robertson (865985) |
| June | | |
| Saturday 3 | Sponsored walk/cycle around the Loch for Christian Aid | Alisdair Stewart 07825 698613 |
| July - August | | |
| Sundays 2 July –6 August | Summer Sunday School General Meeting Room | Lynn Caldwell (863271) |
| Monday 31 July– Friday 4 August | Family Week Church | Ruth Robertson (865985) |

SUNDAY SERVICES

March – May 2017

**Sunday Morning at 10.30am (Crèche, Jr Church, and Jampact)
Sunday evenings as advertised**

| | | |
|---------------|--|---|
| 5 Mar | Communion Sunday | |
| 10.30am | John 18:1-11 | 'The arrest of Jesus' |
| 6.30pm | Evening Communion (both common cup & individual glasses will be used) | |
| 12 Mar | John 18:12-27 | 'Jesus before Caiaphas' |
| 19 Mar | John 18:28-38 | 'Jesus before Pilate' |
| 26 Mar | John 18:38-19:16 | 'He suffered under Pontius Pilate' |
| 2 Apr | John 19:17-27 | 'He was crucified' |
| 10.30am | Informal Communion at the close of the morning service | |
| 9 Apr | John 19:28-42 | 'He died and was buried' |
| 16 Apr | John 20:1-10 | 'On the third day He rose again' |
| 23 Apr | Hebrews 4:14-5:10 | 'He ascended into heaven' |
| 30 Apr | Hebrews 7:15-28 | 'He is seated at the right hand of the Father' |
| 7 May | Hebrews 10:19-30 | 'He will come to judge the living and the dead' |
| 10.30am | Informal Communion at the close of the morning service | |
| 14 May | Hebrews 11 | 'A Better Plan' |
| 21 May | Hebrews 12 | 'A Better City' |
| 28 May | Hebrews 13 | 'A Better Way' |

Recordings of Services: CDs are available of Sunday services; these are in the church vestibule. If you would like a copy, or know of anyone who would, please speak with the **Church Office** (862570).

Following Christ
Spreading the Word
Serving the Community



Your Pastoral Elder: as part of our commitment to our congregation, all members receive a visit from their Church Elder (or Visitor) before each Quarterly Communion. As well as delivering the church magazine, this is an opportunity for the Elder/Visitor and yourself to keep in touch. Also please feel free to contact us at any time throughout the year if there is anything at all we can do to help.

Your Pastoral Elder is:

Your Elder can be contacted via the Church Office (see below)

CONTACTS

Minister: **Rev. Alan Reid** (862952; areid@churchofscotland.org.uk)

Ordained Local Minister: **Rev. Margaret Michie**
(01592 840602; margaretfmichie@btinternet.com)

Session Clerk: **Jaffrey Weir** (865780; jaffreyweir@gmail.com)

Safeguarding Coordinator: Until a new coordinator is appointed, contact the Church Office or the minister about safeguarding issues.

Church website: www.kinrossparishchurch.org

Church Office: 862570 (open 10am–12 noon weekdays) or
office@kinrossparishchurch.org

Booking of Church Centre or Church: contact Church Office
(862570; lets@kinrossparishchurch.org)

Kirk Session: next meeting (open to all) **Monday, 8 May 2017,**
7.30pm

Editor: **Ann Marie Neave** (862271; amkcnsuit@yahoo.com)

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