

SERVICES

Like all churches we are following the Scottish Government and Church of Scotland guidance. Please check on our website, Facebook page or contact the Church Office for the latest advice



**FOLLOWING CHRIST
SPREADING THE WORD
SERVING THE COMMUNITY**

KIN-NECTIONS

JUNE - AUGUST 2021

FREE: PLEASE TAKE A COPY

- ◇ If you want to book a place at Sunday worship, contact the Church Office
- ◇ Sunday Service Live: 10.30am on the church website, YouTube, Facebook or on Zoom
- ◇ Sunday Service Recordings are uploaded after 1pm on the website, YouTube, Facebook or dial 01577 528270
- ◇ For CD recordings or a printed copy of the sermon contact the Church Office

While we are waiting and watching Your plans unfold, may we have the strength and grace to serve.

Kinross Parish Church of Scotland

10 Station Road
Kinross
KY13 8TG

Church Office
01577 862570

Charity No: SC012555

FROM THE MANSE ...

Dear Friends

It is sometimes said that it does you good to count your blessings and that is certainly a good way to lift your spirits if you find that things are getting you down. Though we may have been physically separated from family and friends for what seems like an eternity, we are blessed to have been able to keep in touch with them in some cases more than ever. Though everyone working has faced unimaginable challenges and those who have lost work have been living on their nerves, we have been blessed to have government and charitable support structures to keep people from the breadline and to keep people safe. Though many have been fearful of Coronavirus, we are blessed to have the NHS and we should be deeply thankful for the speedy development of vaccines and the roll-out of the vaccination programme. Though our experience of church has not been what any of us would have liked, we have not only been able to continue our ministry and mission but also to grow and develop it.

Though we are all struggling at the moment, we do have many blessings to count and I invite you to pause even as you are reading this to give thanks to God for one thing that is a blessing to you today, not least the love in which the Creator of the universe enfolds you in Jesus Christ.

But in the light of that, I have found myself pondering words from the Book of Acts where the apostle Paul, on one of the few occasions when he directly quotes the Lord Jesus Himself, says: "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). Over these last months we have received blessing after blessing – ways to keep in touch with loved ones, practical support, free healthcare, the continuing impact on our lives of the Good News of Christ and the Church that bears His name.

Here Jesus and Paul prompt us to go one stage further than counting our blessings. It's *more* blessed to give. And so if you have paused to consider the ways in which you have *been* blessed, let me also invite you to think how you might *be* a blessing to others – if you have appreciated the way that others have supported you during lockdown, how about offering yourself to support others going forward whether through practical service or a listening ear; or if you have not been able to treat yourself over recent months why not give the money you have saved as a thank offering to a charity supporting the provision of vaccinations in developing countries or those in our own country whose income has been cut, or to the church to help cover the costs of equipping ourselves for the new opportunities that lie ahead. It *is* more blessed to give than to receive. What will you give?

With all prayerful good wishes.

Alan

Rev Alan D Reid



Communion is celebrated in church and on Zoom on the first Sunday of the month; on other Sundays there is the opportunity for fellowship at Zoom coffee following the service

Keep in Touch and find out what's going on (there's lots of it)

If you aren't already receiving the Sunday Mailer, contact the Church Office and we'll be sure to add you to the list. As this is a shortened version of Kin-nections, for news of our groups such as All Friends Together, Craft Group, Guild, Let's Sing, Traidcraft etc along with our youth groups, check out our website, Facebook and Sunday Mailer

Minister

Rev Alan D Reid / 01577 862952

Ordained Local Minister

Rev Margaret Michie

Session Clerk

Jaffrey Weir

Safeguarding Coordinator

Enid Campbell

Church Office currently operating remotely

01577 862570 / office@kinrossparishchurch.org

Hire of Church Centre or Church

01577 862570 / lets@kinrossparishchurch.org



[kpscotland](https://www.instagram.com/kpscotland)



[Kinross Parish Church of Scotland](https://www.facebook.com/KinrossParishChurchofScotland)



[Kinross Parish Worship](https://www.youtube.com/KinrossParishWorship)



www.kinrossparishchurch.org

SUNDAY SERVICES

June to August

Sunday Morning

10.30am

During June our focus on Sunday mornings will be on the Person and Work of the Holy Spirit.

Around the time of Family Week we will take the opportunity as a whole congregation to focus on the same themes.

As we move into the new session we will focus on this year's stewardship - the Care of Creation.

On the first Sunday of each month Communion will be celebrated at the service in the church and on Zoom.

6 June	1 John 2:18-29 The Anointing Spirit	Communion Sunday
13 June	2 Corinthians 3:7-18 The Active Spirit	Stated Annual Meeting
20 June	Luke 11:9-13 The Answering Spirit	
27 June	Acts 13:1-3 The Appointing Spirit	
4 July	Service led by Anne Redpath	
11 July	Service led by Andrea Fraser	
18 July	Matthew 4:18-22 Jesus Calls	
25 July	Matthew 7:24-29 Jesus Guides	
1 August	Matthew 8:23-27 Jesus Cares	
8 August	Matthew 8:14:13-21 Jesus Provides	
15 August	John 21:15-19 Jesus Restores	
22 August	Job 38-41 God's World	
29 August	Genesis 1 It Was Very Good	

Time for Prayer

At this time it is ever more important that we take time to pray both as individuals and in fellowship with others, to seek God's blessing on our world, our nation, our community and our own lives.



* **Prayer Diary** is published monthly on our website and circulated by email. We hope it will soon be possible to make this available again in printed form.

* **Prayer for the Day** offers a daily reflection and prayer for the day (Mon-Fri) on the dial-up service, 01577 528270.

* **Sunday Evenings at 6pm** there is an opportunity to gather with others to pray via Zoom (online or phone)

* **Wednesdays at Midday**. This is currently broadcast live on Facebook but look out for details of when it may resume in person in the church.

* **Silent Meditation** guidelines are published on our Facebook page for the first Monday morning of the month (**7 June, 5 July, 2 August**). Again it may be possible to resume this in person in the church during the summer.

* **Compline** at 9pm on the third Thursday of the month is the late evening monastic prayer service. Currently broadcast on Facebook, it is hoped to resume this in church in due course (**17 June, 2 July, 19 August**).

Dear Heavenly Father

We come before You with confidence today as Our Risen Lord and recognise our need for a Saviour!

Let us challenge our minds afresh to listen and read Your Holy Word and take our thoughts captive! Catch those potential damaging ideas before they take over and grow deep roots in our hearts. Let us think as You would think, do what You would do. Instead of following celebrities and stars, let us follow the One who made them! Guard us from comparison on social media and anything that can destroy our souls with feelings of inadequacy.

Let us nurture the growth of healthy thoughts, seeing goodness, being grateful for kindness, looking for beauty, appreciating the wonder of nature and, most of all giving thanks in all circumstances. Lord, You know our frailties and shortcomings. We need support when it comes to dealing with loss, grief, pain and suffering. We think of those who have lost their lives during the pandemic and pray for their families going through the difficulties and grief. Lord, we ask that they may know Your presence uplifting them at this time.

We can be bold and ask for help and guidance for our rightful minds to be restored.

As we look at restoring, we see it includes 'rest' and You said 'Come unto Me all you who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest'. Lord, drop Your gentle dews of quietness upon us and open our hearts to rest with You and to give time to You. We thank You that You gave Your life for us and through Your resurrection made possible this wonderful opportunity of freedom.

Let us choose to replace fear with peace, hatred with love, anxiety with prayer and thanksgiving, and in those frozen moments of grief let us find our voice and sing 'My God, How Great Thou Art!'. Free the sticking places of anxiety and fear with Your peace that passes our understanding. Lord, fill our pathways with joy and hope by clearing the weeds up from the roots and planting and nurturing all that is true, noble, right, pure and lovely.

As we negotiate our pathway from lockdown, we give thanks for bringing us this far. We are amazed at the scientists who have discovered a vaccine for Covid and so thankful that many people have now had their second dose. We give thanks to volunteers helping out in this scheme and all healthcare workers involved through the past year. We know some have isolated themselves from family and friends to give care. We give thanks. We are grateful for all care workers, home visitors, home helps, cleaners and porters and all the services that have carried on and continue to offer care and help to many.

Dear Lord, while life clamours for our attention and our hearts and minds become heavy laden, let us find Your peace through Your still small voice that whispers to our souls. We are thankful we can return to churches, longing for the day we can sing together but meanwhile let us raise our voices at home in love, praise and worship to our one true God and Father of Mankind. We ask these prayers through the Name which is above every name, the name of Jesus. *Amen*

Growing Young - continuing our conversations

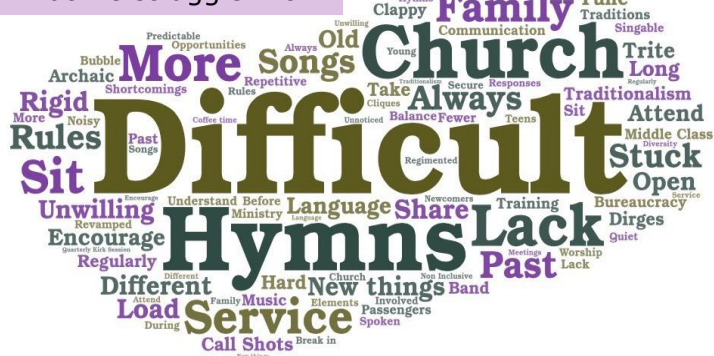
KPC has been working through the Growing Young (GY) process over the last few months, alongside a cohort of 24 other Church of Scotland churches. GY is a research-based programme led by the Fuller Institute in the US which aims to help us explore how Church works for younger people in our Church family and make positive changes to ensure KPC serves all ages on into the future.

The GY team (six people of different ages led by Alan Reid) has been having conversations with house groups and others within the Church community to understand what is important to all of us and what our hopes and dreams are for our Church in the future. The word clouds shown are generated by measuring the frequency of particular words in a text document; words that appear many times are larger and words that are used less frequently are smaller. The word clouds aren't a definitive set of ideas or opinions but they give a snapshot of some of the thoughts and feelings expressed and are a good conversation starter.

What we like about KPC



What we struggle with



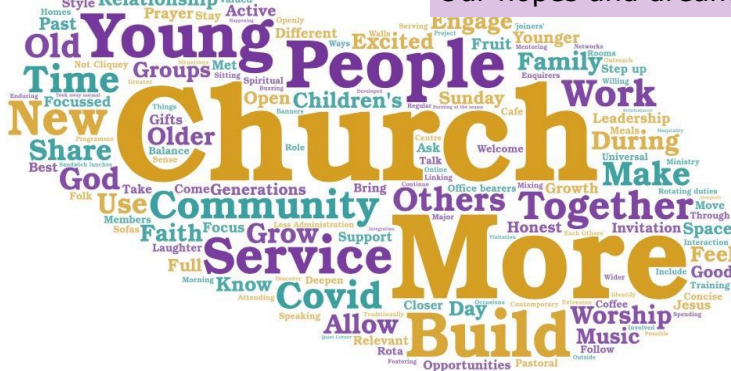
Eleanor, Shona, Jenny and Alan took time at the May Kirk Session meeting to ask for feedback on the word clouds and the vision of what our Church might look and feel like in 2024, which we have drawn together based on our initial conversations. Some of this vision is about new ways of doing things, some might be about completely new things (or not doing things!), and lots of it is about making the most of the great things our Church

already does. Importantly the vision is also about shared values, such as fostering a strong sense of warmth and community, being fully involved in Kinross life, sharing empathy across the generations and being a Jesus-centred family. These are the approaches that will take our Church forward for future generations.

The GY process encourages us to complete a church transformation plan to document our shared vision and to plan for the actions which will help us get there. We are looking at actions that work Inward within our Church family, Outward in the wider community and Forward to a longer-term sustainable future. Over the coming months, and especially as it becomes more possible to meet flexibly in-person, we hope to begin to experiment with ideas that have come from this process, such as the style of welcome that children and young families receive on a Sunday morning. However, the conversation continues and the GY group will continue to ask questions and seek feedback because the journey our Church is on belongs to us all.

Esther Blackburn

Our hopes and dreams



Esther Blackburn

Growing Young cont'd

What Can You Do?

- ◇ **Pray** that the GY process would begin to bear fruit with opportunities to try new things while valuing the best of the established ways.
- ◇ **Pray** that the changes and experiments would be generously received and that we would all be prepared to listen and learn with open minds.
- ◇ **Talk** about GY with your friends and family, in and out of Church. The core team will be happy to talk with you about it, too.
- ◇ **Ask** someone younger (if you're older) or older (if you're younger) about what they would like from Church in the future. Listen well and share what you hear with others and the GY team.

Father

We thank You for loving and guiding each one of us, no matter who we are. Whatever we may be faced with in this life, You are our rock and our salvation.

We lift up to You our young people. In the midst of suffering, worry or uncertainty, show them Your unfailing love and strength. As Christians, enable each of us to find the peace and the perseverance that we need and help us to share Your gospel with the whole world.

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen

(by a member of the GY Team)

Music from Wake Up, Warm Up, Worship

Have you been along to Wake Up, Warm Up, Worship? This 20 minute gathering on Zoom before the Sunday Service is informal and chatty (if we were in person, we'd definitely be lounging on sofas) and part of its joy is sharing new music. Here's a selection from the playlist - why not check them out?

- ⇒ Oceans - Hillsong Worship
- ⇒ I Can Only Imagine - MercyMe
- ⇒ 10,000 Reasons - Matt Redman
- ⇒ Alive & Breathing - Matt Maher
- ⇒ Breakthrough - Mandisa

Family Week Jungle Adventure

Monday 2 - Friday 6 August

Are you ready for an adventure?

JUNGLE ADVENTURE HOLIDAY CLUB

Limited Places – look out for booking information!

If you are aged between 3½ and 15, we hope you'll join us at Family Week this summer where the theme is Jungle Adventure. There are five different jungle zones - we'll tell you exactly where they are nearer the time. Unfortunately, due to current restrictions, the different age groups won't be able to meet altogether in the same place; however, each little bubble will be having their own great adventure.

You can arrive at your zone each morning between 9.45/10am finishing at 12 noon. There will be games, crafts, Bible stories, crazy challenges, drama, music with actions/signing (no singing this year unfortunately) and adventure activities.

This year there is no option to register in person on the day. All registration will be completed online. Bookings taken from 10am on Tuesday 1 June. Look out for details on the church website and on social media. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. There will be a max of 30 children in each bubble - beyond this we will operate a waiting list.

If you'd like to help us and join the Family Week Team this summer, please email the Church Office to let us know.

Ruth Robertson



Eco-Congregation

Taking Action in our Lives!

Reducing the carbon footprint of our church buildings is just the beginning. Energy used in a large church could produce a carbon footprint of 100 tonnes but each household in the congregation may well have a carbon footprint of over 10 tonnes. On this basis, a congregation of 100 people would have at least 10 times the carbon footprint of the church buildings; so the collective footprint of a congregation will almost always be far larger than that of their church buildings. **Together, a congregation can make a big difference to carbon reduction by reducing energy use at home, in travel and in shopping.**



Take action in our lives! Here are just some ideas that could help to reduce our greenhouse gases. Together we can make a difference.

In the home

If you have a hot water tank, fit an insulating jacket at least 75mm thick and save up to £30 a year.

On the move

If you drive a car, do you have the most fuel-efficient car for your needs? It is estimated that buying the most fuel-efficient car in its class could reduce emissions by 24% and save three months' worth of fuel a year.

Out shopping

UK consumers buy about 2 million tonnes of clothes a year with a carbon footprint of 3.1 million tons: how do you shop for clothes?

Recycle Your Empty Medicine Packets

Every year empty medicine blister packets end up in landfills across the UK. The TerraCycle® Medicine Packet Recycling Programme is putting an end to this enormous loss of resources. By recycling our empty medicine blister packets, not only are we helping the environment but the waste we recycle also helps raise money for charitable causes. Collect your empty medicine blister packets and we will send them to TerraCycle® who will recycle them into new products.

Drop-Off Point: KPC Sunday mornings prior to the worship service.

(Empty medicine blister packs only please! No bottles, sprays, pills etc or unused/out-of-date medicines - these should be returned to a pharmacy for safe disposal)

Jim Smith

Bringing KPC Services to You

A year ago KPC was lucky enough to have the Rev Kathy Dain arrive just prior to lockdown. Her experience in broadcast production allowed us to begin livestreaming services while the Church was closed. Kathy has moved on, but she helped put in place an AV team enabling us to carry on livestreaming for the foreseeable future. Our AV1 Leader is Jonnie, who is assisted by a group of AV2 volunteers who monitor Zoom and Facebook during the service and manage the camera feed to the sanctuary screens.



We are always looking for additional volunteers and would welcome anyone who might be interested. Please contact Ann Marie Neave or the Church Office.

Pastoral Phone Calls

Very many thanks to all who have been phoning to maintain contact with other members during lockdown. I have been told that the sound of another person's voice has been a very welcome bright spot in an otherwise lonely day, or series of days, during the enforced isolation over the past year. This has been a wonderful practical demonstration of showing Christian compassion for others and where you think continued contact would be appreciated, please keep phoning. Some people are looking forward to meeting in person, as restrictions permit. Please chat about whether that is wanted and arrange something safe.

Continued contact would be great support to elders while they get back to whatever form of pastoral visiting is allowed in the future. If you do maintain contact, please let me know (either personally or via the Church Office) and I will put you in touch with the person's elder so that you are aware of the part you are both playing in the ongoing pastoral care of our members.

Robert Mitchell

*“Christ
Himself kisses
us through the
love of our
friends.”*

*Bernard de
Clairvaux
(12th century)*

KIRK SESSION & COUNCIL DATES

Kirk Session Council	22 June
Pre-Kirk Session Council	31 August
Kirk Session	6 September

Meetings are open to all: please contact the Church Office for details.

Minutes of Kirk Session meetings are available from the Church Office.

Stated Annual Meeting Sunday 13 June

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Funerals	
Margaret McKay	5 March
David Henry	24 March
Jean Simpson	1 April
Sandra Barlow	15 April
We extend a warm welcome to new member Kathleen Allison	

We need your help!

Can you spare some time using your gifts & talents or for learning new skills?

The Finance Group (meeting four times a year) is looking for a couple of additions to the group. Whilst an interest in matters financial will be very useful, you don't need to be an accountant, banker or similar.

I also seek to step down from the role of Treasurer later this year, and this is a post where an accounting or finance background is likely to be essential. It's an important role, but comes with a real sense of serving the church and the Lord.

If you think either of these roles could be for you, please contact Brian Timms or me direct for a chat, or contact the Church Office. Many thanks! *Alan McGhie*

Interested in social media? **The Admin & Comms Group** is looking for someone to keep our social media (Facebook, Instagram &/or website) engaging and up-to-date, reflecting the wide range of our church life, connecting across the congregation and our community.

Input (working remotely) is approx 1-2hrs/week with full training & support from the team.

Contact the Church Office to find out more.

Farewells...

Kinross Parish Church sends warmest wishes to **Angus & Marion Morrison**.

The Very Rev Dr Morrison (Angus) and Marion are soon to be leaving Orwell & Portmoak Parish, moving to Edinburgh. All of the Kinross-shire churches will miss them, but we are thankful for the 10 years that they have spent here and for their contribution to our community. "Angus and Marion have time for everyone". "He has been a Good Shepherd to his flock". Angus was Moderator of the General Assembly in 2015.



We also bade farewell to the **Rev Kathy Dain** as she left us to take up her call as parish minister to the Shore Kirk, Argyll. Kathy had been with us for more than a year as part of her admission process into the Church of Scotland. She arrived in Scotland (the country of her ancestors) just before lockdown from her previous position as the Executive Director of a Hispanic mission in Florida. A presentation was made to Kathy on 18 April when gifts were presented by the Session Clerk, Jaffrey Weir, in recognition of her invaluable help to the church during a difficult year. We have all benefited greatly from her preaching, prayers and pastoral care as well as her technical expertise. Jaffrey said "Kathy came to us as a stranger but she leaves us as a much-loved friend."



And finally, **Margaret Hamblin**, our Church Office Coordinator leaves in June after 5 years in post. Many of you will have spoken with Margaret on the phone, emailed her or chatted with her in the office. But all of you will have benefited from her quiet, diligent work. Margaret and her team of office volunteers have been integral to our church life. We are particularly grateful for Margaret's adaptability and can-do attitude when everything changed in March 2020 and the office became virtual. We send our heartfelt thanks to Margaret, wishing both Margaret and Steve (and the dogs) every happiness as they settle into their new life in Pitlochry.



... and Introductions



We are delighted to welcome **Heather Petrie** as our new Church Office Coordinator. Heather will be our new 'voice' (and hopefully soon 'face') of the office, starting with us in June. We hope she will soon feel at home among us and all the comings and goings of KPC and that she will feel welcomed and supported as she starts as Office Coordinator, initially working remotely, in these challenging times.

Jim Wallace was installed as the new Moderator at the General Assembly in May which was held online for the second year. The Assembly was streamed to view and you can find a summary of its decisions on the Church of Scotland website.



(photo from the Church of Scotland)

We believe in a God who hears and answers prayer. You can make a prayer request via our website www.kinrossparishchurch.org This can be submitted anonymously (and confidentially) with options for requesting a call back, for sharing with others or remaining confidential.