

KIN-NECTIONS

KINROSS PARISH CHURCH | MARCH - MAY 2022

Following Christ | Spreading the Word | Serving the Community



FREE: Please take a copy

Following Christ

Spreading the Word

Serving the Community

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www.kinrossparishchurch.org

Contact **Church Office** to receive weekly email of events.

Kirk Session meetings are open to all.

Contact Church Office for details.

Minutes of Kirk Session Meetings

Available from the Church Office.

Kirk Session Council **22 March**

Pre-Kirk Session Council **26 April**

Kirk Session **2 May**

Kin-nections June-Sept Deadline: **26 April**



The Church of Scotland

SUNDAY SERVICES at 10.30am

During Lent we will be **Praying the Psalms** as we walk with Jesus towards the Cross and then after Easter we will be continuing the theme of Discipleship by looking at individuals who encountered Jesus.

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

06 March	Communion, Psalm 92 Hallowed Be Your Name
13 March	Psalms 4 & 5 Your Kingdom Come
20 March	Psalm 23 Give Us Today Our Daily Bread
27 March	Psalm 51 Forgive Us Our Sins
03 April	Psalm 6 Lead Us Not into Temptation
10 April	Palm Sunday, Psalm 13 Deliver Us From Evil
17 April	Easter Sunday, Psalm 118 Kingdom, Power and Glory
24 April	John 1:43-51 Nathaniel
01 May	John 2:1-11 Mary, Mother of Jesus
08 May	John 3:1-7 & 4:7-19 The Insider and the Outcast
15 May	John 11:17-36 Mary and Martha
22 May	John 20:1-18 Mary Magdalene
29 May	Ascension Sunday, Matthew 3:13-4:11 The Great Enemy

As Covid guidelines continue to change, check the church website, Facebook page or contact the Church Office for the latest guidance on attending worship and meetings. Please do not attend if you are feeling unwell.



Find us on Facebook

Kinross Parish Church of Scotland



Find us on Instagram

kpcscotland



Find us on YouTube

Kinross Parish Worship

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EASTER SERVICES 2022

We will be offering worship and fellowship throughout the Easter season.

Please check our website, Facebook page or Church Notices for details of services.

COMMUNION SUNDAY

6 March



The Wonder of The Cross

Dear Lord,

In the midst of all our questions, You tell us to breathe deep and soak in Your presence. In the midst of our struggles, You tell us to find rest in You. In the midst of our sadness and confusion, You hold us close, safe under the shadow of Your wings. When we doubt that You are there or if You care, You hear our prayers. You are right there in the wonder. Lord, You died on the cross so that we might live, really live, for You already bore all of the sicknesses and sin, our inadequacies and shortcomings. What kind of love is this? Thank You Lord that You did not just reach down from the heavens and tell us of Your love, but instead You came to earth to show us, to live and to die for us. Thank you Lord for the wonder of the cross and may we understand Your sacrifice in our hearts and in our lives we pray. Amen.

By Diane Taylor

FROM THE MANSE...

Dear Friends

The last couple of months have seen us exploring the theme of Discipleship in our Sunday morning services and house-groups as we have read and studied the First Letter of John. The next couple of months will take us on the Lenten journey towards Easter during which we will be exploring the life of prayer, an important aspect of our discipleship, guided by the rich heritage of the Psalms. Alison Morgan writes that “the plural of disciple is church” and the more we each seek to grow as disciples of Jesus the more we recognise the need for others' support along the way.

The background to our congregational life is still dominated by the restrictions and challenges brought about by the Covid pandemic which has turned the whole world upside down over the last two years, but we are now entering a new phase in which we hesitantly learn to live with the virus and find ways to return to something more akin to the experience we knew before Covid.

I recognise that many remain hesitant to return to church in person but I do want to encourage those of all ages who have not yet ventured back to a service in the church to give serious and prayerful consideration to doing so in the coming weeks. The church family has missed your presence and your contribution and we have been the poorer for your absence, and while I am glad that we have been able to offer a connection to church via live-streaming and CDs of services I think that you will have been the poorer for not having had the experience of interacting with fellow members of the Body of Christ that we all need if we are to grow up into Christ our Head.

I would also encourage any of you who may feel disconnected from the rest of the congregation to suggest what we might do as a church at this time to help you to re-engage meaningfully. Elders and others will *not* at this stage routinely seek to come in to your home when delivering these magazines but you are encouraged to have a chat with them on the doorstep and to arrange another time when you might speak on the phone or, if appropriate, to meet up in person. We would also like to know what we might do better to minister to children and young families at this time as we try to rebuild our congregational life.

The church is a team of disciples all seeking to play their part in furthering God's Kingdom in the world. There's a place for you in that team in Kinross Parish Church right now. Jesus said, “Come with me.”

With prayerful good wishes, **Alan**

Rev A.D. Reid



TIME FOR PRAYER

You are invited to come before God in prayer individually and in company with others. The following opportunities are offered to assist you in sharing in this important aspect of our congregational life.

- The monthly **Prayer Diary** is published online and circulated by email
- Every **Sunday evening at 6pm** there is an opportunity to gather with others to pray via Zoom (online or by telephone)
- On the **first Monday morning of the month** at 8am there is a time of guided meditation in the church (**7 March, 4 April, 2 May**)
- On the **third Thursday of the month** you are invited to pause before bed for the late evening monastic prayer service of Compline at 9pm. This takes place in the church (**17 March, 21 April, 19 May**)

Keeping in Contact

Every household connected to the Church usually receives a visit before each quarterly Communion. Regrettably, Covid-19 has disrupted this pattern but all households have an allocated pastoral elder. If you wish to contact your elder but don't have their details, please leave a message with the Church Office on 01577 862570 or email

office@kinrossparishchurch.org

Your Pastoral Elder is:

God sees as clearly in the dark as in the day; He knows what He is doing and where He is going

Dr Sinclair B Ferguson

MINISTRY TRAINING UPDATE

I am so blessed in my placement at Perth North Church, which is providing me with a variety of good and helpful experiences to equip me for future ministry. As well as ministering to the congregation through pastoral work and worship, I am involved with teams who serve the parish and city centre, pioneering work in Bertha Park, a new ministry to families of children with additional support needs, and have also been working with the Workplace Chaplaincy Scotland team for a few months at Churches Action for the Homeless in Perth.

I am so grateful for the continued interest and support from our Kinross Parish Church family. It's hard to believe I am now over halfway through my final placement and, all going well, can begin to apply for positions from August this year! Your prayers are greatly appreciated as we seek to discern where God is calling us - I will keep you posted!



Anne Redpath

Two members of the congregation, **Anne Redpath** and **Andrea Fraser**, are training for the Church of Scotland ministry. Please hold them both in your prayers. Also continue to remember **Ian Morrison**, Ordained Local Minister trainee, who has been on placement with us along with **Rob Pettifer** who has been with us while going through the discernment process for ministry.

Would you like to learn new skills or re-discover old ones?

We are still hoping and praying that volunteers might come forward to fill roles that are looking for fresh faces.

We are looking for a *Treasurer*, *Kin-nections Creative Editor* and *Pram Service Leader*.

Alan McG, Alice or Evelyn would be very happy to have an informal chat with anyone who might be interested in finding out more. Alternatively you can contact the Church Office.

Dates for Your Diary

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

4 March at 7pm
Orwell Church

GOOD FRIDAY EXPERIENCE

15 April 10.30-12 noon

All children and families welcome. Come and enjoy activities, crafts and stories in and around the church.

MAF QUIZ NIGHT

22 April at 7.30pm
in the church

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

15-21 May

FAMILY WEEK

1-5 August

Let the church keep you in touch: contact us on office@kinrossparishchurch.org
We'll be sure to add you to the Sunday Mailer list!

All Friends Together

All Friends Together (AFT) welcomes adults with special needs to a monthly celebration of Jesus. We are continuing to meet online at present, but still managing to have fun together. December saw our usual Christmas party, but we are all looking forward to seeing Santa in person next Christmas (hopefully)!

As well as our usual singing (challenging and not as melodic as in person), Bible Stories, finding out what everyone has been up to since the last Gathering, we are trying new things online, like drawing a camel in January - which resulted in some lovely dinosaur sketches!



Our next meeting will be on **Saturday 19 March at 11am** on Zoom. If you would like to come along, or you know someone who would, get in touch with me or the Church Office.

Anne Sutherland

Tabletalk

Drop in for conversation and coffee

In mid-December Tabletalk was able to meet in person at the Church for fellowship, coffee and some Christmas musical entertainment provided by Margaret on the piano. We had a lovely morning.

Tabletalk meets on **Thursdays at 11am on Zoom**. We chat about anything and everything. We would love to see you there! Details from the Church Office or in the weekly Mailer.

Christine and Kathleen



The Guild



As the Guild season comes to an end, it is good to report that, with a combination of in person and Zoom meetings, there have been over 20 people at each meeting. We have been delighted to

welcome new members and guests. The topics covered have been very varied and we are very grateful to all the speakers.

Everyone is welcome to join us on Zoom on **Tuesday 8 March at 7.15pm** when Gerry Grant, ethical hacker, is speaking on a topic important to all of us - Hackers and Scammers. Gerry, originally from Kinross, is one of Scotland's most highly respected cyber experts.

Helena Cant



We believe in a God who hears and answers prayers. You can also make a prayer request, anonymously if you wish, via our church website.

The Queen's Green Canopy

Plant a tree for the Jubilee

Kinross Parish Church is celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee by being part of The Queen's Green Canopy supported by Kinross Estate Company and the Woodland Trust.

The Queen's Green Canopy is a tree-planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. Everyone across the UK is being invited to plant trees from October 2021, when the tree planting season begins, through to the end of the Jubilee year in 2022.

We have 210 trees on order for delivery in March 2022. The planning for the planting at the Market Park and in the Kinross Estate is in progress. The Woodland Trust has supported this initiative by providing tree saplings.



If you would like to register to help plant a tree as part of the church or the wider community please give your contact details by **18 March** to the Church Office.

Jim Smith

WE FIND CHRIST IN ALL THE SCRIPTURES



IN THE EPISTLES HE IS EXPLAINED

IN ACTS HE IS PREACHED

IN REVELATION HE IS EXPECTED

Rev Alistair Begg

Discipleship Group Journeying in faith



*'Forget the former things;
do not dwell on the past.
See I am doing a new
thing! Now it springs up;
do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the
desert and streams in the
wasteland.'*
Isaiah 43: 18,19

As we emerge from two extraordinary years, much has changed in our lives and we cannot go backwards. Church is no exception. The challenge to accept God's new ways is a call to the Church in these days.

The refreshed and re-invigorated Discipleship Group is ready for change and is looking to see what new things God has to teach us and how he is leading us on a way through what has seemed like a desert. This is the journey of faith to which God calls each one of us as we accept the invitation of Jesus, 'Come with me'.

The Discipleship Group is exploring ways to encourage each of us to grow in our faith and is also keen to support our corporate life as disciples. We plan to establish a resource centre in the Church where books, Bible reading aids, prayer guides, CDs, booklets and magazines will be available to borrow. This will also be a quiet corner for discussion and reflection after the morning service where questions can be raised, issues aired and prayer shared.

Our vision is to provide access to what each of us would find most helpful in our walk with God, whatever our age. So we welcome questions, suggestions and comments from everyone as the Group finds its way to best serve you. Please talk to us!

Ewan Cathcart

Fairtrade Fortnight

21 February-6 March

Taking positive action in combating climate change

The theme this year is *Climate, Fairtrade and You.*

If you are concerned about climate change and looking after God's Creation, there are many choices we can make which make a difference. Every time you choose to buy an item with the Fairtrade mark, you are also taking a positive action in combating climate change. This is because farmers with the Fairtrade Mark accreditation use sustainable farming methods, which do less harm to the environment. Also, these farmers are already struggling with the effects of climate change on their crops so the fairer price they receive for their goods helps them to continue to grow the goods such as coffee, tea, bananas and cocoa that we so enjoy.

Please contact any of the Traidcraft Team or the Church Office if you would like to buy from our Traidcraft stall.



Christian Aid Week



15-21 May

This year's appeal will focus on the impact of drought in Zimbabwe. Look out for more information on how we in Kinross can help to relieve the effects of hunger and poverty through our efforts during Christian Aid Week 2022.

What If...?

- your church had to meet in secret?
- you were put in prison for your faith?
- spies were watching your every move?
- your family threw you out because of your faith?
- owning a Bible was forbidden?
- following Jesus meant facing violence, even death?

How would you react? Would your faith be strong enough to survive in the face of such persecution? Millions of Christians in such circumstances all around the world are not only surviving but, in many instances, their church is growing.

What if you could make a difference? WE CAN:

GIVE: an isolated Christian a precious Bible; help rebuild destroyed homes and churches; give food aid.

PRAY: informed prayer does make a difference, as many in these situations have testified.

SPEAK OUT: tell others what is happening. Raise your voice to your MP or MSP.

Several organisations, including **Barnabas Fund** (www.barnabasfund.org), **Christian Solidarity Worldwide** (www.csw.org.uk), **Open Doors** (www.opendoorsuk.org) and **Release International** (www.releaseinternational.org) offer opportunities to give, provide prayer guides and alert one as to when an approach to an MP or MSP could best have a significant effect.

John McArthur

Financial Update - 2021

As I write, the accounts for the year ended 31 December are just about complete save for final details and the independent inspection. I can thus comment on the big picture but spare you lots of detail - *sighs of relief all round?!*

Despite ongoing restrictions, I am delighted to report that our income has not only been sustained but has increased this year, resulting in a healthy surplus. On behalf of the Kirk Session I **thank each and every one of you** who has been part of this result. The National Giving Day yielded £5,560, a shining example of your commitment to Kinross Parish Church, and one from which spending for the benefit of the Kinross community will emerge over time. Expenditure was largely in line with expectation and with the 2020 level, so our funds are healthy.

How blessed are we to be in this position, and as we see further easing of Covid restrictions, we must surely feel confident about what lies ahead in 2022.

Once the report and accounts have been signed off, copies will be available from the office or from me, so please ask if you want one. There will also be a summary presentation at the Stated Annual Meeting on **Sunday 20 March**.

My warmest regards to each and all of you.

Alan McGhie, Treasurer

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Friday 4 March

Hosted by Orwell & Portmoak Church

In these Covid days we cannot plan with certainty. Keep an eye on Church intimations for news of how the event will materialise. The service has been designed by women of England, Wales and N. Ireland. The service in the evening will be at **7pm in Orwell Church**.

STARCHILD

MARCH COMMUNION SPECIAL COLLECTION

Supporting our Ugandan neighbours

Starchild, a current Guild project, aims to empower and improve the health and well-being of children, vulnerable people and women in Uganda by providing access to sustainable education, vocational training, food, support and love. This charity has been chosen by the Kirk Session for our special collection and is commended to you. Your support will make a difference.



You are invited, if you are able, to bring a donation on 6 March or visit the Giving page of our website www.kinrossparishchurch.org/giving to donate online.

PARTNERING WITH MISSION AVIATION FELLOWSHIP

On Sunday 16 January the Jack family joined us to launch our year of partnership with MAF. Former head of MAF Scotland, Ruth Jack, her husband Duncan and their son Samuel were just home after serving MAF for three years in Arnhem Land in Australia's Northern Territories. Ruth and Duncan had been the first married couple to run a MAF overseas country programme. In April, Ruth will become MAF country director in Uganda which programme KPC has chosen to support.



Uganda is a refuge of hope for those fleeing conflict. Today MAF is serving the huge refugee camps that have sprung up to host the influx of people coming from neighbouring South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

The condition of Uganda's roads makes overland travel dangerous. MAF flights enable humanitarian and mission partners to arrive safely at locations where they are assisting victims of violence, providing nutrition, education and healthcare to children, and delivering training in farming techniques and livelihood support that is lifting households out of poverty for good. Five dedicated aircraft enable any location inside the country to be reached swiftly and safely within 90 minutes. Shuttle flights provide vital connections with areas of need in the DRC and South Sudan. People in need are helped because they can be reached quickly and safely by a MAF plane.

Please give prayer support to the Jack family as they embark on this next challenging mission calling. If you are able, please also consider financial support. You can find out more and arrange that here: <https://www.maf-uk.org/staff/jack-ruth-and-duncan>

We have a number of fun activities and events planned for the partnership year ahead, such as a **Quiz Night on Friday 22 April at 7pm** in the Church, to be hosted by Andy Martin, MAF community manager.



Alisdair Stewart, Area Representative

Did you know you can find more details of events on the website calendar?

A Tribute



At the November 2021 Kirk Session meeting, Session stood for a minute's silence to mark the sad passing of two former Elders - Ruth Lauener and John Webster. We are grateful for all that they contributed to the life of the Church and for their faithful service.

Jaffrey Weir, Session Clerk



In the autumn, up until December, three young volunteers - **Hannah, Rebecca and Lisa** - served us coffees before Sunday Services, outside, whatever the weather, even with snow on the ground.



This was part of working towards their Duke of Edinburgh Awards. We thank them for their help and wish them success with their Awards.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Funerals - our thoughts and prayers are with the families of

Barbara (Barrie) Robb	23 November
Alexander Penny	25 November
Mary MacTaggart	10 December
Eileen McIntosh	05 January
John (Jack) Backhouse	12 January
Millicent Scott	26 January

We extend a warm welcome to **New Members**

John Garden

Alan and Katie Jessiman

KINROSS PARISH CHURCH

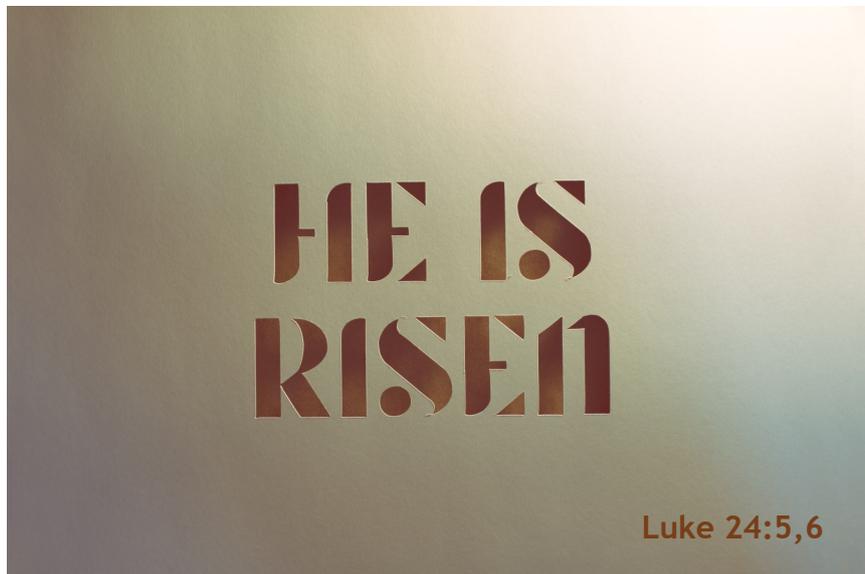
EASTER SERVICES 2022

We will be offering worship and fellowship throughout the Easter season

Check our website, Facebook page or Church Notices for details of services

Why do you look for the living among the dead?

He is not here;



www.kinrossparishchurch.org

