

# KIN-NECTIONS

KINROSS PARISH CHURCH | MARCH - MAY 2019

# All Are Welcome



*Following Christ | Spreading the Word | Serving the Community*

Following Christ  
Spreading the Word  
Serving the Community

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Kinross Parish Church of Scotland

#### Next Magazine Deadline

1 May 2019

#### Next Kirk Session

6 May 2019



The Church of Scotland



## THIS IS YOUR INVITATION to the Celebration of Holy Communion Kinross Parish Church Sunday 3 March at 10.30am

Retiral collection in support of  
Scottish Bible Society (SC010767)  
(see page 6 for further information)

**Keeping in Contact:** Every household connected to the Church usually receives a visit before each quarterly Communion. All households have an allocated pastoral elder, and if you don't know their contact details, they may be contacted through the Church Office.

#### Your Pastoral Elder is

If you wish to see your elder outwith the quarterly visit, please phone the Office on 01577 862570 between 10am and 12 noon any week day.

*Our cover picture shows the newest banner created by the Banner Group, part of the Craft Group. More about the Craft Group on page 6.*

### SUNDAY SERVICES March to May 2019 Sunday Morning at 10.30am

During term-time there is a Crèche, Junior Church, and Jampact every Sunday. Check the weekly intimations for any changes during the holidays.

During Lent we are following the Passion Narrative from Luke's Gospel, and then after Easter there is a series on the Book of Proverbs.

More informal evening services on a variety of themes are usually held on the last Sunday of the month.

3 Mar	John 6:51-69 - Thinking about Communion: The Bread of Life
10 Mar	Luke 19:41-48 - Jesus wept
17 Mar	Luke 20:1-18 - From God or man?
24 Mar	Luke 20:19-47 - Questions, Questions!
31 Mar	Luke 21 - All is not as it seems. Brenda Fraser No evening service today. Late afternoon Lent Studies conclude
7 Apr	Luke 22 - The Betrayal of Christ. Margaret Michie Informal communion at the close of the morning service
14 Apr	Luke 23 - The death of Christ
21 Apr	7.30am - United Easter service at the Kirkgate 10.30am - Luke 24 - The Resurrection of Christ 6.30pm - United 'Songs of Praise' for Easter in Kinross Parish Church
28 Apr	10.30am - Proverbs 1:1-7 - A Lord to Honour 6.30pm - Informal Evening Service - Easter stories
5 May	Proverbs 2:1-22 - A Path to Take Informal communion at the close of the morning service
12 May	Proverbs 9:1-18 - A Choice to Make
19 May	Proverbs 15:16-33 - A Life to Pursue
26 May	10.30am - Proverbs (various) - A Way to Speak. Anne Redpath 6.30pm - Informal Evening Service. Themes from CS Lewis

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Welcome to the March 2019 Kin-nections

Not surprisingly, the theme of this issue is Easter, so please note all of the associated activities and services that are detailed.



We continue with news from our area churches and the wider Church of Scotland in addition to updates from groups within Kinross Parish Church.

I hope that you and your family and friends all have a joyous Easter this spring - He is risen, indeed!

Ann Marie Neave, editor

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

### Funerals

21 November	William (Bill) Sutherland, Cameron Avenue, Kinross
14 December	Sandra Dougray, Bowling Green Avenue, Milnathort
28 December	Francis (Frank) Bewick, Alexander Drive, Kinross

## FINANCIAL REVIEW



As it turned out, 2018 was a better year than I dared hope after the £10,000 deficit of 2017. We received a grant of £3,000 from the Church of Scotland towards our support for KYTHE and our Church Centre redecoration costs, and it was a quiet year for building expenses. We ended up £1,500 in deficit. Our bank balances thus remained healthy at £75,000, falling by £2,000 from 2017.

However, the outlook is much less rosy, and we are budgeting a £14,000 deficit in 2019, due mainly to increases in our Ministries & Mission contribution and fabric costs. Whilst we currently have healthy sums in the bank, only £26,000 is available for general use, with the bulk designated or restricted for specified purposes, for example, Church Centre and Youth Legacy Fund. Like many organisations, the core issue is rising costs and falling or static income. Our income is not rising, so before we run into real trouble, we are launching an appeal to raise the level of our offerings.

Within this issue of *Kin-nections* you'll find our leaflet *Giving for Growth*. It's an easy read, crafted to avoid accounting-speak, encouraging you to reflect and review your current level of giving to the Church, and hopefully responding by increasing it. We are so lucky to share a vibrant Christian experience as members of the Kinross Parish Church family, but here in the back office we need more fuel to keep those fires burning brightly.

I have faith we'll succeed. - Alan McGhie, Treasurer



# TALKING WITH GOD

Our Lord and Heavenly Father

Come near to us now,

Grant us your Holy Spirit and hear our prayers.

Set us free from all our worry and fear

And enable us to move into a new season,  
feeling fresh and renewed,

A season of new beginnings, of snow drops  
and daffodils,

As snow atop mountains melts away, and  
we welcome the promise of new life,

From new lambs and swallows, crisp blue  
skies and new buds in the trees

We give thanks for all your creation.  
Help us to see you in it all.

Hear our prayers, oh Lord,

As we journey with you, our good and  
living God, through the wonders of Easter,  
deepen our faith as we truly appreciate  
your wondrous gift of a risen Lord.

Let us be your life here on earth and help  
us to tell people of your wondrous promise.

As your spirit moves within us, let our  
hands be your hands, and our feet journey  
with you.

You are our most gracious and heavenly  
Father and we are truly thankful.

In your name,  
Amen.

# WILLIAM (BILL) SUTHERLAND: A TRIBUTE



Bill Sutherland

We remember with fondness Bill Sutherland, a true and faithful servant of this church, who died peacefully on Remembrance Sunday. His almost three decades as an Elder at Kinross Parish Church reflect his deep faith.

Bill was married to Betty, and devoted himself to caring for her when she suffered a brain

haemorrhage when their three children - Sheona, Anne, and Graeme - were only very young.

Bill was born in Grangemouth and was an active member of the Boys Brigade and his local church and became one of its youngest Elders. He trained as an upholsterer, skills he then taught to prisoners. His career in the prison service included working on the Isle of Wight, and he eventually took early retirement from prison governorship in 1993 in order to care for Betty, also an Elder, who died in 2011.

Bill's passions were singing, tending his roses and supporting his beloved Hibs football team; he delighted in his grandchildren's successes. Our prayerful good wishes go to Anne and all of Bill's family.

## REFLECTIONS

"Do not be **afraid**, for I know you are looking for  
**Jesus**, who was **crucified**.

He is not here, he has **risen, just as he said.**"

Matthew 28:5-6 NIV

### Meditation on Mathew 28: 5-6

He has risen .... Hallelujah!

Deepest darkness has become the brightest light.

*May Your radiant light shine down upon me.*

He has risen ... Hallelujah!

Fear and despair transformed to everlasting Hope.

*Take away my fears and fill me with hope.*

He has risen .... Hallelujah!

Death is defeated by eternal life.

*Help me to live as if I really believe it.*

He has risen ... Hallelujah!

Just as He said. God's promise is fulfilled.

*Help me to believe, trust and obey You more.*

He has risen .... Hallelujah!

The Saviour is alive!

*May I live my life believing and proclaiming it.*

**May Jesus live in our hearts and may we  
know His salvation and peace this Easter.**



Dear Friends,

It has always been my experience that the more you put *in* to something the more you get *out* of it, and that is certainly true in the walk of Christian faith. For many on the fringes of the Church, the

whole thing is a bit of a mystery - an irrelevance perhaps, a disappointment even - and increasing disinterest only confirms in them the preconception that Church is not for them or even that God does not have anything to say to them.

But the opposite is also true. It is one of my greatest joys when someone begins to take steps closer to God in Christ and finds new horizons opening up for them in sometimes unexpected ways within the family of faith. I rejoice to see people growing in faith and finding deep blessing as they are touched in new ways through an increasing engagement in worship, in the fellowship of others, and with the preaching of the Word.

It is sometimes said that 'the Kirk's aye asking for money' - for the record, it was actually as long ago as 2014 that there was last a focus on Christian giving - so I don't think we can be accused of pushing the subject! (You will certainly have received reminders about price rises in electricity and insurance and council tax rather more regularly!) A leaflet is inserted in this copy of Kinnections asking you to review your givings to the Church, and I commend that to your prayerful consideration. In our Sunday services during March, there will be a focus on some of the varied (and often unseen) ways in which your offerings sustain the ministry and mission of the church locally and further afield, from which many people benefit.

Although undoubtedly necessary, money is certainly not what it's all about - it's people that matter, and that is why we sought to engage with the whole membership at the back end of last year with regard to the kind of contact and visits from the Church that each person would find most helpful. This was a mammoth exercise (for which sincere thanks to all involved) and it will take some time to collate all the responses and bring forward proposals, but I hope that by the time of the next magazine we will have something definite to say.

What it has highlighted to me is that many of those on the fringes still value regular contact from their elder or a copy of this magazine. It makes me wonder what could follow if all who *receive* from the Church took a step closer in return and discovered what they might get out of putting a little more in?

The Lord bless you and keep you!

Alan

Rev A.D. Reid

There will be united services during Holy Week:

**Maundy Thursday Communion, 18 April**  
7.30pm at Cleish Church

**Good Friday, 19 April**  
2.00pm Last Hour at the Cross at St. Paul's  
7.30pm at Orwell Church

**Easter Morning, 21 April**  
7.30am at the Kirkgate

**Easter Evening 'Songs of Praise', 21 April**  
6.30pm in Kinross Parish Church

## STATED ANNUAL MEETING

Our Stated Annual Meeting has become an uplifting and thought-provoking part of Sunday worship. We look back over the year with photos and music and think of the future, guided by a 'State of the Union' address from our minister.

This year our SAM will be on **Sunday 17 March**. The SAM is a formal necessity for us, both as a congregation of the Church of Scotland and as a charity. It is a chance for the congregation to ask questions of the Kirk Session as the Charity Trustees, either at the meeting or in advance.

If you wish a copy of the full Trustees Annual Report and Accounts, please contact the Church Office or look at the copy on the Welcome Table. It is much more than just a financial document, giving a good overview of our aims and work.

## TIME FOR PRAYER

The monthly Prayer Diary is available in print at Church and can also be accessed via the website or by e-mail. Large print editions are also available.

**Silent Meditation: 4 March, 8 April, and 6 May** - Half an hour of guided stillness in the Church on the first Monday of the month at 8am.

**Prayer Breakfast: 16 March, 13 April, and 11 May** - A breakfast of rolls and coffee at 8.30am in the Church Meeting Room followed by a short time of prayer. Names in advance, please, for catering purposes.

**Compline: 21 March, 18 April, and 16 May** - 20 minutes of reflective readings and prayers, a peaceful way to end the day, on the third Thursday of each month at 9pm.

# FOCUS ON... THE CRAFT GROUP

Alice Getley reports

Back in 2007 a notice was tentatively put up inviting folk who enjoyed craft-making to come to a new group whose aim was to produce items for church fundraising events. Looking back on 12 years, they are certainly achieving their aim and so much more.

The group produces a vast array of exquisite handmade items, as any of us who have been to their Craft Sales will attest. Last year the group raised close to £2,000 - a phenomenal amount - the majority going to church funds but also generous donations to the Guild and Poppy Scotland.

But they also use their talent to help causes close to home and across the world: they knitted Christmas Wrap scarf gifts for Perth's Churches Action for the Homeless; colour-coded bobble hats for premature babies in UK hospitals; jackets for babies whose mothers are receiving treatment for

childbirth injury (Freedom from Fistula, Africa); and they are currently knitting hats, balaclavas, neck-warmers, and fingerless mittens for the Sailors' Society. This charity was the recipient of our church's Christmas and December retiring offerings, and is also a Guild project. What the members make so lovingly with their hands is a practical

*"I was new to Kinross... everyone was so friendly that I joined the group and have been coming ever since."*

response to those in need, bringing warmth and comfort.

Some members of this group also produce

the beautiful banners on display in the church, including the new "All are Welcome" banner featured on the magazine cover. So modest, but so talented.

Margaret Clark points out that the group is, importantly, also about fellowship. There is lots of chat and laughter among the dozen or so who meet regularly on **Wednesdays 1.30-3pm**. "Not all the group are church members - we come together



*Items knitted for the Sailors' Society*

because we enjoy making things." "The afternoon flies by!" "Two years ago I was new to Kinross and went along to a Craft Sale and loved what I saw, and everyone was so friendly that I joined the group and have been coming ever since."

**Make a note for your diaries: Crafts will be available at the Plant Sale & Coffee Morning on Saturday 25 May!**

## SCOTTISH BIBLE SOCIETY: OUR RETIRING OFFERING

The choice of recipient charity for the March retiring offering is the Scottish Bible Society (charity number SC010767), a founder

member of the United Bible Societies - 146 Bible Societies at work in some 200 countries.

Since 1809, the Scottish Bible Society has sought to put the Bible into people's hands and hearts. They work so that all people can have the Bible in a language they understand, in a form they can access, and at an affordable price to aid genuine encounters with God.

They distribute Bibles, New Testaments and other Scripture-

based materials, in a range of media, in Scotland and throughout the world. Their volunteer network includes Action Groups, local Church



Representatives, and speakers, all helping to spread the Word of God and finance the distribution of the Scriptures at home and overseas.

The Society has 3 main goals:

1. To support Bible work globally through fundraising and partnering with fellow Bible Societies within the United Bible Societies fellowship.
2. To work with the church in Scotland to improve Biblical knowledge and understanding through meaningful engagement

with the Bible and thus contributing to the growth of people's relationship with God.

3. To make wise use of opportunities to be advocates for the Bible so that those who are influencers recognise the value of the Bible in shaping strong and caring cultures.

The work of the Scottish Bible Society is commended to you. More details are available on their website :

[www.scottishbiblesociety.org](http://www.scottishbiblesociety.org)

- Brian Timms

**Prayer:** Pray for the work of the Scottish Bible Society, that access to and understanding of the Bible will grow throughout Scotland and the world.



# LENT AND EASTER ACTIVITIES

*A round-up of the various Lent and Easter activities on offer in Kinross-shire this year*

## SENT FOR LENT...

*An invitation from the Outreach Group*

You are prayerfully invited to join the Outreach Group for Lent Studies focused on the prophecy of Micah.

Over the course of five Sunday evening sessions in the church, we will share a simple meal of oatcakes, cheese, and grapes then screen Bible readings and talks originally presented at the Keswick Convention 2018 by Chris Wright. He is the International Ministries Director of the Langham Partnership, which provides literature, scholarships, and preaching training for pastors.

Filled with the power of God's Spirit, Micah proclaimed God's Word to the nation of Judah when it was in an advanced state of moral,

spiritual and social degradation. He put his finger on evils that were rampant then and are still with us today - gross inequality; land-grabbing greed; eviction; homelessness; political self-excusing and complacency; corruption at every level of society. Micah holds up a painful contemporary mirror.

And yet! God has not finished with his people. Beyond judgement lay restoration. Out of a mountain of injustice, the Mountain of the Lord will rise. Out of little Bethlehem, God's king will come. Out of acknowledged sin, comes forgiveness and redemption. There is hope, for "Who is like the Lord?" (as Micah's name means).

The sessions run from 5:30pm till approximately 7pm in the Church:

**10 March**

The Lord is coming  
(Micah 1:1-2:3)

**17 March**

The Mountain of the Lord  
(Micah 3:1-4:5)

**24 March**

O little town of Bethlehem  
(Micah 4:6-5:15)

**31 March**

What does the Lord require of you?  
(Micah 6:1-16)

**7 April**

Who is a God like you?  
(Micah 7:1-20)

## KINROSS-SHIRE CHURCHES TOGETHER

**Lent Studies** - We have a rich selection this year. You are warmly welcomed to them all.

**Thursdays** at St Paul's in the Meeting Room at 10am for a 10.30am start. They will be following the "When I Survey..." York course on the Crucifixion.

**Wednesdays**, hosted by Fossoway Bible Study Group at the Crook, beginning at 7.30pm. Contact Debbie Hill if interested to confirm details (842268; m.dhill@sky.com).

**Sundays** at 5.30pm in our Church, inspired by a series of sermons at last year's Keswick Convention. The talks made a huge impact on the group that heard them. See above for more detail.

A second **Sunday** course (6.30pm) is run by Orwell & Portmoak Church at Loch Leven's Larder and is a viewing of "The God Question". It will run **10 March to 14 April**. At the point of writing, final confirmation has yet to come, but it is expected to take place.

### HOLY WEEK 14-21 APRIL

**Palm Sunday** 2pm, we plan to have a Walk of Witness.

**Monday** 7pm, we are warmly invited to share in the Stations of the Cross at St James' Church.

**Maundy Thursday** 7.30pm in Cleish Church. This will include a service of Holy Communion.

### Good Friday

1-3pm - Meditation at St Paul's Church

7.30pm Good Friday Service at Orwell Church

**Early Easter morning** 7.30am, ecumenical service at the far end of Kirkgate Park. There will be breakfast at the Kirklands Hotel for those that want it. Please purchase tickets beforehand from Tina Shepherd. Last year they were £6 each.

**Easter evening** 6.30pm, Easter 'Songs of Praise' at Kinross Parish Church.

You are invited to join us for

### A Family Easter Supper

on Thursday 18 April

6pm till 7.45pm

in Kinross Parish Church

There will be an evening meal served, along with music, drama, crafts and activities on the theme of the Last Supper. There will also be an informal family communion. Everyone is very welcome. It's free but donations are welcome. More information from Ruth Robertson (07599 550265), the Minister, or any member of the Family Week team.

# A MESSAGE OF SERVICE

*Elders recognised for long-service, achievements and new elders admitted on 27 January*

“A very special service” is how Session Clerk, Jaffrey Weir, described morning worship on 27 January in which Stuart Neave was ordained as a new elder and he and Alan McGhie were admitted to the Kirk Session. Both are already in leadership roles in the congregation, Stuart as Property Convener and Alan as Treasurer. Stuart said he was “very excited” about his new role as an elder.

The service also included the acknowledgement and celebration of Rev Alan Reid’s 10 years as our minister and Norman White’s 40 years as an elder, all in our kirk and many of them in leadership roles. In addition, a certificate was presented to Lynn Caldwell, leader of our Junior Church, who has been approved as a Safeguarding trainer for the Presbytery of Perth.

Also celebrated was the amazing service of Rev Clifford Kelly who was ordained over 60 years ago. He



*(from L) Alan McGhie, Norman White, Rev Alan Reid, Lynn Caldwell, Rev Clifford Kelly, Stuart Neave*

gave the congregation a thumbnail sketch of his journey in spreading the Good News, thanked all the support he had received from his wife Johan, his family, and all the office bearers and members in his various parishes before leading the congregation in

prayer.

Jaffrey Weir said: “These people provide an example to all of us of commitment, service, and faith in spreading the Good News of our Lord”.

## OUTCOME OF CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY

Thank you to everyone who completed a form in Church one Sunday in October, and also to those who provided the same information when they were contacted by volunteers, either by phone or personal visit, mostly during November.

We have been able to contact about 500 of our total roll of nearly 650, and the Kirk Session will now consider how we seek the views of the others.

Nearly 70% said they wanted the present four visits to continue, and this is what will happen for them. In addition, almost 100 people said they did not need or perhaps want,

the elder to call either so often or at all, but still wanted the magazine delivered. For those, the elder has been told of your wishes and will probably just have dropped this magazine through your door.

There have been other types of requests, and we will be working on how we can comply with most of them over the next few months. In addition we have begun to update the contact details you gave us on the Church roll, so it should be easier to make contact with you about Church matters in the future.

Thank you once again for your help in letting us know your wishes regarding elder visits.

If you think you could spare a little time to help elders by distributing some magazines around your area, Robert Mitchell would be happy to talk to you. Please either see him in Church or call him on 865570.

- Brenda Fraser, Outreach Convenor and Robert Mitchell, Pastoral Group Convenor

**Prayer:** Pray that we may all support each other in our journeys of faith.

**DID YOU KNOW...?** An elder is *ordained* to become an elder and they are then *admitted* into the Kirk Session of their Church.



# EASTER THOUGHTS

## Diane Taylor:

A mish-mash of memories come to mind when someone asks me about Easter. That beautiful spring-filled time of year bursting with the sights and smells of new growth, new animals, new light and wonderfully fresh yellow daffodils. A time of year that is wrapped in the warmth and love of family time spent together hunting brightly coloured Easter eggs in the back garden, attending church together and celebrating the joy and hearing squeals of children's laughter taking part in crafts and activities. Sunday morning Easter services at church dressed in our finest. Beautiful colours and beautiful new dreams. However, it is often the hard things of life that make us appreciate its beauty. The losses and tears that force us to dig deep to uncover the meaning behind it all. Easter means that I have a Saviour who understands anything I could ever go through and will never leave me. Easter means that I have a Saviour who lived and died and overcame, so I could overcome too.

## Alice Getley:

Like the swifts, swallows, and house-martins who fly away in September, so members of our church family disappear to university and college. It is therefore such a joy when, just like the swifts, swallows and house-martins in the spring, our young people regularly return at Easter, to be with their families and to come back into the church family. Welcome back!

## Irene McFarlane:

I've a confession to make. I find Holy Week tough going. The reason for this is that, year after year, as the days of the events of Jesus' final week are played out, I keep turning up among the *dramatis personae*.

I see myself as one of the crowd waving palm branches on Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. But then I think of the times when I have turned from him or betrayed him, just as Judas did. Or I am one

of the disciples at the Last Supper who hear Jesus' words and vow support and yet who, only a short time later, when Jesus asked them in the Garden of Gethsemane to stay awake and keep guard while he prayed, allowed themselves to fall asleep. And I see myself in Peter who, despite his love for Jesus and promise to defend him, within a short time denied him three times.

How often, as someone who believes in Jesus, have I let him down? Innumerable. And every year in the re-telling of the Holy Week story, I am reminded of how I and "all have sinned, and fallen short of the glory of God" (Romans 3.23). The guilt of this can be a heavy burden.

I was thinking of this last Sunday during the morning service, just as we began singing "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing". The message forcibly struck me as we sang these beloved, joyful words:

"Jesus, the name that charms our fears,  
That bids our sorrows cease;  
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,  
'Tis life, and health, and peace  
He breaks the power of cancelled sin,  
He sets the prisoner free;  
His blood can make the foulest clean,  
His blood availed for me."

## Christine Reid:

Good Friday is when I start thinking about the Easter story, 'Hot cross Buns' are in the shops and probably have been for weeks, but I have them on Friday. Looking at them and seeing the 'cross of Jesus' marked out in pastry on each one, it is remarkable, this little sign going into everyone's home, touching lives in different ways, just as Jesus himself did. I think about the death of Jesus and the sky turning black. What a shock! Did people realise what happened? It must have been a bit like an eclipse, no birds singing and a stillness filling the air. Then of course I look forward to Sunday, a busy day for this house! The early-morning service by Loch Leven, the sun has not yet risen, everyone is wrapped up in hats and scarves and thick coats. 'Christ is

risen' we are all shouting, the singing starts 'see what a morning gloriously bright, with the dawning of hope in Jerusalem'. We pray together, and my eyes look up to the sky. The sun breaks through. 'He is risen Indeed'. Jesus is alive and filling our lives with love.

Then home to the madness of eating chocolate eggs, thinking about the stone that covered the opening of the tomb. Jesus has risen from the dead. Rejoice.

## Jenny Masson:

When I think of Easter, I think of gathering early on Easter morning at the loch-side here in Kinross and celebrating the Risen Lord in friendship and fellowship. Sometimes the weather is bright, and surroundings are illuminated by the warm sun. In other years, the ground is hard, and the crisp frost wakens the senses. Sometimes there's even snow on the ground, and everyone is wrapped up warm. Some years I'm there with family, and other times it's only me rising early and hurrying to join others from different churches around Kinross. There is a calm peace in the air and for me a deep sense that this is a most special of days.

On Good Friday, I am often involved in preparing and delivering activities for youngsters and their families, enabling them to develop a greater understanding and closer relationship with Christ. It can be busy, although very enjoyable and rewarding. But gathering at the loch-side on Easter Sunday for me is a personal experience and is about the joy of discovering that Christ indeed has risen.

So if you've never been, why not give it a go? Afterwards you can even join in with breakfast and share fellowship with others from our local churches.

*"Easter Thoughts" have been submitted from a selection of folks across our Church family.*

## Easter is Upon Us

In this term, **Junior Church** explores the Early Church and the life of David in the Old Testament. They are looking for willing volunteers to join them in delivering these messages to our young church. These blocks of teaching are four weeks long and would be an ideal opportunity for volunteers to dip in. During the time of Lent, the children will be getting ready for Easter by looking at symbols and traditions of the Christian faith and the importance of Easter. With six weeks of Lent, they will also think about why they have all this time to prepare. Junior Church joins the congregation for Communion on **3 March**. As always we look forward to seeing old and new faces at Junior Church, and welcome any children from age 3 upwards to join us on a Sunday morning. Please continue to keep all our young people in your prayers, thank you. Children can be dropped off at the Church Centre from 10.15am. Team members are set up and ready to go at that time. Contact details: [lynnbaldwell@btinternet.com](mailto:lynnbaldwell@btinternet.com) or 863271.

**Prayer:** Please keep all of our young people in your prayers.

## God's Big Book

**Pram Service** has had a busy opening to the year, with the new theme of "God's Big Book". We have already found some Instructions, Messages, and Stories, and are looking forward to hearing about lots of other things in God's book, including Adventures, Wonderful Words, Songs, and Poems. It's going to be an exciting term. If you are in the meeting room, look at our display board and you'll see all the books of the Bible there. Test your knowledge, as the books SHOULD be in order!

God's Word to us is inspiring, challenging, comforting, and vital. At Pram Service, we hope it's fun too!

If you know of anyone who'd enjoy coming along, pass on an invitation for under five years, parents, and carers. Contact Evelyn Cairns 863990



## Let No One Look Down on Your Youthfulness

The Bible says. "Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but *rather* in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity, show yourself an example of those who believe." (1 Timothy 4:12) The youth of Kinross Parish Church are very much part of our church family. Here are what some members have to say about **Crossfire**.

"Crossfire is a cornerstone of my week where I can meet with my friends and some older tutors. I enjoy every week when we do different fun activities" Harry

"I absolutely LOVE the general chit chat, especially when we talk about a topic and get set a challenge for 24 hours" Eleanor

"I think that crossfire is really fun and I enjoy meeting everyone and having interesting chats and discussions" Lyndsey

"Everyone at Crossfire is very nice and chatty. The games are so fun" Hannah

The young people in our church are a blessing and an encouragement to us all and, as we look forward, Crossfire invites P7 pupils to join Crossfire from the **28 April** for a term packed with fun, friendship, and fellowship. We meet during term time 7.30-9pm every Sunday evening, usually at the Church Centre. For more information: [jennymasson65@gmail.com](mailto:jennymasson65@gmail.com)

## Moving from Strength to Strength

For those who have not seen it, **KYTHER**'s annual report has been published and launched at The Gathering in February.



The annual report highlighted how much the work of KYTHE has and is extending, with over 350 hours of volunteer work in the year providing face-to-face contact with young people 993 times!! Just think how many more young people they could be in touch with and working with if they had more volunteers and capacity.

Looking forward, KYTHE will be increasing their focus on young people's mental health and well-being. They will be partnering with The Wellbeing Academy and implementing programmes, such as Seasons for Growth, which is an educational programme designed to help young people manage grief and change.

A big plan for 2019 is to open a youth club on a Saturday evening with a focus on developing the creative arts, including opportunities for young performers to hit the stage. This of course will provide entertainment for the youth of the community and encourage sustainable communities and new learning opportunities. For more information, please contact Barry Dougall, Youth Worker (07954 025144; [barry@kythe.org.uk](mailto:barry@kythe.org.uk))

**Prayer:** Continue to pray for Barry as he connects with young people in Kinross-shire. Pray for new volunteers to help expand the work of KYTHE showing God's love in action. Pray for the young people of Kinross-shire, that they can be supported to meet their physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs.



## BB NEWS

**Congratulations:** Rebekah and Jack have gained their President's Badge after completing a "Build Your Skills" course and can now start working towards their Queen's Badge. Three other members are nearing completion of their Queen's Badge, which concludes with a residential weekend at BB Scotland HQ.

**Guild:** the BB has a three-year support link with the Guild and they will be working more closely together over the coming months.

**Competitions:** The Junior and Company sections are looking forward to the first Battalion Competitions of 2019, for mini-volleyball and 5-a-side football. The Company will be taking part in a Drill Competition, which they won last year, and Juniors in a 'Festival of Activities' Competition involving figure marching, singing and potted sports. Juniors are also preparing for a sleepover at the Church Centre.

**Summer Camp:** 29 June-6 July, at Jedburgh in the Scottish Borders.

**Anniversary Dinner:** a number of current staff and former officers of the Kinross Company attended Perth Battalion's 125th anniversary dinner in February. The commemoration badge for this event was designed by Kinross BB staff sergeant, Chris Cassells.

**Uniform Amnesty!:** There are still some uniform items outstanding from former members - please check cupboards and drawers. Items may be handed into the Day Centre anonymously in a poly bag at any time.

**Marquee Hire:** The BB's marquee is white, 40 foot by 20 foot, and can be hired for £200 including erection and dismantling. Contact David Munro 862126.



### Seeking the Way

The final session of the **Guild** begins on **Tuesday 5 March**, when we welcome a speaker from the Sailors' Society, which is the second project we are supporting.

**1 March** is the World Day of Prayer, and more information will be given by the Church.

"Knitted Jewellery" is the theme for the meeting on **19 March**, which also includes our AGM.

We close on **2 April** with a talk entitled Care Inspectorate Scotland given by Amanda Welch. Once again we welcome any new members.



### All Friends Together

February has been a special month of prayer for Prospects Across Scotland. The Kinross group continues to be well supported, but there may be more adults with learning disabilities in Kinross-shire (aged 16 and over) who would enjoy being part of the group, so please help spread the word.

Future gatherings are on Saturday 16 March at 11am and then Thursday evenings: 11 April, 9 May, and 13 June.

The favourite part of the gatherings is the singing, though the food always seems to be very popular. There is always a Bible message, craft, games, and lots of fun. Members of the congregation are always welcome. For further information contact Lindsay Cant (861760) or Helena Cant (862923).

### Cheese Roll and a Chat

Just before the Cheese Roll and Chat in January, someone asked "What do you chat about?" The answer is all sorts of things. Since it began last autumn, the group has chatted about topics raised by Alan's sermon, items in the news, such as 'Should Atheism be taught alongside faith', and central beliefs in our faith. The group has now started to look at the Apostles' Creed, and this has already raised interesting discussion.

Is there something you'd like to talk about but wonder where the best place might be? CRC may be just what you're looking for. Gathering on Sunday at 12.15pm, we have a roll and drink, then an informal chat, finishing by 1.30pm.

Remaining dates for this session are **17 March**, **28 April**, and **19 May**. Why not come along and give it a try? Ideally, let the office know you're coming for catering purposes, but there is always enough for everyone. Look forward to seeing you.

### What is the CMC? Who are the CMC?

The Church Management Committee (CMC) exists to oversee the smooth and safe running of the Church and the manse.

To this end a small group of members form the CMC and meet regularly to discuss, recommend, and where possible repair or replace damaged or broken contents or the building. This has included in recent years repointing the stonework of the whole Church. The tower, especially the top section, was in poor shape.

CMC duties cover the Church from the top of our building to the bottom - including the very unglamorous chore of unblocking of the drains.



Everything in between is covered: renewing water heaters and central heating boilers to painting, joinery, plumbing, glazing, and electrical work. Keeping Kinross Parish Church running is similar to what used to be the painting of the Forth Bridge, never ending!



## Summer Mission 2019 - Hungary

The seventh annual 'Scottish Camp' in partnership with the Great Church in Debrecen takes place **15-19 July 2019**. We will soon be putting together the team for next summer. Anyone interested in finding out more about what is involved should have a word with Alan Reid.

## Christian Aid Week

2019

12-18 May

Join thousands of volunteers to take part in the UK churches' fundraising week. You'll have great fun while helping mums in Sierra Leone.

Contact: Alisdair Stewart (07825 698613; [alisdairstewart@yahoo.com](mailto:alisdairstewart@yahoo.com))



## Family Week 2019

Gather your hiking books and your rucksack! The theme for Family Week this year is **"Backpackers"**. As we "backpack" through some of the most famous places in Europe, we'll be looking at the journey that Jesus took during the last week of his life. We'll be exploring stories from Matthew's gospel through the usual fun activities, songs, drama, challenges, crafts, and games. If you're aged between 3 and a half (pre-school year) and 16 (S4), it would be great to have you join us from **Monday 5 August till Friday 9 August** at 9.45am each day.

Also, if you'd be willing to help this year, then join us at our team training evening on **Tuesday 4 June** in the Church Centre. There will be cake and coffee served from 7pm, with the meeting beginning at 7.30pm. More information from Ruth Robertson (07599 550265) or any member of the Family Week team.

## Mid-Week Worship

Mid-Week Worship meets in the Church Centre Reading Room on Wednesday mornings at 10.45am. Offerings taken are dispersed to local, national and international charities. All are welcome - young, old, and in between - to worship with the group!

## Bereavement Group

After a local death, the minister who has conducted the funeral will visit the immediate family on one or two occasions, and assess the aftercare for that particular family. Flowers will have been given to the bereaved family shortly after the funeral. After a six month period, a member of the Bereavement group will follow through and take the good wishes of the Church fellowship and a small gift.

At times, the bereavement group hears of the death of a relative of someone in our congregation and can offer support and follow on with a visit where contact can be made within travelling distance. Unless they are informed of this situation, they miss this opportunity to show their concern. If members of the congregation can let the Office or the ministers know of any such bereavement, then they will be glad to send a card or visit the bereaved (those who live locally). If they are not told, then the opportunity is missed to show the bereaved support.

## Visiting Group

This group has been in operation for about 25 years and have some visitors who have served in the group for that length of time. When they are told of someone who, for various reasons, does not get out to Church, or who would welcome a visitor on a periodic visit, or someone being cared for in a nursing home, one of the group visits on a regular basis. Again, they need to hear from members of the congregation if a visit would be appreciated. Please be in touch with ministers or the Church Office, or complete a 'Can We Help?' card.

- Margaret Michie

## The Gift of a Meal

Do you love to cook? Often have a bit extra in the freezer? Or perhaps you're looking for ways to fulfil that New Year's resolution of helping out in your community? Food Tidings, the project that arranges for hot meals to be delivered to local people, is searching for volunteer home cooks who can help us meet a real need. You opt in to help when you can, prepare what suits you and Food Tidings lets you know where and when to deliver the meal.

Many people have benefited from a week of evening meals when recovering from an illness, or hot food delivered after a bereavement or new baby. Food Tidings is designed to provide meaningful, practical short-term support and is a great way of showing the wider community how much Kinross Parish Church cares. Although demand for Food Tidings is variable, we are struggling to fulfil requests with our current list of volunteers, especially during holiday times. We would hugely appreciate your help.

If you'd like to find out more, contact Esther Blackburn (865556; [kinrossfoodtidings@hotmail.com](mailto:kinrossfoodtidings@hotmail.com))

# THE CHURCH AND BEYOND

**Special Prayer:** A prayer was written in January with Brexit in mind by Rev Dr Martin Johnstone, Secretary to the Church and Society Council of the Church of Scotland. It was used at our Sunday service in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Here are the final sections:

*God, we pray for your church of which we are a part: that we might be a place of honest reflection; respectful dialogue; open friendship; humility and reconciliation. We pray that we might be a community that points to heaven, and shows ways in which heaven is glimpsed on earth.*

*God, who in Jesus, breaks down all barriers, between people of different races, rich and poor, male and female, Jew and Gentile, between heaven and earth, we worship you. (From [www.churchofscotland.org.uk](http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk))*

**New College:** Two women have recently taken up the helm at New College at the University of Edinburgh: Rev Professor Susan Hardman Moore as the new Principal and Professor Helen Bond as Head of the School of Divinity. Both originally arrived at New College in 2000, when there were only two other women on the staff. Now women make up about 40%. (From [www.lifeandwork.org](http://www.lifeandwork.org))



Rev Professor Susan Hardman Moore and Professor Helen Bond

**Persecution of Christians:** One in three Asian Christians now suffer high levels of persecution according to the Open Doors World Watch List. It ranks the 50 countries where persecution is most extreme, with North Korea remaining at the top and India being placed in the worst 10 for the first time. The most dangerous area in terms of deaths is Northern Nigeria where Christian deaths have been declared 'genocide' by the Nigerian House of Representatives. (From [www.lifeandwork.org](http://www.lifeandwork.org))

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## NEWS FROM PRESBYTERY

The Presbytery of Perth is one of 46 Presbyteries which have oversight of every Church of Scotland congregation, from Shetland to Trinidad. Perth covers 24 congregations in the southern end of Perth and Kinross.

We asked one of our elders, George Hayton, who represents us on Presbytery, to give us an update and explain his role. He says: "It's a daunting task to explain about Presbytery. There's a lot goes on, much of which is important but not hugely exciting. Probably our most

important function is forward planning and helping to manage change and development. The last major change was the merging of parishes to form Mid Strathearn. We also appoint Interim Moderators and keep an oversight of vacancies".

George points out that "Presbyteries exist to support and help congregations but because they tend to become involved when there are problems, people can sometimes associate them with trouble".

Much of the work of Presbytery is done through committees. George

chairs the finance committee and sees its principal task as trying to make sure that things go smoothly.

Presbytery meets four times a year. Three are on Saturdays, with a conference session in the morning and the business session in the afternoon. Both sessions are open to all, but the morning sessions are designed to be of wider interest. The next meeting is at Dunbarney Church, Bridge of Earn, on **Saturday 9 March** with the conference session at 10am on 'Mission and Discipleship'.

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## CHURCH GARDEN AND BURIAL GROUND



© Gordon Paterson

Members may have noticed the work carried out by the members of the CMC led by Allan Miller.

The grass was extended towards the front wall. Beyond that, anti-weed sheeting with bark on top was laid up to the front dyke and additional stone chips added to the path edges.

P&KC inspected the graveyard and thought that, as we had made such a nice job of tidying up our grounds, they would improve their part.

Accordingly, in January work commenced to edge the paths, and tons of gravel were barrowed into the burial ground with a pleasing result.

The improvement will be completed when the grass is laid up to the timber edging.



# MUSIC REVIEW



Tim Brown

"Fortunate Fall" is the third studio album by Audrey Assad, which was released independently by Fortunate Fall Records in August 2013, and was produced by Assad herself.

Assad was born in 1983 to an American mother and an Arab-American father of Syrian descent. Music critics at the time of release remarked that the album was "ambitious, vulnerable, and

achingly beautiful". Others wrote that the album "is one of the highlights according to a vast unanimous majority as we witness a moment of tranquillity, solace, enjoyableness and poignancy delivered through these tracks." For me, the stand-out track is "I Shall Not Want" co-written by Assad and Bryan Brown.

In this song, Assad contemplates the need for deliverance from the love of self and self-satisfaction, from the fear of having nothing, and from a life of worldly passions. The



meditation continues when she thinks about the need to be understood, or the need to be accepted, or the fear of loneliness and trials. The remedy, she concludes, from contemplation of the Bible in general and maybe with an eye on Psalm 23 is "I shall not want, when I taste Your goodness". It's not a shallow sunshine sing-along song; it deals with the nitty-gritty matters of heart, soul, and character. It is worth checking out.

## CELTIC WORSHIP



(from L) Caroline, Moira, Ann Marie, Andrea, and Kathryn enjoying Celtic Worship

Some members of the Wednesday evening house group travelled to Glasgow's Adelaide Place Baptist Church on a chilly January Sunday evening to attend the Celtic Worship concert/service.

Celtic Worship generally played a high-energy version of traditional hymns, but also threw in a few original numbers as well. Several of the band members witnessed to the crowd in between songs, and the crowd was encouraged to worship by singing along with the band - so that's exactly what they did.

Celtic Worship have just launched a CD, "Homeward", which all of the attendees can commend to you!

## ABAANA NEW LIFE CHOIR

On **Wednesday 1 May**, Kinross Parish Church plays host to 20 young children and ten chaperones from the Uganda Abaana New Life Choir. We have enjoyed two African choirs on previous visits and are thrilled and excited to hear these enthusiastic youngsters proclaiming the gospel in song and dance.

We will host the choir for two nights as they tour in Northern Ireland, Scotland and England. There will be free admission to the concert in the Church, but an offering will be taken in aid of Abaana and the African children.

More information nearer the time.



### How can we help?

These leaflets are available in the church in the meeting room, on the welcome table and in the entrance hall. There is a collection box in the entrance hall.

**DID YOU KNOW...?** Thought of joining the Church Choir? We practise on Sunday mornings at 9.15am.



# Evermore

by Diane Taylor

*Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. - John 19:28 (NIV)*

Easter to me is a journey of faith. Unravelling its mystery and truth of the crucifixion is the key to living a new life free from grief, pain and suffering and one in close intimacy with Christ. The more I learn and the more I grow in spiritual knowledge, the more the enigma unravels. The more I grow in my faith and my relationship with God, the more that new perspectives come to light. Jesus died a harrowing death on the cross for you and for me. In our place he stood condemned, mocked and scorned, paying our debt and redeeming our blood. In that moment, His love poured out for us in a way that can only be wondered, pondered and realised in awe and majesty of God's dealings with us.

Christ stood silent and accused, accepting His fate in obedience to His Father in heaven. His unfathomable suffering saved us from our sins and when Jesus rose from the dead, we were set free, the battle against death was won. We have been given permission to leave our old lives behind and focus on a new way of living. A new life with all its potential for joy and choices that love and honour God. Christ is risen indeed. It is by Christ's death on the cross that we are given permission and authority to stop reliving the past and punishing ourselves over all the mistakes we have made. To stop crucifying ourselves with the burdens of grief, sin, shame and suffering. By His sacrifice, Christ has absorbed all the darkness and doubt in our lives, victorious over the grave. To create a life with Jesus which paints a new life with the bright colours of redemption and grace.....a rebirth.

The journey of faith is one of learning one layer at a time of how to apply these truths in my own life and for these taking root in my heart and not just in my head. To lift the promises of God and have them manifest in the present. We are saved by the grace of God, and not of our own understanding, covering our past, our present, our future, our Evermore.

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. - Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)*

## DIARY OF UPCOMING EVENTS

*Holy Week services are found on pages 5 & 7; Guild, All Friends Together, and Cheese Roll & a Chat meetings are on page 11.*

Date	Event	More Information
1 March, 2pm and 7pm	World Day of Prayer: Church Centre (2pm), St James' (7pm)	page 11
2 March, 10am-12 noon	Fairtrade Coffee Morning, Church Centre	Back Cover
9 March, 10am	Presbytery of Perth at Dunbarney Church in Bridge of Earn	page 13
17 March, 10.30am	Stated Annual Meeting during morning service, Church	page 5
23 March, 9am-12 noon	Church Spring Clean	Back Cover
18 April, 6pm	A Family Easter Supper, Church	page 7
1 May	Abaana New Life Choir, Church	page 14
12-18 May	Christian Aid Week	page 12
25 May	Coffee Morning and Plant & Craft Sale, Church Centre	page 6, Back Cover
4 June, 7pm	Family Week Preparation meeting, Church Centre	page 12
15-19 July	KPC "Scottish Camp" in Debrecen, Hungary	page 12
5-9 August	Family Week, Church	page 12



**SAVE THE DATE**

**COFFEE MORNING  
AND  
PLANT AND  
CRAFT SALE**

**SATURDAY  
25 MAY**

**KINROSS  
CHURCH CENTRE**

# START THE NEW YEAR WITH A NEW ADVENTURE

[bit.ly/joinBBscot](http://bit.ly/joinBBscot)

**#LearnGrowDiscover**

**THE BOYS'  
BRIGADE**  
the adventure begins here



**FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT: 25 FEBRUARY – 10 MARCH 2019**

**COFFEE MORNING - KINROSS CHURCH CENTRE**

**"SHE DESERVES A LIVING INCOME"**

**SATURDAY 2 MARCH**

**10AM - 12 NOON**

**TEA AND COFFEE AND LOTS OF FAIRTRADE GOODIES TO SAMPLE!**

**Church Spring Clean  
23 March 2019**

**Volunteers required**

9am to 12 noon

Tasks to suit all ages and  
abilities

Tea, coffee, and treats provided

Contact Gordon Paterson on  
863140 or simply turn up on  
the day