

CONCORD

Summer 2015



Sacrament of Holy Communion
14 June

The Magazine of St Andrew's Erskine Church of Scotland, Dunfermline, where we welcome everyone in the name of Jesus Christ, as we celebrate and share the love of God within the community which we serve.

Minister: The Rev Muriel Willoughby

DEADLINES

All intimations for inclusion in the Sunday Order of Service should be handed into, or emailed to, the church office by 9.15am on Tuesday mornings. **Please note this is a change from Thursday.**

Church email address: staechurch@standrewserskine.org.uk

Items for the Autumn edition of 'Concord' should be with the Editor by Sunday 26 July 2015 for distribution from 16 August 2015. This is a week earlier than usual as the editor is on holiday for the first week in August.

Articles for inclusion in the magazine should be sent to the Editor at eunice.lacey@virgin.net

Alternatively, you may hand them directly to Eunice or telephone her on 01383 745828.

May 2015

From the Minister

Dear Friends



Do you believe in coincidences?

On Sunday 3 May I told the story of well known churchman and theologian, Tom Wright, feeling impelled to attend evensong service in King's College Chapel, Cambridge. He had had no intentions of going to that service but, over an afternoon, kept feeling that he should go. When he did eventually follow his impulse, he ended up sitting next to an old American friend, who had marked in his diary that day to get in touch with Tom Wright.

Coincidence? Or was it God who had put the thought in Tom's mind and persisted in seeking to get him to act this way? While God does not act like a puppeteer, forcing us to do things for his own ends, he often tries to communicate his will to us. This can be through the words and actions of other people, through times of prayer or through reading the bible or other material that seeks to explain God's ways. God communicates in many different ways, and it is then up to us to be 'tuned in' so that we recognise when God wants us to do something particular.

Learning to listen and obey is a large part of being a Christian and not one that is easy to do. It is often easier when we can discuss it with our fellow Christians, who might be able to share their own experiences of 'hearing' God speak and give us encouragement to follow our instincts to pursue God's calling.

God does work in mysterious ways but always wants the best for us. He wants us to fulfil our potential and so, sometimes, we need to step out in faith to obey God's call.

We are hoping to continue to find different ways to help St Andrew's Erskine to 'tune in and turn on' to what God wants us to do in our congregation and parish. One way we are doing that is by setting up Pastoral Care and Christian Education teams to help us serve our congregation and community.

Perhaps God is calling you to take up a new responsibility or interest in the church? Could the reading from Acts chapter 8 verses 26-40 help you to see how God can help us understand his ways and encourage us to listen for his call?

Before the summer we are going to be visited by representatives of Dunfermline Presbytery to undertake a Local Church Review, and many people have contributed thoughts and ideas to that exercise. I believe that we have a lot to contribute to God's work, and we are in a good place at this time to be planning ahead. Is the timing of the review a coincidence, or is it God's way of encouraging and inspiring us to look back at what we have done in the past and build on it for the future, using the people and resources he has provided?

God has a plan – he just needs us to join him!

I look forward to joining you on that journey of adventure that is called faith.

With my love and prayers.

Muriel

SERVICES

All services at 10.30am unless otherwise stated

7 June	Reader:	Christine Mitchell
14 June		<i>Sacrament of Holy Communion</i>
	Reader:	Eunice Lacey
21 June	Reader::	Jim Welsh
28 June	Reader:	Elizabeth McCallum
5 July	Reader:	Sheila Robinson
12 July	Reader:	Linda Russell
19 July	Reader:	Ian Mitchell
26 July	Reader:	Lorraine Brown
2 August	Reader:	Carolyn Simpson
9 August	Reader:	Isobel Walker
16 August	Reader:	Susan Bor
23 August	Reader:	Alasdair McCallum
30 August	Reader:	Elaine Shorthouse

WELCOME TEAMS

7 & 14 June, 2 & 9 August

(Team 2)

Banking	Louis Douglas	Esther Monro
FWO	Isobel Walker	Christine McWilliam
Others	Susan Bor	Mary McCormack
Laptop	Margaret Harding	
Sound	Ian Mitchell	

21 & 28 June, 16 & 23 August

(Team 3)

Banking	Alex Twaddle	Margaret Harding
FWO	Myra Knust	Bill Stark
Others	Maureen Smith	Linda Russell
Laptop	Alan Willoughby	
Sound	Alex Twaddle	

5 & 12 July, 30 August

(Team 4)

Banking	Margaret Young	Sandra Stenhouse
FWO	Dave Young	Jim Welsh
Others	Hilary Arneil	Margo Kindness
Laptop	Kirsten Russell	
Sound	Lorraine Brown	

19 & 26 July

(Team 1)

Banking	Jane Blackie	Eunice Lacey
FWO	Ian Mitchell	Carolyn Simpson
Others	Elizabeth McCallum	Alasdair McCallum
Laptop	Judith Dennis	
Sound	Keith Lacey	

Preparation and Serving Communion Elements (14 June)

Eunice Lacey*	Margo Kindness
Rikky McPhee	Carolyn Simpson



Would the person marked with an asterisk please supply the bread.

PARISH REGISTER

Deaths

“Jesus said ‘I am the Resurrection and the life. Those who live and believe in me will never die.’” John 11: 25, 26

We record, with sympathy to their families and friends, the deaths of the following members of our community.

Marion Jeffrey	Townhill Road
Charles Weir	Canmore Lodge
Baby Cameron Robertson	Alderston Court
Elizabeth Cameron	Leys Park Home
Mabel Mackenzie	Canmore Lodge Home
Margaret Burnside McBean	Matthew Fyffe Home

Changes of Address

Janet Stuart	18 Alexandra Street to 61 Gillie Court
Jean Stenhouse	11 Canmore Terrace, Wellwood, to 3 Trenchard Place

LIFE AND WORK

Copies of *“Life and Work”* are on the display stand in the church foyer. Subscriptions by post are available – please see the magazine for details.



KIRK SESSION NEWS



The main focus for the moment is the completion of the Local Church Review, formerly known as the Quinquennial visitation. This is an in-depth review of what the congregation is doing and what our future plans are for looking after, and connecting with, our congregation, our community and the wider world.

Following on from our Kirk Session Conference in January, the Kirk Session has agreed that our definition of Pastoral Care should be *“A church which is outward looking, willing and able to respond as best we can to the spiritual and practical needs of all in the congregation and the community.”*

Invitations are being issued to our Stewardship Conference on 23 May, and we hope that as many as possible will be able to attend.

***“A week without prayer
makes one weak.”***

Mary Hunter, Presbytery Prayer Co-ordinator, came to the recent Kirk Session meeting to speak of her role in encouraging Kirk Sessions and congregations to find the space in their lives for prayer. She asked that we appoint a prayer promoter in the church and gave some suggestions of ways to encourage our congregation. She left us with this thought.... *“A week without prayer makes one weak.”*

Susan Bor, deputy Session Clerk, will serve as vice-convener of Presbytery’s World Mission Committee, and Muriel serves on Parish Mission. She also sits on the national Nominations’ Committee, and seeks to keep the congregation informed about the workings of the church as and when appropriate.

Lorraine

YOUNG KIRK CLUB

Although, sadly, in the past few months, we have lost some members because of other commitments, we still have eight regular and enthusiastic children each week.



Recently, we entered the “*Mary Slessor Anniversary – How would you make a difference in the world today?*” competition, and we were very excited to learn that we had been awarded a “*Highly Commended*” and a “*Group Certificate*”. A photograph of this is on the Notice Board.

We will finish for the summer with the Prize Giving and Parents’ Evening on Wednesday 24 June, and we invite anyone in the Church who is interested to join us.

We will resume in August, when all children of Primary School age will be made very welcome - 6.30pm on a Wednesday.

Elizabeth McCallum

FUNDRAISING

The Film Night held in January raised £152.50; the Coffee Morning in February raised £561.70; the concert by “*Into the Limelight*” in March raised £466, and the Quiz Night in April raised £227.



The Fundraising team would like to thank everyone for their continued support at events and look forward to sharing many more with you.

Future Events

28 August	Concert with Elaine Shorthouse	7.30pm
26 September	Afternoon Tea	2.30pm

Esther Monro

THE PASTOR AND THE DOCTOR

*Mrs Huff is up the miff tree
On a seat fixed good and firm;
And she'd like to tell the pastor
A few things to make him squirm.*

*Mrs Huff was sick abed, sir,
Yes, sir, sick abed a week!
And the pastor didn't call, sir,
Never even took a peek.*

*When I asked her if the doctor
Called to see her she said, 'Sure.'
And she looked as if she thought I
Needed some good mental cure.*

*Then I asked her how the doctor
Knew that sickness laid her low
And she said that she had called him
On the phone and told him so.*

*Now the doctor gets his bill paid
With a nicely written cheque;
And the pastor, for not knowing,
Simply gets it in the neck.*

There have been a few occasions lately when I've heard, somewhat belatedly, about a member of the congregation being ill at home or in hospital. I appreciate that not everyone wants a visit from the minister at these times but, please, do pass on the information if you have it, and we can send flowers and keep in touch. I have not, to my knowledge, *'had it in the neck'* but I do like to keep in touch with what's going on in the congregation and so would appreciate your help. Thanks.

Muriel

SUMMER BBQ

We are planning a BBQ after the church service on Sunday 7th June. There will be activities for all ages - indoor and outdoor depending on the weather !! Look out for the invitation in your order of service on the 24th and fill it out please ! The event will finish early to mid afternoon and will be free . Come comfortably dressed for activities. We look forward to seeing you all.



Susan Bor

STEWARDSHIP CONFERENCE

Hopefully most of you will now have received your invitation to the Stewardship conference being held in the church on Saturday 23 May from 10 am to 2.30 pm. The event is entitled 'Turning stumbling blocks into stepping stones' and we are lucky to have two experts from the Church of Scotland coming to lead us through the day. This will give us an opportunity to explore what Stewardship means to us, so, if you are interested in the future of our congregation, we would love to see you there. Tea and coffee will be available from 9.30 am and a light lunch will be provided.

Hope to see you there.

*The Stewardship team
Carolyn, Esther, Isobel and Muriel*

To make you smile

A man was caught in a flood and two men came by in a boat to rescue him, but he waved them away shouting, "No! The Lord will save me!" One hour later another boat came along, but again the man said, "No! The Lord will save me!" Eventually a helicopter arrived, but the man insisted, "The Lord will save me."

Unfortunately, the man drowned and, at the Pearly Gates, he asked St Peter, "Why didn't the Lord save me?"

St Peter replied ... "For crying out loud. He sent two boats and a helicopter. What more do you want?"

THE GUILD

The Guild Session closed with a talk from Susan Bor about her visit to the General Assembly; this was very interesting and informative.



The Guild resumes at the end of September and extends a warm invitation to anyone wishing to join us.

Elizabeth McCallum

CRAFT GROUP

The Craft Group is holding its annual Coffee Morning from 10am to 12 noon on Saturday 20 June, when there will be hand made goods for sale and a small exhibition of items created by group members over the last year. Tickets, priced £1, including refreshments, (children free) are available from Craft Group members.



We will finish for the summer break with our meal out on Thursday 25 June, resuming on Thursday 27 August.

If you would like to come along and see what we do, we meet from 2.30pm to 4.30pm on a Thursday, finishing with tea or coffee and a blether. We're a friendly bunch, so why not come along one Thursday.

For further information, please contact Eunice Lacey on 01383 745828.

'THE EATERY'

The Eatery is still urgently looking for volunteers to help over its busy lunch times on Thursdays and Fridays.



If you feel able to help, please speak to me or any of the Eatery helpers.

Hilary Arneil

WORDS OF THANKS



Omitted from the last issue, with apologies from the editor: Nettie Stuart writes ... *“Thank you for the flowers I received from the Church in December. They brightened my day.”*

Isa Bell also writes with thanks for the lovely flowers she received in December. (Just too late for the last issue. Ed.)

Charlie Stuart would like to thank the church for his birthday card.

Grace McGuinness writes ... *“I would like to thank you for the flowers I received recently. They were lovely and very much appreciated.”*

Bill Marshalsey writes ... *“Thank you for the lovely flowers I received from the Church on my 80th birthday – much appreciated.”*

Annie Donaldson sends her thanks for the flowers she received after her birthday.

Isobel and Alistair Robson send their thanks for the lovely flowers received after their recent bereavement.

Maureen and Martin Smith write with thanks for the flowers they received following Martin’s radiotherapy treatment. *“They were lovely and really brightened our day. Many thanks.”*

The Cochrane family have written with thanks for the lovely flowers they received – it helped to cheer them up.

Thank you also from Ann Russell for the flowers ... *“They were a lovely surprise.”*

Isobel Ross sends her thanks for the beautiful flowers she received from the Church. She was delighted with them and also with the accompanying small card, which she found a great comfort.

Thanks have also been received from May Bowman, Margaret Young, Alex and Sandra Twaddle, and Ella Headrick.

FLOWER CIRCLE

7 June	Mrs E Lacey
14 June	Mrs Campbell
21 June	Mrs E Lewcock
28 June	Flower Fund



June Distribution:

5 July
12 July
19 July
26 July

Volunteers

Miss J Taylor
Mrs M Young
Mrs H Arneil
Mrs E Monro

July Distribution:

2 August
9 August
16 August
23 August
30 August

Mrs M Knust

Mrs E Headrick
Miss C Simpson
Flower Fund
Mrs S Stenhouse
Mrs E Lewcock

August Distribution:

Volunteers

If you would be willing to help occasionally with the distribution of flowers after the service or to donate flowers on a particular Sunday, please add your name to the Flower Rota on the notice board or speak to Rikky McPhee. You can see her in church or give her a call on 01383 722544.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our friend Thet Soe celebrates his 15th birthday, and we have sent him a card with our best wishes.

We remember all our friends who have been unable to come along to Sunday School and hope that you all enjoy the summer break. We would love to see you after the summer holidays.

Meantime, we would like to arrange to go bowling over the summer, so, if you are interested, please contact Fiona.

Fiona Todd

LADIES GROUP

Our February meeting was an illustrated talk by local historian, George Robertson, his subject being Dunfermline



The Valentine's Day Murder and Leys Park jail was very interesting and enjoyable.

A gardening evening by George and Ian from Fairley's Garden Centre in Cairneyhill was held in March. Questions were requested and, as well as good advice being given, we were treated to a demonstration on the art of hanging baskets. The demonstration basket was given to the Group, and this will hang at the entrance to the Church.

In April we had a visit from John Drylie of the Tussell Trust Food Bank. This has become a very successful charity with several branches opening up in the region. Volunteers are needed for all areas in this operation.

Our May meeting will be a Cookery Demonstration by Betty Stratton, and in June we hold our AGM in the Glen Tavern, Pittencrieff Street.

As the existing committee has completed three years, we will be looking for "new blood"!

Mary McCormack

Oh, Adam was a gardener, and God who made him sees
That half a proper gardener's work is done upon his knees.
So, when your work is finished, you can wash your hands and pray
For the Glory of the Garden, that it may not pass away!
And the Glory of the Garden it shall never pass away!

Rudyard Kipling

DIRECTORY

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Fund Raising	Esther Monro	01383 300079
Gift Aid	George Walker	01383 720637
Partner Plan Correspondent and Stewardship	Carolyn Simpson	01383 720651
Christian Aid	Isobel Walker	01383 720637
Flower Convener	Rikky McPhee	01383 722544
Safeguarding	Sandra Stenhouse	01383 728116
Brownies	Sonia Graham	01383 514179
Rainbows	Sonya Russell	01383 725313
Bellyeoman Toddlers	Gill Pemberton	01383 625616
Ladies Group	Mary McCormack	01383 515188
Men's Group	Alex Twaddle	01383 737478
Craft Group	Eunice Lacey	01383 745828
Walking Group	Charlie Downie	01383 724728

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