

Steeple News



www.oldandstandrews.com

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Steeple News is distributed to all members of the congregation and is available to view on the church website at www.oldandstandrews.com

CONGRATULATIONS TO A VERY SPECIAL LADY!



On Sunday 7th September Rev Ian McLean asked the congregation to stay behind for a very special occasion. This was to celebrate the 100th Birthday of Church member Mrs Agnes Leithead. She came forward amid applause with her daughter, Irene, and was

presented with a beautiful cake to mark her centenary. With cheers and lusty singing of Happy Birthday from the congregation Mrs Leithead blew out the centenary candle and cut the cake. Those who chose to stay for tea and coffee were treated to a slice of this delicious cake which was made by Mrs Pat Sykes.

It was extra special because her daughter Irene had travelled from Australia to celebrate her mum's centenary.



Mrs Leithead, Irene & Ian

I visited Mrs Leithead in her lovely home recently. Her cosy sitting room was festooned with well over 100 birthday cards from family, friends and well wishers from all over the world. She had one very special card on display which she modestly told me was from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth.

Agnes was born Agnes Hebenton in Peebles on 3rd September, 1914. She grew up and went to school in Peebles where her father, a boot maker, had a business. She trained as a Chiropodist and had a practice within her father's shop. Her future husband, Robert, came to Peebles as a teacher and they met when he was a referee while she played hockey. They married in 1936 and they moved to various places following Robert's teaching career until they came in retirement to live in Montrose in 1971.



A special card to treasure.

Why Montrose you may ask? Agnes was from Peebles, Robert from Edinburgh and they'd lived in Auchnagatt, Laurencekirk, Stonehaven and Hawick.

Well Agnes has very fond memories of spending childhood summers here with her father who was a keen golfer.

They joined the Old Church where Rev James Weatherhead was minister and Agnes became a keen member of the Work Party who made beautiful items of embroidery, knitting and crochet to be sold at the Annual Christmas Sale.

She has a daughter, Irene, a son, William, 3 Grandchildren and 1 Great-grandchild.

Her memory is crystal clear with many a tale to tell and it was a real pleasure and honour to meet her.

A truly wonderful lady. *KMS*

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The Deadline for the November Steeple News is 17th October

News can be emailed to steeplenews@oldandstandrews.com or given to the editors

Messy Church

- what exactly is this Messy Church that we keep hearing about is the frequently asked question.

Messy Church is exactly what it says on the tin - "it's Messy and it's Church". We are in our 3rd year of running a Messy Church which was started as a follow up to our successful Holiday Clubs as a way of reaching out to the contacts with young families made throughout the week of the Summer Mission and also a way of encouraging the commitment made by parents having their children baptised or blessed who may not necessarily feel at ease in the traditional Sunday morning worship.

We are delighted with the success of Messy Church and it is wonderful to see families returning time after time and attendees have grown from approximately 20 when we first started to a staggering 50/60! On arrival young and old are eager to find out



(c) what the mess is going to be afterwards.

It's difficult to say which is the favourite part of the afternoon as from the time we start (4pm) to finish (5.30pm) the church hall is buzzing with fun, laughter, friendship, chatter and most of all fellowship. Messy Church is providing and meeting a need for families which enables them to spend time together as part of the wider church.

The next Messy Church is Sunday 2 November from 4 - 5.30pm in the church hall and the theme is "Messy Jonah".

Listed below are some opportunities for the congregation to become involved, please give this your careful consideration.

I can be on the rota to help with registration on the day

I can be on the rota to help with catering on the day

I can be on the rota to help at the craft tables on the day

I can be on the rota to provide home baking.

I can help prepare craft materials and hall decorations

I can help put up posters about Messy Church

I can help by praying for the work of Messy Church

I can help by.....

If you still don't know what Messy Church is about - why not come along - it's free, everybody is welcome, young or old however all children **must** be accompanied by an adult.

(a) what's for tea



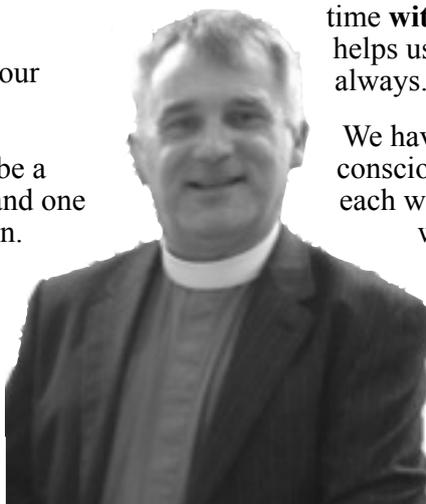
(b) what the story is going to be today



Time for God – Take 2

Of course, sharing in worship with our fellow Christians is important. Not everyone can - but health and circumstances permitting it should be a priority – but out of love (for God and one another) rather than as an imposition. We can encourage one another, speak about what we get from worship, what we can offer, what more we need, how it might be improved, made more meaningful – not only on the day but for the week.

God is interested in every area of our lives – has promised to be with us always. He wants to be part of what we do during the week as well as Sundays. Perhaps we need to do more to realise that Jesus is with us always. It doesn't mean we have to be super-spiritual or talk or think of God every waking moment. When I fly on holiday I very much hope that the pilot is giving full attention to flying the plane – but if he or she is a Christian I would be happy to think that they might say a wee prayer for the safety of the flight before we took off. Little prayers at a few points during the day (time for God or maybe better



time **with** God) even an old fashioned grace helps us to recognise that Jesus is with us always.

We have a prayer walk street plan – consciously bringing part of our community each week to God in our prayers. Perhaps we could do more to encourage that praying at home during the week?

The idea of the congregational Bible passage was to encourage some follow up thinking and reflection – at least re-reading Sunday's key passage during the week. I'm planning to take that forward by preparing a short resource to assist us – as

individuals but better still with a couple of friends at home and if desired, slightly larger groups to have a second look at what we've been considering on Sundays. Let's start by calling it **Take 2**. I don't want it to be "heavy" but I do want it to be practical, relevant and applicable to our every ordinary lives. I will say more in Church but plan to begin it soon – after the school "tattie" holidays.

Every blessing

Ian A McLean

Guild Report

Saturday 6th September saw three of our members joining with two thousand members in the Caird Hall, Dundee for the Guild Annual Meeting. As usual old and new friendships were renewed and made over the day with a chance to catch up with members from other Guilds. As usual the singing in the hall was energizing with everyone joining in both old and new hymns. Worship was lead by member of the National Executive. Rt Rev John Chalmers, Moderator of the General Assembly 2014-2015, gave us his own personal reflections and had everyone's attention. There were a couple of interludes, both in the morning and afternoon, when we were entertained by Brightons Praise Group. The guest speaker this year was Rev Dr Margaret Fowler,. Originally from Scotland she has been serving the people of Jamaica since 1988. She had the audience spellbound and at times in tears (of laughter). An expert on human trafficking, we were informed of her work and in her own way showed us that we make life best, not by what we have but by what we give to the vulnerable in society. A challenge was given for us to look at an area of one mile radius from our churches and see what is actually happening within that area to the vulnerable living there. The



afternoon was over to John Lowrie Morrison, OBE, (JoLoMo). Being a successful landscape artist he reflected on how he combines being an artist with, being a Reader of the Church of Scotland, preaching regularly in his home area of Argyll. The day ended with closing worship with the audience going home with the sound of the organ which had been played superbly by Stuart Muir, Dundee City Organist.

Our own Guild began its new session for 2014-15 with a fellowship afternoon, with members having a quiz and a welcome afternoon tea before returning home. On Tuesday 23rd September our Dedication evening will be lead by Rev Dr Ian McLean. October 9th at 2.00pm we will hear about Mary's Meals in Liberia, 28th at 7.30pm we will hear about WEvolution, better known to us as a Passage from India, a charity which the Guild are supporting. Also in October members of the Guild will lead worship in Montrose Care Home. Our meetings are open to anyone who would like to come along, either for the one meeting if you would like to hear one of our speakers or to join us. Just speak to one of our members and they will be glad to take you under their wing.

Old and St Andrew's Church Reading Group



In 2004 the Kirk Session agreed to a Reading Group being set up in the Church. Margaret Rae was the founding member

together with Netta Watson, Ivy Turnbull, Jeanne Wallace and a few others. Ten years on a small group of people, not only from our Church, meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month in the Session Room at 2 pm to discuss our latest read. Our books are supplied by the library and either chosen by our members or recommended by the library.

The Reading Group was led by Ivy Turnbull for many years but with Ivy's sad passing in July we are very fortunate that her daughter Jennifer is taking over the reins. Jennifer continues to inspire us, just like her mother, just hope she doesn't follow through Ivy's threat of tying ourselves to the railings of the library should they ever try to close it!!!

You may have noticed our lovely Book Exchange bookcases displayed in the vestibule

of Church. We hope you can make time to find yourself a good read here and at the same time put a donation in our collection cans on top of the bookcases. All monies collected this session are for our local YMCA.



Books reviewed this session include :-

- The White Queen - Phillipa Gregory
- A Dangerous Inheritance – Alison Weir
- The Book of Summers – Emylia Hall

A full list of books and the reading groups reviews can be found on page 7



Pastoral Group

Left to right Margaret Aikenhead, Jean Cameron, Helen Boyd, Ian Robb, Pat Sykes, Jan Noller

Pastoral group have been busy over the past few months working with the Elders getting to know the congregation a little better and were delighted to be involved in the 100th birthday celebrations of one of our members.

Congregational Bible Passage (provisional)

Oct 5 Philippians 3:4b-14
 Oct 12 Philippians 4:1-9
 Oct 19 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
 Oct 26 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
 Nov 2 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

Prayer Walk

Oct 5 Whinfield Way
 Oct 12 Faulds Road, Faulds Cres
 Oct 19 Paton's Lane, Christie's Lane
 Oct 26 India St & Lane
 Nov 2 Bents Road, Teviot Place

MONTROSE CHURCHES TOGETHER NEWS UPDATE

Ever wondered what Montrose Churches Together (MCT) do? Well read on and see what they have been up to during 2013-14

A Passover meal, Good Friday and Pentecost services have all successfully taken place

Bible Society Initiative – The Penny Gospel Project – 2000 gospels purchased by MCT and distributed locally

Christian Aid – Over £4734 raised through house collections, Praise evening, Donations and other events

Seafarer's Centre – 'The Haven' this project has been supported both financially and by volunteers from MCT for a number of years providing a warm welcome to seafarers far from home

Sheltered Housing Services – Ministers and others from MCT take turns ensuring the elderly in our community are still able to have contact with the Church

Citizen Advice Bureau (CAB) food parcels - Every Church is allocated a specific month to donate food for people in need in our community. However given the high level of need for this service all Churches ask their members to donate food all year through if they can.

OASIS - Twice weekly in Melville South Hall MCT provide a lunch for vulnerable people

Fairtrade – MCT supported Fair trade fortnight events and manned the stall at the Farmers' Market where £150 was raised.

African Choir Visit – partially funded and hosted by MCT. All money raised, £4000 this year, went directly to the Charity

Montrose Music Festival – Street Chaplains – MCT given the chance to be involved in supporting the Dundee Street Chaplains, who had been invited to attend the event this year

Donations – this past session MCT has made donations to the Syrian Disaster Appeal, the Philippines Typhoon Appeal, the Seafarer's Centre and the Scottish Bible Society.

Listed above are the activities MCT work together on. Individual Churches provide countless more services, activities, clubs, get togethers, events, coffee mornings etc, etc, etc, for our community and beyond which helps enrich all our lives

If you would like any more information about MCT please don't hesitate to get in touch, either on a Sunday morning or give me a call on 01674 830533

Helen Boyd - Old and St Andrew's MCT Rep

Member Churches of MCT are – Dun and Hillside, St Margarets, Melville-South, Inchbrayock, Montrose Old & St Andrew's, St Mary's & St Peter's, Methodist, Knox's United Free, United

An Evening with
Graham Kendrick & Tony Campolo
7.30pm, Fri 31st October, St. Andrew's
Church, Arbroath
Tickets £12 from www.christiantickets.co.uk
and from St. Andrew's Church Office
In Partnership with Compassion UK

From Emma MacDonald - Youth and Children's Worker

On 1st November at 7.30pm in Old and St Andrews church hall we are honoured to be one of a number of venues across the UK to be hosting the internationally renowned Christian band Superhero and their "Battle for your Soul" tour. Superhero's website tells us: "Superhero's *Battle for your Soul* Tour has, so far, reached over 15,000 people, boldly preaching the gospel night after night, seeing many hundreds turning to Christ, and this Autumn, here in the UK, will be no different.

In **November 2014**, the *Battle for your Soul* UK Tour continues once again in the UK.

The music will be be Big, the message will be bold, you will get sweaty and you may lose your shoes! But it might just be the night that you remember for the rest of your life."

Although predominantly aimed at young people I am hoping many of the congregation will come along to support the band. Hopefully we will have the gallery open for teas and coffees for people who want to listen from a distance.

Tickets are £5 and are available from me.

I am also appealing for volunteers for the night whether it be to serve teas and coffees upstairs or be on tuck shop duty for the young people or to help with manning the event. This is a great opportunity to encourage young people into our church family and help them experience faith in a different environment.

If you think you can help in any way please contact me on 07825547671, by email emz8285@hotmail.com or in person.

September Diary

Sun 28 Harvest Thanksgiving All Age Service 11am
Messy Farmer in Church Hall 4pm – 5.30pm Children to be accompanied by an adult.

October Diary

Sat 4 Guide Dogs Coffee Morning - 10-12am
Mon 6 Pastoral TG Swanson Rooms - 2pm
Tue 7 Fabric TG Swanson Rooms 7pm
Thu 9 Guild – Mary's Meals – Keir Room – 2.00pm
Sat 11 Scott Jubilee Hall Coffee Morning - 10-12am
Wed 15 Service at Montrose Care Home to be confirmed
Fri 17 Deadline for November Steeple News copy
Sat 18 Voluntary Action Angus Coffee Morning - 10-12am
Sun 19 Service at Caledonia Court 3pm
Pastoral Visiting Presbytery Seminar
Mon 20 Mission Task Group Swanson Rooms 7pm
Sat 25 RNLI Coffee Morning - 10-12am
Sun 26 Clocks go back
Informal Communion at end of service
November Steeple News issued
Tue 28 Church Coffee Morning - 10-11.30am
Tue 28 Guild - WEvolution, Lorna McKenzie - Keir Room 7.30pm
Fri 31 An Evening with Graham Kendrick & Tony Campolo
St Andrew's Church, Arbroath 7.30pm - £12

November Diary

Sat 1 Women's Section R.B.L. Coffee Morning - 10-12am
Sat 1 Youth Concert Church Halls
Sun 2 Messy Jonah and the Whale in Church Hall 4pm – 5.30pm Children to be accompanied by an adult.
Introduction to Leading Worship Presbytery Seminar

Books read this past session

The White Queen - Philippa Gregory

A historical novel about the Wars of the Roses. It tells the story of Elizabeth Woodville, wife to Edward of York, mother of the Princes in the Tower and of Elizabeth of York, who later became wife to Henry VII and mother of Henry VIII

Reading Group rating 5/10

The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry – Rachel Joyce

An unexpected pleasure! Not to give much away, Harold and Maureen, a retired couple living in Devon lives change dramatically when Harold sets out one day to post a letter and decides to keep walking and deliver it himself!!

Reading Group Rating 8/10

The Book of Summers – Emylia Hall

'The Summers' relate to the time Beth spends with her mother, Marika, in Hungary. Now 30 years old Beth's life changes when she receives a letter and a scrapbook after her Mother's death which help her piece together her past and understand herself better

Reading Group Rating 7/10

A Dangerous Inheritance – Alison Weir

A novel of Tudor Rivals and the secret of the Tower of London

Reading Group Rating 8/10

The Red House – Mark Haddon

A week in a holiday cottage shared by eight relations – an estranged brother and sister and their families. Had all the requirements of a good read but just didn't quite live up to expectations.

Reading Group Rating 3/10

Drowning Rose – Marika Gobbold

Eliza, a ceramics restorer, blames herself for the death of her childhood friend, Rose, at boarding school and the guilt she carries has blighted her life ever since. A gentle read but with some uncomfortable undertones.

Reading Group Rating 7/10

The Greatcoat – Helen Dunmore

Set in 1952 a young couple move into a rented flat. While the husband settles into life well Isabel, the wife, struggles with loneliness. However an old greatcoat found in the flat which Isabel uses to keep warm results in the appearance of an RAF pilot at the window who appears to know Isabel rather well! A ghost story, unfortunately a little on the light side and certainly not scary enough for Reading Group members!!!

Reading Group Rating 6/10

Sunset Song – Lewis Grassic Gibbon

A Scottish classic. If you haven't read it you should!! The language may take a little time to get used to but the glossary at the back of the book will help you through. Just don't give up. A beautiful read.

Reading Group Rating 8/10