

Steeple News



www.oldandstandrews.com

Welcome to our Student - Norman Trewren.

I've been asked to write to tell you a bit about myself – particularly how it came about that a 70-year old' felt that he was being called to become a minister in the Church of Scotland – and since you're going to have to put up with me for the six months of my placement!

I was born in Edinburgh and lived in Bo'ness for a few years before my parents emigrated to South Africa, where I was brought up, educated and married. Despite my father wanting me to be an accountant, I 'ran away' to sea rising in rank from apprentice to Master.

From an early age I wanted to 'be a priest' (I was in the Anglican Church then), but a great friend, teacher and mentor pointed out gently to me that there has to be some sort of 'calling', not just a self-centred wish within oneself. During my wanderings around the globe I



have served in many denominations, on each occasion finding some form of ministry within the church, music, teaching, and so on. None of it completely satisfied, but about two years ago – almost a year after I became a widower – I felt a feeling of 'call to the ministry of Word and Sacrament' that I'd been subconsciously waiting for all these years. How it came about is too long to go into here – I can tell you if you really want to know – but suffice to say I made an application to the Church of Scotland for Ordained Local Ministry (OLM) training. After a period of discernment and assessment, I was accepted and Here I am, looking forward to being part of the life of Old & St Andrew's for the

next six months.

Blessings, Norman

CHRISTMAS SALE & ADVENT GIFT DAY

Saturday 5th December

Church Hall 10-12

Coffee/Tea + Christmas pie
£2.00

STALLS:- Gifts, Craft, Cake &
Candy, Books, Toys

The Church Hall will be open on

Friday 4th December

2-4 and 6-8pm

when contributions to the stalls will
be gratefully received.

Gift envelopes and Christmas Cards
may be brought to the Sale



CHRISTMAS POST

The Church Christmas Card
deliveries for **Montrose, Hillside
and Ferryden** only will run from

1st -14th December

25p per card.

Collection boxes will be placed in
the

Church Vestibule

Henry Hogs - High Street

Scotmid - Borrowfield

All proceeds will go to Church
Funds

Contact Peggy Henderson 674511
if you would like to help with this
worthwhile activity

Contacts

Minister

The Rev. Dr. Ian A McLean
The Manse
2 Rosehill Road,
Montrose
Tel. 672447

Session Clerks

Mrs Thelma Robb
Tel. 672263
Mr Ron Campbell
Tel. 673667

Treasurer

Susan Henderson
Tel. 676383

Beadle

Mrs Linda Watt
Tel. 672143

Church Secretary

Mrs Aileen Smith
Office hours:-
Thursdays 10-12am
Tel. 676270

Roll Keeper

Hazel Ritchie
Tel. 671757

Organists/Accompanists

Beth Wyllie
Ann Stewart
Marjory Sutton
Evan Cruickshank
Fraser McGlynn
Shona Macfarlane

Flower Convener

Willie Sinclair
Tel. 675671

Tea Convener

Jennifer Nicoll
Tel. 672558

Task Groups

Administration - Thelma Robb
Fabric - Elaine McLean
Finance - Forbes Inglis
Mission - Elaine Allan
Pastoral - Jean Cameron
Worship - Elaine McLean
Youth - Aileen Scott

Messy Church

Elaine Allan
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Kathleen Strachan
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The Deadline for the December Steeple News is 20th November 2015

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

Mission Task Group

At the last Mission Task Group Meeting it was agreed that the church decorations will include a Chrisimon Tree. Chrisimon Trees are becoming more and more popular in churches and help enforce the true meaning of Christmas.

- The tree is evergreen as a symbol of **eternal life**
- Monograms are in gold and white to represent **majesty and purity**
- The lights are white to remind us that Christ is the **light of the world**
- After Christmas a crude cross is made from the stripped trunk. This is displayed in the church during Lent and then decorated with spring flowers for Easter Sunday showing New Life in Christ and that the Jesus story does not end at Christmas.

The congregation are asked to participate with the decorations to make it a missional activity and there will be various opportunities throughout Advent to enable participation.

Diary November

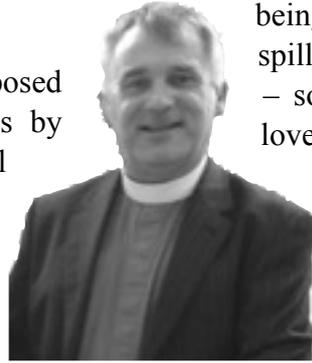
- Tue 3 Fabric TG Session Room 7pm
Wed 4 MCT Meeting at Melville South 7.30pm
Sat 7 Air Museum Coffee Morning 10-12am
Sun 8 Remembrance Sunday 1050am
Wed 11 Short service at War Memorial 10.50am
Thu 12 Guild Keir Room 2pm
Sat 14 Floral art Coffee Morning 10-12am
Sun 15 Messy Ready Steady Go (Advent) in Church Hall 4pm – 5.30pm Children to be accompanied by an adult.
Wed 18 Guild - Main Hall 11.10am - 1,30pm Soup Lunch
Thu 19 Reading Group Session Room 2pm
Sat 21 Guild Coffee Morning 10-12am
Sun 22 Communion Sunday 11am
Tue 24 Church Coffee Morning – Hall 10-11.30am
Tue 24 Guild St Andrew's Night - Main Hall 7.30pm
Thu 26 Pastoral TG Session Room 2pm
Thu 26 Friendship Group -Keir Room 2pm - Tom Easton
Sat 28 Hillside Bowling Club Coffee Morning 10-12am
- ### December
- Sat 5 Church Christmas and Coffee Morning Sale – Halls 10 – 12am
Sun 6 Service at Rowan Court 3pm

Carol Concert tbc but likely to be 6 December.

Love, love changes everything

The song from Aspects of Love composed by Andrew Lloyd Webber with lyrics by Black and Hart, sung by Michael Ball was in the UK charts for over 3 months rising to No 2 resonated with many. It's one of those songs like Nessun Dorma sung by Pavarotti that we'd never be able to sing properly ourselves (at least not right through!) but which is inspiring and emotionally fulfilling as we listen. These songs (words and music coupled together) convey a depth of humanity that draws in the listener so that we become part of the experience – not merely observers.

Love does change everything – not only romantic love but, if we are open to it, God's love for us in Christ. Ministers are not alone in using words in abundance to speak about God – and there is a lot to be said for every Christian being able to “give an account of the hope” that we have in Jesus – even in simple words being able to explain to a friend what Jesus means to us. But our relationship with Jesus mustn't stop at words – God intends to give us a wonderfully fulfilling relationship of love and care, of grace and freedom that touches every aspect of our



being, heartfelt mutual love with him that spills over into all our dealings with others – something truly amazing. Knowing the love of God in Jesus is meant to change everything – for the better, for the best. At times we may be hesitant and unsure where it might lead, what we are letting ourselves in for – but as we recognise the depth of Jesus' love for us (not just way back on the cross but fresh and vital every day) we are prompted to love him in return and love others for his sake. It's more than a tugging at our heartstrings, certainly more than a head nod to some creed or confession – it is to be a growing sense of being wholly captivated by the love of a God who spends himself for us and whom we long to love and serve in return.

Love, God's love, changes everything. Are we open to it? How will it affect how we worship, how often we worship, how we love our fellow Christians, others we deal with, the world in general? We can't remain unmoved by God's love – it will change us, it changes everything!

Ian A McLean

Prayer Walk

Nov 1 Langley Ave, Gannochy Cres
Nov 8 Dalhousie Ter, Westwood Walk
Nov 15 Newmanswalls Ave, Aulton Way
Nov 22 Baillie Norrie Crescent
Nov 29 Provost Mitchell Road
Dec 6 Kennedy Avenue

Congregational Bible Passage (provisional)

Nov 1 John 3:1-17
Nov 8 Psalm 46
Nov 15 Luke 10:25-37
Nov 22 John 18:33-37
Nov 29 Jeremiah 33:14-16
Dec 6 Luke 3:1-6

Nyumbani Appeal

Alison Stedman is collecting single fitted sheets (not white) and children's patterned (Disney, Spider-Man etc) single duvet covers for her orphans at Nyumbani in Kenya. If you would have a look in your linen cupboards to see if there are any of those items you don't need now she would gladly take them off your hands.

With thanks in anticipation.

Congratulations!

Jean and Ron Cameron celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary on Friday 23 October and would like to send them all best wishes from the congregation. They were married in St George's and Trinity by the Rev J.A.C. Mathers.



Ready, Steady, Go is the theme of our next Messy Church. The theme is advent and we will be focussing on getting ready for Christmas, not the presents or the tree but the real meaning of Christmas and getting ready to spend time thinking about and looking forward to meeting Jesus.

Messy Church encourages families to explore faith and the latest literature received from Messy Church this month advised that a milestone achievement had been reached – the 3,000th Messy Church had been registered! The team that launched Messy Church just a few years ago never envisaged the success of the Messy Church movement, they were not prepared for the adventure but they had faith



to step out on the road, they did their preparation, they were “ready”, they “steadied” themselves and continue to do so that they can “go” with what has become the fastest growing worldwide fresh expression of the church.

An invitation is extended to you to come along to the church halls on Sunday 15th November at 4pm – 5.30pm to join in at Messy Ready, Steady Go. All are welcome however children must be accompanied by an adult.

If you can't make Sunday 15th November look out for our stall at the Church Christmas Sale where we will be providing the opportunity to make a Christmas craft.

On your marks, get set, go.....

CHARITIES FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

Once again it is time for us to choose a charity which we will support. The Session agreed to one year support for whichever charity is chosen and that the congregation be included in the decision. The choices are shown below and a voting slip will be issued on a Sunday morning over a two week period. Below are the charity choices as they were presented to Session.

INTERNATIONAL DISASTERS

It has been put forward that rather than the church adopting a chosen charity, that we act on an “as and when” basis to various appeals and disasters, nationally and internationally as they arise. Such an event would be the recent earthquake and tragic following events in Nepal.

As a church we do not respond to such appeals and this would give us the opportunity to do so. Thankfully there are not 12 disasters in the year but perhaps the congregation would dig deeper into their pockets for such appeals should we provide an opportunity to do so.

MONTROSE DAY CARE CENTRE

I would like to propose that we as a congregation take on to support the Montrose Day Care Centre over the year. This would also give us an opportunity to demonstrate a local outreach to the community. It will also cover the period of greatest need while they settle into their new site. It is time for us to see ‘charity that begins at home’.

YMCA

As you know we donated our Book exchange donations to the YM and we were very impressed by the manager, Val Cooper, and the amazing work she does for the youth of the town.

Finances are always an issue for her and it would be lovely if we were able to lighten this load for her.

OUT OF AFRICA - INTO MALTA

has a simple vision. To help as many refugees as possible to rebuild their lives, find hope, healing and happiness. To love as Jesus loves.

Started a couple of years ago, when the congregation of St Andrew's Scots Church, Malta decided to see what could be done to help refugees from Africa rebuild their lives. Between 2002 and 2012 over 14,000 refugees from across Africa had arrived in Malta – and many hundreds more had died in the attempt. Out of Africa ... into Malta is a mission and a ministry to those who survive the journey.