

Steeple News



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Carols in the Kirk with Montrose Town Band, Song Shop and the Church Choir. A wonderfully uplifting evening and enjoyed by everyone.



Youngsters from the Sunday School performed a delightful rendition of the Christmas Story. It was a lovely beginning to the Christmas Season.

Summer Mission 2016

2016 is still quite new however plans are already under way for this year's Summer Mission (it's good to look forward to light nights and warmer weather!)

Summer Mission has grown considerably over the years and it has definitely made a mark in the town's calendar as being a very important week - last year over 150 children attended. 150 children attending, how blessed are we! However, we are a victim of our own success and we cannot become complaisant and assume that everything will fall into place, we need more helpers. A lot of work, planning, organising and fun – yes fun, it's great fun – has to happen before the Summer Mission Begins.

This year the dates are Saturday 2nd July – Sunday 10th July and shortly the theme of the Holiday Club will be launched with an appeal for volunteers – please give this your serious consideration – there is something that everybody can do and as always, we look forward to your support. Till then, watch this space !.....

Contacts

Minister

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Organists/Accompanists

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

Flower Convener

Willie Sinclair
Tel. 675671

Tea Convener

Jennifer Nicoll
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Task Groups

Administration - Thelma Robb
Fabric - Elaine McLean
Finance - Forbes Inglis
Mission - Elaine Allan
Pastoral - Jean Cameron
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The Deadline for the March Steeple News is 19th February 2016

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

Souper Sunday - Church of Scotland HIV/Aids Project

Souper Sunday is on **Sunday 7th February**. A soup and sandwich lunch will be held in the hall immediately following the morning service in support of this project. If you are able to offer help by way of donating soup or sandwiches can you please advise Elaine Allan.

Diary February

- Fri 5 World Day of Prayer Bible Study Keir Room 2.15pm
(also on Friday 12th & 19th)
- Sat 6 Youth Football Coffee Morning 10-12
- Sun 7 Souper Sunday – Service followed by congregational lunch in the church hall.
- Mon 8 Pastoral Task Group – Session Room 2pm
- Thu 11 Afternoon Guild 2pm Hannah Rankin *"Let's Stick Together"*.
- Sat 13 Guild Coffee Morning 10-12
Walking Group - meet in Baltic St. car park 1pm
Afternoon Tea in support of Rhys Allan 2-4pm in the hall
- Thu 18 Service of Union of Inchbrayock and Melville South congregations at Melville South. 7pm.
All welcome. (tbc at Presbytery)
- Sat 20 Sailing Club Coffee Morning 10-12
- Sun 21 Messy Me (God loves me) 4pm – 5.30pm in the Halls. All welcome but children must be accompanied by an adult
- Tue 23 Church Coffee Morning 10am – 11.30am Halls
Guild 7.30pm. *"Curiosity Night"*, Margaret Aikenhead and Thelma Robb.
- Thu 25 Montrose Churches Together in the Castle Street buildings of South & Ferryden Church. 7.30pm.
- Fri 26 World Day of Prayer Preparation Meeting Keir Room 2.15pm
- Sat 27 Coffee Morning 10-12
- Sun 28 Informal Communion after the service.
- March**
- Fri 4 World Day of Prayer Services in Melville Church
10.30am for 11am led by Old & St Andrew's
7.30pm led by Melville South and Ferryden
- Sat 5 Church Spring Sale Coffee Morning 10-12
- Sun 6 Service at Rowan Court led by Guild 3pm

Seaman's Mission

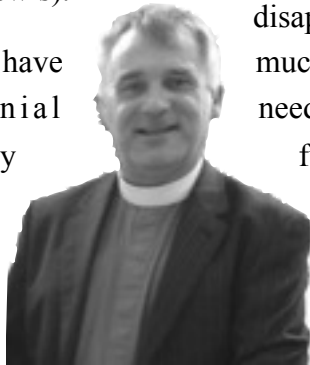
We need hats, gloves and warm jackets for the seamen who visit here from warmer climes.

contact Agnes Williamson

Planning ahead

We are well on with plans for a family wedding – Laura is getting married at the end of April. It's a joy but as you will appreciate there is a lot to do. Even as someone who has conducted a good number of weddings I discover that there is more to it all than meets the eye! Not simply a to-do list but lists of lists! It will all happen and it will be a happy occasion and we hope it will bring joy not only to the couple but to the congregation too. (She is getting married in Old & St Andrew's).

Quite a few of you will have heard the term "Quinquennial Visitation" – the five yearly "inspection" visit by the Presbytery. This has been superseded by the Local Church Review which aims to encourage congregations not merely to look back on what they have been doing in the past but to sharpen up their plans (and identify their needs) in all sorts of areas of church life and work with a view to ensuring that their future is on a firm footing. It has a more forward looking focus and the visiting group will keep in touch with us afterwards to see how we are getting on – in a supportive way. We are just embarking on



the preliminaries of our review (along with other Montrose congregations) so it remains to be seen how things will pan out – but I certainly hope that as a congregation we might be able to engage in this positively and find, under God, that we can set out plans for the next five years or more (at least in outline) that will give us confidence to go forward with hope and engage with what God has for us.

It can be easy to home in on our disappointments and challenges (and there is much in the world to drag us down) but we need to recall that Jesus came to bring us a future and a hope and will be with us always. He did not promise his disciples (or us) an easy road but he did assure us that he would walk with us every step of the way. "Past put behind us, for the future take us: Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone." Let's look to God to lead us into his future for us and let's eagerly embrace the process of shaping our plans so that they align with his – that way we can be sure of receiving his blessing.

Ian A McLean

Prayer Walk

Feb 7 Baird Way, Fettes Way
Feb 14 Coronation Avenue
Feb 21 Ben More Ave, Garvock Ave
Feb 28 Cairnwell Crescent
Mar 6 Brent Ave, Forties Road

Congregational Bible Passage (provisional)

Feb 7 Luke 8:4-8, 11-15
Feb 14 Luke 4:1-13
Feb 21 Luke 9:28-36
Feb 28 Isaiah 55:1-9
Mar 6 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Walking Group Report

There have been very few walks over the past months, due mainly to the weather.

On **Saturday 13th February**, we shall meet at 1pm at Baltic Street Car park for a walk locally – new members welcome to join us. Walks are held locally over the winter months and we only travel when the weather is fine and the days longer. The walks are not long – usually 3 to 4 miles.

The next Messy Church is on **Sunday 21st February** from 4 -5.30pm in the church halls when the theme is "Messy Me" (God Loves Me). An open invitation is extended to all but children must be accompanied by an adult.



Hand washing facilities in the Hall toilets have been upgraded. Automatic foam soap dispensers and paper towels complement the existing warm air hand driers. Please ensure used hand towels are deposited in the bins provided.



We now have a Facebook page and a Twitter account.

You can keep up to date with our news on Facebook – Montrose Old and St. Andrew's. Please like and share to allow as many people to view our page as possible.

Or you can follow us on Twitter @SteepleNews Montrose Old an St. Andrew's



Messy Church activities

in pictures

