

Steeple News



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AFTERNOON TEA

A delicious **Afternoon Tea** to begin a Stewardship Campaign was held in the church halls on **Saturday 27th August**. There were some very interesting presentations (right) from the many different groups within the church and it was evident that there is a lot going on in the church. Those present were able to browse the displays and discover how attractive, wide and varied the church work is.



The Guild

Displays included - The Guild, Church's chosen Charity - The Adam Centre, FairTrade, Walking Group, Pastoral Group, Mission Group, Youth Activities, Flowers in the Church.

If you did not manage to attend this event, a follow up information leaflet will be distributed in November's Steeple News with contact details of all groups and activities that take place. There is a lot happening in the church but, there is always room for more people to become involved and therefore there will be a tear-off slip that you can complete if you are interested in finding out more about any particular group or activity. Please don't be shy – your Church needs you!



Pastoral Task Group



The Adam Centre



FairTrade

Contacts

Minister

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

Session Clerk

Mrs Thelma Robb
Tel. 672263

Assistant Session Clerks

Elaine Allan & Willie Sinclair

Treasurer

Susan Henderson
Tel. 676383

Beadle

Mrs Linda Watt
Tel. 672143

Safeguarding Co-ordinator

Elaine Allan
Tel. 676764

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

Hall Bookings

Hilary Murdoch
Tel. 830301

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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Steeple News Editors

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The Deadline for the November Steeple News is 21st October 2016

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

Guild

Saturday 3rd September saw Guild members from across the country gather to celebrate one of the biggest events in the Church of Scotland's calendar, the **Annual Gathering** in the Caird Hall, Dundee.

This year's gathering followed the Guild's three year strategy "**Be Bold, Be Strong**", with the focus being on the 2016 theme of "**Go in Joy**" and we certainly did that. Two of our members, Margaret Aikenhead and Thelma Robb, joined the 2000 men and women who attended to hear the Moderator, Rev. Dr. Russell Barr and broadcaster, Sally Magnusson.

Chaired by the National Convener, Rosemary Johnston, the meeting of members and special guests aimed to encourage and inspire us ahead of the new Guild session which starts this month. A day of celebration, singing, learning and friendships, old and new reminding us of the strength and relevance of our great movement.

The Moderator, Rev Dr. Russell Barr, kept us all hanging on his words with lots of laughter. This was followed by the Heart & Soul Swing Band leading us in communal singing. Into the afternoon and on a more serious note Sally Magnusson gave us an insight into why she had founded Playlist for Life in 2013. After being impressed at the effect of meaningful music on her mother's dementia she went on to conduct research about the condition, publishing a book on the subject.

The members were very affected by her talk and a video which was shown, and the light relief of another spell of hymns to the Heart & Soul Swing Band was very welcome, with a few folks dancing in the aisles and lots on their feet clapping along with the music.

In our home Guild we have had our Dedication meeting at the start of the 2016/17 session. At our meeting on **13th October**, we will hear about the work of the Street Pastors. **We meet in the Keir Room at 2.00pm, on the second Thursday of the month, and all are welcome to join us.** It may be that you do not want to commit to coming along every month but if there is a speaker you would like to hear please do feel free to come along and hear about the project and enjoy fellowship and cup of tea.

In last month's newsletter we spoke about our **Prayer Square Ministry**. We have had various donations of squares, which we will make into blankets and we thank you for those donations. We do have a leaflet which explains what the Ministry is about and the size and pattern for the squares and blankets. Anyone who is interested in joining us please let us know and we will explain the ministry and give you a leaflet. We have given out a number of our squares and prayer, especially at our afternoon tea and also to folks who feel they would benefit from contact and prayers.

If you know of anyone who would like a square or shawl please contact Margaret, Anne or Thelma.

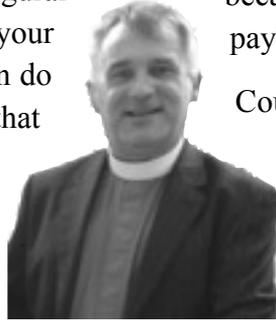
Ask not...

J F Kennedy famously used in his inaugural speech the phrase "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country." It was later alleged that he borrowed the saying from his former headmaster. Wherever it came from it sums up an outlook that runs counter to modern thinking – which tends to be grounded on "what is in it for me?"

Christians have long had a more benevolent, gracious and generous approach to life that presumes that we are to love our neighbour even as Jesus has loved us. There is ample evidence (probably in every congregation there's ever been) of Christians putting themselves about for others in Jesus' name – not for what they can get out of it but for Christ's sake.

The "what's in it for me" mentality is gaining ground and many people see it as "just common sense". Here is another point where society's thinking is diverging from Christian ideals, where a more pragmatic (selfish) outlook is challenging sensitive, generous and outwardly caring attitudes and practices. Christians do not hold the monopoly for care and compassion – others can share these but it does appear that the notion of service for its own sake, rather than for some reward is becoming rare.

Kennedy was right – we should reject the notion that what matters is what is in it for us. We ought



to take to heart Jesus' teaching about loving our neighbours because they need to be loved, because Jesus loves us and not for some payback that might come our way if we help.

Councils and voluntary organisations are doing their utmost to encourage people to volunteer. Part of that is because of budget constraints, part of it because they genuinely value the importance of unselfish sharing and caring. Clearly "volunteers" account for the vast bulk of the work done in this and any Church. There is always room for more. But in another sense none of us are volunteers. If we are Christians, we are all called to serve our Lord and Saviour and others for his sake – yes we have the freedom to respond or not – but can we really regard ourselves as volunteers when we are due God such a debt of love for what he has done for us that we can never hope to repay.

The Church must be open to the needs of others as well as its members but perhaps we need to get a handle on what Jesus longs for from all of us. Ask not what your Lord can do for you, ask what you can do for the Lord. I have no doubt that Jesus values every aspect of service offered in his name, whether it is recognised by the Church or not. But the challenge remains – Jesus came not to be served but to serve – and he longs for that generous attitude of service in all of us.

Ian A McLean

Alpha Film Series

The Alpha course, an introduction to the Christian Faith, has been totally revised and a brand new film series (including footage from across the world) produced. We would like to invite you (and anyone you might like to invite) to try it out. Come along to begin "The Greatest Adventure" (that's what Bear Grylls called it) – Our Alpha Taster – Episode 1 on Sunday 30th October in Swanson Rooms at 12.30pm.

From the Reading Group

Hope you have noticed our new collection cans in the vestibule on top of our Book Exchange bookshelves recently. Our chosen charity this session is the Scottish Air Ambulance Service.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our charitable efforts in the past and hope you have enjoyed a good read into the bargain. And to those who just put money into our collection cans - thank you too.

MESSY SUPERHEROES



Diary

September

- Mon 26 Parish Grouping Hillside Manse
7.30pm
- Tue 27 Church Coffee Morning 10 – 11.30am
in the hall

October

- Sat 1 Guide Dogs coffee Morning 10-12
- Sun 2 Service in Rowan Court led by
Minister 2pm
- Sat 8 Scott Jubilee Hall Coffee Morning
10-12
- Sat 15 Voluntary Action Angus Coffee
Morning 10-12
- Sun 16 Service in Carnegie Court led by Guild
2pm
- Thu 20 Induction at Castle Street Church 7pm
(prov)
- Sat 22 RNLI Coffee Morning 10-12
- Sun 23 Messy Church – Messy Water in
Church Hall 4pm – 5.30pm
Children accompanied by an adult.
Big Sing in the Church at 6.30pm
- Mon 24 Admin Task Group Session Room
2pm
- Tue 25 Church Coffee Morning 10-11.30am in
the hall
- Sat 29 British Legion - Poppies Coffee
Morning 10-12
- Sun 30 Alpha Taster in Swanson Rooms
12.30pm (Bring packed lunch)
- Mon 31 Mission Task Group in Swanson
Rooms at 7pm

Messy Superheroes - what fun we had this afternoon all dressed up as Superheroes with 4 new families as a result of Summer Mission. **The next Messy Church** will be held on Sunday 23rd October from 4 - 5.30pm in the church halls. the theme is Messy Water. All welcome but children must be accompanied by an adult.

Prayer Walk

- Oct 2 Medical and Sports Centres
- Oct 9 Wm Phillips Dr & Wm Rodger Dr
- Oct 16 Trail Dr, Caravan Pk & Seafront
- Oct 23 North end Trail Dr inc Coastguard,
Golf Clubs and Roo's Leap
- Oct 30 Whinfield Road
- Nov 6 Whinfield Way

Congregational Bible Passage (provisional)

- Oct 2 2 Timothy 1:1-14
- Oct 9 Luke 17:11-19
- Oct 16 Luke 18:1-8
- Oct 23 Luke 18:9-14
- Oct 30 Luke 19:1-10
- Nov 6 1 Cor 15:3,4,12-22

Flowers in the Church

The **Flower Calendar for 2017**, listing all those willing to donate flowers for **Sunday Worship**, is currently being updated. If anyone would like their name to be included on the calendar for next year – **as there a few free dates:** please contact; **Willie Sinclair 675671 or Helen Campbell 673667**