

Steeple News



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Summer Mission Banner

In 2006 Old and St Andrew's entered into a 3 year contract with the Church of Scotland's Impact Team for the purpose of running a Summer Mission. The Impact Team worked alongside the congregation for a period of 3 years helping to facilitate the running of the Children's Holiday Club and other events throughout the week.



When the 3 year term came to an end, the Impact Team presented the congregation with the Summer Mission Banner that hangs proudly in the church. The boat at the centre of the banner is the symbol of the Impact Team (a division of the Mission and Discipleship Council).

Surrounding the boat are the various "Logo's" that have identified the themes of the Holiday Clubs held and the Summer Mission Team are extremely grateful to Barbara Sharp for sewing the appropriate logo on the banner as each year has passed. Barbara has intimated that as the Banner has no more space and a new one is required, that this would be a good time for her retire from this duty. We are therefore seeking a replacement (or a small group of people) who would be willing to undertake this role. Is this something that you (and/or your friends) could do? Please give this your consideration as it is important that the congregation and visitors to the church are able to see what work is being undertaken.

For further information please contact Aileen Scott or Elaine Allan for further information.

Nyumbani Concert



A large and appreciative audience of over 100 enjoyed a musical evening in the church. The two Pauls - tenor Paul Hastie-Gray and baritone Paul Sullivan delighted the audience with a variety of songs - classical, operatic, Frank Sinatra, Tom Jones, country and western, and songs from the musicals where they were joined by soprano Emily Wood. There even was a surprise visit from Elvis Presley (aka Paul S) who thrilled us with a couple of his songs!

The evening was to raise money for Nyumbani project and Alison Stedman gave a brief talk about its progress. Nyumbani is based in Nairobi, Kenya and is a special home that cares for HIV/AIDS orphans. Opened in 1992 with 3 orphans it currently provides care for 121 children. The Rotary Movement's goal is to promote awareness of the plight of such orphans in Kenya and to raise funds in support of current and future care-based projects. Around £1700 was raised on the evening. visit www.nyumbaniscotland.org.uk for much more information about this very worthy cause.

Contacts

Minister

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Elaine Allan
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Mrs Aileen Smith
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Roll Keeper

Hazel Ritchie
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Ann Stewart
Marjory Sutton
Evan Cruickshank
Fraser McGlynn
Shona Macfarlane

Flower Convener

Willie Sinclair
Tel. 675671

Tea Convener

Jennifer Nicoll
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Hall Bookings

Valerie Morris
Tel. 671343

Task Groups

Administration - Thelma Robb
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Mission - Elaine Allan
Pastoral - Jean Cameron
Worship - Elaine McLean
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**The Deadline for the April Steeple News is
17th March 2017**

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

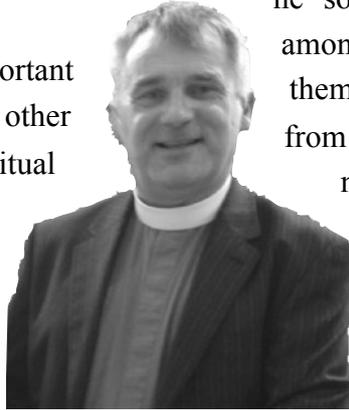
Diary

- Sun 26 Feb Messy Church – Messy Beasties 4pm – 5.30 All
welcome but children must be accompanied by an adult.
- Tue 28 Feb Church Coffee Morning 10am – 11.30am Halls
- Wed 1 Mar Stewardship meeting Swanson Rooms 7.30pm
- Fri 3 Mar World Day of Prayer Services in Old & St Andrew's
10.30 for 11am
7.30pm – led by members of Old & St Andrew's
- Sat 4 Mar Guild Resources Day – No Coffee Morning
- Sun 5 Mar Pulpit Swap Sunday Montrose Parish Grouping
Summer Mission Planning Swanson Rooms 6.30pm
- Wed 8 Mar Joint Kirk Session meeting Old & St Andrew's Church
7.30pm
- Sat 11 Mar National Trust Coffee Morning 10-12
- Wed 15 Mar Finance TG Session Room 7.30pm
- Sat 18 Mar Hillside WRI Coffee Morning
- Sun 19 Mar Summer Mission Launch
Mon 20 Mar Pastoral TG Session Room 2pm
- Sat 25 Mar Coffee Morning to be arranged 10-12
- Sun 26 Mar Clocks go forward
Informal Communion after the service
Messy Church – Messy Mum 4pm – 5.30pm
All welcome but children must be accompanied by an
adult.
- Mon 27 Mar Kirk Session (main business approve accounts) Keir Room
7.15pm
- Tue 28 Mar Church Coffee Morning 10am – 1130am in the hall
- Sat 1 Apr Embroiderer's Guild Coffee Morning 10-12

Walking Group – Recent walks have been from Benholm along the coast to Inverbervie and back over the top route to Benholm, on a very “dreich” day and a walk to Kinnaird to see the snowdrops. We continue to meet once a month, usually on the second Saturday of the month. Anyone interested in joining us should contact Jean Stevenson on 01674 830250 or speak to me at Church.

Turning Point

We are about to enter Lent. More important than any plans to give up chocolate or other goodies for a spell Lent is about spiritual preparation for Easter. It mirrors that penultimate period of Jesus' earthly ministry when "he set his face towards Jerusalem". The focus of his thinking and teaching was on his journey towards Jerusalem and on the manner and meaning of his death. He was more open and forthright, sharing his understanding of his death as the means of people's salvation, of God coming close to his people in and through his life. He was part of that message. There was an urgency about communicating his message to all who would listen as there was about preparing his closest followers to continue his mission and ministry thereafter. It wasn't simply a matter of passing on hints, tips and good ideas. Above all, he wanted them to be prepared spiritually. He looked to God and prayed that he would send the Holy Spirit upon them and those who would follow (including us) that they and we might be given all the spiritual resources and equipping for the vital task of sharing the good news.



he sowed seeds of the new life to come among his followers. He would still be with them (and us) albeit in a different way but from that point on it was the disciples (as it is now his modern day disciples) who would be responsible, humanly speaking, for the proclamation and living out of the good news.

I believe we are at turning point in the history of the Church of Scotland and even of the churches in Montrose. The temptation is there to batten down the hatches and protect our traditions and the familiar. The opportunity is to take stock from the past but move much more to find ways of reaching out to a largely unchurched population with dynamic versions of the unchanging gospel that would be relevant and effective in touching and changing a society that is in dire need of love, forgiveness, faith and hope. It is no easy prospect – but neither was Jesus' journey to the cross. How do we do the new while looking after the existing? No easy answers but together we are called to walk together trusting in the Lord who promises never to leave us. Are you willing to join in the fellowship of the cross?

Ian A McLean

In a way, we are jumping the gun to talk about his resurrection but even before he went to the cross

Prayer Walk	Congregational Bible Passage (prov)
Mar 5 New Wynd	Mar 5 Genesis 2:15-17;3:1-7
Mar 12 Market Street, Upper Hall Street	Mar 12 Genesis 12:1-9
Mar 19 Chapel Street	Mar 19 Exodus 17:1-7
Mar 26 Kincardine Street	Mar 26 Psalm 23
Apr 2 Queen Street, King Street	Apr 2 Ezekiel 37:1-14

Stewardship

We are at the very early stages of planning a Stewardship Programme which is anticipated with take place in September. A steering group has been formed and is being assisted by Mrs Fiona Penny, the Church of Scotland Stewardship Consultant for the North East of Scotland.



The next Messy Church is on Sunday 26th March from 4 – 5.30pm in the church halls. The theme is Messy Mum's. All welcome but children must be accompanied by an adult. Register online at Oldandstandrews.com



Souper Sundaes

The Worship Group's excellent service at church was followed by a Souper Sundaes event in the church hall. Donations of warming soups and scrumptious puddings were enjoyed by over 50 people and there was a wonderful convivial atmosphere in the hall making the event a real success. All those who made donations of food or their time or simply came along to enjoy the lunch should be congratulated for raising over £350 for the Church of Scotland HIV Aids Programme. Well done! If you weren't there - you certainly missed yourself!

Church Membership

Anyone interested in exploring Church Membership should contact the minister as soon as possible as he hopes to begin an Enquirers' Group very shortly.



Spring Sale - Saturday 11th February.

Old and St Andrew's Church can always rely on a willing team of helpers to make sure that church events run smoothly. The Spring Sale was no exception with many people enjoying the morning and buying items from the Cake and Candy, Gifts and Book stalls. £450 was raised to go towards an essential piece of technology - a new hall boiler.