

Steeple News



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Giving for Growth - *Growing Together*

The Aspire campaign is a major event in the calendar of Old & St Andrews Church in 2017.



Christian Stewardship is about giving our time, talents and money to God, in grateful response for all the many gifts He has given us. The General Assembly has instructed congregations to run Stewardship events on a rolling three-year programme. This year we are focusing on our financial resources and reviewing our income, to better service the needs of both our Parish and the wider community.

Three events will be held in September when we will have displays and exhibitions from the various groups that are active in our congregation.

It will give members, adherents and any interested parties the opportunity to find out what is going on in our Church and in the wider Church of Scotland, both at home and abroad.

At the end of August / early September, members will receive a personal invitation to attend one of the events. Please put these dates in your diary now so that you are able to come along and find out more.

7.30pm Thursday
14 September

2.00pm Friday
15 September

10.00am Saturday
16 September

Further information will be displayed on posters on the Church and Hall noticeboards and in future issues of Steeple News



Summer Mission 2017
The painting of props for the mission continues space in the Tom Long Gallery. The team is meeting every Sunday evening at 6.30pm and have produced lots of pictures with many more still to complete.



Contacts

Minister

The Rev. Dr. Ian A McLean
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Session Clerk

Mrs Thelma Robb
Tel. 672263

Assistant Session Clerks

Elaine Allan & Willie Sinclair

Treasurer

Susan Henderson
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Beadle

Mrs Linda Watt
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Elaine Allan
Tel. 676764

Church Secretary

Mrs Aileen Smith
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Tel. 676270

Roll Keeper

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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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Hall Bookings

Valerie Morris
Tel. 671343

Task Groups

Administration - Thelma Robb
Fabric - Elaine McLean
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Mission - Elaine Allan
Pastoral - Jean Cameron
Worship - Elaine McLean
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**The Deadline for the July Steeple News is
16th June 2017**

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

Diary

May

Tue 30 Church Coffee Morning 10am – 11.30am in Halls

June

Fri 2

Dino Drive (Beetle drive with a difference)
Fundraiser for Summer Mission 7pm

Sat 3

Enable Coffee Morning 10-12

Sun 4

11am including Sunday School Prizegiving
6.30pm Montrose Churches Together Pentecost Service
St Mary's & St Peter's

Mon 5

Stewardship Meeting (with FP) Halls 7.30pm

Tue 6

Presbytery Communion (open to all) East & Old Forfar 7.30pm

Thu 8

Montrose schools Cluster Concert - 7pm

Sat 10

Contact the Elderly Coffee Morning 10-12

Mon 12

Pastoral Task Group – Session Room 2pm

Tue 13

Montrose Churches Together AGM – Castle Street 7.30pm

Thu 15

Reading Group - 2pm Session Room

Sat 17

Twinning Association Coffee Morning 10-12

Mon 19

Stewardship Meeting tbc 7.30pm

Sat 24

Adam Centre Coffee Morning by Iris/Ann 10-12

Sun 25

Informal Communion after service

Tue 27

Church Coffee Morning 10am – 11.30am in Halls

Wed 28

Montrose Schools Baroque Ensemble Concert -7pm

Fri 29

Schools last day of term. Lochside service tbc

July

Sat 2

Summer Mission Coffee Morning 10 —12

Mon 3

Summer Mission begins 10.30am – Friday
Church Summer opening begins weekdays 2pm – 4pm

Sat 8

Family BBQ – No Church Coffee morning

Sun 9

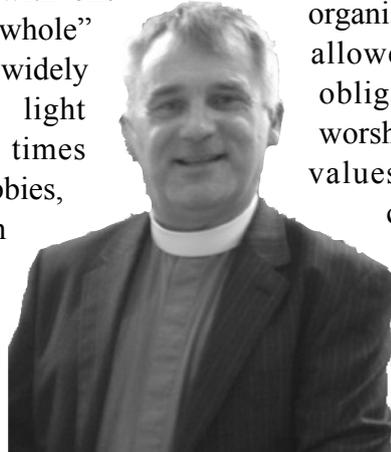
Closing Service for Summer Mission followed by lunch
* Painting for Summer Mission continues on Sunday evenings
in Tom Long Gallery at 6.30pm as announced.

Presbytery Clerk

Having served for a time as Depute Clerk, Dr McLean has been appointed as Clerk to the Presbytery of Angus. His principal ministry remains as Minister of Old & St Andrew's but he hopes to be able to foster a more supportive and encouraging role for Presbytery with colleagues and congregations. Being Clerk does excuse him from some other roles which might otherwise have been his as a parish minister alone.

Jesus at the Centre

Recently, at a meeting someone (I won't say who!) sheepishly suggested they weren't good at blethering. Everyone laughed because the individual was well known for chatting and knew it. It is good when as members of the congregation we are able to make time to chat with one another. And since we are to be "whole" people our conversation will range widely on many subjects – sometimes light hearted, sometimes serious, at times touching on family, on work, on hobbies, what's going on in the community, in the world. But within that there will sometimes be talk about church/faith/religion – which is good if it is natural and not forced or contrived.



However, am I alone in thinking that matters of faith are being squeezed out because of the weight of "practicalities"? Don't get me wrong, I don't want a divide between the "holy" and the "practical". All the world belongs to God and every area is his concern. As a church/charity we are subject to all manner of requirements under civil law as well as church governance. In this litigious age no organisation can afford to ignore the law. The temptation is to turn a blind eye and

comment that "in the past we didn't have to bother with health and safety, data protection, safeguarding...etc". But we can't do that – and while at times we might see the rules far enough as Christians we ought to be concerned to ensure the safety and well being of everyone. But while these obligations weigh heavily on volunteer organisations like the church they mustn't be allowed to squeeze out our overarching obligations to proclaim the good news, worship our Lord and seek to live out the values of the kingdom of God in our community.

Can I make a plea that Jesus should still be in our conversation? Yes, talk about the church and what is going on but even among ourselves can we remember to talk about **why** we do what we do? Jesus is to be at the centre. We don't need to name him in every breath – but there is something wrong if he hardly ever gets a look in. We need to find times, opportunities to chat and blether – and have a laugh sometimes – but please, let's not allow the burden of responsibilities to squeeze Jesus out. After all, it is his Church, we are his people and it is his love for us and for the world that give us meaning.

Ian A McLean

Church Summer Opening

Do you have a couple of hours to spare during the months of July and August?

Then why not become a volunteer guide in the Church and help us to continue our important Christian outreach to the people of Montrose.

During the months of July and August the Church is open Monday to Friday 2pm – 4pm. Last year we welcomed over 200 visitors some from as far a field as Australia, India and even from High Street Montrose!

The duties aren't onerous, an ability to engage in the gentle art of conversation make the occasional "cuppie" if need be and talk about the Church, its life and the building. is all that is required.

So if you feel you could offer some help and join our team of volunteers please contact Willie Sinclair, 01674 675671, for further information.

Prayer Walk

Jun 4 Broomfield Rd, Gdns & Cres; Rosehill Gdn
Jun 11 Broomfield Ind Estate, Air Museum
Jun 18 North Esk Road
Jun 25 Western/Mill Roads, Milnamair, Tesco
Jul 2 Station, new store

Congregational Bible Passage (prov)

Jun 4 1 Corinthians 12:3-12
Jun 11 Matthew 28:16-20
Jun 18 Matthew 10:24-39
Jun 25 Romans 12:1-12
Jul 2 Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Relay for Life Peterhead

A North-east charity team who have raised nearly £200,000 to help fight cancer over the last decade have been recognised as amongst the finest fundraisers in the world. Relay for Life Peterhead is an annual event which is part of a nationwide Cancer Research UK campaign.

The Blue Toon initiative is hugely popular and more than £1.4million has been raised since 2008. Relay for Life Peterhead itself was honourably mentioned last year in the event award category narrowly losing out to a relay in South Africa. Last year there were more than 5000 relays in 23 countries around the world. The spokesman for the

Cancer Society added: "The event surpassed its 2016 fundraising goal by almost 10%, raising a record breaking £219,353. Peterhead became the first relay in the UK to raise more than £1million in their lifetime in 2014 and have now raised over £1.4million. Relay for Life Peterhead are exemplary ambassadors."

This year's 24 hour event is taking place on July 1st and 2nd. Helen Campbell from our church is once more looking forward to taking part and we wish her every good fortune for the event.

For more information visit cancerresearchuk.org/relayforlifePeterhead or talk to Helen Campbell who will be delighted to enthuse about the event.

Church Hall

The Church Hall is used by many different groups and last Saturday evening was just such an occasion when Montrose and District Choral Society held their Spring Concert. The picture shows the hall with the choir, orchestra and audience just about filling it to capacity. We are very fortunate to have such a good suite of halls which we can make available to so many different groups.



Montrose and District Choral Society

Gala Concert.

Saturday 13th May saw the Choral Society celebrating its 65th Anniversary by holding a Gala Concert in the church hall. A large audience were treated to the concert version of Henry Purcell's Dido and Aeneas. Under the baton of talented conductor Adam Baliga soloists Maggie Findlay as Dido, Ken Miller as Aeneas and Erin Nicoll as Belinda together with other soloists and a small orchestra - the opera was performed much to the delight of the audience.

The Choral has for many years performed in Old & St Andrew's Church but Adam felt that the hall with its excellent facilities was a more suitable venue for this performance.

We are very fortunate with the hall staff and willing refreshment servers and the Choral wishes to thank them very much for making the evening such a success.

Church Halls Heating System.

New boilers are due to be installed in the hall before the end of May. The existing boiler is coming to the end of its life with spare parts virtually unattainable. During the period of installation there will be no heating available in the hall.

Tom Long Gallery Ceiling

Part of the suspended ceiling has dropped slightly when some of the suspending wires have come away from their fixing points. We have had the problem assessed and it will be reinstated in time for the Summer Mission. For safety please not venture into the cordoned off area at this time.