

Steeple News



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Stewardship Programme Update

The 2017 Aspire Stewardship Programme reached out to all members of the congregation with an invitation to attend one of three Gatherings which were held mid-September.

The Stewardship Planning Committee is very thankful for the work done by all the visitors who delivered invitations, collected responses and supported the Gatherings. A big thank you them and to all those who contributed to the Gatherings including representatives from Hall users.

The Gatherings were an opportunity for members and adherents to find out more about what is going on each week in Old & St Andrews Church as well as learning about where our offerings come from and where they are spent.

We were delighted to welcome a number of people at the Gatherings and feedback from those attending was, in the main, very positive with comments such as *"I didn't realise so*



much went on in the Church"; "It was great to see what is happening and to catch up with friends over a cuppa"; "I am really enthused by some of the forward plans and want to get involved"

We have a number of people who have volunteered to become involved in different activities in the Church and we are pleased that members have responded positively with practical as well as financial support.

A number of new Standing Order forms have been received by the Treasurer and she is currently evaluating the statistics around the number of returns. We will be updating the congregation when information becomes available but if you have a specific question then please contact Elaine McLean who convened the Stewardship Steering Group. (elaine.mclean@hotmail.com) or telephone 01674 672447.

We are, as this Newsletter goes to print, preparing for the Thanksgiving Service and look forward to seeing everyone at the Service in the Church and then in the Halls for a buffet lunch with sausage rolls, cocktail sausages, scotch eggs, quiche, crisps and mini pork pies. We will also have tray-bakes along with tea/coffee

Big thank from Grace and everyone at Montrose Foodbank for our Harvest Gifts. Very much appreciated.

Foodbank have requested:- Tinned tomatoes, Cup-a-soups, Instant noodles, Long life milk, Toilet rolls

Foodbank report sent by Grace Linton of Angus Foodbank:

For April - August 2017: A total of 1563 people were fed in Angus, and 283 in Montrose (47 children and 236 adults). This is up 32% on last year

Contacts

Minister

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Mrs Thelma Robb
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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
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Tel. 676270

Roll Keeper

Hazel Ritchie
Tel. 671757

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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
Finance - Forbes Inglis
Mission - Elaine Allan
Pastoral -
Worship - Elaine McLean
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The Deadline for the December Steeple News is 17th November 2017

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

October

- Sun 29 Thanksgiving Service for Aspire Programme 11am
No informal communion after service
Congregational Lunch in hall after the service
Messy Church has Talent 4pm – 5.30pm All welcome
Children must be accompanied by an adult
- Tue 31 Church Coffee Morning 10am – 11.30am

Diary

November

- Sat 4 Air Museum Coffee Morning 10-12
- Wed 8 Mission Task Group 7pm
- Sat 11 Hillside Bowling Club Coffee Morning 10-12
- Sat 11 Short Service at War Memorial 10.50am
- Sun 12 Remembrance Service 10.50am
- Mon 13 Kirk Session Keir Room 7.15pm
- Wed 15 Montrose Churches Together Castle Street 7.30pm
- Thu 16 Reading Group Session Room 2pm
- Fri 17 December Steeple News deadline
- Sun 19 Service at Caledonia Court (led by Minister) 2pm
- 19-26 Guild Week. For events see back page.
- Mon 20 Pastoral Task Group Session Room 2pm
- Thu 23 Friendship Group Keir Room 2pm
- Sun 26 Communion Sunday 11am
- Tue 28 Church Coffee Morning 10am – 11.30am

December

- Sat 2 Christmas Fayre and Gift Day 10-12
- Sun 3 Advent Sunday
Service at Rowan Court led by the Guild 2pm
Messy Church – Messy Advent 4pm – 5.30pm All welcome
Children must be accompanied by an adult.

The resumption of the Alpha Film Series has been delayed but will recommence soon. If you wish to be kept informed please get in touch with the minister.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE & GIFT DAY

Saturday 2nd December - Church Hall 10-12

Coffee/Tea + Christmas pie £2.00

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

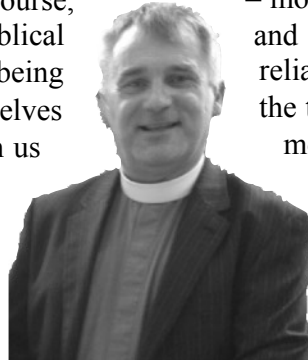
The Church Hall will be open on

Friday 1st 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

How God says "Thank you"

"If you want something done ask a busy person". There is some truth in that though, of course, it can be overdone. But there is good biblical precedent for greater responsibility being given to those who have proved themselves faithful in "smaller" things. Rather than us being rewarded with an easier life, God turns things on their head and gives us the opportunity to serve him in further ways. So, you could argue that God says "Thank you" by giving us more to do!



That sounds a bit topsy turvy from the way we usually do things (but I have said before that God often turns our thinking on its head) though actually it is an important aspect of the Christian faith. The essence of faith is loving service – we are here, not for our own sakes but to serve God and our neighbour. Jesus was the prime example – the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve. He gave his very life for us.

I want to say a very big thank you to all those who played any part in the recent Aspire programme. It was a huge exercise and a lot of work. No doubt there are some things that we might have done better and we will do a thorough review but

without doubt the hard work has achieved a lot – and not just on the financial front. To those of you who attended the gatherings thank you for coming – most people weren't in any rush to get away and were happy to chat. To those who were reliant on the booklet I hope that you sensed the tone of the programme was not just about money but about developing the life of the congregation. I'd like to pay particular thanks to the visitors and to those who organised everything. Many of you stretched yourselves and I hope you are none the worse of that – some of you said "I managed better than I thought". Thank you too to those of you who have indicated that you'd like to get involved in something new.

We need to move forward and yes that will involve us in more work. But God promises that he will provide us with all that we require to do his work. Let's give thanks for all that has gone into Aspire and for the response but let's not be surprised if God says "thank you" by prompting us to grow and develop and share in more going forward (while perhaps looking to train and encourage others to take on some things from us).

Ian A McLean

Prayer Walk

Nov 5 Graham Cres, Borrowfield Cres
Nov 12 Borrowfield Road
Nov 19 Macnab Cres, Lochside Cres
Nov 26 Distillery View
Dec 3 Newhame Road, Borrowfield Sch

Congregational Bible Passage (provisional)

Nov 5 Joshua 3:7-12
Nov 12 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Nov 19 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Nov 26 Ephesians 1:15-23
Dec 3 Isaiah 60:1-5

CHRISTMAS POST

The Church Christmas Card deliveries for **Montrose, Hillside and Ferryden**

only will run from

1st - 15th December

25p per card. Collection boxes will be placed in the **Church Vestibule, Henry Hogs - High Street and Scotmid - Borrowfield**

All proceeds will go to Church Funds
Contact Peggy Henderson Tel. 674511
if you would like to help with this worthwhile activity

The Guild would love to invite you to join us for Guild Week

19th to 26th November

Each year during the 3rd week in November we have various events celebrating the Guild, the work which is done by our members and the various projects which the Guild supports.

Our coffee morning is on 18th November from 10am to 12noon when we cannot wait to welcome you to enjoy companionship over a cup of coffee.

A soup and pudding lunch in the hall on Wednesday 22nd November from 11.30am to 1.30pm has been arranged to help us celebrate the week. Do come along and enjoy, not only the soup, but the friendship of the day. Our Guild committee put a lot of effort and thought into which soups and puddings will be popular, giving a wide variety of choice.

The Guild was started in 1887, over 130 years ago. Montrose; Old & St Andrew's Guild have the honour of being one of those first Guilds so we have something to celebrate when Guild Week comes around.

We can't wait to welcome you to our Coffee Morning, Soup Lunch and Chatty Knitters.

Prayer Shawl Ministry – a group of our members have been meeting once a month to knit the shawls and have decided that we would like to expand our commitment. To this end we have changed our name to Chatty Knitters – as you can imagine as many chats as stitches knitted. We are hoping that

more folks will join us, not only members of the congregation but anyone who is interested in being part of a group who are knitting for others. We will be creating school jerseys; pullovers for Mission International needs. There will also be the chance to knit blankets for children in hospital, premature baby jackets and hats, along with other items. Donations of wool and buttons suitable for baby jackets and small cardigans would be appreciated. Our next meeting is on 6th November at 10am in the Session Room, when we look forward to welcoming you to our group.

Congratulations to Kathleen Strachan, who won our 'Go in Love' quiz.



Together We Pray

Together we Pray is a national prayer initiative running from September 2017 to May 2018 calling the church to come together in prayer. There is to be a National Day of Prayer on 25th November and congregations are encouraged to meet on this day to be involved in this initiative. We hope to be involved in this and further details will be intimated in church.



A Picture and a Prayer for Advent

Following on from the National Day of Prayer on 25th November, the church is launching a pilot of a daily prayer being available to members of the congregation/community throughout the season of advent "A Picture and a Prayer for Advent". The daily picture and prayer will be available via the church's website/facebook or by signing up to receive an email. Further details coming soon.

Flowers in the Church

The **Flower Calendar for 2018**, 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

