
Menstrie Parish Church of Scotland



Autumn 2019 Newsletter

Pastoral letter

An update on the vacancy – the Nominating Committee (what used to be called the Vacancy Committee) has now been appointed, under the convenorship of Jim McAlpine.

The Parish Profile, which gives important information about the parish, the congregation, etc, is now being compiled. The Kirk Sessions will finalise the wording at their meetings in September. A member of Alva Church, who is experienced in design, will then turn it into an attractive document that will be your 'shop window' to those looking for a Charge.

The vacancy is now listed on the Church of Scotland website. I look forward to sharing the journey with you in this time of vacancy, as we pray that God will call the right woman or man to be your new Minister.

I thought I would give you a bit of background information on me.

I was ordained in 1993 and joined the Royal Navy as a Chaplain. I served in a variety of sea and shore appointments, culminating in becoming the Chaplain of the Fleet, the Navy's most senior Chaplain in 2010.

I retired in 2015. Only in March of this year was I inducted to the parishes of Buchlyvie and

Gartmore, on the western edge of the Presbytery of Stirling, 27 miles from Menstrie!

I am thoroughly enjoying parish ministry with the very different routines to those in military chaplaincy. My own parishes have exciting plans for what it means to be church, visible in our own communities, telling the story of our Lord and his love, by word and deed.

If you need to get in touch with me, my email address is SJBrown@churchofscotland.org.uk and my home telephone is 01360 660989.

With my best wishes.

Scott

Rev Scott J Brown CBE

Interim Moderator

Retiring Collections

following Sunday Morning Worship

At a recent Kirk Session meeting the matter of retiring collections following Sunday worship was reviewed with the following being the outcome.

The retiring collection will remain to be in aid of Strathcarron Hospice unless intimated otherwise – in the case of a change then this will be intimated at least one week prior to the relevant Sunday.

Collections which are likely to feature on a regular basis are for Christian Aid (May – envelopes are often provided for this); Poppy Scotland on Remembrance Sunday and on two Communion Sundays (the first Sunday of June and December) will be for the Church Fabric Fund.

Other collections will be agreed in advance by the Kirk Session and intimated to the Congregation accordingly – these may be for causes for which speakers have addressed the Congregation or conducted Sunday worship e.g. the Scottish Bible Society.

Thank you to everyone who does donate in this way to all the relevant funds and organisations. If you have any queries with regard to this matter please speak to either of the Session Clerks or to the Treasurer.



Funerals

At Menstrie Parish Church:

William Walton Fair 14th May 2019

Archie McGrouther 4th July 2019

John Clark McMillan (Jock) 12th Aug 2019

Our sympathies go out to their families.

“In my Father’s place there are many rooms”

John 14:2

Property Matters

The second phase of the roof repairs has been completed which involved replacement of missing slates, repainting of air vents on the church and hall, replacement of defective mortar in all roof stonework and removal of debris from water drainage system.

The cost of this phase was £9396 and the total for all work was £15390

The church noticeboard has been re-varnished at no cost.

Jim Young
Property Coordinator

CHRISTIAN AID - 2019.

As part of Christian Aid week and to support this great organisation we, as in the past, tried to raise some funds on their behalf.

Our door to door collections along with the soup lunch and the monetary gifts placed in the Christian Aid envelopes together raised £673.50

This is down on previous years so we might have to think of different ways of raising money in future years so if you have any suggestions we, on the Pastoral Care group, would like to hear from you

Calum MacLeod (On behalf of the Pastoral Care group)

The Stewardship and Christian Education Group

It is difficult to believe that summer is almost over and church activities will begin again this month.

The Stewardship and Christian Education Group will be taking the Harvest service as well as the Christmas Service. We are glad to help interim moderator, in a very modest way, when he is trying to arrange pulpit supply.

We have not yet decided how we will take Stewardship forward but hope to have details in the next issue of the newsletter.

Lilian

Co-ordinator - Stewardship and Christian Education Group.



Harvest Thanksgiving Service, Sunday 29th September.

As in the past we hope to celebrate our rich harvest by a display of harvest produce in the church.

If you would like to express your thanks to God for your rich harvest you can as in the past bring in some harvest produce on this Sunday and we will pass them on to the Gate Foodbank.

If you would prefer to make a monetary donation there will be Christian Aid envelopes on the pews on Harvest Sunday and the previous Sunday.

As in the past we will also be taking 5 baskets of fruit to Menstrie House.

Calum Macleod (On behalf of the Pastoral Group)





easyfundraising
.org.uk

If you shop online why not raise some extra funds for our church without it costing you anything.

Menstrie Parish Church of Scotland is registered with easyfundraising.

First you must register as a supporter then when you shop online through the easyfundraising site, participating retailers donate a percentage of your spend to our church.

It costs you nothing.

The easyfundraising site works with thousands of well known retailers. This is not limited to goods but also includes holidays, insurances and many other services. Some give a percentage of your spend while others give a one off payment.

Amazon has changed the way they operate with easyfundraising.

From the 5th August 2019, the way you raise donations when you shop with Amazon changed. If you search for Amazon on www.easyfundraising.org.uk or the

easyfundraising App, you will be directed to **AmazonSmile**. You can still raise FREE donations for Menstrie Parish Church of Scotland when you buy things from Amazon – you'll just need to create a free account at smile.amazon.co.uk. AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets you enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on amazon.co.uk. The difference is that when you shop on smile.amazon.co.uk, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the net purchase price (excluding VAT, returns and shipping fees) to the eligible charitable organisation of your choice.

Blythswood Care Shoebox Appeal

As in previous years the Church is taking part in the Shoebox Appeal There will be a box in the vestibule of the Church from the beginning of October for anyone wishing to make a donation.

I know I can rely on the usual response to this appeal

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Thanking you in anticipation.

Edna Crawford



Finance News

As we enter into the second half of this financial year I am pleased to report that the regular accounts for this year look like achieving a small surplus. Regular giving is ahead of projections which is very welcome.

This, however, excludes the expenditure on the roof repairs mentioned in the Property report. This cost has been met largely from our Fabric Revenue Account held by the Church of Scotland in Edinburgh with the balance coming from our locally managed Fabric Account.

It is fortunate that we were in a position to do this. It does mean that we will need to look at ways to replenish these accounts for the future.

Income into our Fabric Account mainly comes from the Fabric Box collections whilst the Revenue Account is benefiting currently from the income from the Letting of the Manse.

Jim McAlpine
Treasurer

Menstrie Parish Church Guild

From September the Guild is changing to a Monday afternoon and it is hoped this will encourage and welcome new members to join us. Meetings will be held on the last Monday of the month at 2.30pm in Rooms 2/3.

The Guild Dedication Service is on Sunday 22nd September at 11am.

The new Session starts on Monday 30th September at 2.30pm when we are having along Mrs Ann Muirhead to talk on "My Past Life."

For Guild Week we are holding a Buffet Lunch on Sunday 13th October after morning service in the Church Hall.

On 28th October we welcome back Mrs Angela Oatridge who will be giving a light hearted talk on "The Sauna"

On 25th November we are hoping to have a talk from Ochil Mountain Rescue Team. This is yet to be confirmed at this time.

We will also be holding a Bring & Lucky Dip.

Our Festive Dinner is on Monday 9th December at 6.45 for 7 pm in "The Birds & Bees" at Causewayhead.

It is hoped the first half of our programme will encourage new members to come along and enjoy the fellowship of the Guild

The first meeting for 2020 is on Monday 27th January at 2.30 pm when we are holding a “Burns Supper”

All are welcome to any of our meetings.

Laura Christie
Secretary

Table top Sales

The fifth and final table top sale for this year is on Saturday 28th September from 10 am to 12 noon in the Church Hall.

We will hold a Tombola

Refreshments are served in Rooms 2/3.

All are welcome

Come along and join in the fellowship and pick up a bargain

Sunday Tea rota

22nd September. Margaret Perry & Ray McLeod
29th September. Heather Bain & Nancy Stewart
27th October. Nancy & Jim Hay
24th November. Laura Christie & Wendy Tetlow
22nd December. Margaret Perry & Ray McLeod
29th December. Mary Bett & Helen Bett

Otherwise:

1st Sunday Laura Christie & Hazel Dow
2nd Sunday Annette & Jim Young
3rd Sunday Hazel Dow & Karen Mayo
4th and
If 5 Sundays, Ray McLeod & Margaret Perry



Notes for your diary

Sept.

- 22nd Guild Dedication Service 11am
- 28th Table top sale
- 29th Harvest Thanksgiving 11am
- 30th Guild - Mrs Ann Muirhead - My Past Life

Oct.

- 13th Guild - Buffet Lunch - 12 noon
- 28th Guild - Mrs Angela Oatridge- The Sauna

Nov.

- 25th Guild - Ochil Mountain Rescue Team (tbc)
Bring & Lucky dip
- 30th Christmas Fayre

Dec.

- 9th Guild. Festive dinner "The Birds & Bees" 6.45 for
7 pm

Jan.

- 27th Guild. Burns Supper

To Welcome You

September

- 1st Jim Young, Annette Young
Georgie Macnair
- 8th Sandra Small, Nancy Hay,
Jim Hay
- 15th Margaret McKinnon, Susan Delaney
Ray McLeod
- 22nd Jim Marshall, Margaret Perry
Cowan Macnair
- 29th Laura Christie, Ruth Gourley
Brenda Cochrane

October

- 6th Mary Bett, Isobel Munro
- 13th Les Sawers, Heather Bain
Nancy Stewart
- 20th Jim McAlpine, Calum Macleod
Helen Bett
- 27th Jim Young, Annette Young
Georgie Macnair

November

- 3^d Sandra Small, Nancy Hay,
Jim Hay
- 10th Margaret McKinnon, Susan Delaney
Ray McLeod
- 17th Jim Marshall, Margaret Perry
Cowan Macnair
- 24th Laura Christie, Ruth Gourley
Brenda Cochrane

December

- 1st Mary Bett, Isobel Munro
- 8th Les Sawers, Heather Bain
Nancy Stewart
- 15th Jim McAlpine, Calum Macleod
Helen Bett
- 22nd Jim Young, Annette Young
Georgie Macnair
- 29th Sandra Small, Nancy Hay,
Jim Hay

Pulpit Supply

September

- 1st Rev. Helen Cook
- 8th Rev. Paul Sewell
- 15th Rev John Rushton
- 29th Worship Group

October

- 6th Mrs Sandie Kerr
- 13th Rev. Paul Sewell
- 20th Mr Alistair McPherson
- 27th Rev. John Rushton

November

Rev Helen Cook will cover all Sundays in November.

And finally:



Christmas Fayre

This year's Fayre will be held on Saturday 30th November from 10.00am to 12 noon in the Church Hall. Teas & coffees will be served in Rooms 2/3

There will be the usual variety of stalls including cake & candy, children's stall, adult tombola, raffle, Silent Auction and many more.

Tickets will be on sale from any elder or you can just pay at the door.

Please keep the date free for this Church Fundraising event.

Check the website for further details

Morning Services Each Sunday 11am

Minister

In Vacancy. Our Church does not have a Minister at the moment. Anyone requiring the services of a Minister should contact-

Rev Scott J Brown CBE Interim Moderator
Tel: 01360 660989
E-mail SJBrown@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk: Joint

Margaret Perry Tel: 01259 761398
Email : mag9per@btinternet.com

And

Isobel Munro Tel: 01259 762889
Email : isobel.munro11menstrie@btinternet.com

Treasurer

Jim McAlpine

Tel: 01259 763004
Email : jjimdmc Alpine@yahoo.co.uk

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Registered Scottish Charity No SC004778

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Menstrie Parish Church