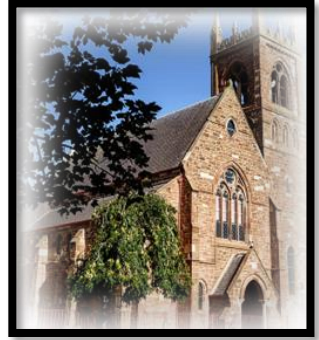


Arbroath and District Church

West Kirk Centre Magazine



Issue 307: May 2024

Website - www.arbroathwestkirk.org

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Chris's Chatter

And here we are in the middle of the season in the church year between Easter, Ascension and Pentecost. A time when Jesus followers occasionally shared wonderful experiences with their Lord but also a time when they had the opportunity to reflect back but also to look forward and begin to wonder about



what might lie ahead and how it would look. After the amazing news of the first Easter morning the reality of what this might mean for them individually and as a group must have begun to sink in and I suspect the apprehension, the confusion and at the same time the excitement would have given them cause to pray individually and together.

Recently I read a reflection about prayer by Nicky Gumbel. He says that the Greek language that many of the early church followers spoke has three voices – the active voice when we make things happen; the passive voice, when things happen to us and we can do very little about it - it's just a set of circumstances; and then the middle voice described as participating in the results of an action. Prayer is spoken in the middle voice. As Eugene Peterson says, "I enter into an action begun by another, my creating and saving Lord, and find myself participating in the results of his gracious action." We welcome God's hand in our lives, and we participate in what he is doing in the world.

The picture above was taken at the early morning easter service at Victoria Park and whether the weather is beautiful or rough a trip down to the sea front or stopping by the war memorial at Carmyllie and taking in the vista, as I sometimes do on a Sunday morning, soon reminds us of the awesome nature of God the creator. It's an amazing thought isn't it that that same Creator chooses to involve you and I in his plans? No wonder those first disciples took time to pray together as they began to anticipate all that lay ahead for them.

In the update this month on how things are progressing as we go through this transition phase following the union of our churches, in the news that Rev Jonathan Humphries and his wife Kate are following God's call to North East Fife and in the start of our new event, Family Fridays, you will see that there's a lot happening. Please continue to pray as Jesus' disciples of today that we may continue to seek out what his plans are for one another and for this whole area and have the courage to join in with them where he calls us to do so. If you'd like to do that as part of a group, then we have a weekly group prayer on Zoom for three weeks of the month and in person once a month on a Sunday evening. There's also a monthly prayer gathering by Zoom on the last Thursday evening of every month. Please get in touch for more details.

Arbroath and District Church – Update

Since the last update in April the vote that was mentioned on Sunday 14th April has taken place and we're delighted that by a good majority the church family of Arbirlot have agreed to become a part of the united church family in this area. The date for formal union is to be 1st May and there will be a special service to welcome them in the near future. On Sunday 21st April, Rev Annette Gordon led a powerful closing service of worship in the church with Graham McNicol highlighting some of the work and witness of the ministers and people in the church down the centuries. Prior to this there have been equally moving and uplifting services in Colliston Church and in Old & Abbey Sanctuary as the implementation of the Presbytery Mission Plan moves forward. Please pray for one another in this time of transition as we seek to settle into new worshipping patterns in new places.

Also since the last update we have learned that Rev Jonathan Humphries who has been locum at St Andrew's for just over a year has accepted the call to be the minister for Tayport, Leuchars St Athernase and Balmullo in the north east of Fife. Jonathan's last Sunday will be on Pentecost Sunday, 19th May and we wish him and Kate every blessing in their new adventure with God in the Kingdom of Fife.

It has been decided that following Jonathan's departure there will be a series of guest preachers until the end of June and then over the summer there will be united services – one in each of our worshipping centres. Once our plans are fully worked out, you will have all the details.

On Wednesday 8th May the Kirk Session meets with the Vacancy Advisory Committee from Presbytery. This means that in the coming weeks we will be creating an electoral register and then selecting a nominating committee to prepare a parish profile - all steps in the process of calling a new minister to the team. Again, please watch out for further information on our website, social media and noticeboards. As you can see there's a lot happening at the moment - it's an exciting and a challenging time in equal measure!

Easter Holiday Club – Deep Sea Divers

Great fun was enjoyed by all at Deep Sea Divers starting on Easter Monday for a week in St Andrew's Centre.

Each day "Float and Jet" dived to a different level of the sea and found some strange things which related to stories of Jesus' birth and baptism, his healing of the paralysed man, calming of the storm and his death and resurrection. We made crafts, played games and enjoyed delicious snacks and a packed lunch to take away thanks to Angus Council's Spring Fun support programme. The week finished with a pizza night and several shots on the bouncy castle.





CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 12 - 18 MAY 2024

Christian Aid Week is celebrated this year from 12 to 18 May

Thank you very much for giving so generously in our fundraising last year. We would like to give people the opportunity to donate again this year. To this end enclosed is a "Delivery Only Envelope" with this month's magazine.

It would be helpful if envelopes could be returned to any of the Arbroath & District Centres – (Carmyllie, Frickheim, Inverkeilor, Old & Abbey Halls, St Andrew's, St Vigeans and West Kirk) at any Sunday morning worship during the month of May. Alternatively, delivered back to us via the letterbox which is situated on the door of the "small" hall (which is on the right hand side of the building looking from the street) anytime during the month of May. Part of the envelope includes an opportunity to Gift Aid your donation (if you are a taxpayer) so please complete this if you are happy to do so. It will make a difference.

A COFFEE MORNING is being planned for Saturday 18 May from 10 to 12 noon in the Old & Abbey halls in which all the Centres of Arbroath & District will be involved as well as other denominations in the town. There will be various stalls including Cake and Candy, Fruit & Veg, Tombola and Pretty Things (this would include things like jewellery, candles, handbags, scarfs, little dishes etc) and donations to any of these would be greatly appreciated. We also need volunteers on the day to help with these stalls and to serve coffee/tea. Please get in touch with me if you can come on 18 May.

To promote the Coffee Morning and highlight the work of Christian Aid, the ministry team (Peter, Carla and Chris) will each be walking 70,000 steps in Christian Aid week. Watch out for our photos and commentaries on our progress.

Christian Aid is the relief and development agency of 41 Christian churches in the UK and Ireland, and works to support sustainable development, eradicate poverty, support civil society and provide disaster relief in South America, the Caribbean, Africa and Asia. It works with hundreds of local partner organisations in some of the world's most vulnerable communities in 24 countries.

Every prayer, every gift, every action helps transform lives, sometimes the simplest of things can make a world of difference.

Janice Tracey, Christian Aid Co-ordinator (Phone 875808)

Family Fridays

Following on from the holiday club there's a new family event starting on Friday 26th April and thereafter the last Friday of every month. A little bit like an extension of Messy Church there will be a bible story followed by a choice of crafts, building with lego or active games and it's all rounded off with a hot meal. There's no cost for this but donations are welcome. We're aiming to provide something for all ages so please spread the word!

Doors open at 5.10pm with everything starting at 5.30pm.

In May we'll be gathering on Friday 31st and in June on Friday 28th.



Old & Abbey Halls
5.30-7pm
(registration from 5.10pm)

Monthly,
starting Friday
26th April



We are lucky to have several concerts taking place within the West Kirk and to start us off we have 'In Harmony's Annual Concert' as seen here, then followed by the 'Male Voice Choir's Spring Concert' below, refreshments being served and tickets available on the door.



In Harmony ANNUAL CONCERT

**Friday 10th May, 2024
7.30pm
West Kirk, Arbroath**

**Musical Director – Vicki White
Accompanist – Alison Hart**

**All tickets £10.00
Includes refreshments at the interval**

A promotional image for the Arbroath Male Voice Choir Spring Concert 2024. It features two portraits: a man with a beard in a light-colored suit and a woman with blonde hair smiling. The background is a collage of floral and abstract patterns. Text at the bottom reads: "ARBROATH MALE VOICE CHOIR Spring Concert SATURDAY 18 MAY 2024 AT 19:00 Spring Concert 2024 - With Cheryl Forbes and Gordon Cree".

ARBROATH MALE VOICE CHOIR
Spring Concert
SATURDAY 18 MAY 2024 AT 19:00
**Spring Concert 2024 -
With Cheryl Forbes and
Gordon Cree**

Coming up on Saturday, June 8th Arbroath & Carnoustie Band are having a concert in the West Kirk further details to follow.

Guild

During the Summer we will again have our Cuppie Afternoons to meet up for a cuppie and chat. First date is Monday 27th May and thereafter on the last Monday of each month at 2pm in the large hall.

Our Strawberry Tea to raise funds for Guild Projects is on Saturday 29th June - 10-12 in the Large Hall. Tickets priced £5 are now on sale and we hope you will come along and support us.

Those we have loved...

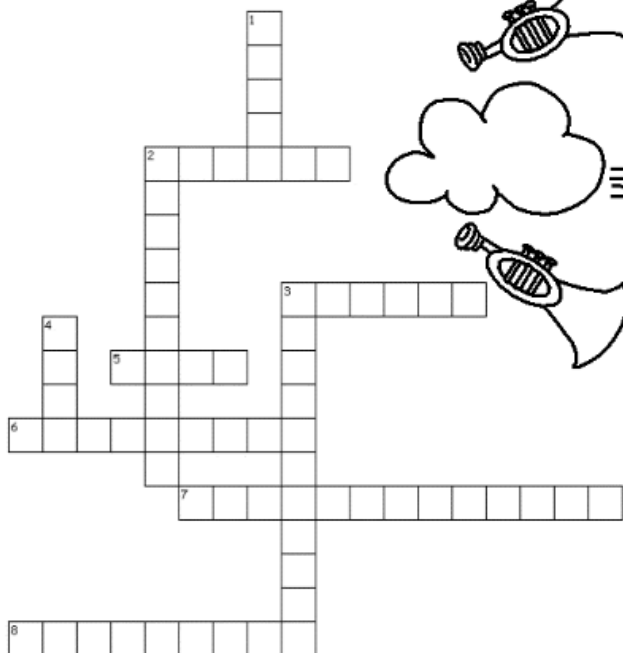
Not all the funerals we list each month are church members as it may be that names of others in the area are known to the church family and as less of us read papers and not all notices are now included in them anyway, it may be of use to you all. Please contact us if there are names we have missed. We do our best but inevitably there will be times when we miss someone.

***Louise McCaskill, latterly in a Care Home in Montrose,
Jean McLeavy of Blairgowrie, who was baptised and married at the
West Kirk.***

Embrace in your loving arms
all who are grieving the loss
of family and loved ones;
where lives are in turmoil,
hope turns to despair
and pain is all that's felt.

Be with them in their sorrow,
uphold them with your strength,
and through the generosity
of love shown by others
and your presence within their hearts
may they know they are not alone,
as they navigate through each day. Amen

Pentecost Crossword



Across

2. This Pentecost was special because the Holy ____ filled the disciples.
3. Only after they were ____ with the Holy Spirit did the disciples speak in tongues.
5. A violent ____ from heaven suddenly came into the house where they were gathered.
6. This is the Greek word for fiftieth (the fiftieth day after Easter).
7. The day of Pentecost was a very special day, not ordinary but ____.
8. All of the disciples began speaking in different ____.

Down

1. Because of the Holy Spirit now the believers had this to be witnesses to everyone.
2. The fire from Heaven ____ the new power and presence of the Holy Spirit in them.
3. Pentecost was also called the day of this, when the people brought an offering.
4. It looked like tongues of this separated and came to rest on each of the disciples.

CALENDAR	May 2024
Sundays	
5 th /12 th /19 th /26 th 5 th /12 th /19 th /26 th 5 th /12 th /19 th /26 th 26 th 5 th & 19 th	9.30 am Worship @ Carmyllie 11am Sunday worship 11am DJ Club/Faithfinders Tea & coffee after service 2-3pm Making Music
Mondays	
6 th & 13 th	7.30-9.30pm Male Voice Choir
6 th /13 th /20 th /27 th	7.30-9.30pm Friends Choir
Tuesdays	
7 th	7.30-9.30pm In Harmony
14 th & 28 th	7-8.30pm Knit & Knatter
Wednesdays	
1 st /8 th /15 th /22 nd /29 th	9.15am Toddlers@Westkirk
1 st /8 th /15 th /22 nd /29 th	1.30pm Wednesday Club
1 st /8 th /15 th /22 nd /29 th	7.30pm Bible study by Zoom
Thursdays	
2 nd /9 th /16 th /23 rd /30 th	5-6 pm Quiet Space in Church
2 nd /9 th /16 th /23 rd /30 th	6-8.30pm Youth Club
30 th	7.30pm Prayer Group by Zoom
Fridays	
3 rd /10 th /17 th /24 th /31 st	10am – 12 noon Coffee Stop

Please check out other events happening on separate page's within this magazine !

Duty Rota	May	
5th	Team 05:	Linda Bird
12th	Team 06:	Sonia Nelson
19th	Team 07:	Lavinia Gibson
26th	Team 08:	Alistair Ferguson
	June	
2nd	Team 09:	David Langlands
9th	Team 10:	Audrey Shepherd
Flower Rota	May	Arranger
5th	Margaret Anderson	Christine Southward
12th	Barbara Cargill	Barbara Cargill
19th	Karen Peter	Isobel McKay
26th	Bill Clark	Moira McIntosh
	June	Arranger
2nd	Diane McGill	Justine McGill
9th	Edith Cargill	May Herron

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Tel: 01241 434721 email : arbroathwestkirk2019@gmail.com

On Facebook at Arbroath West Kirk

YouTube channel at

<http://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3tXCAWSP-YNx5x4Ph7EYfQ>

website: www.westkirkarbroath.org

Office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Fridays 9am – 1pm

Minister – Rev Chris Hay, The Manse, 1 Charles Ave	554189
Session Clerk – Mrs Audrey Shepherd, 25 Bishoploch Rd Asst. Session Clerk - Mr Bill Clark	870080
Treasurer - Mr David Spink, 45 High St	434721
Fabric Convener - Mr Ross Cargill, 4 Lochlands Pk	876405
Roll keeper - Mr Derek Atkinson, 3 Seaton Pl	872818
DJ Club Leader - Miss Leza Gibson, 62 Warddykes Rd	07518537956
Magazine Distribution - Mrs Kathleen Bruce, 39 Ladyloan	870953
Freewill Offering Convener - Miss Myra Scoular, Church Office	434721
Gift Aid Convener - Miss Myra Scoular, Church Office	434721
Secretary/Church Office – Miss Myra Scoular	434721
Safeguarding - Mrs Liz Aiken/Mrs Audrey Cherry	872429

Change of Address

If you have moved house recently, or are about to move, either within or out-with the town, please fill in the address slip below and return to the Roll keeper, Mr D Atkinson, 3 Seaton Place, DD11 5DS. Thank you.

Name

Former
Address

New
Address
