

Christ's Kirk Chronicle

Glenrothes Christ's Kirk

Pitcoudie Avenue
Glenrothes
KY7 6SU



November 2018

Prayer Call

*Lord, we praise you and give thanks:
For the memory of summer days and feeling the warmth of the Sun
For listening to the beauty of the birdsong
For the sound of soft lapping waves on the beach
For hearing the happiness in childrens' voices as they run and play
For the changing colours of Autumn and our bountiful harvest.*



Lord, we pray that we may find the strength and make time in our daily lives to help those less fortunate than ourselves:

*The lonely
The sick and bereaved
The homeless
Those living in poverty and without jobs
Those in despair and without hope.*

As they travel on life's journey Lord shower them with your blessings that they may know your love.

Amen

Do This in Remembrance of Me



The Sacrament of Holy Communion
will be celebrated here at
Christ's Kirk on the
25th November 2018
Everyone is invited to attend.
The service begins at **10.30am.**



The service will be conducted by Rev Alex Forsyth

Message from the Interim Moderator

We are heading into the Big Retail Festival and it is time to make a change. Every year, we bemoan the commercialisation, the expense, the loss of the real meaning, so plan to do it differently this year.

It is not remotely Christian. We have symbols without significance, rituals without relevance, a message without a meaning, religion without relationship.

Martin Lewis, the well-known finance expert has recently been sounding forth against unnecessary gifts which force the receiver to give in return and on a similar level of expense. Everybody loses, as he says, it is tit for tat giving and what we end up with is "tat", more in the land fill or charity shop. His message has gone viral on the internet and it is younger people who are picking it up. We have walls covered in cards sent often from people we see regularly or others who never bother to contact us. After a couple of weeks it all goes to recycling. Apart from a few distant and important friends, we haven't sent Christmas cards for over fifteen years. It is a great relief and a saving of money that we put to charity. We told everybody in the card the year before and lots of people said "What a good idea."

Some parents are money rich and time poor, who overdo the Christmas gifts to children they spend little time with. Grand-parents may give bag loads of useless stuff, kids playing with the wrapping, more than the overpriced toy. For some there is possible competition, understated unintentional maybe, but it's there, "What did you get from your other Gran?" and a quick assessment of how your present compares.

We could teach the value of giving, adopting a child, a charity project, involving the children in the choice of that, fund raising, making things, stage events, coins in jar, teaching the children to care about others and this may be the only time that they can give unselfishly. Everybody else will give in return and give more. Practice and teach the joy of generosity, of supporting and learning about those who are less fortunate and those who cannot give anything back.

Discuss a spending limit, especially grand-parents, easiest if the parents talk about it and lead on raising the issue first. Some families make an "Only from a Charity shop" Rule, or a donkey or some chickens from the Good Gifts theme. Think of people who are sad or ill or might be lonely. Design and make a card personal to them.

Neither Christmas nor any of today's practices originated in the Jesus movement or in the early Christian Church. Christmas was adopted by Christianity late, by some three hundred years. We readily ignore most of the things Jesus commanded us to do, forgive, love one another, love our enemies, turn the other cheek, go and baptise, teach, serve, do this in remembrance of me. Yet things that are not mentioned we celebrate with great gusto. For Christ's sake, join the fight-back this Christmas. We can change!

Ken Froude

Website

We have recently updated our website and there is a lot more information about Christ's Kirk. Although the updates are not quite finished, it is infinitely better than it was. Please go to www.christskirk.uk and have a browse.



GO INTO THE WORLD AND DO WELL

But more importantly

GO INTO THE WORLD AND DO GOOD

Guild News



It is all things new at the Guild. A new session, a new syllabus, a new three year strategy – “ One Journey, Many Roads ” and a new theme for this session – “ Seeking the Way ”.

The Guild Dedication which took place at morning worship on Sunday 7th October 2018, was conducted by John Hutchison and the lesson reflected on biblical journeys.

There were some new faces at our opening meeting, which is heartening. The guest speaker, Rev. Ken Froude, gave a challenging and somewhat convincing talk on “Being Happy”. We will continue to meet on alternate Mondays at 2 pm. until 17th Dec.2018 before having a break until 21st January 2019. On 19th November 2018, during Guild Week, we hope to have friends and fellow Guild members from neighbouring churches with us. It will be a wonderful opportunity to share in fellowship with others and to listen to Marie Lindsey from Seescape (formerly Fife Society for the Blind). If you haven't been to a meeting before, do consider coming along.



Jenny Catlin

GUILD OUTING TO THE GATHERING

♪♪ “Oh dear!, What can the matter be?

Two Guild members got stuck in theelevator!” ♪♪

The day started as usual for Evlyn, Wilma and Sheila with an early journey to Dundee for the Annual Gathering of The Guild on 1st September, 2018. First the browse round the Guild Shop to look at the latest items on display - everything from scarves to coasters. The morning's programme as usual included the Address by the Moderator - this year Rt. Rev Susan Brown. Very entertaining - recalling the challenges of embarking on her journey to the ministry at the time when female ministers were still a rarity.

All was going well and following a lunch sitting outside the Caird Hall in the sunshine, the three ventured up to the first floor in search of a cup of coffee. Then things went slightly awry. Two of the group opted to return downstairs by the lift which unfortunately decided to break down.

Meantime the third Guild member had returned to the hall and wondered why the other (un-named) pair were not appearing. Then as the afternoon session started, the missing two-some rushed in to the hall to take their seats having ended up in the car park - their only escape route from the broken lift. Into this chaos came an announcement from the platform - “and if Christ's Kirk, Glenrothes could just make themselves known by standing up because their partner Guild in St. Andrews Church, Arbroath missed them in the morning.”

After more singing and the introduction of six new projects the proceedings closed. The day ended well with a reunion with Guild Members from Arbroath.

Evlyn and Wilma would wish to remain anonymous.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

On Friday 14th September Christ's Kirk was the host for a Macmillan Coffee morning, and thanks to some sterling work done by the organisers and donations from various businesses and a few personal donations, the amount raised was a very respectable £1005.

Finance Report

Well another year is almost over and it is hard to believe that Christmas is just around the corner. The unseen work that goes on to keep our church operating has been continuing, not least in monitoring the finances to ensure that we have enough income to meet our expenditure.

On analysis of the first 9 months' accounts our total income was £32,666.97 and our total outgoings were £30,820.04. This would look to the untrained eye that we have had a good year with a surplus of £1846.93 to date. However the income figure included the Gift Aid reclaim for last year of £4779.84 which is a one off yearly payment, and the expenditure does not include the increased Ministries and Mission contributions which are still to be calculated for the period that we had Rev Denniston as our Interim minister.

In the Spring magazine there was a breakdown of our monthly Income and Expenditure which I again share with you.

On a monthly basis we need to pay:

Ministry & Mission	£1702.40	(£3000 if we had a minister)
Gardener	£ 93.50	
Cleaner	£ 192.00	
Pulpit supply	£ 240.00	
Church Gas/Elec	£ 353.54	
Church Phone/Int	£ 70.00	
Organist	£ 230.00	
Insurance	<u>£ 165.29</u>	
Total	<u>£3046.73</u>	

Income	<u>Average</u>	<u>(Predicted)</u>
Open Plate	£ 264.34.	(252.07)
WFO envelopes	£ 784.52	(932.83)
WFO standing order	£ 840.33	(827.00)
Hall lets	<u>£ 440.00</u>	<u>(700.00)</u>
Total	<u>£2329.19</u>	<u>£(2711.90)</u>

Our monthly outgoings have not changed drastically but when you look at the average monthly Income it is below what we had hoped, making the average monthly deficit of £717.54 which has been coming out of our reserves. If we were in the position to have a minister or interim minister this figure would be much higher as we would have the increased sum for the minister's stipend.

The biggest loss of income is through the drop in hall lets and this is mainly due to there not being the people who are able or willing to open/close the hall for party lets etc. Obviously our fundraising efforts are not shown in these figures as these cannot be relied upon to meet our running costs but they are shown in our actual Income to date figure.

There have been costs to the manse to bring it up to a letting standard and I am pleased to advise that the manse is now being let which will bring in much needed extra income of approx £800 pm. This is a blessing as we near our year end as this makes up our monthly deficit but it does not help us to replenish our diminished reserves.

As the season of giving is nearing I would ask if we could all look at what we are able to give to support the church financially and if you would consider donating by standing order on a monthly basis. I would also like to remind everyone that they can increase their current giving by signing up for Gift Aid which allows us to reclaim 25p in every £1 if you are a UK tax payer without you having to give any more than you currently do.

Rose Bowie
Treasurer

Glenrothes Foodbank & Christmas.

Virtually the whole world celebrates Christmastime. There is no doubt many of us are fraught around this time of the year - the lead-up and providing the best for family and friends at Christmas.



Imagine the stress for people suddenly in crisis. Especially where young children are concerned.

Christmastime is a worrying time for many people in our own Glenrothes community who have to resort to the Foodbank.

Please remember those in need in our own neighbourhood. Basically 2 ways to choose:

1. Place food in the boxes in the vestibule, regularly if you can - or occasionally.
2. Sign up for a Standing Order to the Glenrothes Foodbank for regular giving. Forms are available in the vestibule and the church office.

Food and clothing crises are not only for Christmas. Please try to give regularly. Tins of fruit, meat and vegetables, pasta and pasta sauce, fruit juice and long-life milk will be very acceptable and welcome.

Ally's update

Dear Friends,

As I write, the leaves on the trees are turning brown, the temperature is becoming fresher and the nights continue to draw in. The harvest services and events that I have been to this year have all been excellent and have done a great job at encouraging us all to be appreciative of what we have, whilst helping to respond to the needs of others.



One thing that Jenny and I have been very thankful for this year is the safe arrival of Ruaridh. Since I gave an update in the last edition of Chronicle, Ruaridh has grown from a newborn baby into an incredibly active and always-smiling five month old boy. It has been really special to have him along to a couple of Messy Churches and holiday clubs services, where my perspective whilst helping to lead these events has been completely changed by having him there. At his age, everything he sees is a complete wonder. He's a constant reminder to me of how special this world is.

As with every other year, I will be visiting a number of primary and high schools in the lead up to Christmas. It's always such a special time of year, when we are invited to deliver Christmas assemblies and join in with the celebrations. I'm also looking forward to being involved with the intergenerational GROW programme, Gener8, where I will be taking a leadership role.

As I drive around Glenrothes, I am forever being surprised by the number of building/improvement projects taking place. On the town's 70th Anniversary, three things are certain: we have a lot to look back and be thankful for, we have a lot to keep us busy in terms of caring for others and prayer, and we have a lot to look forward to.

With every blessing,

Ally

Grow update

A new logo for GROW

Over the last two years the GROW trustees and management team have been considering the possibility of updating the Trust's logo. Our original logo, the ingenious creation of Catriona Weatherston, a member of our initial management group, stood the test of time for the last 15 years. Its cross has emphasised the Christian basis of the Trust and the increasing size of the letters reflects the name and our aspirations.



Time doesn't stand still however and in the last 15 years there has been a revolution in communication technology. We now have broadband and numerous social media platforms and a majority of people use a smartphone.

The management group and trustees initially reluctantly but latterly with some excitement decided that we must look forward in anticipation of the next 15 years. So, with the expertise of Gwyneth, our first worker, a new logo has been created. Whilst retaining some of the original features (the cross) and colours we have created a fresher, more contemporary look. In addition, we have added a strapline reflecting the vision of GROW for young people in the Glenrothes area.

In conjunction with the logo we also commissioned Chris Hinton (from Salvation Army) to create a new website for us. He has very patiently worked with us to create a site that we hope will provide various kinds of users with the information they are looking for – from details about who we are, where we have come from and what we do, to what is happening, a blog giving reports on what has happened and ways to support and get in touch with us. It is also linked to our partner SU and the various social media platforms we use and you can access it on www.grow-trust.co.uk.

We hope that the new logo will become as familiar as the old and that the strapline, "Life, Faith and Opportunity" will remind you of the vision of the Trust that has never changed – reaching out to young people with the message of the gospel. In John 10:10 Jesus says "I have come that they might have life, life in all its fullness." This is our prayer for the young people of this town.

Chris Hay

Chronicle Publication Dates

With effect from 2019 we are changing the publication date of our newsletter. The next edition of the Christ's Kirk Chronicle is scheduled for early March. Further editions will still be every three months, i.e. June, September and December.

As in previous years there will a **PEACE WALK** on **THURSDAY 8th NOVEMBER** from the three Secondary Schools to the War Memorial at the Town Centre. Everyone will assemble there for 7pm when the schoolchildren will show their respects by reciting poetry, singing and telling stories. Please feel free to come along and pay your respects too.



Sheila Bell, a long standing member of Christ's Kirk died recently aged 99.

Tribute to Sheila Bell by Evlyn Allsop

Thanks for the memory of Sheila Bell

A loving mother, grandmother, great grandmother and great, great grandmother:

A mother grateful for the caring support of her family, especially her daughter Sheila

A lady devoted to the end of her life to Christ's Kirk, the church she loved.

A founder member of Christ's Kirk Guild in 1980 where she served in so many roles; Guild president, flower convener, mission partner, choir member;

A lady whose poems delighted the congregation

A lady when housebound was an enthusiastic member of the Kirk group in Inchkeith Court started by Rev Scott McCrum who brought his recordings of the Kirk service to this group, now continued by Shaun Jackson;

A lady who delighted in the group services of Holy Communion now continued by Rev Sam McNaught whom she wanted to conduct her funeral;

A lady who loved the weekly coffee mornings in Inchkeith Court where she enjoyed meeting her friends, especially her great friend, Emma;

A lady who delighted in hearing news of Christ's Kirk from the elders who visited her. She loved visits from Sheila and Amy;

A gracious lady who contributed generously to her church right to the end of her life;

A dear friend who will be sadly missed.

Time For a Cuppa



Have you time for a chat?

This venture has now been up and running in The Jim Cumming Hall since the middle of May and it is good to see so many from the community in North Glenrothes and other areas coming through the door.

The team look forward to a Monday morning, preparing, serving then having a chat with all who arrive.

The time of opening is 10 till noon. Why not come along, bring a friend, there is an activity table for younger children.

See you soon

Time For a Cuppa team.



***** Closed on Monday 24th & Monday 31st December *****

Events

2018

Communion

Sunday 25th November 10.30am

Christmas Eve Service

24th December 7pm

Time for a Cuppa

Every Monday 10am - 12noon
closed 24th and 31st December

Coffee Mornings

Saturday 10th November 10am - 12noon
Saturday 8th December 10am - 12noon

Christ's Kirk Guild

Monday 5th November 2pm Introduction of New Projects
Guest speaker: Linda Young, Kirkcaldy Presbyterial Council
Monday 19th November 2pm Seescape (formerly Fife Society for the Blind)
Guest speaker, Mrs Marie Lindsey

For information about future Guild events please go to the website www.christskirk.uk

2019

Coffee Mornings

Saturday 13th January 10am - 12noon
Saturday 10th February 10am - 12noon
Saturday 10th March 10am - 12noon

Communion

Sunday 24th February 10.30am

Time for a Cuppa

Every Monday 10am - 12noon

Christ's Kirk Guild

Fortnightly from 21st January 2pm



Newsletter by email

If you would like to receive future publications of the church newsletter electronically, please send an email with your name and home address (your email address will be at the head of your email) along with a short notification to the newsletter editor at christskirkglenrothes@yahoo.com and we will send it to you.

If anyone would like to join our team, please speak to me or get in touch at the email address above,

Ian Morgan

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