

Welcome to the Fife Presbytery Mission Bulletin!

27th August 2021



We are delighted to bring you our latest newsletter filled with *News, Events, Training and Funding* information.

We're here to encourage and support you in our shared Christian mission across Fife.

Please email your stories, news and suggestions for our next Mission Bulletin to Lorraine via fife@churchofscotland.org.uk

Remember to follow us on [Facebook](#) to keep up with our latest news.

Please share this e-newsletter on to interested members, elders and leaders.

You can subscribe directly to this newsletter by following the "View this email in your browser" link at the top of the page and clicking subscribe in the top left corner.



News



When you go down to the woods this summer

by Aileen Christie, St Serf's Lochgelly & Benarty

This summer St Serf's Lochgelly & Benarty Messy Church went Outdoors and what fun we had! Meeting weekly in the local school playground we acted out Bible stories in ways you could never do in a hall, followed trails and learnt how to be Care Bears in the woods. Older boys engaged, new families attended, lunches were supplied free by Fife Council's Café Inc – what's not to like! If you don't have outdoor space ask about using your local school playground. It's free and safe and a great way of providing a neutral environment to invite people into.



Afghanistan

It has been ten days since Kabul was taken by the Taliban. In this time, we've seen millions seeking safe passage – fearful of what comes next. There is a humanitarian crisis in the country, with the most marginalised and vulnerable already affected. We must act now to help protect those at risk.

'Things have become very uncertain for us Afghans since the Taliban take over. This is the start of a new grim and stark chapter in the history of Afghanistan.'

— Izhar, Christian Aid programme funding and development manager, Afghanistan

Christian Aid is calling on the UK government to provide safety and assistance to the people of Afghanistan. Tell Dominic Raab and Priti Patel to:

- **Increase aid to Afghanistan and to neighbouring countries**
- **Provide more support for Afghans seeking refuge in the UK**

For more information and support the campaign, see:

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/stand-afghanistan>

Donate to our Crowdfunder to raise funds for Afghan families coming to Fife after fleeing the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan.

Funds will be used to purchase items that haven't yet been donated.

Click the link above to donate or visit www.fva.org/crisis for more information.



Fife Voluntary Action (FVA) is coordinating this effort on behalf of all agencies in the Fife Partnership.

FIFE VOLUNTARY ACTION HAS LAUNCHED A CROWDFUNDER CAMPAIGN TO RAISE FUNDS FOR AFGHAN FAMILIES COMING TO FIFE.

We're encouraging Fifers to help raise funds for Afghan families coming to Fife. All funds

will be used to buy items, which have already not been donated, to support families.

If you'd like to donate, please visit www.crowdfunder.co.uk/donations-for-afghans-coming-to-fife

For information on how/where to donate goods, please visit www.fva.org/crisis or call on [0800 389 6046](tel:08003896046).

[#AfghanCrisisFife](https://twitter.com/AfghanCrisisFife)



With the arrival of Afghanis into the country Fife Presbytery want to show a warm and open welcome. Working together as church with community, Fife Council, other agencies, ecumenical partners we can do more than by ourselves.

As such we have arranged a zoom meeting for all interested.

Meeting date: Tuesday 31st August 20021 7.30pm via zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83356324367...>

Meeting ID: [833 5632 4367](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83356324367...)

Passcode: 903275

Fife Presbytery Appeal to Help Afghani Refugees

The Moderator Jane Barron, Convenor of Church & World Christine Sime, and Mission Director Neil Campbell are in touch with Fife Council and local politicians to offer help and assistance to refugees and their families coming to live in Fife, and with a number of mosques to offer support and encouragement.

Can we ask that while we wait to hear more detailed news, we ask people to start preparing bags and packages of clothing and tinned foods with a long shelf life, which are ready to go when they're needed.

A lot of people are getting in touch and asking how they can help. Thank you for your concern and for the practical aid you can give. We expect in time there may be council run drop off points. Keep an eye on local press and perhaps congregations can start to make their own plans as need becomes clearer.

Your prayers in our parishes this Sunday will be meaningful as we bring before God the fear and despair being felt by the people of Afghanistan, and the trepidation and loss of home and loved ones felt by refugees far from their country. Meanwhile we commend the prayer given by Rev Marjory MacLean and urge you to offer it in your services this Sunday.

God bless you all and everything you may do for these refugees.

Rev Jane Barron

Moderator, Fife Presbytery

Prayer by Rev Dr Marjory MacLean

In view of the situation in Afghanistan, Rev. Dr. Marjory MacLean Convenor of the Committee on Chaplains to Her Majesty's Forces, has written a prayer for Afghanistan as we remember the sufferings of the people of that land and the sacrifices of our

military personnel.

Let us pray:

All-loving God, Your hands have fashioned every lovely corner of this treasured planet, and the beautiful land of Afghanistan is as precious as every other place Your children call 'home'. By its rivers and mountains, its fields and gardens, its busy towns and ancient villages, it is the heart's desire of its people and the place where their lives and loves are nurtured.

We grieve today with those who grieve over Afghanistan, the people who call it home indeed, the people exiled or suddenly having to leave, and the men and women from other countries who have made sacrifices in recent years in the cause of that country's future.

We remember with renewed sadness the loss of lives of military personnel during the years of this country's involvement in Afghanistan, conscious of the questions that must today be troubling the minds of those in our community who were bereaved, those who were wounded on operations, and those who were forever changed by experiences suffered there.

We pray for peace, dignity, freedom and confidence for the men, women and children of Afghanistan; for courage, vision and generosity within the international community responding to such need; and for tranquillity of mind amongst our own Service community and its wider family.

In the name of Jesus Christ, the peace-giver, we pray, AMEN.

Opportunities



Fife in Community Dundee (FiCD): Community Development Worker (Faith Communities)

Over the past 11 years FiCD have worked with many faith communities across Dundee, supporting them to develop new and exciting initiatives to tackle poverty in local communities, building on the incredible assets already in the community.

We are excited to be looking for a Community Development Worker who will continue this work alongside faith communities in Dundee with the added opportunity to develop new connections with faith communities in the surrounding areas (***including Fife***). This is a fixed-term post which is currently funded for 6 months.

Hours of work: 21 hours per week.

The starting salary is £25,812 (pro rata)

Normal working hours for this part-time post: Actual hours will be spread over no more than 4 out of 7 days, generally within Monday-Friday, working days will be agreed with the Director. There may be some evening and weekend work so flexibility is required.

Location: Although normally we are based within Kirkton Community Centre, Derwent Avenue, Kirkton, Dundee, due to Covid concerns all FiCD staff are continuing to work from home with some office based time allocated each week. This will continue to be reviewed by the Director and the Trustees and changes agreed with the staff. The Community Development Worker will be expected to travel across Dundee to engage with local faith communities.

Engagement with faith communities in surrounding areas will be online.

Probationary period: 3 months probationary period.

About Faith in Community Dundee: We are a local anti-poverty organisation working in partnership with local grass roots projects, faith communities and statutory/third sector bodies to tackle poverty in our local communities. We take an asset-based approach recognising the incredible skills, abilities and potential within local communities and supporting people to develop meaningful responses that will mitigate the impact of poverty and inequality. We currently lead on the Food Insecurity Strategy for Dundee, working with over 25 food projects in the city of which 14 are delivered by faith communities.

Experience required: We are looking for someone who has initiative, experience and energy, who understands the importance of faith communities in tackling poverty in local communities and has a passion for working alongside people to develop new and exciting initiatives.

Further information:

The application pack, with further information about this post, is available to download at:

<https://drive.google.com/.../1jqt0xJgxbLYgval7gIP35vOeErE...>

Please email completed applications to office@faithincommunitydundee.org

Closing Date: Midday Wednesday 15th September 2021

Interviews will be held on Thursday 23rd September 2021



SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES YOUTH WORKER

Are you an enthusiastic, energetic, self motivated individual who is passionate about sharing the Gospel with Young People?

Based in Glenrothes Fife, GROW is an established interdenominational Trust created by local churches in partnership with Scripture Union Scotland, to employ a youth worker to share the significance of Jesus in our schools working alongside existing Ministry teams and churches. You will also work with church teams supporting leaders and young people in their faith journey.

We offer you the opportunity to build on the existing structure with the flexibility to use your initiative and creativity to develop new ideas. You will be supported by our volunteers and management team and have the opportunity for ongoing training and development through our partner SU Scotland.

Contract: Initial 2 years with a view to extending the contract (37.5 hours Per week)

Salary: From £20,000-£25,000pa dependant on experience

For more information including job description and application pack, please

contact: Chris Hay

Email: mdchay50@gmail.com

Closing date for applications: 31st August 2021

Interview date: to be arranged (in person if covid rules allow)

This appointment will be subject to a satisfactory PVG scheme Disclosure. It is also an Occupational

Requirement that the post-holder demonstrates a personal faith in Jesus Christ.

Glenrothes, and Region Outreach Worker SIC 034830



Events



Fife Presbytery: Youth Work Journeys

Save the Date: 10.00am, Thursday 30th September

Venue details being confirmed.

Continuing to meet with Paul Beautyman of *Youth Work Journeys* as we explore together support for youth work in our churches, the next in-person gathering is planned for 30th September to develop ideas and support to the next stage.

Venue details are being finalised and will follow shortly.

To help arrange hospitality it would be helpful if you could indicate your attendance via email to fife@churchofscotland.org.uk FAO Lorraine



Talking Mission: COP26 with Rev Dr Martin Johnstone

Hosted by Church & World Task Group

7.30pm, Tuesday 28th September 2021, via Zoom:

Zoom details to follow...

With COP26 fast approaching, Martin Johnstone in his role as Glasgow Churches Together Ambassador to the summit, will share his thoughts on why addressing climate change is part of the mission of the church and how churches can get involved in COP26.

The purpose of these monthly online gatherings is to develop an understanding of contextual mission across our new Presbytery. A 20-30 minute talk with a missional focus followed by an opportunity for questions, reflection and discussion. These events are open to all across the Presbytery. Booking is requested to aid with preparation. For those unable to attend the event will be recorded and available to view via the Presbytery YouTube.

Previous Talking Mission:

Paul Haringman, Inverness Presbytery: Mission Development Worker, about ACORN movement.

Rev. Peter Neilson reflecting on the 20th Anniversary of the Church Without Walls report, available via: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KOJl2Q1od1U>

Very Rev Dr John Chalmers, Chair of the Assembly Trustees, on the *Faith Action Plan: In Action, Post Covid and Next steps* available via: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CzvRDN5AD-g>

Rev Dr Donald MacEwan, Convenor of the Church of Scotland Theological Forum, discussing the Five Marks of Mission that have been adopted as a working definition of mission by the General Assembly, available via: https://youtu.be/_Sj0xIqy4r4



Get involved: www.challengepoverty.net

#ChallengePoverty #NowIsTheTime

Challenge Poverty Week

Challenge Poverty Week is designed to show that a society without poverty is possible, and to showcase solutions we can all get behind. That's why each year, united by common values of justice and compassion, hundreds of organisations in Scotland take part in the week.

Getting involved is easy and there are lots of different ways we can make a difference. The Poverty Alliance provides all the resources you'll need to help you plan, promote and deliver your activities. You can [view all their resources](#), including activity toolkits, lesson plans, letters to MPs and MSPs, and more. More graphics and suggested social media content will be shared closer to the week.

The Poverty Alliance offers meetings with any organisation, big or small, that would like to get involved - just contact suzi.murning@povertyalliance.org. Register your interest to be sent all resources directly to your inbox. Why not also add what you're planning to do to the Challenge Poverty Week [activity calendar](#)?

For more information see: <https://www.challengepoverty.net/>



Eco Scotland: Praying for COP26

As Scotland welcomes the world to COP26, join us for an hour of prayer and encouragement to get involved.

As Scotland welcomes the world to COP26, hear how you can get involved – and look forward to Net Zero carbon and a Just, Green Future.

Hosted by Eco Congregation Scotland's Glasgow network join us for an hour of encouragement and prayer as we prepare for COP26 and the actions we might take to show our care for creation thereafter.

We meet on the first Thursday of every month for an hour from 4pm on Zoom.

Thursday 7th October, Thursday 4th November.

For more information and to register, see:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/praying-for-cop26-and-beyond-tickets-156226631059?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch>

The Big Church Read

The 4th National Big Church Read starts on 8th Sept 2021 as Patrick Regan leads through his new book 'Bouncing Forwards'. In *Bouncing Forwards* Patrick draws on his own journey of making peace with his on-going anxiety, to look honestly and vulnerably at the temptation to wait for the day when all will be well whilst missing out on what's happening in the here and now.

Presented over 10 sessions with accompanying videos and questions for reflection and discussion.

For more information and to sign up see:

<https://thebigchurchread.co.uk/bouncing-forward/>

Training

Festival of Preaching

CHURCH TIMES  CANTERBURY
PRESS

The Festival of Preaching will look a little different this year. To make the sessions as accessible as possible during this time of pandemic, the full programme will be streamed online.

Book a ticket to watch live from anywhere in the world, and use the live chat function to pose questions for our speakers and connect with other delegates. You will also be able to join the conversation on Twitter with [#preaching21](https://twitter.com/preaching21).

Not able to watch live? A festival ticket gives access to all the session recordings to watch at a time to suit you.

The first day of the festival - Monday 13 September - will be livestreamed from St Martin-in-the-Fields in London.

Choose to join us in the church to watch the Monday programme in person. There is no additional charge for this. Simply book a seat reservation alongside your main festival ticket.

There are some measures in place at St Martin's to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spreading. [Find out more about these on the festival website.](#)

The Tuesday programme is online only.

For more information and to book see:

<https://festivalofpreaching.hymnsam.co.uk/buy-tickets>



Effective and Practical Coaching

Growing Others is a great opportunity to develop coaching skills

Run by our friends in FX, Forge, Methodist and Salvation Army Churches.

This is being run as a set of 4 workshops on 3 separate occasions over the coming year - at a cost of £55:

October 2021 - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/157059103005>

Feb 2022 - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/157072759853>

If you or those working with you / supporting you are interested in this, but funding is an issue, please get in touch Steve Aisthorpe, Church of Scotland Mission Development Worker (Pioneering) via saisthorpe@churchofscotland.org.uk



Forge Scotland Pioneer Course 2021/2022 - Applications are now open

The purpose of the Pioneer Course is to validate the pioneering spirit, creating a beachhead for making Kingdom ground and championing a voice for change in church as we know it.

The pioneer course explores the questions raised by church, culture & Kingdom as well as fostering relationships between like-minded, Kingdom-seeking trail-blazers and connects them with others on the same journey.

For more information and to apply, please see:

<https://forgescotland.com/pioneer-course/>



SU Scotland

SU Scotland: Bible Alive

A non-residential course at Lendrick Muir on Wednesday 1st, Thursday 2nd and Thursday 9th September and it will run from approximately 9.00am-5.30pm each day.

This exciting programme teaches children in P5–P7 the whole story line of the Bible in a series of interactive multi-media lessons.

It has been designed to contribute to the experiences and outcomes in the RME section of Curriculum for Excellence. Over 80 Scottish schools have welcomed Bible Alive and it has also been used in schools in other parts of the UK.

Bible Alive uses story-telling, music, drama, puppets, quizzes, activities, props and costumes to bring the Bible to life. It is held together by Rhyme & Sign, a set of ten rhyming couplets which recap the story of the Bible, accompanied by British Sign Language signs. The programme is flexible and the whole Bible is usually taught in schools in one hour lessons over 5–8 weeks.

This is a non-residential course, running from 9:00am–5:30pm each day, and you must attend all three days to complete the course. You will be asked to do some preparation at home between days two and three of the course. Cost: £85 (includes training manual, Rhyme & Sign videos, refreshments and lunch on all 3 days)

Spaces are very limited and priority is given to people planning to deliver the course in schools.

For more information and to book, please email: Lesley.Crawford@suscotland.org.uk



Huddle

A place to find support, be equipped & grow in your leadership calling.

At Cairn we believe in the importance of investing in what matters and that is you. *We all know that leadership is not easy... we need support along the way and that is what huddle is about.*

Often as leaders we function in spheres where we are leading, where we are looking to get the best out of others, and aiming to release potential in our leaders, teams and organization but often forgetting to invest in ourselves. Huddle gives the opportunity for you to have that investment and gives you the opportunity to find support, be equipped and grow in your leadership and calling with a group of peers on a similar journey as yourself.

You can choose from three streams of Huddles;

- The Pioneer Ministry Huddle, for those in a frontline, missional context either planting a church, new mission initiative or similar pioneering environment
- the Established Church Huddle, for those in a more established form of church but looking to adapt and grow missional expressions
- The Spiritual Formation Huddle, for those seeking to find a better balance in

ministry life that brings fruit, rest and spiritual growth.

For more information and to register interest see:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeCPELZGJQAfS8t9uP_3SQo2RpYRrqW5HRksnwKF6uF-AUOww/viewform?mc_cid=dca9fd29da&mc_eid=1b04172065



Introduction to Workplace Chaplaincy

Who? Why? What? How?

If you want to know more about WPCS and you are interested in becoming a volunteer Chaplain, then this is for you! This introductory module helps you to understand the structures of WPCS and where you fit into the organisation. What is chaplaincy and what defines it from other arms of ministry and pastoral care? What is the theological understanding of the purpose and functions of chaplaincy? What are some of the skills required? How might it fit into your local workplace community and church context?

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Paul Wilson (paul.wilson@wpcscotland.co.uk or [07703 585987](tel:07703585987)).

Resources



Church of Scotland Resources and inspiration for those working with Children and Youth

Do you serve your church in the area of children and youth, either as a volunteer or paid worker?

Maybe you currently have few or no children in your congregation but are looking for a fresh approach?

Maybe you're involved in particular ministries, such as: early years or toddler groups; engagement in schools; youth work; Sunday groups; uniformed organisations; Messy Church; holiday clubs, equipping ministry across a number of congregations, or something else?

Maybe you have a particular concern or area where you'd appreciate some input, such as: ways to develop faith; supporting good mental health and well-being; how to deliver intergenerational worship; focussing on specific areas (awareness of LGBTQ+, climate justice, etc.); engaging with the Global Church; engaging with politics; approaches to outreach; how to develop from a context of few or no children, or something else?

The central departments of the Church of Scotland are here to resource and inspire you in your ministry. Through a range of provision – online, resources and events, all tailored to those serving in children and youth ministry, we seek to enable you to:

- Explore new resources/ideas/expertise/stories/information/questions
- Feel equipped to undertake your role(s)
- Contextualise resources/ideas/thinking to your local situation
- Develop disciples, grow young leaders, and reach more children and young people with the Good News
- Help shape your local church for the benefit of children and young people

If you would like to receive information on provision that can help to resource and inspire you in your ministry with children and young people, then please let us know your contact details and areas of interest in our short questionnaire: <https://forms.office.com/r/bbcqhMEgWW>

We will then add you to a database specifically for this purpose, and endeavour to tailor information to your needs.

Any questions about this questionnaire, and children and youth ministry in general can be sent to the dedicated email address: childrenandyouth@churchofscotland.org.uk

If you have a safeguarding query please contact your congregational safeguarding co-ordinator or safeguarding@churchofscotland.org.uk



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The Pioneer Tool Library Hack

With already over 80 tools in the Pioneer Tool Library is now available to help resource mission and pioneering. It's completely FREE to access or to post your own tools. Hosted by the Northern Centre of Mission.

You can access the library here:

<https://en-gb.padlet.com/NorthernMissionCentre/pioneerlibrary>



The Chosen: Season 2 Now Available

The Chosen is the largest crowdfunded media project of all time.

A multi-season series about the life of Christ based on the gospels.

The Chosen can be accessed and watched for free online via <http://thechosen.tv> or via The Chosen App.

Funding

Church of Scotland Small Grants Scheme

Church of Scotland Small Grant Scheme is now open for grants of up to £1k: See: <https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/connect/small-grants-fund>

SCVO Funding Scotland

Funding at your fingertips

Find funding for your charity, community group or social enterprise using our free online search engine. From small grants to funding for big capital projects, we can help you track down the funding you need to make a difference in your community.

See: <https://fundingscotland.com/>

Grants to Help Older People Lead More Fulfilling Lives

Barchester's Charitable Foundation is a grant giving charity that helps older people and other adults with a disability across England, Scotland & Wales to lead more fulfilled lives and reach their full potential. The Foundation's focus is on connecting or re-connecting people with others in their local community, helping combat isolation and loneliness and enabling people to be active and engaged. Funding of between £100 and £5,000 is available for individuals and small community groups to help improve people's mobility, independence and quality of life. Individual applications must be completed by a third-party sponsor such as a health care professional, social worker or charity/support group representative. Applications are assessed on a case-by-case basis, with funds allocated to those who demonstrate greatest need.

See: <https://www.bhcfoundation.org.uk>

People's Postcode Trust Opens for Applications

The People's Postcode Trust has re-opened its grants programme and will award grants on a monthly basis until October 2021. Funded by players of the People's Postcode Lottery, the Trust makes grants to support smaller charities and good causes in Scotland under the following themes: • Improving mental wellbeing • Enabling community participation in the arts • Preventing or reducing the impact of poverty • Supporting marginalised groups and promoting equality • Improving biodiversity & green spaces • Enabling participation in physical activity • Responding to the climate emergency & promoting sustainability • Increasing community access to outdoor space Registered charities can apply for grants of up to £20,000, other not for profit organisations can apply for grants of up to £2,000 to support both project and organisation core costs. The funding is available for 12 months. To be eligible to apply, organisations will need to have an annual income of below £1 million with preference given to those with an income of below £500,000 per year. The Postcode Community Trust will operate on a monthly basis. On around the 1st of each month, applications will open, and organisations will be able to submit their request for funding until the maximum number of 150 has been received until the 1st October 2021.

See: <https://www.postcodetrust.org.uk>

AllChurches Trust

AllChurches Trust like to fund projects that demonstrate an impact on people and communities. Applicants should include clear (and where possible, measurable) outcomes for projects and demonstrate how they will ensure sustainability beyond our funding. It's also important to show how additional funding support will be sought to enable the project to be completed.

Our open grants normally fund capital projects and equipment, not salaries or running costs, with the exception of our transformational and Hope Beyond programmes. In most cases, we give a small percentage of the project cost as this enables us to say yes to more worthwhile causes, although we do occasionally give larger grants.

See: <https://www.allchurches.co.uk/what-we-fund>

National Church Trust

Funding available for Scotland's cash strapped churches and chapels

A range of grants are available from the National Churches Trust

Churches and chapels in Scotland needing funding for urgent repairs and maintenance are being encouraged to apply for grants from the National Churches Trust.

In 2021, the church support charity expects to allocate more than £1.5m to churches and chapels throughout the UK. Any church, chapel or meeting house in Scotland that is open for regular public worship can apply.

See: <https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/news/funding-available-scotlands-cash-strapped-churches-and-chapels>

Scotland's Churches Trust

Scotland's Churches Trust helps sustain and support Scotland's places of worship through a range of grants, bursaries, advice and support.

Scottish Churches Trust offers grant support to help with:

- restoration projects in the repair of buildings and windows
- cost of routine preventative maintenance
- organ educational awards
- support towards organ concerts

See: <https://scotlandschurchestrust.org.uk/>

We hope this Mission Briefing has been useful to you.

Feedback is always welcome.

Please send comments and suggestions to: fife@churchofscotland.org.uk