

Bennochy Parish Church of Scotland

Newsletter

June 2017



This is a fine part of the world we live in, and right now we are blessed with a blast of colour to enjoy in gardens and fields. We wish all our readers a very happy summer season and hope this will be a time of rejuvenation and hope for you.

Minister: 643518

Session Clerk: 200179

Church Office: 201723

Website: www.bennochyparishchurch.org.uk

Registered Scottish Charity SC005628

'From the 'Manse',

I heard a good story recently. It went something like this. The hedgehog has a good defence mechanism. When it senses danger, like a fox, it simply curls up and waits for the fox to get bored and go away. The hedgehog can then carry on its journey. However one day, the hedgehog was crossing the road. It was dark. It saw the headlights, like the eyes of a fox, and reacted as it would whenever it was under threat. You can guess what happened! The person telling this story was drawing an analogy. He said the church was the hedgehog! Reacting as it has always done and seemingly surviving, but in a very different world, what once worked, no longer does.

Even if you do not like the story the point is well made. The journey ahead of us will be very different from the one behind us. In his book *Canoeing the Mountains*, Tod Bolsinger uses the story of the famous American explorers and pioneers, Lewis and Clark, to make the same point. Between 1804 and 1806 they were instructed by the US president, Thomas Jefferson, to find a passage connecting the Mississippi river to the Pacific ocean. They believed that the whole journey was a water route, but at the Lemhi pass they encountered the Rocky mountains, and you cannot canoe up a mountain! A new form of journey was now required.

The church today is undertaking new journeys and discovering that the old maps, the old ways of doing things simply no longer work. As we set our canoes aside and set out to cross the mountains, this will involve us taking risks, learning new skills, experimenting and ultimately putting our trust in God. Our destination, a new church for a new age.

All God's Blessings

Robin

Hall Convener

Due to the retirement of our Hall Convener we are seeking to recruit a suitable candidate. This invitation is primarily available to church members or associates, and it has been agreed that we should now offer a salary for the post - £858 p.a. (£8.25 p.h.), to be paid monthly in equal instalments. Hours are approximately 2 per week (variable).

If anyone is interested in finding out more about this position further information can be obtained from George Drummond, Session Clerk.



Christian Aid - 21st May, 2017

As a result of the collection at the morning service and the lunch that followed, we are pleased to say that £532.63 and £430.00, respectively, was raised. A further £66 will be realised through Gift Aid.

Our most sincere thanks to everyone who donated and/or attended, for your continuing support and the knowledge that your contribution will make a difference to those who most need help.

And to the Ladies, a huge thank you for bringing it all together on the day and providing us with a most satisfying lunch.

Angela Stewart, Christine and Charlie Low

Gift Day - The final total raised by the March Gift Day was £2,475.00. Many thanks to all who contributed – your ‘gifts’ are greatly appreciated.

Special collections - The total raised from the special collection on March Communion Sunday and the following Sunday came to £363.06 and this was divided equally between the Samaritans and the Aberlour Trust. The special collection at our June communion will be in aid of KART.

Congratulations to Mrs Mary Sellars, of Marchmont Home, who celebrated her 100th birthday on 6th May.



LET'S MAKE



EVERYONE

can take part in making Bennochy's Community Bunting.

You can be as creative as you please or keep it simple. Collect a template from the office or from the Olive Branch Café on Thursdays, then either return it or pass on to someone else to use. Each flag costs £5 to be included in the bunting. Monies raised will help to replace the sanctuary lighting in the future. The Quilters group will be responsible for bringing all the flags together, for recording participants' names (for posterity) as well as collecting your £5. It's estimated the bunting will last for 10 years.

The aim is to make 100 flags and display the bunting in the Methven Hall, or use it outdoors at happy summer events for the community to enjoy. It would also be possible to hire to members of the community for events and weddings etc.

What fun!

Requires

2 different pieces of cotton fabric cut to size of template.

Can be sewn by hand or machine but not glued or stapled.

Initials of participant can be sewn on flag.

Phone Dianne 07980 367632 for more info

Bennoch Community Garden Project

Spring sprung into life in the garden with a host of golden daffodils. Did you see them fluttering and dancing in the breeze? The bulbs which the children from Dunnikier Primary School planted in the autumn in the shape of a flower was a wonderful sight - it certainly cheered me up when I saw them - a statement of new beginnings. The church garden is looking good, which is a credit to the church members who volunteer to maintain it. To add another dimension, the garden will soon have the addition of thirteen mosaic log tops planted in a fun spiral. We hope that you take time to walk the spiral, taking the opportunity to reflect and contemplate life when you do.



Gardening with the children has not been kept solely to the community garden, but was taken into the classroom recently, where the children were shown how to plant seeds and the importance of labelling them too!

Whilst having fun with various activities with the children, we are hoping to make memories for them to have a positive connection with the church through the Bennoch Community Garden Project. The children have been invited to visit the garden at any time with their grown-ups from home. Our community garden team is expanding. A few members answered the call to support the Eco Garden at Dunnikier School and have been working with the children there. If this is an area of volunteering you would be interested in please speak to Louisa Turner, Community Development Worker.

Abbotshall & Bennoch Messy Church

Sessions at Messy Church continue to be messy as we explored the Easter message with walking bare foot in paint to the Cross along with an array of other activities including an egg hunt in a ball pit.

We have celebrated Pentecost early and once again got messy with blowing paint whilst we played blow football to explain how the Holy Spirit moves amongst us. Families created individual cakes to celebrate the church's birthday and we all had fun stomping out balloons in the garden.

Experiments were taking place with Skittles in our Prayer Corner and salt dough was made to resemble a pretzel – a sign of the Trinity.

Our next Messy Church will be a little different on Sunday 11th June and we will be calling it Messy Mix Up Sunday, beginning at 11 am at the church

service and finishing at 3.30pm. We do hope that you will be able to come along and share in the fun of the day as we will be having a barbeque lunch, followed by a performance from the Community Choir. There will be games and activities in the garden for those who wish some Sunday afternoon exercise or you can take a rest in the garden, chat and people watch for the rest of the afternoon. Do come along, meet up with family, friends and neighbours, to this free event. Everyone is welcome to attend for some or the whole of the day - whatever suits you and your family.



Louisa Turner, Community Development Worker

Bell Ringers Concert

At the end of the season both the Women's group and the Bell Ringers enjoyed a programme of entertainment with handbell music.

At the start, a peal of bells in the form of a “Carillon” for Trinity College, followed by the quieter sounds of “Messing about on the River” as in Wind in the Willows - the audience hummed along - the Scots song of Burns - ”Flow gently sweet Afton amid thy green braes” - the audience joined in with the words. We then moved on to pieces by Dvorák - a fun run of “Humoresque”, the slow movement of “New World Symphony” followed by another version of same but with resounding chords. We finished with the Doxology accompanied by hearty singing, and played twice - to the tune of Old Hundred - 17C version, then to the tune Canon -16C version;

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost”;



Refreshments were enjoyed thereafter, with thanks to the Ladies for open hospitality.

Bell ringing stops over the summer months, starting again in September. Anyone interested in ‘having a go’ - just let me know.

Margaret Simpson.

The Get Together

The get together enjoyed a lovely lunch on 4th May at the Strathearn Hotel. Our next outing is the 8th June at Kirkcaldy Golf Club.

New members are always welcome at our Thursday meeting from 2.00 - 4.00pm in the Elgin Hall. If you enjoy a game of whist, dominoes or even just a chat come and join us.

Goods for Refugees

The next donation days are Saturdays 24th June, 29th July and 26th August from 10 am-2 pm at the Mormon Church in Winifred Street. Donations of toiletries (no aerosols); nappies and baby wipes; crutches, walkers, wheelchairs; Ibuprofen and Paracetamol; tents, sleeping bags, sleeping/yoga mats, groundsheets, torches, batteries; craft items and school supplies; towels; new underwear, socks (new or used) for all ages; sewing machines, sewing supplies, broken jewellery all appreciated.



Just for the moment household items, electrical goods, toys, books, clothes other than those stated, footwear, bedding, or car seats are *not required*.

Kirkcaldy Area Reachout Trust

As a supporter of KART you are very warmly invited to
our *AGM* on
Tuesday 13th June 2017 at
Abbotshall Parish Church Hall from
7.00pm-8.30pm

Come along and find out about all the work KART has been doing
this year in our schools and community

Tea/coffee and homebaking will be provided

the Joseph Rank trust

SUNDAY SCHOOL

NEW MEMBERS

We have welcomed Murray Drummond and Nathan Lundie into Sunday School.

EASTER SERVICE

We hope you enjoyed our participation in the Easter Service. The girls enjoyed reciting the poetry along with William's excellent work on the screen. The little ones had us all singing along perhaps not an Easter song but a very catchy one which they all enjoyed practicing and singing.

CLASS CHANGES

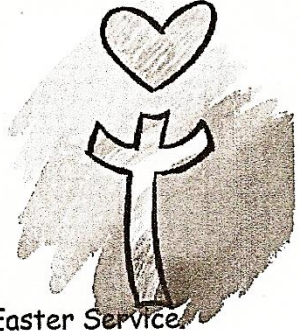
We have reorganised our classes.
Isobel Neilson will be with the very young ones.
William Rae the three boys.
Anne Hugh and Ena Thomson all the girls.
Of course we all come together at various times and help each other.

CHRISTIAN AID

We are looking forward to a visit from Charlie who is going to explain to the children why we need to raise money for Christian Aid. This is arranged for Sunday 21st May.

HOLIDAYS

We shall finish this session on Sunday 25th June and start our next session on September 10th.
We would like to wish everyone a happy holiday.



Summer Calendar

June 11
June 18

Messy Mix Up Sunday
Communion Service



July 2
July 9
July 16
July 23
July 30

Service led by worship team at Bennochy
Joint service at St Bryce Kirk
Joint service at Bennochy
Joint service at Linktown
Joint service at Abbotshall

Bruce Davies at the Fringe - 'The Times They were a-Changin'

Planning a visit to the Edinburgh Festival/Fringe this summer and wondering what to see? Our own Bruce Davies is performing at Valvona & Crolla, Elm Row (venue 67) on 12th & 13th August at 1 pm, and 23rd & 26th August at 3 pm. For more details see the poster on our notice board or visit www.valvonacrolla.co.uk or www.edfringe.com.



The Olive Branch Café

Open every Thursday in the Methven Hall from 1100 am – 2.00 pm for teas, coffees & home baking. Lunches served from 12 noon.
Our internet café is also open from 11.00–2.00.



Free Wi Fi.

❖ Please note the Café will be **closed** on 20th and 27th July.

- Next Newsletter: 1st October 2017