

# CONCORD

Spring 2015



*Sacrament of Holy Communion  
8 March*

**The Magazine of St Andrew's Erskine Church of Scotland, Dunfermline, where we welcome everyone in the name of Jesus Christ, as we celebrate and share the love of God within the community which we serve.**

**Minister: The Rev Muriel Willoughby**

## DEADLINES

All intimations for inclusion in the Sunday Order of Service should be handed into, or emailed to, the church office by 9.15am on Tuesday mornings. **Please note this is a change from Thursday.**

Church email address: [staechurch@standrewserskine.org.uk](mailto:staechurch@standrewserskine.org.uk)

Items for the Summer edition of '*Concord*' should be with the Editor by Sunday 3 May 2015 for distribution from 17 May 2015.

Articles for inclusion in the magazine should be sent to the Editor at [eunice.lacey@virgin.net](mailto:eunice.lacey@virgin.net)

Alternatively, you may hand them directly to Eunice or telephone her on 01383 745828.

## February 2015

### *From the Minister .....*

*Dear Friends,*



*I wonder if you made any New Year Resolutions this year. If so, have you kept to them? By the end of January there are always articles in the media about how many people give up on what they resolved to do just a few short days or weeks before. Many of us have probably given up even trying to keep promises we make to ourselves at the start of a new year, because our experience shows us how hard it is to change our habits or ingrained behaviours. Our resolve often fades because we try to undertake this change alone, at a difficult time of the year (e.g. to start a diet in winter) or because we are not fully committed to changing our ways.*

*As Christians we don't need to choose a date on the calendar to get a new start or impetus in life. As the book of Lamentations reminds us "The Lord's unfailing love and mercy still continue, fresh as the morning, as sure as the sunrise. The Lord is all I have, and so I put my hope in him" Lamentations 3:22-24.*

*God gives us every day to make a new start, to recognise his goodness and to commit our hope and trust to him. Every day we can start by asking God to help us, to forgive us for what we've done wrong and to give us opportunities to share his love and mercy with other people. Every day we get a fresh start to be the people God created us to be – people who show through their words and actions that they are committed to following Jesus and putting their hope in him.*

*Just like New Year Resolutions, it is not easy to stick to our commitment to follow Jesus. It usually helps if we know that others are on the same journey so that we can encourage each other. It often helps to choose a period of time to concentrate our efforts and admit that it does take an effort to stick to our resolve.*

*But that's why we are members of Christ's Church here – to help each other on our journey of faith and life, to encourage and support each other to live up to our commitment to be God's people in this place at this time.*

*You will see in another article that we are giving people opportunities to learn more about their faith and to understand more about Jesus and his part in their lives. As Lent and Easter approach we can use that period to make a new start, to get together and grow in faith, to make a regular commitment to read and study God's word at home or elsewhere.*

*As the hymn says "We are here to help each other, walk the mile and share the load". That's why I believe we are all here, and I look forward to sharing in these new opportunities with you.*

*With my love and prayers.*

*Muriel*

## ***SERVICES***

*All services at 10.30am unless otherwise stated*

1 March	Reader:	Eunice Lacey
8 March		<i>Sacrament of Holy Communion</i>
	Reader:	Jim Welsh
15 March	Reader::	Elizabeth McCallum
22 March	Reader:	Sheila Robinson
29 March	Reader:	Linda Russell
5 April		<i>Easter Sunday</i>
	Reader:	Ian Mitchell
12 April	Reader:	Lorraine Brown
19 April	Reader:	Carolyn Simpson
26 April	Reader:	Isobel Walker
3 May	Reader:	Susan Bor
10 May	Reader:	Alasdair McCallum
17 May	Reader:	Elaine Shorthouse
24 May	Reader:	Hilary Arneil
31 May	Reader:	Louis Douglas

## WELCOME TEAMS

### 1 & 8 March, 26 April & 3 May

### (Team 3)

Banking	Alex Twaddle	Margaret Harding
FWO	Myra Knust	Bill Stark
Others	Maureen Smith	Linda Russell
Laptop	Alan Willoughby	
Sound	Alex Twaddle	

### 15 & 22 March, 10 & 17 May

### (Team 4)

Banking	Margaret Young	Sandra Stenhouse
FWO	Dave Young	Jim Welsh
Others	Hilary Arneil	Margo Kindness
Laptop	Kirsten Russell	
Sound	Lorraine Brown	

### 29 March & 5 April, 24 & 31 May

### (Team 1)

Banking	Jane Blackie	Eunice Lacey
FWO	Ian Mitchell	Carolyn Simpson
Others	Elizabeth McCallum	Alasdair McCallum
Laptop	Judith Dennis	
Sound	Keith Lacey	

### 12 & 19 April

### (Team 2)

Banking	Louis Douglas	Esther Monro
FWO	Isobel Walker	Christine McWilliam
Others	Susan Bor	Mary McCormack
Laptop	Margaret Harding	
Sound	Ian Mitchell	

### Preparation and Serving Communion Elements (8 March)

Louis Douglas *	Gail Anderson
Christine McWilliam	Jim Welsh



Would the person marked with an asterisk please supply the bread.

## PARISH REGISTER

### Deaths

*“Jesus said ‘I am the Resurrection and the life. Those who live and believe in me will never die.’”* John 11: 25, 26

We record, with sympathy to their families and friends, the deaths of the following members of our community.

<b>December</b>	Charles Gordon	Leys Park Home
	Agnes Thomson	Kilmartin Way
	James Thomson	Headwell House
<b>January</b>	Euphemia Allan	Leys Park Home

### New Members

Mrs Nancy Goring	57 Rose Street, Dunfermline Transferred from Gillespie Memorial Church, Dunfermline
Mr James Dunlop	19 Bridges View, Dunfermline Transferred from The Abbey Church, Dunfermline
Mr Bill and Mrs Irene Marshalsey	20 Witchbrae, Dunfermline Transferred from Ballywillan Presbyterian Church, Co Antrim

### YOUNG KIRK CLUB

The new session got off to a good start, with the children showing their usual enthusiasm.

All children of Primary School age are very welcome to come along at 6.30pm on a Wednesday.



*Elizabeth McCallum*

## CAN YOU HELP ?

**REQUIRED** - someone who understands financial matters and is able to deal with paying accounts and checking income, using internet banking, as well as reconciling bank statements and preparing annual accounts. An ability to communicate by email is also necessary.

If this is you, or someone you know who could give the time to be treasurer for our Church, please contact either Muriel Willoughby or Christine McWilliam for more information.

## THE GUILD

The new session started on 3 February with the Guild Project – “*No room for homelessness*” - and a speaker from the Julius Project.



A reminder of the programme up to our outing in May:-

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| 3 March  | “ <i>Holiday Moments</i> ” and Fundraiser<br>Speaker: Esther Monro |
| 17 March | “ <i>Caring for Creation</i> ”<br>Speaker: The Rev Trevor Jamieson |
| 31 March | Easter Lunch and Home Baking Stall                                 |
| 14 April | AGM and Games Afternoon  |
| 28 April | The General Assembly and Fundraiser<br>Speaker: Susan Bor          |
| 12 May   | Outing   |

*Elizabeth McCallum*

## CHURCH HEATING PROBLEMS

We are all aware of problems with our church heating system over the last two or three years. The system is now over 10 years old, which means that some parts are beginning to wear out.



The Fabric Committee, on behalf of the Kirk Session, has obtained specialist advice from the Church of Scotland Consultant Heating Engineer, and we are following this up by getting detailed reports from specialist under floor heating engineers and control system engineers. This will enable us to get quotes for repairs and upgrading of the heating system.

The work is expected to include renewing the boiler and replacing control valves and pumps in the plant room and in four 'manifolds' where the flow of hot water into the under floor pipes is controlled. The electronic control system of thermostats and time clocks will probably need complete renewal.

A budget figure has been set aside for the work, but we need to get firm quotes before we start. Heating will be turned off while the work is underway, so we plan to do the work when the weather is warmer. Meanwhile, as you can imagine, this makes it very difficult to regulate the heating for the church and halls. However, we will endeavour to do our best to ensure as comfortable conditions as possible.

Your patience and understanding are very much appreciated.

*Ian Mitchell*

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A worshipper entering church on very wet Sunday morning noticed that the bell ringer was ringing the bell particularly vigorously. He was asked the reason.

*“If they are not coming to church”, replied the bell ringer, “they are not sleeping either.”*

## NEW CHALLENGES - NEW OPPORTUNITIES

As we begin to see the lighter nights and bulbs appearing, perhaps we are looking for a new beginning? We are all challenged to live up to our commitment to follow Jesus, and the Kirk Session is trying to increase the opportunities for Christian education to help us all expand our knowledge and understanding of what it means to be a member of the Church.

Some opportunities that might encourage and help you to do this include checking out our church website ([www.standrewserskine.org.uk](http://www.standrewserskine.org.uk)) each week to see the order of service and perhaps read the bible passages before you come along on a Sunday. It also means that you can look at it, even if you are unable to join us some weeks, so that you keep up to date with what we are doing through the worship and intimations.

The weekly order of service sheet will also include the four lectionary passages set for the following week. These are used by churches around the world as a way of covering much of the bible over a three year cycle. We usually use two of these readings, but all might fit in with the overall theme of the service. Once we get into the way of reading these passages regularly, we can perhaps arrange a meeting to discuss our thoughts and reactions to the experience – watch this space for more details.

The Kirk Session has invited the Presbytery Prayer Co-ordinator, Mary Hunter, to its meeting in May; you will remember that we all received a copy of the Presbytery Prayer Letter during Advent with an encouragement to pray each week for one of our local congregations. That will now also appear on the weekly sheet to help us to feel that we are part of the wider church, and we should be encouraged to know that others are praying for us too.

I hope and pray that, by following up some of these suggestions, you will find a new challenge and a new opportunity at St Andrew's Erskine in 2015 to explore what it means to be a member of the Church of Jesus Christ.

*Muriel*

## WORDS OF THANKS



Alex and Jane Blackie write ... *"Thank you for the lovely flowers which you recently sent to each of us. They really brightened up our day."*

Betty Wilson would like to thank you all for the lovely flowers she received after her recent stay in hospital. She would also like to thank everyone who sent their congratulations and cards on the birth of her new baby granddaughter. *"It was so kind of you all."*

Moira and John Jamieson would like to offer their sincere thanks for the flowers received on the anniversary of their daughter Karen's death. They were beautiful and very much appreciated.

Jessie and Jim Ralston write ... *"Please include our thanks for the beautiful flowers. They were much appreciated."*

*"A note of thanks from Andrew and Carolyn Chisholm for all your kind concern and well wishes throughout a stressful time while Andrew was in hospital and for the lovely flowers from the congregation. Thankfully he is well on the road to recovery. We wish everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous 2015."*

Bill Stark wishes to thank everyone for cards, visits and flowers received during his recent illness.

Thanks for flowers have also been received from Maureen Smith, Margaret Young and Nancy Wemyss.

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## Quotable quote

*"When you make the biggest mistake ever, something good can still come out of it."*

*"If you have a great friend, take the time to let them know that they are great."*

*Marcel Proust*

## FUNDRAISING



The coffee morning held in November raised £465.60 for church funds.

The Recipe book has raised £1,097. A tremendous thank you to all who contributed towards this.

We are hoping to continue with the monthly baking stall but, at times, are short of bakers. If anyone is willing to help out occasionally, please speak with any member of the team (see notice board for names).

Smartie tubes are still ongoing and are available at the church entrance. Please take one and fill it with 20p's. It's amazing how these mount up and the church can claim gift aid on these!

### Events for 2015 (February to May)

14 February	Coffee morning	10.00am
20 March	Concert "Into the Limelight"	7.30pm
24 April	Quiz Night	7.30pm
16 May	Coffee Morning	10.00am

*Esther Monro*

## CHRISTIAN AID



### Forth Road Bridge Cross

This year's Forth Road Bridge Cross will take place on Saturday 25 April from 2pm – 6pm. Watch the weekly Order of Service for details about sponsor forms etc. Meanwhile, please put the date in your diaries!

*Isobel Walker*

## LADIES GROUP

The November meeting welcomed the return of the popular "*Kingdom Singers*". This was an open evening, and everyone who attended had the pleasure of listening to a wide variety of songs.



December was the Christmas meal held in the Pitbauchlie Hotel, which included musical entertainment by our very own Elaine Shorthouse. A thoroughly enjoyable evening.

The new year kicked off with a 'modified' Burns Supper prepared and presented by the committee members. Many thanks to Jane and all the volunteers for their great help in assisting with the serving and clearing up.

### Future meetings

February        "*The Valentine's day murder and Dunfermline jail*" by local historian George Robertson.

March            A gardening evening with George & Ian from Fairleys Garden Centre. The will take the form of questions and answers, so members will be invited to bring along any relevant questions.

*Mary McCormack*

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From the Kilchoman, Kilmeny and Portnahaven Parish Magazine:

### The Small Beatitudes

*Blessed are those who can laugh at themselves;  
They will have no end of fun.*

*Blessed are those who can tell a mountain from a molehill;  
They will be saved a lot of bother.*

## KIRK SESSION NEWS

Gail Anderson has been appointed as Roll Keeper, and she should be contacted about changes of address or other matters relating to church membership. Her contact details are on the reverse of Concord. Current Church Membership at 31 December 2014 is 189.



The Kirk Session has appointed Julie Downie as Independent Examiner for the 2014 Accounts. We are grateful to Julie for agreeing to take on this important role.

On 31 January we are holding our Kirk Session conference in the church, and the main topics for discussion are Pastoral Care and Christian Education( for adults as well as young people). The results of our discussions will be shared with the congregation later.

Sometime this year we will receive a visit from Presbytery for our five yearly Local Church Review.

The Kirk Session has decided that retiring offerings during 2015 will go to a local charity, **Frontline Fife**, which deals with homelessness and its prevention in the Fife area, and an International charity, **Médecins Sans Frontières** (Doctors Without Borders), which is an International network of volunteers, field projects and offices, aiding victims of armed conflict, epidemics, and other disasters - particularly appropriate at this time of Ebola outbreaks. A speaker from Frontline Fife will give a presentation during the church service on Sunday 15 February.

The Kirk Session has also agreed to hold a one-day Stewardship Conference on 23 May for ALL the congregation. The Stewardship team appreciates your responses to our Stewardship Season in September and hopes you are able to attend this event. More information will follow in due course.

*Lorraine*

## FLOWER CIRCLE

1 March	Mr W Stark
8 March	Mrs A Fernie
15 March	Mrs M Manning
22 March	Mrs M Melrose
29 March	Craft Group



**March Distribution:** Jane Blackie

5 April	Session
12 April	Men's Group
19 April	Mrs S Ross
26 April	Ladies Group

**April Distribution:** Volunteers

3 May	Mrs E McCallum
10 May	The Eatery
17 May	Mrs M Knust
24 May	Mrs J Innes
31 May	Mrs N Dunlop

**May Distribution:** Volunteers

If you would be willing to help occasionally with the distribution of flowers after the service or to donate flowers on a particular Sunday, please add your name to the Flower Rota on the notice board or speak to Rikky McPhee. You can see her in church or give her a call on 01383 722544.

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***“Music, the greatest good that mortals know  
And all of heaven we have below.”***

*Joseph Addison*

## WALKING GROUP

The walking group's monthly walks will resume on Sunday 29 March 2015.



We will meet as usual in the Church car park at 1.30pm to share transport.

Most of the walks are easy to moderate and do not exceed six miles – two of them are only four miles. They are generally held on the last Sunday of each month.

The programme for this year is as follows:

March	Blackford to Gleneagles
April	Scone to Perth
May	Falkland to Maspie Den
June	The Forth and Clyde Canal and the River Carron, near Falkirk
July	Callander Park, Falkirk
August	Dollar to Tillicoultry
September	Bridge of Allan to Dunblane
October	Cambus, Tullibody and the River Forth
November	Alloa and Clackmannan Towers

*Charlie Downie*

### Dates for your Diaries – Holy Week and Easter



29 March	Palm Sunday	All Age Service	10.30am
2 April	Maundy Thursday	Holy Communion	7.00pm
3 April	Good Friday	Details to follow	7.00pm
4 April	Easter Saturday	Details to follow	7.30pm
5 April	Easter Day	All Age Service	10.30am

## YOUR OFFERINGS

Retiring collections at Harvest and Christmas raised a total of £720, which has been divided between *Tear Fund Scotland* and the *Bethany Christian Trust*.



The following is an extract from a letter received from the Bethany Christian Trust.

*“... Along with the existing services such as the Drop-in Centres in Dunfermline and Methil and the Visiting Support Service across Fife, Bethany has been developing new projects in recent months, including a pilot addictions recovery centre for the Highlands near Tain, called “Dochas” (Gaelic for hope) which opened at the end of September.*

*Furthermore a newly-launched service called “Safe Families for Children” will work with Churches across Scotland to help families in their communities suffering a period of crisis. Rather than putting children into Care, fully trained volunteer host families from local Churches will step in to provide crisis intervention support for parents and children to allow the parents a period of time to deal with the problems they face.*

*None of these challenges would be possible without voluntary funding support such as this generous donation from your Church, which is very much appreciated by all at Bethany and of course by the many service users who will benefit from it.”*

## CRAFT GROUP

The Craft Group meets on a Thursday, from 2.30pm to 4.30pm. If you have an interest in any craft and would like to find out what we do, please come along and meet us. There's bound to be something for you.



For further information, please contact Eunice Lacey on 01383 745828.

## ECO CORNER

### WWF Earth Hour



At 8.30pm on 28 March, hundreds of millions of people will turn off their lights for one hour, on the same night, all across the world in a huge show of support for action on climate change and for a more sustainable future. Cities, communities and landmarks across the globe will go dark for one hour. Will you join in? If you want to know more or get more involved you can get information at [www.wwfscotland.org.uk/earthhour](http://www.wwfscotland.org.uk/earthhour).

The Guide for Scottish Eco-Congregations is also available on the notice board.

*Hilary Arneil*

### ‘THE EATERY’

Have you a couple of hours to spare twice a month on a Thursday? Our Thursday B team are one man down and would love to have an extra pair of hands to help with the busy lunchtime period. Please speak to Hilary or any of the Eatery team if you think you could help.



We will be open over the Easter break but closed on Good Friday, 3 April.

*Hilary Arneil*

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### Important Questions

*“What disease did cured ham actually have?”*

*“If corn oil is made from corn, olive oil from olives, what is baby oil made from?”*

## **LIFE AND WORK**



Copies of “*Life and Work*” are on the display stand in the church foyer. Subscriptions by post are available – please see the magazine for details.

### **Contents of the January Edition**

#### **Only the Lonely ...**

Jackie Macadam explores the issues surrounding loneliness and considers whether faith can play a part.

#### **A Decade of Ministry and a Decade of Membership**

The Rev Dr Doug Gay looks ahead to the proposed Decade of Ministry. The Moderator offers a ten year membership challenge to Church of Scotland.

#### **Major Milestone for Churches Housing Group**

Thomas Baldwin looks at the history of Scottish Churches Housing Action, which celebrates its 20th birthday this month.

#### **Renewing Worship**

Neil Gardner and Douglas Galbraith celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Church Service Society.

#### **Hidden Assets**

The Rev Jim Jack reflects on the creative use of church glebes.

#### **An Authentic Voice**

The Rev Professor David Fergusson considers the challenges of a passage from Luke’s Gospel.

#### **The Mystery of God**

The Rev Allan McCafferty outlines the artistic and spiritual value of stained glass.

#### **A Missionary Childhood**

Jackie Macadam learns how Merryn Glover’s life as the child of missionaries in Nepal influenced her debut novel.

## DIRECTORY

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<b>Pastoral Care</b>	Fiona Todd	01383 728057
<b>Hospitality</b>	Hilary Arneil	01383 852317
<b>Fund Raising</b>	Esther Monro	01383 300079
<b>Gift Aid</b>	George Walker	01383 720637
<b>Partner Plan Correspondent and Stewardship</b>	Carolyn Simpson	01383 720651
<b>Christian Aid</b>	Isobel Walker	01383 720637
<b>Flower Convener</b>	Rikky McPhee	01383 722544
<b>Safeguarding</b>	Sandra Stenhouse	01383 728116
<b>Brownies</b>	Sonia Graham	01383 514179
<b>Rainbows</b>	Sonya Russell	01383 725313
<b>Bellyeoman Toddlers</b>	Gill Pemberton	01383 625616
<b>Ladies Group</b>	Mary McCormack	01383 515188
<b>Men's Group</b>	Alex Twaddle	01383 737478
<b>Craft Group</b>	Eunice Lacey	01383 745828
<b>Walking Group</b>	Charlie Downie	01383 724728