

The monthly newsletter from St Kentigern's Church

Outreach

April 2011

stkentigern.org.uk

Where does Easter take you?

Our presbytery, along with every other in the Church of Scotland, is being asked to make plans as to how the church will operate with a reduced number of full-time staff. In our case, the reduction is from 28 to 22 or so. Since almost all the current full-time people are ministers, the question really is what congregations continue, and how will congregations function with fewer full-timers?

Presbytery has to work all this out, and to help it do so it has prepared a questionnaire which elders and others here will complete and send back. As well as this, there are some 'hard facts' which presbytery wishes to gather about every congregation. This includes the number of services which are conducted, the use made of the premises, the givings of members and the number of people who come to worship.

We're required to work out the number of people who come to services really from Easter through to our Communion service on the first Sunday in June. Having given this some thought, we think that the best way to do this is simply to take a couple of photographs at each Sunday service, then count the number of people we see in them. That'll give us an accurate record of the number of people who attend worship and we'll be able to demonstrate how our figures add up.

You need to be aware of this if you're coming to church, because your being here will be recorded. We'll certainly not be making these photos public and will use them for no other reason, but under data protection laws you rightly need to be told that your picture is being taken for this purpose. you'll also need to know why someone stands at the front of church before the service and asks you to say cheese!

You need to be aware of this as well if you're not coming to church. We want to give an honest view to presbytery of the people who worship with us. The Church of Scotland closes no churches, but churches which are not attended by members do not remain as they are. We have nearly three hundred members in St Kentigern's, and over two hundred of these, we think, regularly worship at least once a month. Of course presbytery isn't going to see the pictures we take and if church members don't come regularly during these weeks when we are required to count, the total number of worshippers will be lower. It's likely that the results of this survey will influence our future.

continued inside...

St Kentigern's Church

people together following Jesus



What has this to do with Easter? More than you might at first think. As a result of meeting the risen Christ, his early followers were challenged to go far off, into unknown lands, to share their experience of the risen Lord. As they rose to that challenge so millions heard the good news and came to faith themselves.

In a changed, Christian world, Christ's followers today are not only challenged to go far away. They're also encouraged to attend the congregation of Christian faith which is on their doorstep, the one to which they have made promises of support and attendance.

Years ago, the actions of Christians influenced people's opportunity to worship the one true God through his risen, living Son. Today, their actions do the same.

Inspire looks beyond

We've produced our third edition of Inspire, a glossy magazine type publication which tells a little bit about Christian faith and what we're doing in St Kentigern's. This time we have a focus both on Easter and on our partnerships overseas.

We hope to deliver this to every home in our parish. That way, people have some chance of knowing that there is a church near them and they may learn a little bit about what we do and what we believe.

Our plan is that members of the congregation, coordinated by the Kirk Session Our Community committee, will deliver the magazines in the first full week of April. That way, people around us will have the magazine in time to come along to Easter services and events if they wish, both in St Matthews and here.

It's not too demanding a job to walk around a few of the streets near where you stay, especially in the spring sunshine. If you can offer a few hours of your time to do this in early April, that would be great. Just contact the Our Community committee (details are on the back page) and they'll be delighted to have you involved!

Planned Giving Programme

At our recent AGM Sandy highlighted the Planned Giving Programme. The organising committee is made up of Sandy Brown, Irene Rennie, Marion Craig, Martin Butters, Gavin Raleigh, Sally McDonald and myself. We held their first meeting on 15th March in the Vestry, together with Grant and Edith Scott, Church of Scotland Stewardship Consultant.

This first meeting was to ensure that each of those involved knew what their particular roles are. After discussing these roles we set out the diary of meetings etc, which will culminate with a Gathering on Saturday 8th October. We will be keeping you informed about the latest updates through the Outreach magazine, so keep an eye out for it. The organisations and others have been informed, so that they can start to plan displays for the Gathering.

I would ask that you pray for all those who are involved in the planning stages and for the Programme as a whole.

Tracey Grant Publicity Convenor, Planned Giving Programme.

Who's doing what in coming weeks



Reading Scripture in morning worship

3 April Ann Brown (532527)
10 April Mary Ritchie (542399)
17 April Ian Rennie (538932)
24 April Alastair McDonald (530300)
1 May Andy Roney (543444)

Welcoming people and uplifting the offering

April Mr K Black, Mr G Calderwood, Mrs M Murray, Mr G Raleigh
May Mrs S Wilson, Ms S Mason, Mrs E McDonald, Mrs M Craig

Making a welcoming cuppa (and washing up!)

3 April M Niven, N Chisholm, N Michael
10 April C Allen, A Black, J Anderson
17 April - J Burnett, C McHardy, A Hogarth
24 April - J & D Hamiton, K Barclay



Flower List

3 April Cathie Brodie
10 April Cathie Dixon
17 April Wilma Downie
24 April Veronica Hurford

*Thanks to all
who contribute to flowers
in worship in church and to those
who donate through the box.*

Organising Flower Deliveries

April Helen Tomlinson
May Margaret Murray

Messy Easter!

We're continuing the success of our Messy Church events by holding a special one on Easter Day! From 4pm onwards families are welcome to come along for a time of fun together with games and crafts. We'll have a short and informal time of worship after we've eaten together, so you're welcome to come along from four for fun, and nearer six to eat and share together! There will be more information in service sheets leading up to Easter.

Briefing for those who welcome on Sundays

There's a new rota for those who welcome friends to worship on Sundays. To coincide with this, there are a couple of briefing times at 10.15 on 10th April and 17th April. These last 30 minutes, so you'll not miss coffee, and are important so that we know what to do in welcoming people well to church. Everyone on the rota is expected to attend one of the briefing meetings.

The £1 table

Liz and Archie thank everyone for donating goods to the £1 table, and for purchasing stuff! So far £700 has been raised for the building fund for our friends in Arua, Uganda. The table will continue each Sunday until June, and especial thanks to the Woman's Hour for donating £50.

Thank you!

Grateful thanks have been received from people who have received church flowers, including Tracey Hamilton, Joanne Murdoch, Jean Hood, Ann Brown, Wyllie Brown, Nancy Whiteside, Barbara Waddell, Willie Craig, Alistair & Dorothy Simpson, Janet & Ernie Williams, Mrs Watters; and from Ross and Ann McCabe and Andy and Nancy Chisholm following baby Cara's birth.



Hospital and home visiting

Please let the Minister know of any members who are at home or in hospital (or are awaiting admission) and who would value a visit from the Minister. Details can be written on cards available in the foyer and these should be handed to the Minister or slipped under the Vestry door. Alternatively, contact the Minister on (01563) 571280 or at minister@stkentigern.org.uk

Girls' Brigade
Thursdays at 6:00

We took part in the Divisional competitions and Bible competition recently. The Explorers came away with a prize in their section and everyone enjoyed the participation. Rehearsals are now in full swing for our Annual Display as well as preparations for our Weekend Camp to Largs on April 29th (with a Royal Wedding theme).

Here are some important dates for your diary:

Holidays - 3 Thursdays incl 7, 14, 21 April.

Meeting for Parents of Campers on Tuesday 19th April at 6pm (last approx 30 mins)

Display rehearsal on Tuesday 26th April (6-8pm for all sections) and Thursday 28th April (normal GB times)

Display and Award Ceremony on Thursday 5th May, starting at 7pm
All are welcome to join us.

Contact Tracey on (01563) 529949

Frendz!

1st Saturday of month at 10am

Contact Irene on (01563) 538932

Messy Church
Tuesdays at 1.00

We started back on Tuesday 29th March and look forward to welcoming parents and children along!

Contact Irene on (01563) 538932

Spring break for children
Sundays 10 and 17 April at 11am

It'll soon be time for the Spring break from school and we are grateful to those who have willingly volunteered to lead activities for children during services on Sunday 10th and 17th April, So you're welcome to keep coming with your little ones all through next month and beyond!

Contact Grant on (01563) 571280

Coffee & Company
Wednesdays at 2:00

Contact Janey on (01563) 520511

Pathfinders
Fridays at 6:30

Our 40th Annual display is on 13th May and the boys are working hard for their different events. Numbers in Pathfinders + have been dropping a little, mainly because of other groups meeting then. However we still have a faithful band of boys coming along. We are grateful to Michael and Libby for taking over for some nights earlier in the session.

We're finalising plans for our trips, one for each section for our 40th year. The younger boys are going to Heads of Ayr farm park and the older boys to Blair Drummond safari park. Both of these trips will take place in April.

Remember the display: 13th May!

Contact Ann on (01563) 536603

Thinking about Faith

28th April at 7:30 in the Manse

We're exploring Islam and seeing what this world faith may say to us. You're welcome along. Information sheets are available in advance. Contact Grant on (01563) 571280

Junior Church

Sundays at 11:00

Junior Church won't meet on 10th or 17th April, though there are activities for children both Sundays. We are looking forward to returning on Easter Sunday and we'll continue until our Thanksgiving Service this year on 19th June.

Contact Heather on (01563) 536730

Tuesday Afternoon Worship

12th April at 1.45

We've moved our afternoon services to the second Tuesday of the month, just to make meetings easier to attend. Our next service will therefore be on 12th April at 1.45pm

Contact Grant on (01563) 571280

Men's group

Meets as arranged

A wary group of men from St Kentigern's took to the ice at the Galleon Centre on Monday 21st March to try their hand at curling. We were coached by some expert curlers, who tried to teach us the rudiments of the game. Watching it on TV is one thing but trying to propel the stones from one end of the rink to the other and get it into the circle, approx 50 metres, is another. It is not as easy as it looks. Despite it being cold on the ice we were soon breaking into a sweat when we had to start sweeping. As usual some were better than others but all said that they thoroughly enjoyed it and looked forward to having another shot at it. Ian Rennie was heard to say that the next stop was the Winter Olympics. Nae chance!

Contact Ian on (01563) 538932

Banner Group

Wednesdays at 6:00

Contact Nancy on (01563) 543065

Ladies' retreat

What a fantastic day we all had on Saturday 19th March at the Pioneer Cafe in Monkton. 21 St Kentigern's ladies and 8 friends. Laura Strong led us in worship as we sang some lovely hymns as Laura played the guitar, we also had prayer groups, craft table, pamper table, some ladies had nails done & hand massage. Lunch was home made soup and sandwiches. We then had a time of quiet, in the afternoon. Clarinda & Janis led us in worship. Our topic was: Taste & see - don't just bite and swallow the love of Jesus. Savour and see all the wonderful things he does & gives us.

If you have never been to a retreat before give it a try come along to our next one. Taste and see - your cup will overflow with Gods love!

Liz McDonald

Churches unite to launch election website

Scotland's most senior Christian figures have come together to urge the country to vote in May's elections.

The Church leaders are encouraging the public and politicians to examine their faith as they prepare to vote in the Scottish Elections.

Churches and Christian organisations have produced a shared election resources website: www.churchesvote.org to inform potential voters about Parliamentary and election processes; to collate information about party policies and inspire Christians of all political persuasions to participate in the debate.



Kirks turning to community cafes

A growing number of churches are opening up cafes as they seek to better engage with their local communities.

Within the bounds of Glasgow Presbytery there are currently over 25 Church of Scotland-run cafes, which outnumber the 18 McDonald's branches across the city.

Last week, Cambuslang Flemington Hallside opened up their new venture based in their church hall, which runs on Wednesday and Thursday lunchtimes.

Minister Reverend Neil Glover said it was to help strengthen ties with local residents: "We want to build relationships with the community, and become a base for people in the community to get to know each other. There is no other place like this in the area.

"The reason we are basing it in the church is because we have the hall space, and because young children can enjoy the play area.

"The café will also hopefully build on the good work done by our parent and toddler group which has seen many families come into the church and the pensioners' groups run by a number of our members.

"The long term goal is to increasingly become a known and loved presence in the community, and to get to know those of our neighbours who wouldn't normally appear in Church on a Sunday morning."



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How we're organised

Kirk Session (*Grant Barclay, Moderator; Ian Rennie, Session Clerk*)

Our Church group: Contact Ann on (01563) 532527

Our community group: Contact John on (01563) 536422

Our world group: Contact Jim on (01563) 527786

Other churches: Contact Sandy on (01563) 532527

Congregational Board (*Ann Brown, Chair; Bill Wilson, Clerk*)

Stewardship Advisor: Contact Sandy on (01563) 532527

Gift Aid convener: Contact Bobby on (01563) 534447

Weekly Envelopes: Contact Sandy on (01563) 532527

Fabric Committee: Contact Willie on (01563) 522764

Treasurer: Contact Shaona on (01563) 526066

Church Officers: Contact Sadie on (01563) 531598

Specific responsibilities and tasks

Safeguarding: Contact Bill on (01563) 520464

Praise and worship: Alastair McDonald (01563) 530300 Arthur Fraser (01563) 821822

Cleaning team: Contact Sadie on (01563) 531598

Media Group: Contact Sandy on (01563) 532527

First Tuesday teas: Contact Vera on (01563) 531954

Flowers in church: Contact Betty on (01563) 520464

Pastoral visitors: Contact Grant on (01563) 571280

Coffee before worship: Cathie Brodie (01563) 523458, Sadie Speirs (01563) 531598

Social Committee: Contact Marion on (01563) 522764

Useful contacts

Grant Barclay, Minister. (01563) 571280.

minister@stkentigern.org.uk

Ian Rennie, Session Clerk. (01563) 538932.

Bill Wilson, Clerk to Board. (01563) 526066

Shaona Wilson, Treasurer. (01563) 526066

Sandy Brown, Stewardship. (01563) 532527

Bobby Stevenson, Gift Aid. (01563) 534447

Church Officers

John Anderson (532889)

Sandy Brown (532527)

Leo Bryson (07928 943 369)

Willie Littlejohn (534325)

Andy Roney (543444)

Jim Templeton (536233)

Sadie Speirs (531598)

Email addresses

On-screen announcements

advert@stkentigern.org.uk

Weekly service sheet

tellusall@stkentigern.org.uk

Outreach newsletter

outreach@stkentigern.org.uk, or
place items in pocket in foyer

Church Hub

office@stkentigern.org.uk

Any questions?

info@stkentigern.org.uk

Kirk Session committees:

other.churches@stkentigern.org.uk

our.church@stkentigern.org.uk

our.community@stkentigern.org.uk

our.world@stkentigern.org.uk