

TRINITY TRIBUNE

East Neuk Trinity Church of Scotland

Newsletter

September 2019

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

You are warmly invited to a celebration of Holy Communion on Sunday 1 September at 11am in Elie Church.

The table is open to all who love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Do you need transport to church? Would you like company to attend church or meetings? Please contact the person who has delivered this magazine to you.

Name

PASTORAL CARE

If you or anyone who is in need of a visit from their Elder, then please get in touch with the Session Clerk, Olive Weir, Tel 01333 340642 or email

jamandlor1@gmail.com



Kilconquhar Church Gate

The Family Team Report

The picnic on the Toll Green on the 7th July went well with 40 adults attending and even the sun shone. Many children took part in the Scripture Union Holiday Club and it was good to see some of the children coming along to the Sunday Services.

In September we plan to use Scripture Union resources which are aimed at teaching the children all about Jesus in a fun approach. In the first lessons we learn to respond, with thanks, to our forgiving God and discover that Jesus performs miracles and heals people.

Prayer

Thank you, God, for the food we eat;
The clothes we wear and the people we meet.
Thank you, God for the fun we share;
The places we live in and people who care.
Thank you, God for the past few days
For all your blessings, hear our praise.
Amen



Time to get together and enjoy some food and fellowship!

Friendship Lunch in Elie Church Hall at 12.30

11 September, 9 October, 13 November, 11 December

Everyone is welcome to come along for soup, rolls and cake.

We look forward to seeing you there!

The Friendship Team



Light Lunches in Colinsburgh Town Hall

28 August, 25 September, 30 October, 27 November at

12.30

Everyone is welcome for soup and pudding!

Any donations to Church funds

Afternoon Teas in Kilconquhar Church South Hall

18 August, 15 September at 2.30pm

Our Drop In Café will move to a new venue from 29 August and will meet weekly in Elie Church on Thursdays at 2.15 till 4.00. The Café provides a friendly welcome and a chance to meet up and chat with friends old and new. We offer endless tea or coffee and a biscuit for the small charge of £1. Great value! Please do join us one Thursday afternoon very soon at Elie Church Hall from 2.15pm.



Drop In Café reopens 29 August

****In Elie Church Hall****

THE GUILD

We will begin our actual 2019-2020 Session on 2nd October with a Welcome Afternoon Tea and Quiz. We will then learn from Rae Wallace about being a minister's wife.

On 30th October we will hear all about the Port Chaplains' Society, this being one of the National Guild Projects. In November, Graham Meacher will tell us about the Postal Service in the East Neuk, then another National Guild Project – Seema's Project {Free to Live}. However - before all that we will celebrate Guild Week at its new time in September with our annual celebrated Guild Week Coffee Morning in Elie Church Hall, 10am on 14th September and will also take part in the Guild Week Service on 29th September. Everyone is welcome to the Guild so come and meet your friends or make new ones, hear interesting, and sometimes challenging, speakers and enjoy tea/coffee, cake and biscuits.



WOMEN'S GROUP

We start our 2019-20 session on 5th September and meet monthly on the first Thursday of the month in Elie Church Hall at 7.30pm. We have a very interesting syllabus lined up with topics ranging from fish and chips in Monaco to the beauty of the Orkney Islands via everywhere in between! Our outing next summer will be to the RNLI in Anstruther.

We definitely have something for everyone so please come and join us.

Mwandi News

Keith and Ida will be home soon and are coming to Elie . We plan to hold a coffee morning with their presentation afterwards on Saturday 21st September in Elie Church Hall from 10am.

Please keep this date free if you can and watch out for posters nearer the time.

OUTREACH

We held our usual Walk & Feast through Balcarres Estate in June and were very happy to be able to give £86.50 in donations to the East Neuk Food Bank. We hosted Erin Spence's concert in Elie Church on Friday, 26th July. In the musical vein, we also hope to host a concert by the Strathkinness Scots Fiddle Group on Saturday, 5th October in Elie Church Hall and also an evening with the St Andrews Baroque Ensemble in Elie Church possibly on 10th November. We also anticipate holding our usual Harvest Lunch after the Harvest Service at the end of October.

FOODBANK

We continue to take the generous donations of food collected in the churches to the East Neuk Food Bank, 10 bags of food being taken in July along with the cash donations from the Walk & Feast. The volunteers there are exceedingly grateful for this, as unfortunately the need for the Food Bank is increasing rather than decreasing. Please keep on handing in donations at any of our church services for this much needed charity or by contacting Pat Rowan on 330 474 when we can arrange to collect goods.

East Neuk Trinity Church: "Well Equipped Spaces in the Right Places"

In response to the General Assembly Radical Action Plan 2019, Presbytery has reviewed and categorised our buildings measuring them against a set of 12 criteria points that were agreed by Kirk Sessions across the Presbytery.



Kilconquhar Church – B
Elie Church – B
Elie Church Hall – B
Toll Green Hall – C

Category B means that the building is expected to be closed during the lifetime of the Presbytery Plan.

Category C means the building is expected to be disposed of as soon as possible.



Toll Green Hall
Category C is non-negotiable. We will need to close and sell the building as soon as possible.



The other buildings categorised as B present a challenge to us. We will need to look at what we do – our mission – and all the spaces we use for mission across the whole parish.



The Kirk Session has already started to do this and is looking closely at what we do, what mission activities we would like to do in the future across the whole parish, and what spaces are the right spaces for our mission activities across the parish



We do not need all our present spaces, and those we do need require considerable reshaping. We also need to make use of spaces that are not ours.



If you would like more information please come along to Elie Church Hall on 15th September 12 – 1pm or Kilconquhar Church Hall on 22nd September 12 – 1pm or Colinsburgh Town Hall on 29th September 12 – 1pm.

A copy of the Radical Action Plan can be obtained from the Church Office, 331404, or viewed on The Church of Scotland website www.churchofscotland.org.uk

Remember – our church is our people and not our buildings

Your Church Needs You!!

Mission Statement: To Share the Good News of Jesus Christ Across Our Whole Parish

Report from the Manse Acquisition Committee for the linked charge of St Monans and East Neuk Trinity.

The Committee met with Lomond Home at the Pittenweem Road, Anstruther site to find out how progress is going on plot 6, our new manse. The builders, started development of the site at the end of April some 16 weeks ago and progress has been quite speedy. I'm sure as you have passed the site you will have seen the walls and roof going up, our build is the one at the back of the site and to the town side. The road into the site is in the final stages of completion, when finished the main part of the road into the site will be tarred, with the section in front of plot 5 and 6 being mono blocked. The roof is complete and the plumbers, joiners and brick layers are all working on the house now. All the alterations that we requested to make it suitable as a manse have been made. The builder is confident that smooth progress continuing they will meet the deadline of 25th October. The name of the road is to be Reaper's Lane.



The New Manse

LEARNING GROUP

Soon there will be new books in the Church Library. These will include a series on Intercessory Prayers and 'A History of the Bible' by John Barton, reviewed as a 'Tour de force' by the Sunday Times. Please feel free to make use of the library which is split between Elie Session Room and Kilcomquhar South Hall. Also keep an eye out for current and up-coming courses and study groups.

Monthly evening bible study resumes August 29 continues to look at The Acts of the Apostles. The study group is held in the South Hall, Kilconquhar at 7pm, last Thursday of every month.

'Fruitfulness on the Frontline' is the title of the new Bible Study Course on Tuesday Evenings from October onwards. The course will alternate between Braehead Church, St. Monans and Elie Church Hall.

There will also be a Tuesday morning Bible Study starting mid- September at 10.20am in Elie Church Hall.

This is **very** exciting - an Alpha Course is proposed from January 2020 onwards. Please watch out for future details.

**HARVEST FESTIVAL
Kilconquhar Church
Sunday 27 October
at 11am
followed by Harvest Lunch**

WHAT THE CHURCH MEANS TO US

Douglas and Mariana Paul



When invited to write this article, we approached it from two very different perspectives. Mariana was raised in a Communist country in which religion played no part in her family life whereas the Church has been an integral part of Douglas's life from childhood to adulthood.

Mariana

The Eastern Orthodox Church in Bulgaria has survived four hundred years of Ottoman rule and half a century of Communism but its culture and traditions are poles apart from those in this country. There is no tradition of community spirit or voluntary service in Bulgaria even in villages and life has revolved around the family. Generally speaking, the church has not been a unifying force in society and churchmen – and they *have* all been men – have been typically regarded as aloof and self-serving.

During the period of Communism, churches were not places of worship and the role of priests was concerned with guardianship of historic monuments. After Communism, lands were returned to the Church and its wealth has derived from this. Sadly the Church has remained unreformed and it has relied upon superstition and fear to assert its authority. The only saving grace of the Church in my mind is the splendid iconography.

While I had no religious education, I did develop a curiosity about world religions in my teens. In my spare time at school and university, I presented children's programmes for a national radio station and, after the fall of Communism, I was asked to read bible stories as part of this. That was my only encounter with Christianity.

Given this background, you can imagine the culture shock which greeted me when, with Douglas's encouragement, I attended my first church service in Kilconquhar – a pleasant surprise to put it mildly!

CHRISTIAN AID

Following completion of the 2019 Christian Aid Week programme, funds were sent off to their regional offices. East Neuk Trinity raised £1305.72 this year. Letters of acknowledgment are on display on the notice boards in both of our churches and the Church Hall.

The series of summer book sales at Elie Church gates during selected Saturdays morning during July and August raised £207.35. The exercise gave visitors the opportunity to ask about Christian Aid, and to see your committee at work in the community.

Thank you to everyone for your support this year.

Andrew R Millar

LINKWORDS

Fit 10 words into the grid so that each one links with the end of the word on its left and the beginning of the one on the right. Then unscramble the letters in the shaded squares to make a word. Clue: *Festive ornaments* (11)

DINNER							DANCING
LITTLE							WORK
MASHED							SALAD
CHOCOLATE							JAR
FAIRY							OUT
CHRISTMAS							LEVEL
STERLING							LINING
GOLD							PLAYER
SOFT							STRAWS
SCENTED							STICK
HIT							GROUND



WEATHER



R F Y D R I Z Z L E R D C V S
 E M W Y B R C E X W Z D F U U
 D O I L A W C X F V B H O K N
 N R N Y D G Y L B G F T G E S
 U C D S X E R U O P A S E D H
 H A W R T M N J U U K M N B I
 T J I K O R P M N B D C E W N
 X Q A Z B O M J Y H G S F R E
 A L I G H T N I N G T Y H U L
 F M T X W S L P D X Z E R T L
 Q D M X T H I T W T R D W V P
 Z V N J R D Q S G K J O B G F
 C M I S T P U O F C N E S X Z
 B G T R F C D R W S X Z A Q W
 M L P I U G F F W S A H A I L

SUNSHINE

SNOW

WIND

CLOUDS

MIST

LIGHTNING

DRIZZLE

HAIL

FROST

FOG

THUNDER

STORM

Douglas

To give some insight into how my relationship with the Church has been shaped, perhaps a brief history of my 'church life' is appropriate.

When I was growing up in St. Andrews, I regularly attended a thriving Sunday School at St Leonards Church. Our minister was the Rev. Andrew B McLellan. His son Andrew who later entered the ministry himself, was a school friend of mine and he remains a good friend to this day.

My family moved to Montrose when I was seventeen and the local Parish Church became our spiritual home. While away at University in Dundee I joined the Youth Fellowship at St Mary's Parish Church along with fellow students. The minister there was the Rev. Hugh Douglas whose book, 'Coping with Life' helped me through the loss of my father at the age of nineteen. During my father's illness from cancer, the power of prayer was brought home to me through the intervention of Cameron Peddie, a well-known minister in the West of Scotland who possessed healing powers. My mother contacted him when my father was beyond further treatment and through prayer he was able, miraculously, to prolong his life, even to the extent of going back to work after he had been given days to live. Fortuitously, a local minister in Montrose - George Fox - was similarly gifted and, through his ministry, my father spent his final weeks free from pain, to the astonishment of our doctor.

Needless to say, this experience made a profound impression on me. Another influence around this time was William Barclay, Professor of Divinity at Glasgow University through his inspirational television broadcasts.

The first seven years of my career were spent in Glasgow and I was fortunate to be a member of St John's Renfield Church where the Rev. James Simpson was minister - another inspirational leader who became well known through his humorous books and later became the mainstay of Dornoch Cathedral for many years.

My career then took me south of the Border for the next twenty years and this is where my two children grew up. We joined the United Reformed Church, this being the nearest equivalent to the Church of Scotland and I served as church treasurer for most of these years.

The 1990's saw spells of working abroad including two years in Athens where there was a thriving ecumenical church led by an American pastor. On returning from Greece in 2000, I started a new life in Kilconquhar, having come full circle back to Fife and it is here that, with Mariana, we are giving young Theo the start in life that has been the anchor for me.

From the foregoing, it may be surmised that I am a traditionalist who values the simplicity of the Church of Scotland service, free from elaborate ritual. The role of the minister is particularly important in this context and we realise that the absence of a regular minister in the East Neuk Trinity has been a challenging time for the congregation. We do hope that the local community will soon have the spiritual leadership it deserves.

While a more evangelical type of church does not appeal to me personally, I do appreciate that it can fulfil spiritual needs as evidenced in the case of my son James who is committed to his Fellowship in Perth.

Clues may run forwards, backwards, diagonally, up or down. Some may overlap or even be backwards!

Drop-in Café Photographic Exhibition 2019

Topic: Landscapes in the East Neuk Trinity Parish. Photographs of views taken this summer should be handed in at **Elie and Kilconquhar Churches** in **July and August** or the **Drop-In Café from 29th August**. They will be on view on Drop-in Café days.

Please give name and address and location. **Open to all.**
Non-returnable.

Suggested printing on A4 size copy paper. Post card size acceptable.

Enquiries to:

Bob Mitchell 01333 330 642: kingscroft@care4free.net

*Remember the new venue for the Drop-in Café.
From 29 August, the Café will be in Elie Church Hall
and not in the Toll Green Hall.*



Remembrance Sunday 10 November 2019

Act of Remembrance at:
Kilconquhar War Memorial 11.00am
followed by service in Kilconquhar Church.
Elie War Memorial at 12.25pm
Colinsburgh Town Hall at 1pm
followed by refreshments

SUNDAY SERVICES (all at 11am)

1st and 3rd Sunday in Elie Church
2nd and 4th Sunday in Kilconquhar Church
If there is a 5th Sunday, in Colinsburgh Town Hall

15 September, the service will be led by The Guild, in Elie
27 October is the Harvest Festival (see separate notice)

During the service, after the second hymn, the young people may leave and go to young people's church to learn about the work of Jesus.