

Update



27 February



**OUR VISION: WE ENCOURAGE ALL TO
WORSHIP GOD, FOLLOW CHRIST, SERVE OTHERS**



NEWTON CHURCH & HALLS



THE MANSE



PANBRIDE CHNURCH

Photographs curtesy of George Stewart

The Presbytery Mission Planning Group are beginning to meet with Kirk Sessions to discuss their vision for their church including use of all their buildings.

It is hoped that the draft Mission Plan will be ready before Easter

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Church of Scotland Scottish Charity Number SC004594

MUSINGS FROM THE MANSE



Dear friends

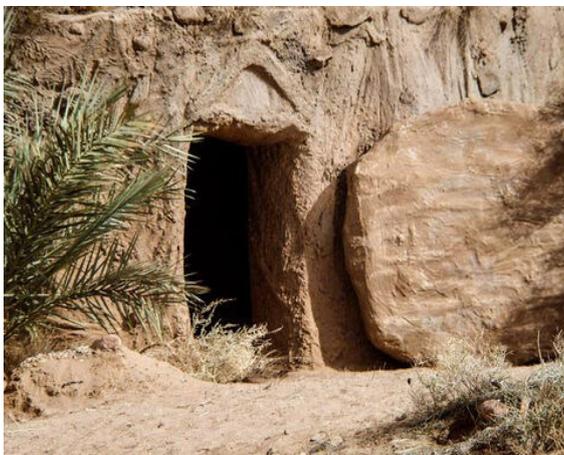
It has been a busy few months in the church. We have been “live streaming” our Sunday morning services to Facebook since November and although there are some problems still to be ironed out especially with the sound, it is wonderful to be able to reach members of our congregation and others who are not able or ready yet to come back to church. There have also been a few requests for funerals to be livestreamed and we have been able to offer this to families for the sake of those who are not able to attend the funeral.

We have recently welcomed back the children of the FOG Squad and our young people of JAFFA and although numbers are low at the moment, we hope they will swell as time goes by and the Covid infection numbers slow down. Our halls are very busy almost every day of the week and it has been great in recent weeks to see the return of the Friendship Circle and the Alzheimer Carnoustie Drop-in Group. Of course, we can never be complacent. We remember full well how all our plans for Christmas services were scuppered with the rise of the highly infectious Omicron variant.

However, we look forward to the Spring and Summer months with hope. Two weddings are planned for early summer and our prayer is that these weddings will be able to be the wonderful celebrations that the families have planned. We also hope to have our Men’s Breakfast and Coffee and Chat back in our church halls. And I hope that Lent and Easter will feel a bit more “normal” this year. We plan to have a Lent bible study, “From Now On”, based on the movie, “The Greatest Showman”, and all our usual Holy Week and Easter services in person this year.

The Pandemic has come and has brought change. For some, maybe for all of us, life will never be the same again. However, as we begin to plan for Easter, we remember we are “children of the resurrection” (Luke 20:36).

For every cross in our lives, there is a resurrection.



Blessings

New Communicants' Classes



Are you ready to take the next step in your journey of faith?

New Communicants' Classes will start shortly for those considering membership of the Church of Scotland.

Please do contact Annette if you require any further information.

01241 854478
agordon@churchofscotland.org.uk

Moment for Meditation



Stated Annual Meeting

Date for this has still to be set and will be announced in the Intimations in due course.

Uprooted

Out walking in the woods, a still sky is soporific after the latest storms. Apart from a few wood pigeons clattering, all is quiet. Yet, the trees collectively breathe and their regular pulse is silently beating. Leftover leaves twitch and rustle. Their staccato notes match the song of the whispering trees. Creaky branches bend in the now gentle breeze. All is well.

There is a delicate beauty as the winter tree skeletons display their individual shapes. Their canopies etch their patterns against the sky like a monochrome kaleidoscope. The conifers provide a platform for old nests built on the flattened branches. Their canopies are dense and sombre. Either side of the paths the trees are lined up like sentinels. Giant trees are rooted to the spot, secure and steadfast. Grounded in the earth, they stand tall and proud. I relish their strength while acknowledging their gentle beauty. All is well.

This was the scene before the winter storms struck. Then suddenly, frequent, ferocious winds blew in, leaving a trail of destruction. These woods once symbolic to me of strength and extraordinary grandeur are now devastated. The landscape of these familiar, friendly woods has been altered dramatically. Where once trees stretched ever skyward gaps have appeared waiting to be filled. Shafts of space exposed and vulnerable are newly opened. All has changed.

Broken trees now bare and uprooted are strewn everywhere. Their fibrous roots once full of hidden, raw power are exposed for all the world to see. Root systems so cleverly woven to provide the support their tree needed are now untangled. This interior of hidden strength not readily or naturally shown is now exposed. The sight of these giant trees once rooted to the spot but now flattened is a sorry sight. Lying on their side, ancient trees, young saplings evergreen or deciduous, the storms did not differentiate. Broken branches are scattered far and wide.

The wind did this; unpredictable winds which arrived suddenly and are responsible for all these changes. I think the pandemic has been a bit like that. The winds of change blew in and our lives were uprooted. Old familiar ways were changed with little warning. We were no longer grounded in the comfort of familiarity. For a long time, very little felt static and steadfast. While the ease of restrictions is very welcome it brings with it the need for more change, more adjustments. It feels like a continual movement. We have had to learn to bend and sway in time with these changes.

Yet while we may have had to face these winds of change during the pandemic we are still grounded. We can change and adapt to change because we have roots which are secure, steadfast and strong We are rooted in our faith.

“At least there is hope for a tree: If it is cut down, it will sprout again, and its new shoots will not fail. Its roots may grow old in the ground and its stump die in the soil, yet at the scent of water it will bud and put forth shoots like a plant.”

Job 15:7-9

Gillian Cook
February 2022

Flamingo Cards

I now have the new Flamingo Card Brochure. There is a nice selection of good quality cards and paper. If anyone would like to see the new brochure, you can get me after the Sunday service or I can deliver a copy if you give me a phone on 853919. As usual, 10% of all sales go to Church funds.

Pat Taylor

The Five Marks of Mission

Life and Work, the magazine of the Church of Scotland is currently featuring a series of articles about the five Marks of Mission. They are being written by Thomas Baldwin the Deputy Editor of the magazine

Their use will be very prominent in all aspects of Church Life in the years ahead. As only a small number of members of the congregation subscribe to the Life and work Life this article, which is based on the first two instalments in the series, is an attempt to introduce the congregation to what The Five Marks of Mission as the Minister will be including this topic in her sermons during the Season of Lent.

So what are The Five Marks of Mission?

1. To promote the Good News of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth

They could be further summarised as TELL, TEACH, TEND, TRANSFORM, TREASURE

The five Marks of Mission are not new as they have been in use for almost 40 years but the first reference to them in the Church of Scotland was in 2018. They are an attempt to define the elements of mission for the Church of the 21st century.

At last year's General Assembly the then Moderator the Rev Dr Martin Fair said "I've heard it said so many times that, for the church, it's not about numbers. It absolutely will be about numbers if the numbers are so low that the church can no longer run the social care programmes (CrossReach) or local caring services because the local church isn't there anymore."

He continued by saying "So I long for the Church to be about that Kingdom work but, oh boy,... how we need the Church to be refreshed, renewed, revitalised, remade and yes, reformed that it might do it more effectively...we better see to (Marks) one and two if we are going to be any good at three, four and five."

The first Mark of Mission is to Proclaim the Good News. How do we do this? We in the church need to rediscover how this is done. Our confidence in the gospel has been eroded. We live in a post modern world where to have faith is considered naïve and outdated. As a result we can be reluctant and even embarrassed to share the Good News.

One of the barriers we currently face in proclaiming the Good News is that we are somewhat fixated with decline. Declining numbers, declining ministers, declining churches and declining income.

What is actually happening in the world and in the Church of Scotland is no surprise to God. He knows and sees it all. He has also made sure that, whilst we may be a remnant in an increasingly secular Scotland and UK, that numbers in terms of people and finances have never been a barrier to God's Kingdom coming and advancing. Christ's Kingdom can survive in the midst of such a challenge.

If you wish to get a copy of Life and Work on a regular basis please speak to Mary Bushnell or place an order on line at www.lifeandwork.org

DT.

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PT.

Two Prayers

I am Thankful For

I am thankful for
 The mess to clean up after a party
 Because it means I have been surrounded by friends
 The taxes I pay
 Because it means that I am employed
 The clothes that fit a little too snug
 Because it means I have enough to eat
 My shadow who watches me work
 Because it means I am out in the sunshine
 The spot I find at the far end of the parking lot
 Because it means I am capable of walking
 All the complaining I hear about our government
 Because it means we have freedom of speech
 That lady behind me in church who sings slightly off key
 Because it means that I can hear
 The lawn that needs mowing, the windows that need cleaning
 And gutters that need fixing
 Because it means I have a home
 My huge heating bill
 Because it means that I am warm
 Weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day
 Because it means that I have been productive
 The alarm that goes off in the early morning
 Because it means that I am alive

Nancy J Carmody

That Time of Year Copied from Life and Work

Lord we have sung of the bleak midwinter,
 And of how out of darkness we have light,
 The familiar words of the familiar carols,
 Words of joy, of peace, of love, of light,
 Of how you bring light and life to all

We are in that time of year.

The time of darkness,
 Of short days and long nights,
 When we are assaulted by darkness
 And we long for light.

We are in that time of year.

The time of looking back,
 When we thought of the year that had passed,
 Remembering all we have been through,
 Giving thanks for your presence with us
 In all the trials and anxiety, we have faced.

Lord, at this time of year be light for our lives
 In these dark days,
 Bring us the hope of your inextinguishable light,
 May we go forward in faith,
 Supported by the joy, peace, love and light
 Which only you can bring us

Be with us in all this year holds,
 The known and the unknown
 The planned and the unplanned
 The joy and the sorrow
 The hope and the anxiety
 And may we walk always with the ONE who is
 Light of the world

Amen

Anon

JAFFA

JAFFA started back on 6th February!

JESUS And FUN For ALL - S1 – S6 pupils

Meeting in the Panbride Hall on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month at 11.00am.

We plan to have a wide range of indoor activities including craft, discussions, music, films, games and in the warmer weather outdoor fun activities.

Our aims are to enable our young people to participate in activities they enjoy with the underlying themes of

Caring for others and ourselves and Caring for God's World.

We are hoping you will join us!

Susan and Janie



Fog Squad

Fog Squad are back as well

It has been lovely to have the children back after Christmas.

We have continued to explore stories from the Old Testament using the Beginners Bible and The Lion's Kids Bible Comic.

This is an example of the art completed by the children after hearing the story of Joseph.



Christmas Post

The Boys' Brigade and The Scouts wish to express their thanks to all those who used their delivery service for Christmas cards. The amounts raised by both was around £2,000 and will be used by both. T to assist with ongoing costs.

Fundraising

As restrictions are slowly being lifted and seating in the Panbride Hall is limited to 38 at the present, it has been decided to wait a few months before we organise a Coffee Morning.

This might be a last-minute event so any intimation about it will have to be done via the pulpit if there is not an issue of Update due.

Helen Harley

Friendship Circle are also back

Mrs Susan Hamill has agreed to organise meetings and she chaired the first meeting on 1st February when those present enjoyed a time of singing, quizzing and tea. On the 15th February the meeting consisted of a very informative talk on cycling Without Age Carnoustie when Mrs Lorraine Young told the ladies and gentlemen present of her Committee's efforts to set up and raise funds for the very worthy enterprise whereby elderly and infirm passengers can enjoy a tour of Carnoustie in the recently purchased trishaws. On 1st March we will be hearing about Monifieth Men's Shed, and that will be followed by a meeting on 15th March but the topic for that date has still to be confirmed.

Please come along and join in -- we meet every 2nd Tuesday at 2pm in Panbride Hall

Dorothy Fyffe

Toys

When the Peter Pan Playgroup closed they left all the toys they had accumulated over the years in Newton Hall and said they could be taken by anyone/group interested and suggested those who took some of the toys could make a donation to the church.

There are however still a considerable number of toys left. If anyone or any group would like to see what remains they should get in touch with Mary Bushnell (whose contact details are in the church Directory on the back page) and she will arrange access to the cupboard where toys are stored.

Tea and Coffee after Morning service



Tea's and Coffee's are now being served after the Sunday service. I was planning to start a rota again and would be grateful if anyone who was on the previous rota would let me know if they are available to help. If anyone is interested in joining the team could they also please let me know on 852088.

May I take this opportunity who has helped with the tea's and coffee's at any time past or present

Margaret

Congregational Register

Baptisms:

Ava Catriona Gray 21/11/2021
 Oliver James Grant Turnbull 21/11/2021
 Scott Ringsell 28/11/2021
 Isla Elizabeth Allen 06/02/2022

Deaths:

Cathie Craigie* 09/11/2021
 Isabel Liness 14/11/2021
 Alexander Edwards 16/12/2021
 Mary Taylor* 16/12/2021
 James Lindsay 16/12/2021
 Sandy Wallace 25/12/2021
 Ellen Fulton* 28/12/2021

*Member of congregation

New members by Public Profession of Faith:

Elaine Ramsey 28/11/2021
 Scott Ringsell 28/11/2021



Flower Rota

March 2022

6th Marion Palmer
 Dougal Grant
 13th Karen Penrose
 20th Pat Sawyers
 27th Lesley Thomson

April 2022

3rd Joan Davidson
 10th Beth Lee Smith
 17th June Black
 Susan Hamill
 24th Rosanne Porter

May 2022

1st Dorothy Blacklaws
 8th Val Nicoll

A Reminder

If you change your address please let either the Minister, your Elder or the Church Secretary know so that the Congregational Roll can be kept up to date. Telling us of any change to landline or mobile phone number or e-mail address is just as important. Thank you.

Update

The scheduled date for the next issue of UPDATE is 24th April 2022

Large print copies are printed for each issue. If this would be helpful to you please let me know and arrangements will be made to deliver a copy to you.

If you would like to change to an e-mail copy please send me an e-mail (dmct1@btinternet.com) and arrangements will be made to send future issues by e-mail