



From the Minister

For the first time in over two years I was able to attend Southmuir Primary School's end of term Easter assembly. What a joy it was to hear the whole school singing Spring and Easter hymns with such gusto, and to share something of the Easter message from the Easter readings that were also done. These moments are becoming more common and an indication that we still have much to look forward to.

The first two readings at the school assembly brought us to the crucifixion and then I was invited to speak. We considered the many symbols and signs that are for this time – from Easter eggs (of course) to lambs, bunnies, and chicks. We know why they are all there but I wondered if the small wooden cross I'd brought was the 'odd one out'. Every other thing we mentioned seemed to be 'good' – chocolate! cute animals! holidays! A cross surely reminds of something horrible?

Of course, that's very true, but the Easter story doesn't stop at the cross and continues to the resurrection (and that was the final reading after my bit). Easter offers a rich, deep well from which to examine and understand our faith, but that moment it was enough to consider that even after something so horrible as the crucifixion, God's love was still to be found and the promise of new life was there.

A simpler message for primary school, but one we might take to ourselves as we reflect on the many difficulties and tragedies we've faced over the last two years. God's promise is one of faithful love, even through the darkest times, and the encouragement to find new life in Him every day.

Have a blessed Easter, and may it be filled with the hope and promise of God's love.

John





Kirriemuir Parish Church



Cortachy Church



Oathlaw Tannadice Parish Church

The Church of Scotland in Angus

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Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9.30am – 12noon & 2pm – 4pm

Friday 9.30am – 12noon

www.gkupc.org

Scottish Charity Number SC015123

www.OathlawTannadice.org.uk Scottish Charity Number SC006317

Caring for God's Creation

Fairtrade Church



Retirement of Rev Linda Stevens

**We would like to invite you to join us at
Linda's last Sunday service
on 1st May at 11.15am in Kirriemuir Parish Church.**

**Linda will retire from full time ministry and her role as
Team Minister
in the West Angus Area Ministry, based in
The Glens & Kirriemuir United Parish Church.**

Linda will remain as a volunteer and continue to support pastoral work.

**We hope you will join us at this service on 1st May.
We plan to enjoy tea/coffee and cake and share a
few stories after the service.**

If you are unable to come along you will be able to
view the service on www.gkupc.org
or the WAAM YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/c/WestAngusAreaMinistryWAAM>



Bernard Ighner wrote this short poem called 'Everything must change'

Everything must change;
Nothing stays the same
The young become the old;
And mysteries do unfold
Cause that's the way of time;
Nothing and no one goes unchanged...

I share that at this time when we, as a national church, face a great deal of change. There are reviews being undertaken to assess the use of church buildings, the number of ministers is to be reduced, new presbyteries are being formed and parish boundaries are becoming more flexible.

For many of us we are facing changes in our personal lives. Whether that is due to illness, bereavement, work changes, retirement, altering family situations, moving house or something else. It can be unsettling, frightening, worrying and we are not sure how we will cope. We can be inspired and encouraged by turning to God's word and especially, to looking at God's people in the past.

Just think of the Israelites of old. They spent forty years wandering in the wilderness. They'd pitch their tents, get set up, get settled, and then the cloud or the pillar of fire would begin to move. And off they would go... again.

We too have got to move with the cloud. We've got to learn to respond to change positively. God never stays still - is always working. And we've got to learn to move and work with God.

Thomas Merton wrote one of my favourite pieces. It was a piece that helped to set me on a new path at a time of uncertainty in my life. He wrote:-

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going.

I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end.

Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so.

But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you and I hope that I have that desire in all that I am doing.

And I know that if I do this, you will lead me by the right road although I may know nothing about it.

Therefore, will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death, I will not fear, for you are ever with me and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

One way or another, today is today, and the path we are on is our pathway. How might we navigate our way? How might we not only accept the inevitability of change, but embrace and even become an active participant and agent of change?

How might we *welcome* change as a gift?

Perhaps by turning to God with the buoyancy of the three things scripture suggests will never change: a little faith, a little hope and love?

God bless you all, Linda

The Glens & Kirriemuir United Parish Church



Celebrating 127 years of the 1st Kirriemuir Boys' Brigade

We would like to invite you to join us on

Sunday 10th April

at

Kirriemuir Parish Church

11.15am

to celebrate 127 years of the
1st Kirriemuir Boys' Brigade Company

As we note the closing of the Company, we would like to say farewell and a sincere thank you to everyone who has supported the Company over the years.

All former Boys, staff and volunteers are warmly invited to join us.



Holy Week

Maundy Thursday Service –
14 April, 7.30pm at Tannadice
Church.



If you would like to attend, contact John
Orr JOrr@churchofscotland.org.uk

Good Friday Service – 15 April, 7.30pm
at Kirriemuir Parish Church.
No pre-booking required.

Easter Sunday Services – 17 April
10am Tannadice Church
11.15am Kirriemuir Parish Church
11.15am Cortachy Church

Tim Podger (Candidate in Training for Ordained Local Ministry)

Tim has been with us at GKUPC since
September last year with Linda as his
Supervisor. He is now coming to the end
of his placement. Tim's last service with
us will be on **Easter Sunday, 17 April at
Cortachy Church. This will also be
Linda's last Sunday service at Cortachy.**

The Scottish Government - Face Covering Rule Changes

You are no longer required by law to
wear a face covering in places of worship.
Coronavirus has not gone away, so at
GKUPC we would like to encourage the
wearing of face coverings in the church
until Monday 18 April in line with other
indoor venues. If you choose not to wear
a face covering in church, please be
respectful of others who may wish to do
so and please keep a respectful distance.
Side pews will be kept for those who
wish to have some space and keep their
masks on for the next few weeks.

Please note: there will be no service at
Cortachy Church on Sunday 1st May.

Baptisms

*"He took the children in his arms, put his hands
on them and blessed them"*

Maisie Hunter

Deaths

"I am the resurrection and the life"

Andrew Simpson
Robert Spalding
Ann Ewart
Winnie Kelly
Jock Kerr
Marguerite Grimmond
Neil Wallace



Kirriemuir Churches Together

April's meeting will be held on
Wednesday 27th April, 7.30pm at the
Glens Kirriemuir United Parish Church.

Have a Blessed time this Easter as we
remember the ultimate sacrifice that
Jesus made so that we might be forgiven
and have eternal life with Him.

'An Easter Hallelujah'

<https://youtu.be/-j3NZEedHQal>

'Risen' - New Easter Song

<https://youtu.be/xCQsK1t9EKY>

'Because He Lives'

<https://youtu.be/-LwBqG7uXby>

God Bless, Malcolm Brown



If you have
continued to collect
Jars of Change for
Water Aid over the
last couple of years, please hand your
change in to the church office or bring
it to church on Easter Sunday. Thank
you. [https://www.wateraid.org/uk/get-
involved/fundraising/lent-appeal-jars-
of-change](https://www.wateraid.org/uk/get-involved/fundraising/lent-appeal-jars-of-change)

Photo Exhibition

Thank you to everyone who entered the photo competition! The exhibition of photographs will be held on –

Friday 29 April
Saturday 30 April
and
Tuesday 3 May
10am – 12 noon.

Please come along and vote for your favourite photographs to feature in the 2023 calendar.

There will also be a display of previous calendars and a slide show of many of the photographs that have featured in the calendars.

GKUPC Cleaner

Diane Walker will retire from the cleaning position at the end of April.

We would like to thank Diane for all her hard work keeping our buildings clean and safe for all to use during the pandemic.

Amanda Leeson will take on the role along with her work at Thrums Tots.

WILLIAM LYALL

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DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal

A thank you letter from the Disaster Emergency Committee for the £2230 raised at the recent Book Sale and £386 donated by the Guild –

To The Glens & Kirriemuir United Parish Church,

Thank you for donating £2616.00 to the DEC's Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal. Thanks to your generosity, DEC charities and their local partners are able to provide vital relief to people in Ukraine and in neighbouring countries.

Your support is helping us meet the needs of refugees and displaced people by providing food, water, health assistance and trauma care.

You can stay updated with all the vital work DEC charities and their local partners are doing in Ukraine and in neighbouring countries with your support by following us on Facebook or Twitter.

Like us on Facebook -

www.facebook.com/DisastersEmergencyCommittee

Follow us on Twitter -

www.twitter.com/DECappeal

Your gift will make a real difference in helping families fleeing conflict. The need is great and the response needed is likely to run into months and years. On behalf of all those your donation will support, we want to say thank you once again.

Ash, DEC Supporter Care Team



**DISASTERS
EMERGENCY
COMMITTEE**



Kirriemuir United Parish Church Guild

The last meeting of the Guild year of Kirriemuir United Church Guild took the form of a short Songs of Praise followed by an afternoon tea. Ann Findlay welcomed members and said how happy the Committee were to be able to have the meeting. Hymns chosen by Margaret Inglis, Elsie Nicoll, Muriel Farquharson, Ruth Fraser and Ivy Ray were accompanied by Elizabeth McLeod. Readings were done by Chris Horrocks, Charlotte Brown and Pat Burns and Mary Morrice said a prayer.

Afternoon tea provided by Kirrie Dumplings was then served and was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. As the food was in individual boxes, leftovers were taken home to enjoy later. Happy Birthday was sung to 90 year old Dawn Robertson and Ann presented guest Linda Stevens with a gift from the Guild on the occasion of her forthcoming retirement.



Ann thanked Elizabeth McLeod for playing for the hymns, Kirrie Dumplings for the afternoon tea, John Reioch for his ongoing help in setting up for meetings and everyone who had contributed to a very successful afternoon. She reminded members about the Songs of Praise in Edzell on May 26th and the Annual Gathering in Edinburgh on 10th September which members can view in the small hall from 10am to 3.30 pm. (Please bring your own lunch but tea and coffee will be provided) As places will be limited, Ann asked that anyone wishing to attend should let her know (Tel. 01575 218462}. Look out for news of the new Guild year beginning in September. New members both men and women will be made very welcome.

Because it was originally intended to have a buffet lunch costing more than an afternoon tea, there was money left over. Members requested that the surplus be sent to the Ukrainian Humanitarian Appeal and the Guild is pleased to send £386 to the Appeal.



Dawn & Ann



Linda & Ann

World Scout Jamboree

In Summer 2023, some 40000 Scouts, plus many others, from all over the world will gather near Seoul, South Korea. Here's what two Scouts from Tannadice and one from Kirriemuir have to say about it and what they're doing to make sure they can get there.



Ollie Hay

Hello my name is Ollie Hay, I have been selected for the World Scout Jamboree which will take place in South Korea next year. This will be an amazing get-together for scouts all over the world on one massive camp. I am really looking forward for this as this will be the experience of a lifetime. This involves raising a substantial sum of money, so I will be doing lots of things to raise the money including a big raffle which has over £600 worth of prizes and a massive bike ride which I will be doing with my Dad. I am doing lots more fundraising events in the future including having a stall at the Angus show.



Ilona Graham

Hello, I'm Ilona Graham, an explorer scout from Tannadice, and I have been selected to be one of 36 young people to create the East Scotland unit going to the 25th World Scout Jamboree in South Korea, in July and August, 2023.

The Jamboree happens every 4 years, and next year it will have around 50,000 people attend. We will be in Korea for around 3 weeks, taking part in lots of activities, while meeting new people and learning about their cultures.

We'll also get to go to Seoul for a few days before the Jamboree and explore the city with our unit, who we will get to know over the next 16 months through the training process.

Financially, this trip costs £4000, and I am fundraising by holding events like an afternoon tea on the 24th of April at Memus Hall.

If you'd like to support Ilona or Ollie in their fundraising efforts, please contact the Minister to get the appropriate contact details or contact Tannadice Scout Group for more information.



Finlay Crawford

Hi my name is Finlay Crawford and I am a 16 year old, Explorer Scout, born and brought up in Kirriemuir. I have been lucky enough to be selected for the World Scout Jamboree 2023 in South Korea and I have attached a link to the Scout website with some further information.

<https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/running-your-section/international-scouts-and-events/international-events/wsj/>

I am excited to attend the World Scout Jamboree because it will be a great opportunity to meet other Scouts from all over the world and to learn all about South Korea and their culture.

To be able to attend, I have to fundraise £3265. It is a large amount of money but I will have a Stall at Bonfest doing a tombola, a hamper and spin the wheel game and I am currently running a lucky square raffle for the chance to win a 10 in 1 Morphy Richards precision cooker, kindly donated by Colin Smith. Squares are £2 each and can be purchased by contacting my mum at leaca82@gmail.com. I also have a Just Giving page set up, please see link below if anyone wishes to donate. Thank you.

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/leaca-crawford-1?utm_term=pPnYEpxqr