

St Margaret's News

May/June 2016



In this Issue...

BibleWorld Visits St Margaret's!

"Ritchie's Gleanings"

Roof 'n' Youth Fundraising

And much more!



Letter From the Minister

Rev Dr I M Greenshields

Dear Members and Friends of St. Margaret's,

I received an invitation from someone the other day asking if I would like to go to a concert. There was a certain amount of reservation in the invitation in case I declined. I was delighted to be asked and readily agreed to go.

On Sunday June 5th, I am setting every member a challenge. We are going to have a Special Guest Service. The Service will be designed to be shorter than normal and “friendly” to the person who is not used to coming along to church. It will very much be designed to spark an interest in Faith, Jesus and Church. My challenge to every one of you is to invite someone to come along:

- Pray first of all about who you might ask.
- Give a simple invitation – the worst anyone can say is “no” and that is not the end of the world!
- Offer either to take them with you to church or to meet them outside the church.
- Encourage them to stay behind for hospitality.

Some people have said to me that they do not know any younger people to ask. I am not asking you to invite younger people but simply any friend you know of any age.

On the 19th of June we have our Communion Service. As this is going out to all members this is your invitation to come to Communion. We will have two very different kinds of services – one in the morning at 10am and another, less traditional service at 7.15pm. Please make this a priority to be at – even if it has been some time since you have been at church – let this be a kick-start to renew your faith and commitment to church.

In times when the whole church in the UK is generally in decline and society is becoming more and more secular it is up to us to grow and remain strong in our faith and make a statement to our society about our Faith.

God bless you,

Iain

BIBLEWORLD

We had an exciting week in April - more than 350 young people from Touch and Commercial Primary Schools came to see **BIBLEWORLD**, which (*as you can see from the cover photo*) was situated outside of our church.

All of the children who came found it a rewarding experience – much to their surprise I think – and went away with a positive understanding of the Bible and the Christian Faith. The teachers who attended with the pupils also spoke highly of the educational and personal value of the whole experience for the young people.

My thanks to Presbytery who gave us a grant that enabled us to cover the cost [nearly £1500]; to the Bible Society for such an innovative project; to all of the volunteers from the Church who gave their time and who themselves learned such a great deal from the experience.

STOP PRESS.....STOP PRESS.....STOP PRESS

Great News! We received word on Thursday 28th April that the Church of Scotland “Go for It” fund had agreed to give us a grant of £27,000 covering three years to help us employ a part time Youth and Family worker. This, with the £18,000 we already have in grants from Presbytery and church giving allows us to start the process of looking for a suitable person. Thank you to everyone who has prayed for this outcome.

The Rev.



NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Hello - and welcome to Spring! Not very Spring like weather as I sit watching a flurry of snow falling outside – but then that only means that May and onwards can only get better!

Couple of new entries in the magazine this time. In the finance report you will see that we are now including the income and expenditure figures for this year and last year so you can see a comparison. Thanks to the treasurer Moira Watson for supplying this and I hope you find it interesting. The other new feature comes under the heading of “GLEANINGS FROM THE SESSION CLERK”. I did feel that Ritchie has a lot he can contribute in terms of keeping you updated on matters he deals with but also to give a view of how he works with the minister to plan out ideas the future of St. Margaret’s or indeed to give thoughts on whatever he feels like!! I do hope you enjoy this first one from Ritchie – I was certainly delighted that he agreed to submit this.

The BIG piece of outreach activity recently has been the arrival of the BIBLE WORD “bus”. It adorned the car park for a week and certainly brightened up the landscape. I felt that it would also brighten up the front cover of the magazine this month so this will give all those who could not attend an idea of what was happening – fuller report further in the magazine along with some more photographs of the inside of the “bus”.

Thanks again to David Langskail, the Editor of the 39th Fife Scout Magazine , for allowing me to use a couple of pages from their magazine. It is so good to keep up to date as to how the Group is progressing. These are of course just a couple of pages out of what is a very informative magazine. BUT – what about the other organisations?? It would be good in particular to hear about the activities of the Guides, Brownies and Rainbows - please!!

Some of you I know will be aware that Iain has not been enjoying the best of health of late but he continues to deliver the word of God in an exciting, motivational and moving way. Please remember him and his Family in your prayers.

Keep well – and remember that you are not alone!

Ross Kerr

Editor

COMMUNION

You are all invited to take part in Communion on

SUNDAY, 19TH JUNE, 2016.

There will be two opportunities to attend:

Morning Service at 10 am

Evening Service at 7.15 pm

Why not attend both – the evening service is quite different to the morning one – and you cannot get enough of a “good thing” and communion at the Lord’s Table is the best “good thing” around!

The duty list for Elders for this communion are on a separate page so do please check and should you not be able to attend then please inform Irene Cunningham straight away.

Let’s have a “full house!”



Sunday March 20th

Session Clerk: Ritchie Campbell

Senior Elder: Walter Bowie

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| 1. Mrs M Aitken | 5. Mrs N Bowie |
| 2. Mrs A Prentice | 6. I Hamilton |
| 3. Mr M Hynd | 7. J Anderson |
| 4. Mrs F Grieve | 8. T McIntosh |

Reserve: S Foxley

Sunday June 19th

Session Clerk: Ritchie Campbell

Senior Elder: Walter Faichney

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Mrs E Pratt | 5. Mrs I Gillespie |
| 2. Mrs M Ellis | 6. J Adamson |
| 3. Mrs J McAleece | 7. D Clark |
| 4. Mrs I Cunningham | 8. R Kerr |

Reserve: I Telfer

Sunday September 18th

Session Clerk: Ritchie Campbell

Senior Elder: Millar Gordon

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| 1. Mrs M Aitken | 5. I Hamilton |
| 2. Mrs A Prentice | 6. T McIntosh |
| 3. Mrs J Eadie | 7. J McLean |
| 4. Mrs M Hynd | 8. S Foxley |

Reserve : J McLean

Sunday November 20th

Session Clerk: Ritchie Campbell

Senior Elder: Ross Kerr

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Mrs E Pratt | 5 Mrs I Cunningham |
| 2. Mrs M Ellis | 6. J Adamson |
| 3. Mrs J McAleece | 7. D Clark |
| 4. Mrs I Gillespie | 8. I Telfer |

Reserve: J Colville

Sunday January 8th 2017

Session Clerk: Ritchie Campbell

Senior Elder: W Bowie

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| 1. Mrs J Eadie | 5. Mrs M Hynd |
| 2. Mrs M Aitken | 6. I Hamilton |
| 3. Mrs A Prentice | 7. J McLean |
| 4. Mrs J Eadie | 8. S Foxley |

GLEANINGS FROM THE SESSION CLERK

The Editor asked me to do an article for the Magazine entitled "Gleanings from the Session Clerk": I understand gleaning to be the act of collecting left over crops from farmers' fields where it is not economically profitable to harvest the crop. Some early cultures promoted the practice of gleaning as an early form of a welfare system – a forerunner perhaps of the present day "foodbanks".

Does all of that assist me in deciding what the Editor really wants from me? Not really but I am guessing that he is hoping for more than simply a summary of the Kirk Session "left-overs" and is perhaps hoping for some reflections together with an update on what has been exercising the members of the Kirk Session in the past months.

Any review or reflection on what is taking place at St Margaret's must surely start by allowing us to say how fortunate we are to have both Iain and Gordon lead us in Sunday worship. Not only are the messages they bring informative but they are clearly considered and more often than not a source of comfort and reassurance. Add to this the contribution that Allan Morton also makes and by any standard we should count ourselves very fortunate. Mention of Allan allows me to say how glad we were to learn that he is making a good recovery after his recent operation and we pray for his continued recovery.

Thinking then about the Church from both St Margaret's point of view and also the state of the wider Church, it is important to put matters into context. Iain preached recently on the subject of the declining church membership countrywide and after the service I suggested that he had taken a very pessimistic view. No he responded, "an optimistic view." After a subsequent exchange of emails we settled for "realistic". Not only do we as a local Church serving our parish face challenges but so does the wider Church. The National Church is undeniably a Church with an ever declining membership that appears to be also becoming less relevant to the rest of the Nation and is losing its role and its impact on the nation as a whole.

At St Margaret's we face the situation of an ever increasing age profile for our membership as well as a slightly declining role. The younger generation are by and largely missing but we should be encouraged by the success of JAM and its impact on the young people of the Parish. Similarly the Thursday cafe has had a significant impact on the local community. It is also good to see the uniformed organisations on the Sundays when they are present at Sunday worship.

Just over a year ago we adopted, with the approval of the congregation, the "Unitary Constitution" in an effort to strengthen and streamline the way in which we work and bring more focus to our efforts.

The Kirk Session recently considered a review of the progress after the first year of operating in the new structure and decided;

- To revert back to having 4 regular meetings of the Kirk Session each year
- To create a new category of "Honorary Elders". This means that those transferred to this new list will be excused all active duties and responsibilities as trustees in terms of OSCR regulations. They are however still entitled to attend Kirk Session meetings and to speak at the meetings but not to vote. Without exception those whose names have been transferred have given yeomen service to our church and deserve, not only to be relieved of duties, but also to receive our sincere thanks for all the service they have given to St Margaret's over many years.

Is the new structure an improvement? That can only be determined by results in the years ahead but is certainly fair to claim that so far the members of the sub committees are working very hard on the various issues they have to address.

One consequence of the creation of this new category of Elder is that the number of active Elders has been significantly reduced and this is a matter presently being addressed by the Minister and the Kirk Session.

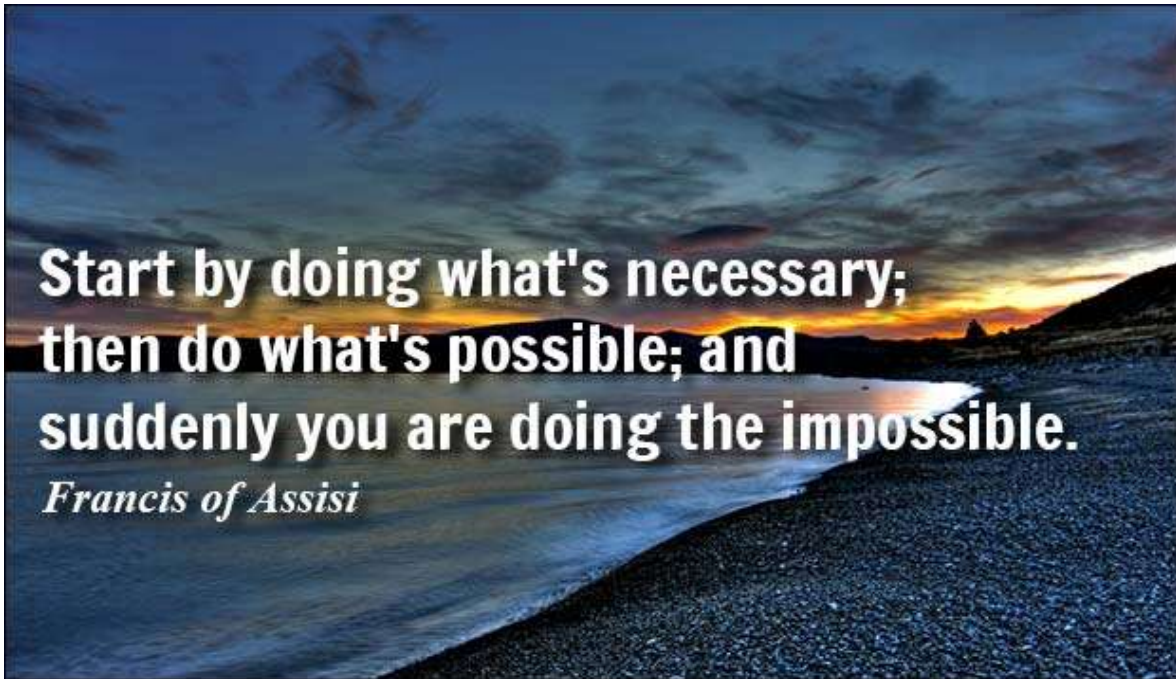
As we have heard regularly from the Minister in recent weeks there are two major projects ahead, firstly the recruitment of a Youth Worker and secondly the work requiring to be carried out on the Church roof. Both require a lot of consideration and practical and financial planning but with faith we can face both as challenges and not as problems.

Other challenges we face are those facing many other organisations and business, Data Protection, Bribery and Procurement, Safeguarding matters and OSCR regulations to name but a few. Such issues are brought together in the outside world under the banner of "Corporate Governance". Surely we as a Church need not be concerned? Ah but yes as advised by both the powers at 121 and the Presbytery Clerk!! They are of course correct and so we have to put in place the necessary policies and then abide by them.

It is no doubt a coincidence but I am sitting outside in the sun at a place called Podcetrtek (think the Editor should have prize available for the first person who can tell him where to find Podcetrtek!) having just finished chairing a group for another organisation which has been tasked with ensuring that the organisation has the appropriate Governance structures in place and is "fit for purpose" in governance terms. Over a coffee I am now considering how best to answer the Editor's request.

Our challenge at St Margaret's is to ensure that we are "fit for purpose", not simply in governance terms but in our state of readiness to take on the challenges of the work of the Church both in our own parish and in the wider church. In striving to reach this state of "fitness" we, the Minister and the Kirk Session, ask that you remember all that we are trying to achieve and do to meet the current challenges.

TRC



**Start by doing what's necessary;
then do what's possible; and
suddenly you are doing the impossible.**

Francis of Assisi

J.A.M. Club

We are happy to report that we have been blessed with several new members and the “new” boys and girls are settling in very well. It is always good to meet new young people who bring fresh ideas and experiences to share with us. Of course, we continue to enjoy sharing news with members who, in some cases, have been coming to J.A.M. Club for five years! Recently, we have celebrated some wonderful achievements....Ellie was chosen to represent her school in a badminton competition and performed really well. Kelly received a certificate for having a great attitude at school....these successes are extremely important to young people and we always love hearing about them!



As always, we try to use stimulating, interesting resources to engage the children's interest in learning about Jesus and have recently purchased the set of DVDs which accompany “The Storybook Bible.” These are excellent for our purpose as the animated stories (narrated by David Suchet) use very “child-friendly” language. To be honest, the adults seem to be enjoying them as much as the children!

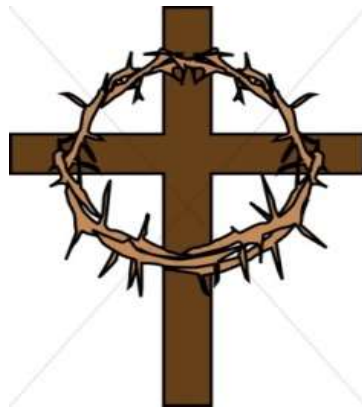
One of our meetings followed the theme of how much Jesus cares for everyone. Using the story of Zacchaeus, the children learned that Jesus loves even those who think that nobody likes or cares about them. This led to discussion about times when we have encountered such feelings....it's wonderful to know that the love of Jesus is unconditional! Our Lord cares and we too should care for people. The plight of refugees has been featured on television and Morna told us about an organisation which is gathering warm clothing for them. The children were encouraged to bring suitable garments to add to our congregation's efforts in helping those in need.



At craft times, the children enjoyed creating beautiful cards and other lovely items to sell at our Easter Fayre. Our sale followed morning service on Palm Sunday and we cannot thank the congregation enough for their generous support which added over three hundred pounds to our funds.

In the evening, Iain led us in worship and afterwards everyone loved eating delicious "party food" as part of our Easter celebration.

So....yes, the children ate chocolate eggs and talked about the Easter bunny.....but they went home knowing there is a much more important reason to celebrate Easter.



School holidays mean a break for us all and an opportunity to “re-charge the batteries!” We will, no doubt, be regaled with lots of news when we resume our meetings on 17th April.....there are always lots of things to talk about at J.A.M. Club.

It will be wonderful to see the boys and girls again.....and a marvellous privilege to continue sharing our faith with them. **Watch this space!**

SNIPPETS

FROM THE YOUNG TO THE NOT SO YOUNG!

A Wee Boy's Grace

A mother took her children to a restaurant. Her 6 year old son asked if he could say grace. As they bowed their heads he said "God is good, God is great. Thank you for the food, I would even thank you more if mum gets us ice cream for dessert. Amen!"

Along with the laughter from the other customers nearby, the boy's mother heard a woman remark, "That's what's wrong with society. Kids don't even know how to pray, asking God for ice cream! Why, I never!"

Hearing this, the boy burst into tears and asked his mother, "Did I do wrong? Is God mad at me?" As the mother assured her son that he had done a terrific job and that God was certainly not mad at him, an elderly gentleman approached the table.

He winked his eye at the boy and said "I know that God thought that was a great prayer." Then he whispered in the boy's ear, "Too bad she never asks God for ice cream. A little ice cream is good for the soul sometimes".

Naturally the boy had ice cream for dessert. The boy stared at his ice cream sundae and without a word walked over and placed it in front of the woman; With a big smile he told her "Here, this is for you. Ice cream is good for the soul sometimes, and my soul is good already."

Philippians 4 reminds us "Don't worry about anything, but in all your prayers ask God for what you need, always asking Him with a thankful heart. God's peace, which is far beyond human understanding will keep your hearts and minds safe in union with Christ Jesus."

WHAT ARE THE SENIORS WORTH?

Remember old folks are worth a fortune with silver in their hair, gold in their teeth, stones in their kidneys, lead in their feet and gas in their stomachs.

I have become a little older since I saw you last and a few changes have come into my life.

I am seeing six gentlemen every day. As soon as I wake up Will Power helps me out of bed. Then I go to see Johnny Loo. Next Charlie Cramps comes along and when he's here he takes up a lot of attention. When he leaves Arthur Ritus shows up and stays around all day. He doesn't like to stay in one place very long so he takes me from joint to joint. After such a busy day I'm really tired and glad to go to bed with Johnny Walker. What a life – oh yes I'm also fighting with Al Zymer!

Beauty Tips

(Linda Adamson kindly handed me this little piece composed by none other than Audrey Hepburn. Don't be put off by the title – it really is quite appropriate! Ed.)

For attractive lips, speak words of kindness.
For lovely eyes, seek out the good in people.
For a slim figure, share your food with the hungry.
For beautiful hair, let a child run his/her fingers through it once a day.
For poise, walk with the knowledge that you never walk alone.



As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands, one for helping yourself, and the other for helping others.



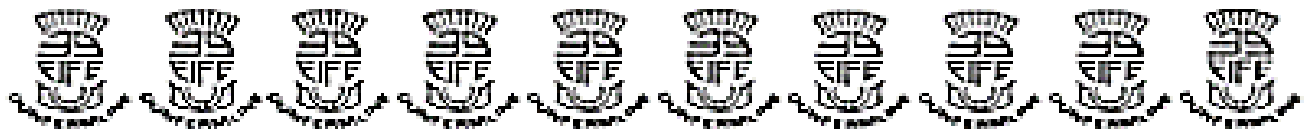
People, more than things, have to be
Restored, renewed, revived, reclaimed and redeemed;
Never throw out anyone. Remember if you ever need
a helping hand, you will find one at the end of each of your arms.

(Many thanks to Linda for handing this in – and of course to Audrey Hepburn for producing such lovely words! Ed)

THE EUROPEAN SITUATION

For anybody who does not fully understand the Europe situation, it is explained very simply in the words below !!!

- Pythagoras' theorem 24 words
- Lord's Prayer 66 words
- Archimedes' Principle 67 words
- 10 Commandments 179 words
- Gettysburg Address 286 Words
- US Declaration of Independence 1,300 Words
- US Constitution with all 27
Amendments 7,818 Words
- **EU Regulations on the Sale of
CABBAGE 26,911 Words.**



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EXECUTIVE EXTRACTS

by David Marr

WELCOME ...

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2016.

FUNDRAISING ...

Our fundraising efforts started in earnest this year with yet another hugely successful Burns Supper. This was the 34th consecutive year the event has been run and is one of the biggest fundraising activities for the Group. We had around 50 people attending this year with a lot of new faces which was fantastic. Entertainment was provided by the Queen Anne Singers and the Dunfermline Speakers Club. In total we generated around £1300 - a brilliant sum. Many thanks to all of those parents, Leaders and Scouts who helped make the event the success it was.

Your continued support for our fundraising activities is critical to the Group. The recent "Rag Bag Collection" also raised over £50 which is great.

The money we have raised will be put to good use over the coming months in maintaining the hall and supporting Group activities.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ...

As mentioned in our last newsletter, we are trying to reduce the amount of paper we generate as a Group. You may have noticed an increase in electronic communication and we will continue with this where practical in the coming months. Indeed, this is the first newsletter that will be made available through our revamped website.

This activity is part of our ongoing drive to become more environmentally friendly. Another facility we will shortly see is the new cycle shelter which we recently took delivery of. This will be installed in the coming weeks just in time for the better weather (hopefully!) and lighter nights.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ...

Join the
committee



Our long standing Secretary, Fiona McCreddie, will be standing down from her position at our next AGM in June. This is an essential role on the Executive Committee and vital to the smooth and ongoing running of the Group. If any parents would be interested in joining the Executive Committee and helping the great Leaders run a successful Group then we'd be delighted to hear from you. If you are interested then please do get in touch with myself, Fiona or Keith - contact details are on the notice board.

Many thanks

David





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GSL's GLEANINGS

by Keith Strachan

WELCOME ...

Welcome once again to our quarterly magazine report.

ONGOING ITEMS ...

As part of our 'green' initiatives, following receipt of our grant from CCF to replace the hall roof, windows etc. to provide better insulation, we are just about to install a cycle shelter to encourage Scouts and adults to cycle as the lighter nights come in, rather than taking the car.

Another initiative is to make better use of our Group website and try to move to a paperless society by uploading and saving letters, forms and the magazine on the website and drawing attention to activities through use of the Calendar facility, text and e-mail.

The Beavers and Cubs are already there with the texts and e-mails. However we need to complete some data confirmation with regard to mobile numbers and e-mail addresses to implement this for the Scouts and Explorers. More information regarding this will be issued shortly by our Executive Committee.

GROUP ACTIVITIES ...

The Sections have been busy since returning after the Christmas holidays. Some of our Explorers participated in a Winter Camp at Hawickirst, Kielder Water in January. Also Scouts and Explorers assisted with the Burns Supper in January.

However, we had a very disappointing turnout for our "Thinking Day" Service at St Margaret's Church, Touch in February with only 13 out of a total of 123 attending. As always this was a very interesting Service and I would like to thank those Scouts and parents who did attend. Those present renewed their Scout Promise alongside the impressive turnout of girls from the Guides.

The Beavers have just enjoyed a very successful sleepover and I am sure there will be plenty information on this in their magazine report. The photos on Facebook looked excellent.

Next up for the Group is the District Swimming Gala on 20 March when we hope to have full teams from the Cubs, Scouts and Explorer Sections and to try and retain our trophies from last year.

CAMPS & CAMPING ...

From Easter we will be into the Camping Season and we are looking forward to our first Family Camp at Crook of Devon in May to Celebrate the Cubs 100th Birthday, the Groups 80th and the Beavers 30th! We have 15 or 16 Families attending and it should be a great weekend.

In June we are holding our Group Camp for all the Sections at Bamsly Scout Outdoor Centre which is situated on the edge of Edinburgh with direct access to the Pentlands. The Guide sections from our Church are also joining us over the weekend and this again should be a fun weekend for all.

Scouts and Explorers will then have the opportunity to go to Summer Camp the first week in July which this year sees us returning to Distan Scout Campsite near Hexham, Hadrian's Wall country. We have a good programme organised and Summer Camp is always a great experience for the Scouts and Explorers.



AND FINALLY ...

With the lighter nights coming in, all the Sections will be getting out and about and given the numbers we now have in each Section we will be looking for parents to get involved and help out when required.

Please do volunteer!

Keith

THANK YOU

Jim and Betty Mackie thank members of the congregation for their messages of congratulations on the occasion of their Diamond Wedding.

GIFT AID 2015 Delighted to report that Gift Aid recovered for 2015 will amount to £15,574.88. An amazing figure and one that is achieved by merely contacting Audrey McArthur to agree to join in the gift aid scheme which at the end of the day costs you nothing but gives the church some great income. For the first quarter of 2016 we have recovered £4,105.50 – a great start and if that keeps up will pass the figure for 2015 – but it could be even greater still if you agreed to this for yourself. PLEASE NOTE that should you be advised by HMRS that you will NOT now be paying income tax, please advise Audrey McArthur immediately.

A big THANK YOU to Audrey for the work she does to recover this money for us.

AUDREY LAWRENCE would very much like to thank Iain and all the congregation members who have given her so much help, support and kindness during the past year. It has all been very much appreciated and I am very grateful to you all.

(Ed's note: - this should have appeared in the last issue of the magazine but due to an oversight by the Editor it was missed. Apologies to Audrey)

NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEES

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Fundraising Committee have not had another meeting this year, so we better get our skates on then. As the afternoon tea was such a success last year we are thinking of repeating it. We are hoping to having it on 17th May, 14th June, 19th July and 16th August, this is only a suggestion and will be confirmed when we have our meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Within our church we are continually facing new challenges, we are still working hard trying to reach out to the surrounding community and the parish as a whole. This brings with it financial challenges which we are doing our best to deal with sensibly and responsibly. Along with all the other committees we are working for the good of our church, our members and all of those people who potentially could become part of our family here at St. Margaret's. I hope you will agree that the church has been greatly improved by all the works that have been done over the last few months and that the money has been well spent. There were a number of people who donated their time, expertise and money to these works and without them we could not have done as much as we did so we owe them a huge debt of gratitude. If anyone has any comments, queries or suggestions we would be delighted to hear from you. You can talk to any member of the committee or drop a note in the black post box on the upper landing outside the Rita Elder Hall.

Our financial position remains stable and though we face a major challenge ahead with the replacing of the church roof I think we should be able to manage the costs with the help of grants, loans, donations and our reserves. There will be a dedicated fund raising committee set up for this purpose. Your prayers in support of our efforts would be appreciated.

Thank You

Moira

INCOME	2016 £19,308	2015 £17,661
EXPENDITURE	2016 £ 24,543	2015 £31,925

Pastoral Care in our Church

The Pastoral Care Committee met in mid-February to discuss the current health and wellbeing of members who are on the Pastoral Care Roll. Time was given for the sharing of news relating to each person. Visits continue to be made regularly and feedback shows that these visits mean a great deal to those who are, unfortunately, no longer able to attend church services.

Although they may not be able to actively participate in church life, those folks on our Pastoral Care Roll are always very interested to hear about developments in St Margaret's.....whether it's how the new roof appeal fund is progressing or how many children are coming along to J.A.M. Club each week!

Sadly, in recent months, we have lost several members of our church family and the subject of bereavement has been an important focus for our meetings. Support during these difficult, sad times is greatly appreciated by people who have lost loved ones and we are currently considering practical ways in which this area can be developed.

We are delighted with the response to our initial trial of "Playlist for Life" (the creation of cds which are made specifically for the musical taste of each individual.) Very positive feedback has been received and we hope to continue this programme. Our sincere thanks go to Millar Gordon who has now produced a great variety of cds.....from Scottish dance tunes to favourite classical music.

The Minister and the Roll Keeper have met to review the current Pastoral Care roll and have added six members. Their intention is to meet, on a regular basis, to ensure that extra pastoral support is given to members in need.

As always, we would ask that if you become aware of someone who would benefit from such help, please alert Jim Adamson (Convenor of the Pastoral Care Committee. Tel 01383 727719)



Etta's Charities and World Mission News

DUNFERMLINE FOODBANK UPDATE

Thank you once again for the contributions to the foodbank, 70kg has been collected.

Thanks to everyone who contributes, the Foodbank team are grateful for all donations. There is now a blue box on the top landing next to the Rita Elder Hall for contributions.

Items urgently needed are: juices (either long life or diluting), sponge puddings, mashed potato, sugar, non-food items such as washing up liquid, soap powder, gents deodorant and shaving foam.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 15 – 21 MAY 2016

A coffee morning to be held after the church service on 15 May. All proceeds to Christian Aid Scotland.

NEWS SNIPPETS FROM THE WORLD MISSION COUNCIL

USED STAMPS – The Church of Scotland HIV Programme appeal in 2015 raised £3511 for their funds.



This year the Stamp Appeal will support the Church of South India's Othara Eco-Spirituality Centre. The church of South India is the largest Protestant Church in India and was established in September 1947. It brings together Protestant churches including Presbyterians, Anglicans and Methodists and has 3,500,000 members. In India 2.3% of people are Christian.

'God created all living and non-living things to coexist in a rhythm and equilibrium, which we often call ecological balance. Ecological disasters

befall us when this balance is lost', Bishop Thomas K. Oommen, Deputy Moderator of the Church of South India.

The Church of South India (CSI) has recently opened the Othara Eco-spirituality centre near Thiruvalla in Kerala. It is a place where people can come to learn about climate change and the importance of conserving the earth God has given us.

This year the Stamp Project will support some of their ecological innovations including the harvesting and re-use of rain water, the establishment of a biogas plant to power the kitchens and the development of a small dairy and chicken farm for native breeds.

Through retreats and conferences, CSI hopes that the knowledge people gain at the centre will inspire them to live sustainably and encourage others in their community to do likewise. They want to encourage people to appreciate and understand that 'caring for the earth is not only a calling, but a lifestyle.'

Stamps can be posted to World Mission Stamp Project, PO Box 9191, Wishaw, Lanarkshire, ML2 0YB or deposited in the envelope on the notice board in the Rita Elder hall.

HEART AND SOUL EVENT 2016

Sunday 22 May 2016: 2.00pm – 6.00pm

East end of Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh treat yourself to soup lunch in aid of the Church of Scotland HIV Programme.

'Heart and Soul' is a regular event to celebrate the life and work of the church alongside the annual gathering of the Church of Scotland's General Assembly.

PEOPLE ON THE WAY

Karen Liddle from Forfar East & Old tells us about her congregation's journey with their twinned congregation Zuglo Reformed Church in Budapest.

THE WAY WE DO THINGS: IT'S GOOD TO TALK

Church of Scotland HIV Programme Coordinator Marjorie Clark tells us about a project supported in Pakistan.

One woman said that taking part in this project has been the singular most life-affirming experience of 20 plus years of living with HIV.

Read more of this inspiring story in the current magazine.

Extracts from World Mission April/May 2016 magazine. The full magazine can be downloaded from www.churchofscotland.org.uk or I can supply you with a paper copy.

Etta Pratt

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WARM CLOTHES FOR REFUGEES

St Margaret's JAM Club would like to say a BIG THANK YOU to everyone who contributed warm clothing to their Refugee appeal. During Lent, the Jesus and Me Club were thinking again about the Syrian (and other) refugees in need of help. They started a small collection of warm clothing, to be donated to the charity **Re: Act Scotland**. Thanks to the generosity of folk from St Margaret's, three carfuls of donations, sorted by age and size, along with drawings and short messages of love and friendship from the children, have been delivered to the Re: Act Scotland's collection point at 24 Calton Road, Edinburgh. JAM Club has stopped collecting now, but if you'd still like to help, see the charity's website at <http://www.re-act.scot/>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tea & Coffee Rota

June 5 th	Mrs. Cunningham	Mrs. Gillespie	Mrs McAleece
12 th	Mrs. McIntosh	Mrs Grieve	Mrs Smith
19 th	Mrs Brown	Mrs Moultrie	Mrs Todd
26 th	Mrs. McCulloch	Mrs. Gray	Mrs. McEwen
July 3 rd	Mrs. Prentice	Mrs. Pratt	Mr&Mrs Kemp- McKinnon
10 th	Mrs. McCulloch	Mrs Evans	Mrs. Maureen Hynd
17 th	Mrs. Bowie	Mrs. Robertson	Mrs. Stevens
24 th	Mrs. McArthur	Mrs. Scoon	Mrs. Telfer
31 st	Mrs. Wilson	Mrs Todd	Mrs. Smith

Women's Fellowship

The Women's Fellowship has had a very successful session and would like to thank all our guest speakers who entertained us. Next year will be the 50th anniversary of the Fellowship and we would like to make it a special year. We wish everyone a good summer break. We resume in October and look forward to another session of fellowship and worship.

Men's Breakfast Group

7th May "How can we successfully attract young people to the Christian Faith?"

Discussion led by Pastor Jimmy Dowds, The Vine Church, Dunfermline,

This is the final discussion of this session and it fits in very nicely with what we are trying to achieve at St. Margaret's – so come along to both listen to – and give – new ideas!

NOT TO BE MISSED

Once again we are indeed fortunate that **the KINGDOM SINGERS ANNUAL SPRINGTIME SERENADE CONCERT** is coming to St. Margaret's. This will take place on TWO evenings – Friday 27th and Saturday 28th May, 2016, and will commence at 7.30 pm on both evenings. Admission – including refreshments – is £8 and £5 for Associate Members. Tickets can be obtained through the website

www.freewebs.com/thekingdomsingers

or at the door or indeed by contacting Elizabeth Brown at Church or on 01383 733956. What a bargain – GREAT singing, GREAT value!

FLOWER CALENDAR 2016

Date	Donor	Tel No.	Arranger	Tel No.
Jan 3	Mr & Mrs Kerr	726663	Audrey McArthur	728128
Jan 10	June McAleece	724992	June McAleece	724992
Jan 17	Pam Moultrie	622329	Coleen Watson	721285
Jan 24	Joan Stevens	720059	Marion Aitken	735996
Jan 31	Rosina Hynd	720222	Marjory McIntosh	726342
Feb 7	Joan Eadie	721992	Joan Eadie	721922
Feb 14	Pam Moultrie	622329	Nancy Bowie	737779

Feb 21	Mr&Mrs I Watson	721285	Coleen Watson	721285
Feb 28	Mr&Mrs T McIntosh	726342	Marjory McIntosh	726342
Mar 6	Mr&Mrs Short	725119	Audrey McArthur	728128
Mar 13	Moira Watson	07766295705	Marion Aitken	735996
Mar 16	Joan Stevens	720059	Marion Aitken	735996
Mar 20	Isobel Gillespie	720199	June McAleece	724992
Mar 27	Mr&Mrs W Bowie	737779	Nancy Bowie	737779
Apr 3	June McAleece	724992	June McAleece	734992
Apr 10	Mrs Kemp-McKinnon	733922	Marjory McIntosh	736242
Apr 17	Marion Aitken	735996	Mrs Marion Aitken	735996
Apr 24	Lorraine Stevenson	721075	Audrey McArthur	728128
May 1	Val Evans	727557	Coleen Watson	721285
May 8	Mr&Mrs A Prentice	852426	June McAleece	724992
May 15	A McArthur	728128	A McArthur	728128
May 22	Helen Bell	725753	Nancy Bowie	727779
May 29	Jean Todd	724953	Marion Aitken	735996
Jun 5	Mr & Mrs J Cunningham	731947	Mrs J McAleece	724992
Jun 12	Margaret Scoon	733937	Marjory McIntosh	736342
Jun 19	Mrs M Brown	721661	Merva Brown	721661
Jun 26	Mrs E Pratt	731525	June McAleece	724992
Jul 3	Margaret Ellis	727565	Margaret Ellis	727565

Jul 10	Mr and Mrs T McIntosh	726342	Marjory McIntosh	726342
Jul 17	Mr&Mrs W Bowie	737779	Nancy Bowie	737779
Jul 24	Flower Fund		June McAleece	724992
Jul 31	Mr & Mrs M Gordon	729630	Coleen Watson	721285
Aug 7	Jean Todd	724953	Jean Todd	724953
Aug 14	Mrs M Aitken	735996	Marion Aitken	735996
Aug 21	Mr&Mrs T McIntosh	726342	Marjory McIntosh	726342
Aug 28	Mrs M Grant	725493	Nancy Bowie	737779
Sept 4	J Strang	722026	Audrey McArthur	728128
Sept 11	Mr& Mrs Short	725119	June McAleece	724992
Sept 18	Val Evans	727557	June McAleece	724992
Sept 25	Margaret Orr	737080	Coleen Watson	721285
Oct 2	Mrs Jean Todd	724953	Jean Todd	724953
Oct 9	A Turner	726216	Nancy Bowie	727779
Oct 16	Audrey McArthur	728128	Audrey McArthur	728128
Oct 23	Mrs V Wilson	720250	Marjory McIntosh	726342
Oct 30	Audrey McArthur	728128	Audrey McArthur	728128
Nov 6	Mrs M Watson	07766295705	June McAleece	724992
Nov 13	Mr&Mrs W Bowie	737779	Nancy Bowie	737779
Nov 20	Mr&Mrs J Cunningham	731947	June McAleece	724992
Nov 27	The Guild	721314	Coleen Watson	721284

Dec 4	Marjory McIntosh	726342	Marjory McIntosh	726342
Dec 11	Merva Brown	721661	Marion Aitken	735996
Dec 18	Moira Watson	07766295705	June McAleece	724992
Dec 29	Mr & Mrs I Carlton	721049	Audrey McArthur	728128

Please could arrangers swap if these dates are unsuitable.

St. Margaret's Parish Church, Touch

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CALENDAR FOR DELIVERY OF FLOWERS
3rd JANUARY - 25th JUNE 2016

January	3:	Ross and Janet Kerr	726663
	10:	Manuel Giraldes	07817904591
	17:	Walter and Nancy Bowie	737779
	24:	Audrey McArthur Merva Brown	728128 721661
	31:	Syd Foxley	725178
February	7:	Marion Smith	726510
	14:	Catherine Gray	732849
	21:	Eleanor Loudon	721256
	28:	Jim and Fiona Grieve	831614
March	6:	David Clark	734484
	13:	Janet Gresty	728104
	20:	Margaret Hynd	721314
	27:	Maureen Chapman	725049
April	3:	Rachel Wilson	734696
	10:	Jim and Linda Adamson	727719
	17:	Christine Hunter	721802
	24:	Isobel Gillespie	720199
May	1:	John and Sheila McLean	726919
	8:	Sheila McIntyre	735352
	15:	John and Diane Hynd	739341
	22:	Pam Moultrie	622329
	29:	Val Evans	725557
June	4:	Bobbie and Norrie Kemp McKinnon	733922
	11:	Ian Hamilton	738123
	18:	Walter and Nancy Bowie	737779
	25:	Manuel Giraldes	07817904591

Please free to change with members of the team if the date selected
suitable

ORGANISATIONS

The Guild - Meet on the Second & Fourth Monday of the month at 7.15pm in the Rita Elder Hall – contact Margaret Hynd on 01383 721314

Bowling Fellowship - Meet every second Monday in the main hall at 6.45pm. Contact Tom MacIntosh on 01383 726342

Women's Fellowship - Meet from October to April on the first & third Wednesday of the month at 2.00pm in the Rita Elder Hall. It's a small group and newcomers will be made very welcome. Contact Mrs Helen Bell on 01383 725753

Swingnastics – Meet from September to May every Wednesday in the Rita Elder Hall at 10.00am Contact Catherine McCulloch on 01383 734463

The Craft Group - Meet on Thursdays in the Rita Elder Hall at 2.00pm. Contact Audrey McArthur on 01383 728128

Banner Group - Meet on Thursdays in the Rita Elder Hall at 2pm Contact June McAleece on 01383 724992

Ladies Badminton - Meet for social Badminton every Wednesday at 10.00am - 12 noon in the Church Main Hall. Contact Cherry O'Sullivan on 01383 720594

Men's Breakfast Group - Meet monthly on Saturdays from September - May at 8.30am. Contact Gordon Brown on 01577 840248

YOUTH

Sunday Club & Crèche - Meet in the Church at 10.00am on Sundays during Morning Service. Contact - Helen Webber on 01383 736486

JAM (Jesus And Me) CLUB –Meet Sundays in term time at 5.45pm - 7.15pm (or 8pm for Seniors). Contact Linda Adamson on 01383 727719

GUIDES

Rainbows - Meet every Tuesday in the Rita Elder Hall at 6.15pm - 7.30pm Contact Ann Laird on 01383 727515

Brownies – 2nd Dunfermline Pack meet on Wednesdays in the Downstairs Hall 6.15pm - 7.45pm. Contact Susan Guild on 01383 727167

2nd Dunfermline Guides meet on Wednesdays in the Rita Elder Hall at 7.15pm - 9.15pm. Contact Margaret Moyes on 01383 723003 or mob 07403 778879.

2ndA Dunfermline Guides meet on Thursdays in the Rita Elder Hall at 7.15pm - 9.15pm. Contact Anne Simpson on 01383 410490 or 07972181351

BEAVERS - CUB SCOUTS - SCOUTS - EXPLORER SCOUTS

Meet in **the Scouts H.Q. Carron Grove**
Contact Keith Strachan on 01383 735399.

Beavers - Mondays 6.30pm - 7.45pm

Cubs - Tuesdays 7.00pm - 8.30pm

Scouts - Wednesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Explorer Scouts - Thursdays 7.00pm - 9.00pm

OFFICE BEARERS

MINISTER

Rev. Iain M. Greenshields
38 Garvock Hill,
Dunfermline 723955

READER

Gordon Brown
Nowell
Fossway, Kinross-shire
01577 840248

SESSION CLERK

T. Ritchie Campbell
1 Pitbauchlie Bank
Dunfermline 725516

DEPUTE SESSION CLERK AND CHURCH SECRETARY

Irene Cunningham
2 Whyte Walk
Dunfermline 731947

ROLL KEEPER

Jim Adamson
8 Garvock Hill
Dunfermline 727719

CHURCH OFFICER

Manuel Girdas
137 Fod Street Halbeath
tel 07817904591

ORGANIST

Heather Kelsall
78 Keltyhill Road
Kelty 01383 830215

TREASURER

Moira Watson
14 Hailes Place
Dunfermline
07766295705

ST MARGARET'S MAGAZINE EDITOR

Ross Kerr
75 Scotland Drive
Dunfermline 726663

Registered charity no. SC 007080