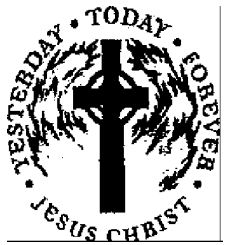
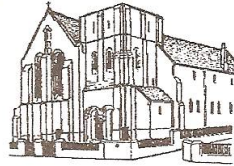


CONTACT



The Parish Magazine
of
CARNOUSTIE CHURCH



No 467

Mar 2017

From the Minister's Desk

“I have been crucified with Christ, and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”

Galatians 2: 20-21

Dear Friends,

This year marks the 500th Anniversary of the beginnings of the Protestant Reformation, as we remember that Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the door of the Wittenburg Castle Church. As part of marking this anniversary, we have been following a series on Paul's letter to the Galatians in our morning services.

We've been thinking about the Gospel of Grace – the way that forgiveness and membership of God's family comes from the free gift of God, not through our own 'good works' and righteousness. It challenges our thinking about God Himself, as we see Him not as a demanding tyrant, but a loving Father.

And so this Gospel of Grace transformed the Church in Europe – and here in Scotland – as these principles changed the way members and ministers thought and acted in worship and in witness.

(continued)

The Church of Scotland's very form was shaped by this Reformation, but over the centuries our denomination has continued to change. Worship, buildings, parishes, ministry, organisation, all of these things have changed and are changing still.

Today we face new challenges as the Kirk herself is shaken by the realities of the 21st Century. Falling membership, closing buildings, financial difficulties and lack of ministers are bringing with them a sense of crisis. What lies ahead, we wonder, and how do we face this future?

Rev Dr Doug Gay gave the Chalmers Lecture series in St Giles in February, looking at where we have come from, and giving a forthright analysis of the state of the Church of Scotland and the choices facing us. These have been recorded and we will be showing them in the Philip Hall in April (19th, 26th) and May 3rd at 7.30 pm.

With the opportunity for discussion afterwards over coffee and tea, we'll explore the implications for the continuing reformation of the Church of Scotland and for our own local congregations.

As we face the challenges of change for the future, we can be glad of the anchor of the unchanging Gospel of Grace and the hope we have in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Yours in the Grace and Peace of our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

Mike Goss.

CARNOUSTIE CHURCH ANNUAL STATED MEETING

SUNDAY MARCH 12
after the morning service

*Carnoustie Church is a registered charity.
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THE CHURCH ORGAN

It's difficult to believe that it is over twenty six years since the major rebuild of our organ. Since then it has led the praise reliably on Sundays and at many other services, including recent large funerals when the church has been filled to capacity. It has also been played in recital on a number of occasions. However, wear and tear has taken its toll on the internal moving parts that control the various ranks of pipes and it has become necessary to undertake the most substantial repair work in a quarter of a century.

Last year the Kirk Session gave approval for re-leathering of the 116 valves that control the entry of air to the individual pipes, and for the replacement of nine of the control motors that switch on and off the different ranks to vary the character and volume of the sound. It was originally planned to carry out the work in stages over three years to spread the cost of £11,490, but thanks to a generous charitable grant of over £10,000 from Carnoustie Golf Links Management Committee, it has been possible to undertake all the refurbishment without delay. The skilled work has now been carried out by John Lightbown & Sons, the firm of organbuilders who rebuilt the instrument in 1989 and who have maintained it since.

The Church's financial contribution to the project has used up the reserve in our Organ Fund and in order to replenish it for the future a Retiring Offering will be invited at the Communion services on April 23.

Peter Thornton.



FRIDAY COFFEE BREAK



Our February coffee breaks were well attended and it was good to see and hear the buzz of Coffee Breakers enjoying the coffee and home baking provided by hostesses Effie Bruce and Margaret Gruber.

The next coffee breaks are Fridays 17th March and April 7th in the Philip Hall from 10 - 11.30am. Come along and join us. *Evelyn.*

YOUR MINISTRY OF FLOWERS

Sun Mar 5	Mrs Y. Eaton and Mrs N. Murdoch.
Sun Mar 12	Mrs I. R. Johnston and Mrs N. Watson.
Sun Mar 19	Mrs D. Armstrong and Mrs A. Gall.
Sun Mar 26	Mrs E. Mann and The Flower Fund.
Sun Apr 2	Mrs S. Dow and Mrs M. Duffus.
Sun Apr 9	Mrs A. Fenton and Mrs S. Lindsay.
Sun Apr 16	Mrs J. Brown and Mrs H. Thomson.
Sun Apr 23	Mrs D. Taylor and Mrs P. Thornton.
Sun Apr 30	Mrs J. Robertson and Mrs A. Thornton.



PRAYER FOCUS

We offer these thoughts to add to your own prayers:

1. **New Members** – Pray for those who have joined or who are thinking of joining the Church in the near future.
2. **South Sudan** – Remember the suffering of so many in this war-torn young country, now facing the reality of famine.
3. **Addiction** – Pray for families torn apart by the scourge of alcohol, drugs or gambling.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

From Sunday April 9 (Palm Sunday) until Sunday April 16 (Easter Day), there will be the normal pattern of daily worship throughout the town. Full details of the venues and times will appear in the April edition of CONTACT.

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STAMP CORNER

Royal Mail has just issued a set of six stamps and a miniature sheet featuring one of Britain's most recognisable and historic landmarks, Windsor Castle. Royal Mail's photographic celebration of the building offers a mix of exterior and interior views, which are enjoyed by almost a million visitors every year.

The accompanying miniature sheet focuses on the interior of St. George's Chapel, a spectacular place of worship within the grounds of the castle. Begun in 1475 by King Edward IV, it is the spiritual home of the Order of the Garter, Britain's highest order of chivalry. Founded by William the Conqueror in 1080 Windsor Castle was simply part of a chain of fortifications established around London following the Norman Conquest, but King Henry I began to turn it into a royal palace in the early 12th century, and it remains an important royal residence today.

This year sees the 25th anniversary of the 1992 fire in which 115 rooms were destroyed or badly damaged and the 20th anniversary of the completion of the rebuilding work. Today more than 500 people live and work in Windsor Castle, making it the largest inhabited castle in the world.

Hopefully we may eventually see the odd stamp from this issue in the collection box at the back of the Kirk but used postage stamps of any description are always welcome.

Allan MacLaren.

COMMUNION DUTY — MARCH 26

Audrey Duncan, Mandy Ferguson, Gordon Hampton, **Irene Hoar**, Alan Lindsay, Alex McGill and Pat Thornton/Rhona Goss.

The team will be responsible for getting the Church ready for Communion, serving the elements and tidying up afterwards i.e. washing the glasses and putting everything away including the chairs and Communion Table.

NEWS FROM CROSSREACH

The first mailing of 2017 has arrived from CrossReach. The magazine is a substantial publication packed full of interesting articles. Guild members are sharing a few and one copy is on the table at the back of the church.

Included is a 2-page spread of CrossReach Week when the Moderator of the General Assembly visited many of their projects. One of his comments was that "CrossReach helps the Church of Scotland to be the Church."

For many of the projects, the focus is on improving the quality of life for people in their care living with dementia. The Heart for Art project has expanded to 9 groups, so bringing that therapy and enjoyment to more families. The advent of "Self-directed Support", though not rolled out to everyone, has meant that CrossReach has employed an officer to challenge the way services are offered. She says that Personalisation is not about the way services are funded, it **is** about how you see people, their value, their choices and how you empower them in every aspect of their life.

Also many happy stories of creative ways the homes have taken their residents down memory lane. You must read those for yourself.

On the table too is one of the Prayer letters which is a neat little booklet with a page of ideas for each week this quarter. Have a look at it.

There is still time to enter the competition to design their Christmas card for Christmas this year. Entries need to be in by the 27th of March. Please do include CrossReach and all its services in your prayers. To continue those, they need funds so please also pray that money keeps rolling in to sustain the good work done in Jesus name. *Sandra.*

CHRISTIAN AID COFFEE MORNING

On Saturday March 11, this twice yearly event involving all the local churches needs your support. There will be a "surprise parcel stall" (gifts wrapped please), and "cake and candy". Donations for these stalls can be handed in on the morning between 9am and 9.30am, or given to Allison Edwards beforehand.

Thank you, *Allison.*

Carnoustie Church F.U.N. Group

FAIRTRADE

When you read this the FUN Group will have held the 'Steeple Drive and Stovie Night' in the Philip Hall. Our next event is a Putting Competition followed by a BBQ which is to take place on June 2. We look forward to a very enjoyable evening with all the usual golfers vying for the trophies. Please come and bring your friends along to join us. More information will be available later.

Fairtrade Fortnight is from 27th February until 12th March this year with lots of things going on in and around Angus. Events range from a wine tasting to coffee breaks and breakfasts so plenty to choose from.

You don't have to go to anything of course to be aware of Fairtrade goods. You can buy from the supermarkets and other shops in Carnoustie and just using Fairtrade tea or coffee regularly, enjoying a tasty bar of chocolate or a banana or two a week, helps someone somewhere to live a better life and provide food and education for their children. Try out the various makes of tea and coffee, you might be surprised at the range and variety of flavours, there will be one to suit your taste I am sure. The goods you can buy are not only food related, you can purchase clothing, cleaning, household and gardening items, a mixture of both useful and ornamental. Traidcraft catalogues are available in church or go online and browse, I am sure you will find something for yourself or as a gift.

Go on, support Fairtrade, easy to do and yet it makes such a difference to others.

Irene.

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

Following advice from the Church of Scotland Law Dept, we are no longer printing addresses in the Newsletter.

Funerals: *"Jesus said, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me shall not perish, but have everlasting life.'"*

Feb 8 Mrs Anne C Archibald.

* denotes a Carnoustie Church member.

Baptism *"Jesus said, 'Go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit'."*

Feb 19 Layla Faith Stone

THE NEXT CONTACT

The next edition of CONTACT will appear on Sunday April 2. All items for inclusion should be submitted by Sunday March 19.

I & M MacDOUGALL NEWSAGENTS & STATIONERS

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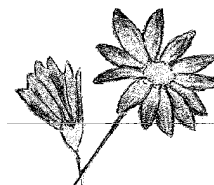


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GUILD

March sees our Guild branch calendar coming to an end for this session. Saying that, there are several good meetings still to come. We will have helped host the World Day of Prayer by the time you read this and going by the programme prepared by the ladies in the Philippines, it should have been an enlightening evening. We have also managed to donate a good sum of money to both the projects we are supporting this year and after seeing presentations from both, we know that they deserve every penny.

On **Wed 8th March at 2.30pm in St Andrew's Church Hall, Arbroath**, Angus presbyterial council are holding their AGM and we will be represented at that meeting.

The next week, **Wed 15th March at 7.30pm**, is our branch AGM followed by the chance to take part in an evening of reminiscing. At our AGM, decisions will have to be taken as to the future of our branch. With diminishing numbers it is harder to find people to form the committee and difficult to ask speakers to come any distance to speak to so few people. Where will we go from here, who knows? The best thing to happen of course is for more men and women to become members of the guild and join one of the best educated and friendliest groups in any church. Anyone with any other ideas is of course welcome to pass them on to committee members.

We have our afternoon fellowship meeting on **Wed 22nd March at 2.00pm**, chat and fellowship is the order of the day so come along if you can.

Our last syllabus meeting is on **Wed 29th March at 7.30pm** when it will be party night. The committee has a few treats in store so wear your party outfits and come along ready to enjoy yourself. There are other meetings taking place in Angus in both April and May so keep a look out for details next month.

Irene.

Christian Aid Coffee Morning

Philip Hall

Saturday 11th March

10am - 11.30am

Adults £1.50, children £1

DOOR DUTY TEAMS – MARCH

- Sun Mar 5** Ian Johnston, Jennifer Craib, Jim Patterson, Kay Landsburgh, Graham Landsburgh and Prue Milne.
- Sun Mar 12** Kirsty Mann, Neil Russell, Allan McLaren, Jenny McLaren, Jane Ower, Evelyn Baker and Irene Hoar
- Sun Mar 19** Sandy Thornton, David Blair, Audrey Duncan, Audrey Doherty, George Roger, Christine Roger, Mairi Allan and Sandra Armit.
- Sun Mar 26** Allan Gall, Mike Richardson, Ann Green, Sandra Dow, Jacqui Armstrong, Norma Murdoch and Jean Brown.
- Sun Apr 2** Alex McGill, Ann Banks, Allison Edwards, Alan Ferguson, Alan Lindsay and Val Russell.

READERS' ROTA

- | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Sun Mar 5 | Sandra Dow | Sun Mar 26 | Alan Ferguson |
| Sun Mar 12 | Alan Ferguson | Sun Apr 2 | Kirsten Mann |
| Sun Mar 19 | Norma Murdoch | Sun Apr 9 | Ian Johnston |

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