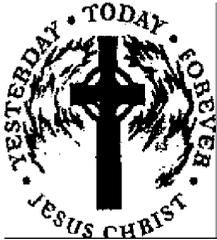
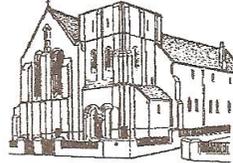


CONTACT



The Parish Magazine
of
CARNOUSTIE CHURCH



No 469 May 2017

From the Minister's Desk

““On this rock I will build My Church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.”

Matthew 16: 15

Dear Friends,

It seems to be a period of rapid change nationally and internationally, with the election of President Trump, the defeat of traditional parties in the French Presidential election, and the sudden General Election in our own country. We wonder what is going to happen next!

And here in Carnoustie I am conscious of other changes that have been much more gradual, yet which have also altered the nature of ministry and parish quite substantially over the years. I serve in a charge that sixty years ago had four full-time parish ministers, but which now has twice the population and only one paid minister.

This is a story that is familiar to other denominations in the town – the Roman Catholic congregation of St Anne's is now linked with St Thomas' in Arbroath and St Bride's in Monifieth, with no resident priest in Carnoustie.

(continued)

Erskine United Free congregation has not had a minister for some years, and the Church of the Holy Rood does not have a Rector at this time either. The only contrast is with the new Baptist Church which supports a part-time Pastor in the Rev John Toller.

A group of us has met to listen to the recordings of the Chalmers Lectures given by Rev Dr Doug Gay who has outlined the way the Church of Scotland is currently declining rapidly, but has also highlighted the way our denomination has changed its structures and patterns of ministry over the centuries.

As a result, Dr Gay has been suggesting ways that congregational and national structures might need to change to meet the call to mission in the 21st century.

Recent figures from the Church Attendance Survey last year have also painted a gloomy picture of decline across the Scottish churches – but in the midst, there have also been signs of encouraging growth. Congregations that have found new ways of meeting and worshiping and witnessing to their communities are flourishing in many different contexts across our land. Christ is still building His Church!

The challenge for us is to look at what we do with the resources we have – of buildings and of people – and prayerfully consider how we might adapt and do new things to reach our community with the love of Jesus, thinking about the things we must let go and things we must adapt.

Are you ready to consider where the Lord is calling us now?

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

Mike Goss

*Carnoustie Church is a registered charity.
Registered as Carnoustie Church of Scotland.
Charity Number SCO15146.*

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 14TH – 20TH MAY

This year sees the 60th anniversary of Christian Aid week. Please help to make this event a success by welcoming your Christian Aid collector. As always, we are looking for more people to distribute the envelopes, and collect them. The work of Christian Aid is as important now as when it first started. The following is a typical story of the people helped.

Nejebbar doesn't have a safe place to call home. She fled Afghanistan with her family after the Taliban threatened to kill her husband, Noor, who was a teacher. It wasn't an idle threat - the Taliban first blinded, then murdered, another member of their family. "The last days and weeks in Afghanistan were the hardest," says Noor. "When I went to work, my heart was beating harder. I didn't know if my family were going to be alive when I got back."

When the family arrived at the refugee camp in Greece, they thought they would only stay for 10 days. But they've been there six months now and there's no end in sight. The only protection they have against the wind and rain is their tent. There's no school for their children. Five-year-old Sudai, their youngest, is ill, but Nejebbar and Noor don't know what's wrong with him because they can't communicate with the camp's doctor, who is Greek.

£5 could provide two nutritious meals. £50 could buy a stove for refugees to cook their own food.

If you feel that you can give some of your time to this important week in the Christian calendar please let me know, as there are some districts not covered. Thanks in anticipation,

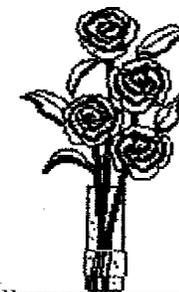
Allison Edwards.

**It is one of the most beautiful compensations
of life that you cannot sincerely try to help
others without helping yourself.**

Ralph Waldo Emerson.

YOUR MINISTRY OF FLOWERS

Sun May 7	Mrs S. M. Penman and Mrs G. Stirling.
Sun May 14	Mrs E. Baker and The Flower Fund.
Sun May 21	Mrs A. Ferguson and Mrs K. Morrison.
Sun May 28	Mrs J. Hoar and Mrs P. Simpson.
Sun Jun 4	Miss A. Hood and the Flower Fund.
Sun Jun 11	Mrs S. G. Landburgh and Mrs N. Young.
Sun Jun 18	Mrs N. Murdoch and Mrs F. Stewart.
Sun Jun 25	Mrs H. Dorward & Gillian and Mrs P. Murphy.



CARD FROM PHYLLIS

The Church received a very nice card from Phyllis Simpson with the request that the following be passed on to members of the Congregation:-

Through "Contact". I would like to thank the many kind friends who sent sympathy cards, letters, flowers and also visited when Atholl died.

My family and I were touched and comforted by this wonderful support, and the lovely things said about Atholl, a very dear son.

Thank you all very much indeed.

Phyllis Simpson.

SELWOOD

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FRIDAY COFFEE BREAK



We welcomed a good turnout of Coffee Breakers and visitors to our final Friday Coffee Break of the session. Everyone enjoyed the coffee and delicious home bakes provided by our team of volunteers and the goodies on the bring and buy stall were soon snapped up. Effie Bruce presented a cheque for £1500.00 to Gordon Roy from Scripture Union Scotland for the work of the organization in Dundee and Angus on our behalf.

We thank all the Coffee Breakers for their support and generosity during the year and a big thank you to all the ladies who provided the mouth watering home bakes and coffee. They are a very special team and their time and support is greatly appreciated by all.

Enjoy the Summer break and we look forward to seeing you all again in September.

Evelyn.

PRAYER FOCUS

We offer these thoughts to add to your own prayers:

1. **General Assembly** – Pray for the gathering of Ministers, Deacons & Elders in Edinburgh later in May, and remember the new Moderator, Rev Dr Derek Browning.
2. **North Korea** – Pray for this difficult regime and the dangers posed to the region and the world, especially pray for Christians cruelly persecuted in this land.
3. **Carnoustie Panbride** – Give thanks for the ministry of the Rev Matthew Bicket over the last 28 years and pray for the congregation as he retires at the end of June.

LARGE PRINT CONTACTS

Over the years we have had a fair number of enquiries from readers about the possibility of supplying a large print version of CONTACT. We are now able to do this and if you feel one would be a help to you please let Allan Gall know.

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.’”*

April 21 Mrs Helen Nicol *

April 21 Mrs Alice McKay

April 28 James Phillips

April 28 Mrs Mary MacDougall *

* denotes a Carnoustie Church member.

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STAMP CORNER



The World Mission Council of The Church of Scotland has written to thank congregations for their continued support in collecting used postage stamps which are sold to raise vital funds needed to help our partners worldwide.

In 2016 we raised a creditable £4,334 that will be used to support the Othara Eco-spirituality centre run by our partner the Church of South India.

The 2017 Appeal is to raise money for the Giffen Institute of Theology (GIT) in South Sudan. The Institute needs books, and GIT is looking to stock up its library for students. This year's stamp appeal will do just that. South Sudan has suffered terrible violence and war in recent years, and GIT has been forced to relocate twice. Resources, including books, were lost during this tumultuous time.

We aren't told if there is a target figure for 2017, but Keith Scott who looks after the overall contributions from Scottish Kirks is hopeful of achieving a similar amount as 2016. My thanks to Dougal Edwards who met Keith Scott in Dundee earlier this week and handed over a large volume of material from Angus Presbytry including over 7 kg of stamps from Carnoustie Church.

Please continue to use the box at the back of the Kirk for your used postage stamps and unwanted spectacles. *Allan MacLaren.*

THE NEXT CONTACT

The next edition of CONTACT will appear on Sunday June 4. All items for inclusion should be submitted by Sunday May 21.

As, due to other commitments, it may be necessary to have this edition of CONTACT printed earlier than normal (possibly even by Thursday May 26) it is important that **ALL** material must be handed in by the date given.

HEART AND SOUL IN EDINBURGH

Many of you will be aware that the Church of Scotland General Assembly takes place from Saturday 20th May until Friday 26th May in Edinburgh. Over the last few years, an event called Heart and Soul has been held on the Sunday afternoon in Princess Street Gardens when various churches, Christian organisations and charities have stalls, workshops and numerous events to let folk know what they are all about. There are also praise bands and choirs entertaining throughout the afternoon on the main stage with enough seating set out for hundreds. It is an afternoon that can be enjoyed by families or individuals with plenty to see and do, including this year again, the MAF plane. Worship is held outdoors at the main arena with the joyful singing heard all along Princess Street.

This year the theme is 'Word of Life' so if you can possibly make it, please try to get to Edinburgh on Sunday 21st May, I can promise an enjoyable afternoon and it's free. It is easy to get there by train, bus or car using the park and ride service, leaving just after morning service in Carnoustie. A few of us took the train last year and had a great time.

Irene.

I & M MacDOUGALL NEWSAGENTS & STATIONERS



Greeting Cards a Speciality

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Carnoustie**

Tel 853170



Carnoustie Church F.U.N. Group
Putting Competition

to be held on Friday, 2 June at 5.45pm followed by a BBQ (bring your own food) and presentation of prizes.

Applications are invited from all ages (and putting abilities) who will be slotted into teams of 4.

Entry forms to Pat Thornton, 9 Collier Street by 15 May

Team name

Members

.....

.....

Contact Phone no.

Cost per Team £2.00 or £0.50 per person

DOOR DUTY TEAMS – MAY

- Sun May 7** Allan Gall, Mike Richardson, Ann Green, Sandra Dow, Jacqui Armstrong, Norma Murdoch and Jean Brown.
- Sun May 14** Alex McGill, Ann Banks, Allison Edwards, Alan Ferguson, Alan Lindsay and Val Russell.
- Sun May 21** Gordon Hampton, Margaret Ramsay, Effie Bruce, Mandy Ferguson, and Sandra McKay.
- Sun May 28** Ian Johnston, Jennifer Craib, Jim Patterson, Kay Landsburgh, Graham Landsburgh and Prue Milne.
- Sun Jun 4** Kirsty Mann, Neil Russell, Allan McLaren, Jenny McLaren, Jane Ower, Evelyn Baker and Irene Hoar

COMMUNION DUTY — SUNDAY MAY 28

The team on duty for the May Communion is:
 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.



84 High Street, Carnoustie.
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www.olivesflowershop.co.uk

CARNOUSTIE CHURCH**MINISTER:**

Rev Michael S Goss,
44 Terrace Road,
Carnoustie, DD7 7AR.

Tel: 01241 410194 Mobile: 07787 141567

e-mail: MGoss@churchofscotland.org.uk

LOCAL ORDAINED MINISTER

Rev Dougal Edwards Tel 852666

OTHER USEFUL 'PHONE NUMBERS**SESSION CLERK**

Mrs Irene Hoar 859405

ACTING TREASURER

Mrs Sandra Dow 852823

ROLL KEEPER

Miss Kirsten Mann 853874

PROPERTY CONVENER

Mr Alan Ferguson 856088

SAFEGUARDING CO-ORDINATOR

Mrs Evelyn Baker 410832

FUNDAY CLUB LEADER

Miss Jean Reid 853218

YOUTH GROUP CO-ORDINATOR

Mrs Mandy Ferguson 856088

HALL KEEPER

Mr Colin Roberts 853435

CONGREGATIONAL VISITATION CO-ORDINATOR

Mrs Effie Bruce 411078

FLOWERS CONVENER

Mrs Sandra Penman 852204

GUILD SECRETARY

Mrs Irene Hoar 859405

CONTACT EDITOR

Mr Allan Gall 411129

FORTHCOMING DATES

- Sun May 7** 11am: 'Thanksgiving for a child' in Church. Funday Club leave during the Service.
6.30pm: Guild Songs of Praise in St Vigeans Church, Arbroath.
- Mon May 8** 12.15-1.00pm: Prayer Group meet in Duthie Room.
- Tues May 9** 7.30pm: Mission & Discipleship Team meet in the Philip Hall.
- Sun May 14** 11am: Service in Church. Funday Club leave during the Service.
- Mon May 15** 12.15-1.00pm: Prayer Group meet in Duthie Room.
- Thur May 18** 3pm: Afternoon Service in Braehill Lodge.
- Sat May 20 - Fri May 26 - General Assembly**
- Sun May 21** 11am: Service in Church. Funday Club leave during the Service.
- All material should be submitted for June edition of CONTACT.**
- 1pm - 6pm: Heart & Soul 2017 in Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh.
- Mon May 22** 12.15-1.00pm: Prayer Group meet in Duthie Room.
- Sun May 28** 11am: Communion Service in Church. Funday Club leave during the Service.
- Mon May 29** 12.15-1.00pm: Prayer Group meet in Duthie Room.
- Fri June 2** 5.45pm: F.U.N. Group Putting Competition and BBQ. Entry form on page 9.
- Sun June 4** 11am: Service in Church. Funday Club leave during the Service.

READERS' ROTA

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Sun May 7 | Neil Russell |
| Sun May 14 | Allison Edwards |
| Sun May 21 | Sandra Dow |
| Sun May 28 | Alan Ferguson |
| Sun Jun 4 | Norma Murdoch |
| Sun Jun 11 | Kirsten Mann |