

The Bulletin



Cruden Parish Church Autumn 2021

www.crudenchurch.org.uk

Registered Scottish Charity SC006408

Dear Friends

I do hope you are all keeping well and have been able to make the most of the remarkable summer weather we have all enjoyed! The past 20 months have been challenging on so many levels. The fear of infection, the lock down and social isolation has taken a toll on us all. At least the good weather has enabled us to get out and about. This did not stop my most recent venture – a hill walk in the Eastern Cairngorms being a wash out due to heavy rain. The joys of living in Scotland!

As we begin to move out of the lockdown, there has been various things happening in the Kirk. We are back at worship, although with much reduced numbers. Whilst the wearing of facemasks, track and trace etc., are still in place, the requirement for social distancing has been eased and we have return to singing. We have also moved to a kind of hybrid service which is broadcast on-line via Facebook. This is the way forward. We are also looking at getting new equipment to improve the quality of our online presence.

Another key event was the children's holiday club. This was a great success. Not only were we at maximum capacity, but the children had a great time. There were so many positive comments from parents. A big thank you to everyone who contributed, especially to Janet whose experience and enthusiasm helped to pull everything together. The holiday club worked on many different levels. We were able to share something of the Christian faith, whilst the children took part in structured games and activities. Great preparation for the new school term! It also enabled us to make new connections with many local families – most of whom had no church connection. We hope to build on these new relationships with appropriate activities at the October and Christmas holidays.

Regretfully, despite all the positive things happening, we are still living with Covid-19. The challenge now is learning to live with it. For us in the church, this means maintaining an enhanced cleaning regime, wearing masks etc. To mitigate risk, we ask folk to use the hand sanitiser provided on entering and leaving the building, and if you are suffering from cold or flu like symptoms to stay at home. Also, we have returned to in person pastoral visiting – if you know anyone who would appreciate a call or pastoral visit please let me know.

Looking to the future, as we learn to live with Covid-19, we also must learn to live with uncertainty and change. As some you are aware, there is going to be a wholesale realignment within the Church of Scotland. Exactly how this will impact us is yet to be seen. I suspect I will be taking on additional responsibilities and the parish will become part of a large grouping. Depending on how it is done and how we respond, it could be just another step in winding

the church down, or it could be exactly the opposite! It could potentially lead to a more creative, enriching, and exciting way of being the church. These changes could also be a catalyst for the spiritual renewal that so many of us yearn and pray for.

Wishing you a blest and colourful Autumn!

Rev Sean Swindells

Parish Minister

Tel. 07791 755976



AN AUTUMN BLESSING

O God of Creation,
you have blessed us with the changing of the seasons.

As we welcome the autumn months,
may the earlier setting of the sun remind us to take time to rest.

May the brilliant colours of the leaves remind us of the wonder of your creation.

May the steam of our breath in the cool air remind us that it is you who give us
the breath of life.

May the harvest from the fields remind us
of the abundance we have been given and bounty we are to share with others.

May the dying of summer's spirit remind us
of your great promise that death is temporary and life is eternal.

We bless you,
God of Seed and Harvest
And we bless each other
That the beauty of this world
And the love that created it
Might be expressed
though our lives
And be a blessing to others
Now and always
Amen



THE FIVE MARKS OF MISSION (adapted)

At the present time the Church of Scotland is embarking on a radical and far-reaching restructuring and reshaping of the church. This is long overdue! In a secular society where most people are not connected to a religious group, it is only right that the church refocuses how it uses its limited resources. This includes a shift towards mission, with outreach now being the key driver in church life.

To help provide direction for these changes, the Church of Scotland (acknowledging the mission of the Church is the mission of Christ) has adopted the so called Five Marks of Mission. Originally developed within the Church of England back in 1984, these 'five marks' have become widely accepted by a number of Christian denominations as an aid to understanding what contemporary mission is all about.

The five marks of mission are:

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
- To respond to human need by loving service
- To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation



Our Five Marks of Mission

Some churches have abbreviated the five marks to five words:

TELL – TEACH – TEND – TRANSFORM – TREASURE.

Over the next few months as the Presbytery of Buchan develops a new plan for parishes, buildings and how Clergy and Mission Development Staff may be deployed, the five marks will be used as guiding principles.

Within the Parish of Cruden, you will be pleased to hear that many of the five marks of mission are already reflected in congregational life. But as the church goes through a process of change and reorientation, we will also need to keep our eyes and ears open for new opportunities as they emerge and be prepared to change the focus of our work.

Rev Sean Swindells

Christian Aid Update

– Sean’s ‘midlife crisis’ marathon

On Sunday 22nd August Melville the Retriever and Mangus the Westie were joined by the Minister, Session Clerk and Maureen Esson for a wee stroll up Bennachie to raise money for Christian Aid. A rather cloudy morning gave way to a beautiful summer’s afternoon and the trip ended with well-earned coffee and ice-cream at the Bennachie Centre. The total raised by the walk was more than £400.00!

Looking ahead, Sean will be joining the Christian Aid team on the Great North Run and London Marathon, which were postponed from last year. Overall fundraising for Christian Aid to date is around £3300.00. A tremendous result. None of this would have been possible without your support and generosity. Thank you!



CRUDEN CRAFT GROUP

We are back in business - but having to work from home at the moment until we can get back into the Church Hall.

The Buchan Giving Tree are to take our knitting and crocheting, anything for babies to the elderly, also hats for the fishermen.

If you would like to join us, you will be very welcome. We will meet every second Tuesday at 1.30 till 3.30 as before once we are back in the Hall

Interested?

Margaret Kidd

THE STORY OF THE MINISTER AND THE ORGANIST!

There was once a church where the minister and the organist were not getting along. As time went, as their working relationship broke down, their animosity towards each other began to spill over into the worship. And so the minister decided enough was enough. He decided that he would preach a series of sermons that would, he hoped, bring the errant organist back into line.

On the first Sunday the minister preached a long-detailed sermon on commitment and how we all should put church first and self last, and be totally dedicated to the service of God. After the sermon, the organist led choir in singing an anthem with the title, "I Shall Not Be Moved."

The next Sunday the minister preached an even longer sermon on selfless giving and how we all should gladly give to the work of the Lord. After the sermon the organist led the choir in the anthem with the title, "Jesus Paid it All."

The next Sunday the minister preached an even longer sermon on gossiping and how we should all place a guard over our tongues and how God was always listening. After the sermon, the organist led the choir in the anthem, "I Love to Tell the Story."

With all this going on, the minister became very distressed over the situation and the following Sunday told the congregation that he was considering resigning. Later in the service the organist led the choir in the anthem, "Oh Why Not Tonight?"

And it came to pass, the minister did indeed resign. The following Sunday he bared his soul to the congregation and told the church that Jesus had led him there and now he felt that Jesus was taking him away. Later in the service, the organist led the choir in the anthem, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus."

Checklist

Please tick items included and firmly secure this list on your shoebox lid.

ESSENTIAL ITEMS (ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW):
Include the following items highlighted in the top box.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toothbrush and Toothpaste
<input type="checkbox"/> Hat, scarf, gloves
<input type="checkbox"/> Soap
<input type="checkbox"/> Underwear/ Socks/Tights | <input type="checkbox"/> Small Toy for boys and girls such as cars, dolls, balls. Please only include new shop-bought toys.
<input type="checkbox"/> Sweets (No chocolate or any other food) 'Best before' date no earlier than 31 March next year. No loose sweets, lollies or undated bags of sweets. |
|--|--|

Do not include used or damaged items; war related items such as toy guns or knives or military figures; hand-made or knitted stuffed toys; chocolate or any food other than sweets. Chocolate Eclairs and Chocolate Limes are not allowed; books that are mainly words should also not be included.

Toiletries (NO TALCUM POWDER)

- Shampoo
- Soap/Shower gel
- Face cloth/ Moist wipes
- Deodorant
- Moisturising Cream
- Comb/Brush
- Sanitary Products
- Shaving foam/Razors

Miscellaneous

- New Make-up
- Sewing Equipment
- Household Candles

- Screwdrivers/Pliers
- Kitchen Utensils

Stationery

- Pens/Pencils/Sharpener
- Notepads/Colouring books
- Rulers/Rubbers

Clothes and other Items

(T-shirts/Pyjamas/Jumpers/ Shirts) etc

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Please tick the box next to who the box is for
 Please specify the age of the girl or boy you have filled this box for:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Girl _____ yrs
<input type="checkbox"/> Teenage _____ yrs
<input type="checkbox"/> Woman
<input type="checkbox"/> Elderly woman | <input type="checkbox"/> Boy _____ yrs
<input type="checkbox"/> Teenage _____ yrs
<input type="checkbox"/> Man |
|---|---|

SHOEBOX APPEAL

Thanks to many generous people I have been collecting things for shoe boxes all year. As of writing this I have 16 complete boxes and over 30 partially filled boxes. There are still some hats and scarves from the craft group, in spite of them being unable to meet. Items most needed to complete boxes are, toothpaste, tooth brushes, facecloths, sweets and small toys or games. Full boxes are always welcome. The list of suitable items is printed here. Final date for collection is 31 October,. 11 Manse Road, Hatton is the drop off point and phone number 017798 41531 is the contact number Thank you in anticipation.

Rosemary Reid



We remember the deaths of these church members

- Mr John Fowlie, Denview, Bridge Street, Cruden Bay
- Mr Bert Willox, 10 Rowan Terrace, Hatton
- Mrs Nancy Sharp, 22 Lochside Road, Peterhead
- Mrs Kathleen Smith, 16 Aulton Drive, Cruden Bay
- Mr Sandy Ritchie, Hawklaw Cottage, Cruden Bay
- Mrs Muriel Simmers, 2 Golf Road, Cruden Bay
- Mrs Roberta Bruce, 15 Rowan Terrace, Hatton

Minister: Rev Sean Swindells
SSwindells@churchofscotland.org.uk
Mobile: **07791 755976**

Session Clerk	Robert Esson	
Treasurer	Rosemary Pittendrigh	
Contact Elders	Betty Forrester	Hatton
	Beatrice Fawkes	Hatton
	Joyce Willox	Hatton
	Muriel Cantlay	Rural
	Robert Petticrew	Rural
	Robert Esson	Peterhead
	Maureen Esson	Cruden Bay
	Kate Clark	Cruden Bay
	Kathleen Craig	Cruden Bay
Gift Aid Treasurer	Muriel Cantlay	
Bulletin	Fred Coutts	
	bulletin@crudenchurch.org.uk	
Christian Aid	Rosemary Pittendrigh	
Cleaning	Rosemary Pittendrigh	
Communion	Adrian Smith	
	Joyce Willox	
Flowers	Betty Forrester	
Guild	Muriel Cantlay	
Messy Church	Kathleen Craig	
Organist	Stephen Calder	
Presbytery Elder	Katherine Hyman	
Press Officer	Mary Bratton	
Roll Keeper	Mary McNaughtan	
Safeguarding	Kathleen Craig	
Teas	Beatrice Fawkes	
Transport	Robert Esson	Hatton
	Rosemary Pittendrigh	Cruden Bay
Walks	Maureen Esson	
WFO Treasurer	Joyce Willox	

Committee Conveners

Education & Worship	Katherine Hyman
Finance	Rosemary Pittendrigh
Membership and Outreach	Kathleen Craig
Property	Peter Slamaker
Social	Betty Forrester