

The Bulletin

Autumn 2024

An Autumn Prayer and Blessing

In the fading of the summer sun,
the shortening of days, cooling breeze,
swallows' flight and moonlight rays

We see the Creators Hand

In the browning of leaves once green,
morning mists, autumn chill,
fruit that falls, frost's first kiss

We see the Creators Hand.

In the leaves dancing
across autumn's lawns;
in the crisp, new snowfall
crunching beneath our feet;
in the new life flowering in the spring:
from everlasting to everlasting
you proclaim God's grace to us,
Spirit of Life.



God in Community, Holy in One,
continue to be the dwelling place
of our minds, our hearts, our souls,
now and forever more.

Amen.

Cruden Parish Church

Dear Friends,

At the time of writing, we are enjoying the final part of summer with Autumn just around the corner. The changing of the seasons is marked with the shortening of the days and the gathering of swallows for their annual migration. Here I am fortunate. The kitchen window of the Manse looks straight onto the back of Port Erroll School. Along with the pesky Herring Gulls, we get a grandstand view of Swallows, House Martins and Swifts performing ariel acrobatics as they feast on the local insect population.

The migration of these birds is an amazing feat of nature. The Swallows will head south, flying down western France and eastern Spain before crossing into Morocco, traversing the Sahara Desert, Congo Rain Forest, before reaching their winter home in Namibia and South Africa. Travelling somewhere between 17 and 22 miles per hour they cover an average of 200 miles per day and take six weeks to complete their journey. It is thought they navigate using the Earth's magnetic field, and visual landmarks. Should they survive the arduous navigation, a swallow can expect to live to up 16 years.

Whilst Swallows mark the welcome arrival and reluctant departure of summer, they also have symbolic meaning. There is an apocryphal (ie not found in the Bible) story of the young Jesus making birds of clay and bringing them to life as swallows. Whilst this story has no historical basis, Swallows do make several appearances in the Bible. They are mentioned in the book of Psalms as a symbol of peace and divine protection. In some Biblical stories, swallows are seen as a sign of hope. In Isaiah 38:14, King Hezekiah speaks of his illness as if it were a Swallow that has come to his house with the hope of healing.

My favourite reference to Swallows appears in one of the most majestic of psalms.

How lovely is your dwelling place,
LORD Almighty!
My soul yearns, even faints,
for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh cry out
for the living God.
Even the sparrow has found a home,
and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may have her young—
a place near your altar,
LORD Almighty, my King and my God.
Blessed are those who dwell in your house;
they are ever praising you. (Psalm 84:1-4)

The Psalm here speaks of a deep yearning to be in the place of God's presence and dwelling. As the Swallows (not forgetting the Sparrows!) find a place to nest and rear their young within the temple building, so the writer of the Psalm longs to find a place in Gods house.

As I reflect on these words, two thoughts come to mind. Personal faith finds its natural home in God's house and among God's people. This means attending church in person is one of the most basic expressions of faith and the one of the promises of church membership. There is a question here worthy of reflection. For what do you yearn? Is it time to reconsider the place of Jesus in your life?

And my final thought. As I look out from the kitchen window and watch the Swallows, House Martins and (occasional) Swift dive and weave as they consume the local population of midges before they gather and leave on their long perilous journey to warmer climes, may they soon return.

Wishing you all a colourful autumn!

Rev Sean Swindells,

Parish Minister.

CRUDEN & HATTON COMMUNITY PANTRY

'Take what you need and give what you can.'

Back in June we celebrated the first birthday of The Community Larder. Visitors included the Moderator of Presbytery – the Rev Stella Campbell, Sam Leys - Business Development Manager of Cfine and local Councillors, George Hall and Colin Simpson (not forgetting our hard working volunteers and representatives of Cruden Bay Community Association.)

The Larder is open each Friday from 10.30 am to 12.00 noon. Based in the Pavilion in Mill Park in Cruden Bay, there is the opportunity to enjoy tea and coffee and obtain a variety of foodstuffs (donated by supermarkets and businesses) which were surplus to requirement.

The Community Larder is not a Food Bank. However, it does offer a local opportunity to share surplus food stuffs (ie the collection of tins and dried goods that are lurking at the back of all our kitchen cupboards!) We also have access to a fridge and freezer and can accept fresh and frozen items that are still in the use by date. This also includes home grown fruit and vegetables.

The project, which is being run by volunteers from Cruden Parish Church and in partnership with the Cruden Bay Community Association and Cfine.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The second missionary journey of St Paul

The study group, starting at 7.30 pm, Wednesday 18th September 2024 will explore the second missionary journey of St Paul. Recorded in Acts 15:36-18:22, Paul's second foray into Cyprus, the Roman province of Pamphylia is full of the unexpected twists and turns. Dated somewhere around 49-51 AD, his journey has much to teach us about the unpredictability of God.

Whilst no previous knowledge or experience is required, you will need access to a computer or smart phone as the group will be meeting online via Zoom. Everybody is welcome. Please contact Sean for a copy of the zoom link. (07791

HARVEST THANKSGIVING

We will hold our Harvest Thanksgiving service on Sunday 13th of October. Harvest gifts will be donated to the Trussell Trust Peterhead Food bank. All donations of food and toiletries are welcomed by the Foodbank. Currently the items they are most in need of are:-

UHT Milk (Full/semi Skimmed)

Tinned Tomatoes

Tinned Vegetables

Cereal

Shampoo/shower Gel/deodorant

Jars Of Sauce (Pasta/curry)

Biscuits

QUIZ NIGHT

You are invited to come and enjoy the fun of a Quiz Night in the Church Hall on Saturday 19th October at 7.00 pm while you test your general knowledge. The quiz master for the evening will be Mr Andy Martin from Mission Aviation Fellowship. MAF is a Christian organisation which delivers support to many people living in remote isolated communities in the developing world using light aircraft. As a congregation we are following their work in Uganda.

We will be quizzing with tables of 4 and entry will be by donation with the money raised being donated to MAF.

SATURDAY@THE KIRK

Saturday@theKirk starts at 10 am and runs till approximately 11.45 am. Everyone is welcome, no age barriers are recognised. These are mornings where we can enjoy a cuppa and a piece, be creative if you want, have a play or just enjoy some time together.

We have some new dates for you to pop into your diary:

Saturday 12th of October

We will be having a get together to celebrate Harvest, we will have our farm set out, the Lego, we will be dookin' for apples and there will be a crafty corner too. As always, we will have Tea, Coffee, Juice, Fellowship and as it's harvest, we will have homemade pancakes available.

Thank you, Lord for the harvest of wheat, so we can have delicious pancakes.

On **Sunday 13th of October** - Harvest will be celebrated in church and donations will go to the Peterhead Food bank.

Saturday 9th November

Remembrance Sunday will be marked on Sunday 10th November, so we will be reflecting this by making a craft which we will hang up in the church for the Sunday service. We will be painting a memory stone in the craft corner and the Lego will be out to play with too. As always, we will have Tea, Coffee, Juice, Fellowship and butteries available.

Saturday 30th November

Advent preparation day. We will be making a tactile advent calendar box (for all ages), there will be provisions for making Christmas cards etc in the craft corner, the Lego will be out to play with too. Tea, Coffee, Juice, Fellowship and mince pies available.

SEAN'S FITNESS GROUP

Sean's fitness group meets ever Wednesday at 6.00 pm in Mill Park, Station Road, Cruden Bay. The fitness group is a combination of cardio, circuit training and boxercise designed to provide an all-body workout. All equipment and clear instruction provided. Everybody welcome (18+)

Please pass information about the group to anyone who may be interested! (077981 755976)



PRESBYTERY UPDATE

Not too much to report as the Presbytery does not meet during the summer. There are a few items that may be of interest.

Our new Moderator is the Rev Shuna Dicks. Shuna is Minister of Cults Parish Church, a fellow Chaplain within the Army Cadet Force and plays the trumpet with the Aberdeen Concert Band. I have known Shuna for several years and was delighted when her appointment as Moderator was announced.

The previous Moderator was the Rev Stella Campbell of Skene Parish Church. (I have known Stella even longer than Shuna!) . Stella did such a wonderful job in chairing Presbytery meetings through a time of great uncertainty and change. Stella has since been appointed Presbytery Clerk. Both Shuna and Stella bring a significant amount of experience and competence to the new Presbytery. Whether they will cope, understand and appreciate my sense of humour in another matter....

Further appointments to Presbytery Staffing include Rev Dr Robert Smith as Mission Officer and Daria Oskolkova as Communications Office. They join with our own James Buckingham-Hyman who was the first appointee as Administration Officer.

On the 1st of June I became the Interim Moderator to Fraserburgh and District Parish Church. This new grouping is a union of seven existing congregations into one new united congregation. Three church buildings remain in use with four now closed. These figures give some idea of painful adjustment that has taken place. My role as Interim Moderator will focus on guiding the new Kirk Session through the process of calling a new ministry team. This will occasionally mean my absence from Cruden Parish Church.

Also, within Presbytery I am a member of the TADMAM Committee. This rather odd sounding title is Training and Development for Ministry and Mission. I am involved with the missional aspect of Committees work. Like much of the activity of the new Presbytery, this is a work in progress!"

Rev Sean Swindells.

NEW SINGING GROUP

In May this year, the Church of Scotland released a new hymn supplement called *God Welcomes All*. To help introduce new material to the congregation, we are hoping to create a singing group. This will not involve giving performances but supporting congregational worship. For more information, please speak to Sean. (tel. 07791 755976) or Stephen.



Recently there have been background discussion about the formation of a new pre-school group called Mainly Music. Mainly Music started in 1990. Based in New Zealand, it provided a way for local churches to connect with young families using a music and play. No specialist or musical skills are required, as all the music etc is provided by Mainly Music. However, we are looking for volunteers who enjoy being alongside parents and young preschool children – to help set up, offer hospitality etc. Please speak to Sean or Alison for more information. (Note: At present no start date, time or location has been planned.)

CRUDEN CRAFT GROUP

We continue to flourish after 3 years together as a fresh new Group and will be having our Anniversary Tea at the end of September.

We have 16 loyal members still, although we rarely manage to all be together at one time. We also get help from outworkers at times.

We have gifts some of ur work to local charities such as The Buchan Giving Tree in Peterhead, Barnardos (Aberdeenshire), and The Archie Foundation at the Royal Abereen Children’s Hospital. We a;so give Rosemary Reid our support with many hats, scarves and gloves for the Blythewood Christmas Appeal.

Knitting and crocheting for our own families also goes on of course.

Anyone who thinks they would like to join and have their name put on our waiting list is very welcome to do so.

Margaret Kidd

CHECKLIST

Please ✓ items included and firmly secure this list on your shoebox lid.
Include the essential items highlighted in the red box.
IMPORTANT: PLEASE ONLY INCLUDE NEW ITEMS.

Tear along the perforation to detach this panel and secure to the outside of your shoebox

<input type="checkbox"/> TOOTHBRUSH & TOOTHPASTE	<input type="checkbox"/> TOY*/GIFT <small>*small toy for children such as cars, dolls, balls etc. Please only include new shop-bought toys.</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> SWEETS <i>No chocolate, split multipacks or any other food items.</i> No loose sweets, lollies or undated bags of sweets. Best before date no earlier than 31st March next year.
<input type="checkbox"/> SOAP		
<input type="checkbox"/> UNDERWEAR	<input type="checkbox"/> SCARF, HAT, GLOVES	
<input type="checkbox"/> SOCKS/TIGHTS		

Do not include used or damaged items; war related items such as toy guns, 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 not be included.

TOILETRIES (No talcum powder)

- Shampoo or shower gel
- Face cloth/moist wipes
- Deodorant
- Moisturising cream
- Comb/brush
- Sanitary products
- Shaving foam/razors

CLOTHES and other items

-
-
-
-

MISCELLANEOUS

- New make-up
- Sewing equipment
- Household candles
- Screwdrivers/pliers
- Kitchen utensils

STATIONERY

- Pens/pencils/sharpener
- Notepads/colouring books
- Rulers/rubbers

Please tick the box next to who you have packed your shoebox for

- MAN
- BOY (Teen)
- BOY (8-12) Age
- BOY (3-7) Age
- ELDERLY WOMAN
- WOMAN
- GIRL (Teen)
- GIRL (8-12) Age
- GIRL (3-7) Age

SHOE BOX APPEAL

Completed boxes and any items for boxes can be handed in at church or to Rosemary at 11 Manse Road, Hatton.

I am in need of empty boxes and paper to wrap them. The craft group plus several local people have handed in a wonderful collection of knitting.

You can use the label on the opposite page either to indicate the contents of your box or to see the sort of gifts suggested.

Donations towards transport are always welcome.

Rosemary



SHOE BOX APPEAL

EDUCATION COMMUNITY CARE GOSPEL
BLYTHSWOOD

By filling a shoebox with simple things you can bring hope this Christmas

shooboxappeal.org

Transforming lives through Christian care

GIFT AID

Gift Aid is a government scheme which allows the congregation of Cruden Parish Church, as a registered charity, to reclaim the tax you have already paid on the money you give in your offering. Giving your offering as a Gift Aid contribution increases the value of your offering by 25%. For example £20 becomes £25, £40 becomes £50, £100 becomes £125 etc, and is at no extra cost to the givers or to the congregation.

Anyone who pays Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax can Gift Aid their offerings provided they have paid the same amount or more in tax in that tax year. To give your offering as a Gift Aid contribution you are required to complete and sign a Gift Aid declaration form which you can get from the Gift Aid Convener – Maureen Esson, Tel: 01779 813049, Mob: 07949 792233. You are not required to give a particular amount or to give for a specified period of time and you can cancel your Gift Aid declaration at any time by writing to the Gift Aid Convener. You must also advise the Convener if you stop paying sufficient tax or change your name or address.

As good stewards, we are called to make the best use of the resources we have been given and the tax recovered on Gift Aid offerings helps Cruden Parish Church to continue to support our mission work in the community.

PARISH REGISTER

We remember the deaths of these church members

Mrs Sheila Moir, 14 Links View, Cruden Bay
Mrs Fiona Kilner, 16 Whitegates, Peterhead
Mrs Elizabeth Ironside, 18 Pintail Place, Peterhead
Mrs Helen Smith, East Sandend, Whinnyfold
Mr Norman Crighton, Sunnybank, Hatton
Mr Ken Bateman, 100 Braehead Drive, Cruden Bay

CRUDEN CHURCH PASTORAL CARE TEAM

The Pastoral Care team of Cruden Parish Church is set up to help and to listen in your time of need or maybe just a friendly chat. If you would like a visit or know of anyone who would benefit from a visit or a listening ear, be it at home or by telephone please let a member of the team know. We also visit Care Homes and Hospitals. Please be assured that anything that is said between yourself and the pastoral care team is confidential.

The contact numbers for the Pastoral Care team are: Rev Sean Swindells (0779 155976) Maureen Esson (07949 792233) Kathleen Craig (01779 841221) Jean Campbell (07716 399011) Robert Petticrew (01771 624280)

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

You are invited to come and join in the Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion on 29th September and 24th November.

The duty Elders for these services will be

29th September

Maureen Esson, Shonah Taylor, Irene Will, Katherine Hyman

24th November

Robert Esson, Peter Slamaker, Kate Clark, Joyce Willox



WELCOME

1 Sept	Ken Bruce	Adelaide Duncan
8 Sept	Robert Petticrew	Peter Slamaker
15 Sept	Shona Taylor	Irene Will
22 Sept	Bob & Norma Forman	
29 Sept	Kevin & Janie Smith	
6 Oct	Kathleen Craig	Joyce Willox
13 Oct	Kate Clark	Maureen Esson
20 Oct	Jim MacDonald	Betty Forrester
27 Oct	Margaret Adams	Rosemary Reid
3 Nov	Ken Bruce	Adelaide Duncan
10 Nov	Robert Petticrew	Peter Slamaker
17 Nov	Shona Taylor	Irene Will
24 Nov	Bob & Norma Forman	
1 Dec	Kevin & Janie Smith	

TEA DUTY

1 Sept	Bob & Norma Forman	
8 Sept	Allan & Joyce Walker	
15 Sept	Kevin & Janie Smith	
22 Sept	Maureen Esson	Irene Durno
29 Sept	Margaret Adams	Rosemary Reid
6 Oct	Shona Taylor	June Morrison
13 Oct	Bob & Norma Forman	
20 Oct	Allan & Joyce Walker	
27 Oct	Kevin & Janie Smith	
3 Nov	Maureen Esson	Irene Durno
10 Nov	Remembrance Sunday	
17 Nov	Margaret Adams	Rosemary Reid
24 Nov	Shona Taylor	June Morrison
1 Dec	Bob & Norma Forman	

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

Session Clerk	Robert Esson	
Treasurer	Rosemary Pittendrigh	
Contact Elders	Betty Forrester	Hatton
	Joyce Willox	Hatton
	Robert Petticrew	Rural
	Robert Esson	Peterhead
	Maureen Esson	Cruden Bay
	Kate Clark	Cruden Bay
	Kathleen Craig	Cruden Bay
Gift Aid Treasurer	Maureen Esson	
Bulletin	Fred Coutts	
	bulletin@crudenchurch.org.uk	
Christian Aid	Rosemary Pittendrigh	
Cleaning	Rosemary Pittendrigh	
Communion	Joyce Willox	
Flowers	Betty Forrester	
Organist	Stephen Calder	
Pastoral Care	Maureen Esson	
Presbytery Elder	Katherine Hyman	
Press Officer	Mary Bratton	
Roll Keeper	Mary McNaughtan	
Safeguarding	Kathleen Craig	
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
