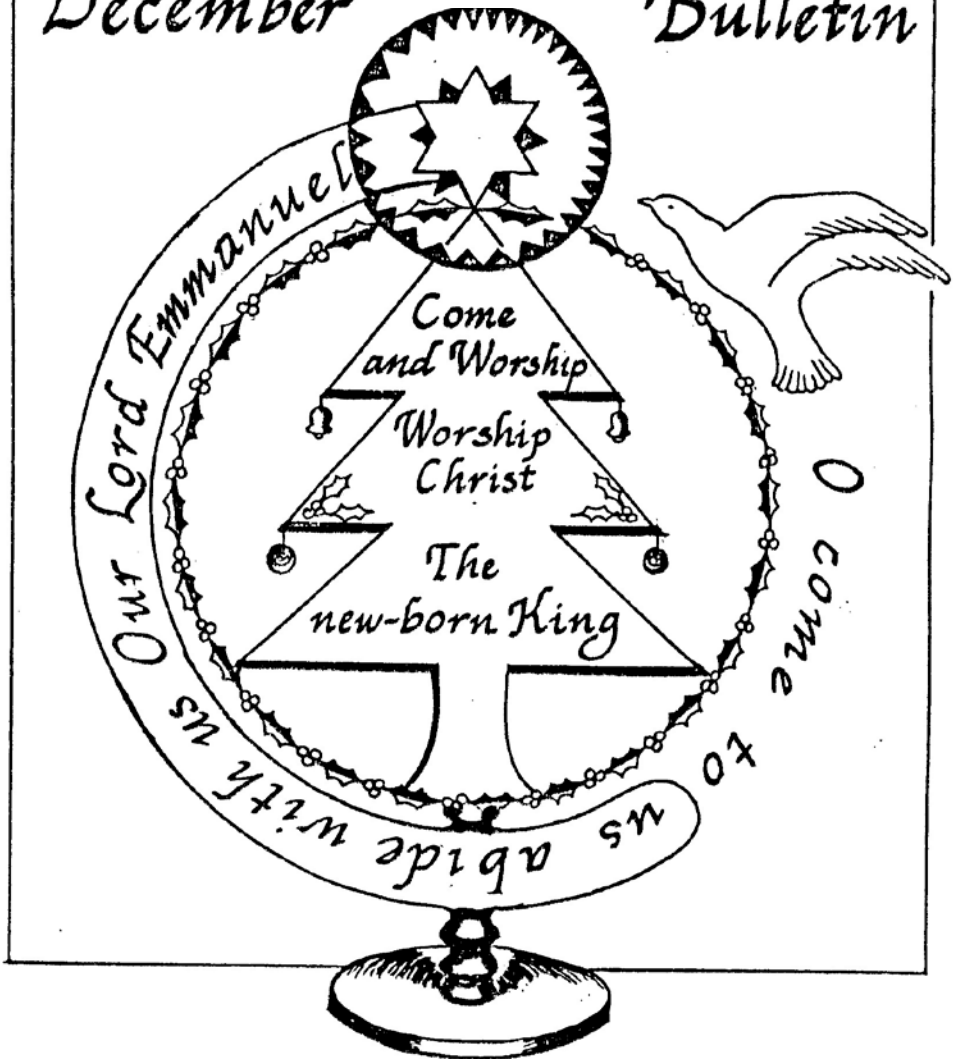


CRUDEN PARISH CHURCH

December 2012 Bulletin



www.crudenchurch.org.uk

A Registered Charity SC 006408

DIARY DATES

DECEMBER 2012

EACH WEEK

Sundays 10.00 am Children's Sunday Club in the Church & Stables

Sunday 2nd	:	MORNING SERVICE	10.00 am	
		Service conducted by Ms Alice McLeod, Fetterangus		
Wednesday 5th	:	Coffee and Chat	10.30 am	Hall
Sunday 9th	:	MORNING SERVICE	10.00 am	
		including the Sacrament of Baptism		
Monday 10th	:	The Guild Christmas Meal	7.00 pm	Albert Hotel
Sunday 16th	:	MORNING SERVICE	10.00 am	
		CHRISTINGLE SERVICE	4.00 pm	
Sunday 23rd	:	FAMILY CHRISTMAS SERVICE	10.00 am	
Monday 24th	:	WATCHNIGHT SERVICE	11.30 pm	
Tuesday 25th	:	CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE	10.00 am	
Sunday 30th	:	MORNING SERVICE	10.00 am	

DECEMBER HYMN BOOK - CH4

LIFE and WORK

Please note that Life & Work is to cost more next year and those who subscribe are asked to return to the Treasurer as soon as convenient £20 for payment of next year's subscription.

THANK YOU

Blythswood Parcels

A big thank you to everyone who filled shoe boxes, gave donations or helped in any other way. Thanks to you, 33 people, 3 more than last year, will have a happier Christmas.

Rosemary Reid

FROM THE MINISTER 22 November 2012

Dear Friends

For the last few years the December Bulletin has had a different look about it compared to other months. Had you noticed? Most of the headings, including the one at the top of this page are printed in a different font. The name of this font is, appropriately, *Snowcaps* and when I first came across it I just felt I had to make use of it for the Christmas period and it soon spilled over to all the pages of the December Bulletin.

I know that snow is possible any month between October and April but it is always December I think of as the snowy month. And that was certainly the case two years ago when because of safety fears regarding the surrounding roads all our Christmas services were cancelled. We shall all be hoping that there will be no repeat of that this year so that we can enjoy the Christmas worship – singing the carols and hearing again the stories of angels, shepherds and wise men, and, of course, a baby!

It is an amazing thought that our faith starts with a birth in a stable. The story is amazing but our faith is quite simple really. The baby grew up to be someone very special, his uniqueness in no way compromised by his dying like a common criminal. His ideas continued after his death to spread round the world through his followers – a tradition we are caught up in our own time.

For Christians, other things being equal, Christmas is a joyful time

Joy to the world, the Lord has come Joyful all ye nations rise

Joyful and triumphant Now ye hear of endless bliss: Joy! Joy!

May Christmas joy be known by you and your family as we approach year's end.

And, church wise, it has been a good year that is ending. We started the task of replacing our church windows, two double-glazed windows being installed, and we had a wonderful series of events to celebrate 1,000 years of worship in the parish I wonder what next year's highlights might be.

Your friend and minister

Rodger Naylor

PARISH REGISTER

*denotes member

DEATH

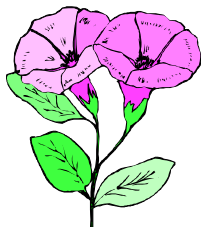
Mrs Gillian Gray, Sandy Lodge, No. 3 Chalet, Cruden Bay Golf Club

* Mr Alexander Jenkins, 3 Strachan Cottages, Kintore

TO THOSE ON SUNDAY DUTY

If unable to do door duty, please inform the Minister - 841229. If unable to do tea duty, please inform Wilma Moir - 841516. We would prefer, if you are unable to fulfil your duty, that you endeavour to find your own replacement before informing the Minister or Wilma as appropriate.

2013 FLOWER CALENDAR



The Calendar for the Church will now be found on the notice board at the Church and members are invited to add their name beside any date on which they would wish to place flowers on the communion table. The gift of such flowers is always greatly appreciated. In particular, it is hoped that the early months of next year will soon be filled up.

THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE BULLETIN WILL COME OUT ON **30 DECEMBER**. Copy for inclusion to be handed in to the Manse as soon as possible.

MODERATOR POSTSCRIPT

The Moderator of the General Assembly, after his visit to us at the end of October, has left some copies of two books of beautifully illustrated prayers that he has written. While copies remain, they will be available for sale until 9 December at £6 and £2. Half the copies were sold on the first day they were available.

SUNDAY MORNING DUTIES 10 am

Date	Door	Flowers	Teas	Junior Church
2 Dec	Sarah Paterson Sandy Beedie	Rosemary Reid	Norma Forman Mary Bratton	Katherine Hyman Maureen Reid Brenda Cadger
9 Dec	Sarah Paterson Sandy Beedie	Mary Bratton	Lewis McKechnie Margaret Adams	Karla Buswell Helen Smith Irene Siddle
16 Dec	Irene Stott Fred Stott	Betty Forrester	Betty Forrester Anne Cadey	Katherine Hyman Maureen Reid Brenda Cadger
23 Dec	Irene Stott Fred Stott	Beatrice Fawkes	Janice Hutchinson Liz Carnie	Karla Buswell Helen Smith Irene Siddle
30 Dec	Alison Neilson Wilma Moir	Robert Esson	Helen Cay Irene Stott	No Junior Church
6 Jan	Alison Neilson Wilma Moir		Dorothy Cruickshank Sharon Clark	No Junior Church
13 Jan	Margaret Adams Sandy Smith		Alison Neilson Elizabeth Bruce	Katherine Hyman Maureen Reid Brenda Cadger
20 Jan	Margaret Adams Sandy Smith		Betty Morris Doreen Buchan	Karla Buswell Helen Smith Irene Siddle
27 Jan	Shonah Taylor Liz Carnie	Marina Bruce	Fiona Stephen Kathleen Craig	Katherine Hyman Maureen Reid Brenda Cadger

P E T I T I O N S

In the summer, a petition from the Barnabas Fund drawing attention to the plight of many Christians round the world who suffer persecution because of their faith was signed by 43 of our church attenders.

There is now another petition in the Welcome Area of the Church but it will only be available until 9 December. This Petition is being organised by CARE for SCOTLAND, a reputable Christian organisation that focusses on family matters. This petition is being organised to determine what opposition there is to plans to redefine marriage. If you are in favour of retaining the current legal definition of marriage, you might want to consider whether you would wish to sign this petition.

CRUDEN GUILD OCTOBER REPORT.

In Rosemary Pittendrigh's absence, Beatrice Fawkes, welcomed members and visitors to a very well attended meeting. After the opening hymn, reading and prayer, she handed over to Mr Stewart Paul our speaker for the evening. Of course he needed very little introduction as he is an active member of our church.

Stewart gave an informative and interesting presentation on a recent trip to China. He was aided by his "very glamorous assistant", Carol who after the presentation, treated us to a cat walk display of clothing and jewellery purchased on their visit to China. Beijing, Shanghai and Xian were among many of the places they visited and of course, a visit to the Great Wall of China sounded like that was the highlight of their tour.

Alison Neilson gave a lovely vote of thanks after another successful evening at the Guild. The next meeting is on 26th November when the Rev Bob Fowlie, Longside, will give a talk on the Guild theme - 'A Faith to Proclaim'. All are welcome to come along.

Lorraine Neilson

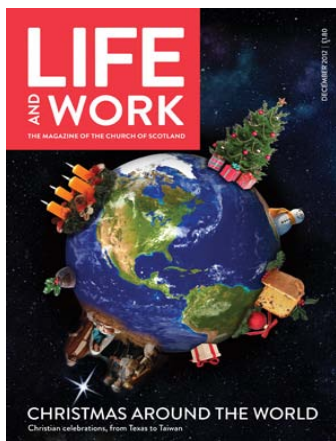
Support for Malawi

Our congregation has continued to give active support to Malawi by donations of knitted and other goods, and, as a result of the increase in the Malawi fund following the very successful MAF/Malawi coffee morning, we were able to make our usual donation of £100 to the Raven Trust. Betty Forrester has sent 1 large box and 2 medium size boxes to Ekwendeni via the Blytheswood van and I have sent 20 small boxes and one suitcase filled with knitted items so far this year.

There has been a response to the Banana Box appeal. One family has filled and donated a box and a second is currently being filled. Lists of the items required for these special boxes for the care of Aids patients are in the Welcome Area in Church and, should anyone wish to contribute an individual item, these can be placed in the Ekwendeni box.

Grateful thanks to all those who give such generous support to Ekwendeni Hospital.

Annette Garden



IN DECEMBER'S ISSUE

Christmas Around the World From Texas to Taiwan, Christians tell us how they celebrate Christmas. ALSO Christmas reflections from the Moderator and Ron Ferguson.

An Unsung Hero The Scottish churchman who signed the American Declaration of Independence.

A Labour of Love Jackie Macadam meets a Fort William minister with a gift for model making.

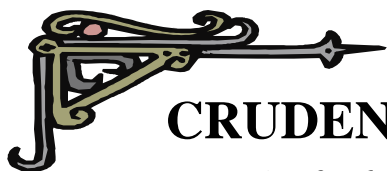
Solidarity with Syrians A Church of Scotland gathering to pray for peace in Syria

Friends of Paul In the final part of his series examining those mentioned only once by Paul, the Rev Billy McMillan considers Persis.

The Muffled Presence of the Holy The Very Rev Dr James Simpson ponders the significance of our latent yearnings.

Plus all the regular columnists, letters, reviews and crosswords

If you would like to read Life & Work, the magazine of the Church of Scotland, contact Isobel Young on 01779 812360



CRUDEN CHURCH FAMILY

CONGRATULATIONS

to Mrs Kathleen Morrison, 6 Garden Place, Cruden Bay
who will be celebrating her 80th Birthday

to Mr & Mrs S Paul, 1 Links View, Cruden Bay
and Mr & Mrs W Cargill, 15 Quarry Road, Hatton
who will be celebrating their Ruby Weddings this month.

The minister would welcome, in writing please, any news for this feature in the Bulletin. He feels that it should not simply be a list of anniversaries and birthdays.



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is usually observed between 18 and 25 January and for the last 5 years some members of Cruden Church have taken an interest. Would you like to be involved in your own time and in your own way? See below and look out for fuller details in next month's Bulletin. However if you know you would be interested to get the leaflet, you can let the minister know now.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity January 2013

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is from 18 to 25 January but these dates need not be strictly kept.

Over 8 days, the 2013 theme, explored through readings and prayers, will be **“What does God require of us?”** (from Micah 6 : 8). The answer the bible gives is that we must **walk the path of justice, mercy and humility**. The 8 subthemes are :.

- Day 1 -Walking in conversation
- Day 2 -Walking with brokenness
- Day 3 -Walking towards freedom
- Day 4 -Walking as children of the earth
- Day 5 -Walking as the friends of Jesus
- Day 6 -Walking beyond barriers
- Day 7 -Walking in solidarity
- Day 8 -Walking in celebration

Next month's Bulletin will give further details.

CRUDEN MESSY CHURCH

Up to the printing of this Bulletin, there have been two afternoons of Messy Church in Cruden Bay Village Hall. The last one for this year is on 29 November and the first one next year is on 17 January.

So far, first class organisers along with enthusiastic helpers has ensured that a happy time has been enjoyed by children and their parents/guardians. If you know a family that might be interested why don't you encourage them to give it a try. You can promise them a fun time!

Peace On Earth

CHRISTMAS IN CRUDEN CHURCH

There will be a **CHRISTINGLE SERVICE** at the Old Church at 4 pm on **Sunday 16 December**. This service, where everyone present receives a Christingle (an orange with a candle) is particularly suitable for children to come to with their parents and grandparents and uncles and aunts and friends. Adults are even known to enjoy the service on their own without being accompanied by children!

The **Christmas Family Service** is on **23 December**.

*Season's
Greetings*

The Church will be open at 11:05 pm (**and not before!**) on **Christmas Eve** for the **WATCHNIGHT SERVICE** and as soon as enough people are in the church, carol singing will begin. The service will start around 11.30 pm, finishing at about 12.10 am. Our **CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE** will be held in the Church at 10 am. Children coming are invited to bring along one of their Christmas presents.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

The Kirk Session has decided that the charity to benefit from the offerings at the **Christmas Eve and Christmas Day** services this year will be **Alzheimer's Research**. Since 1992, Alzheimer's Research has funded teams of scientists all over the world in the fight to find a cure

and beat Alzheimer's for good. They have made some ground-breaking discoveries, from uncovering the risks of antipsychotic drugs to identifying specific genes that contribute to the risk of developing Alzheimer's. Now they need support to keep the momentum going and realise the potential of these breakthroughs.

The Twelve Days of Christmas

Or Everlasting Turkey

*On the first day of Christmas my true love said to me
"I've bought a massive turkey and this lovely Christmas Tree!"*

*On the second day of Christmas our laughter could be heard
As we started on our turkey - a most delicious bird.*

*On the third day of Christmas the folks came from next door
The turkey tasted just as good as it had done before!*

*On the fourth day of Christmas relations young and old
Soon finished up the Christmas pud and had the turkey cold.*

*On the fifth day of Christmas outside the snowflakes flurried
But we were snug and warm indoors, and had the turkey curried.*

*On the sixth day of Christmas our festive spirit died
The children fought and bickered - and we'd turkey rissoles fried.*

*On the seventh day of Christmas my true love gave a wince
When we sat round the table and I served him turkey mince.*

*On the eighth day of Christmas the dog ran off for shelter
He'd seen the turkey pancakes and a glass of Alka Seltzer!*

*On the ninth day of Christmas by lunch we all felt ill
The bird was back again once more - in rolls - as turkey fill!*

*On the tenth day of Christmas we scarce knew what to do
With carrots and potatoes we had turkey Irish stew.*

*On the eleventh day of Christmas we felt we'd had enough
With corned beef and Worcester sauce the turkey tasted rough!*

*On the twelfth day of Christmas we'd smiles upon our lips
Our guests had gone - the turkey too - and we had fish and chips!*

THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

This carol was written in England in the sixteenth century as one of the "catechism songs" to help young Catholics learn the tenets of their faith.

The "true love" mentioned in the carol refers to God. The "me" who receives the presents refers to every baptised person. The symbols have the following meanings:

- The partridge in a pear tree, is Jesus Christ, the Son of God
- Two turtle doves are the Old and New Testaments
- Three French hens are faith, hope and charity, the theological virtues
- Four calling birds are the four Gospels and/or the four evangelists
- Five gold rings are the first five books of the Old Testament, the Pentateuch
- Six geese a-laying are the six days of creation
- Seven swans a-swimming are the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, (or the seven sacraments)
- Eight maids a-milking are the eight Beatitudes
- Nine ladies dancing are the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit
- Ten lords a-leaping are the ten commandments. Eleven pipers piping are the eleven faithful apostles
- Twelve drummers drumming are the twelve points of doctrine in the Apostles' Creed.

WHO WOULD HAVE GUESSED ALL THIS !

WATCH and TALK GROUP

September 2012 Is Religion on its way out?

This DVD was found to be very interesting by all of us. The host, Nicky Campbell, introduced the topic of whether religion is on its way out. The panel was also introduced, Shane Lynch from Boyzone, a Radio One DJ called Nihal, a writer and critic called Bidisha and a chaplain to a London Fashion College the Reverend Joanna Jepson.

Many topics were brought up, such as negative effects of religion, negative effects of atheism. One main point that was discussed was the effect on children, through parents and church schools. Many interesting points were raised from major viewpoints and there was much spirited discussion and argument. Much was brought up, but no definitive answer was decided upon by the discussion group in the DVD.

Our group, watching this, felt that much insight had been gained, especially toward the youth of today and their views on religion. The next Watch and Talk meeting will be on Monday the 8th of October at 3 Main Street, Cruden Bay, the home of Mrs. Marilyn Samways, to which all are welcome. *James Hyman*