

# St. Columba's Parish Church of Scotland Glenrothes

Autumn 2013



## Message from the minister.....

God promised Noah "As long as the world exists, there will be a time for planting and a time for harvest" (Gen 8:22).

When we have a 24-hour supermarket on our doorstep with shelves packed high and deep, it's easy to wonder whether harvest is still relevant.

In Bible times, harvest was the time when people paused and gave thanks to God for the way they had been blessed. In the church, we are still blessed in many ways. As part of our Stewardship season, we have an opportunity to reflect on our unique combination of experience, skills and abilities. As we built up the pattern of crosses in the church, we also have an opportunity to think about the way God has called us together in this church family.

Over the last few months, several members of the church family have died. Pausing to reflect on their lives has reminded me that the church family has grown and been nurtured by many people in the past. It is something for which we are very thankful. As we think about the future for the St Columba's church family, we pray that we may be faithful to God's guidance as we seek to show God's love in our parish and beyond.

As part of our ongoing journey, we welcome to the Kirk Session, two elders. Derek Stahly and Margaret Kimmitt have previously served as elders in the Old Kirk in Kirkcaldy and Bannockburn Ladywell respectively. In the coming weeks, some other people will be asked if they would undertake some elder training and consider becoming elders.

We are each being invited to think about stewardship between now and our Harvest service on October 27th. If you haven't received a stewardship card, please contact an elder.

Alan Kimmitt, Minister



TIME TALENT, TREASURE



## Facebook

St Columba's now has a Facebook page which you are welcome to visit. It contains information about what's happening in the church. Hopefully the website will also be updated soon.

## Grapevine Cafe

Wednesdays 2pm - 4 pm

Coffee, tea and home baking!

## AUTUMN FAYRE

**Saturday 26 October 2013**  
**2.00 - 4.00**

Tea Ticket £2.50  
Silver Collection at the door

The stalls include Cake & Candy, Bric-a-brac, Gifts, Craft, Books & Toys, Tombola, Raffle and there will also be teas.

If you have donations for any of the above these can be handed in on the morning of the Fayre.

Dear Friends at St Columba's,

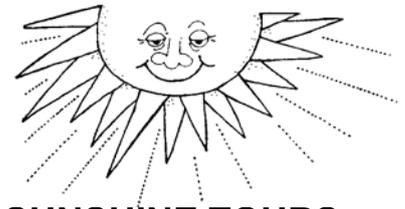
I thoroughly enjoyed my time back with you while Alan was on holiday and although I said thank you for the gift you gave me back in April, I wanted to let you know the pleasure and happy memories it gave Brian and I. In July we travelled first class on the train to London and stayed for two nights in a lovely hotel near all the theatres. We spent one of our evenings there at the theatre seeing 'Les Miserables' which was absolutely wonderful.

On the third day we travelled on the Eurostar train to Disneyland Paris where the family met us in the blazing hot sunshine and showed us round the magical place of Disney where we stayed the night in a hotel there. Next day we spent time with Euan and Kieran pulling us round all the sights of Disney which were wonderful even for adults. Their enthusiasm was lovely to see and their delight in everything was catching .. then back to London and another night in the same hotel which had lovely food. Back home again we had time to think over all the special memories you gifted to us and we say a very huge THANK YOU to you all.

My time with you was special for us so now with Alan as your minister, I ask God's blessing on your journey forward to new and special things.

Shalom my friends  
Christine

*Thank  
You!*



## SUNSHINE TOURS

Christmas Lunch  
Tuesday 10 December 2013  
Pinkerton's 12.30 for 1.00

£12.00 - Three course lunch  
including tea/coffee.

If you are interested please give  
your name to Beth (759696) or  
June (759081)

Dear Church Family

*Thanks!*

Thank you very much for our  
flowers and cards on the occasion  
of our Golden Wedding. They were  
very much appreciated. God Bless

Margaret & Jim Miller

## PASTORAL CARE

It is now several years since we changed from individual Elders having responsibility for a district, to the present system where we have a Pastoral Care Team.

You may recall that when the change was made, all members were asked to choose if they wished to continue having a visitor. We appreciate that circumstances change and that now there may be more people who would like a visitor. We invite anyone who would like to have a regular visit from one of the elders in the Pastoral Care Team to contact one of us so that it might be arranged.

\*

On the afternoon of Sunday 30 June a short Communion Service was arranged for those people who, for various reasons, find it difficult to get to the 11 o'clock service. After Communion we all enjoyed tea together. It is planned to have another one later in the year.

Margaret Dougall (742560) Cathie Gilchrist (779090)  
Pastoral Care Co-ordinators

## Stewardship Campaign

The Church of Scotland Stewardship Campaign follows a 3 year cycle. Last year, we focused on "Giving". This year the focus is be on "Talents". Our aim is to identify, within our congregation, the various skills or experience and the hobbies or interests we all have. This theme was used for three Sundays in September and will culminate in a Special Service on 27 October. You are invited to complete the survey included with this newsletter and return it through the offering plate on a Sunday or at our Special Service on 27 October. Alternatively you can call Carol Gibson on 754320 who will arrange for it to be collected.

Carol Gibson, Stewardship Team

## Kirk Session Report

Elders were given details of the plans which Presbytery has made for another 'Celebrate and Discover' event which will take place in Kirkcaldy High School on 22 March, 2014. More details will be given to everyone nearer the time.

\*

It was noted that the Kirk Session of Chuluchosema CCAP Church in Malawi is still keen to have a partnership with St Columba's.

\*

It was agreed to have the Harvest Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, 27 October, with donations being given to the 'Y' in Glenrothes and to UNICEF.

\*

As in previous years a Service of Remembrance will take place on Sunday, 10 November in St Columba's, to fit in with the Act of Remembrance which will be held at the War Memorial.

\*

Session was told of the progress which has been made to set up a Foodbank in Glenrothes. This will be under the guidance of the Trussell Trust, and it is hoped it will be supported by the local Churches and others.

\*

In September the number of members on the Communion Roll was 482, with 122 on the Supplementary Roll and 2 Adherents.

Cathie Gilchrist, Session Clerk

## Flower Ministry

First of all we would like to say a very big thank you to those generous people who year after year supply us with flowers to arrange on a pedestal as part of Sunday worship, to be distributed later within the parish.

Due to circumstances beyond our control, people are finding it more difficult to provide flowers on a Saturday morning at 10am, especially in December, so if you would like to contribute to this very pleasant aspect of worship at this or any time of year, for any reason whatsoever (or no reason at all) please contact Oonah Robertson on 01592 769875, or any member of the Flower Ministry team and we will do our best to accommodate you. My thanks to all who contribute to the Flower Ministry.

Oonah Robertson

## Congregational Board News

The following Board news is taken from our meeting in June.

**Data Protection Policy** – New guidelines have been issued with regard to our Data Protection Policy and we have several obligations to meet, this is being looked at by Debbie and Alison.

**Refurbishment of Bell Tower and Canopy** – The Board gave delegated authority to the small group comprising, Jim Miller, Brian Lumsden and Carol Gibson to appoint an Architect for the work on our Bell Tower. As a result of our Listed status we are required to appoint an Architect who has advanced accreditation status in conservation work.

**Exterior Paintwork** – The Board approved the exterior painting of the woodwork on the south side of the building, together with the large hall woodwork, boiler house door, fire exit doors and downpipes. The cost for this work will be £720.

**Fire Risk Assessment** – The Board gave approval for a Fire Risk Assessment Report to be carried out. As this is now required for our Property Register which includes a section on Fire Risk Assessment and as such forms part of this Register. The cost of this Report will be in the region of £300 to £360 depending on the Report's content.

**Lights in Large Hall** – We now have several more lights which require replacement and costs are being obtained for this work.

**Copyright and Websites** – Alan advised the Board of information which had been received from 121 on Copyright and websites and informed the Board of the cautionary tale behind this information. It was noted that Alan has already circulated this information to the folk concerned with the website and Newsletter.

**Garden & Grounds** – Approval was given to buy topsoil and grass seed to cover the tree stumps, which in turn will make life a lot easier for our gardening team. A big thank you to all the team for their sterling work this year; the grounds are looking really lovely.

Carol Gibson, Clerk to the Board

## Presbytery of Kirkcaldy News - September

**New Moderator** – Tony thanked Presbytery for the honour of serving as Moderator and the privilege of being involved in several special services throughout the year – the Union of Dysart St Clair, the Ordination and Induction of Rev Alan Kimmit, the Banner Pilgrimage and Praise Service, the recent Graduate Candidate Service. Presbytery then approved the appointment of Mrs Myra Deas, Session Clerk at St Ninian's Church, Glenrothes, as Moderator for the coming session. Tony had done his homework and gave Presbytery her potted life-story, much to her surprise! Myra was welcomed warmly by Presbytery. She in turn thanked Tony for his year of service. His leading of worship, his careful planning and quiet authority had been much appreciated.

**Service of Union** – A Service of Union for the charge of Auchterderran Kinglassie will be held on Sunday 27th October at 3.00pm in the Auchterderran building, the service to be conducted by the Moderator and the preacher to be the Rev. Elizabeth Cranfield. Presbytery convenes at 2.45pm.

**Markinch** - In view of the impending retirement of Rev Alex Forsyth, Mrs May Russell has been appointed to serve as Interim Moderator at Markinch Parish Church.

**General Assembly Report** – Craig Higgins of St Ninian's Church, Glenrothes was our Youth Rep this year. Craig gave Presbytery an insight into what was a most memorable week for him, complete with pictures. Craig was warmly thanked for his interesting report and his enthusiasm!

**Wed 25th Sept 7pm** - Africa, Debt and Tax, a Joint Jubilee Scotland, World Mission and Christian Aid event in Dalgety Parish Church. [www.jubileescotland.org.uk](http://www.jubileescotland.org.uk)

**Friday 25 October, 10.30am** – Maria Silo from the Aids Project at Ekwendeni Hospital, Malawi, will share her story in Methilhill and Denbeath Church.

**Truth and Lies about Poverty** – Each congregation has been issued with 2 copies of this report and they are urged to discuss and develop its findings and recommendations. Find it online at <http://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/truthandliesaboutpoverty/>



At the start of the school summer holidays Gwyneth Duff, who has been the worker for GROW for the last six and a half years decided that now was the time to move on. During the holiday period Gwyneth fulfilled all her commitments and the GROW Management Group met with volunteers and contacted the schools to inform them of her decision and make interim arrangements to continue the work whilst another worker was found. I am pleased to report that GROW will, be advertising the post in October and hope to recruit someone to start early in the new year.

Several volunteers have stepped up to assist in keeping the SU groups and school assemblies going between now and Christmas for which we are very grateful.

Please continue to pray and support GROW in the coming months during what is both an exciting and uncertain time.

Chris Hay, GROW Chairperson