Ruchterarder Parish Church Newsletter

Saturday 27th April 2024

Registered Charities SC001688

Musings from the Manse

Recently I answered my phone to an unknown number, instantly suspicious and poised to hang up if I was talking to a machine or a call centre. A reassuringly human voice identified herself as a caller from TEAR Fund, a charity close to my heart. That was nice, but I hate marketing calls too, even from Christians I respect. My defences were still in place.

She began by warmly thanking me for being a regular donor for over two decades. That was OK. She mentioned very briefly some of the brilliant work TEAR Fund is currently doing with these donations (though I'm not sure than my small amount is changing the world). That was OK too. Then she politely got to where I knew she was going: though times are hard for many of us, would I be willing to consider increasing my donation?

I don't like being asked for money, and though I love TEAR Fund I wasn't sure I approved of this. To be honest, I was frantically trying to remember how much I give anyway. I was ready to say No and get rid of her when a question occurred: when did I last increase my giving? She told me: February 2011. Ah. I then asked her how much I give, and was embarrassed by the answer. This was a much-needed reality check on my assumption that I was a seriously supporting a cause to which I'm genuinely committed.

I thought about putting it off until tomorrow, but really I had no doubt at all about what I needed to do. So I sorted it, right there on the phone. And no, I don't like being asked – but sometimes I have to be.

If I don't like being asked for money, I like doing the asking even less – but sometimes it's needed. Not because the church needs a new roof or is paying off a major debt, but because our Christian discipleship is more than good intentions. It's a lifestyle of giving, including giving to God's work as a regular financial commitment.

I learned a few things from the nice woman on the phone. So firstly, if you give at all to the church, a very sincere thank you. Apologies that we're not good at thanking people for their donations at APC. We need to do that better, and we're working on it.

Secondly, we know that most of us have unplanned costs with rising mortgages and utilities. So if you're already giving all that you can, this is not for you (or the first bit is, but not the second!)

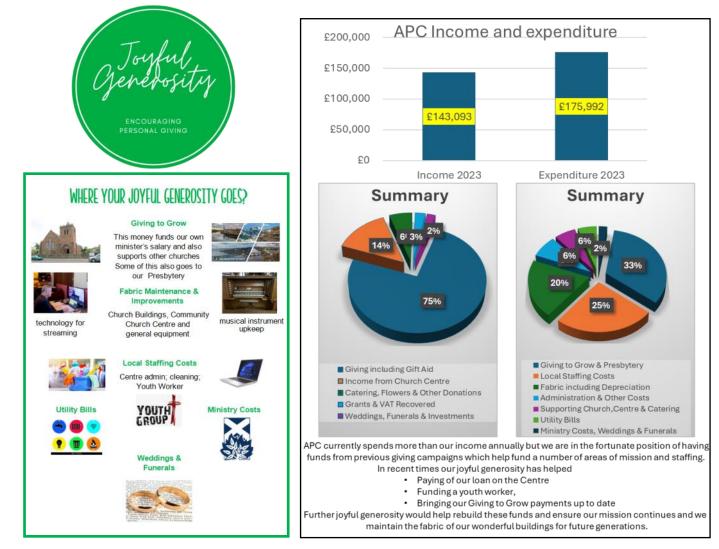
And finally, can you consider increasing your regular giving? To support the great work the church is doing and to empower us to do more – but mostly, to joyfully say thanks to our generous God. All the information you need is here, on the website, and in the leaflets at church. If you have questions, please ask.

Maybe you have the reaction I had when I answered the call that day – and just maybe, like me, you need a reality check. Ponder, pray, and enjoy the newsletter!

Love to you all

Lynn





Ways to give joyfully

- Review and consider increasing your existing giving standing order. Forms can be downloaded from APC website or are available at back of Church. Alternatively amend your standing order via your own internet banking arrangements.
- By setting up a standing order for the first time. Forms can be downloaded from APC website or are available at back of Church. Alternatively set up a standing order via your own internet banking arrangements.
- Register for Gift aid if you are a UK tax payer. APC will benefit by extra 25% on all your giving. Forms can be downloaded from APC website or are available at back of Church.
- Make an immediate or future one-off donation by scanning this QR code. (Which is also available on our website). We are able to claim Gift Aid on these donations too.
- Make an immediate or future one-off donation via APC website. Just click on "Giving to APC" then click through the "donate" button. We are able to claim gift aid on these donations too.



• Leaving a Legacy. We are privileged if we are in a position to leave a mark of our passing, to be remembered by those people and causes we've cared for in life. A gift in your Will to APC is one of the most valuable and lasting ways you can continue to support its mission and its ministry.

Bank of Scotland - Sort code 80-05-37 Acc 00130041

www.auchterarderparish.org/donate

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver". 2 Cor 9:7

Message from Rev Iain Paton

Dear members of the congregation,

You may remember that I wrote in the newsletter about nine months ago, saying that I was reducing my workload as the Assistant Minister from two days each week to one day. It sounded a good idea at the time, but I have to say now that it didn't work! I am not all that good at saying 'no', Come to think of it, as most of my work involves hospital calls, sick visits and funerals, it's unlikely that any of these functions are going to halve in number just because I should like them to. All that reduced was my pay! Realistically, it's high time that I stopped altogether anyway, and bowed to the inevitable of which I am reminded frequently by aching joints, and an increasing inability to remember everyone's name.

I am therefore going to retire properly from APC at the end of May. That seems to me to be a good time, as it will be just before Alan McKay takes up his post as our probationer assistant minister. I expect that part of his duties will turn out to be the same as mine were hitherto.

Marjorie and I will still be around for sure. We are still members of the congregation and have every intention of playing our part around the Church. I'm still looking after the congregation over at Muthill as the Presbytery's interim moderator there, so my brain will still get some work to do. I think I have been at APC for about eight years, first working alongside Rob Barlow and then as locum minister when he left. In the last five years it has been a pleasure to work alongside Lynn McChlery and to get to enjoy her ministry, knowing that it was not all dependent on me.

So I continue to give God thanks for the opportunity to minister in His Church one way or another since 1980. Part of my APC chapter is closing, but not everything else is, so as is said in other circles, ' I'll still see you around'.

May the Lord bless and keep us all,

Rev. lain Paton.

Wednesday Worship

@ Auchterarder Parish Church

Each week we have a mid-week worship service on Wednesdays from 2-2.30pm. These will be in the comfort of the Church Centre and there will be a chance to have a time of fellowship afterwards over a cup of tea.

There will be singing, a time for prayer, Bible reading and a short reflection.

There is no need to let anyone know



you are coming. Just come along and you will be made most welcome.





Update from the Guild

Several members of the Guild Committee met for lunch in Cafe Kisa on 10th April where they enjoyed fellowship together.

Wednesday evening, 24th April, saw a large gathering in the church for the visit of the Gargunnock Songsters by whom we were richly entertained both by their beautiful singing and their



conductor's jokes. Money raised, £670, from this event will go towards the Guild Projects. Marjorie Paton gave a brief summary of the projects over the years, including the total amounts raised, for those in the audience who might be unaware of this part of the Guilds wider work. The concert was followed by our annual Spring Tea held in the Church Centre. Judging by the buzz of chat and laughter it can safely be assumed that everyone had an enjoyable evening. This brought our session to a close but the work will continue in preparing for our new session starting in the Autumn when we would love to welcome new members as well as returning members.

On 11th May, Perth and Kinross Guilds Together event "Shared Visions" will be held in APC from 11am - 3pm.

Whose we are and whom we serve.

CHURCH LUNCHES

Everyone is welcome to join us at our church lunch, the next one is on...

Sunday 19th May:

Bring and Share Meal @ Preston Park, from 12.30pm

We are hoping for a sunny day to have lunch together at Susie and Stewart's home at Preston Park, Auchterarder, PH3 1NP.

If you can bring something for our cold buffet table that would be very helpful, main or pudding. There's always a lovely spread and enough for all.

Directions: up Orchil Road to the mini roundabout at the Equestrian Centre and take the A823 Crieff Road to the right. Drive on for about 2.5 miles passing West Park Farm on the right. The entrance to Preston Park is on the right opposite The Cairn Farm on the left. Look out for balloons at the gate!!

There's plenty of room for parking and signs-up showing an area for disabled parking.

The church minibus will be leaving at 12.15pm, so if you would like a lift please let Michelle know or email her on <u>Michelle.Livingstone@auchterarderparish.org</u>

Sunday 23rd June: Picnic lunch in the park

Along with Messy Church families we hope to gather a big crowd in the park for a picnic and games.

Everyone welcome, please join us for some rounders and relay races.

APC Walking Group - Date for the diaries!

The next Walking Group event is planned for Saturday 25 May 2024. (Route TBA) and will be led by Derek Johnston.

Watch out for details on Facebook / newsletter and notices in the church.

Please feel free to contact <u>admin@auchterarderparish.org</u> if you would like to be added to mailing list.

Dates for future walks in 2024 are 25 May, 27 July, 28 Sep, 30 Nov.

All welcome and hope to see some new members on a walk soon.



Auchterarder Parish Church

CHURCH LUNCHES



Bill and Marjory Goodlad wish to thank everyone for their concern and best wishes when their daughter Claire was taken so seriously ill. Thank you so much for your cards,

flowers, visits and your prayers.

We are delighted to say Claire is well on the road to recovery, and hopefully is now home from hospital.

Thank you all so much.

Bill and Marjory

Rev. lain and Marjorie Paton are leading a tour to Austria at the beginning of Advent this year and it would be great to have some participants from Auchterarder.

Here are a few details.





If you would like a complete brochure, there are copies on the table at the back of the church.

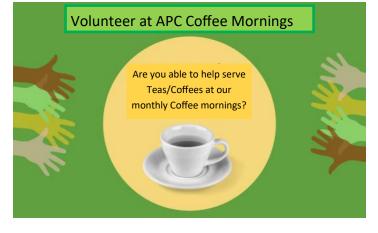
Please take one away, but only if you are interested (otherwise we shall run out!)"

Come and sing your favourite Songs of Praise



Our monthly coffee mornings needs your help! These are usually held on the last Saturday of the month except July and August.

We are looking for Volunteers to help make and serve Teas/Coffees at our monthly Coffee mornings?



If you wish any more information please speak to Tricia or Renee. It is much appreciated. Thank You

Holy Space

Sunday evening group for anyone in secondary school. Please see poster below for more details,



A Sunday evening group for anyone in secondary school, please join us for a bit of food, fun and space to chat and reflect. For more information or a consent form email michelle.livingstone@auchterarderparish.org

Sunday 28th April: Clathymore House for some food and games. Meet at APC at 6pm to get the minibus.

Sunday 5th May: NO Holy Space but join us for Messy Church at Pitmeadow Farm, Dunning at 3.30pm. Email Michelle if you need a lift. Sunday 12th May: Games and food at the Manse. Meet at the church at 6pm. Join us for some outdoor fun and stories around the firepit.

Sunday 19th May: An evening of helping others and doing some volunteering. From 6pm—8pm. Let Michelle know if you can come. Sunday 26th May: Progressive Meal around Auchterarder, 5.30—

8.30pm. Meet at Auchterarder Parish church. Come hungry. Let Michelle know if you have any dietary requirements.

Sunday 2nd June: No Holy Space but join us at Auchterarder Parish Church for Messy Church, it starts at 3.30pm.

APC Kidsteam

APC Kidsteam

KWhat a busy time we had over Easter!

Chicks, eggs, ribbons, flowers and lots of glue. Our Easter Bonnets were spectacular, and our Easter Cards

must have been very gratefully received. There were quizzes, games, stories and, best of all, there was a chocolate egg left for me - well done everyone!

Kidsteam meets every Sunday morning, in the church centre, after the children's hymn. We are looking forward to spending time with you all.

Your Kidsteam Team x

Yvonneelder@outlook.com



Cycling group

We managed an enjoyable cycle to Comrie in April. It was really good to get the

group together and catch up whilst enjoying some sun, coffee and superb scenery.

For our cycle on 25th May the suggestion is that we attempt to do a loop around Clathy/Methven and then head back to Dunning for coffee at Pitmeadow Farm where the "Inspiration Orchestra" will be performing. As this event starts at 10.30 it will allow us to do a good length of



cycle and then for those of us who want to be inspired by this event we can head for the farm around 11 or so. Stu, Suzie and I were blown away by these wonderful folks last year and would highly recommend this (<u>https://theinspirationorchestra.com</u>). We will leave the church at 8.30 on the 25th aiming to be back at 12.30pm. If some folk need to be back earlier then there may be a split in the group after coffee to allow those who need to get back earlier to do so (this seemed to work well in April). The cycle is all obviously weather permitting.

If you wish to come on the cycle you can either use the WhatsApp group to tell us (please send on your phone number to my email address) or email me at s.mcchlery@gcu.ac.uk. Remember that e-bikes are warmly welcomed. Stuart



FRIDAY NIGHT YOUTH CLUB

Please tell anyone you know in secondary school that they are very welcome at our Friday Night Youth Club, there are lots of activities or just space to chill-out and catch up with friends.

We are on every Friday night in the church apart from Friday 10th May when we are going up to Pitmeadow Farm. We'll need to know numbers



for Pitmeadow so book your seat on the minibus by emailing michelle.livingstone@auchterarderparish.org



APC Messy Church - May

Esther was the person we met in April's Messy Church as we continue to look at characters

from the bible. We even got to play a part in her story as we all got involved in some drama. Esther reminded us that even in tough times when others might be against us we should continue to follow God and do what he would want us to do.

We sang some songs one being Be Bold, Be Strong which reminds us not to be afraid because God is always with us. If we are afraid of the dark or feeling anxious with exams or having health issues God is with us and will help us get through.

The afternoon was filled with crafts and activities, we did an egg hunt around the church and made jewellery and crowns as well as getting our nails done and a few tattoos!!!

Next Messy Church is at Pitmeadow Farm, Sunday 5th May from 3.30-5pm. Please bring your own picnic and warm clothes as we hope to be outside. You'll meet some animals, do a wee scavenger hunt, play some games and we'll eat our picnics together in the sun! We look forward to seeing you there.



Picnic @

Pitmeadow Farm

Dunning

Sunday 05

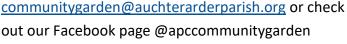
May 2024

Sinder State St

Messy Church Team

APC Community Garden





APC Summer Holiday Club

Monday 5th - Friday 9th August 2024

We are going to Go Bananas for God and use material which is based on banana island, characters from the bible visit us each day.

It'll be a fun week with drama, singing, activities, crafts and group work.

We'll run a daily programme for P1-S2's every morning with games in the park some afternoons and a few youth evenings on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.



Holiday Club team...it could be you?

We need a big team of people to help us, can you be free for a couple of mornings or all week? Can you help with the drama, play a bible character, help prepare snacks, lead a group, help with games or crafts, play in the band, help us build a 'banana island' set, help prepare crafts, help transport children in the minibus, help set-up and tidy-up each day???

If you have some time during holiday club week and think you could help in some way, even if you don't know how, please come to our next meeting in the church hall: Tuesday 14th May, 7.30pm - 8.30pm.

AUCHTERARDER and DISTRICT MEN'S SHED

PRESENTS

GWEN MAIRI, PROFESSIONAL HARPIST

TUESDAY 11TH JUNE 2024, AT 2PM

IN AUCHTERARDER PARISH CHURCH COMMUNITY CENTRE



Gwen is a graduate of the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama (now Royal Conservatoire of Scotland). She has worked with Royal Scottish National Orchestra, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Shanghai Symphony Orchestra, Bangkok Symphony Orchestra, the orchestra and education department of Scottish Opera as well as teaching, publishing music and performing the music of Wales and Scotland in a traditionally informed contemporary style. She has performed at the Edinburgh International Festival and at the National Eisteddfod.

Gwen will talk about the history of the harp, explain the workings of a pedal harp and will play several pieces of music.

Your chance to get up close and personal with this fantastic musical instrument.

Anyone interested in music is cordially invited to this presentation.

Admission is by donation



ANGELS; This Christmas the craft group aim to make 1,000 angels to give to the residents and staff of our 3 care homes and St Margaret's hospital and to hang them around Auchterarder. Each angel will have a message hung round the neck. These have been greatly appreciated the 2 years we have made them. BUT we need more help. The pattern is here but there will also be patterns and a box for the angels at the back of the church. If you want any more information please speak to Marjorie Paton or Margaret Dunster.





Angels knitting pattern below

IMPORTANT - READ THIS FIRST

SIZE is not crucial. Use DK or 4ply yarn, and needles sized between 3.25 and 4mm [that's 8, 9 or 10 in old UK sizes] Wool or acrylic- NOT cotton or silk, it is too floppy!

PLEASE DO NOT block or iron your finished pieces- the curled up edge is CRUCIAL to the way the angel stands

We need TWO types of angels; PLAIN WHITE, with NO hair/eyes/etc - and COLOURED which may have body, face & wings in different colours, and optional embroidered hair & eyes.

WINGS – if you find the "wrap and turn" technique too complicated, just knit angel bodies, and wings will be added later by someone else!

SEWING UP & OPTIONAL EMBROIDERED DETAILS- this can be done by someone else too, if you like – just knit the anae!!

Angel -- Body

Cast on 48 sts

1. Knit row

2. Purl row

3. *K2TOG, K10*, rpt until end [44sts] 4. Purl row

5. Knit row

9. *K2TOG, K8*, rpt [36 sts] 10. Purl row 11. Knit row 12.* P2TOG, P7*, rpt [32 sts] 13. Knit Row 14. Purl Row 15.* K2TOG, K6*, rpt [28 sts] 16. Purl row 17. Knit row 18. *P2TOG, P5*, rpt [24 sts] 19. Knit row 20. Purl row 21. *K2TOG, K4*, rpt [20 sts] 22. Purl row 23. Knit row 24. Purl row 25. Knit row 26. Purl row

[At this point, you may change your colour for the head/face- if you are

6. *P2TOG, P9*, rpt [40 sts]

7. Knit row

8. Purl row

mark the ends of this row so you know where to sew the neck] 28. Purl row 29. Knit row 30. Purl row 31. Knit row 32. Purl row 33. Knit row 34. Purl row 35. K2TOG -- repeat until end [10 stsl 36. Purl row 37. Knit row 38. P2TOG -- repeat until end [5 sts] Using a darning needle, thread the end of the yarn through the 5 stitches and tighten to create the top of the head. Sew the head and the body down the back seam. Around the neck [row 28] thread some yarn between stitches and pull loosely together. Take a small amount of stuffing and place inside the head. Gather up stitches and fasten off inside. You should aim for

the head to be the size of a cherry!

working on a PLAIN WHITE angel,

Angels' wings - Cast on 48 sts

Row 1 - K2TOG, Knit to last 2 sts, K2TOG Row 2 – K2TOG, K18, K2TOG, K2, K2TOG, K18, K2TOG Row 3 – K2TOG, K16, K2TOG, K2, K2TOG, K16, K2TOG Row 4 – K2TOG, K14, K2TOG, K2, K2TOG, K14, K2TOG Row 5 – K2TOG, K12, K2TOG, K2, K2TOG, K12, K2TOG Row 6 – K2TOG, K10, K2TOG, K2, K2TOG, K10, K2TOG Row 7 – K2TOG, K8, K2TOG, K2, K2TOG, K8, K2TOG Row 8 – K2TOG, K6, K2TOG, K2, K2TOG, K6, K2TOG Row 9 – K2TOG, K4, K2TOG, K2, K2TOG, K4, K2TOG Row 10 – K2TOG, K2, K2TOG, K2, K2TOG, K4, K2TOG Row 11 – K2TOG, K2, K2TOG, K2, K2TOG, K2TOG Row 11 – K2TOG, K2TOG, K2, K2TOG, K2TOG Row 13 – Slip 1, K2TOG, psso

Row 14 - Cut off 10ins yarn and pass it through loop

Finishing off you angel

Sew wings to the body with one seam down the centre back. Add eyes, hair as desired (this is optional)

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27. Knit row



Sound and Vision team need your help

The SAV team are looking for new members. If you have a heart for worship and would like to serve in this vital ministry, we encourage

you to pray about getting involved and then come and speak to us. Any prior sound or computer experience would be an advantage but is not essential as we offer training as required.

Please speak to Peter Stokoe at the sound desk after any Sunday service or email: pmstokoe@gmail.com.

It is with regret that we record the death of Mrs Irene McMillan. Her funeral service will be held in Church on Tuesday 7th May at 11am.

All are welcome to attend. There will be reception in the Church Centre following the service.'



APC Coffee Mornings (the last Saturday of the month)

Saturday 25th May 10.00 until 12.00 noon

Usual stalls, brick-a-back, baking etc. Contactless payments available. Suggested £4 donation Why not bring a friend and share our cosy place

Auchterarder Parish Church

The easy way to make a donation

If you scan the QR code with your mobile phone it

will take you to the following page where you can make a donation





Auchterarder Parish Church

E: admin@auchterarderparish.org Website - www.auchterarderparish.org Tel: 07467 793061 or 01764 660152 To speak to a Minister telephone: Rev Dr Lynn McChlery: 01764 662399 Rev lain Paton: 01764 682234

From the editor ...

I do hope you enjoy the newsletters which are currently being produced on the last 텪 Saturday of the month. The next edition of the newsletter will be Saturday 25th May 2024.



If you have any interesting stories, celebrations, photos, up and coming events etc you would like me to publish then please send to me, whenever you have them, and I will keep for the next edition.

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If you are reading this newsletter as a paper copy and would like to help save the planet and keep the costs down in printing the newsletter then please send me your email address to sylvia.elsmere@hotmail.co.uk and the next edition will be emailed to you.



Blue Door Foodbank

Opening Hours Tuesday 10.00 am - 1.00 pm Friday 10.00 am - 1.00 pm Auchterarder Parish Church 24 High Street, Auchterarder

For any further information, please contact us on: info@bluedoorfoodbank.org or 01764 660965

Blue Door Foodbank is always very grateful for food donations which can be dropped off at the local Co-op.

Social Media Reminders

Remember, you can always keep in touch online with APC and all its goings on in a variety of ways!



The website address is: auchterarderparish.org



APC twitter link is: @apcchat



Messy Church twitter link is: @ApcMessy

Our Facebook pages is: @auchterarderparish