

Ferintosh

Parish Church



Ferintosh Focus

Church Newsletter

September 2018

Serving the communities of Canon Bridge & Maryburgh

www.ferintoshparishchurch.org.uk

Find us on Facebook – Ferintosh Parish Church



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As always, we welcome any comments, questions or suggestions about the newsletter. Submissions are now invited for the next edition of the Focus - these can be made to members of the editorial team, or sent by email to strathdrynie@gmail.com

A full-colour copy of this newsletter is also available online at ferintoshparishchurch.org.uk

"And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us." 2 Corinthians 19-20



Contents

Although the pictures of smiling faces don't capture it, I'm sure that the hard work done by those in Ferintosh over the summer months came with some complaints, tiredness and frustration. This edition of the focus celebrates, in so many different ways, the **commitment** of the people of this congregation to serving God locally, nationally and internationally. We see commitment given in time, prayer, leadership, servitude, encouragement and learning. And those people we minister to – at home and abroad – are not always the easiest people to be committed to!

In 2 Corinthians, God describes us as **new creations**. But each of us, in response to God's commitment to us, are tricky customers! He pours out his love on us, gives us an eternity of time and promises salvation for each of us and yet we turn, daily, away from these things. He remains committed to us despite our sinful nature.

And God, in His love for us, has even committed His own unfathomable message of Salvation to us as Christ's ambassadors, to share it with our communities. As Christ is committed to us, we must commit to sharing this message with those whom he loves.

Church Contact Information	Page 2
Minister's Message	Page 4
Committed to Expressing our Faith – Guild Updates	Page 5
Committed to Community – Church & Local Groups	Page 8
Committed to Caring – National Outreach	Page 9
Committed to Caring – International Outreach	Page 10
Committed to God's Work - Journey of an OLM (Part Two)	Page 12
The King has one more move	Page 13
Committed to Prayer	Page 14
Committed to our Young People	Page 15
Committed to God's People – Social Calendar	Page 18
Committed to Learning - Book Review	Page 19
Privacy Notice	Page 20
Church Rotas and Register	Page 22



We have a new Church Facebook Page – which will bring you updates from life in our congregation.

Find us by searching for Ferintosh Parish Church.

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Minister's Message

“Steve is the Minister of the Breakfast Club Church!”

At a recent visit to one of our local schools a young lad was asked if he knew who I was, and with great delight (and to my surprise at his answer) he said, ***“this is Steve, he is the Minister of the Breakfast Club Church!”*** His answer



really impressed me because to him it didn't matter about what the church title was, he only knew about the church because of what we were doing. We started Breakfast Club at Easter and our amazing team have made countless pieces of chocolate toast, cut up tons of fruit, and have created a fun environment with games and crafts. We are grateful to everyone who helps at Breakfast Club but especially to all the boys and girls who come along every Sunday from 10:20am-11am.

I would like to encourage many more to Breakfast Club with the assurance of a 'no strings attached policy.' In other words, when you come to Breakfast Club in the hall it doesn't mean that you have to come to church. Sundays can be quite a long day for children, I think Breakfast Club is a brilliant way to spend a Sunday morning, especially with all that fun & food!

Someone said, ***‘People don't care about how much you know until they know how much you care.’*** I think that sums up who we are as a local church here as we serve Conon/Maryburgh and the surrounding areas. Everything we do is hopefully to be a blessing to our Parish. And all of this follows on from what we read in the bible, 'Cast your cares on to Christ because He cares for you.' It is amazing to know that we are cared for today, but it is even more amazing to know that the God of heaven cares for us. The Lord invites us all to cast our worries, stresses, and concerns on to Him. He is BIG enough and STRONG enough to carry and deal with them all. So why not come to the Lord in prayer and ask the Lord to meet you and help you in your situation today. You more than welcome to come to church on any Sunday at 11am or 6:30pm and find out more about our AMAZING Saviour who loves us with a never-ending love.

The Ferintosh Focus will tell you about the life of our little church beside the football pitch in Conon. It reminds us that the 'Breakfast Club Church' is your church, it's our church, because we are the Parish Church!

I hope to see you very soon,

*Your Minister and friend,
Stephen*



“And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.” 2 Corinthians 19-20



Committed to Expressing our Faith – Guild Updates

Guild is

- Fun**
- For all**
- Builds Friendships**
- Explores Faith**
- Full of interesting topics**
- Finds avenues of service**
- Grows Fellowship**
- Fundraises for projects near and far.**



The Guild is **FANTASTIC**

If you haven't come previously, why not give it a try. Guild meets on the first Monday of the month and times can be found in the Order of Service. In October we hear about the next set of Projects to be supported for the next three years and the speaker is Sheila Macleod, Project Coordinator of Ross Guilds Together. This is an evening meeting starting at 7.30pm

The amazing total for the projects for the last cycle is £753,883.11. It is just mind-blowing!

At the National Gathering in Dundee at the beginning of September, the new projects were unveiled and each representative had five minutes to talk about each one.

There are three "home" based ones and three "abroad".

- **The Sailors' Society** hopes to extend its global mission on our doorstep, meeting seafarers in Scottish ports, sharing God's love by meeting spiritual, emotional and practical needs.
- **CrossReach** has a project which aims to combat loneliness and social isolation and is called Join up the Dots. This will cross all age barriers and help people's physical and mental wellbeing.
- **The Boys Brigade** is hoping to help young men and boys by extending their training schemes to enable more young people to be reached.

The other three projects, one in India and two in Africa, are quite varied.

- **Free to Live Trust** tries to help exploited women and their children in the city of Pune, India where 3,000 women and girls have been trafficked into prostitution. Their children live on the streets. This trust has built a school and hopes to help more children and the women out of prostitution.
- **Malawi Fruits** project aims to help young farmers in Malawi to grow crops which have more value. They are using irrigation, processing facilities to add value and getting access to machinery. This project will be match funded by the United Nations.
- In **Zambia**, the project wants to help young mothers stay in education so that they can bring their children out of poverty.

Let's pray that these will receive the support they all deserve!

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Church of Scotland Guild National Gathering, Dundee 1st Sep 2018



Three Guild members from Ferintosh were privileged to attend this annual event, meeting with hundreds of others from all over the country.

The Gathering opened with an Agape Meal (distribution of bread and wine as a symbol of faith and fellowship) in the Caird Hall and also at countless places throughout Scotland (including Capstone Centre, Alness) where the Gathering was being live-streamed. Rt Rev Susan Brown, the current Moderator of the Church of Scotland, led this logistically challenging but very moving act of worship. The Guild theme for this session being “Seeking the Way”, Mrs Brown, as main speaker in the morning session, then went on to talk with insight and a good deal of humour about how God had led her on the way to the present day, when she was addressing the Guild in the morning and travelling to Balmoral to spend the weekend with Her Majesty the Queen in the afternoon. She spoke of how being a woman, being very young when she entered the ministry, and even being small in stature had threatened to become barriers to her following the way God planned for her, but also of how He had helped her to overcome difficulties and opposition to continue in His way.

The six new projects which the Guild will be supporting over the coming three years are described elsewhere in Ferintosh Focus by Janette Steele. It was inspiring to have a leading person involved with each to introduce its aim. A wonderful bonus was the beautiful singing of songs of praise in her native tongue by Mable Sichali of the United Church of Zambia.

Janet Winchester

“And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.” 2 Corinthians 19-20



It was good to meet some of the members of our Guildlink partners from Port Glasgow over lunch.

In the afternoon the main speaker was Tamsin Dingwall, the newly elected Moderator of the Youth Assembly. Irene Munro writes:

I was so impressed by the Youth Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland who spoke at our National Guild meeting at Dundee recently that on my own Facebook page I wrote how she was such a great ambassador for the young folk of today: and not only for young folk generally but particularly for our Church of Scotland youth.



With her surname Dingwall then Tamsin was memorable for the Ross-shire contingent but memorable for all by her testimony.

With humour and grace she told how she found her life in such a mess in her early twenties that she realised that she must change and so she got up one Sunday morning and went to church. She got such a warm welcome that she felt immediately at home. This is a wonderful tribute to her local church. Within four years she became youth Moderator. The amazing thing is not just her experience of faith, but given her complete non church background, her understanding of the importance of the



structures of the national and local church. Without structure is chaos. Structure is important as a means - a scaffolding - for the church to build on the secure foundation that is Jesus Christ.

Yes - we were all well blessed and refreshed by Tamsin Dingwall and we wish her well as she represents our church far and wide this coming year.

Irene Munro

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Committed to Community – Church & Local Groups

The **Pastoral Care Team** is there to assist in any way it can either at home or by taking people to appointments. The Team is also involved in visiting folk in Care Homes maintaining the contact which they had prior to taking up residential care.

The contact number is given each week in the Order of Service but it is always good to have advanced notice for times for appointments to allow arrangements to be made.

In order to carry out this caring task, the Team is reliant on the prayers of those who cannot be members of the Team themselves. Prayers are the powerhouse of all we do in the Lord's name and for His glory.

.....

The **Ladies Bible Study** takes place each Wednesday at 1.30pm in the Church Hall and lasts approximately an hour. Many areas are studied - individual books of the Bible or some topic which is pertinent to our Christian walk. This term we have already embarked on the Cover to Cover series concerning "The Armour of God" which Paul writes about in Ephesians 6: 10-18.



The ladies pray and read together having prepared for the meeting by reading the notes provided. This usually leads to some lively discussions and we do learn such a lot from listening to each other's take on the matters highlighted. However, we would welcome any ladies who would like to come along and listen.

The group are very welcoming and would really enjoy having more join us. Please give it prayerful thought.

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Do you have an interest in gardening, flowers, shrubs or craft work, or do you simply enjoy a relaxing evening with a difference? You do! Then you are more than welcome to come along to any meeting of the **Ross-shire Flower Club**. Our demonstrations are not only for flower arrangers, indeed many members are simply flower lovers, and the evenings are entertaining, informative and educational with the speaker giving tips on horticulture as well as talking us through arrangements. The club has been running now for 55 years and although styles and ideas change the mutual love of flowers and plants remains the same.

The Ross-shire Flower Club has a long association with Ferintosh Church since 1983 when we transferred our meetings from Dingwall Town Hall to the Church Hall. Over the years the club has supported many local charities. The Flower Club motto is 'Friendship Through Flowers'. Remember flowers fade but friendships flourish forever.

FORTHCOMING DATES: Thursdays 11th October & 15th of November at 7.30pm in the large hall.

Any queries please contact Pat Gillanders 01349 861618 or Isabel Macdonald 01349 861767

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Committed to Caring – National Outreach

In the Year of Young People, **CrossReach** is highlighting the services provided in the younger age group. The latest CrossReach News is written and edited by young people and has articles entitled - Children and Families Spotlight; Dreamnight at the Zoo; Caring Across Scotland; Strange tales from Ballikinrain. Pick up a copy to find out more (at back of the Church).

However, remember that CrossReach is there for people from the cradle to the grave, providing social care at all levels. CrossReach is active in Counselling and Support; Criminal Justice; Homeless People; Learning Disabilities; Mental health; Substance Misuse; Older People; Children and Families.

Christmas is coming and so it is time for CrossReach Calendars and cards to be available. The list is at the back of the Church and the Calendar, with its stunning pictures, can be viewed in the Hall after the service together with the catalogue for ordering other Christmas items.

CROSSREACH
Care you can put your faith in

Christmas Card and Calendar Collection 2018

Buy: shop.crossreach.org.uk Call: 0131 454 4374



Begin - Isabella's story



The cost to society of one case of untreated Pre- or Postnatal Depression is £74,000

Like any mother-to-be, Isabella was excited about bringing her daughter into the world. But, she relates: "As the days went by, I knew there was something wrong. I had a foggiess that just wouldn't lift and I just couldn't smile. I couldn't concentrate on anything and all I wanted to do was sleep."

"I went to my doctor to be put forward for counselling only to be told that there was a two-year waiting list. Then a friend told me about CrossReach Bluebell PND Service."

Isabella recalls her first session: "I cried and cried. I was so confused but also relieved as I felt it was the first time I could talk to someone about how I felt."

As the sessions continued, Isabella: "...grew to enjoy having my daughter. I remember the last session; I cried, not with sadness but with happiness as I knew that I'd made it to the other end. I left the service with a sense of satisfaction knowing that the future was bright."

In 2017 CrossReach PND services supported almost 1,000 parents and babies like Isabella and her daughter – a potential saving of £74 million to the public purse!

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Committed to Caring – International Outreach

Emergency Relief and Reconstruction in the Republic of Cameroon



For almost 14 years in the 1970s and 80s I worked in Cameroon in West Africa, initially as a teacher in a secondary school, then in the Women's Work Department of the Presbyterian Church. When I was in Cameroon, although it was a one party state, it was for the most part politically stable, and people were able to go about their business and social activities without fear. Only those who were actively and openly opposed to the government risked reprisals.

As a result of its colonial history, since independence in the 1960s Cameroon has comprised a large majority who have been educated in French and brought up on French systems of law, administration and education, together with a small minority who are English-speaking and used to English ways. Most of the Anglophones live in the North-West and South-West Provinces, closest to Nigeria. The Anglophones have for long felt overshadowed, if not overpowered by their Francophone neighbours, and there have been various attempts over the years to achieve change by political means.

For the last two years or more, however, the situation has been deteriorating. A campaign of non-violent civil disobedience led to violent attacks on the property of those who refused to take part, which in turn led to violent reprisals by the Police and eventually the army. The emergence of a movement seeking independence for the two Anglophone provinces has resulted in escalation into what has been described as akin to a civil war. There has been loss of life.

Only among the people I am still in touch with I am aware of the terrible consequences for individuals, whether or not they are engaged in the political struggle. I am reluctant to commit real names to publication, so I will call my god-daughter "Anna". Anna's father worked in the grounds of the Church Centre where I lived and worked. She is married to "Peter", who drives a long-distance taxi. Anna herself ran a secretarial business, providing services such as letter-writing, typing and photocopying. She has three daughters, two at secondary school. When the schools closed at the beginning of the civil disobedience campaign, Peter and Anna asked me if they could send their older daughters to live with me so that they could continue their education in Scotland. I was unwilling however to take on such a moral responsibility, even if finances and the UK Border Agency allowed. At some point the family must have moved from the town where they lived to the house Anna's late father had built in a rural village. Even there they were not safe, for in one night many houses in that village were burned down, including the house Anna's father had built through years of hard labour at the Church Centre and on his farm. Peter's taxi was also destroyed. The family, including Anna's elderly mother, had to flee on foot through the rain forest and are now living precariously in rented accommodation in the

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nearest town. In spite of all this, Peter and Anna have managed to send their girls to a boarding school in a part of the country where the situation is calmer.

“Mark” is the son of friends and former colleagues. Some of you may have met him when he visited me while studying in the UK. He returned to Cameroon a few years ago, having completed a BSc in Urban and Rural Planning and a Masters in Transport Planning. Mark never wavered in his intention to return to Cameroon to play his part in its development. With the help of friends in Switzerland, he set up a business extracting oil from the kernels of palm nuts and was planning to expand into soap production. He was engaged to be married, and he and his fiancée were expecting a baby. Because of the unrest it became unsafe for Mark to travel to the village where his business was based, and he has had to abandon it. His fiancée has already travelled with their young son to the USA, where she has relatives, and Mark is fighting to find a way to follow her there. Meanwhile Mark’s father, who is retired and not in good health, and his mother, a midwife in a hospital run by the Church, remain in Cameroon. Two of their four daughters already live abroad.

“Blessed”, another godchild, is the son of the young woman who used to help me in the house. Sadly, she died when Blessed was still at secondary school, and as his father is unable to help him, he struggles on his own. Trained to mend computers and mobile phones, his ability to make a living is severely curtailed by “Ghost Town”. This was originally part of the civil disobedience campaign, a voluntary closing of all businesses on one day per week, but for long now two days’ closure has been demanded, and those who have resisted have found their businesses vandalised. Being young, male and single, Blessed is also very likely to be targeted by the authorities as a suspected “militant”. Only this week he phoned to tell me he had been arrested along with nine other Anglophones in the same bus, while travelling to the nearest city to buy a piece of equipment for his workshop. They were held for some days and now, understandably, Blessed wants to leave the country. Nigeria, he tells me, is no longer allowing refugees from Cameroon into the country, but he has a friend in Equatorial Guinea, on the Island of Bioco, which can be reached by sea from Cameroon. He is desperately trying to apply for a passport before he is arrested again.

The Churches in Cameroon have been involved since the beginning of this situation. They have been organising specific days of prayer and vigils, as well as exhorting all Christians to pray personally for a peaceful solution. A friend whose husband is a retired Pastor tells me all the Pastors’ wives (and possibly also Pastors’ husbands) have made a pact to get up at midnight on specific days, wherever they are, to pray for peace. They also work together to support those who have been widowed and orphaned during the unrest. The Churches are actively involved in relief work. The church leaders have also been working together at no small personal risk to attempt to mediate between the rival parties. Now the Basel Mission, out of whose work the Presbyterian Church in Cameroon originally grew, and which was responsible for my work for most of the time I was in Cameroon, is promoting a project for the provision of immediate relief for those who have lost homes and livelihoods, and in the longer term of materials and tools for reconstruction.



Ferintosh Kirk Session has agreed that the proceeds of a retiring offering on Sunday 30th September, our Harvest Thanksgiving, will go towards this cause.

Janet Winchester

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Committed to God's Work - Journey of an OLM (Part Two)

On Facebook people often mention what they work as and then they post the comment - 'I love my job'. That made me think about a common saying - 'Work is only work unless you would rather be doing something else.'

As OLM (Ordained Local Ministry) trainee then I am to fulfil my training in ten hours a week or so but I don't consider it a chore, as some work can be, because I wouldn't rather be doing something else. I am aware that, as I am an 'official' volunteer, many people in our Church are 'unofficially' doing many more than ten hours unpaid and they wouldn't consider it a job because they love doing it and wouldn't rather be doing anything else. This is because it is a natural response to living (as the I AM sayings of Jesus have been teaching us) - to be the light of the world, led by love of God, guided by the Holy Spirit. When I hear what people do as I travel round in my visits I think that some would need to cut back if they were to only do 10 hours a week!



Our Church runs well because of very busy people going more than the extra mile in their service. But I hear of those in our Church family who do many things for neighbours, friends and family which involve many hours a week which would not come under 'Church work' officially but are done in the power of the Spirit and for the love of Christ. They do not count the hours.

I read a while ago of a group of people who spent hours preparing for a conference which was to happen at their Church and they put a huge amount of effort behind the scenes into making it a success. The main speaker was impressed and said to the people who had worked so hard how it had helped him and how kind they were to do it. They said 'oh no it was no bother - we **get** to do this.' Yes - they said that they '**get**' to do it. They saw it as a huge privilege to be allowed to do it. And what a privilege it is for me to hear of those who have the attitude of humility; who do Christ's work as people who '**get**' to serve their Saviour, Lord and King in the unsung and selfless serving of others. They wouldn't write it on Facebook that they love their 'job' but it is written on them because they would not consider doing anything else.

Irene Munro

SENIOR CITIZENS LUNCH CLUB

Conon Bridge Senior Citizens' Lunch Club is a friendly, informal event held in Ben Wyvis Primary School at 1pm every second Friday during school term times. The club is always looking for new members, so if you would like to come and meet old and new friends over a bowl of soup and some home baking, please contact Mrs Catriona Meiklejohn on 01349 863676 or Mrs Erica Mack on 01349 864949.

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The King has one more move



Two men stand staring in front of a painting in an art gallery. In the painting, a man is playing chess with the villain of life. The villain is grinning ear-to-ear because he has the man cornered. The title of the painting, “Checkmate,” indicates that the game is over. The villain has won. His opponent has failed. He has no more moves, CHECKMATE!

The first man looking at the painting wants to move on to view other paintings in the gallery. But the second man, an international chess champion, wants to look at the painting longer, so he waves his friend on and tells him he will catch up later. The chess champion stares and stares at the chess board, then suddenly he steps back, flabbergasted. “It’s wrong!” he exclaims. “There’s one more move.” He runs to his friend and together they look at the painting. “We have to contact the painter,” the chess champion says. “It’s not checkmate!! **The King has one more move!**”

Throughout the Bible, this game has been played: the Israelites found momentary freedom only to face the formidable Red Sea with Pharaoh and his armies in hot pursuit. But the King had one more move! Daniel was lowered into a den full of hungry lions for defying a tyrant and standing up for his faith. But the King had one more move! A 9ft tall fighting champion named Goliath called for a winner-take-all, one-on-one fight to settle the war. A little shepherd boy took him on. The King had one more move! Jesus was crucified, and buried for 3 days. But that was not the end because the King had one more move!

Ever feel like life has you beat?

The King has One more Move!

Ever feel like you’re out of options? Like you’ve lost hope?

Jesus, the King of kings has One more Move!

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Committed to Prayer

Sunday Morning Prayer

Since our last Focus edition we have begun a drop in prayer time in the Church Hall's Quiet Room from 10.15-10.45am. The invitation is to come and listen to the quiet music and reflect for a short time before morning worship.

Day of Prayer

Saturday October 6th 10am - 3pm

While there are regular twice a week group prayer times for the congregation, once a year we open the church for a day for personal prayer and reflection with a selection of topics to pray for. This year the church will be open from 10am-3pm on October 6th.

Various stations will have resources to reflect on the different themes, against a background of quiet music. The church will be open from 10am until 3pm for anyone to drop in for a few minutes, or longer periods. Tea and coffee (self-service) will be available at the entrance. The free booklet Try Praying (a seven day exploration of faith) will be available for uplift for personal use or to pass on.



While this year the prayer day is a week later than the national UK prayer weekend we are glad that we can know that we are linked in with a much greater number of churches which have dedicated a weekend to prayer throughout the land.

Our overall theme for our Ferintosh Prayer Day is 'Come Holy Spirit our hearts inspire'. Please do consider coming along anytime during the day.



Committed to our Young People

Our **Summer Trip** was to Abriachan Community Woodland on 23rd June. It was a perfect day to spend together with the sun shining, and was attended by about 16 young people and 12 adults. Our theme was Zulu Warrior Survival Trip and after cupcakes and a drink we started with crafts with pasta beads, headdresses and face painting. We had some team games on the Zulu assault course followed by some pond dipping. Martin and two of his scouts plus parent helpers set up a barbeque lunch outside at the campfire and we enjoyed bacon rolls, hot dogs, bananas and marshmallows. The scouts set out a trail and clues for the children to follow in two teams to spot pictures of wild animals of the woods. It took them all over the area including the tree house and bird hide. The children also enjoyed time in the play area. The following day the morning service reflected the trip to the congregation. Gifts were given to all the children and young people who belong to our Church family, and we wished Lara Vance and Saffy Jezewski well as they were preparing to move on to university in the autumn.



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Heather ran a **Summer Club** each Sunday during the school holidays, which has kept the children coming to church and allowed the other leaders a holiday and time to attend the service. The children are in the church for the first half an hour then in the hall for games, water fights, rounders, table football, mop hockey, and crafts.



A new trial format for Sunday Club and FYF started on 26th August where we are all together in the hall at Breakfast Club, before going into the church for the first half of the service: offering & prayer, praise, prayer & Lord's Prayer, talk on biblical themes/characters, prayer for the children, praise. As the children have been in the church for 20-25mins the hall experience is lively, beginning with games, which lead into a craft (possibly on the biblical theme for that day) or other creative or physical activity. For the last 5 minutes of the session there is juice and biscuits and we aim to have a brief chat about what the children would like to do in the forthcoming weeks, before finishing for the day.



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At the present time we are looking at the “I am” sayings of Jesus. So far we have made bread, decorated tea-light lanterns, and produced gates of all sizes, including a large wooden one, made with much enthusiastic hammering of nails. This will take us up to 14th October when the schools will be on holiday for 2 weeks.



We hope to encourage the older young people to help with planning for the following weeks and to support the younger members of the group, and to encourage other young folk in the Parish to get involved in Sunday activities and any other projects we may want to start in the future (possibly through the Saltire Award Scheme).

All children of nursery age and older are involved in the main activities, but we do have one or two younger children who come to the crèche. We are looking for a few more helpers to join the crèche rota, making it more manageable for everyone.

Breakfast Club
Sunday mornings
in the hall
10.20am - 11am

All Nursery to Primary School
age children welcome.

Food, Fun, Games and plenty
of fruit & chocolate toast!

And it's... **FREE!!!**

More Information: Ferintosh Parish Church
Or smacdonald@churchofscotland.org.uk

“And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.” 2 Corinthians 19-20



Committed to God's People – Social Calendar

RIVER CAFE: This is held in the Church Hall on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from 2pm-3.30pm and gives the opportunity to meet up for a chat while enjoying some tea/coffee and home baking. If you are able/willing to provide some home baking on an occasional basis and/or help by serving tea or washing dishes, please add your name to the list at the back of the church, or speak with Janet Murray as your help would be greatly appreciated.

FORTHCOMING DATES: Wednesdays 10th October, 14th November, 12th December.
We look forward to welcoming you there.

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SOUP LUNCHES: These are held in the Church Hall on the 1st Friday of the month throughout the Autumn/Winter, starting at 12 noon. Why not come along and join us for some delicious home-made soup, tea and biscuits, while having a chance to meet up for a chat?

FORTHCOMING DATES: Fridays 5th October, 2nd November, 7th December, 1st February, 1st March.

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BEETLE DRIVE: We plan to hold another Beetle Drive on Saturday 9th February 2019 in the Church Hall. This is always a fun event. Further details in next Newsletter.

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COFFEE MORNING WITH CHRISTMAS STALLS: Once again, we plan to hold a Coffee Morning in the Church Hall on Saturday 1st December 2018 from 10am - 12noon. Entry is by donation with proceeds going to support Church and Community Activities. Teas will be served and Stalls will include: Christmas Arrangements, Baking/Produce, Crafts, Guess the weight of the cake and many more surprises. The hall will be open on Friday 30th November from 7pm - 8pm to receive any contributions for the stalls and from 8.30am onwards on Saturday 1st December. We look forward to seeing you there!

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SUNDAY TEAS: It is encouraging to have so many people come together to chat over tea and biscuits following both Sunday Services. Thanks go to everyone who helps with this. If you feel you could help, on an occasional basis, to make the tea, please add your name to the list, as once again your help would be greatly appreciated. It is not necessary to provide baking for these events!



Many thanks go to everyone who supports the social events in any way as without your help and support, they could not take place. If you feel you would like to become more involved with these activities, please get in touch.

Janet Murray, Social Convenor

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Committed to Learning - Book Review

Crazy Christians: A Call to Follow Jesus by Michael B. Curry

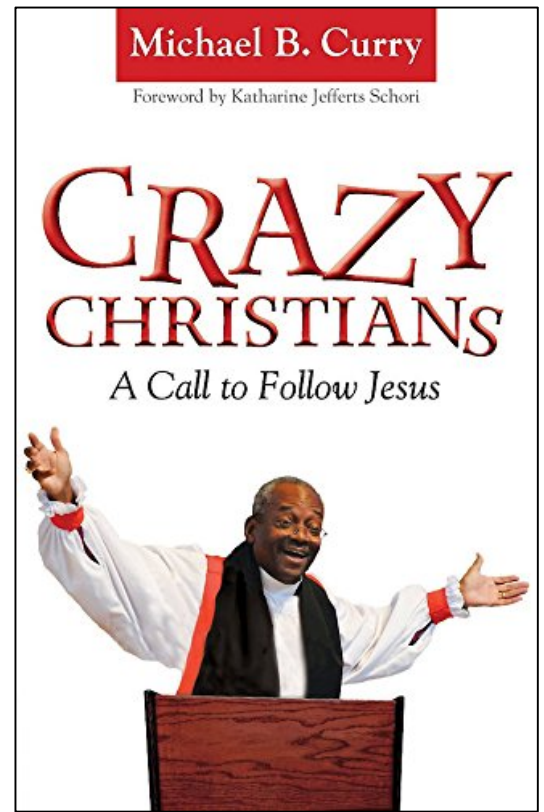
This short book consists of thirteen chapters which had been addresses or sermons delivered over a twelve year period.

The author's contention is we need to be more like Jesus and follow him more closely.

Mark 3: 19-21 in the 1995 Contemporary English Version of the Bible says, "When Jesus' family heard what he was doing, they thought he was crazy and went to get him under control."

Michael feels that the Church tries to make Jesus tame and we want to manage the Messiah. However, he won't be managed. "He goes on breaking out of all the tombs to which we have consigned him." (Richard Holloway)

We, as Jesus' followers, people of the way, must be crazy too. We need to turn abuse into blessing; we need to be servants and not the greatest; we need to love enemies; we need to forgive. We should love like Jesus, give like Jesus, forgive like Jesus, do justice like Jesus, love mercy like Jesus, walk humbly with God like Jesus.



We are called to that life of craziness to change the world from the nightmare it seems to be into God's dream - reconciliation, reunion, communion, all God's children, new society where we are gentle, caring and compassionate and sharing.

He quotes George Bernard Shaw the words which Robert F. Kennedy used in his presidential campaign. "Some men see things as they are and ask why. I dream things that never were and ask why not."

Rev Curry uses quotes from some very old hymns and spiritual songs to back up his ideas e.g. There is a balm in Gilead; All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place; If I can help somebody as I pass along; Put your hands in the hand of the man who stilled the water.

The most Rev. Dr. Katharine Jefferts Schori writes in the foreword, "as human beings our vocation is to partner in the transformation of this planet toward that ancient and eternal vision of a healed and reconciled existence... the divine dream of shalom, a community of peace and justice."

This will sometimes make the world call us crazy too.

A good read and may make us think "When Upside Down is Really Right Side up," one of the chapter headings in the book.

Janette Steele

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In May 2018 the protection of personal data was enhanced with the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulations 2018. As a result, all Church of Scotland congregations are required to produce a Data Protection Policy, Data Retention Policy and congregation Privacy Notice using templates provided by the Church of Scotland. These documents for Ferintosh Parish Church were agreed at the Kirk Session meeting of 23rd August 2018 and the Privacy notice is published below for information:

Data Protection Coordinator - John Smith

Privacy Notice

Ferintosh Parish Church Reg. Charity no. SC012675 (the "Congregation")

Purpose of this Notice

This Privacy Notice outlines the way in which the Congregation will use personal information provided to us. Personal information includes any information that identifies you personally, such as your name, address, email address or telephone number.

The Congregation recognises the importance of your privacy and personal information and we have therefore outlined below how we use, disclose and protect this information. The Congregation, jointly with the Presbytery of Ross is the data controller, because we decide how your data are processed and for what purpose. Contact details for us are provided below.

How we use information

We use the information you give to us:

- to administer membership records, including a Communion Roll and Supplementary Roll;
- for pastoral care purposes;
- in relation to participation in Congregational activities ;
- to provide you with information about news, events, and activities within the Congregation or the wider Church of Scotland;
- to provide the services of a parish church to the local community;
- to fulfill contractual or other legal obligations;
- to manage our employees;
- to further our charitable aims, for example through fundraising activities;
- to maintain our accounts and records (including the processing of Gift Aid applications);
- if CCTV is in place we have this for the prevention and detection of crime.

Disclosure of information

The Congregation will only share your personal information where this is necessary for the purposes set out above. Information will not be shared with any third party outwith the Church of Scotland without your consent unless we are obliged or permitted to do so by law.

Basis for processing personal information

The Congregation processes your information in the course of its legitimate activities, with appropriate safeguards in place, as a not-for-profit body with a religious aim and on the basis that our processing relates solely to members,

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former members or people who have regular contact with us, and that this information is not disclosed to any third party without your consent.

We also process information where this is necessary for compliance with our legal obligations; where processing is necessary for the purposes of our legitimate interests and such interests are not overridden by your interests or fundamental rights and freedoms; and where you have given consent to the processing of your information for a particular purpose.

Storage and security of personal information

The Congregation will strive to ensure that personal information is accurate and held in a secure and confidential environment. We will keep your personal information for as long as you are a member or adherent or have regular contact with us or so long as we are obliged to keep it by law or may need it in order to respond to any questions or complaints or to show that we treated you fairly. We may also keep it for statistical purposes but if so we will only use it for that purpose. When the information is no longer needed it will be securely destroyed or permanently rendered anonymous. Further information about our data retention policy is available at ferintoshparishchurch.org.uk.

Getting a copy of your personal information

You can request details of the personal information which the Congregation holds about you by contacting us using the contact details given below.

Inaccuracies and Objections

If you believe that any information the Congregation holds about you is incorrect or incomplete or if you do not wish your personal information to be held or used by us please let us know. Any information found to be incorrect will be corrected as quickly as possible.

You have the right to object to our use of your personal information, or to ask us to remove or stop using your personal information if there is no need for us to keep it. There may be legal or other reasons why we need to keep or use your data, but please tell us if you think that we should not be using it.

If we are processing your data on the basis of your explicit consent, you can withdraw your consent at any time. Please contact us if you want to do so.

Contact us

You can contact us by getting in touch with John Smith at strathdrynie@gmail.com or on 01349 865915.

How to complain

You have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner's Office about anything relating to the processing of your personal information by the Congregation. You can contact the ICO via its website at www.ico.org.uk or at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

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Ferintosh Parish Church meets at 11am and 6.30pm each Sunday.



Our friendly and welcoming congregation is made up of those from Conon Bridge, Maryburgh and the surrounding area. A breakfast club meets at 10.20am. Crèche (for those of pre-school age), Sunday Club and FYF meet during the morning service. Tea and coffee are served in the Church Hall at the close of worship.

You are invited to join us and we pray that you will experience a real sense of God's blessing during your time with us.



Church Flowers



Church Welcome

October **Organiser – Mrs J Cameron**

7 th	Mrs A MacKay
14 th	Mrs S MacKenzie
21 st	Anne McInnes
28 th	Gael McCallum

November **Organiser – Mrs I MacDonald**

4 th	
11 th	Mrs I Munro
17 th	Mrs K Campbell
25 th	Miss I MacDonald

December **Organiser – Mrs J Cameron**

2 nd	Mrs P Gillanders
9 th	N/A
16 th	N/A
23 rd	N/A
30 th	N/A

Welcome

Count

October

Hugh Fraser
Anne MacKay

Hugh Fraser
Anne MacKay
Janette Steele

November

Isabel MacKenzie
Isabel MacDonald

Isabel MacKenzie
Janet Murray

December

Mhairi MacKenzie
Elizabeth Blackburn

Mhairi MacKenzie
Elizabeth Blackburn
Connie Parry

Church Register

Funeral

29 June 2018 Mrs Arlene Maclean

Weddings

4 August 2018 Jennifer Smith & David Holden
15 September 2018 Morag Paterson & Neil McKinnon

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