

FERINTOSH FOCUS

CHURCH NEWSLETTER
SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF CONON BRIDGE & MARYBURGH



www.ferintoshparishchurch.org.uk

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 Ferintosh Youth Fellowship (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.

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Dear friends, when we place our lives in Christ's hands, we come to know our true worth and how much we are loved by God! I hope you enjoy one of my favourite poems which illustrates for us who we are to Christ and who Christ is to us.

Touch of the Master's Hand

Author: Myra Brooks Welch

It was battered and scarred,
And the auctioneer thought it
Hardly worth his while
To waste his time on the old violin,
But he held it up with a smile,
"What am I bid, good people," he cried,
"Who starts the bidding for me?"
"One dollar, one dollar. Do I hear two?"
"Two dollars, who makes it three?"
"Three dollars once, three dollars twice,
Going for three." But, No,

From the room far back a grey-haired man
Came forward and picked up the bow,
Then wiping the dust from the old violin
And tightening up the strings,
He played a melody, pure and sweet,
As sweet as the angel sings.
The music ceased and the auctioneer
With a voice that was quiet and low,
Said "What now am I bid for this old violin?"
As he held it aloft with its' bow.

"One thousand, one thousand, do I hear two?"
"Two thousand, who makes it three?"
"Three thousand once, three thousand twice,
Going and gone," said he.



The audience cheered,
But some of them cried.
"We just do not understand,"
"What changes its' worth?"
Swift came the reply.
"The Touch of the Master's Hand."

And many a man with life out of tune,
All battered with bourbon and gin,
Is auctioned cheap to a thoughtless crowd
Much like that old violin.

A mess of pottage, a glass of wine,
A game and he travels on.
He is going once, he is going twice.
He is going and almost gone.

But the Master comes,
And the foolish crowds never can quite understand,
The worth of a soul and the change that is wrought
By the touch of a Master's Hand.



Congratulations to members
Martin & Sheena on their recent
wedding, held at Ferintosh Parish
Church. We thank you for your
continued service in so many ways
and wish you many years of
blessing and happiness.

WHAT IS THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY?

The General Assembly is the supreme court of the Church of Scotland. The Assembly meets annually to hear reports from the councils and committees, make laws and set the agenda for the national Church. This year the General Assembly met from Saturday 18th – Friday 24th May.

The Assembly was first held in 1560, the year of the Scottish Reformation which marked the beginning of the Protestant Church of Scotland.

The Assembly takes place at the Assembly Hall in Edinburgh – the previous home of the Scottish Parliament from 1999 until 2005.

Many who attend or tune in online to the live worship, speeches and debates are profoundly touched by the strength and warmth of fellowship within the Kirk.

More than 730 commissioners from congregations across Scotland and more than 150 people from associated partners and other organisations came together to take part in debate, tradition and worship.



The Assembly was live-streamed – meaning you can watch it back on the Church of Scotland website.



A summary podcast of each morning & afternoon session is available on the Church of Scotland website.

HEART & SOUL

The Heart & Soul Festival celebrates the life and work of the Church with those who keep it strong and vibrant in communities everywhere – members, volunteers, ministers, and congregations alike! Janet Winchester attended and has written this poem with her reflections of the day.

Hordes of people young and old converging on Princes Street Gardens

Edinburgh Castle perched on its rock looking protectively down

Art and music, drama and poetry

Reunions with friends from all over Scotland and beyond

Tents arranged in villages housing congregations, presbyteries, councils, organisations and interest groups

All age stage with songs, dances, stories and puppets

New ideas – and old favourites

Delight in sharing God's Word and His work

Social Care Council: CrossReach celebrates 150 years

Overseas Assembly guests – and overawed tourists!

United in God's service

Last worship seated all together on terraces in the open:
Jesus said "Follow Me"



LADIES BIBLE STUDY

The group continues to meet in the Church Hall each Wednesday afternoon from 1.30pm for approximately an hour.

We have studied books of the Bible in different ways with or without the benefit of DVDs and, at the moment we are using a Celtic theme through God's creation. So far we have looked at The Circle, Desert, Flower, Fruit and Green Places. In the coming weeks we will look further via Ocean, Seed, Stream, Sunshine, Mountain and Trees. This should take us up to our summer break, after which we will resume again in September.

Numbers remain quite steady and it would be really good if we had some new members. You don't have to commit to being there every week. Please give it prayerful thought.

GUILD

Ferintosh Parish Church Guild has now finished the session 2018-19 and will have an outing to the Floral Hall, Inverness to round off the year.

During the year, there have been some really interesting meetings and we even had a time with the Guild National Convenor, Patricia Robertson, who hails from Greenock Guilds Together (formerly Presbyterian Council). Patricia has now stepped down, just like the Moderator of the General Assembly, and Marion MacIntyre is now Convenor. She is from Shetland Guilds Together. So you can see they are not confined to the central belt!

The Guild Team will be preparing a varied and interesting programme for next session which will begin on the first Monday in September. The theme is "One Journey, Many Roads". Let's hope your journey and road will lead you to come along to find out if the Guild is for you. Look forward to that.



The Ladies' Bible study enjoyed a meal at the Red Poppy in Strathpeffer. Janette (second left) has prepared, informed and led discussions in a variety of interesting formats over years in the hall, not to mention giving us hospitality and fellowship in her home. This meal was a small appreciation of saying many thanks from all of us.

PASTORAL CARE TEAM

The Team is a very small band of volunteers who offer to help and support people in our community. Their dedication is much appreciated by those who have used our service in the past.

In the main, we take people to appointments in Dingwall and Inverness. We also continue to visit people who are less able in getting out and about.

Contact with folks who can no longer live in their own homes and are in residential care is kept up by visits to local care homes. If you think you would like to join the Team, contact either the Minister or Janette Steele for further information.

Prayer for this aspect of the Lord's work is so necessary and helps the volunteers and the users.

GUILD PROJECTS UPDATE

During the year, the new Projects have been up and running:

CrossReach Join the Dots combatting loneliness - £26,378.02

Sailor's Society a chaplain in each port - £18,222.55

Boys Brigade training new leaders - £27,320.15

Malawi Fruits new sustainable farming methods - £14,294.64

Free to Live Trust Pune, India help for sex workers' children - £21,473.73

World Mission Council teenage mums to stay in school in Kenya - £13,779.28

This comes to a grand, and I mean GRAND, total of **£131,468.37**

This always astounds that small groups when they join together can achieve so much.

EASTER BREAKFAST

As a change from the usual format of meeting for breakfast between services on Easter Morning, breakfast was provided between 09.30am and 10.30am. 21 people attended and enjoyed each other's company while eating a variety of "breakfast goodies".



TEN PIN BOWLING

Once again, we are planning an evening of Ten Pin Bowling in Inverness. This will be held on Wednesday 19th June 2019 leaving the car park beside the church at 6.30pm to be at the venue for 7pm. The cost is £6 per person, which is the charge made by the Roller Bowl and includes the entry fee and hire of shoes. (This also means we pay for one game and we have a voucher for a second free game). Refreshments can be purchased as required at the venue. If you wish to come along, then please add your name to the list at the back of the church to give an indication of numbers. This is always a fun evening so we look forward to seeing you there.

SUNDAY TEAS

Thanks go to everyone who so willingly serve tea and biscuits following both Sunday Services. It is encouraging that so many people take the time to enjoy coming together for a chat and "cuppa" as "Fellowship" is an important part of our church life. If you can help make the tea, or even wash the cups afterwards, please add your name to the list in the hall as your help would be gratefully appreciated.

COFFEE MORNING

Following the success of the previous 2 years, we are again planning to hold a Coffee Morning with Christmas Stalls in the Church Hall on Saturday 30th November 2019. Further details will appear in the September issue of the Focus.

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 together for a chat, while enjoying some tea/coffee and home baking. This is becoming a popular event and we continue to welcome groups from the Seaforth Centre who enjoying meeting with everyone. Our last cafe for this session takes place in June and we then have a well earned break in July/August, meeting again on the 11th of September. If you are able to help at any of the cafes, or provide some home baking, please add your name to the list which appears at the back of the church prior to each cafe or contact Janet Murray.

FORTHCOMING CAFE DATES: 12th June, 11th September
We look forward to welcoming you there.

Many thanks go to everyone who helps in any way with all the social events we try to provide - without your help they could not take place.

WORLD MISSION STAMP APPEAL



The Stamp Appeal of 2019 will support the Chigodi Women Centre in Blantyre Malawi who are also celebrating their 50th anniversary.

The Chigodi Women Centre is delivering a broad range of skills training to address the challenges faced by women in Malawi.

Through providing training in tailoring, fashion design and chicken farming the Centre will improve the women's skills in marketing and entrepreneurship. The aim is that the women's socio-economic status is improved and their chances of future employment increase. By selling the produce made at the Centre the plan is that when the funding finishes the project will be self-sustainable – able to continue to improve the lives of women in Malawi.

It is thanks to your dedication that we are celebrating our 50th anniversary this year. Why not join us in celebrating 50 years and take part in the 50 stamp challenge? Can you collect 50 stamps (or more) in a year? We have designed a post van which you can create out of paper and use as a donation box.

There is a red box in the annexe at Church for used stamps - and you can even collect one of the post van collecting boxes beside it.



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK



This year's Christian Aid week in May succeeded in raising over £1,900.00 thanks to the generosity of the church congregation, and communities of Conon Bridge, Maryburgh and the wider area. Many thanks to all who helped – the stalwart door to door collectors, supermarket volunteers, those who helped in so many ways with the soup lunch and the prayers of those who gave support.

This magnificent sum will help Christian Aid and their partners improve facilities for mothers and their babies in Sierra Leone and beyond, enabling the "Gift of Life" to be enjoyed by those less fortunate than ourselves.

We are living in a world of change, not least where the act of giving is proving more difficult – quite simply collections in cash are just one of the 'hurdles' we will have to overcome in order to be in a position to support this and other charities. Next year, we in Conon Bridge, may have to consider different methods of raising money to support Christian Aid week.

I am planning standing down from the role of Organiser (having taken over from Georgie Jack 8 years ago) and would like to thank everyone who has supported me in that time. It has been a fulfilling exercise in so many ways and a privilege to have been part of the world wide fund raising for Christian Aid.

JOAN MACKENZIE



Christian Aid – *Together we can create a world where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty.*

CROSSREACH

This year marks 150 years of the Church of Scotland providing social care in Scotland.

There is a CrossReach 150th Anniversary Exhibition, at present in the Parish Church of St Cuthbert in Edinburgh, which after 12th June will begin a tour (See the CrossReach website for more information).

You may have seen on the news recently about the new trishaw (pictured below) at Balmedie House Care Home which allows residents to get fresh air, exercise, exploring the environment and creating happy memories. The news item – and picture – features twin sisters, aged 95, enjoying a time outdoors. This is made possible by a partnership with Cycling without Age Scotland.

This year CrossReach Sunday is 17th November which will soon come around.



The CrossReach News and Prayer Diary are available at the rear of the Church.



HIGHLAND FOOD BANK

Sadly, the use of foodbanks is still very much in evidence and shows no sign of diminishing. In Inverness, demand for the foodbank's services have increased by 20%.

At Ferintosh, we have been very generous throughout the whole year in providing non-perishable foodstuffs, toiletries, cleaning materials and – at special times of the year – little extras to make life a bit more bearable for those who are down on their luck. (There but for the grace of God, go !!)

Recently, we have been asked to add to our shopping baskets items which do not require much cooking such as pot noodles. This may seem odd but access to cookers and ovens are very limited in some cases.

People using the foodbank are given enough to get them and their family through three days – not much, is it? Please pray for the users and helpers as they seek to alleviate the plight of fellow citizens.

Please place any item for donation in the large container in the annex of the Church. Leave the carrier bag too if you can since they are used to get the food home.



A new Foodbank Warehouse Supervisor, Don Ferrier, has recently started at Glebe Street, Inverness, centre. Give thanks that some of his salary has been funded by Asda.



Ferintosh Parish Church

Today

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June 2019

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Print

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Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
27	28	29	30	31	Jun 1	2
	18:00 beavers 19:30 country dance	10:00 prayer group 13:30 ladies Bible s	13:00 bundles of fu	11:00 line dance		10:20 Breakfast Cl 10:50 Sunday Club 11:00 Morning Serv 18:30 Evening Serv
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	18:00 Beavers 19:00 Angling club 19:30 Country dance	10:00 Prayer group 13:30 Ladies Bible 16:00 Guild commi	13:00 Bundles of fu 18:30 Friday club	11:00 Line dancing		10:20 Breakfast Cl 10:50 Sunday Club 11:00 Morning Serv 18:30 Evening Serv
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	18:00 Beavers 19:30 country dance	10:00 Prayer group 13:00 River cafe 13:30 Ladies Bible	13:00 Bundles of fu 19:30 Flower club	11:00 Line dance		10:20 Breakfast Cl 10:50 Sunday Club 11:00 Morning Serv 18:30 Evening Serv
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	18:00 Beavers 19:30 Country dance	10:00 Prayer group 13:30 Ladies Bible	13:00 Bundles of fu	11:00 Line Dance		11:00 Morning Serv 18:30 Evening Serv

Events shown in time zone: United Kingdom Time

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Google Calendar

HIGHS AND LOWS

Isaiah 57:15.

"For this is what the high and lofty One says, he who lives forever, whose name is holy: 'I live in a high and holy place, but also with him who is contrite and lowly in spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite.'"

The phrase, 'the high and lofty heavens' is really emphasising the great distance between God and us. And this distance is brought out in three ways in this text.

First of all, there is a physical gap and that is brought before us really in the first phrase "He is the high and lofty one." And then later on it says, "I dwell in the high place."

Why is Isaiah bringing this emphasis, highlighting this 'distance' to his hearers in Israel? Well, it is because Israel were under great threat. They were being besieged by the Assyrians and they were really on the verge of being overwhelmed.

But instead of turning to the Lord their God, they were turning to everything else and trying every other option. They were turning to foreign kings and nations as this chapter makes clear. They were returning to Egypt and especially the Egyptian army. They were also turning to idols again as this chapter brings before us and especially idols that were on tops of mountains.

The idea was that if they could find the highest mountain and worship on top of the highest mountain, then that would get them closer to 'a god' and maybe get them some help. Some of them were even worshipping the stars and the planets.

In essence, they were turning to the highest powers and the highest kings and the highest nations, the

highest mountains with the highest idols, and they were even thinking to the extent of the planets and the stars. They were looking high, but they were not looking high enough.

And that is why Isaiah comes in and says that there is one far higher. There is one higher than the highest earthly king or nation. There is one higher than the highest mountain. There is one higher than the highest planets or stars...

Isaiah is saying basically all these high things that you are looking to in this world, whether they be kings or nations or mountains or idols or planets or stars, they are just nothing. They are just little pieces of dust compared to the great high and lofty One... the One true and living God.

Well, if there's a distance gap, **secondly** there is a time gap that Isaiah brings before the people. Notice he says it is the high and lofty One who "lives forever". In other words, Isaiah is conveying very clearly that God lives in the ever present NOW! This can be a very hard concept for us to get our heads around simply because we can't go back in time and we can't go forward in time either. And that is because we inhabit time. We live in moments. We live in seconds. We live in one particular spot in the whole timeline of history.

But God is so different because He inhabits eternity. What does that mean?

It means that God inhabits every single point of time all of the time. If we were to look at the whole timeline of history, then the first second of it is as present to God as our time right now!

God is in every single second, every single moment of time, every month, every year, every day, every



But instead of turning to the Lord their God, they were turning to everything else and trying every other option.

century and every millennium are all as present to God as this moment is to us right now.

It's mind boggling isn't it? We can't even begin to imagine what that must be like or what God must be like when He inhabits and dwells in eternity.

But there is a **third** gap here and it is a moral gap, a moral distance. We are told that God inhabits eternity and His name is holy. The next phrase says that God lives in the high and holy place.

Now when we read about names in the Old Testament, we need to remember that a name actually means character. When we read of a name it is usually describing a character and this verse here is saying that God's Name is holy which means His character is holy!

Everything about Him is holy. His love is holy. His justice is holy. His wisdom is holy. His power is holy. His everything about him is holy, his whole character is holy! God does holy things. He speaks holy words. He lives in a holy place. Therefore His name describes that He is Holy!

So why is Isaiah bringing these great gaps to Israel, the distance gap, the time gap, the moral gap? It is because Israel had such a low and poor view of God.

The vast majority of Israelites had shrunk God down so that God wasn't even just one of them on their level, but they had even reduced God to something less, almost forgotten and insignificant.

And Isaiah is reminding those who were treating God as just some little thing, that their view of God was all wrong. Isaiah brought these great gaps to the people's attention to enable them to conceive of the Lord far more accurately, more realistically, and so that they may again be in awe of this AWESOME God.

Don't we need this today? Our generation needs it, but all of us need it. We all have an ability to shrink God in our thinking. We live in a day where God is diminished in society and where He becomes an irrelevance in our everyday. We need to be reminded

again and again by God's Word of the greatness and the awesomeness of God so that we might begin to see him as he really is, that we might no longer treat him irreverently and insignificantly, but begin to be awed and humbled before Him.

But Isaiah doesn't want to allow people to think that this God who dwells in the high and lofty heavens is unreachable. He wants them to call on God, he wants them to turn again to this AWESOME God!! And that is why Isaiah brings our attention to the fact that this awesome God desires to dwell with His people.

There is a contrast here. There is this high and lofty heaven where God dwells, but He also desires to dwell *'with him who is contrite and lowly in spirit.'*

That word 'contrite' means crushed or turned to dust. And the word 'humble' means lowly, reduced, or brought down.

What kind of person does Isaiah have in mind when he writes here? This obviously isn't the strong and the mighty and the wise and the successful and those that are self confident, and self assured.

This is another kind of person altogether. These are people who have been crushed and broken by life. These are people who have been crushed by their moral weakness, crushed by their personal foolishness, and crushed by their spiritual coldness.

But what does God do for them? He doesn't just visit. He does something when He visits *"to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite."*

The Lord comes into that broken life and HE starts the spiritual rebuilding. He starts renovating. He starts replacing the brokenness. He comes to heal and forgive as He alone bridges the distance gaps to rescue us from our sins and to give us eternal life.

How can we know this awesome God? How can we know His life-giving power and forgiveness? We look to God's only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ who died and rose again so that we could know the life-giving power of the love of God to reach us, rescue us, and keep us for all eternity.

PANCAKE PIZZAZ

Saturday 6th April had dawned grey and wet, so although the rain had stopped by the afternoon, 2 o'clock saw the Church hall full to overflowing.

In the kitchen were piles of pancakes made by Maria, Irene, Ann, Christine and Isobel, while Isobel and Janet stood by with a bowlful of batter, ready to replenish supplies; Kate and Brenda presided over quantities of jam, cream, fruit, peanut butter, chocolate spread and toppings, ready to respond to guests' orders; Ann and Margaret stood ready to wash up all the equipment and used crockery.

Outside the hatch Joan, Sheena, Lorraine and Cerys were eager to begin taking orders, while Anne was in charge of tea, coffee and juice. Pat sat at a small table near the door, looking forward to parting guests from their money. Elizabeth and Connie presided over a groaning sales table, as well as keeping an eye on the goods brought by Mhairi of The Leprosy Mission (Scotland).

At the other end of the hall Pauline was ready with the face paints, Lorna with the craft materials. Roderick, Martin, Lara, Anya and Isla had set up a range of indoor games for the younger visitors.

In between we had set up tables with 48 places – but soon had to fit in another, and quickly clear used crockery as more and more guests arrived.

In the small hall everything was ready for Mhairi's presentation at 3 o'clock.

The doors opened and it was as though someone had pressed a switch. Very soon all was activity and sound: orders taken and filled; items bought and sold; faces painted; Easter eggs, chickens and bunnies decorated; skittles bowled, basket balls thrown through hoops (or not); squeals of delight as lucky dip parcels were opened; and over and around all the buzz of conversation – as guests of all ages from Conon, Maryburgh and all around enjoyed our Pancake Pizzaz.

It was almost a bonus that the money raised eventually totalled £720 for the **Heal Nepal** appeal of The Leprosy Mission. In the earthquake which hit that land in 2015 the Mission's hospital in Anadaban was badly damaged. Initially staff, whose houses had been destroyed, had to live in temporary accommodation while continuing to treat not only the patients they already had, suffering from leprosy or its consequences, but also the many casualties of the earthquake. Some of the leprosy-affected patients who were well enough actually gave up their beds to the new arrivals and slept on the floors. The Leprosy Mission launched the Heal Nepal appeal to raise funds to repair and extend the hospital, and the UK government pledged to match all funds raised between January and April 2019, up to a maximum of £2million. In the end, the appeal raised almost £1.7million, giving the Mission around £3.4million towards the work, which is already in hand.

Many thanks are due to all who helped in any way to make this event such a success.

JANET WINCHESTER, CONGREGATIONAL TLM REPRESENTATIVE



The Leprosy
Mission
Scotland



Following
Jesus Christ, The
Leprosy Mission

seeks to bring about
transformation; breaking the
chains of leprosy and
empowering people to
attain healing, dignity and
life in all its fullness.

**PANCAKE
PIZZAZ
RAISED AN
AMAZING
£720!**



As this is my last week as Probationer in Training for Ordained Local Ministry at Ferintosh, several people have asked what would I be expecting to do next.

I hope to be ordained sometime in the summer in Ferintosh Parish Church and this has been a great pleasure to have trained here among you all; but my role does not continue here.

As a part time and unpaid post, an Ordained Local Minister is not inducted to a charge as would a full time National minister but is ordained into a role within Presbytery. I have felt called to be more and more involved within the Care Home sector and with those in vulnerable groups and Presbytery has agreed to ordain me as Chaplain to Vulnerable groups on an interim basis subject to Presbytery Plan. With that in mind I plan to be spending time in other churches exploring how this will work out.

Within Presbytery I would also be available to help out with funerals and pulpit supply - including administering the sacraments.

I am sure of God's guidance just as he has guided me this far and I know that I will have the love and prayers of this congregation for which I am thankful.

This text is especially meaningful to me and is for us all: 2 Timothy 1:9 **"He has saved us and called us to a holy life - not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time."**

CONTRIBUTED BY IRENE MUNRO



The conclusion of Irene's training was celebrated by the congregation of Ferintosh with the presentation of a cake, bible and flowers after a morning service, followed by lunch with some of the Kirk Session.

To find out more about the roles in Ordained Local Ministry, visit the Vocations section of the Church of Scotland website, or speak to the minister.

SEAFORTH HOUSE

One of the areas Irene has been involved in leading are our services at Seaforth House.



Palm Sunday was our theme for our two monthly service at the beginning of April when the Ferintosh Team and the residents had a very active service, acting out Jesus' entry into Jerusalem waving real palm branches supplied by a member of our congregation. The team performed with gusto different ways in which we demonstrate that we appreciate people.

We considered then how we appreciate Jesus as we praise him for who he is and for his sacrifice for us. Palm crosses were handed out to residents as a visual to remember the Easter story.

WE LOVE FERINTOSH!

We have been learning about believing is seeing in the church. Stephen did the trick with the chair where you have to trust that a chair will be there when you go to sit down.

We have enjoyed time together doing water play, rounders, catch, football, orienteering and chocolate egg decorating.

On 25th May some of the leaders and parent helpers did a First Aid course lead by trainer Shirley. We learnt so much, it was an amazing day. Thank you to Isobel for setting it up and providing lunch along with Janet.

On 14 & 15th June we plan to go to Inverness Tesco to raise money the young people in the Ferintosh community.

Could you pass on the flyers below to a family you know in the community?



We loved welcoming all the pupils from Ben Wyvis Primary to the Church for their Easter service!

A colorful flyer for 'Breakfast Club'. The background features a bright blue sky with white clouds and a large yellow sun rising over a green grassy field. The text 'Breakfast Club' is written in large, bold, black letters across the top. Below it, 'Sunday mornings in the hall' and '10.20am - 11am' are written. To the left, it says 'All Nursery to Primary School age children welcome.' To the right, 'Food, Fun, Games and plenty of fruit & chocolate toast!'. At the bottom, it says 'And it's... FREE!!!'. There are illustrations of children playing with balloons, a group of children holding hands in a circle, and a boy eating from a bowl. At the bottom, contact information is provided: 'More Information: f Ferintosh Parish Church Or smacdonald@churchofscotland.org.uk'.

FREE PARENTS/CARERS, BABIES & TODDLERS - ALL WELCOME!

BUNDLES OF FUN

CONON BRIDGE CHURCH HALL THURSDAYS 1pm - 2.30pm

A chance to relax over a cup of tea or coffee whilst you watch the children play.



PUZZLE PAGE

Who do you say
that I am?

From
akidsheart.com

ETACOVDAEWH
RURETSAMFOG
AVRSUSEJLNO
WRETMWAYICL
VINYDAAKDDO
RATSGNINROM

DAYSTARCPTSA LDNATSRI FORERUNNER
EVGFNOPHHOTUJGROLESNUOCHCNARBO
NMPEIAGONOFUORHADUJFONOILIFEIT
EEMVMIMOSRSFKHORN OFSALVATIONS
RSAAHOFFETKEENDOGYTHGIMLAMENHI
ASSQNGDDOILANINOSNETTOGEBYLNOD
ZITJOUNNNNDECAEPFOECNIRPHYPLPE
AAEDYOE GACORSTNENIVDIVADFONOSM
NHRZWHS LQARS DPOCJT LAMBOFGODBV F

RHORA TOUCIR
PHPOCSNDEGE
ELRLDRSGRHD
NDOFAEOERTE
TRPOINLVUHE
EEHDDRAESBM
RVEREOTRESE
EOTOLCILRHR
VSNLIKOA VET
ISGRVVNSAPS
GADAERBTNHI
WPSDRVSITER
AGSGEVONORH
LOWORDHGS DC
NOITADNUOFY

Life
Light
Lion of Judah
Lord of Lords
Master
Mediator
Messiah
Mighty God
Morning Star
Nazarene
Only Begotten
Son
Passover
Priest
Prince of Peace
Prophet
Redeemer
Resurrection
Rock
Savior
Servant
Shepherd
Son of David
Son of God
Son of Man
Vine
Way
Wonderful
Word

Advocate
Almighty
Alpha and Omega
Amen
Apostle
Beloved Son
Bishop
Branch
Bread
Captain
Carpenter
Chosen
Christ
Consolation
Cornerstone
Counselor
Day Star
Deliverer
Door
Emmanuel
Everlasting
Faithful and True
First and Last
Forerunner
Governor
Head
High Priest
Holy and Just One
Horn of Salvation

I AM
Jesus
Judge
King
King of Kings
Lawgiver

There is one I AM
saying in the
wordsearch but not in
the list. Can you find
it?

CHURCH CONTACTS

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GET IN TOUCH WITH THE NEWSLETTER TEAM

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 available on our website.



Facebook -
Ferintosh Parish
Church

FROM THE EDITOR

E M M A S M I T H

"A time of fellowship" - what does that mean to you? Too often it's a soft biscuit and a lukewarm cup of too-strong tea at the end of a church service. Or maybe you go to a "fellowship" - playing frisbee at a youth fellowship or even more tea(!) at a ladies' fellowship.

It is true these are indeed times of fellowship, but there is so much more! John writes in 1 John 1 that "our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ." Fellowship is about drawing ourselves - and others - close to God.

It is fellowship to sit with the weeping widow, lonely for the first time and struggling to make sense of loss. It is fellowship to hold the hand of the ill, praying with them and calling out to God for healing and peace. And it is fellowship to appear at the door of the newly redundant, bringing not only welcome nourishment but a word to point them to the security that God plans for each of us. Let each of us benefit from the fellowship of others as they seek and rejoice in God - and take us along with them on this tea-powered journey.



CHURCH ROTAS



CHURCH FLOWERS

July **Organiser - Mrs E Blackburn**

7th Mrs H Drummond

14th Mr T Thomas

21st Mrs S Weir

28th Mrs E Blackburn

Aug **Organiser - Mrs C Parry**

4th Mrs M MacKay

11th Mrs A Smith

18th Mrs A McKee

25th Miss J Winchester

Sep **Organiser - Mrs I MacDonald**

1st Mrs J MacDonald

8th Mrs D Fraser

15th Mrs J MacKenzie

22nd Mrs P Gillanders

29th Harvest Thanksgiving



CHURCH WELCOME

July Tommy MacGregor

Mary Eagleson

Anne MacKay

Aug Jannette Steele

Erica Mack

Connie Parry

Sep Hugh Fraser

Sheena McLauchlan

CHURCH REGISTER

Weddings

Martin & Sheena McLauchlan - 16th May 2019

Funerals

John Stirling - 9th April 2019

Freddy Reid - 29th April 2019

James Wemyss - 7th May 2019