



## Chalmers Memorial Church Newsletter Autumn 2017



**By day the Lord directs his love, at night his song is with me – a prayer to the God of my life.  
Psalm 42:8**

Dear Friends,

***"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." Hebrews 13 verse 8.***

I read the following story – which may or may not be true, but either way it has in it a very valuable lesson. One day, there was a blind man sitting on the step of a building with a hat by his feet and sign that read "I am blind, please help." A creative publicist was walking by and stopped to have a look. He saw that the blind man had only a few coins in his hat. He dropped in a few more coins and, without asking for permission, took the sign and rewrote it.

The same afternoon the publicist returned to the blind man and noticed that his hat was full of notes and coins. He paused for a moment and the blind man asked him if he was the person who had rewritten his sign and, if so, what did he write?

The publicist responded: "Nothing that wasn't true. I just wrote the message a little differently." He smiled and went his way. The new sign read: "Today is golden autumn and I can't see it."

Sometimes we need to change our strategy. "If we always do what we've always done, we will always get what we've always got."

Did you ever stop to think that the New Testament part of the Bible is almost silent on the method by which we should conduct ministry? I think the reason is obvious. If it weren't, some of us would stick to the same methods used in Paul and Peter's day religiously and rigidly. God never changes and His Word never changes. However, often our means of communicating needs to change with the times. Remember, "Nothing changes if nothing changes." In other words, if what we are doing in our relationships, our family life, and in our churches isn't working, or isn't as exciting as it once was then we may very well need to change ourselves and/or our strategies and methods, even our traditions and practices. Change is so often feared, yet in reality it can be the best thing ever for adding new life and vigour to our responsibilities. So let us all grasp change and trust that God's hand is upon it all.

Yours in Jesus

Mike

### Funerals

On 27<sup>th</sup> June - Ella Cunningham, Port Seton

On 7<sup>th</sup> July - Robert Purves, Port Seton

On 27<sup>th</sup> July - George Buchanan, Longniddry

On 9<sup>th</sup> August - Mary Smellie, Port Seton

### Wedding

On Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July

Mr Ross PARKIN

to Miss Nicola WATSON

Port Seton

### **EDITOR'S NOTE**

Thanks to all who have contributed to this issue of the Church Newsletter. The next issue will be available on **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2017.**

Articles for this edition should be with me by **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2017.**

If you would like to E-Mail news you can contact me on: [chalmerschurch@btopenworld.com](mailto:chalmerschurch@btopenworld.com) or by phone on 819471  
*Sheila Bulloch*

### Interim Moderator

Rev Neil Dougall

Home telephone 01620 892132  
[ndougall@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:ndougall@churchofscotland.org.uk)

### Locum Minister

Rev Mike Watson

Home telephone 01875 320043  
Mobile 07702 229886  
[MWatson@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:MWatson@churchofscotland.org.uk)

## Thanks

*Faye Townsend* would like to say thank you everyone for the phone calls, cards and especially the flowers (sent from Duncan and Helens granddaughters wedding) they were lovely. She's making good progress everyday now.

*Tom & Dorothy Tervit* would like to thank the church for flowers received on 25<sup>th</sup> June, after celebrating their Emerald Wedding anniversary (55yrs). Also on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July received flowers for our daughter, Sue who is presently unwell. Both were very much appreciated.

*Margaret, Allister and Valerie Purves* would like to thank all their friends at Chalmers for the support through love and prayers over the past months during Bob's illness and when he died. It was a great comfort to us and to Bob to know we were surrounded by so many people's thoughts and prayers, at what was a difficult time. Thanks also for the visits and time people gave to support us through, it was much appreciated.

*John McPhee* would like to thank the church for the flowers received following his operation, they were very much appreciated.

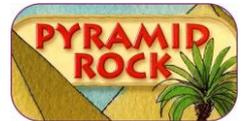
## Vacancy News

We have received applications for our vacancy and have been conducting interviews with candidates in July and August. After these interviews, we shall decide what further steps to take, ranging from continuing to advertise the vacancy to going to hear a prospective minister preach. Our aim is of course to present a worthy and eminently suitable preferred candidate to the congregation as our Sole Nominee.

A reminder that a key part of the vacancy process is the Parish Profile. This document very much sets out what we are as a church and what we're looking for in our new minister as he or she continues to lead us in our journey together with the Lord. The Parish Profile is an excellent document. Please go to our church web site <http://www.chalmerschurch.co.uk> and follow the link to it. I'm sure you'll be blown over by it! While you're on our web site, take the time to explore it – it's fantastic too!

Please keep the Nominating Committee in your prayers. The committee members are: Anne Arnott, Mary Gordon, Loreen Courtney, Christine Baines, Cathy Smith, Ian Bulloch, Duncan Morgan, John Johnston, John Marshall, Tom Tervit and Colin Sutherland (convenor).

Harbours Medical Practice has recently installed a new telephone operating system. As with all such systems the level of efficiency is only as good as the information it contains. Could patients ensure that they notify the Practice when there are any changes in address or contact telephone numbers.



## Children and Youth News

Another year at **Kids Kirk** concluded in June with our **Family Fun Day**. It was good to see some of you there. The families particularly enjoy spending time in fellowship with the church congregation. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our team of helpers – from setting up the hall, participating in the sessions, making feasts and leading the Sunday service. We also enjoyed a fun **Treasure Hunt** for the young people in **Youth Kirk** on the Sunday. It was a beautiful night to explore our little community. The young people had to work out an anagram – Detectives – this was a little clue to our new session when they will become **Daring Detectives**.

For a week in July, our hall was transformed into the Egypt, where we explored the life of Joseph for our **Pyramid Rock Holiday Club**. Special thanks to George Thomson who made us a 4ft pyramid, this was such a great resource it even featured at Tranent's Holiday Club. Over the week we had 27 children. Our favourite slot each day was Captain Ketchup and her news for the day, she even appeared in Church at the closing service! Normally August is a time to relax, but this year we held a special event for our P7-S3 young people at **Pyramid Rock Artefacts** on **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August**, they explored Joseph and his feelings.



On 16<sup>th</sup> September we continue our travels in Egypt as we travel on **Rocky Road** as Moses grows from a baby to an old man. Each Sunday following Kids Kirk, the worship team will continue the travels at 10.15am, please come along and join us. We the set up the Detective Agency for **Daring Detectives** on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September 6-7.30pm.

God Bless, *Sheila Bulloch & Amanda Johnston*

**Kids Kirk** and **Youth Kirk** contact details are - [KidsKirk@chalmerschurch.co.uk](mailto:KidsKirk@chalmerschurch.co.uk)

or text on 07980 059 974

# Contemporary Songs of Praise



CHALMERS MEMORIAL CHURCH  
PORT SETON  
8<sup>TH</sup> OF OCTOBER 2017  
6.15PM

COME ALONG AND JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF PRAISE AS WE SING SOME OF OUR FAVOURITE CONTEMPORARY HYMNS INCLUDING SHINE JESUS, SHINE, KING OF KINGS, COME NOW IS THE TIME AND MORE!

WE ARE INVITING ALL AGES TO TAKE PART IN WHAT PROMISES TO BE AN EXCELLENT SERVICE ACCOMPANIED BY A FULL BAND INCLUDING GUITAR, PIANO & DRUMS.

THERE WILL BE A RETIRING OFFERING.

## Stepping Stones

The bereavement support team in Chalmers is delighted to offer a further *Stepping Stones* programme this autumn for the benefit of the Chalmers congregation and the wider local community.

*Stepping Stones* programmes are open to all who are living with loss, not necessarily recent, and who feel they need support, encouragement and reassurance. Feedback from participants in recent programmes has been positive and encouraging.

*"Sharing with people who appreciated what I was living with was so important."*

*"After my bereavement, support faded away very quickly. Stepping Stones was a life-line."*

*"It was good to be listened to and find reassurance that I was normal. I felt I was learning to smile again."*

Several other congregations in Scotland have taken up Chalmers' *Stepping Stones* model of bereavement support. So it's good to know that our work in Chalmers is making a difference – locally and further afield.

You'll find *Stepping Stones* leaflets in the church. But if you wish any more information, please speak – in confidence – to Tom Gordon at any time.

## Chalmers Adventurers

This year 38 Adventurers decided on Southport as their base. This charming town is well worth a visit in its own right but is a great place to visit other nearby attractions, as we found. We set off from the church at 9.30 on the Monday, with quite a few of our friends there to wave us off. Tom Gordon hopped aboard the coach to bless our journey, and then we were off. The mood of the group was set, with chat and laughter all the way, helped by some of the corniest jokes from driver Paul and Joyce's bottomless sweetie tin! We arrived at our hotel just in time to get changed for dinner; this is when I realised I'd forgotten my tux and bow tie, so a casual shirt had to do the job!

One of the good things about the holiday was that there were trips arranged for each day, but it was up to individuals whether they wanted to go along, or do their own thing. On Tuesday, for example, some folk went to St Anne's, while others of us explored Southport. The ladies went shopping along the Victorian Lord Street with its canopied pavement, while we men found the model railway, set within the delightful Kings Gardens. Addie, Tom J and George A found the Lawnmower museum.

Wednesday dawned bright again and we were off to Liverpool. If you have never visited this city it's well worth going. We had a guided tour where we learned lots about the city's history and some of the famous names associated with Liverpool, including the Beatles of course. A number of us then explored Albert Dock, where there is shopping (you can't get away from it!), coffee shops and museums featuring the Beatles, Maritime History, and Slavery for example. Then back to the hotel for another fine meal, followed by lots of chat and laughter over a drink. Someone from another bus tour staying there, remarked, "We wish we were with your group"; the fun we were having must have been very obvious,

So far, we had been fortunate with the weather. We'd had some rain, but most of it had fallen while we were on the coach, but Thursday was something else, with rain most of the time for our trip to Chester. A guided tour, much as we'd had the day before and then a couple of hours to explore the historic walled city, with cobbled streets, quirky lanes and the famous medieval galleried two tiered Rows, full of shops and cafés.

On Friday after breakfast we were all packed and ready for our return home, with a stop at a large garden centre outside Carlisle before high tea at Whitburn.

I think I speak for all the other Adventurers when I say how much we enjoyed our short holiday; driver Paul kept us going with his jokes and useful/useless information, while special thanks have to go to Joyce Buchanan. She is very modest about this, but it is largely due to her great organisation and the way she kept us right, that the whole thing was so successful. We thank God that we were able to enjoy such friendship, fun and fellowship. Just one question now. Should we do it all again next year?

**George Smith**

## Fundraising

Look out for these events coming up over the next 3 months.

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September** - Late Summer Fair. Between 2 and 4pm in the Church Hall. Teas, Coffees and plenty of stalls, Home Baking, Books, Records and CDs, Quality Bric-a-Brac, Toys and Children's Books, Produce & Jams etc. and "Guess the weight of the cake". Calling on all bakers...your help is needed to stock the Baking Stall and to provide our usual high standard of Teas. All donations will be gratefully received on the Friday evening or Saturday morning. Please see Elizabeth Glover or Pat Berry for more info.

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October** - The Music and Magic Show with Bill Wishart and Friends 7.30pm in the Church Hall. Tickets at £5 available from Ian Bulloch (Kids go free). This will be a really entertaining evening for all the family.

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November** - Tom Gordon's Quiz Night. Tickets at £5 will be available from Tom. This fun evening is fast becoming an annual event. Make up teams of four and test your general knowledge. (It won't be too difficult).

The money from these events goes to the Restoration Fund which is used for the maintenance of our buildings. Please come along and support us.

*George Smith, Stewardship Convenor.*

## Services and Meetings

### Sunday

- 10:15 a.m. All-age Worship (in Hall)  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship (with Crèche)  
6:15 p.m. Evening Worship (as advertised)  
6-7.30pm Youth Kirk (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of month) (Sept – June)

### Monday

- 7:15 p.m. The Guild (Oct - March)

### Tuesday

- 10.00 a.m. Chalmers Ramblers Walking Group  
7.30 p.m. Prayer Meeting

## Welcome Wednesday

- 10.30-11.30a.m. Chalmers Crafters (1<sup>st</sup> of month)  
1.30 – 3pm Indoor Curling (1<sup>st</sup> & last of month)  
10 - 11a.m. Prayer Time (2<sup>nd</sup> of month)  
1.30 – 3pm Get Together (2<sup>nd</sup> of month)  
12-2p.m. Lunches (3<sup>rd</sup> of month)  
10a.m – 12noon Coffee Time (last of month)



### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – George Smith  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship

### **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September**

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – Ian Bulloch  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship

### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September**

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship –  
Travel down Rocky Road – Amanda Johnston  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship

### **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September** (Please note NO 10.15am SERVICE)

- 11.00 a.m. Harvest Thanksgiving  
6.15p.m. Harvest of the Sea

### **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October**

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – Mary Gordon  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship with Guild Dedication

### **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October**

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – Anne Sutherland  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship

### Wednesday – Evening Activities

- 5 – 6 p.m. 1<sup>st</sup> Port Seton Rainbows (Sept. - June)  
6:30 p.m. Boys Brigade –  
- 7:45p.m. { Anchor boys and Junior Section  
{ Company Section (Sept. - June)  
8.00p.m. Badminton Group

### Thursday

- 5:15 – 6:15p.m. 1<sup>st</sup> Cockenzie Rainbows }  
6:30 – 8 p.m. 2<sup>nd</sup> Port Seton Brownies }  
(Sept. - June)

### Friday

- 1 – 3.30pm Childcare National 4 Group  
(Aug – April)

### Saturday

- 8.00 – 9.15a.m Prayer Breakfast (last of month)  
10am-12noon Kids Kirk (3<sup>rd</sup> Sat of month)  
(Sept – June)

## OUR WORSHIP

**Rev Mike Watson will conduct worship unless otherwise stated.**

### **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October**

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – Mike Watson  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship

### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October**

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship –  
Travel down Rocky Road – Tom Gordon  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship

### **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October**

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – George Smith  
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship with Sacrament of **HOLY COMMUNION**  
6.15 p.m. Evening Worship with **HOLY COMMUNION** –  
Rev Tom Gordon

The next Candle Coffee  
Club meeting is on **Thursday**  
21<sup>st</sup> September at 10.30a.m

The speakers will be  
Gavin & Des Campbell

In Longniddy Inn.

All welcome



### STEPPING STONES A Local Bereavement Support Service

The next  
Stepping Stones  
Bereavement Support Programme  
will begin on  
**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September at 2pm**  
in the Port Seton Community Centre  
and will last for six weeks.

Further information is available from

[steppingstones.mail@gmail.com](mailto:steppingstones.mail@gmail.com)

or by phone at 07724 916 700

or from Tom Gordon

### **MINISTER –**

In Transition  
Tel: 01875 819254

### **TREASURER**

Mr Ian Bulloch  
Tel: 852717

### **FLOWER CONVENER**

Mrs Lyn Marshall  
Tel: 814265

### **SESSION CLERK**

Mrs Mary Gordon  
Tel: 812262

### **ACCESS to the HALL contact**

Mr Tom Donaldson  
Tel: 812023

### **ORGANIST**

Mrs Pamela Zenati  
Tel: 813641

### **HALL LETS**

Miss Jean Johnston  
Tel: 810520

### **BEADLE**

Vacancy  
Tel:

### **PRAYER SECRETARY**

Mrs Patricia Knox  
Tel: 815423



Please recycle this newsletter and care for the earth as God intended