



Chalmers Memorial Church Newsletter
February 2013



Dear all,

I write as your temporary Interim Moderator. I have been appointed by Presbytery while your minister, Kristina, is off work. I have just a few things to say.

First, Kristina needs space to get back to full strength. Please do not bother her with things related to the church. If there are any problems, they should come to me. Please also remember that Matthew, although he is a minister, is Kristina's husband, not her colleague. You need to respect his need for space to care for her too.

When Kristina comes back to work, remember that she will still need a bit of time to get fully back into the swing of things. If there are issues you can sort out for yourselves, do so. Don't expect her to 'hit the ground running'. Ministry requires a lot of stamina and it can take quite a long time to regain that.

If you go to the manse, take cakes, soup, stews, freshly caught fish, flowers, cards, bottles of wine, but not work. Show Kristina that you love her. Your love, even more than your cooking and baking, will help her recovery.

Keep faithful in your worship and work in the church. There is nothing more dispiriting for a minister than the sense that things fall away in her or his absence. Warmly welcome all who come to lead worship.

Finally, remember to keep both Kristina and Matthew in your prayers.

Sandy Horsburgh

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Thanks to all who have contributed to this issue of the Church Newsletter.

The next issue will be available on

Sunday 24th March 2013
(Palm Sunday)

Articles for this edition should be with me by

Sunday 10th March

If you would like to E-Mail news you can contact me on:

chalmerschurch@btopenworld.com

Or by phone on 819471

Sheila Bulloch

MINISTER

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*(Please respect **Monday** as the Minister's day off)*

Thanks

Tom and Sandra Donaldson would like to say how very much appreciated your prayer, good wishes, flowers and cards were during Tom's recent health problems. They are delighted to say he has made a good recovery, with next hospital appointment being in 6 months.

Thank you to all those involved in decorating the Church for Christmas, it was very much appreciated by all.

Thanks are expressed to everyone for their donations to the various activities over Christmas and Lothian Presbytery's Souper Sunday Project recently. The amounts were collected as follows:

Christian Aid	£239.55
Christmas Card Collection	£245.50
HIV / AIDS Souper Sunday	£381.61

*Many are the plans in a man's heart but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.
Proverbs 19 21 (NIV)*

PRAYER DIARY

Sunday: Holy Spirit, please help us today to take time to quieten our hearts before You; to hear Your voice of reproof, comfort, encouragement and direction. Forgive us when we become preoccupied with our own thoughts and plans and forget to come into the Father's presence and listen to You. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen

Monday: Lift up before God Kristina and Matthew who have been going through a very difficult time these past months. Pray that they may experience the wonderful comfort and peace that God can give in times of bereavement and personal disappointment.

Tuesday: In these days of economic uncertainties and talks of referendums in Scotland and England bring before God all who represent us in Westminster, Holyrood and the E.U. May those in government increasingly seek to make wise and righteous laws to promote peace and prosperity that are in accordance with God's will and purposes. Pray especially at this time for our own Governments who are considering redefining marriage. Pray that they may look carefully into all the implications that can arise, affecting churches and education in schools.

Prayer Secretary

Thanks are expressed to Alice Hood for her work as Prayer Secretary. She is now retiring and we are pleased to announce that Mrs Patricia Knox will take over from her.

The next Candle Coffee Club meeting is on
Thursday 21st March
Meeting at 10a.m
In Longniddry Inn.
All most welcome



Wednesday: Pray for families in our community who are experiencing great pain because of bereavement, relationship breakdown, loss of job, health or social issues. Ask God to bring His grace, peace and hope into their lives.

Thursday: Remember to pray for the meetings of the Kirk Session and the various Committees of our Church as they seek God's plan for the way forward in reaching out to the community with the message of the Gospel. Pray too for the officials of the Church in "121" as they face so many difficult situations in these changing times.

Friday: In all churches there is a great concern that we are not reaching out to young folks. Pray earnestly that as individuals we will take seriously *our* responsibility to share the good news of the gospel with future generations.

Saturday: Lord we pray for our world, particularly the Middle East and North Africa where tensions are so high. Please give strength and wisdom to those seeking to bring reconciliation between enemies, and all who provide help to victims of attack. We remember Your Church in these places and ask for Your blessing on our brothers and sisters in Christ. Amen.

Children's Resource Day

On Saturday 9th March, between 10am – 1pm, in Chalmers Church Hall, Nicola Bruce and Hazel Gray will be sharing some children's resources and new music for use within our church and all-age family worship.

This event is open to all with an interest in working with children and young people.

For further information please contact Mary Gordon

(mary.t.gordon@btopenworld.com)

or Amanda Johnston

(mands.6@btopenworld.com)



Chalmers Memorial Church Youth and Children's Committee

Christmas Holiday Club: "Friends and Heroes" was the title of a very successful Holiday Club which was held on Saturday 8th December with 24 children in attendance. An excellent joint churches Christmas activities publicity leaflet, designed by Sheila Bulloch, had been distributed in the school. Once again the success of the day was in no small measure due to the dynamic leadership of Nicola Bruce, ably supported by a small but hard working team of volunteers. Between Tranent, Prestonpans and our club, over 100 children/families attended which is great news!

Kid's Kirk The Committee appointed a small working group at its November meeting to work with Kristina who has inspired and led the Kid's Kirk idea. General publicity about developing the Kid's Kirk was included in the Christmas activities leaflet. Unfortunately (due to Kristina's illness) the planning group has not yet met and as a consequence the opening date for Kid's Kirk has not yet been arranged.

Sunday School: Numbers in the Sunday School vary greatly from week to week and Christine Baines has managed so far to ensure adequate teachers/leaders for this. Discussion has taken place, however, both within the Committee and among concerned helpers about a possible alternative approach to making the best use of Sunday morning, bearing in mind the needs of both children and adults. Perhaps these ideas need to be more widely aired and discussed by all who have such needs and interests at heart.

Funeral Teas

Being able to provide a tea after a funeral has long been an important way for our church family to show its love and support to those who mourn. It remains just as important. However, Wednesday has, in recent years, become the day when people both from the church and community come together on a regular basis. Therefore, as a church family we will continue to provide funeral teas but not on Wednesdays as it is proving difficult to cancel regular activities which happen on Wednesdays.

Our Church – an explanation of the Interior Decoration and Symbolism

Last year we had a visit from a gentleman from Cheltenham who is researching for a DPhil at Kellogg College, Oxford. His thesis title is **"What influence did the Arts & Crafts have on church-building in Britain 1888-1918?"** He visited some 300 churches all over the UK, including Chalmers. He is working on 20 or so to research in detail – the core of his thesis. We should be proud that Chalmers has been whittled down to a contender for the thesis.

Tom Donaldson has spent some time chatting to him answering questions and sharing some information about the interiors of our church. Do you know what everything in the church symbolises? Well now's your chance to find out. From the next issue, I will give you a little insight into what different symbols and decorations mean, and give you some clues (with the help of Tom!) where to find them.

Sheila Bulloch

Services and Meetings

Sunday

- 10:15 a.m. All-age Family Worship (in Hall)
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship (with Crèche)
6:15 p.m. Evening Worship (as advertised)

Monday

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

Tuesday

- 10.00 a.m. Chalmers Ramblers Walking Group
7.15 p.m. Prayer Time
7.45 p.m. Imagining the Bible (as advertised)

Welcome Wednesday

- 10 - 11a.m. Prayer Time (2nd of month)
1.30 - 3pm Get Together (2nd of month)
12-2p.m. Lunches (3rd of month)
10a.m - 12noon Coffee Time (last of month)

Wednesday – Evening Activities

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

Saturday

- 8.00 – 9.15a.m. Prayer Breakfast (last of month)



OUR WORSHIP

Rev Kristina Herbold Ross will conduct worship unless otherwise stated.

Sunday 10th February

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – Joyce BUCHANAN
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship
– Rev Graham BLACK

Sunday 17th February (1st in Lent)

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – Ian BULLOCH
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship
– Rev Graham BLACK

Sunday 24th February (2nd in Lent)

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – Amanda JOHNSTON
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship – Ian BULLOCH
6.15 p.m. Evening Worship – Rev Matthew ROSS

Sunday 3rd March (3rd in Lent)

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – Rev John KNOX
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship
– Rev John KNOX

Sunday 10th March (4th in Lent)

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship
– Rev Kristina HERBOLD ROSS
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship
– Rev Kristina HERBOLD ROSS

Sunday 17th March (5th in Lent)

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – Rev Tom GORDON
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship

Sunday 24th March (Palm Sunday)

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – Anne SUTHERLAND
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship

Sunday 31st March (Easter Sunday)

- 10 a.m. EASTER FAMILY BREAKFAST
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship

Sunday 7th April

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – Ian BULLOCH
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship

Sunday 14th April

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship
– Rev Kristina HERBOLD ROSS
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship

MINISTER

Rev. Kristina Herbold Ross
Tel: 01875 819254

TREASURER

Mrs Janet Farquhar
Tel: 811863

FLOWER CONVENER

Mrs Aileen Parker
Tel: 812302

SESSION CLERK

Mr John Murdoch
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ACCESS to the HALL contact

Mr Tom Donaldson
Tel: 812023

ORGANIST

Mrs Pamela Zenati
Tel: 813641

HALL LETS

Mr Ian Bulloch
Tel: 852717

BEADLE

Mr Duncan Morgan
Tel: 812071

PRAYER SECRETARY

Mrs Alice Hood
Tel: 812191



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

SC004630 Cockenzie and Port Seton: Chalmers Memorial Parish Church 'Scottish Charity'. www.chalmerschurch.co.uk