



Chalmers Memorial Church Newsletter Late Summer 2011



From the Minister:

Dear All,

Jesus Christ says: 'For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.' (Matthew 18: 20)

I have now been with you for two months. Although I am still getting to know people and places I can say that my husband Matthew and I are very much enjoying being part of the Chalmers life and new members of the very welcoming and faithful community of Cockenzie and Port Seton.

Nikolaus Ludwig Graf Zinzendorf (1700-1760), the founder of the Moravian Church, left us this beautiful sentence: "I do not hold to Christianity without communion." That could have been written in the Bible. Being a solitary believer, a soloist in the Christian faith, can happen in very specific situations,

but it is not how we are called to live our lives as Christians. Who believes is always drawn to communion with others, into a congregation, to 'those of the family of faith' (Galatians 6:10).

The numbers two or three play an important role in the context of our bible verse for September, Matthew 18:20. Two or three people can witness something; two or three people who pray to God are heard. And two or three believers, who come together in the name of the Lord, can count themselves as members of the family of faith. Two people are enough! If they are praying or tell others about God's presence or to his loving deeds – they can be certain of Christ's presence among them and of his love and support.

It is not the numbers which turn a gathering of people into a 'real church'. Of course we love it when our church is full on a Sunday morning. It can be especially depressing when there are only a handful of children in the Sunday School. We would love them all to come and hear the Good News: we are longing for communion.

However, when we take God's Word seriously, then we shall not let ourselves as the Church be controlled and frustrated by numbers. What we are told is this: to act as Christians to one another and to the people we deal with day by day. Then Jesus Christ is really present among us – and *that* makes us his Church.

With all good wishes for the approaching autumn, God bless,
Rev Kristina Herbold Ross

MINISTER

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

EDITOR'S NOTE

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

The next issue will be available on
Sunday 9th October

Articles for this edition should be with me by
Sunday 25th September 2011

If you would like to E-Mail news you can contact me on: **chalmerschurch@btopenworld.com**

Or by phone on 819471

Sheila Bulloch



The next Candle Coffee Club meeting is on

THURSDAY 15th September

Meeting at 10a.m in

Longniddry Inn. The speakers will be

Gavin and Des Campbell

This will be followed by a Lunch

All welcome

Helen Shapiro – Gospel Outreach

In St. Michaels's Inveresk,

Church of Scotland, Musselburgh

On Saturday 29th October at 7.30pm

Tickets £5

Please contact Sandra Shaw on

01875 852688

You are the light of the world....let your light shine before men , that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. Matthew 5.14 (NIV)

PRAYER NOTES

We worship You, Lord Jesus, the source of all light, truth, wisdom, knowledge and understanding. Enlighten our minds and hearts to learn more of Your ways. Help us in our everyday lives to let your light shine in our lives so that others may come to know You. Amen

Church: Give thanks for the Rev. Kristina Herbold Ross as she begins her ministry amongst us. Pray for her and the Kirk Session as they set about taking stock and planning the way ahead.

Pray for all our youth leaders as they seek out ways of encouraging children and young people to come to the various organisations.

Give thanks for the work done by the Welcome Wednesday teams who run the lunch club and the Coffee and Chat. Pray for those who come along that they may enjoy the company and time of fellowship together.

Bring before God those in our Church fellowship, community and neighbours who are not so well. Pray that they may experience the nearness of God's presence in their time of need.

Intercede for all young folks known to us who are looking forward to going on to secondary school, college or university and for young children beginning school. Pray that they may soon settle down and enjoy their studies

Nation: We cannot but be upset by the recent riots and looting that has arisen in so many major cities. Pray for our police force, security services and volunteers who risk their lives in order to protect the public and property. Pray that they may be given courage and discernment in the situations facing them. The Government especially need our prayers as they struggle to grasp the immensity

of what has happened and how to address the underlying problems.

International: There have been a number of serious events in the last few weeks concerning countries where the Church of Scotland has partners. Please keep all of them in your prayers.

Crisis in Malawi

The Church of Scotland's World Mission Council are extremely concerned with the situation in Malawi following widespread demonstrations which lead to riots, most notably in Lilongwe, Blantyre and Mzuzu. Carol Finlay, World Mission Council said: "Our concern is for the safety and security for all in Malawi, and especially for our Mission Partners (Church of Scotland staff) and for friends & colleagues in our partner church, the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian as they minister to the people of Malawi in this time of uncertainty.

Somalia famine: The World Food Programme (WFP) has begun to airlift emergency food supplies to Mogadishu, capital of famine-struck Somalia. The UN agency is flying in 10 tonnes of food for people suffering amid the worst regional drought for decades.

God of all grace

Who in Jesus cried, 'I thirst',

Hold the people of East Africa in your infinite love.

Be with those for whom the earth's resources have run dry;

Be with those who must walk for miles to find their daily bread;

Be with those for whom survival is a fragile hope.

And be with us as we read the stories of those who bear such acute suffering;

Give us hearts of compassion to respond in your service,

So that together we may see restoration where there is pain,

And all may rejoice in your goodness.

Amen.

(Christian Aid)

Weddings

On Friday 1st July

Archibald Wood Thomson to Helen Glen
43 North Grange Avenue, Prestonpans

On Saturday 9th July

Ian Scott Hawkins to Sarah Louise Blake
85 Whin Park, Cockenzie

Funerals

On 16th August

Doris BRADLEY, Port Seton

Sunday School News

Sunday School and Rock Club resumes today (28th AUGUST). We look forward to welcoming everyone back and hope to see some new faces among our youngsters.

We shall be having our annual barbeque on SUNDAY 4th SEPTEMBER, after the 11am service. Please come and join us and bring a friend!

Thanks

Bill and Tonia Stewart would like to thank everyone for their good wishes on their Diamond Wedding Anniversary. Also thanks to those who sent Get Well cards and for the visits while Tonia was in hospital.

Nessie Craig would like to thank the ladies of the Guild for the flowers received on her 80th birthday. Thanks also for all the cards and gifts received. The family also wish to thank everyone for their prayers and good wishes during Johnston's recent illness.

East African Appeal - Thanks to all who contributed to this we raised **£536.38**, which will be sent to Christian Aid.

Kirk Session - Meetings

Friday 09.09.11 at 7pm: An extraordinary meeting with the Presbytery Planning Committee. Presbytery are visiting all sessions to inform them of the Presbytery Plan. John McCulloch and Anne Lithgow will come to our session.

Tuesday 20.09.11 at 7pm

Tuesday 22.11.11 at 7pm

Tuesday 07.02.12 at 7pm

Sunday 18.03.12: after 11am service to approve accounts

Sunday 25.03.12: after 11am service Annual Stated Meeting

Tuesday 08.05.12 at 7pm

Tuesday 19.06.12 at 7pm



Do you love singing?
Think you have a good voice?
Enjoy singing Christmas songs?



Then why not consider joining the choir for rehearsals for Christmas. Choir Practice will be starting on Sunday 11th September at 5pm in the Church.

Don't worry if you can't read music, help will be given. We would particularly like to see more men join the choir. If you want to have a chat about it, speak to Pamela the organist.

Guild News

Letter received from Kirk Session

To the ladies of the Guild,
On behalf of the Kirk Session I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Guild for its recent financial assistance given to the Church, particularly the money donated to help with the manse upgrade and the wayside pulpit. That support is greatly appreciated by the Kirk Session and I would pass on our thanks to all the Guild members who helped raise these sums of money.

With best wishes, yours sincerely,
John Murdoch, Session Clerk.

World Mission Stamp Appeal

The FINAL TOTAL raised for the 2010 World Mission Stamp Appeal is a tremendous £2,409. Many thanks to everyone who contributed! This money supported the Girls' Hostel at St Columba's in Sialkot, Pakistan, a hostel that accommodates up to 400 girls while they study at the St Columba Religious Training Centre, and is run by our partner church, the Church of Pakistan. The girls come from poor Christian communities in rural Punjab where there are limited opportunities for education.

Please keep your stamps coming. This year the money raised will go to the Mount Olivet Boys' Home run by the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

Alice Hood

Operation Shoebox Appeal



In the run up to the shoebox appeal in November / December we **desperately need help** for a variety of jobs in the warehouse. If you can help in any way please speak to Lyn Marshall ASAP.

It's also time to start buying items for the boxes, or getting the knitting needles out! Some ideas are sweets (no chocolate), toiletries, small toys (no playing cards), gloves/hats, drawing/colouring books, pens and pencils. More details on Shoebox Sunday will be in the next newsletter.

Baby Changing Facilities



We now have a baby change unit located in the disabled toilet, in the corridor next to the Church Hall. Please ensure the unit is wiped after use (wipes provided inside unit).

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

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

- 10a.m – 12noon Coffee Time (1st)
12-2p.m. Lunches (3rd)
10 - 11a.m. Prayer Time (last)
5:15 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)
Badminton Group

Thursday

- 5:00 p.m. Rainbows }
6:30 p.m. 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.
Our bible verse for September will be Matthew 18: 20: "Jesus Christ says: For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Sunday 4th September

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship
- Amanda JOHNSTON
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship followed by
a Congregational B~B~Q with the Sunday School

Sunday 11th September

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

Sunday 18th September

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship
- Rev Tom GORDON
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship with an INFANT
BAPTISM

Sunday 25th September

- (Please note No 10.15 a.m. service)
11.00 a.m. HARVEST THANKSGIVING
6.15p.m Harvest of the Sea

Sunday 2nd October

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship
- Nicola BRUCE
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship
with GUILD DEDICATION

Sunday 9th October

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

Sunday 16th October

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

Sunday 23rd October

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship
- Anne SUTHERLAND
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
Tel: 812469

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'.