



Chalmers Memorial Church Newsletter Summer 2017



Lord, you are great and powerful. You have glory, victory, and honour. Everything in heaven and on earth belongs to you. The kingdom belongs to you, Lord; you are the ruler over everything. 1 Chronicles 29:11

Salve tutti! (or hello everyone!)

Just thought I would try out my Italian on you. Jacqui and I return after our holiday to Sorrento, Italy fully refreshed and happy to be back with you all at Chalmers. Imagine my surprise when I realised I had to have this letter to Sheila, for the magazine, right away!

Following my time on holiday I thought that it would be good to talk about how important it is to take time to rest. Whether on holiday or at home. We know that it is important for our bodies to get a proper night's rest. But if physical rest is important to our physical well-being, spiritual rest is even more important to our spiritual well-being. Rest is important to our spiritual walk with the Lord. Rest is a necessity. It is a Biblical principle that all creatures must rest.

I cannot help but think that if we all "rested in the Lord" we would be more focused on helping others because our outlook on life would be more "God-focused", not "me" focused. Our hopes and dreams would be rekindled because we would continually be reminded that our Creator is all-powerful.

In Psalm 37 verse 7 it says "Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for Him." I would encourage us all to do this. Jesus also encouraged rest. The Bible says in Mark 6 verse 31 "Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he (Jesus) said to them 'Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest'".

So my hope and prayer is that you all find physical and spiritual rest in the Lord. It will make all the difference.

Have a great summer.

Your friend
Mike

EDITOR'S NOTE

Thanks to all who have contributed to this issue of the Church Newsletter. The next issue will be available on

Sunday 27th August 2017.

Articles for this edition should be with me by

Sunday 13th August 2017.

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

chalmerschurch@bopenworld.com or by phone on 819471

Sheila Bulloch

Interim Moderator

Rev Neil Dougall

Home telephone 01620 892132

ndougall@churchofscotland.org.uk

Locum Minister

Rev Mike Watson

Home telephone 01875 320043

Mobile 07702 229886

MWatson@churchofscotland.org.uk

**Tom Gordon used this poem at the Evening Service on
28th May – take a moment to listen to God:**

Noise, Noise, Noise! by Louis Gander

More cars, planes, computer games and toys, toys, toys..

...is this what life is all about - the noise, noise, noise?

*If man said He could cut the noise in half, half, half –
I'd not believe. I'm sorry, but I'd laugh, laugh, laugh!*

*Transparent man - I laugh so hard, I cry, cry, cry...
all it seems we want to do is buy, buy, buy.*

*God creates, commands and we will see, see, see –
that man has pride - he's foolish as can be, be, be.*

*Don't let a quiet corner be too rare, rare, rare –
get on your knees and whisper up a prayer, prayer, prayer.*

*And use your ears - you really have a choice, choice, choice -
to spend some time and listen for His still, small, voice.*

(1 Kings 19:12)

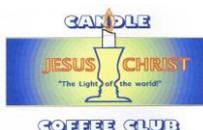
The next Candle Coffee Club meeting is on

Thursday 15th June at 10.30a.m

The speaker will be Rev Elwyn Jones

In Longniddry Inn.

All most welcome



Vacancy News

As you know, the congregation elected a **Nominating Committee** to take forward the search for our next minister. We have had our first meetings and have had excellent support from our Interim Moderator, Neil Dougall, and the Presbytery Advisory Committee.

A key part of the vacancy process is the creation of a 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!

Now that we've created the Parish Profile, the next stage is advertising the vacancy itself. This will be done shortly via the Church of Scotland web site in the first instance (<http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk>), this being the key means by which ministers seek charges.

The next stage will be to analyse the applications when we receive them and conduct a rigorous and fair selection process. This could take many months. Finally, our aim is of course to present a preferred candidate to the congregation as our Sole Nominee.

Please be reassured that the Nominating Committee is well aware of its responsibility in seeking the person to be our next full time minister. We shall be sure and steadfast in our search and will only settle for someone whom we are sure will be a person worthy of the privilege and the challenge of leading us.

Please keep the Nominating Committee in your prayers. While the committee will obviously be dealing with applications in confidence, please feel free to speak to them about the sort of qualities you want in our next minister. 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).*

Thanks

Marion Dobie wishes to thank the church for the flowers she received following the bereavement of two friends.

Margaret & Robert Purves would like to say Thank You for the beautiful flowers they received for their 45th wedding anniversary. We had a quiet family meal in the hospice.

John & Margaret Bellany would like to thank everyone for the flowers, cards, visits and prayers received during their recent stays in hospital. John is getting out and about again and Margaret has made it back home after a stay in two hospitals.

Nancy Donaldson would like to thank the church for the flowers she received following a time of illness.

Douglas Farquhar would like to thank the church for the flowers he received following heart surgery. He is now well on the road to recovery.

Due to the lack of space in the newsletter, I am unable to record every 'thank you' for the flowers received on a Sunday. These will therefore be posted in the noticeboard on the hall. Thanks for flowers received for special occasions will be mentioned in the newsletter. Sheila, editor

Indoor Curling - We are now a group of enthusiastic Curlers and sixteen of us meet to enjoy this fun time competing to see which team wins the bars of chocolate or ends up washing the tea cups. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Kirk Session for lending us the money to buy the equipment. Also the Community Centre Management Committee for the generous grant of £300 to buy an extra set of Curling stones. Our Curling members have been very generous with their donations each fortnight and now have paid back nearly all money borrowed from the session. Future donations will all go to restoration fund. We look forward to more of you coming along to join us. **First and last Wednesday each month - 1.30pm - 3.00pm.** Come along even for the cuppa. Finally we cannot finish without thanking Brett for all the patience you have had organising the teams and generally sorting us out! Brett you are a star.

Get Together - I would like to thank all the leaders and everyone who comes along each month to our Get Together. It is such a great delight to see how each one of us enjoy this time together and the laughter and joy we share. On a more serious note I would like to thank you all who join us each month for your generous donations. Since our first meeting in November 2012 up till April 2017 we have donated just over **£3,000** to charity. All the leaders are amazed by the generosity. At this time I would like to thank you all for the lovely gift given to me. I have decided the time is right to now to come for my tea and blether. You can heckle better if not group leader. May we all have many more blessed days together *Ann Anderson*

At the time of writing we have just enjoyed a busy weekend in our village – Gala Day and the Edinburgh Festival Marathon. We are in the final preparations for our **Kids and Youth Kirk Family Weekend**.

Family Day is on **Saturday 17th June from 12.15pm**. We are opening up our doors to show you what the children have learnt about Paul in his journeys. Tickets are available £4 per adult, please see either of us.

Youth Kirk and Treasure Hunt – The young people who have been attending each month have grown in faith through the various themes we have covered. To end our session we have planned a **Treasure Hunt** around Cockenzie and Port Seton for the young folk with their families on **Sunday 18th June from 5.30pm**. If you would like to join in, please let us know.

Scripture Union Cockenzie & Port Seton Holiday Club - The annual week long club will take place from **Monday 10th – Friday 14th July - 10am – 12.30pm**. There is an Open Family Time on **Thursday 13th from 12.30pm**, again you are most welcome. Our theme is Pyramid Rock, we will be learning about Joseph.

Sheila Bulloch & Amanda Johnston KidsKirk@chalmerschurch.co.uk or 07980 059 974.

Fundraising

What a great result we have had in our fund raising efforts for the Church during the first half of this year.

Two concerts between them raised **£464** with thanks to Ross Hamilton and the Dalkeith and Monktonhall Brass Band; a great effort by all involved.

John Bellany organised a sponsored walk, which raised the magnificent sum of **£940**.

Then we put out an appeal to our members to bring contributions to our Gift Day on the 30th April. We needed funds to put towards work that needs to be done in the Manse. A target of £10,000 was quoted, which some of us thought was too much to hope for. Oh ye of little faith! As of today 28th May you have given the wonderful figure of **£10,012.60**.

We cannot thank you enough for your generosity at this time. We can now begin that work at the Manse, so that it is ready to receive a new minister perhaps with their family.

Look out for our next event on the afternoon of Wednesday 5th July, when Joyce Buchanan is hosting Tea in the Church Garden. This has proved very popular in the past and promises more feasting and fun once again. Tickets will be available soon at £7.

The Stewardship Committee are meeting soon when they will decide on the date for a Late Summer Fair; watch this spot!

In the meantime our heartfelt thanks to you all for the wonderful way you have responded just when we needed your help. Thanks be to God that His Spirit is at work among us.

George Smith, Stewardship Convenor.

The Churches Together Group meet every 2 or 3 months, and exists to share our common objective in ensuring the Christian message reaches all in our community, to bring about cooperation and to foster good relationships between our congregations. Chalmers Memorial Church, The Old Parish Church and the Methodist Church are all represented

The Joint Churches' Easter Card had been distributed to every address in Cockenzie and Port Seton. Many thanks are due to Sheila Bulloch for putting the publication together, to Margaret Libberton for sorting out the packs for distribution and to all those from the three churches who had delivered them.

Future Joint Services. There had been lots of good feedback after the Christian Aid service; a memorable event with a good number in the congregation. After the service it had been suggested by some that we should hold more joint services, a view endorsed by the group. These services represent a strong Christian presence and impact within our community. We agreed we should discuss this in our respective churches.

Holiday Club Fund Raising. Quiz Sheets were being sold, with a closing date of June 16. A coffee morning will be held on Sat 23rd September at the Old Kirk, with help provided from the other churches.

Cockenzie Primary School - The Churches will present a booklet "It's Your Move" to P7 at Cockenzie Primary School at 2pm on 27th June. This booklet is published by Scripture Union and is designed to help prepare youngsters as they make the move up to Secondary School. Hazel Gray of SU Scotland will talk to the children.

Christian Aid in Cockenzie & Port Seton

This year the sum of **£1,083** has been raised for Christian Aid week, through the open plate, envelopes and quiz night. Thanks to all who made a contribution to this appeal.

A further **£1,260** has also been raised from the annual Forth Bridge sponsored walk held in April.

Special thanks to those who took part in the walk, to those who sponsored us and to everyone for their ongoing support.

Eleanor Willins, Local coordinator

Prayers

O Lord, Scripture says:

There is a time for silence and a time for speaking.

Lord, teach us the silence of humility.

The silence of wisdom and the silence of love.

Lord, teach us to silence our own hearts that we may listen to the gentle movement of the Holy Spirit and sense the depths which

are of God.

Amen

Amen

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 (3rd 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 (1st of month)
1.30 – 3pm Indoor Curling (1st & last of month)
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)



OUR WORSHIP

Rev Mike Watson will conduct worship unless otherwise stated.

Sunday 11th June – Trinity

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – Joyce Buchanan (in Church)
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship

Sunday 18th June

- 11.00 a.m. All-Age Worship – *Take Away Treats* – come along to hear all about **Kids Kirk** Please note **NO 10.15am service**

Sunday 25th June

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – Anne Sutherland
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship with Sacrament of **HOLY COMMUNION**

Sunday 2nd July

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

Sunday 9th July

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – Tom Gordon
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship

Sunday 16th July

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – Amanda Johnston
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship

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)

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 (3rd Sat of month)
(Sept – June)

Sunday 23rd July

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

Sunday 30th July

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – Duncan Morgan
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship

Sunday 6th August

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

Sunday 13th August

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

Sunday 20th August

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – Joyce Buchanan
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship

Sunday 27th August

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – Tom Gordon
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship

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