



Chalmers Memorial Church Newsletter Early Summer 2018



Know this, my dear brothers and sisters: everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to grow angry. James 1:19 CEB

Dear Friends,

When a minister moves to a new charge – no matter how long they have been carrying out that role – it is always a journey of discovery. A new community... a new house to live in... a new place to lead worship... a new group of people with whom to share worship... a new Kirk Session to chair... a new routine to establish. The list is almost endless.

These last few months (now that I have passed my 3rd month anniversary with you!) have been just such a journey of discovery, and a fascinating and enjoyable one at that. There is much still for me to learn and almost every other day I find myself asking someone somewhere who is responsible for sorting out various things, or what normally happens at different events. So far, I have been able to find answers to most things and truly delighted that the answer does not always come back – “The Minister sorts that out!”

That, it seems to me, is becoming one of my favourite discoveries about Chalmers Church – the high level of participation amongst members and office bearers. As we discovered at our recent Annual Business Meeting our Church is in good hands. You, the people of Chalmers Church, have responded warmly and generously to all that has been expected of you in what have been a challenging couple of years. For that you have my respect, admiration and sincere thanks.

Our journey together may only just be starting, and it is right that we should spend time simply settling in. But we must also be aware of the future too. This is why the Kirk Session have already agreed to an Elders’ day in the Autumn to look at future priorities. That does not always mean that the route forward is always easy to determine but having clear priorities is a vital first step that we must take.

In my sermon on Pentecost Sunday, I tried to reflect upon this by referring to the way in which Jesus had asked the disciples to stay in Jerusalem until God should send his Holy Spirit into their midst. Jesus did not, I pointed out, seek to set up a production line of religious activity. Taking time to take things in, to ponder and to question are all vital too.

Times were uncertain at first for those first followers of Jesus, no less than they are for the Church of the 21st Century. But, at the same time, uncertainty is not the last word here for there is assurance in the midst of uncertainty.

Simply put – God never leaves us. We might err and stray, but God never does. And that is Good News!

Your friend and Minister, Robin Allison (Rev)

Our Minister
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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 26th August 2018.

Articles for this edition should be with me by

Sunday 12th August 2018.

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

chalmerschurch@btopenworld.com

Sheila Bulloch



As we write this, we have just come to the end of another busy few months in our village. Lots of our boys and girls enjoyed a sunny Gala Day, celebrating the crowning of the 70th Queen, Emma. We are grateful for a fun filled day with lots of past queens and watching our P7 children prepare for the next journey as they head to High School after the summer break.

We also had the Edinburgh Festival Marathon running through our village. You may have spotted some famous faces...along with the thousands who ran the full marathon....Tom Gordon and John Marshall, well kent faces in our church and village, part of a 4 team relay. Well done to the full team.



We are now planning our final **Kids and Youth Kirk Family Weekend**, which will begin with a **Family Day** on **Saturday 16th June from 12.15pm**. Following on from the Kids Kirk session on the Saturday morning, the afternoon session is open to **EVERYONE – the CHILDREN want to meet YOU!** Come and hear them recall what they have learnt about Moses. Tickets (£4 per adult) available from either of us.

Youth Kirk and Treasure Hunt – The Youth Kirk is growing and developing. In March we had our grand opening of our extended space - the young people LOVE it (as do the leaders!). Over the past few months, we have explored the life of Joseph and to conclude the session, we will be running a Treasure Hunt around the village. This was very popular last year, so come along and support the young people - you might even get a reward at the end of it!! If you would like to join in, let us know so we can organise teams, please meet at the Church Hall on **Sunday 17th June at 5.30pm**

Scripture Union Cockenzie & Port Seton Holiday Club - The annual week long club will take place from **Monday 9th – Friday 13th July – 10am – 12.30pm**. There will be an Open Family Time on **Thursday 12th from 12.30pm**, to which you are invited. This year there is also an event for our Young People – keep an eye out for an intimation, the theme being Team Builders.

If you are looking for information on any of the events we are running, please contact us: *Sheila Bulloch & Amanda Johnston* KidsKirk@chalmerschurch.co.uk or 07980 059 974.

TEAMBUILDERS

Thanks

Please convey our thanks to the congregation for the flowers and good wishes that Janet and I received following our extended stay in Melbourne as a result of a stroke which I suffered. *Douglas Farquhar.*

Douglas, Karen, Alan & family would like to say a big thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to Marlene's funeral service. It made a difficult day good.

Margaret Harkess would like to thank the Church for the flowers she received while in the Crookston Care Home. She appreciates being remembered by Chalmers.

While my mother was in the Western General Hospital for a stay of 12 weeks she was regularly visited by Amanda Johnston. She appreciated her visits and I always highlighted this to relatives and friends who asked how she was getting on. I have never met Amanda so can I ask you to pass on my mother's and her family's very sincere thanks for her visits and interest in her welfare. *David Harkess.*

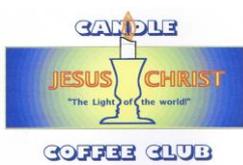
Helen McGurk would like to thank everyone for praying for her daughter, Kelly, and to say that she is feeling better.

John Stewart would like to say thank you for the flowers following his recent illness.

Barrie and Agnes Johnston would like to thank everyone for their cards, flowers and sympathy following two recent family bereavements.

Cockenzie & Port Seton local Christian Aid group-Christian aid joint service – A total of **£1,000** was raised which included **£35** from the paper quiz. The winner will be announced on Sunday 3rd June. The sum of **£1,035** has also been raised from the Forth Bridge sponsored walk held at the end of April. Thanks to everyone for their continuing support.

General thanks for flowers delivered after a Sunday service – we have received several thanks for these which are displayed on the Church Notice Board



The next Candle Coffee Club meeting is on **Thursday 21st June** at 10.30a.m in Longniddry Inn. The speaker will be Julia Allison, All most welcome

Session Section

The session has met twice since Robin's induction as our minister three months ago. Our regular agenda, where reports or updates are received on all aspects of the church work, is proving a good way for Robin to get to know who's who and who does what. We already feel we will have the benefit of a steady and wise counsel with his guidance.

There are plans afoot to arrange a time of discussion in the autumn where the Session will look at our priorities being the Church in this community, exploring new ways to reach out to people.

John Murdoch is heading up a project to clear out some of the storage areas in the church, and has approached a few people to assist in the monitoring and maintenance of the buildings in a newly formed Fabric Committee. We are grateful to all who are agreeing to help in this way. Indeed, our Committees and working groups are open to any member of the congregation – not just Elders – who have skills and knowledge required in each area. We would be pleased to hear from YOU if you feel you can offer appropriate help.

As well as recording our thanks to elders Christopher and Fiona Farquhar, who have left us for pastures new up north, we offered thanks to those of the Session who have recently resigned from specific roles. Jean and Barrie Johnston have given up their Fabric duties after a long spell of service, and Jean has also given up the role in charge of Hall Lets. Dorothy Tervit has kindly agreed to be Hall Let Convenor and it will be her contact details in the Newsletter from now on.

Thanks to all of you who have brought us to where we are today – ready for the next challenges. God has most surely been with us, remains so today, and will be tomorrow.

For Clarification:

The Kirk session wishes to make it clear that Mrs Susan Gordon was never responsible for overseeing or auditing our accounts. We regret any misunderstanding about this, and hope that this simple statement will make amends for any confusion.

Mary Gordon, Session Clerk

We were sad to learn about the death of Mary Clements, a life deacon at Chalmers. Mary moved back to Ireland in March 2016 to be near her family following the death of her friend Jane. Mary loved the visits from family and friends in Ireland. A collection for Northern Ireland Children's Hospice raised £160 and a letter of thanks is displayed in the church hall notice board.

Poppies

In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War, we hope to make a fall of poppies to be displayed within the church in recognition of those who gave their lives 100 years ago. Anyone in the congregation who wishes to help with knitting or crocheting the poppies, please speak to Sandra Donaldson.



Fundraising

THANK YOU! - We were delighted when our Treasurer, Ian, told us that the donations to our Gift Day Appeal had reached **£5,774!** Once again, we thank God for the generosity and support we at Chalmers Memorial receive from our members and friends. Please be assured of the thanks and the appreciation of the Kirk Session, who will put this money to good use updating the electrics in the Church Hall.

Coming up: Anne Sutherland has a **Bible Quiz** sheet available at £1 each – a chance to test your Bible knowledge. Why not get one, not only for yourself, but for other family members as well? Return to Anne by 1st July.

Be prepared to sponsor John Bellany and the walkers for the **Sponsored Walk**.

The 3 Harbours Art Festival, which is a bit later than previous years, will run from **Saturday 30th June to Sunday 8th July**. While the Church Hall is not being used as a venue this year on the weekdays of the Festival the Hall will be open during the afternoons for teas and coffees. The **Chalmers Crafters Stall** will be there as well.

Saturday 8th September - Summer Fair - This was a great success last year and we are looking for a repeat performance this year.

Friday October 5th at 7.30pm. Monktonhall and Dalkeith Brass Band - This is becoming an annual event and we can be sure of a great evening's entertainment from these talented musicians. Look out for details of a Harvest Supper coming up in October.

Friday 9th November at 7.30pm. Quiz Night - Tom Gordon will be taxing our brains (and probably confusing some of us) with Trivia, History, General Knowledge and other difficult things. This has always been a fun night with teams of 4 trying to outdo each other to become Chalmers Quiz Champions of the year.

Keep an eye on the Fundraising Notice Board in the Church Hall and future Newsletters for further details of these events.

With thanks once again for your continuing support and prayer for our Church.

George Smith

Deaths

Mrs Margaret Demianczuk, c/o Tranent Nursing Home who passed away on 21st March 2018

Miss Mary Clements, formally Wemyss Place, latterly Ireland who passed away on 7th April 2018

Mrs Enid Barthram, Inglis Avenue who passed away on 19th April 2018.

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 Robin Allison will conduct worship unless otherwise stated.

Sunday 10th June

10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – Rev Robin Allison
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship

Sunday 17th June

11.00 a.m. Morning Family Worship
Please note no 10.15am service

Sunday 24th June

10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – Tom Gordon
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship with Sacrament of
HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday 1st July

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

Sunday 8th July

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

Sunday 15th 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

10 - 10.45a.m. Stretch and Strength Exercise Class
1 – 3.30p.m. 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 22nd July

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

Sunday 29th July

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

Sunday 5th August

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

Sunday 12th August

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

Sunday 19th August

10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship – Rev Robin Allison
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship

Sunday 26th August

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

MINISTER

Rev Robin Allison
Tel: 01875 812225

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

Mrs Dorothy Tervit
Tel: 898937

BEADLE

VACANCY
Tel:



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