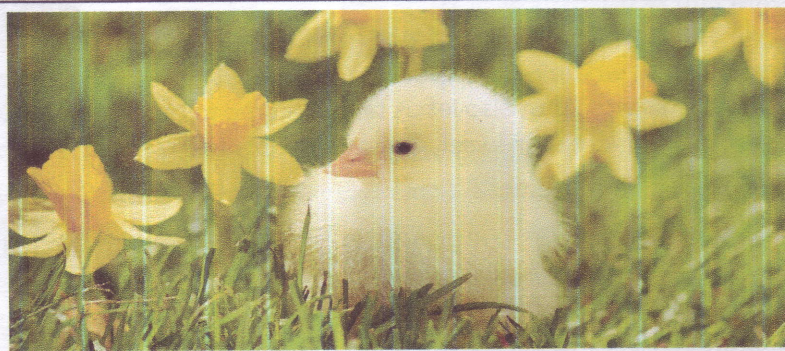




New Aberdour

SPRING 2020 NEWSLETTER



Website: www.aberdourstdrostans.org.uk

Aberdour Parish Church

Parish: 16 Scottish Churches SC0007107

It hardly seems long ago that we were celebrating Christmas and the birth of the baby Jesus and now we are nearing Easter at which time we celebrate his death on the cross, which was to give us new life, eternal life.

Everywhere around us new life is beginning to burst through, buds on the trees, the spring flowers coming through the earth, some days through frozen earth – tiny buds that make us wonder how these fragile things can survive such harsh surroundings to then boom with such beautiful colour and sometimes fragrance. This is all part of the life cycle – fragile though that is.

In the past few weeks, which sometimes seem as if they have been going on forever, we have heard the news bulletins of the raging bushfires in Australia and the tragic loss of people's homes, livelihoods and even life itself. We also had the volcanic eruption in New Zealand before the New Year which also cost lives and there has been another in the Philippines. Yet even where these disasters occur in time we will see new life appearing. People will rebuild where they can.

We wonder where all this will lead us and some may be wondering where God is in all of this – well, even now in Australia people are seeing new growth appearing through the devastation of the fires. We also may be wondering about what life holds for our youngsters for they are our future.

We use the Nativity and Easter to teach our children about Jesus, but now our youngsters are trying to tell us what they want us to do to save the world for them and their children as our world is in turmoil.

As we go through the period of lent let us take time to listen for the Lord to speak to us to guide us on where he wants us to go and what he wants us to do to carry on his work and teach his word, but also let us take this time to consider what we can do to use the resources of his creation wisely and responsibly to save it for our children, grandchildren and their children.

The Lord took six days to create the world, 'by the seventh day God finished what he had been doing and stopped working' (Genesis 2:2). In other words he rested. We cannot, however rest. We have to do our bit to preserve his creation for the future generations of our world.

Take the story of the young boy trying to save starfish washed up on shore. An old man asked why he was doing so as there were thousands and that he could not hope to save them all therefore what difference would he make? To which the boy bent down and picked up another starfish and threw it as far as he could into the ocean and then he turned, smiled and said 'It made a difference to that one!' (From The Star Thrower, by Loren Eiseley)

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Our Calendar Looking forward into 2020

Church Services

Every Sunday Morning Worship at 10.00am

Mothering Sunday Service followed by AGM 22nd March 2020

To be led by: Rev Verster Myburgh

Palm Sunday Service 12th April 2020

To be led by: Mr John McColl

Easter Sunday Service 21st April 2020

To be led by: Mr John McColl

Communion Service Sunday 10th May 2020

To be led: Rev Fred Coutts

Special Service Friday 15th May 2020 @ 7pm

To Celebrate and dedicate the Opening of the Servery, and award service certificates to Office Bearers.

A warm welcome awaits anyone wishing to join us at any or all the Services and Groups. We also have a cup of tea/coffee and a piece at the end of the service held on the first Sunday of each month and following any special services. Please feel free to join us in fellowship at this time.

Church Groups

Guild

Guild meetings are currently held in the New Church Vestry. We meet the first Tuesday of the month from October – March

Tuesday 3rd March 2020 Dementia Advisor talk – Laura Crockett

Tuesday 31st March 2020 Subject to be confirmed –

Singing Group Fraserburgh Hospital 2020

St Drostans New Aberdour Singing Group will be visiting Fraserburgh Hospital in 2020. There are also times when we learn new Songs and Hymns to sing at our church services. If you would like to join in (especially the male voices) you would be most welcome.

Sunday March 15th (for further details contact Mrs Ruth Reekie)

Sunday May 10th

Vacancy at New Aberdour

Prior to its meeting on Tuesday 4th February, Presbytery asked for 4 members of the Kirk Session to attend as they were to discuss including 4 additional congregations in the talks about the future of the church in the Fraserburgh area. If you were at church on Sundays 26th January or 2nd February, you would have heard this request being read as a 'citation from Buchan Presbytery'. These congregations are Lonmay and Crimond along with St. Drostan's (New Aberdour) and Pitsligo (Rosehearty), all of which are without a minister and have been for some time now. Presbytery agreed that these four congregations be included in the future discussions around ministry provision in the Fraserburgh area. This does not mean that the church in New Aberdour will close and we will 'just be part of Fraserburgh'. It means that we will be sitting round the table with the Fraserburgh congregations, able to have our say, like them, in the future shaping of the church in our communities.

The immediate effect is that like all the congregations in the Fraserburgh area, our Nominating Committee work has to stop until such time as a plan for the area is put in place.

Since so far there has been no interest in the vacancy, we will not notice any changes and just continue as we are.

To help the Office-bearers to understand more clearly what all this means, Kenny Sim, Convenor of the Presbytery Congregations Committee will meet with them on 8th April.

From: Miss Ruth Mackenzie
Interim Moderator

Cont

The future of our church and our world is our youngsters; therefore let us do our small bit now to lead by example in being disciples of the Lord's word and work and in doing our small bit to preserve our Lord's creation to save it for our future generations. Even though it may just be a small ripple in the pond, do not let us wait for others to act – as we know small ripples can become big waves in time.

Written by: Mrs Margaret Grant

Remember the Clocks Go Forward 1 Hour 29th March 2020
giving us longer daylight hours so we have more time to
enjoy ourselves

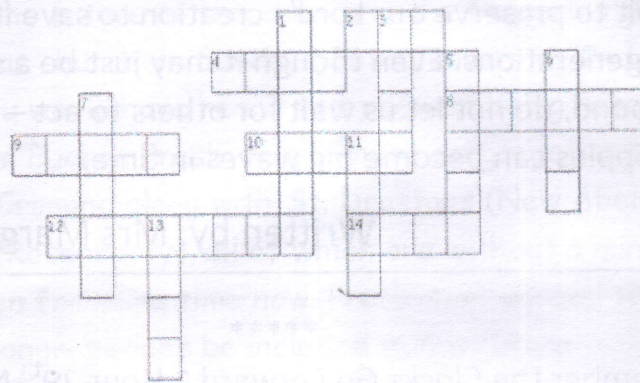
Spring

The long cold winter is melting away through the damp mist the sun is peeking through as new life has come. Its spring that's come! The fields, woods and all around us have Squirrels rabbits and creature's great and small getting ready to enjoy long warm days ahead.

Its just a few weeks now and we will know that winter is long past. We are blessed by the world and season's that were created the colourful flora and fauna the fruits and animals and weather all made by His mighty hand. We need to look after our world and not destroy it instead.

He is not here. He has risen!

Words taken from John 20:1-18 (NIV)



ACROSS

2. To shed tears
4. The opposite of alive
8. A heavenly being
9. The thing that covered the entrance to Jesus' tomb
10. The color that is the opposite of black
12. A person who takes care of plants and flowers
14. The name of the woman who discovered Jesus' empty tomb

DOWN

1. The male parent
3. Return to an upright position after lying down; to return from the dead
5. The opposite of late
6. A period of seven days
7. An adult female person
11. A place where someone is buried; another name for grave
13. The opposite of light

As we lift up prayers and requests about injustices and difficulties we face daily; we must also remember to give thanks and praise for the beauty of the world that we are part of. Praise God for the earth he created, and ask for guidance on how to change the climate problems man has created. Through our prayers and actions, we can show our governments we care about a fair and sustainable world, for the love of God and our neighbours.

SOUP AND SWEET
IN ABERDOUR PARISH HALL

SATURDAY 28th MARCH 2020

FROM 12.00 – 2.00PM



ADMISSION: £4.00 Adult
£3.00 Children



Donations of Raffle prizes welcome

Dear Lord of compassion hear our prayers for all who are in trouble or distress. Accept our prayers for all those whose lives have and still are effected by the storms and flooding. Strengthen them in their hour of need, grant them perseverance and courage to face the future and be to them a firm foundation on which to rebuild their lives.

Amen



SPONSORED WALK BBQ AND FUN DAY

IN AND AROUND NEW ABERDOUR

SUNDAY 31st MAY 2020

3.00PM ONWARDS

EVERYONE WELCOME

PLEASE LOOK OUT FOR DETAILS NEARER THE TIME

From the Editor:

Thank goodness we are now heading towards the better weather and longer days. It always seems never ending winter but we all know spring is certainly on the way. Already in our garden the bulbs have been pushing up their heads for a few weeks now and yesterday I notice that some of the shrub trees have got new sprouting buds. Thankfully in our immediate area we have not had any harsh winter weather, but unfortunately this cannot be said for everyone in some areas they have suffered unprecedented floods, wind, and damage to their homes. There has also been schools and businesses closed loss of public transport buses, trains and aircraft. All of which will take many months to get back to normal and into their own homes. To add to this we now face a virus that is taking its toll around the world leading to death in some cases, this virus known as coronavirus (covid-19) is still without a known cure and getting worse as each week passes. So I ask you please keep all these people in your prayers as well as those who are sick, bereaved, or need God's guidance. **Take care x**

For behold the winter is past and the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtle dove is heard throughout the land.

Song of Solomon 2: 11-12

St Drostan's Office Bearers contact details:

Miss Ruth Mackenzie	01779 480680 (Interim Moderator)
Mrs Margaret Grant	01346 561341 (Presbytery Elder)
Miss Heather Gibson	01346 561311 (Session Clerk)

Mr Graeme Bruce	01346 561368
Mr Bryan Coull	01346 561308
Mrs Ruth Reekie	01346 561464
Mrs Sheila Thomson	01346 561741
Miss Gladys Chapman	01346 571231
Mr Gordon Duguid	01346 561411
Mrs Sheila Duguid	01346 561411
Mr Duncan Chapman	01346 571231
Mrs Irene Stephen	01346 561216
Mrs Wilma Coull	01346 561497
Miss Gail Wheelhouse	01346 561311
Mrs Janet Brydson	01346 561340
Mrs May Merry	01346 561304
Mrs Jane Smith	01346 561707