



Church of Scotland

St. Drostan's Parish Church, Aberdour

Interim Moderator: Ruth Mackenzie, 56, Watson Cresc, Peterhead, AB42 2WS
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September 2021

Dear Members and Friends,

Passing of the Seasons

Once again, summer is slipping away and being replaced by autumn, the season of 'mellow fruitfulness', when we gather in all our summer produce and thank God for His provision for us. We take it so much for granted that, as surely as night turns into day, we **will** have food on our table each day. The COVID pandemic has made us realise that not only in places such as Malawi, children are hungry but nearer home, in our own towns and cities, maybe in our own village, there is a greater reliance on foodbanks than we could ever have imagined. Parents go hungry so their children can eat – a choice too horrific to contemplate, many people of all ages have to choose between food and heating their homes. We need to remember to thank God for his provision for us day by day and something very practical we can do when we visit the supermarket – buy an extra tin or packet and drop it off at your local foodbank in Fraserburgh.

*'All good gifts around us are sent from Heaven above,
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord
For all His love'*

(Matthias Claudius 1740-1815
Tr Jane Montgomery Campbell 1817 – 78)

Church During COVID

We are thankful that we have been able to meet as a congregation in church, right through the summer months. Yes, it is different – we have to

- Stay one metre apart from others
- Wear a mask
- Sanitise our hands when entering and leaving the building
- Give our details for 'Test and Protect'

We are permitted to stand and sing, but still wearing masks. Hymn books are still not allowed but we now have two tv screens which allow the words to be displayed on them. The wonders of technology. We thank Graeme Bruce for his wizardry with computers which has made this possible.

Communion Services

Many have missed the celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion which is usually held in November and May. Unfortunately, during the COVID pandemic, we are not allowed to pass items from person to person which makes Communion rather difficult unless the congregation collects an individually sealed portion of wine and bread on the way to their pew. This is too difficult to manage at present so Communion, in common with many other congregations is to be left meantime.

Harvest

Our Harvest Celebration will be on **Sunday 10th October** when the church will be decorated with a token display so we can say 'thank you' to God. We will be led in worship by Richard Sneddon.

On this Sunday, we are also taking part in the Church of Scotland's National Giving Day at which we are asked to uplift a special offering to be used to help a local cause. We have chosen to use this to support the repair to the gable end of the church.

Lunch Club

This new venture had one lunch before the COVID restrictions halted everything. I wonder if you remember it. The good news is that it is starting again on **Wednesday 27th October at 12.30pm** in the Village Hall. The cost is £5.00 for 2 courses - lasagne, new potatoes, salad and garlic bread followed by a choice of 2 puddings. Reserve your place by contacting the usual people, but if a vegetarian option is required please contact Jane on 01765 690771. Everything is home-cooked by Jane and her team.

It is hoped that the Lunch Club can meet on the last Wednesday of each month, something to look forward to during the coming winter months.

Remembrance Service

Remembrance Sunday is 14th November at the usual time of 10.00am when Richard Sneddon will lead worship.

There will also be a short service held by the Baird Society on 11th November at 11.00am (11.11. at 11.00am) at the old kirkyard when a wreath will be laid on the Baird tomb and crosses placed on the graves of servicemen.

Christmas Arrangements

We hope to get the Fraserburgh Salvation Army Band to come for carols round the Christmas tree and there are plans afoot to make a nativity video with the children to be shown on the new screens on Christmas Eve. The new Worship Group will discuss and make arrangements as necessary.

Just Giving Page

As well as the opportunity to give at Harvest, the seed was sown that we might start a 'Just Giving' page to help raise money for the repairs to the west gable. This will be linked to Facebook and the church website. Watch for this appearing on the church website.

Preachers October – December

October 2021	
3 rd	John McColl
10 th	Richard Sneddon
17 th	Richard Sneddon
24 th	Lillian Brown
31 st	Ali MacLeod
November 2021	
7 th	Richard Sneddon
14 th	Richard Sneddon

21 st	Richard Sneddon
28 th	Lillian Brown
December 2021	
5 th	Ali MacLeod
12 th	Richard Sneddon
19 th	Richard Sneddon
26 th	Richard Sneddon

Thank you for taking time to read this and for acting upon it.

