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|  | **St Vigeans Church**  **Newsletter**  **August 2021** |
| The last eighteen months have been a challenge is so many ways with huge restrictions on how we have been able to live our lives. As these rules are relaxed let us reflect on the last few months and hopefully remember and continue to think and support others.  At St Vigeans let us continue to be **S**upportive and **T**houghtful to one another. Please get **V**accinated as soon as you can but also **I**solate if you are asked to do so or you know that you have been in contact with someone who has the virus. **G**ive your time and effort willingly to help people less fortunate than yourself. **E**njoy the new freedom but **A**lways remember the doctors and nurses in the **N**HS and the many other frontline workers who have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic. Be sensible, caring but stay **S**afe.  Margaret Pullar, Session Clerk | |
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| Dear Friends  After months of dark and difficult days it’s good to see the sunshine. As we sit out in our back gardens on a lovely summer day the sun warms us up and makes us feel good. Certainly, from what we hear on the News, it’s perhaps time to ‘feel good’ as restrictions are easing.  With easing of restrictions hopefully it won’t be long before the various church activities can restart. Also, we’ll be able to start our monthly soup lunch services in the church hall as I’m very conscious of the fact that some of our members who are unable to come to church are missing the fellowship of meeting together.  I want to thank all of you for showing love in action to those in our church family who have not been well or have needed support. The Lord wants us to follow His command ‘love one another’ and this has been shown in countless ways.  The Apostle Paul writes in Galatians 6 verse 10:  “Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers”  Paul was encouraging the believers in the New Testament church to care and support everyone but especially the church family. His words are just as important today.  Recently, I came across something that made me stop and think“ - We will never change the world by going to church. We will only change the world by being the church”.  We go to church to worship God; but by being the church we are showing others how much God loves us and how He wants us to live our lives.  Let us, like the New Testament Christians, use every opportunity to spread God’s love through word and action. Keith Scott | |
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| REFLECTION  During my working life with the blind people of Angus and South Kincardineshire, I had the chance to meet some very interesting people, and some very brave people. One of these was a charming lady who was not only blind but also deaf. This meant that all communication with her had to be done by hand. It also meant that the visitor had to have a working knowledge of the deaf/blind alphabet. The lady would hold out her hand, the visitor would then take it with their left hand and use the right one to “speak”. The recipient would then read the words as they were “written” and respond with the spoken word. The lady in this story was a hero in my thinking, for she wanted to know the local news, what was going on in the “greater World” and every hint of scandal I could call to mind. She was often helpless with laughter at some of the stories I had saved up for her, and she made visiting a pleasure of the day. This particular client coped with her problems with a defiant and brave face, never did she complain, nor use her deficiency for pity. She was a pleasure to visit and one always left feeling the world was not such a bad place.  Now, many years after her death, I can still remember the joy of visiting her, of holding her hand and spelling out the “latest story” and of her hearty laughter and pleasure. Would that we could all face the world with her strength and joy.  Let us remember in our prayers those who because of illness or frailty, are unable to join us in weekly gatherings in our churches, old and new, let them not be forgotten.  Let us also be thankful of those who have gone before us, who had the strength and vision to bring about our “new” church, in and of, Scotland.  T F Maplesden | | | | |  | |
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| WELCOME to Nettie McLean who recently joined St Vigeans Church and also to Tom Maplesden who was admitted as an Elder. | | |  | |  | |
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|  | **COMMUNION SERVICE**  SUNDAY 31st OCTOBER  at 11.30 am  CONDUCTED BY REV PETER PHILLIPS | | | |  | |
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| Page 2 | | | | |  | |
| A picture containing outdoor, building, ground, person  Description automatically generated | | **PRESENTATION TO SHEILA**  Thank you for the beautiful flowers and present which you gave me when I retired as church organist. We have just about got our heads round Alexa and, although I may not be the coolest granny in Arbroath, I feel certain that your gift of an Echo Dot has greatly enhanced my street cred!  Very many thanks to all of you.  Sheila. | |  | |

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| **Defibrillator**  As I am sure many of you are aware, over the last few months we have been investigating purchasing a defibrillator for the village. Jenny Menzies has very kindly been liaising with Arbroath Rotaract who have agreed to purchase it and St Vigeans Conservation Group have also given us a donation for the ongoing maintenance. We are very grateful to all these people.  Hopefully in the days and years to come it will not be necessary to use it very often but with the number of walkers, visitors and dog walkers in the village it could be a life saver. |  |

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|  | BAPTISM  Georgia Stirling, daughter of Sophie & Guy Stirling and granddaughter of Florence & Ian Stirling was baptised on Sunday 25th July. |  |  |

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**WORSHIP**

There will now be a service in the church every Sunday at 11.30 am

and Coffee will again be available at 11 am but please respect the rules.

In line with the new guidelines, a maximum of 125 people are allowed to worship in the Church at the same time and although

we still require to take a note of names and contact details of people attending and to assist the people on door duty it would be helpful (but not imperative) if you telephone 01241 876667 or e mail [margaret.pullar@btinternet.com](mailto:margaret.pullar@btinternet.com) prior to the Sunday to book your place.

There will still be an Online Sunday Service on most Sundays which can be viewed from early the following week -

www.stvigeanschurch.org, YouTube or the Facebook page.

Details of dates, services and any changes can be found on the website or contact Margaret Pullar – details Page 9.

There will be no further zoom meetings on Sunday mornings at 11 am.

**VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED**

We are looking for volunteers to go on a rota to assist during  Sunday worship with the computer and the presentation of slides.  If this is something you feel you could help us with, please get in touch with Heather on 07974 663 474 to arrange a time for a practice session.  
You can have as many practice sessions as you wish before progressing to an assisted session during worship.  Again, until you feel comfortable using the system, you can have as many assisted sessions during worship as you wish.  
We already have a few people to go on a rota but the more people we have available, the less onerous the task will be for each of us.

Heather Lockhart

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| CHURCH OFFICER ROTA | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| August | | | September | | | | | | October | | | | |
| 1st | David Smith | | 5th | | | David Smith | | | 3rd | | Andy Lawson | | |
| 8th | Mike O’Donnell | | 12th | | | Mike O’Donnell | | | 10th | | David Smith | | |
| 15th | George Taylor | | 19th | | | George Taylor | | | 17th | | Mike O’Donnell | | |
| 22nd | Fraser Bews | | 26th | | | Fraser Bews | | | 24th | | George Taylor | | |
| 29th | Andy Lawson | |  | | |  | | | 31st | | Fraser Bews | | |
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| **CHURCH FLOWERS** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| AUGUST | | | | | | | SEPTEMBER | | | | | |  |
| 1st | Sheila Milroy | | | | | | 5th | | Liz Lawson | | | |  |
| 8th | Rosie Burnett | | | | | | 12th | | Christine Fairweather | | | |  |
| 15th | Jean McPhail | | | | | | 19th | | Chloe Allardyce | | | |  |
| 22nd | Helen Rosie | | | | | | 26th | | Rosie Burnett | | | |  |
| 29th | Jean Duncan | | | | | |  | |  | | | |  |
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| DOOR DUTY | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| August | | | | | September | | | | | October | | | |
| 1st & 8th | | Fraser Bews  Rosie Burnett  Jim Low | | | 5th & 12th | | George Taylor  Betty Brown  Sheila Hosie | | | 3rd, 10th & 17th | | Meg Manson  Jay Ferrier  Laura Paton | |
| 15th, 22nd & 29th | | David Smith  Jen Den-Mackay  Sandra Wilbourn | | | 19th & 26th | | Helen Rosie  Joyce Lynn  Campbell Wilbourn | | | 24th & 31st | | Betts Ferrier  Dorothy Baird  Helen Taylor | |
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| If you are unable to do your door duty, please arrange for a replacement and contact Gertrud 890449 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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ORGANISATIONS

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| **A picture containing text, clipart  Description automatically generated** | **THE GUILD** |

Due to the pandemic, the Annual Guild Meeting this year will not be held in the Caird Hall, Dundee but a smaller event is to go ahead in The Assembly Hall, Edinburgh on 4th September but there will be space for only 100 people unless social distancing is reduced by then. However, there will be live streaming of the event with some participation. It should last approximately 3 hours. We still have to be notified of the time.

This year we have decided to have our Guild Meetings in the afternoon. The session will start on Monday, 20th September at 2 pm in the Church Hall. Thereafter, we will meet on the 3rd Monday of each month until April**. New members, male or female, will be most welcome**. The syllabus has not been finalised but the topic for each meeting will be intimated in the Church each month.

The strategy for the next three years will be "Look Forward in Faith" and the theme for 2021/22 is "Lights and Bushels" which will lead onto "Wee Seeds Big Trees" and "New Wine, New Skins."

A healthy and happy summer to all.

Jean Duncan

**JUST4MEN**

We are planning to re-start our JUST4MEN group in the Session House at 2 p.m. on Thursday 2nd September 2021.

JUST4MEN, as the name suggests, is a men’s group open to all men. It will provide us with the opportunity to meet together, talk through various issues or just to enjoy each other’s company.

**BE CREATIVE**

Be Creative will resume on Wednesday 1st September at 7 pm in the Hall. If you enjoy knitting, crochet or would just like some company please join us and if you are busy knitting, sewing or crocheting bring it with you.

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| A picture containing text, clipart  Description automatically generated | **TREASURER’S REPORT** |

Hello all,

I hope you are enjoying the fine summer we are having which maybe makes up a bit for those unable to holiday abroad who wanted to.

Below are the giving figures year to date which on the face of it look positive in comparison to last year but are not totally reflective of reality due to the church being closed for the bulk of this period last year and Freewill offerings catching up a bit later in the year on the days we were able to have a service.

                                                       2021            2020

Open Plate                                    £732.85      £1,332.71

Freewill                                      £6,613.50      £2,150.90

Gift Aid                                     £13,743.00    £10,964.00

Tax Recovered                           £5,802.35      £7,280.21

Tax recovered was less mainly as a result of reduced small cash donations last year which meant I was not able to claim back the full £2k maximum refund for these as has been the case in previous years, however, it's good to see the increased gift aid giving mainly as a result of a large gift from one member.

National Giving Day

Congregations have been encouraged by the General Assembly to participate in a church-wide National Giving Day which we have agreed for St Vigeans will be held during our service on Sunday 26th September which will be reflective of this initiative.

Money received through this will remain with the congregations and used to fund specific work, to launch a new project or simply to offset deficits taking into account the challenging financial circumstances faced over the last year. Congregations can use the money locally or direct it towards projects at home or overseas, provided that it will be used in line with the charitable objectives of the Church. Your support and any ideas on this would be gratefully welcomed.

Fraser Bews, Treasurer

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| **PROPERTY**  The floor in the Vestry has been repaired along with other bits and pieces, once it has been painted to freshen it up floor covering will be laid. I will have a look at carpet tiles that were lifted from the session rooms to see if they are suitable. Thanks go to Jim and Sandra Menzies for all their assistance.  I am pricing insulation for the roof of the session rooms - we will require 60 metres and I am trying to source another cheek microphone - the one we have only clips round one ear and has a tendency to move.  Septic tank and drainage works – the Building Warrant has now been received.  George Taylor |

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| Sunday Fun Club | Our team of willing and able leaders and helpers are looking forward to starting working with the children at the Sunday Fun Club in the new session on Sunday 15th August. An exciting and interesting programme using a variety of learning methods will be used to bring the Gospel story to the children. The children will enjoy a range of activities including crafts, stories, puzzles, videos and games. Children of all ages are welcome to join us. We meet in Church at 11.30 am before going to hall.  Jim Menzies |

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|  |  | Toddlers  Group |
| We had two successful toddler sessions in June, even though our numbers were restricted . We all enjoyed being outside both days and it was so nice to see their happy faces but we hope to be allowed to have  greater numbers in the new session. There is a big waiting list for places at toddlers but hope to be able to address this in the near future.  Sandra | | |

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|  | A huge thank you to everyone who has made our return to Church possible. Special thanks to Heather who has recorded the service every week for people who have not managed to attend Church, to the Church Officers who have so many additional duties, to the people who work the computer and camera, to the people on Door Duty and to everyone else who has assisted in any way. Thank You. |

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| Contact Details  Rev Peter Phillips, Interim Moderator - 01241 830464  E mail: pphillips@churchofscotland.org.uk  ----------  Keith Scott, Locum - 01241 879615  07712 044 091  E mail: [k.t.scott@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:k.t.scott@hotmail.co.uk)  ---------  Gerda Reid, Family Worker  07873 394 126  E mail: [family.worker4stvigeans@gmail.com](mailto:family.worker4stvigeans@gmail.com)  -------------  Fraser Bews, Treasurer  07917 211 993  E mail: fraserbews1@gmail.com  ----------  Margaret Pullar, Session Clerk - 01241 876667  07745 943 346  E mail: [margaret.pullar@btinternet.com](mailto:margaret.pullar@btinternet.com)  \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* | Although we are now allowed to hand deliver the Newsletter we are continuing to e mail it to as many people as possible and deliver it to the rest of our members.  If you would prefer a paper copy, please let me know or if you have an e mail address that we do not already have please send it to me – my e mail address is margaret.pullar@btinternet.com  The Church of Scotland Hymnary Group are looking for input from congregations to help to produce a new collection of songs. They are looking for songs, in any musical style, written since 2003 including new words to be sung to older tunes. If you have any hymns or songs you would like to be considered, please let me know before 20th August 2021.  Margaret Pullar |

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| Can you find the Proverb or Saying? | |
| 1. A B I T H I W T I T B 2. A W I S C 3. A E F A E A T F A T 4. B T S O Y T 5. A F I N I A F I 6. A M T H G F | 1. I B T G T T R 2. L T N A T 3. P C B A F 4. R S A N S D 5. D T O A Y W H T D T Y 6. M H M L W |
| Answers on Page 12 | |

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| **HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE**  On SUNDAY 24th October  At 11.30 am | A picture containing diagram  Description automatically generated |
| We will be collecting non- perishable goods for the Foodbank. Please either bring them to Church or take them to the Old & Abbey Church Foodbank. | |

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| A picture containing text, clipart, gambling house  Description automatically generated | Annual Blythswood Shoebox Appeal  Leaflets for this year’s appeal are attached or enclosed with this Newsletter or will be available in Church. At the moment we do not have the collection date but it is normally early November. We will give you further information in plenty of time. |

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| Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of  Jenny Birse  who died recently. |  |

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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | [This Photo](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Steinway_&_Sons_concert_grand_piano,_model_D-274,_manufactured_at_Steinway's_factory_in_Hamburg,_Germany.png) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/) | Arbroath Piano Club is intending to start in September after a long, empty interval. Our numbers are very low, with fewer players as well as fewer listeners. New members would be most welcome, so please contact me if you know of anyone who has a hobby of piano playing or enjoys listening – 12th September at 2.30 pm – 3.30 pm. Helen Addison |       ------------------------------------------------ |

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| DIARY DATES | |
| 1st August | Coffee before service resumes |
| 15th August | Sunday Fun Club |
| 1st September | Be Creative meets in the Hall |
| 2nd September | Just4Men meets in the Session Rooms |
| 14th September | Board & Session Meetings in the Hall |
| 20th September | Guild meet in the Hall |
| 24th October | Harvest Thanksgiving |
| 31st October | Communion Service |
| ?? November | Quiz Night in the Hall |
| 21st/28th January | Scottish Night in the Hall |
| Throughout this Newsletter you will find dates and proposed activities. We hope that they will all resume or take place on these dates but it may be the case that restrictions change and in the misquoted words of Rabbie Burns -  “The best laid plans of mice and men may gan aft agley” | |

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|  | Congratulations to Fiona Lawson and Allan Drysdale  who were married at St Vigeans Church on 17th July |

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| Answers to Proverbs & Sayings | |
| 1. A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush 2. A wolf in sheep’s clothing 3. An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth 4. By the skin of your teeth 5. A friend in need is a friend indeed 6. Absence makes the heart grow fonder | 1. It’s better to give than to receive 2. Love thy neighbour as thyself 3. Pride comes before a fall 4. Red sky at night, shepherds’ delight 5. Do to others as you would have them do to you 6. Many hands make light work |

Charity Number SCO 003049

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