



St Vigean's Church

Newsletter

November 2021

Summer seems like a distant memory now that the nights are drawing in, the trees are all changing to lovely shades of orange and yellow and it is raining! However, we have had good weather and all the "crops have been safely gathered in".

Although there are still a number of restrictions in place for Churches for example mask wearing and track and trace - the last few months have seemed almost normal or perhaps we have just become accustomed to it! All our groups have restarted, and it is very encouraging to see new and returning faces both on a Sunday morning at Church and at these activities.

Unfortunately, we are still unable to hold regular services in the Hall or to have our Soup Lunches due to restrictions. However, we have decided to hold a Hall Service on Sunday 12th December. We will try to contact all our regular hall service attendees but if you would like to come, please let me know. Please also let me know if you require transport. We are then hoping to get back to normal resuming with a Hall Service and Soup Lunch on 9th January and on the first Sunday of the month thereafter unless restrictions alter. There is still an online service most Sundays which can be viewed from early the following week - www.stvigeanschurch.org, YouTube or the Facebook page. and if anyone would like Communion in their own home, please let me or any of the Elders know.

Margaret

Reflection

During the War, my younger brother and I lived with our mother in Chatham, whilst my father was in the Royal Navy somewhere in the world. His return at the end of the War, led to us returning to my Mother's birthplace, Burntisland in FifeI would be about ten at the time. This also meant a change of Churches, and in due course I ended up in the Church of Scotland. Now, Burntisland has the first church to be built for the NEW RELIGION, In 1592-1595. There are older churches, but these were Catholic churches that were converted to the new religion. The new church of Burntisland was built as a square with the "Table" in the middle of the church, and the Pulpit placed halfway up one of the four pillars of stone that supported the roof. This meant that the whole congregation sat around the table. With this piece of Church history sitting so near to us it is worthy of a visit if you are in Fife, and I recommend it to you all .

T.F. Maplesden

Dear Friends,

Have you noticed how much darker the evenings are getting? I am sure you have, and the trees are already shedding their leaves. Autumn is upon us. As the season changes we enjoy the glorious colours of autumn. Autumn can be a time of reflection as we look back at events of the past months and look forward to what is planned. It has been an interesting year of change in church as we have seen some relaxation in the restrictions and we look forward to when the restrictions may be fully lifted. It has been encouraging that many of our midweek activities have restarted and are being well supported.

Arrangements are already in hand for Christmas, starting with our Christmas Fayre when we hope to have a number of decorated trees in church over the weekend. Christmas is a celebration of God's precious gift to us, His son, Jesus. He was called "Emmanuel", which means "God with us"

However, there are other changes we might not enjoy.....perhaps changes in our health, changes in our circumstances, changes in our work,.....when things are falling around us like Autumn leaves, let us remember that God never changes, He is still faithful, He still promises to be with us whatever changes we face.

As we reflect on the past and look forward to the future, let us also remember the present. Let us wake up each morning knowing God is with us, He is with us each step of the way. As the well-known hymn says;

"One more step along the world I go, One more step along the world I go; From the old things to the new, Keep me travelling along with You.

As I travel through the bad and good, Keep me travelling the way I should. Where I see no way to go. You'll be telling me the way, I know.

Give me courage when the world is rough, Keep me loving though the world is tough; Leap and sing in all I do, keep me travelling along with you".

Keith Scott



*Congratulations to Gina and Fraser who
were married recently*

COMMUNION SERVICE

SUNDAY JANUARY 30th at 11 am



CONDUCTED BY REV PETER PHILLIPS

PROPERTY

Hall

A new water heater/boiler has been purchased and installed. The lock on the main door is now operating properly, the existing keys operate the lock. The delivery of the new septic tank is being pursued.

Church

Decorating of the Vestry is almost complete, many thanks must go to Jim and Sandra who have carried out this work. While the slater is repairing the office roof will get him to give us a cost for cleaning gutters on the church. The heating in the church has been switched on from now till spring. The leak in the water pipe in the Vestry has been repaired, water is now available at the sink again.

Session Room/Office

There is a small leak in the office roof, slater has been contacted and a date is awaited for the slater to come and repair and survey the rest of the roof. The heating in the session rooms and office has been switched on for the winter. The trip switch keeps dropping out and the cause is being investigated. The computer has been repaired by Greg, Myra's husband and is now working well and we gave him a voucher for £25.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Saturday 4th December

10 am - 4 pm

Sunday 5th December

1 pm - 3 pm



CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Saturday 4th December

Stalls to include: Tombola, Raffle, Crafts, Pick a Pocket,
Bottle Stall & Santa Train.



Animated Christmas Carnival Display,
Music in the Church and Teas &
Coffees in the Hall on both days.

Entry: £2 for adults & 50p for children including
refreshments

We would be very grateful for donations to any of these stalls and there will be a box in the vestibule on Sunday mornings. We are particularly looking for prizes for the tombola, bottle stall (full size bottles), raffle, bottle bags, small prizes (maximum value £1) and Christmas Craft items.

If anyone would like to get involved or help on a stall, please speak to Helen Rosie

££££££££££

Treasurer's Report

It is difficult due to lockdown last year to provide a good comparison with this year so I thought I would have a look at 5 years ago to see how things have changed over what we could see as a reasonable investment cycle. Below gives you an idea of how things have changed.

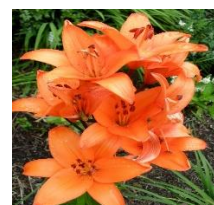
	to 30/09/2016	to 30/09/2021	Difference	% Difference
Open Plate	£3,707	£1,370	- £2,337	
Freewill	£11,764	£9,859	- £1,905	
Gift Aid	£16,434	£16,628	+ £194	
Total	£31,905	£27,857	- £4,048	-12.67%

So if we average over the 5 years a decline in giving of about 2.5% a year. Needless to say expenditure has not declined in this period and we have been fortunate to receive a legacy over the past two years which has helped keep us on an even keel especially having been unable to hold any of our additional social activities during this period which helps raise additional funds to cover the shortfall.

I am pleased to report that after I claim back Gift Aid we raised the magnificent sum of £1,000 on our National Giving Day held at the beginning of October. This is being donated to a local charity Reach Across. Thanks to all who contributed.

Fraser Bews - Treasurer

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends
of Arnott Lawson who died recently.



CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you are moving, please complete this address slip and return it to the Roll Keeper,
Miss B Brown, 2 Lochlands Drive, Arbroath. DD11 3DT

Name:.....

Former Address:.....

New Address:.....



THE GUILD

We started off the session in September with a most interesting talk by Gaynor Scott on "Lights and Bushels" - our topic for this year. Gaynor also talked a little about our projects for the next three years. At our last meeting Fran Marquis came along to tell us about "Wellness" to help to relieve people under stress, panic attacks etc. She also showed us various light exercises. Fran has a class on "Wellness" in the Old and Abbey Church Hall on Thursdays from 10.30 - 11.30.

Our syllabus for the next four months is as follows:

Nov 15th - Beetle Drive

Dec 20th - Christmas Lunch at Portcullis at 1.30 pm

Jan 17th - Talk by Keith Scott

Feb 21st - Talk by Manliffe Goodbody

We meet in the hall at 2 pm. All are most welcome.

The General Secretary, for the National Guild, Iain Whyte, is to retire at the end of this year. He has held his position for 10 years.

The Arbroath Piano Club

**meets in the Church at 3 pm on the Second
Sunday of the month.**



Helen Rosie was presented with a Long Service Certificate
on 24th October.

She was ordained as an Elder at St Vigeans on 22nd
September 1991 and over the last thirty years has been
involved with the Sunday School, Safeguarding Convenor,
Social Committee and has now taken on the role of
Stewardship Convenor.

Congratulations and Thank You, Helen.





Toddlers Group

The toddler group is going well, we had a very good session for Halloween with the children having lots of fun dressing up, spearing apples and catching doughnuts on strings. We are planning to enter a tree in the church Christmas tree festival so the toddlers will be making decorations over the next few weeks. Thank you to all the helpers who make the group so successful.

Sandra

World Aids Day is on 5th December and we will have a collection in Church. This is also the weekend of our Christmas Tree Festival so why not bring a packed lunch and enjoy fellowship in the hall after the service?



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

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The 12 Days of Christmas

In the church Christmas refers to a twelve day period that starts with Christmas Day. This is where "The Twelve Days of Christmas" comes from. The world celebrates Christmas for twelve hours, but the Church celebrates it for twelve days because the gift of Christ is with us for twelve months of the year.

The song had its origins as a teaching tool to instruct young people in the meaning and content of the Christian faith and each of the items in the song represents something of religious significance.

- The "partridge in a pear tree" was Jesus Christ who died on a tree as a gift from God
- The "two turtle doves" were the Old and New Testaments - another gift from God
- The "three French hens" were faith, hope and love - the three gifts of the Spirit that abide (1 Corinthians 13)
- The "four calling birds" were the four Gospels which sing the song of salvation through Jesus Christ
- The "five gold rings" were the first five books of the Bible also called the "Books of Moses"
- The "six geese a-laying" were the six days of the creation
- The "seven swans a swimming" were "seven gifts of the Holy Spirit" (1 Corinthians 12:8-11, Romans 12, Ephesians 4, 1 Peter 4:10-11)
- The "eight maids a milking" were the eight beatitudes
- The "nine ladies dancing" were nine fruits of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23)
- The "ten lords a-leaping" were the Ten Commandments
- The "eleven pipers piping" were the eleven faithful disciples
- The "twelve drummers drumming" were the twelve points of the Apostles' Creed.

Thank
You

A huge thank you to all who have made our return to Church possible but also special thanks to everyone who so generously donated on National Giving Day to Reach Across, to the Foodbank at Harvest Thanksgiving and filled shoeboxes for the Blytheswood appeal. Thank You.

Contact Details

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Fraser Bews, Treasurer

07917 211 993

E mail: fraserbews1@gmail.com

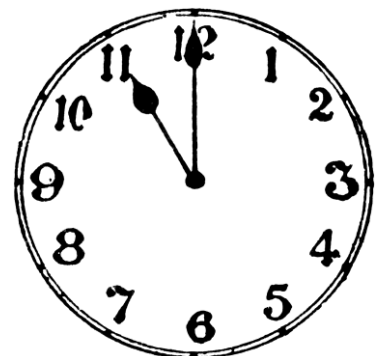
Margaret Pullar, Session Clerk - 01241 876667

07745 943 346

E mail: margaret.pullar@btinternet.com

CHANGE OF TIME OF SERVICES

From the beginning of January
2022, the Morning Service will
start at 11 am not 11.30 am





December Services & Events

4th & 5th December

Christmas Tree Festival & Fayre

12th December

Service in the Hall at 11.30 am & Gift Sunday

19th December

Family Nativity Service followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

20th December

Guild Christmas Meal at the Portcullis at 1.30 pm.

Christmas Eve

Family Service at 6pm

The Sunday School are again raising funds for the Send a Cow Appeal. Instead of sending Christmas cards to members of the congregation please give a donation to this very worthwhile cause.



Social Committee



St Vigean's Church Social Committee cater for most of the main events held by our Church such as the monthly Soup lunches, Easter Breakfast and teas for our annual Fete, Music in St Vigean's and the Christmas Tree Festival.

We are happy to announce we will be back serving soup after the morning service on January 9th 2022 to which all are welcome. Most lunches are on the first Sunday of each month until summer recess but please check our Church website/Facebook page for details.

If you feel you would be able to spare a few hours helping our team on the big occasions we would be delighted to hear from you. We are looking for extra help for the Christmas Tree Festival to make up a rota and can accommodate when you would be willing to help. We will be serving tea and biscuits.

The Social Committee are decorating a tree for the Festival and invite you to join us with anything 'edible' from decorating your own biscuits to a garland of mini Jammie Dodgers - all decor welcome.

Some of the Social Committee will be undertaking the Church of Scotland's Food Hygiene course. We have yet to receive a date for this to take place but a worthwhile course to keep us up to date with the ever changing regulations.

We look forward to meeting up with you all again.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

It is good to get our dancing shoes back on after long lockdown months.

If you have a spare couple of hours on the first and last Monday nights in the month, 7:30 till 9:30pm you would be very welcome to come join our fun dancing in the hall. £3.00 per night, bring your own cup, refreshments provided.

Good fun, good company.

Anne Whitehead -Tel:07743383967



BE CREATIVE

Be Creative has now resumed and it is very encouraging to see so many non-church members and also different faces. Twiddlemuffs, which were knitted during lockdown have been handed in to Dementia Care & Reach Across, hats have gone in the shoeboxes for Blytheswood and we are now busy knitting, sewing, crocheting for the Christmas Tree Festival and Fayre.

The dates of our meetings are 10th & 24th November and 8th December and 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

STILL ON THIS SIDE OF THE GRASS

The Session Clerk has kindly allowed me to express my thanks to the people who took charge on Sunday 10th October when I suddenly took ill at the end of the Service.

Firstly my sincere apologies to Mr Keith Scott for interrupting the end of the service; and a further thanks to him for his kind telephone call days later. By one of those strange quirks of life, his son happened to be the driver of the ambulance that conveyed me to Ninewells Hospital.

To those who came to my aid, and whom I do not know by name, my sincere thanks and gratitude. I understand, and know now, that I was cared for until I was transported to hospital. I am now home, due to the transport of a kind farmer and a retired Minister of religion, and hopefully things will return to normal in the days ahead.

With every blessing

Tom Maplesden

DOOR DUTY

December

Liz Lawson

Sheila Hosie

Laura Paton

January

William Lawrie

Margaret Cargill

Liz Lawson

February

Campbell Wilbourn

David Cargill

Andy Lawson

If you are unable to do your door duty, please arrange for a replacement and contact Gertrud 890449

CHURCH OFFICER

November

7th

Andy Lawson

14th

David Smith

21st

Mike O'Donnell

28th

David Smith

December

5th

Fraser Bews

12th

Andy Lawson

19th

David Smith

26th

Mike O'Donnell



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Chocolate Orange Cover

Christmas Tree Pattern



Requires ~ DK YARN and 3.5mm knitting needles

Using green yarn ~ Cast on 43sts

1st Row: S1, *k1, p1, repeat from * to the last 2sts, k2

2nd Row: S1, *p1, k1, repeat from * to end

Repeat last 2 rows three times more

9th Row: S1, knit to end 10th Row: S1, purl to last st, k1

11th Row: S1, knit to end 12th Row: S1, knit to end

13th Row: S1, knit to end 14th Row: S1, purl to last st, k1

15th Row: S1, knit to end 16th Row: S1, purl to last st, k1

17th Row: S1, knit to end 18th Row: S1, knit to end

19th Row: S1, knit to end 20th Row: S1, purl to last st, k1

21st Row: S1, knit to end 22nd Row: S1, purl to last st, k1

Shape the top ~

Row 23: *K5, k2tog, repeat from * to last st, k1 (37sts)

Row 24: Knit across row Row 25: Knit across row Row 26: Purl across row

Row 27: *K4, k2tog, repeat from * to last st, k1 (31sts)

Row 28: Purl across row Row 29: Knit across row Row 30: Knit across row

Row 31: *K3, k2tog, repeat from * to last st, k1 (25sts)

Row 32: Purl across row Row 33: Knit across row Row 34: Purl across row

Row 35: *K2, k2tog, repeat from * to last st, k1 (19sts)

Row 36: Knit across row Row 37: Knit across row Row 38: Purl across row

Row 39: *K1, k2tog, repeat from * to last st, k1 (13sts)

Row 40: Purl across row Row 41: Knit across row Row 42: Knit across row

Row 43: *K2tog, repeat from * to last st, k1 (7sts)

Row 44: Purl across row

Row 45: K2tog, k2tog, k2tog, k1 (4sts)

Row 46: P2tog, p2tog (2sts)

Row 47: K2tog

Fasten off. Cut off yarn. Join seam. Darn away ends

Add a star button or pom-pom. Decorate with tiny buttons or sequins