



Meldrum & Bourtie

Parish Church of Scotland

Registered in Scotland
Charity Number SCO15960

August / September 2021



Kirk News

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Greetings from Rothienorman.

These last few months with you have been a privilege; a challenge; and another step in my journey of faith – and I pray in yours. Every time I finish with a church I say never again, but God always has a different plan and that is what makes living the Christian life so exciting even if at times it is stressful.

These strange times have thrown up so many challenges, but also so many opportunities. I have had to learn how to make videos, despite having difficulty watching myself on film, making the editing a nightmare! I made masks for charity; I learned how to crochet, following a pattern; I started baking my own bread; and I spent a lot of time sitting, shut up in my office while my husband worked in the living room. All resulting in a weight increase!

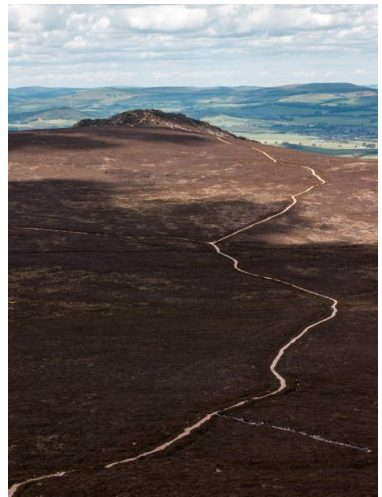
We have all missed special times with friends and family. Good times as well as the sad times. But now that the time has come for us all to once again get back into a more relaxed 'normal' regime we are wondering what the future will be like. Too many things have changed for us to go back to the old normal. But we are blessed with the knowledge that we are not on our own.

Our awesome God knows the future! He has a plan and a purpose for each and everyone. Not a set of directions, but the promise that He is with us and will uphold and guide us when we require. For me that has meant challenges, including losing weight – 6lbs and counting – well maybe not this weekend! I have been going out for a walk, exploring Rothie, and seeing so many new pathways, that have led to many new conversations. Never quite knowing where I will end up or who I will meet.

These next few months and yes, maybe years, will hold many different paths and decisions for all churches. We may not know at present where they will lead but God does. My prayer for you all is that you will continue to grow in the Lord. That you will face the future with peace and joy as you see his plan for Meldrum & Bourtie Church unfold. And that you support and uphold Alisa and the family in your prayers, as you work to show the Kingdom in Oldmeldrum.

God's blessings to you all.

Alicia Forsyth



Deaths

Mrs Coral Donald

Meadowsvale

5th July 2021

PRAYER CALENDAR

August 2021



As we are all thinking about the future and what the “ new normal “ will be like in our communities and schools we pray that healing, hope and faith will be present in abundance. Kathy Galloway from the Iona Community wrote this lovely prayer called “ New Ways “ which speaks for and to us at this time.

God of our lives
you are always calling us
to follow you into the future,
inviting us to new ventures, new challenges,
new ways to care,
new ways to touch the hearts of all.
When we become fearful of the unknown, give us courage.
When we worry that we are not up to the task,
remind us that you would not call us
if you did not believe in us.

When we get tired,
or feel disappointed with the way things are going,
remind us that you can bring change and hope
out of the most difficult situations.

We also give thanks that God works in unexpected ways. May God use us to help and support each other in our new way forward as in the past he used the monk who later became St Nathalan to save the parish of Oldmeldrum from disease. We ask all this in the name of Jesus our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PRAYER CALENDAR

September 2021



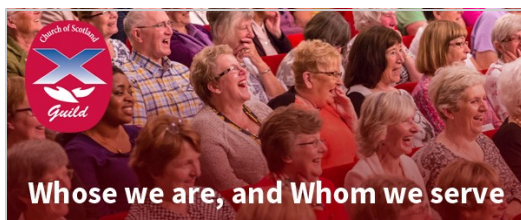
Weeks 1 & 2	Own Church	Give thanks for all those who have been knitting for babies and small children in Malawi. These items made and sent with love warm bodies nurture newborns and bring comfort and care to many families.
	Presbytery	Pray that the support links between churches and parishes in our Presbytery grow and flourish in preparation for the new larger Presbytery area
	World Issues	Remember in your prayers all those in Africa facing the growing challenge of climate change, famine, inadequate clean water and the insecurity and worry of kidnap and violence. Pray also for those who in fleeing for their lives are forced into more danger and the unknown.
Weeks 3 & 4	Own Church	Give thanks for all those involved with the Meldrum Amenities Improvement Group for all they do and the floral displays that lift our spirits. Our thanks also for all those volunteers who pedal the electric Trishaw and provide people with the opportunity to enjoy the outdoor environment.
	Presbytery	Remember all the rural churches in Presbytery especially at this season as harvest draws near. We pray for the continued witness of their congregations and for all those who are working to provide us with food.
	World Issues	Pray for all countries still waiting for the vaccines needed to protect their population from the pandemic and other health threats such as Polio as these programmes have also been disrupted by the effect of the pandemic.

Newsletters

The Church of Scotland and its partner organisations produce a wide range of newsletters covering topics from world and ecumenical affairs, to ministerial development and local priority area updates.

There's a newsletter for everyone. You can sign up to as many newsletters as you like, and you're free to opt out at any time.

Go to the Church of Scotland webpage
<https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news-and-events/newsletters> for further details.



Whose we are, and Whom we serve

The Guild

The Guild sends out a monthly newsletter to inform people of the activities of The Guild both locally and nationally. It gives an insight into the wide range of things we do and how people can get involved.



Life and Work

Life and Work is the magazine of the Church of Scotland. In a history spanning over 140 years, it has established itself as the voice of the Church of Scotland.



Ascend

Ascend brings together a range of services and opportunities for those in ministry. The heart of Ascend is to provide a creative and safe space that enables meaningful support and development. Our monthly newsletter highlights CMD opportunities, events and services.



Children and Youth Ministry

Ministry with children and young people is exciting and rewarding but can at times be challenging so we all need a little help sometimes. This newsletter aims to keep you informed about forthcoming training, conferences and resources from the Church of Scotland and others that will be of benefit to you in your ministry, and highlights opportunities and events for young people.



Priority Areas

Priority Areas sends out a monthly newsletter to share both national and local good news stories directly from our 64 communities. We also include resources, funding and learning opportunities as well as any vacancies within Priority Areas.

Contacts

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Kirk News Articles

All items for the October / November 2021 issue of Kirk News should be in the hands of the Editors, Brian Reid, or Simon Hill by Sunday, 19th September 2021.

If you know of anyone who does not normally receive Kirk News and would like to, please contact the Editor. (see Contacts table)

You can also catch up with our latest news, events and videos on our website @

[https://
www.meldrumandbourtiechurch.com/](https://www.meldrumandbourtiechurch.com/)
or on our Facebook page.

