



# Meldrum & Bourtie

## Parish Church of Scotland

Registered in Scotland  
Charity Number SCO15960

October / November 2020

### Letter from the Interim Moderator

Hello and goodbye! I am delighted that this will be my last letter to you as on 13<sup>th</sup> October, at 7.00pm, The Presbytery of Gordon will meet to induct Rev Alisa McDonald as your next minister. This will be a restricted service both by members of Presbytery and of congregation being able to attend. I am sure you will join with me in remembering Alisa and her family in our prayers as she settles into her work among you.

I have been delighted to be able to help the congregation in a very minor way in the last couple of months, since I was appointed by Presbytery to take over from Rev Dr Paul McKeown. Paul did much of the hard work aided wonderfully by Rev Valerie Mitchell as your locum. I want to thank them both for their work on your behalf.

One of the joys for me in being an Interim Moderator, and it



# Kirk News

[www.meldrumandbourtiechurch.com](http://www.meldrumandbourtiechurch.com)  
[info@meldrumandbourtiechurch.com](mailto:info@meldrumandbourtiechurch.com)



does not happen that often because of my role in Presbytery as the Clerk, is getting to know new people. Sadly this never happened at Meldrum & Bourtie, though I have met the elders on a few occasions and truthfully have been impressed by their commitment and enthusiasm, as we made preparations to re-open the Meldrum Church and plans for the induction of Alisa.

It would be my hope and expectation that the work they have put in will help your new minister, by giving her the prayer and practical support required. I am sure that all the members will also play their part supporting the elders in this task.

We are moving into different times in the life of the church, challenging for all. However with dedication, prayer and teamwork I am sure that you will be part of the Church that God wants and I wish you every blessing in the future.

I will see some of you at the induction, for as Clerk of Presbytery I get a seat reserved for me!

Take care of yourselves and take care of others.

May God bless you all

Euan Glen Interim Moderator



### **Kirk News Articles**

All items for the Dec 2020 / Jan 2021 issue of Kirk News should be in the hands of the Editors, Brian Reid, or Simon Hill by Sunday, 22nd November 2020.

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

# Deaths

Mr David (Davie) Forsyth	Kirk Street	28th August 2020
Mrs Janice Edwards	Waterside, Oldmeldrum	29th August 2020
Mrs Sheila Welsh	Auchtercrag Care Home	6th September 2020
Mrs Katrina Cameron	Urquhart Road	9th September 2020
Mrs Margaret Barclay	Garioch Care Home	12th September 2020
Mrs Margaret Cameron	Kirk Street	23rd September 2020

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<div> <div>Contacts</div> <div></div> </div>		
Name	Position	
Euan Glenn	Interim Moderator	
Mrs Jean Mitchell	Reader	872745
Mr W Dalzell	Session Clerk & Roll Keeper	872943
Mr W Paterson	Treasurer	01467 681796
Mrs Lorna Reid	Roll Keeper	01651 873000
Focus Groups:		
Pat Patrone	Worship Group	872797
Kirk News		
Brian Reid	Editorial Rep	872794
Church Group:		
Eileen Oliver	Pastoral Care Visiting Team	873396
Facebook Page	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/meldrumbourtiechurch.org.uk">www.facebook.com/meldrumbourtiechurch.org.uk</a>	
Website	<a href="http://www.meldrumandbourtiechurch.com">www.meldrumandbourtiechurch.com</a>	

# INDUCTION SERVICE

Alisa's induction service will be held on **TUESDAY 13 OCTOBER @ 7:00 pm** in Meldrum church.

As most will know the seating capacity in the church is restricted due to the guidance given by the Scottish Government and the Church of Scotland in relation to the Covid-19 outbreak. Seating will be further restricted due to mandatory attendance of members of Presbytery although these numbers will be kept to a minimum to ensure as many of our own members can attend.

If you wish to attend the service, you must firstly make a reservation via our booking system which can be accessed via the following methods.

## **Online:**

Please follow this link [Booking Form](#) (takes you to a Google form) fully complete the form and submit (preferred booking method).

## **Email:**

A booking form is attached to this email – download complete and return to;

Billy at [info@meldrumandbourtiechurch.com](mailto:info@meldrumandbourtiechurch.com)  
or Eileen Oliver at [eileenoliver@live.com](mailto:eileenoliver@live.com)

## **Text:**

Details required as per the form  
to Billy on 07968 000610 or  
to Eileen on 07775 606640

## **Post:**

To - W Dalzell Session Clerk Deanbank Albert Road  
Oldmeldrum AB51 0DB

Our Kirk Session has decided that the fairest way to decide who can attend this service is to put all booking requests received into a draw – this will be drawn on Sunday 11 October after our morning service. *\*Please note that family groups will be*

*counted as one booking request.*

## **PRESENTATIONS:**

Rev Valerie Mitchell will be preaching on 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> October, with the 11<sup>th</sup> being Valerie's final service before Alisa takes over. As is customary we would like to make a small presentation to Valerie on the 11th to thank her for the commitment she has given to us all here in Meldrum & Bourtie over the last 12 months, she has certainly helped make our journey through this vacancy that much easier.

We also normally present a gift to a new minister to welcome her and her family to Meldrum & Bourtie, we would like to do so again.

If you wish to help with these presentations, please put your donation into an envelope, if donating to both please use separate envelopes marked with Valerie and the other with Alisa – both envelopes can then either be placed in the collection plate this Sunday in church or posted through my door (address as above) – if unsure about anything please call me on the above number or get in touch with your elder.

# HARVEST THANKSGIVING

Autumn has arrived here in NE Scotland. The trees are turning glorious colours, the nights' are drawing in, and the fire is on whilst I write this.

Morning worship resumed at Meldrum Church at the end of August. Since then we have been meeting every Sunday with appropriate measures in place. Sadly we can only accommodate around 20 people for worship, but the services are all recorded and can be listened to on the Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church website.

On Sunday 11th October we will be holding our Harvest Thanksgiving Service. Again numbers will be restricted. However, we will be collecting non-perishable donations for the Aberdeenshire Foodbank. These can be brought to the service and left at the church entrance. Alternatively, we will be receiving donations between 2pm and 4pm on Sunday 11th Oct, again at the church. If you are not able to donate non-perishable items, then may I encourage you to consider a financial donation to a charity. There are many good causes that have suffered a downturn in donations due to the pandemic and a harvest gift to them would be gratefully received. Perhaps you may donate to the foodbank in your area.

Over the summer the numbers receiving the weekly reflection exceeded 100, and I feel you have become an extension of Meldrum Church. I am therefore inviting you to contribute to our Harvest Service. We plan on having a running slideshow of photographs depicting Autumn or harvest scenes. Perhaps you might consider taking a picture of a scene where you are and sending it to me. It will become part of the slide show in church on Sunday 11th October, and it would be lovely to see all the different places our reflection reached.

I look forward to seeing your photos!

Blessings,

Valerie

## **Meldrum Paths Group Survey**

We are a local group working on providing and improving paths for the community. We put the new stiles and signs on Barra Hill and are working towards a pathway from Oldmeldrum to Inverurie.

We are interested in finding out people's behaviour during and post Covid 19 pandemic, walking and cycling (active travel\*) in the local area and supporting local businesses has been very important to the community.

It is considered that active travel and staying local as key elements of recovery, both in terms of local economic activity and the health & wellbeing of residents. We would be grateful for your input.

\*Active Travel is the term used by Transport Scotland for walking, wheeling (using a wheelchair) and cycling. In the survey safe travel is defined as "navigable for an unaccompanied 12 year old".

You can find us on Facebook under Meldrum Paths Group to complete the survey or online using the following link -

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/QJMSQG>

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## **Rotary Club of Oldmeldrum & District**

We continue to meet on Monday evenings at 7pm, on Zoom, every fortnight. Sadly, due to Covid 19, we had to cancel the Haddo Easter Egg Hunt.

Rotarians managed some fund raising activities like a virtual V.E. afternoon tea party, and virtual coffee mornings. This year, we have donated to Tarves Brownies, and Daviot Explorers prior to lockdown. However, our limited funds have been diverted to local need in the community to help mitigate the impact of Covid 19 upon families due to job losses or being placed on furlough. We have made donations to Aberdeenshire North Foodbank of £2000, £1600 was given to churches within Oldmeldrum and District parishes to support families in need. We contributed £1000 to the Charlie House Big Build project. Its vision is to have a purpose-built facility in Aberdeen, to support families who have children with life limiting illness in the region.

We know how much the residents and children in particular, look forward to Santa and his Sleigh, a tradition that Santa and his elves enjoy. Please follow our Facebook page nearer December as we will keep potential Santa followers updated on his progress.

If you would like more information or to participate in a Zoom meeting, please contact [anne.shirran@btinternet.com](mailto:anne.shirran@btinternet.com) for more details.

Anne Shirran, President Rotary Club of Oldmeldrum and District

# PRAYER CALENDAR

## October 2020



As we see the colours around us change to the shades of Autumn and see signs of harvesting let us thank God for the changing seasons and the gifts they bring.

Lord of Creation,  
We see that the fields are ripening for harvest.  
We pray for all farmers,  
That their fields may be fruitful.  
We pray for all churches,  
That they may be ready to gather fruit for Eternal Life.  
Amen

**Prayers for our Church Family** : Give thanks for all those who have worked so hard to get the Manse ready for our new minister. May their efforts and care provide a warm welcome for the family. May we do all we can to help them settle into their new church family and local community.

**Prayers for Presbytery** : Pray for all churches and congregations as they seek ways to worship and keep in contact in these difficult times. Bind us together in thought and prayer. Give thanks for the technology that breaks down the distance between people.

**Prayers for World Issues** : Pray for God's protection for the poorest peoples in our country and worldwide. Those who lack resources to fall back on when they cannot work due to lockdown or natural disasters or unrest. We pray for strength and safety for all those Aid Agencies working to bring clean water, food and essentials to our brothers and sisters who have so little. We remember in prayer all those at home and abroad less fortunate than ourselves.



# PRAYER CALENDAR

## November 2020



November is a month that brings with it the opportunity for Remembrance. At the start of the month we find All Saints Day and All Souls Day where we can think of all the saints and the people we have known and miss who have gone before us into God's care. We also remember those that gave their lives in times of conflict to secure peace. The hymn verses below help us to reflect on the peace of God's grace that we can all share.

Put peace into each other's hands,  
And like a treasure hold it;  
Protect it like a candle flame,  
With tenderness unfold it.

Put peace into each other's hands  
With loving expectation;  
Be gently in your words and ways  
In touch with God's creation.

Put Christ into each other's hands,  
He is love's deepest measure;  
In love make peace, give peace a chance  
And share it like a treasure.

We remember in our prayers all those who have struggled and are struggling still to achieve a peaceful world. We commend them to your care Lord and give thanks for the countries in the world where peace reigns.  
Amen

We are here to help and serve all in our community in this time of uncertainty:

Whatever your need, then please call any of the people whose contact details are listed. Between us, we will do what we can to help:

Elizabeth Buchan	01651 872131	<a href="mailto:buchan93@hotmail.com">buchan93@hotmail.com</a>
Elaine Buck	01651 872348	<a href="mailto:elaine.buck123@btinternet.com">elaine.buck123@btinternet.com</a>
William Dalzell	01651 872943	<a href="mailto:william.dalzell101@btinternet.com">william.dalzell101@btinternet.com</a>
Anne McLean	01651 873254	<a href="mailto:mcleanann@gmail.com">mcleanann@gmail.com</a>
Valerie Mitchell	01651 806005	<a href="mailto:valmitchell2@gmail.com">valmitchell2@gmail.com</a>
Eileen Oliver	01651 873396	<a href="mailto:eileenoliver@live.com">eileenoliver@live.com</a>
Pat Patrone	01651 872797	<a href="mailto:p.patrone123@btinternet.com">p.patrone123@btinternet.com</a>
Sheila Simpson	07866 130175	<a href="mailto:charles.simpson12@btinternet.com">charles.simpson12@btinternet.com</a>
Graham Smith	01651 873415	<a href="mailto:janggs@aol.com">janggs@aol.com</a>
Mhari Watt	01651 873210	<a href="mailto:mhari.watt@btinternet.com">mhari.watt@btinternet.com</a>

[NHS – Covid-19](#)

[Kirk Services - online](#)

All that we plan to do will be subject to any further measures announced by the Government.

## **Worshipping together again:**

- \* If you are experiencing any symptoms of Covid-19 or have been in contact with anyone experiencing these symptoms please do not come to church
- \* Please arrive in good time as there may be queuing both inside and outside the building
- \* Please enter through the front door
- \* As you approach the building you will notice tape on the path to show social distance markings. Please use these markings to help you enter the building in a socially distanced manner
- \* There are hand sanitiser stations located at the front entrance and at the rear exit door. Please use the hand sanitiser before entering the sanctuary
- \* In accordance with Test and Protect, Scotland's approach to preventing the spread of COVID-19 in the community, we are required to take the contact details of the lead member of every household who attends church
- \* The Scottish Government has advised the wearing of face coverings in churches is now mandatory. Masks will be available at the door if required
- \* At this time, we will not be allowed to sing hymns (although we will be playing music)
- \* We will try and ensure you and your household will be allocated seats together
- \* A member of the Welcome Team will take you to your seat
- \* There will be no tea or coffee served. If you need water, please bring your own
- \* All Bibles and paper materials have been removed and all Bible readings will be on the screen. You are welcome to bring your own Bible
- \* We encourage you to give your offering electronically at this time. If that is not possible the Collection Plates will be situated in the vestibule and at the rear door
- \* In the event of a fire, please leave the building as quickly as possible. It will not be necessary to maintain the 2m distance in this instance

All of these measures will be reviewed every few weeks and we will lift restrictions in-line with Government guidelines.



**Worshipping together again:  
Booking Form.**

Full name:

.....

Email address:

.....

Telephone number:

.....

Preferred method of contact:

Email:

Telephone:

Please enter the date of the service you wish to attend:

.....

Number in your household group (including yourself):

.....

I acknowledge that I am the lead contact for my household group and consent to my contact information being sent to NHS Test and Protect in the event of a suspected Covid-19 case within the church building.

Yes:

No:

12