

Auchterarder Parish Church Newsletter

17th September 2022

Registered Charities SC001688

Musings from the Manse

“She was a greater kind of glorious. The kind of glorious that glories not in the self but that follows, quietly and steadfastly, a higher call. The kind of glorious that does not boast, preen or call attention to itself but is dignified, modest and dutiful. She embodied virtues that are not now fashionable but are desperately needed in the world: faith, service, sacrifice, grace, constancy, charity, wisdom, restraint. Rest in peace, Queen Elizabeth II.”



Of all the many words written in honour of the Queen I found this short tribute the most meaningful and poignant. Despite her exalted rank, she always seemed to be someone who never sought stardom but was characterised by humility and a desire to serve. Like Jesus, the King whom she served, she re-defined greatness. Perhaps the biggest surprise in these days after her death is how many people, both young and old, have shown their deep appreciation of her, for exactly those qualities which nowadays are often seen as dull and dated. Our superficial age is still able to honour deeper values.

The Queen's death may only seem to add to our uncertainties at a time of turmoil and change: a new government, a looming energy crisis, continuing war in Ukraine, fears about the climate. Yet it also highlights the things that do not change, particularly the constancy of God. God never fears the future and works to bring life, healing and growth even in the strangest times. There have been signs of life and growth this summer in Auchterarder Church, with people coming back to worship in bigger numbers, a great holiday club, more young people coming to our youth events, and the continuing strength of the Guild. Perhaps none of it very great or glorious - but we follow quietly and steadfastly in the work to which God calls us.

Enjoy the newsletter and God bless you

Lynn

Kidsteam

During August, Kidsteam were busy learning about Creation and Harvest, concentrating on the sky and the seas. We created a large piece of artwork with everything God filled the sky and sea with - including rainbows, purple clouds, dolphins, crabs and an octopus! We decorated the sea creatures with seeds when we were learning about the harvest.



If you haven't seen it yet, pop into the Garden Room and have a look - you can't miss it!

And during the October holidays, we will be adding on the earth.

If anyone you know would like to join us in Kidsteam, we leave the church service after the children's hymn and meet in the Garden Room. Everyone is welcome, even if you are just visiting. Yvonne (yvonneelder@outlook.com)

Holiday Club - August 2022

In August we ran our first full week's holiday club in Auchterarder for children in primary school. We had a very enthusiastic team, helped by some of the LOGOS young people who thoroughly enjoyed it! We started with a small number of children but that quickly grew through the week as we had loads of fun exploring the Bible stories in Luke's Book (a trendy children's version of Luke's Gospel). One enthusiastic child had read it all by the end of the week! Perhaps the best thing was seeing the children being touched by the stories they read, sharing their own experiences in prayer and engaging with questions – a real sense of growing in their knowledge and experience of God. Exhausting but very worthwhile!



Messy Church



We had our first Messy Church after the summer on the first Sunday in September. The theme was 'Jesus said; 'I am the bread of life.' and, as you might imagine, we had a lot of bread-themed activities, from making bakers' hats to bread tasting and making bread baskets. We had a good attendance of families and team members to help and we all enjoyed some amazing wraps with a choice of fillings with doughnuts for 'afters', thanks to Alison and Jackie.

And we had our youngest ever Messy Churcher in attendance – Ben Blackadder at 3 weeks old!!

Our next Messy Church is on Sunday 2nd October when the theme is Jesus' 'I am' saying: 'I am the way, the truth and the life.' All are welcome, whatever age you are! As you'll see from the photos, adults enjoy making stuff as much as the kids!



Our Church Bell - rang on Saturday 10th September

After the death of our Queen, it was agreed that we would, in line with other churches throughout the UK, ring our Church Bell from 12.00 until 13.00 on Saturday 10 September.

Ringling our bell is a pretty onerous task and takes a wee bit of physical effort. One person would not be able to do this for an hour!

Heather Edment, in discussion with our Minister, decided to take on supervision of the task and at 12.00 we had 4 people ready and willing to ring the bell in 5 minute stints. They were Larry Gilmour, Heather Edment, Keith Allan and Ian Mitchell (all pictured). No sooner had we started, and Billy Small had appeared as a further volunteer. Just as the tea and refreshments arrived, so did Jim Docherty! 6 in all making it a 'many hands make light work' task.



The bell rang for the full hour and we all enjoyed being a part of it. God rest her soul!

God save the King!

Coffee Morning Everyone Welcome



Can you Bake?

As the Elders of the church are away on Saturday the 24th of September, this will reduce the faithful helpers for our Coffee Morning, so we are looking for helpers and bakers.

We will have the normal wrapped biscuits but, can you bake, pancakes, scones, biscuits, shortbread, cupcakes etc???



Any amounts small or large will be grateful as we can even sell them!!?

We will be able to take your baking on the Friday 23rd September or collect them if you are away on the Saturday?

Please let me know email, text, just grab me, in Church or in Church Centre on Thursday 22nd September.

We will be have our normal coffee morning on Saturday 24th September.

Thank you

Allan Russell

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allan.gordon.russell@gmail.com



Contactless Giving Update

We are very grateful to all the people who support the church in a variety of ways. In recent years we have seen a change in the way people live their lives. Following the pandemic large numbers of people are adopting a cashless lifestyle, and many shops and businesses now run cashless systems. As a church we are keen to offer as many ways as possible for people to support the work that is done. We have been looking at some new systems that would allow for us to take contactless card donations on Sundays, and other times during the week. We are hopeful that this new method will allow people to continue to support us in growing our mission, whether it is children and youth work, messy church, archway café, or one of the other amazing services being run by our church community of volunteers. More information about what this new system will look like will be released in the coming months.





Craft group - next meeting Tuesday 4th October at 10.30

Our group met and have decided on some interesting projects; Using prayer squares, which we already have, Knit blankets for those who need them, Possibly make a Christmas gift for the care home residents, Start a Prayer Shawl Ministry for the churches. Prayer shawls



are knitted with prayer, dedicated in Church and then given to those who are ill, bereaved, in need of care, at times of great joy, and at many other times. It is a tangible sign of God's love which wraps around the person.

The Guild are having a speaker to tell us more about this ministry so do come along and learn more on Thursday 20th October at 7.30. Gifts of wool would be greatly appreciated.

Our next meeting craft group is on Tuesday 4th October at 10.30 in the board room.

Marjorie Paton

It is with regret I have to inform you of the death of the following people, both well know in the Church

John Souter and Christine Mailer

Our thoughts are with their families. Iain Paton



Digital Drop-In Sessions

Have you ever felt confused by technology? Got a phone, tablet or laptop and not know where to start?

Come along on Wednesdays to Auchterarder Parish Church between 2-3pm in the boardroom and our Andrew Kennedy our youthworker will do his best to help you out.

For more info, pop along or email andrew.kennedy@auchterarderparish.org

Remember, there are no stupid questions!

You will be made most welcome



Auchterarder Mens Shed:

We are a group who promote Men's mental health and well-being by meeting twice per week (Tues and Thurs) 2-4pm at Auchterarder Parish Church Community Centre for friendship and fellowship over a cup of tea and help our community by making things in our workshop using the skills of our members.

John Boyd 07767 876489



APC Cycling Group

We eventually cycled around Loch Katrine last Saturday. Scenery was wonderful and the company great and a great lunch in the middle at Stronachlochar.

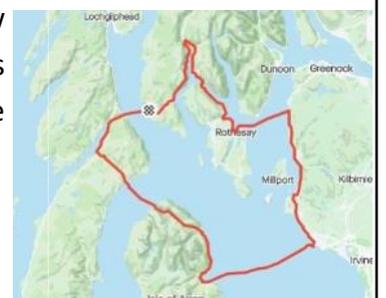


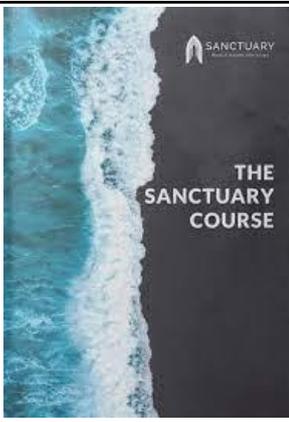
The next cycle that is planned is for Saturday 22nd October for a more relaxed cycle to Crieff and back (19 miles). We will leave the car park behind the church at 10am and head for Crieff and a coffee break. For your diaries we are also planning a slightly longer cycle on the 19th of November to go around Loch Tay. Can I suggest that if you wish to come on the cycle you either use the WhatsApp group to tell us (please send on your phone number to my email address) or email me at s.mcchlery@gcu.ac.uk

There has been talk about an attempt at the 5 ferry challenge which has now been pencilled in for September 26th. The map of the route is below and is about 72 miles. This is out with the cycle groups normal monthly cycle but some are keen on trying this before winter sets in.

<https://www.calmac.co.uk/article/6014/Five-Ferries-Island-Hopping-Adventure>

Stuart McChlery





Sanctuary course

The Sanctuary Course is an 8-week exploration of Christian teaching and thinking on mental health. It's designed to make our church a welcoming place for the many people (old and young) who experience mental health difficulties either often or from time to time. Our planned launch of the course on 11th September has been postponed due to the Queen's death. We will now launch the course in church on 25th September and plan to do the first half of it before Christmas.

For more information, please click the link to the website and promotional video:

<https://sanctuarymentalhealth.org/sanctuary-course/>

or contact the minister or admin@auchterarder.co.uk and we will get in touch with you!

Guild News - September 2022



On Thursday the Guild had their first meeting of the new session. It was good to be together again and everyone enjoyed the evening. We spent some time reminiscing on Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and heard some interesting stories. Lynn, our minister joined us and shared how she once saw the Guild as just meetings and coffee mornings to have tea and cakes. She now knows that the National Guild is a large organisation who support charities. Six charities are chosen from those who apply every three years. Usually, three British ones and three who work overseas. The total money raised so far for 2021-2024 is £126,882.59. Lynn then focussed on our theme for this year which is 'Wee Seeds, Big Trees' and encouraged us in this work through Psalm 1. We spent a short time sharing in our small groups how we see ourselves carrying this out in our community.

Our next meeting is on 6th October when we look forward to George Reynolds sharing his knowledge of General Wade's Roads.

On 20th October Linda Young will tell us about the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

The Annual Gathering which was postponed because of the death of the Queen is now on Saturday 8th October in Edinburgh. If you would like to go please speak to Rosemary or Renee. It will be an early start.

We welcomed some new members on Thursday. If you, man or woman, would like to join us you will be made very welcome. We have an interesting programme from now until April.

Blessed is the one.....whose delight is in the law of the Lord (Psalm 1)

Whose we are and Whom we serve



YOUTH PROJECT Logos Strathearn Youth Project

Congratulations to our Auchterarder Silvers who have completed their DofE qualifying expedition. Here are a few pics from their stunning route. A big thank you to our fantastic volunteer leaders for making it happen. Well done everyone!



Worship With Us

We are continuing with the Live Stream Service and the link giving you access is always posted on Facebook and on Auchterarder Parish Church website.

Prayer Groups

In person, Sundays 9.30 - 10am in the Board Room. Or
Via Zoom, Saturdays 9.00 - 9.30am
For a link, please email lmchclery@churchofscotland.org.uk



Walking Group - Save the Dates
Saturday 24 September and Saturday 26 November 2022

The next Walking Group Outing is planned for **next Saturday 24th September 2022**

The walk is in the Sidlaw Hills around Lundie Craigs and will be led by Allan Nisbet. Details coming shortly. A walk leaflet will be circulated to the Walk Group distribution list in the coming days. Please feel free to contact admin@auchterarderparish.org if you would like to be added to the list or look out for a leaflet at the back of the Church, on Facebook and on the town notice boards.

This Group is open to all - there is no requirement to be a member of Auchterarder Parish Church to take part.

Hope to welcome you on a walk soon.

Please Note - the subsequent walk date is 26 November which will be led by Derek Johnston. Route TBA.



Youth Update - September 2022

The youthwork that I have been doing in the town has been growing steadily in recent months. We have been getting good numbers of young people coming along to Friday Night Youth Club in the church. Which has become a highlight of my week, with fun games, table tennis, pool and much more.

The SU Group in the secondary school has started up again after the summer holidays.

We have had an influx of new members and have a healthy sized group of young people taking time during lunch on Tuesdays to explore deeper questions about life and what Christianity may have to offer them.

In September I am taking one week's holiday but once I come back there are two exciting opportunities that will finally be getting off the ground. On Tuesdays after school I will be running an American football club for those in secondary. And on Friday's in the church I will be running an after school samba drumming club. Samba Drumming will run from 4:15 – 5:15 in the church centre on Fridays. Starting on 30th September, for more information email Andrew.kennedy@auchterarderparish.org

It is my hope and prayer that these groups will provide young people in the town with new opportunities and we will start to build relationships with the young people who come along and as they get to know us may start coming along to some of our other clubs and groups.



Andrew Kennedy - Auchterarder Parish Church Youthworker

Bank of Scotland - Mobile Bank is at Community Church Centre car park

Since the Bank of Scotland branch in Auchterarder closed the Bank of Scotland are providing Mobile Banking every other Thursday. The van is parked at the Community Church Centre car park from 10am to 1pm, every fortnight.

For the next few weeks, the dates are

Thursday the 22nd of September

Thursday the 6th of October

Thursday the 20th of October

The following link (below) takes you to the customer online timetable – which shows dates and times the mobile branch will be at the Church.

<https://www.bankofscotland.co.uk/contactus/mobile-branch/perth.html#auchterarder>



Thank you from Jenny Murray

Jenny Murray and the rest of her family would like to thank everyone for their kindness and support since Jim passed away in August. They were delighted to see so many people at the memorial service and at the golf club afterwards when there was more opportunity to catch up and to hear people's memories of Jim. The family would also like to thank those who made donations to the Royal British Legion in Jim's memory. The combined total so far from the memorial service in Auchterarder and the crematorium service in England is £580.



Are you able to help?

A keen gardener was my late neighbour and when it came to pruning our roses back, she would quote "Get your worst enemy to trim them back" Presumably they would get cut right back to near the ground. My 99 year old Father would give out his advice, "look for an outward facing bud, cut above it at a sloping angle" The Church has 7 or 8 rose bushes at the garden seats. Would you consider taking on the task, once a year to prune them back, as they are a bit wild this year. Please let Allan Russell know if you will help.



The Corgi's Lament

I woke up in my basket, the day after you'd gone.
I felt so sad and lonely, no lap to sit upon.
I had no-one to run to, No treats to take with glee.
I had no plans for walkies, now you are not with me.

I know I'll be looked after, I know they will be kind.
But you were my true Mistress, and I've been left behind
I hope your journey's peaceful and all I wish and pray,
Is I'll be there beside you, Once again one day.

Queen Elizabeth II
1926-2022



Thank you to a Dog Lover for sharing this beautiful poem. Taken from FaceBook.

Blue Door Foodbank

Opening Hours

Tuesday 10.00 am - 1.00 pm
Friday 10.00 am - 1.00 pm
Auchterarder Parish Church
24 High Street, Auchterarder



For any further information, please contact us on:
info@bluedoorfoodbank.org or 01764 660965

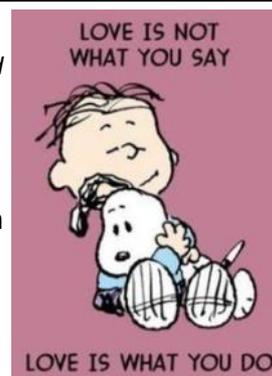
Blue Door Foodbank is always very grateful for food donations which can be dropped off at the local Co-op.

Makes you think?

from Lesley Buchan Donald

"Leader" is only mentioned 6 times in the bible (KJV)
King James Version

"Servant" is mentioned 900 times.



From the editor ...



I do hope you enjoy the newsletters which are currently being produced on the last Saturday of the month, however next issue will be 22nd October due to holidays. If you have any interesting stories, celebrations, photos etc you would like me to publish then please send to me, whenever you have them, and I will keep for the next edition. **If you are reading this newsletter as a paper copy and would like me to send it to you by email please email me at sylvia.elsmere@hotmail.co.uk**

Social Media Reminders

Remember, you can always keep in touch online with APC and all its goings-on in a variety of ways!



The website address is: auchterarderparish.org



APC twitter link is: @apcchat



Messy Church twitter link is: @ApcMessy

Our Facebook pages is: @auchterarderparish