

# Auchterarder Parish Church Newsletter

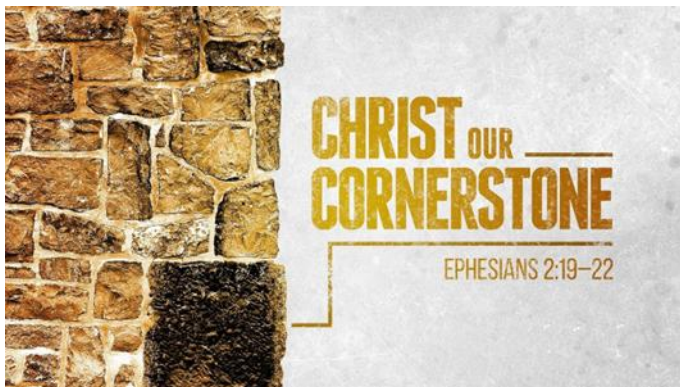
Saturday 27th September 2025

Registered Charities SC001688

## Goodbye from the Mckays

This month marks a big moment in the history of the McKay family!! We are going to be moving to Bearsden full of excitement and joy as we wonder what God has in store for us there. The moment is also tinged with sadness as with heavy hearts we leave this wonderful community here in Auchterarder. I can't thank Lynn and you all enough for having us here these last 16 months and for welcoming us with open arms. The Church family is a wonderful thing:

*'So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit' (Eph 2:19- 22).*



The Church on earth is and should be, ever changing. Yet the sure foundations on which she is built never change, Christ our cornerstone. The passage from Ephesians above spoke to me this week as I heard the words *'In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit'*. As I move into a new community what struck me

most was the word 'together'. You cannot be a Christian on your own, a huge part of a life of faith is lived in community. This community, this family, has helped me see that lived out for the last year and a half and that experience will shape my ministry forever.

As I prepare to be the Minister of Baljaffray Parish Church I will take a piece of you away with me in my heart. Not just because we are brothers and sisters in Christ but, because how you have lived and moved this past season has been inspirational. I will pray of course that you continue to minister to the town of Auchterarder and meet in worship, that the many gifts hidden amongst you are brought into Gods light and used in His service. There has been so much done here yet there is so much still to do, my abiding prayer will be that you do it with Joy in your hearts and a smile on your faces.

Blessings in Christ, Alan (and Emily, Cameron and Lewis)

We will be running the prayer course in the Autumn. This [8 week](#) course is designed to help you and your community grow and deepen your prayer life. Based around the Lord's prayer it looks at different types of prayer; adoration, petition, intercession, as well as issues like unanswered prayer and spiritual warfare. It is an excellent opportunity to share fellowship and explore faith together.

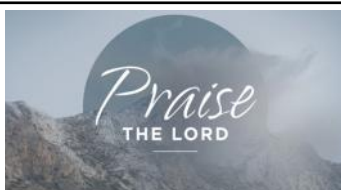


**In the Church Centre on Wednesday nights 7pm – 8:30pm.**

**From October the 1<sup>st</sup> for 8 weeks.**

We will watch a short video and have a friendly chat over a cup of coffee.

Please join us if you are able.

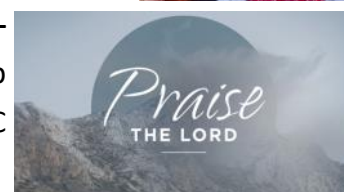


**Praise Worship Evening - @ 6:30pm -7:30pm.**

**Sunday 28th September** - enjoy an evening of contemporary praise and worship led by Chris White, with refreshments after, in APC sanctuary.



Also on **Sunday 2nd November @ 6:30pm -7:30pm** - enjoy an evening of contemporary praise and worship led by Ian White, with refreshments after, in APC sanctuary.



### Church Hanging Baskets and Planters

The colourful baskets outside our church are much admired by the community.

As autumn approaches, THANK YOU to the team of volunteers for watering and feeding all summer, to keep them flowering, in spite of windy and unpredictable weather conditions!

Ann, Mandy, Alison, Tom, Jack and Alistair, your help was very much appreciated.



**MESSY FRIENDS!**  
**Sunday 05 October 2025**

Join us for October's Messy Church and hear about being a good friend. Jesus also teaches his friends a prayer. There will be singing, drama, aerobics and we'll do some Autumn activities. Light tea provided!  
4:00 - 5:30 All ages are welcome and an adult/s should attend with the children.  
Why not invite another family along, too??

**MESSY CHURCH** is free but donations to help with costs are always welcome!

Email: [church@auchterarderparish.org](mailto:church@auchterarderparish.org) if you're coming!

### MESSY CHURCH IS BACK!

We are back. Sunday, 05 October at the usual time of 4:00 - 5:30 pm.

All ages welcome - and to finish there will be a light tea we can share. This event is free but donations are always welcome!

Why not bring a friend, or two, or even three, along with their families??? They will be welcome too!

Email: [church@auchterarderparish.org](mailto:church@auchterarderparish.org) to let us know you are coming, but if you forget, please come along anyway!!





## APC Community Garden – Sep Update – Autumn Harvest

**Communal Garden** Although well into autumn, our beds continue to provide baskets of produce for the Community on Fresh Fridays and for our Veg' Share at the library. Traditional late season crops such as carrot and turnips are doing well as are the bush tomatoes enjoying the sun on the patio. Sadly our brassicas have been popular with the slugs and the caterpillars so much less for us to reap there! In the fruit area we've had a good harvest of apples and pears and although apples ripen on the tree, pears need to ripen after picking in a sunny spot on the window sill, so a little more effort required to get them to 'market'. It's also been time to tidy the rasp's with the old canes cut back and the new canes, that will produce next years fruit, tied in for support. As the month closes its been significantly cooler over-night so our cloches have been deployed to keep the lettuce plants from being nipped by frost.

**Mini-allotments** Earlier in the month the mini's had an evening social in the Church Centre to share hints and tips over a cup of tea and a biscuit and to announce the winner of this year's mini-allotment competition. The winner was Eithne in Bed F who was awarded a £50 gardening voucher. Interestingly Eithne had used the 'square foot 'gardening method to organise her bed and talked through how she had found that technique. It seems to have proved very successful and I encourage you to go and have a look 🤔 The demo' Bed A had some late season lettuce and chard planted but alarmingly the lettuce were devoured. 😞 Thankfully there were some spare plants to replace them with and more care was taken to secure the netting to keep birds off and coffee grounds put down round the young plants to deter slugs. Fingers crossed.

It's becoming clear that our vegetable growing enterprise could do with some more ground, more space means more veg' to share. If you have a space in your garden, no matter how big or small, please get in touch if you would be willing to allow us to grow some vegetables there. No need to worry, we will do all the work! Or if you or friends or family would like to learn any aspects of fruit and vegetable growing then please get in touch and we can arrange some sessions to suit your programme.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Derek Johnston

[communitygarden@auchterarderparish.org](mailto:communitygarden@auchterarderparish.org)

Fresh Produce Fridays



**Eat Local - Save Food Miles, Eat Organic - Stay Healthy**



Fresh Fri

Rasp tied up



Bush Tomatoes



Pears Ripening



Bed A Lettuce

### Craft Group

Since the New Year, we have been busy knitting blankets, hats etc for the Prem Baby unit at Ninewells. Noreen Homewood delivered them in the summer and



we received this lovely letter; *"Thank you so much for your kind and generous donation of knitted blankets and the many hats, bootees, mitt sets to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. WE particularly appreciate the time and effort involved in producing such lovely items which are gratefully received for use by our babies and families in our unit. Thank you for your commitment to help and support us and we are truly grateful for your kindness"*

**Our next project** is two fold -; knitting little hearts for baby boxes for the Neonatal Unit and also knitting hats and scarves to support the Homeless Unit in Perth which is run by the Salvation Army. Please come and join us on Tuesdays 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of October in the Garden room from 10.30 – 11.30

Marjorie Paton

Auchterarder Parish Church

### Church Lunch

#### CHURCH LUNCHES



On Sunday 26th October everyone is warmly invited to Pitmeadow Farm for Bring and Share lunch. Please bring something either hot or cold for the dinner table and we'll share lunch together.

Gather from 12.30pm and we'll eat at 1pm.

### Prayer Groups in APC

Praying together is a core part of our identity as a Christian church. In APC we have three opportunities for prayer each week:

1. We have a online **Zoom** meeting on **Saturday mornings from 9:00-9:30am**.
2. An in-person meeting on **Sunday in the Lounge at 9:30 before worship**.
3. There are always opportunities for more private prayer after Sunday worship in the side aisle.

If you would like the Zoom link for Saturday, please contact Lynn, our Minister, by email on: [LMcChlery@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:LMcChlery@churchofscotland.org.uk)

Anybody can come at any time – you don't have to pray out loud and you don't have to come every week. There are no experts! We pray for problems in the world and for issues arising for our friends and neighbours. If there's something or someone you would like prayer for (with their permission), please just mention it to Lynn.

Or why not join us sometime, you'd be most welcome.

Prayer  
Group



**'Kirk Café':** The Cafe is open on Tuesdays 10am - 3pm and Wednesdays 11am - 3pm. Please pop in for coffee and home baking, or better still, a great plate of home-made soup for lunch! Carry-outs are also available.

We are short of helpers, so if you would like to volunteer as a member of the café staff, please speak to Michelle or Alan or speak to Gillian, our Café Manager, when you are in! Training will be given. PS Check out our new Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61571459891333>

### STAMPS

Thank you so much for a great response to collecting used stamps. BUT please keep on bringing them in. The horrific killing in Gaza keeps going on and the Al Ahli Hospital, that the collection of stamps supports, suffered the loss of one of their surgeons about a week ago as he walked home from his work at the hospital. Your collection of stamps does make a difference.



Marjorie - on behalf of The Mission team





## Wednesday Worship @ Auchterarder Parish Church

Each week we have a mid-week worship service on Wednesdays from 2-2.30pm. These will be in the comfort of the Church Centre and there will be a chance to have a time of fellowship afterwards over a cup of tea.

There will be singing, a time for prayer, Bible reading and a short reflection.

There is no need to let anyone know you are coming. Just come along and you will be made most welcome..

## Walking Group - Save the Date - Saturday 29th November 2025



Date for your Diaries - The walking group's final walk of 2025 will be on Saturday 29th November and will be led by Derek Johnston. Venue for this walk has still to be decided but look out for details nearer the time on social media and notices in the church. No need to be a Church member to part-take - hope to see you on a walk soon.

Please feel free to contact [admin@auchterarderparish.org](mailto:admin@auchterarderparish.org) if you wish to be added to the mailing list.

## APC Walk on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September

There were seven folk walking, taking in part of Murthly Castle estate. Ian drove the church mini bus to Murthly where the weather was kind to us and we set off at 10am along vehicle tracks to where we could walk across the railway line.



We stopped for coffee before having a look at the **"Roman" Bridge over Birnam Burn**. This bridge carried the carriage drive from Murthly Castle westwards to Birnam. It was begun in 1832 but only completed in 1858, for a total cost of £1,019 5/3d. The bridge has six arches over a deep ravine and was deliberately 'antiqued' to give the impression of a Roman aqueduct - information taken from Geograph website.



We then had a very leisurely lunch at a fisherman's hut by the River Tay before making our way to Caputh Bridge, then back up to where the mini bus was parked. Total walk was 7.5 miles and we finished the walk by 2pm. Coffee was had the Uisge Restaurant before heading home.



## Strathallan Community Volunteer Drivers

This new local charity is in the process of being registered with the Scottish Charities regulatory body. Its aim is to provide transport to help people in the Strathallan Community to attend hospital and/or health centre appointments.

For anyone who has a car and be willing to be considered as a volunteer driver please contact us at [Secretary.SCVD@gmail.com](mailto:Secretary.SCVD@gmail.com)



**APPEALS FOR HELP: THE FINANCE COMMITTEE** is looking to recruit new members and in particular would love to talk to anyone with Book-keeping or Finance experience. Anyone interested should contact Kenny MacKay on: [kennyauchterarder@gmail.com](mailto:kennyauchterarder@gmail.com)

The Sound & Vision (SAV) Team is also looking for new volunteers. This includes operating the sound system or driving the visuals during worship services, weddings, etc. This is a very important part of our outreach. Training is given and help is always on hand on a Sunday. Contact Peter at the SAV desks after a service or via email: [pmstokoe@gmail.com](mailto:pmstokoe@gmail.com) to discuss.



### Church Minibus service

Our minibus is available on Sunday mornings for transport to church. If you would like to use this service, please contact us on 01764 660152, leaving your name and contact details.

We would also benefit from a few extra drivers for the bus rota. If you have a driving license with a D1 on it we would welcome you to the team.



Many thanks with kindest regards

Daryl and Mandy

### From the editor ...

I do hope you enjoy the newsletters which are currently being produced on the last Saturday of the month. The next edition of the newsletter will be Saturday 25th October 2025.



If you have any interesting stories, celebrations, photos, up and coming events 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 to help save the planet and keep the costs down in printing the newsletter then please send me your email address to [sylvia.elsmere@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sylvia.elsmere@hotmail.co.uk) and the next edition will be emailed to you.**

### Auchterarder Parish Church

The easy way to make a donation

If you scan the QR code with your mobile phone it will take you to the following page where you can make a donation



### 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](mailto: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.

### Auchterarder Parish Church

E: [admin@auchterarderparish.org](mailto:admin@auchterarderparish.org)

Website - [www.auchterarderparish.org](http://www.auchterarderparish.org)

Tel: 07467 793061 or 01764 660152

To speak to a Minister telephone:

Rev Dr Lynn McChlery: 01764 662399

Alan McKay - [alan.mckay@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:alan.mckay@churchofscotland.org.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](http://auchterarderparish.org)



APC twitter link is: @apcchat

Messy Church twitter link is: @ApcMessy



Our Facebook pages is: @auchterarderparish