



Easter: A Fresh Dosage of Hope

Easter and hope go hand-in-hand. They are synonymous. The special day never arrives without its uplifting reminder that there is life beyond this one. True life. Eternal life. Wonderful life. Those who live on what we might call the "fringe of hope" need a new lease of life. Easter gives it.

Like most people, I've experienced times in my life when people with whom I had regular contact were all at once living with the dreaded reality of trials and adversities. Talk about people living on "the fringe." From hard working colleagues, to women of faith, to young people with a full life ahead to very young children who don't understand what is happening to them; all of these and others with whom I have met represented merely the tiny tip of a massive iceberg of men, women, boys, and girls for whom a new dose of hope was needed. I was reminded then and I know now — as many more struggle with adversities, illness and hardships — that Easter provides hope.

And then there are those who are grieving over the recent loss of a husband or wife, a colleague, a child, a parent, or a friend. Death has come like a ruthless thief, snatching away a treasured presence and leaving only hollow memories in its wake. The sadness of those who mourn casts a spell of loneliness too powerful for spoken words or shallow songs to break. *What is missing?* To paraphrase the statement of Oscar Wilde: "*Something is dead in each of them, And what is dead is Hope.*"

But my dearest friend, there is nothing like Easter to bring hope back to life.

Easter has its own *anthems*:

**Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia!
Sons of men and angels say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth reply, Alleluia!**

Easter has its own *Scriptures*:

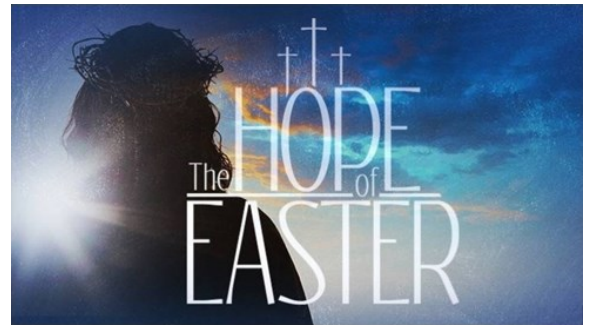
**I know that my Redeemer lives,
And at the last He will take His stand on the earth.
Even after my skin is destroyed,
Yet from my flesh I shall see God. (Job 19:25–26)**

"O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord. (1 Corinthians 15:55–58)

And Easter has its own *proclamation*:

"He is not here, for He has risen." (Matthew 28:6)

I cannot explain what happens, nor do I need to try. The simple fact is this: there is something altogether



wonderful, therapeutic, and reassuring about Easter morning. When Christians gather in churches and houses of worship and lift their voices in praise to the risen Saviour, the dark forces of hell and their prince of darkness are temporarily paralyzed.

When Ministers and Preachers of the Gospel stand and declare the unshakeable, undeniable facts of Jesus's bodily resurrection and the assurance of ours as well, the empty message of sceptics and cynics are momentarily silenced. As the thrill of standing shoulder to shoulder with those of **"like precious faith"** flows through the people of God, an almost mysterious surge of power floods over us. Oh, the joy and the hope of the Easter message!

My dear friend, let the message and the reality of Easter give us the hope we so desperately need. There is no depth of sorrow or burden which we carry that the love and the victory of Easter, which Christ has won, cannot reach us and bring us the glorious hope, peace and life eternal which Jesus offers to us and to all those who believe in Him.

This season of Easter, a fresh dose of hope awaits us. It happens every year. *Alleluia!*

With love and prayers,

Your friend and Minister,

Benjamin

Did you know?

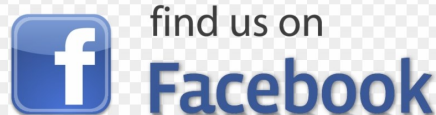
From the church website you can access our:

- ⇒ weekly pastoral letter
- ⇒ monthly prayer diary
- ⇒ daily reflections
- ⇒ audio and video recordings of morning worship
- ⇒ daily Bible verse
- and much more including:
- ⇒ a link to our Facebook page
- ⇒ worship resources
- ⇒ links to other Christian materials.

Webpage:

<https://www.blairgowrieparishchurch.org.uk>

or



Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 1 Peter 1.3

Why?

Why did He have to die?

Why?

Why did He leave us so alone?

Why did He let their hate and fear win the day?

Why did my Lord suffer in this way?

Love is the answer;

Love beyond our understanding;

Love so great we cannot comprehend.

God's love for all mankind and me.

But Look!

He is no longer dead!

No longer are we left alone!

Love has won the day.

And it is because of love my Lord had to suffer in that way.

Esther Dingwall

Easter Holiday Club

We are holding an Easter Holiday Club for all Primary School children.

This will be held in the Church hall on Tuesday 4th, Wednesday 5th, Thursday 6th April from 2--4pm. A team of 11 to 14 people are involved.

The Theme is obviously Easter, and each day has a packed fun-filled programme. There will be games, songs, craft and colouring activities and stories of Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

All Primary School have received fliers about this club and we are praying for good numbers. Please encourage your children and/or grandchildren and/or friends children to come along.

Please pray with us as children need to hear these stories and learn more about Jesus and His Love for all.

If you would like to know more please contact

Esther Dingwall at

estherdingwall@gmail.com

Hall Lets

The halls continue to be well-used and it is pleasing to welcome some new users to the premises.



The essential plasterwork is mostly finished now so we can begin to make progress with decorating at last. As the task will take some time it will need to be completed in the holiday period when the halls are not so fully occupied. We can, however, look forward to a time when the halls are bright, clean and attractive.

Hall rental is an important part of our regular church income and using this important asset well can support other church activities, such as mission or maintenance, so our current aim is to welcome even more users in to the halls. The upper hall can provide a super large space for community activities and we can also offer smaller, more flexible spaces for meetings etc. Please share information about the halls to any contacts you have who might be interested and for further information please contact me by email at:

colleenajoslin@gmail.com or

by phone on 01250 873701. Thank you.

Colleen Joslin

Church Diary Dates:



- April 6th - Maundy Thursday Communion Service 7pm**
- April 7th - Good Friday Service 7pm**
- April 8th - Easter Walk (of Witness) 10.30am**
- April 9th - Easter Sunday Service 11am**
- April 29th - Guild Spring Tea 2pm**
- May 4th - Guild AGM**
- May 26th - Boys Brigade Display**
- June 4th - Communion Sunday**



Available for God's Purpose by Bill Crowder:

A Book Review.

Lessons from the life of Elisha. Elisha who lived around 800 B.C. was one of the O.T. prophets. He lived at a time known as an 'age of miracles'. There are, we learn, sixteen miracles attributed to him.

A heart-warming account is given of how Elisha, a farmer, made himself available to serve God and learn from the prophet Elijah. His apprenticeship lasted about ten years. After Elijah's death Elisha took on the role of prophet concerning himself with the needs of the people around him. By his miracles he made people aware of the loving, caring nature of God.

An incident full of significance after the prophet's death is recorded in 2 Kings 13. 20-22. It is a strange and rather comical tale making us wonder why it is included. Perhaps it shows that although Elisha had been dead for a year, God certainly was not; He was and is alive and active in the lives of His people.

If you would like to read this thought-provoking book it may be found on the book stand at the back of the church along with many others that are available for loan. **Marjorie Ferguson**

Knitted Goods

Photo by Hello I'm Nik on Unsplash



The Family Centre at Perth prison is a fantastic space that is part of the wide scope of caring projects run by CrossReach. So, if there is surplus of goods we take, they will be passed on to the Care of the Elderly Project, or the Sunflower Project, or the Postnatal Depression Project. Nothing will be wasted, and this is a practical way of spreading God's love.

Recently, though, both my husband and I have mobility problems so I had started to wonder how we were going to take all the beautiful goods to the prison. We then had an offer to carry out the task from a couple in our own congregation. We have now visited the Prison to introduce them, and the handover is in a few weeks time. Watch this space for their names..."

Please give me a ring for information or leave your knitting in the Lower Hall.

Moira Somerville: 01250 875 240



Treasure Chest Appeal for the Audio-Visual Fund

Following the previous appeal I am pleased to report that our treasure chest now contains some generously donated items that will soon be sold to boost our AV fund.

Do you have gold or silver broken chains, odd earrings or anything else that is no longer usable that could top up our chest? If so, and if you are willing to donate, then please pop it in an envelope and put it in the plate on any Sunday, or contact **David** or **Colleen** to arrange collection. Thank you.

Bible Study

Just now the Bible Study Group is looking at the men and women who encountered Jesus between Good Friday and Easter Monday.

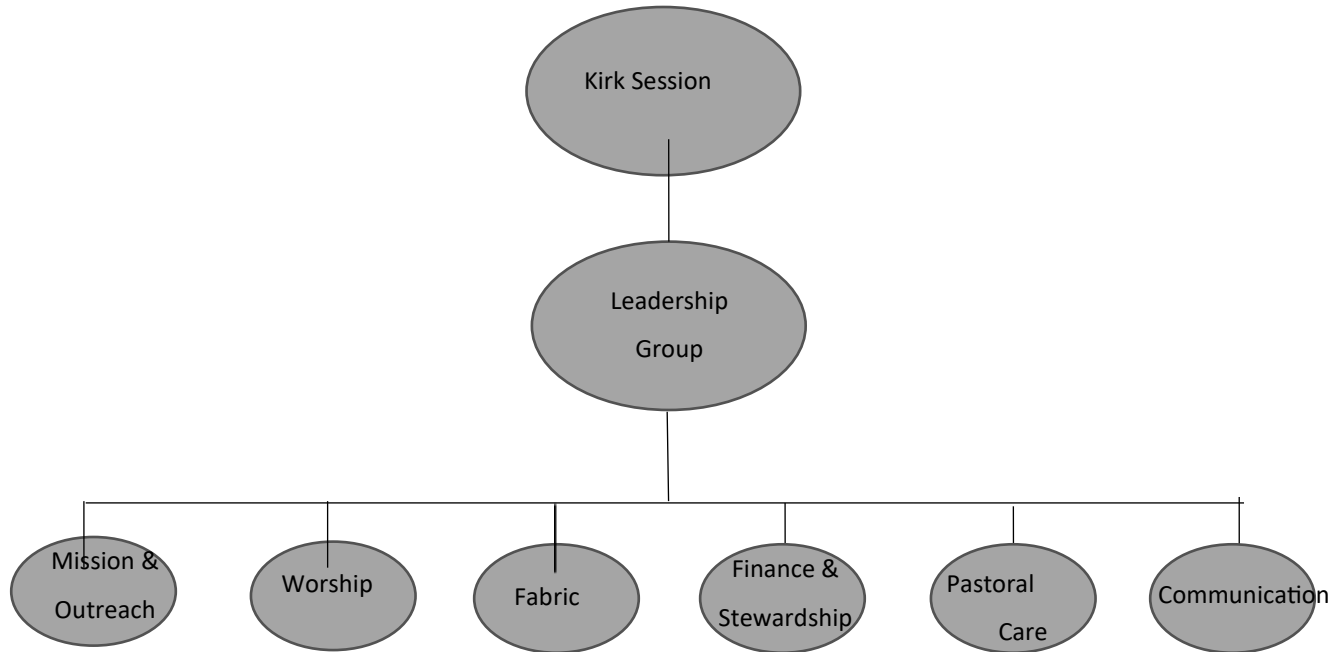
We meet on Wednesdays in the side chapel at 7.30 pm (apart from when Kirk Session meets), and there is also the option of participating by Zoom. Please come along if you'd like to join us, or see **David Howat** for further details and Zoom information.



Unitary Constitution Working Group

In September 2022, the congregation voted unanimously to move to a model of governance known as The Unitary Constitution. A small working group was formed to propose how this would work in practice. The group members are Benjamin Abeledo, Clifford Cooke, Margaret Conroy, Colleen Joslin, Phil Murrie and Charlie Smith.

So far, the group is proposing that we would have this structure:



The Kirk Session would continue to have oversight of the whole life and service of the church with responsibility for the spiritual and temporal oversight of our affairs, including Safeguarding.

Kirk Session meetings would be open to all with final decisions remaining with elders.

It is proposed that the Leadership Team consist of The Moderator, Session Clerk, Treasurer, Fabric Convenor and Minute Secretary. The convenors of each Working Group (if not already an Office Bearer) would also be part of this team.

The members of the Leadership Team would meet prior to the issuing of agenda and papers for forthcoming meetings. It will be a sounding board for views and opinions and shapes the draft agendas issued to the Session and church membership.

Each of the six working groups would have:

- Standing Orders (as the Kirk Session is responsible for decisions made),
- a written remit, which will be reviewed once we've had time to see what needs adjusted,
- people drawn from elders, current Board Members, church members/adherents, representatives from the church groups already in existence (e.g. Guild, Craft Group, BB, Social Club) and other external agencies/individuals with specific skills or knowledge,
- agreed dates when it would report back to the Kirk Session so there is a balance of reporting opportunities across any agreed sub-groups.
- The Minister and Session Clerk would be corresponding members of each committee.

So, what's next?

The group plans to flesh out remits for the six groups and work on draft Standing Orders.

Clifford



The Guild: Wee Seeds and Big Trees.

Since the beginning of the year, our Guild has met fortnightly, alternating between afternoon and evening meetings.

Our first meeting of 2023 was led by the Rev. Brian Dingwall who shared some of his own 'walk with the Lord' following our theme of 'Wee Seeds and Big Trees'.

At the next meeting we welcomed David F. Wilson, a Blairgowrie Sculptor, whose power-point presentation showed many of his amazing creations from across the UK. Janet Reay from Perth and Kinross Council visited us next, to help us understand about 'Scams and Frauds'; an extremely useful and informative session. Starchild – one of the Guild's projects this year—provided a very moving video presentation, sharing that every child deserves to be loved, cared for, clothed, fed and educated.

As we approach deadlines for printing, our Guild looks forward to an afternoon with Elaine Waugh from CrossReach, who is involved with the Perth Prison Visitors Support and Advice centre, and with Kerry who will speak to us about BEAT, a charity working with those with eating disorders. This is another charity the Guild currently supports. We then look forward to an exciting afternoon where we will become creative in making our own Easter Bonnets before welcoming our last speaker for this session. Duncan Sheldon will share with us information about the charity, 'Home for Good'. This is yet another Guild supported project with a bold vision to find a home for every child who needs one, through fostering, adoption or provision of supported lodgings. Our year will close with our AGM, followed by an outing to Stirling for afternoon tea.

Our Guild has received tremendous support from our members and Church Family and friends this year and we have been able to welcome many to share in our meetings, enjoy our Fellowship and 'Look Forward in Faith' with us. Thank you all. Your support has also allowed us to continue our financial contribution to our projects and to other charities and appeals (CHAS, Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal). And as we look forward to the remainder of this session with enthusiasm, may God bless us with the gifts to grow stronger, allowing us to flourish in Faith, Hope and Love.



Margaret Conroy for the Guild Leadership Team

Social Club

After the summer break last year, the Social Club was delighted to be able to start again normally in September after almost three years of various disruptions due to Covid.

Members have been enjoying the badminton sessions on Tuesday afternoons (from 1.30 pm) and Wednesday evenings (from 7.00 pm) and carpet bowls on Friday mornings (from 10.00 am).

We would be pleased to welcome new members to any of the sessions. We will continue to play until the end of May, apart from week commencing 3rd April when there will be no sessions. We will then start again at the beginning of September.

Anne Byres: Secretary



25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die;

26 and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?" **John 11: 25-26**

Guild Coffee Morning

The recent Coffee Morning raised the incredible sum of £486.50. £250 of this has been sent to the Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal. Enormous thanks to everyone involved, especially those who came along to support us on the day.

Don't we all look happy in our work?



Meghan and Ruth in the kitchen.



Alex is ready to serve with a smile!



Sheila with so much food!



Mary and Elspeth on the Cake and Candy Stall.

Easter Walk (of Witness)

Saturday 8th April

All Welcome

Meet at Blairgowrie Parish Church at 10.15, setting off at 10.30am

Stop 1 – Opposite Boots

Stop 2 – Wellmeadow

Stop 3 – Riverside

Refreshments at Blairgowrie Parish Church at 11.30 approx.



Used Stamps

I am still collecting used stamps and the box is filling well. I still haven't had news about the project for the next two years, but please keep saving up your used stamps, which are worth thousands to support overseas projects that are overlooked by World Mission.

Please put them in my pigeonhole in the Lower Hall. Thank you!

Moira Somerville.

Pastoral Care Group

The Pastoral Care Group has fully restarted now after 2 years of Covid restrictions. We have over 30 members to visit so have been pleased to welcome 2 new volunteers to our visiting group. The Pastoral Visitor is the caring face of the church delivering support to those in the congregation who are isolated, ill or in need of help. Pastoral Visitors are a prayerful presence for those who seek support when the Minister alone is not able to serve all those in need.

If you would like to help in any way, please contact Clifford or Benjamin. Anyone joining the group would need to undergo a PVG application.

2nd Blairgowrie Boys Brigade



At the beginning of 2023 the 2nd Blairgowrie Boys learned about the Chinese New Year 'The Year of The Rabbit', and that there are Boys Brigade companies in Hong Kong.

It was decided that each section would start to do individual activities and only come together in the big hall for special events. **Selection of Activities so far:**

Company Section

Prayer created by the boys and guess the chocolate box and win the chocolate.

Matthew Chapter 7: Verse 24-27: Wise & Foolish. Up to date wise and foolish (make video)

Read the start of the Sermon on the Mount: the beatitudes and looking at criminal exploitation of young people.

Junior section

Juniors in Charge (arranging a games night of all their favourites)!

Feeling anxious – video about coping techniques for young children

The Lord's Prayer – getting into the Bible.

Anchor boys

Chinese New Year theme

Scottish words – Burns Night.

Together

Treasure Hunt and learning about our church. Mrs Cooke visited and organised a treasure hunt.

Great fun! We thank her for her patience and getting us to sing the 23rd Psalm at the end of the evening. We had an evening making bird feeders with toilet roll inserts, lard, and seeds.

We were very excited to participate in the Perth and District Swimming Gala – Kayden Gowrie and Finlay McNee attended, with Kayden winning the John MacGregor trophy for overall Junior Section Boy. We are very proud of both boys and Mr Anderson, from Perth and District Battalion came along to present Kayden with the Trophy.

At the beginning of the year, I completed the Company Management Training for Section Leaders/ Captains and Mrs Watts completed her officer's training and is now a lieutenant with the company. We will be celebrating Easter soon and starting to plan our Annual Display for May before ending the session for the summer.

Carol Annand, OIC Junior Section, 1st Correspondent 2nd Blairgowrie BB

The Blairie Report

Every Sunday afternoon one of a small group of three members of the church composes a report outlining events in Blairgowrie Parish Church for the local "Blairie." Central to the report is a quite detailed account of the Sunday morning service. The reporter will have either taken notes during the morning service or have composed the report having listened to the service on the church web-site. Also included will be details of any intimations made by the Minister or on the screen or in the order of service. Anyone or any church organisation wishing to publicise information about upcoming events should ensure that this is passed to David Howat by the Wednesday beforehand. Information might also be included of events in the wider community or church family. Appropriate photographs can also be sent to the newspaper. Once the "Blairie" report is finalised, this is then emailed to the editor by Sunday evening so that it can be edited prior to the paper's printing on Monday and publication on the Tuesday. Local residents and church members who are unable to attend the Sunday service have regularly commented on how useful they have found this local report. **Charlie Smith**



From the Session Clerk

Well, as many of you will recall, the Advent Season was a very busy time in the church with good attendances. With a full programme of services and events, including the Newhill School end-of-term service, it felt more like a pre-COVID season of celebrations. It was just great seeing the children and their families back in the building. A special thanks goes to Rev. Brian Dingwall, Reader David Howat and Organist Lex Dunlop for leading us through it all!

Our recent Communion Service was another step back to 'normality' as we were able to make use of the wine glasses and bread platters when serving the elements. Thanks go to those who worked behind the scenes and served the congregation.

As we now enter the period of Lent and look forward to promise of Easter, I would pray that those who have not worshipped with us in recent times will find the desire to come along to the Easter services detailed in this newsletter. For those of primary school age, we have the Children's Club being run over three days in Easter Week and we have warned the organisers that we plan to bring our three grandchildren!

When we spoke to our grandkids about the Club, we discussed why Easter, like Christmas, is important to us. We were then asked how Jesus was a baby in Bethlehem and a few months later a grown man...! It made us stop and wonder at all that Jesus did, both as an infant and in a mere three years as an adult.

As we approach Easter Sunday, I pray that we all join to glorify and give thanks for the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. It's still incredible to me that Christ rose from the grave, conquered death and redeemed each Christian from sin with the promise of eternal life. Whenever we are tempted to question God's love, we simply should reflect on what Jesus did for us on the cross.

May this Season of Lent be a blessing to us all.

Clifford

Messy Church & Family Services

Messy Church started off the year with the Story of Moses, exploring his life with babies in the bulrushes, the burning bush and leading the Israelites out of Egypt through the Red Sea. Tablets of stone were made out of clay and allowed to dry before they were taken home.



Jelly babies, wrapped in fizzy belts in blue jelly with pretzel sticks, represented Moses in the bulrushes.

In February the children explored God's love and the story of St Valentine. There are various stories about Valentine, one in the 3rd Century where Emperor Claudius banned young men from marrying as he thought unmarried men were better soldiers, however Valentine performed marriages in secret and when he was found out he was condemned to death. Not a happy ending.!!

Lovely heart biscuits were decorated, valentine cards were made and paper hearts constructed.

Jesus' mother Mary is the March theme on Mother's Day.

The April Messy Church will be held on the 16th April. Everyone is invited at 9.30am in the hall.

Susan Whiteford

From the Treasurer

This is a busy time of the year for any Church treasurer.

The Annual Report must be prepared for the previous year. There is a narrative and a set of accounts in spreadsheet form. The accounts must be examined and approved by an independent examiner. That examiner can be a member of the Church but cannot be either a Board or Session member. The report is prepared for the Church Trustees; they comprise all the members of the Board and Session. The report is their report and must be approved by them. It is all a bit complex, but the purpose is to ensure that the Accounts are a true and honest reflection of our finances.

In due course the Report will be published on our web site and will be available for our Stated Annual Meeting. The Report also goes to Presbytery, the Church of Scotland centrally and the Charity Regulator OSCR.

Stop press!! What are the accounts likely to show?

We are fortunate in having large reserves but huge repair and maintenance bills last year amounting to just over £100,000 means that we had to draw on reserves to “balance the books”.

This coming year is likely to see maintenance costs of under half that amount but with any large old building, there may be unpleasant surprises.

We must all continue to give thought to our donations. Of course, that includes the possibility of reducing donations because of changes in personal circumstances but where possible we must all consider greater generosity.

Anyone interested in the detail of our income and expenditure is most welcome to contact me. I have a software package that mirrors the bank statements but adds in more detail so that all transactions are categorised. Traditionally we keep individual donations confidential so please do not worry that personal givings will be revealed.

Next time I write there will be a bit more explanation of our financial position.

Dr A Shaw: Treasurer

Message from Bulgaria

Living in Bulgaria I felt very alone and isolated from both worship and fellowship when the churches here



were closed during the Covid lockdown. My sister Colleen suggested that I listen to the Blairgowrie Parish Church services that were being posted online as the church had responded quickly to the Covid situation.

These services allowed me to join in weekly worship, to feel part of a church family again and to be fed spiritually and I soon began to look forward to each week's offering. Even though the lockdown has been over for some time I still watch the online services because worship is very different here, and as the language is extremely difficult to learn my focus is often more on understanding what is being said rather than on God or worship; whereas I simply enjoy (and am often challenged by) the sermons and I love the organ music and singing from Blairgowrie.

I like getting to put names to the faces of the readers and hear about the churches activities including The Guild and the Boys Brigade. I am extremely grateful that the church has the ability to share worship with people in situations like mine, I consider myself a 'distant relative' in the Blairgowrie Church family, and I really hope it can continue. **Julya Walsh**

The Craft Group: Decking the Halls and More!

It is hard to believe that we are one year old now and during that time we have had so much fun and fellowship. New friendships have been forged and existing bonds strengthened. Usually members bring their own crafts to work on but at Christmas we all made wreaths which was most enjoyable. Our most senior member (below) is in her nineties and our youngest member brought great joy to us all when she brought her five-day-old baby to meet us for the first time – perhaps a new member in the making.



We meet every Wednesday from 10–12.00 in the Church Hall but you can drop in at any time – there are always coffees, teas and treats on the go. Our members bring knitting, crochet, sewing, embroidery and other crafts with them and there is always plenty of advice and support for the less experienced. Some members come along for the chat and the company and to offer encouragement, which is greatly appreciated.

If you are free on a Wednesday morning, we would be very pleased to see you if you would like to give the Craft Group a try. We would also

appreciate any offers to help by taking a turn of setting out the hall and making the coffee.

For further information, you can always speak to **Dorothea Cooke, Marie Abeledo, Morag Redwood** or **Elinor Smith**.

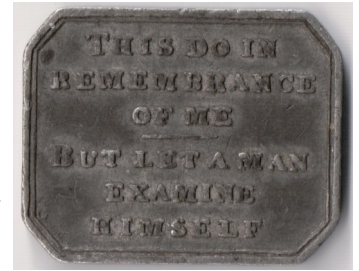
Elinor's phone number is 01250 870618 so do feel free to call.



Communion Tokens



Last year, when preparing for the Open Doors event, we discovered several Communion Tokens from local churches that we used to prepare a display. I have recently obtained this token from Blairgowrie Parish Church for 1843. **David P. Howat**



Mary's Meals

Following the devastating earthquakes affecting Turkey and Syria, the prayers of the Mary's Meals family are with the many families caught up in this disaster, especially those who are mourning loved ones. You are invited to join us in prayer for those affected, and for the success of the emergency response efforts. Mary's Meals has

provided school meals in Syria since 2017 with our local partner Dorcas, and we have now launched an emergency appeal to provide urgent support for children and families in and around Aleppo who are in desperate need. To find out more or to donate, please call 08006981212 or visit marysmeals.org.uk/campaigns/syria-earthquake-appeal. Thank you.



Property Update: Fabric Report

Work continues on repairs and upgrading of the Sanctuary and the halls. The building is now much safer with the completed emergency lighting and a fire alarm system that is to the highest standard covering the whole building.

We have had quotes for the painting of the hall and the work will start in the summer holidays when there are fewer users of the halls.

During the Easter holidays a completely new heating system will be installed. This will take about 10 days but fortunately the heating will be on in the Sanctuary on the middle Sunday. The new system will be much more efficient and will reduce the amount of energy used.

The lights in the lower hall and meeting room have been checked and the lights in the meeting room are all working. The lights in the lower hall keep failing and we have asked for a quote for replacement with the addition of a movement sensor light close to the entrance to give light when people enter the lower hall.

The clock is now keeping good time and striking at the correct intervals. I'm sure everyone is happy to have the chimes return.

The organ has also been repaired and the sticking keys have been fixed.

Additional quotes have been obtained for a new sound and audio-visual system and the proposals will be reported to the whole congregation very soon. We now have a record of the amount raised with a great '£-ometer' in the entrance hall showing the total.

What can you do to boost the total? Any ideas for fundraising greatly appreciated (so says our Session Clerk)!

Future developments will see the upstairs rooms painted, replacement of the hall windows, repairs to the entrance steps and re-upholstering the chairs in the side chapel.

Susan Whiteford: Fabric Convenor



Church of Scotland: Presbytery of Perth. To all church members.

Dear fellow member,

The new presbytery starts at a time when many are wearied with the pandemic and wondering about the future with climate change, war in Ukraine, rising prices, etc.

In the midst of all the uncertainties we affirm the lasting truth, secure hope and dynamic relevance of "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever". It is not a case of "Why don't they?" but "Why don't we? Let us..." for all Christians are in the front-line representing Jesus.

The first of the 5 Marks of Mission from which all others logically follow is to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom. We deal with an active God, operational in Creation and in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. He has promised to be at work in and through the lives of all Christians. As we head towards Easter, what a great dimension for our thinking and dynamic for our living : security, purpose, hope and power in and through Jesus!

Isn't that an exciting thought with which to head up towards Easter in a new Presbytery with a fresh vision!

Prayerful good wishes.