



Dear Friends

Change can be difficult and challenging. Each age and stage of life seems to push us forward without giving us any choice. Given the choice, some people might prefer to have stayed at the age of a primary school child because their childhood memories were so happy. Some might choose a time after that, perhaps a place of further education, college or university when new friends were made and new opportunities unfolded. Others might prefer to have remained at a special time in their lives - like the year they were married, or the years when their children were young. But do people have the same warm thoughts when asked to contemplate what lies ahead? Perhaps yes, if they know for certain it will be a step-up or an improvement.

The trouble with the future, is that we don't know for sure what it will look-like. Most predictions about the future are bleak, not encouraging. And if the future doesn't look like what we already know, we wonder if we will be able to cope with it, understand it and embrace it. As we get older, transitions can feel even harder.

This year, the General Assembly decided that the future of the Kirk is going to look significantly different. In its efforts to match income with expenditure, the national Kirk has engaged in a process of rationalisation which perhaps should have began a long time ago. There will be a greater level of sharing at every level and co-operation is seen as a vital element of our journey into the 21st century.

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Important Date

Christmas Fair
Saturday 7th December 2019
New Year Ball 2020
Saturday 11th January 2020



*'Going back to
our roots'*

What does that mean for Pathhead? In common with all churches within the Presbytery Pathhead will be asked to form closer partnerships with other congregations. The Presbytery will have oversight in terms of how formal or informal these partnerships will be but acting in isolation will not be an option. Already, all the congregations in Kirkcaldy have had one joint service and there will be more to come.

Similarly, at the east end of Kirkcaldy, we in Pathhead have been sharing joint services with Dysart St. Clair.

Since that congregation has been in a period of Interim Ministry, at least in the short-term, it is difficult to know exactly how that will impact on our congregation. What I do know, is that when I arrived at Pathhead nearly 14 years ago, the 2020 Group were anticipating that Pathhead and Dysart would have ever-increasing links and co-operation.

It is interesting to reflect from the excellent booklet compiled and edited by John Winter that, "Prior to 1747 there was only one place of worship in the Parish of Dysart, namely the Church, whose square-built tower still stands overlooking Dysart harbour." As we approach the bicentenary of Pathhead in 2023, perhaps part of the story of our future will involve going back to our roots.

Your friend and fellow servant of Christ,
Andrew Donald

Family Register

Family Register

DEATHS: JESUS SAID,
'BECAUSE I LIVE, YOU
WILL LIVE ALSO'

Deaths

Mr Kenneth Kelly,
Loughborough Road, Kirkcaldy
24 March, 2019

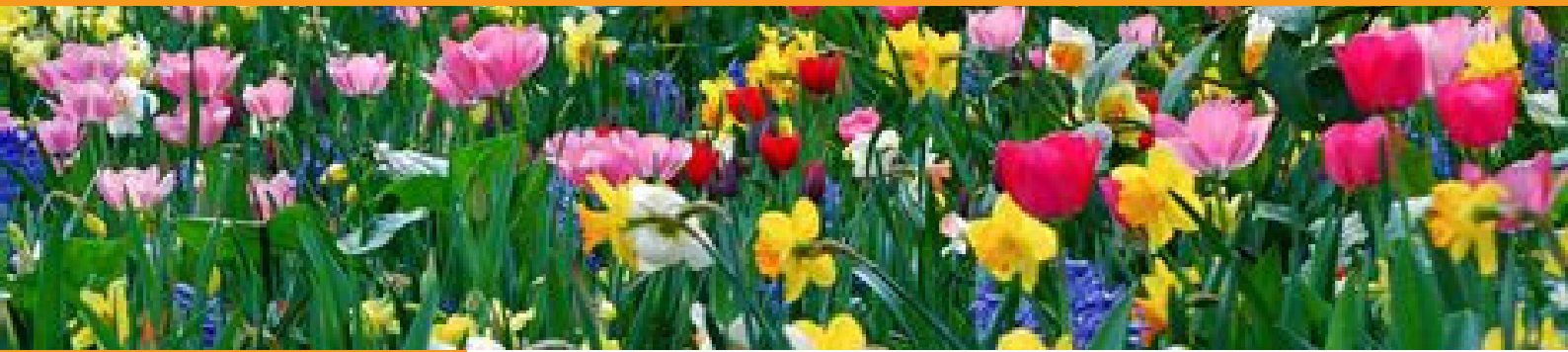
Mrs M Brown,
Caithness Place, Kirkcaldy
15 May 2019

Mrs Anna Leitch,
Duddingston Drive, Kirkcaldy
9 June 2019

Mrs Iris Dickie,
Abbeyfield Nursing Home
(formerly Macindoe Crescent) Kirkcaldy,
11 June 2019

Mrs Sheila Westwater,
David Street, Kirkcaldy
10 August 2019





Flowers

The Flower Team wish to thank all who give monetary donations for flowers that are displayed in the Church each Sunday. The flowers are greatly appreciated by all who receive them.

June 2019

2nd. Hugh/McManamon Wedding
9th. Mrs R McDonald
16th. Mr & Mrs E Cockburn
23rd. Mrs R McDonald

July 2019

7th. Mrs P Collins
14th. Mrs H Galloway
21st. Mrs M Brown
28th. Mrs M Johnstone

August 2019

4th. Mrs R Curran
11th. Miss E Brown
18th. Mr & Mrs E Conde
25th. Flower Box

Thank you to all the ladies who arrange the flowers each week and to all those who help to deliver them.

Blythswood Christmas Shoe Box Appeal



Time to think about filling our shoeboxes for Christmas! All you need to do is FIND a shoebox, WRAP it in paper and PACK it with Items suggested. Leaflets giving details of what should go in the boxes will be available soon. However, this needs to be done before 2nd November. More details soon. Kathy Glachan - (new Co-ordinator for this worthwhile cause)



Money Matters

Firstly let me thank all the members who responded to the Stewardship pack that was sent out to all members. Especially I, as Treasurer, would thank those of you who increased their giving through their envelopes or standing orders. This will help to reduce our deficit.

To those of you who have not yet responded please think about it and respond if you can. This year, in addition to routine maintenance on the church buildings, we have significant maintenance work to do on the exterior of the Manse. This will incur a significant deficit for the year ahead, so we still need to increase our income to keep up with expenditure. Members can help further by supporting the café. Once a month for a meal would go a long way to helping the funds. Members can also help by supporting the Saturday Coffee Mornings. We value the support of those who support the Coffee Mornings, but we would like to see new faces. The attendance of the GA group helps to make the endeavour worthwhile, but it would be even better if we had more coming along.

If the financial trend which has continued over several years continues, even the sustainability of Pathhead Outreach might eventually have to be considered. In the meantime, we are trying to source other ways of funding to bridge the gap. This venture provides a very necessary service to the people who receive meals as well as being a life line to the outside world for some of them. That is why support from our members is so vital. We are grateful that so many do help us in so many ways. But if you've not reviewed your giving recently, please remember that our need is significant.

John Horn
Treasurer



Guild

As I write this update for the Church Newsletter we are still enjoying our summer break from the guild. If you have been away on holiday or spent time relaxing at home, I hope you have felt the break enjoyable. This year the Guild continues with our three year strategy 'One journey many roads' the theme for 2019-2020 is 'Companions on the road'. We all need companions the Bible is full of stories of journeys and those who travelled together. The Guild meetings resumed on Monday 2nd September at 7.30pm in the St Clair Lounge.

Our Convener Isabelle Povey has once again arranged a variety of speakers and topics which will interest you all. We welcome back all guild members and new members to come along to our meetings and explore with us how the Guild locally and nationally can continue to do great things in the name of 'Whose we are and whom we serve'.

Alison Davidson

Garden

The weather has not been kind to the garden team this year with rain affecting progress during the summer.

Much of our time has been spent removing the moss from the grass in the John Ogilvie Garden and re-seeding where required.

The beech hedge has been trimmed and the big cherry tree which was badly diseased has been taken down which will allow more sunlight onto the grass and encourage better growth.

If you would like to join the team we are in the garden every Monday morning during the summer months for an hour and always finish with a cup of tea and a blether.



Holiday Club



The first week in July heralded another Summer holiday club. This year the theme was Backpackers and as the name might suggest we were on a journey visiting different countries of the world. These countries were linked to events in the last week of Jesus life.

While the children had fun visiting each country, tasting its food and exploring its landmarks, they also learned more about Jesus and how he met with different people in that last week on earth.

Around 40 children gathered each day and, along with a very hard-working strong team of volunteers, they enjoyed a variety of activities, exercises, craft work, singing and quizzes. Although it was a tiring week for the team, it was a very satisfying one and hopefully an exciting one for all the children who attended.

As in previous years we had a very busy Parents' Night on the Thursday of the week but the suggestion from a parent that it was a pity we didn't do it for the whole of the holidays was met with a little mirth. The song which will be ringing in our heads this year is "We're all going on a big adventure!"

Newsletters

We hope you enjoy reading our Newsletter and keeping up to date with what is happening in the Church. If anyone would prefer to receive their Newsletter by email please get in touch with the office, giving your email address. This would cut down on the cost of printing and the amount of paper waste we generate. We will, of course, continue to print and deliver Newsletter as we have done in the past.

Family Social Committee

Charity Concert

We've all heard it. Churches aren't busy these days!? Well that certainly didn't apply to Pathhead last weekend - a successful ceilidh on behalf of KART on Saturday night, a Communion service on Sunday morning and a very enjoyable charity concert on the Sunday night. Thankfully, the Family Social Committee were only involved in the concert!

Sunday evening's charity concert on behalf of Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance, (SCAA) and in memory of Heather Summers who tragically lost her life in January, saw a packed Church enjoy a varied programme by the award-winning Kingdom Brass, no strangers to Pathhead. Try as he might, the band's conductor Paul Drury could not find a musical piece highlighting helicopters! That said, flying did feature in the programme, with film scores from 'The Battle of Britain', 'The Dam Busters', 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang', and most aptly, 'Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines'!

A big 'Thank You' to everyone who attended the concert, and/or were kind enough to give generous donations. At the time of writing, the exact amount raised for SCAA has yet to be finalised, however I'm delighted to say it will amount to a four figure sum.

New Year Ball, 2020

Next year's New Year Ball will take place on Saturday, 11 January, 2020. Further information will be available over the next few months.

Ken Bellingham
Chairman, FSC