

Lindores Litanies

Thurs 6th June 2024



The Newsletter of Lindores Parish Churches of Newburgh and Abdie and Dunbog



Dear Friends,

I'm sure I'm not alone when I say my brain is in a whirl. As you can see from Catherine's letter on P2, the church has all kinds of change in the air – and somehow here we are, still with lots of great things going on, and the fruits of the Spirit ever-abundant. Thank you to all of you for helping keep the faith alive.

Our three Easter Sunday services attracted more than 100 folk to Newburgh church through the morning. We welcomed other cluster members to a cooked breakfast after the 7am waterfront service, plus several visitors to the 9am SEC Communion service and the 10.30am baptism, when we welcomed Freya-May Tanya Hogg to our church family.

The drama group excelled themselves in Russell Ferguson's interpretation of the Easter story, both on Palm Sunday and Easter day. Elaine Clunie's dalek performance stole the show and earned her the *most applauded actor* award. She celebrated this afterwards by commandeering a Harley Davidson parked outside the Buttercup cafe – see below.

During March and April, Gordon Sharp led a fascinating series of evening talks with videos – 'The Challenge of Jesus' by John Dominic Crossan. The titles attributed to Caesar Augustus and to Jesus, as a non-violent resister of Roman oppression, were explored. The historical and political elements, superbly presented by Crossan, gave a new dimension to the opposition Jesus faced in his times, and how this might challenge us today. Our debate was lively. Copies of these videos are now available on USB / data sticks, available for loan - just ask.

We're delighted to welcome Gillian Crumpton as a new member of Lindores Parish Church. Gillian, who has already joined the worship group and the weaving worship course, is now running a children's corner as part of Sunday morning services. Assisted by her son, Ruaridh, and Kirsten Todd, she's providing bible based activities for children so that families can participate and feel more welcome in our services.

With love, Valerie



Looking forward positively to a new beginning

From our moderator, Catherine Wilson

The Church of Scotland is putting cost-reduction plans in place right across the country. Here, it is proposed that the parishes of Freuchie and Falkland, Howe of Fife, Edenshead and Lindores come together into one entity, known as Eden Tay Parish.

After many periods of frustration, despair, dispute and deadlock, with the occasional blast of humour, agreement has been reached across the five Kirk Sessions and a Basis of Union has been drafted. This is approved by the Fife Presbytery and the relevant boards of the Church of Scotland. However the united parish cannot come into being until it has been approved by the five congregations.

If your name is on the Electoral Roll for Lindores Parish, you will have **the opportunity to cast a vote for, or against, the union at a meeting of the Lindores congregation to be held in Abdie and Dunbog Church immediately after morning service on Sunday 16th June**. Please note that you must be present at the meeting to register your vote as the Church of Scotland does not have a postal or proxy voting system.

The key facts regarding the united parish, are that (firstly), it will have a new name, with our part of it being known as *Eden Tay Parish Church: Lindores*.

For the immediate future both of our church buildings will be retained and services will be held on alternate Sundays, with more regular joint, area-wide services rotating round the parishes.

A new minister (one of a team of three) will be appointed. Valerie Walker will be one of the team and have wider responsibilities across the new parish area. The third member of the team will be a Mission Development Worker.

The new parish will have a Kirk Session comprising

all the current Elders who wish to continue to serve in this capacity, and all the separate properties and funds of the five current parishes will be combined.

A paper summarising the Basis of Union will be available in Newburgh church on 9th June and on 16th June at Abdie. You can also obtain a copy from Valerie (contact details lindoreschurch@gmail.com or phone 01337 842799)

As I have stated before - *maintaining the status quo is not an option*. We have a wonderful message to spread, of God's love and caring for others. In Jesus we have a wonderful example to follow; and we have received a wonderful gift, the presence of the Holy Spirit to work and walk alongside us, all our days. And we will do this in the company of new friends from the other parishes as we set forth on the journey.

The photo below (by courtesy of Frances Black) gives a wonderful example of the hope we share in new life.



Our lambing service at Abdie on April 21st was a great success, enjoyed by several visiting children. Graeme Campbell, a film producer from Glass Bullet media, kindly recorded the service with the intention of making a short film to add to our church website.

Kirsty McLellan shares her recent experiences...

Recently our service has been Zoomed to our local care home, and has proved to be a great success. A number of the residents come along and join in, and the carers really appreciate that the local community is taking an active interest in the home.

I go along and help. The demands are quite different to what I expected. I had expected technical problems – but the staff are very organised in setting up. The biggest demand is to help find the hymns. I now take along an order of service to prepare beforehand. There is a good stock of hymn books in the home.

The level of participation is varied. One or two are singing every hymn, one or two fall asleep during the talk but generally waken up to sing the next hymn, some just enjoy having a hymn book in their hands or just sitting being part of a gathering.

The time of the service is a busy time of day for the carers, so they pop in and out and are always on hand if needed. However if I can't be there in person, the residents don't get to be part of the service. To address this challenge, I would really like to build a small team so we can have a rota of



helpers, only having to be there once in a while. It could fit around other kirk activities as required. And what a kick the residents get when they see a face they recognise! If you feel you would like to find out more about helping please ask. And in church, the next time you see the Zoom service under way, it would be lovely if you stopped by the camera to say hello!

The Zoom link is also now being accessed at Pitlair Nursing Home, allowing our friend Chris Maitland to join in the service. This is a wonderful way of keeping in touch. Anyone who knows of people in other care homes who would like to join us—please just ask for the link.



Keith and Ida Waddell are Mission Partners with the United Church of Zambia (UCZ). They have been in Zambia since 1994 and served as Education and Health Secretaries at Synod Headquarters in Lusaka since 2015. They have now returned to Mwandi Mission in Western Province, where Keith is Mission Partner (Special Needs) and Ida, Mission Partner (Health). Keith is focusing on the establishment of a sheltered workshop for young people and Ida, on moving the Mission Hospital to a specialist facility. This is an ecumenical appointment with the Methodist Church. The extract (left) from their online newsletter may help put our own current trials into perspective.

'On Palm Sunday the mainstream churches in Mwandi gathered for our traditional Palm Sunday procession through the village, in remembrance of our Lord's entry into Jerusalem. We celebrate together his humility amidst the triumph and acclamation of the crowd, his insistence on being the servant king, as he was from the beginning. From the temptations in the wilderness, throughout his modest, gentle and loving ministry, bringing salvation and healing to many, to the fulfilment of this earthly mission in his crucifixion and resurrection. Wishing you all a happy Easter.'

Keith and Ida are visiting their home parish and will be in Newburgh on **Sunday 9th July** to tell us more about their Mwandi mission work with the United Church in Zambia.

Contributions to their work can be made via the Church of Scotland Finance Dept at 121 George Street, marked *For the work of Keith and Ida Waddell at Mwandi Mission.*

AFTER SCHOOL CARE—IN ASSOCIATION WITH TICC

In our last newsletter we advised of our plans for after school care, in response to local need. I am glad to report that this has been a great success. We've just finished running seven sessions using "Bible Alive" material, led by Youth Worker Jill Walker (from Auchtermuchty church). For each session, Jill arrived with a huge bag of props. Ten children have enjoyed bible stories with related games, drama and crafts, and some parents have asked for the club to be continued next term. Jill Walker meantime has recently arranged for Scripture Union to teach bible stories at Dunbog and Newburgh Primary Schools.

We are supported by two youth workers from the TICC, funded by Alistair Guild monies, and hope to run a church holiday club **August 12-16th** utilising the same resources. In granting us this bequest, Alistair Guild was especially keen that we work with the TICC in addressing the needs of local children. We are delighted that this collaboration has all worked out so well.



The photo (above) shows children getting up close and personal with the whale, and the story about Jonah.

**WOODLAND
ACTIVITY DAYS**

1ST JUNE, 6TH JULY
3RD AUGUST, 7TH SEPTEMBER
2PM-4PM

Den Building Scavenger Hunts Arch Building

Woodland Games Campfires Nature Walks

**Monkswell Woodland
(Newburgh Glebe)**
Meeting 2pm at the top of
Monkswell Road

Families welcome: Booking recommended
Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult
Contact: Valerie Walker: lindoreschurch@gmail.com
or 07720 3327766

Suggested Donation £3 per family
Sponsored by Lindores Parish Churches



This may be surprising, but on our most recent Woodland activity day, last Saturday, it was actually too hot to light a camp fire! Instead, we built a den and ran a beetle race. The photo above shows the front person in each beetle wearing home-made antenna...





The SCARECROW FESTIVAL—this year, a joint venture between the Church and the TICC—is up and coming. Scarecrows can be purchased ready-stuffed for £5—or unstuffed for £2.50—and are available all this week, from the foot of the TICC back garden, on Gardens Road. The theme is ‘Circus’ but please interpret this broadly! Entries will be judged on Friday 21st June.

Fife Carers Centre provides support for people who are looking after other people ‘informally’ – i.e. through love and goodwill, and not for money! They are holding an event on Monday 10th June to kick off Carers Week and celebrate the unpaid Carers in Fife. If this is too short notice for you, do have a look at their website.



‘Our event will unite unpaid carers, carer support organisations, and decision-makers to engage in discussions on carers’ experiences and the support they require now and in the future.’

PLEASE NOTE - These tickets are for unpaid carers only and are extremely limited. There will be opportunities for Carers to attend our afternoon drop-in event - details to follow.

Tickets are free and can be booked by the link below

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/890279860027?aff=oddtcreator>

On the right is a photo of the Leonarda Trio, who graced us on the evening of 19th May with their performance of baroque pieces written by women, . The photo (below) was taken from the balcony at Abdie Kirk, by Pete Harvey.



Pete says: *"It has been such a pleasure to make music at Abdie over the last few months - as a recording engineer though, this has mainly been behind closed doors! So I was delighted to be given this opportunity by my friends in the Leonarda Trio (each of whom I recorded in different ensembles last year) to put on a concert and invite an audience to experience their wonderful music in this beautiful, tranquil venue. I hadn't put on a concert like this since living in Edinburgh nearly 15 years ago (and then, in partnership with a colleague who was much more competent than me), so it was a chance for me to remind myself of what needed to be done, and to get to grips with Abdie Church as a concert venue. We had a terrific audience - the performers all commented on just how fabulous they were, and how much they had enjoyed the warm reception they received. I work with so many extraordinary and varied musicians and ensembles who would love to perform here - songwriters, bands, classical soloists and ensembles. Now that I've done it once (and if I can get a bit of funding behind it), I'm very excited at the prospect of doing it again... and again... and again...!"*





The Parish Players invite you to join them on a visit to...

RUNDOWN ABBEY



For a Rollicking Good Romp!

7.15pm Friday 7th June 2024
at Newburgh Church
Doors open at 6.45pm

Tickets £10 ~ available from our Players; Newburgh Post Office & Newburgh's Own Charity Shop
For ticket enquiries please contact Marian Thomas
(bluestonewilds@gmail.com)

Drinks and Nibbles Included!

Raffle

*All proceeds to The Erskine Veterans Charity
Registered Charity Number SC006609 (Scotland)*

SUMMER SOLSTICE 2024
Lantern Labyrinth Walk
at Lindores Abbey, Fife




Celebrate the Solstice walking the labyrinth at Lindores Abbey, lit by 100s of lanterns!

Thursday 20th June, 8-10pm

Cost £10 per person (kids free)
LINDORES ABBEY
Newburgh, Fife



All proceeds other than tealight costs go to
KINGDOM KIDS CHARITY
to make some children's lives better in Fife

More info:
labyrinthmagic.com



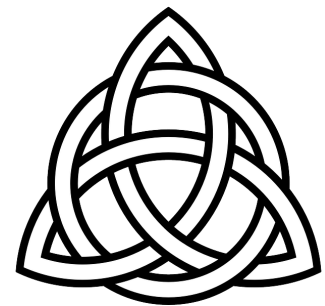
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June & July Services & Events

June

- Fri 7th 7.15pm drama performance—Rundown Abbey (see poster for further details)
- Sun 9th 10.30am service at Newburgh Church, with Ida and Keith Waddell
- Thurs 13th 10.30am—Celtic communion at Abdie Church
- Sun 16th 10.30am service at Abdie Church, with congregational vote for Parish Union
- Thurs 20th 8-10pm Candlelit, solstice labyrinth walk at Lindores Abbey
- Fri 21st by 10am—Scarecrows on display
- Sun 23rd 10.30 am service at Newburgh with URC
- Sun 30th 10.30am outdoor service at Abdie Old Kirk



July

- Sun 7th 10.30am service Newburgh
- Wed 10th Church 10.30am—Celtic communion at Newburgh Church
- Sun 14th 10.30am service Abdie church
2-4pm—Strawberry teas at Newburgh church
- Sun 21st 11am Joint service at URC church



Please visit our website and Facebook pages and give them lots of Likes and Shares

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