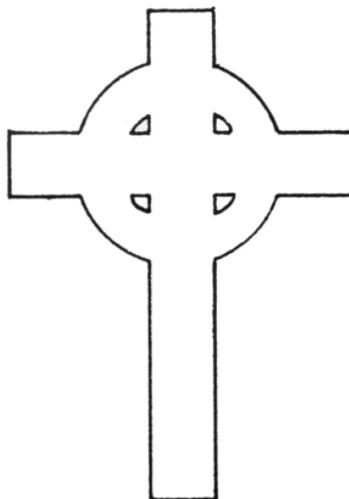


***Meadowside St. Paul's***  
***Church of Scotland***



***March 2018***

***MONTHLY MAGAZINE  
OF CHURCH AFFAIRS***

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Registered Charity No: SC013162 Congregation No: 291769

## CONGREGATIONAL CALENDAR

|       |         |  |   |
|-------|---------|--|---|
| March | 18      | 11 am  | Morning Worship   |
|       | 19      | 2 pm   | Guild Daffodil Tea  |
|       | 20      | 7 pm   | Lenten Studies  |
|       | 21      | 12 noon - 1.30 pm                                      | Lunchtime Prayers   |
|       |         | 7 pm   | Conference on Presbytery Plan,<br>Steeple Church            |
|       | 22      | 7.15 pm  | Trustees' Meeting   |
|       | 25      | 11 am  | Morning Worship, Palm Sunday                                |
|       |         | 12 noon  | Stated Annual Meeting                                       |
|       | 26      | 2 pm   | Guild AGM   |
|       | 28      | 12 noon - 1.30 pm                                      | Lunchtime Prayers   |
|       | 29      | 7.15 pm  | Maundy Thursday Communion at<br>St Andrew's Church          |
|       | 30      | 2 pm   | Presbytery Walk of Witness<br>commencing at Coldside Church |
|       | 6.30 pm | Good Friday Service at Dundee<br>Congregational Church |   |
| April | 1       | 6.30 am  | Dawn Service in Church Garden                               |
|       |         | 11 am  | Easter Family Communion                                     |

## STATED ANNUAL MEETING - 25 MARCH 2018

The Stated Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held in the Main Hall on Sunday, 25th March 2018 after the morning service when the Annual Accounts for 2017 will be presented and the election of members to the Congregational Board will take place. The following are due to retire from the Congregational Board and are eligible for re-election for the period 2018 – 2021: Mr J Adams, Mrs P Hazel, Mrs A McKenzie & Mr D McKenzie. There are a further nine vacancies on the Board to be filled: three for the period 2018 – 2019, three for the period 2018 – 2020 and three for the period 2018 – 2021. Nominations will be invited at the meeting.

J. Burns, Congregational Board Clerk

## FROM OUR INTERIM MODERATOR

Dear Friends,

As I write, there are flurries of snow outside my window, interspersed with brief periods of sunshine. More snow is forecast for the coming days, which may come as a shock to the crocus and daffodil shoots beginning to appear above the ground. However, by the time you read this, I hope that spring will have reasserted itself. It is always a relief after the long winter to get into the lighter nights and see all the signs of life and celebration that we associate with Easter.

And with the new life and hope of spring, it's tempting for us to step quickly from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday; to focus only on the celebration, the holidays and the enjoyable bits of Easter, and to play down the real story of betrayal, cruelty, self seeking and heartache that unfolds during Jesus' last week in Jerusalem. After all, surely it's unhealthy to dwell on the unpleasant side of life?

And yet we can hardly escape the wrongs and ills of the world. Some of us struggle with them on a daily basis ourselves, and none of us can miss the tragedies that unfold nightly on our television screens — the shooting of school students in Florida and the bombing of civilians in Syria immediately come to mind. It doesn't take a huge leap of imagination to understand how the hatred, cruelty and casual disregard for human life that led Jesus to a cross are still played out in acts of violence between nations in the Middle East and within school communities in America. Perhaps these vivid pictures bring home to us what it means to share in the darkness of the world and, in the words of the hymn, what it cost Jesus to 'pay the price of sin'.

The Gospels spell out just how Jesus was betrayed by his friend, falsely accused, and wrongly condemned to an agonising execution. And yet the good news is that the story did not end there. Beyond the death of Jesus there came the day of Resurrection. Out of death came life that was offered to all who would trust in Christ and follow him; a life given so that the whole of creation could be transformed and made whole. Christian hope is not something which helps us avoid the darkness, but something which takes us through darkness and transforms it. Many people have discovered that for themselves, and only you

can say what it might mean for you.

A few years ago I helped the children of a Primary School to celebrate a simple Passover meal in preparation for their Easter service. We finished by each person saying 'Shalom' ('peace') to their neighbour. One boy asked afterwards, 'Can we do this next year?' When I asked why, he said, 'Because it was lovely'. 'Shalom' means peace and wholeness for body mind and spirit, and it was the word of greeting used by Jesus to encourage his frightened and unhappy disciples at Easter.

On a world scale, we must continue to pray and work for peace and renewal in Syria and elsewhere. And closer to home, there will be many situations where the peace of Christ needs to be given and received. Jesus said, 'In this world you shall have trouble, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world' (John 16: 33).

The peace of Christ be with you all throughout Lent and Easter.

Your Interim Moderator,  
Rev David A Collins

## **AN EASTER READING**

### **Mark 14:1-11**

It was now two days before the Festival of Passover and Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the teachers of the Law were looking for a way to arrest Jesus secretly and put him to death. "We must not do it during the festival," they said, "or the people might riot."

Jesus was in Bethany at the house of Simon, a man who had suffered from a dreaded skin disease. While Jesus was eating, a woman came in with an alabaster jar full of a very expensive perfume made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the perfume on Jesus' head.

Some of the people there became angry and said to one another, "What was the use of wasting the perfume? It could have been sold for more than three hundred silver coins and the money given to the poor!" And they criticized her harshly.

But Jesus said, “Leave her alone! Why are you bothering her? She has done a fine and beautiful thing for me. You will always have poor people with you, and any time you want to, you can help them. But you will not always have me. She did what she could; she poured perfume on my body to prepare it ahead of time for burial. Now, I assure you that wherever the gospel is preached all over the world, what she has done will be told in memory of her.” Then Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve disciples, went off to the chief priests in order to betray Jesus to them. They were pleased to hear what he had to say, and promised to give him money. So Judas started looking for a good chance to hand Jesus over to them.

## **A PRAYER FOR LENT AND EASTER**

God of Lent and Easter, in the glory of the cross  
your Son embraced the power of death  
and broke its hold over your people.

During this time of repentance, draw us to yourself,  
that we may put aside the deeds of darkness and death  
and accept the light and life of your kingdom,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

## **FROM OUR LOCUM**

Dear friends,

We are living in a time of transition as the people of the world wake up to the knowledge that we are facing a broad range of environmental, social and economic crises. If we continue business as usual, we will do drastic harm to ourselves and the generations to come. We need a shift from the traditional models driven solely by growth and profit to one that is underpinned by social and environmental responsibility. We need to make transition from the old ineffective methods to new thinking and solutions. During our recent holiday in Alicante we visited the Volvo Ocean Yacht Race Museum, it ticked all my boxes as an old sailor.

One of the seven yachts taking place this time is called ‘Turn the Tide on Plastic’, skippered by Dee Caffari registered under the United Nations. who are promoting ‘Clean Seas’.



According to recent best estimates, more than 8 million metric tons of plastic are dumped into the world’s oceans each year – the equivalent of a garbage truckload every minute. As InterPress Service’s Baher Kamal highlights in a February 23 report, all that plastic waste is “wreaking havoc on marine wildlife, fisheries and tourism, and costing at least \$8 billion in damage to marine ecosystems.”

We also learned that it is estimated that some 5 billion tons of plastic have been produced since Belgian-American chemist Leo Baekeland produced the world’s first synthetic polymer, or plastic – dubbed Bakelite – from a mixture of phenol and formaldehyde in 1907. It has also been calculated that at current rates and given no increase in recycling by 2040 there will be enough plastic in our environment to cling wrap the earth six times over. In response, the UN Environment Program (UNEP) on February 23 launched a global campaign to eliminate use of micro-plastics in cosmetics and production of single-use plastic by 2022. No doubt, we as shoppers and consumers have a big role to play, as well as an obligation, to help realize the Clean Seas Campaign’s goals.

Ultimately, the root cause of our collective failure to address this issue is one of laziness, apathy, and “lust for lucre.” Our unwillingness to factor waste disposal and insist that the materials used to manufacture products be readily biodegradable – so-called “cradle to cradle” product cycles – has led us to this critical juncture in human and earth history.

Social change is people powered! Looking forward will promote co-operation and community-led responses. It is important that we should collaborate with local and national initiatives to help facilitate this transition to a more resilient, equitable, and sustainable world - A future to which we can all look forward to and embrace

At times life sets us challenges. These challenges can test our courage and willingness to make change and take a chance on something new and for all of us these are different. There is no point in denying that life is different now or being fearful of the next step. If you hesitate the challenge will not wait. Life only moves in one direction- forward. This recalls an event of my time at sea.

The ocean tug that I was on had been dispatched from our home port in Scotland to the north of Iceland to salvage a ship that had lost her rudder. We successfully got a line on her and began to tow her to a safe port. While we were proceeding south the ship we were towing managed to get ahead of our tug thus putting everyone’s life in great danger. Here was a real challenge, our captain had to take a chance with a very dangerous manoeuvre and move us ahead of the ship, which he carried out successfully. I leave you to consider what may have happened if our captain had not moved forward in the situation, but he claimed control of it and this must be the same for ourselves.

It is important to make a difference in the world. It is important to help people. But we must start with ourselves. If you are looking outside yourself to find out where you fit in or how you can create an impact, stop and look within yourself instead.

We need to take a look at ourselves. Our current lifestyle and where we want to be in the future – by examining these and making positive adjustments we are then enabled to move on and grow beyond our current circumstances. Small changes can make such an impact.

As someone said: Don't limit yourself, many people limit themselves to what they think they can do. You can go as far as your mind lets you. What you believe you can achieve.

Lewis

## FLOWERS IN CHURCH

We are indebted to the following for provision of flowers in January to April:

|          |    |   |
|----------|----|---|
| January  | 7  | Mrs M. Chisholm                                   |
|          | 14 | Mrs H. Ross                                       |
|          | 21 | Flower Fund                                       |
|          | 28 | Mrs J. Hutton                                     |
| February | 4  | Flower Fund                                       |
|          | 11 | Miss B. Henderson                                 |
|          | 18 | Anonymous donation to Flower Fund                 |
|          | 25 | Mrs K. Strachan                                   |
| March    | 4  | Miss K. Kennedy                                   |
|          | 11 | Mrs M. Chisholm                                   |
|          | 18 | Mrs C. Robertson                                  |
|          | 25 | Miss M.A. Robertson                               |
| April    | 1  | The Bramhall Family                               |
|          | 8  | Ms M. Stalker – in memory of Jean & Sandy Stalker |
|          | 15 | Mr B. Waddell – in memory of Alf & Pat Waddell    |
|          | 22 | Flower Fund - in memory of Mrs Margaret Stuart    |
|          | 29 | Flower Fund                                       |

In order to comply with current data protection rules, it has been decided to omit personal addresses from this and future flower rota lists – the information is already removed when copies of the magazine are published online. If anyone on the list would like to include further information in their entry - for example if flowers are being given in memory of someone – please let me know.

If you do not already give to the Fund, but would like to contribute to the church in this way, please consider making a donation, either for a regular Sunday each year – perhaps to mark a special anniversary – or as a ‘one-off’. If you already registered for Gift Aid, the church can even claim the tax back! To make arrangements, contact Morag Stalker (tel.202044) or speak to any member of the Flower Committee.

As well as helping to beautify our services, the flowers are distributed to household and other members after the service, and are much appreciated. Members of the Committee are always grateful to hear suggestions of who might receive flowers on a particular Sunday, or to have help with delivering these.

Morag Stalker

## **VACANCY NEWS**

A big thank-you to all those in the congregation who agreed to be photographed for the production of our congregational video (some members have still to be captured)! The final result can be seen on our website (<http://mspdunee.co.uk>), along with the Parish Profiles of Meadowside St. Paul’s and St Andrew’s. If you don’t have internet access, please ask the Session Clerk to give you a preview. Opportunity will also be given to see the video and profile at the Stated Annual Meeting on 25th March. The work of the Nominating Committee elected by the congregation to manage the recruitment process on our behalf is confidential, however we can report that an advertisement for the vacancy will appear in the April issue of Life & Work. Please continue to pray for the work of the Committee!

## **DUNDEE SCOUT GANG SHOW**

Performances of this year’s Gang Show take place at the Whitehall Theatre from Wednesday 28 March – Saturday 31 March. Members of our Scout Group will be taking part. Why not support them by attending the Show?

## THE GUILD

The year began for us with a change to our planned programme for our 22nd January meeting. Due to illness we had to find a replacement for the choir which was due to entertain us. We were very fortunate that Margaret Mather and her Dundee Freevoice Singers agreed to come along at short notice. We knew that Margaret had suffered two broken wrists after slipping on ice and her second in command, Jim, had taken over meantime as choirmaster. However, we were very surprised to see Margaret, on her first outing since the accident, taking her place amongst the singers although she was obviously in pain. Their programme included a number of Burns' songs and at one point Jim had the Guild members singing "A Man's a Man for A'That". There have been better versions! The Guild congratulated Margaret on her award of the MBE in the New Year Honours List.

In February we were delighted with "Films with Music" by Allister Fiddes. His photography was beautiful whether it was the Rain Forest or Liverpool. The accompanying music, everything from classical to The Beatles, was most enjoyable. Just the perfect thing for a winter's afternoon. Our second meeting in February was one of the Guild Projects "Street Pastors". Mr. Sandy Scrimgeour of the Ascension Trust Scotland, Perth, gave us an outline of the work carried out by the Street Pastors. They are out on the streets at night attempting, from a distance, to take care of and help young people. Although they are a Christian organisation religion is never mentioned in any conversation. Should they see a situation arising they are not allowed to interfere. However, he did say that the method they use to diffuse a potential situation is to offer the protagonist a lollipop. And it usually works!

Our 5th March meeting was cancelled due to the weather. On Monday 19th March our Daffodil Tea will be held at 2.00pm in the Main Hall. The entertainment is the DeeUkes ukulele band and we have invited the Dundee Freevoice Singers to join us in the audience. Members of St. Andrew's Church Guild have also been invited. This should be a fun afternoon with music and goodies to follow. Our last meeting of the Guild Year will be the AGM on 26th March. The Soup and Pudding Lunch on 25<sup>th</sup> February raised £212 for Guild Projects – thanks to all who supported this, including friends from the Steeple and St Andrew's Churches, and of course to the Guild committee who provided the soup and pudding!

Irene Birse

## **MEH DUNDEE**

EH CUM FAE DUNDEE  
THAT BONNIE GREY TOON  
NO FAR FAE THE SEA

SHE HAS HUR CHURCH SPIRES  
AND BUILDINGS SAE BRA  
IT'S A MARVELLOUS SICHT  
FAE THE TOP O THE LA'

HUR JUTE MILLS HIV LEFT  
AND SO HIS THE FLEX  
NAE MAIR WILL WE HEAR  
THE WARP AND THE WEFT

DUNDEE'S A BRAW PLACE  
FUR FITBA AND FUN  
TRIPS TO THE FERRY  
AND CONES IN THE SUN

THE AAULD STEEPLE CLOCK  
IS SEEN FAE AFAR  
TIMING THE PUNTERS  
SHUDDER DEEP IN THE BAR

MEH TOON SPREADS ALANG  
THE BANK O THE TAY  
SO PRISTEEEN AND SPARKLING  
BY NIGHT AND BY DAY

James Adams

## **LENTEN STUDIES**

Our Lenten Studies group has been meeting throughout Lent. The theme is Generosity. You can follow along with the programme at the 40Acts website (<https://40acts.org.uk/>) where you can also sign up for daily updates.

**Session Clerk:**

Miss M Adamson

Tel. [REDACTED]

**Congregational Board Clerk:**

Dr J Burns

Tel. [REDACTED]

**Congregational Treasurer:****Beadle:**

Mr B Millar

Tel. [REDACTED]

**FWO Treasurer:**

Mr B Pounder

**Roll Keeper:**

Mr B Pounder

**Hall Allocation Convener:**

Miss I Birse

Tel. [REDACTED]

**Editor of Congregational Magazine:**

Miss MA Robertson

Tel. [REDACTED]

**Health & Safety Officer:**

Mrs K Strachan

Tel. [REDACTED]

**Fabric Convener:**

Mr E Hughes

Tel. [REDACTED]

**Safeguarding Co-ordinator:**

Miss J Ireland

Tel. [REDACTED]

**Christian Aid:**

Dr F Smith

Tel. [REDACTED]

**Cubs, Scouts & Beavers:**

Dr F Smith

Tel. [REDACTED]

**Guild:**

Mrs M Scobie

Tel. [REDACTED]

**Life and Work:**

Miss MA Robertson

Tel. [REDACTED]

**Sunday Club (Trailblazers) & Crèche:**

Miss MA Robertson

Tel. [REDACTED]

**Organist:**

Dr W Stevenson

Tel: [REDACTED]