

Rosyth  
Methodist Church



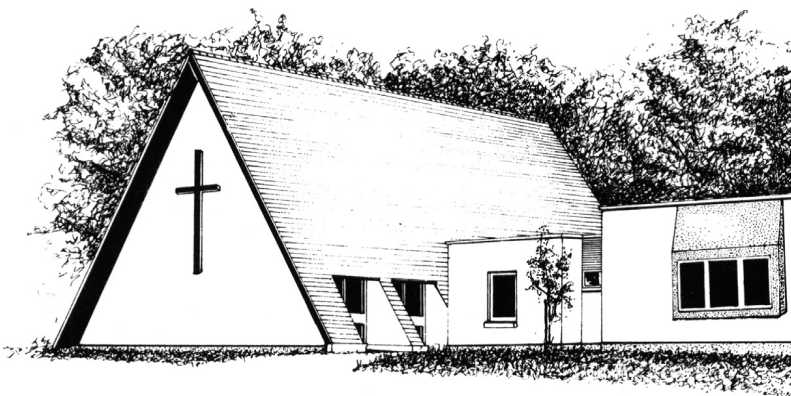
St Margaret's Scottish  
Episcopal Church



# Contact

the newsletter of the partnership between

Rosyth Methodist Church and  
St Margaret's Scottish Episcopal Church



Issue 70  
Oct–Nov 2013

Rosyth  
Methodist Church  
Scottish Charity SC028559

St Margaret's Scottish  
Episcopal Church  
Scottish Charity SC028426

## in partnership

Our partnership is formally recognised as a Local Ecumenical Partnership,  
with a constitution and Covenant signed on 14 June 2000

### Minister

Deacon Sarah McDowall  
01383 611000

Interim Rector:  
Very Rev Jim Mein 01506 834317

Coordinating Steward :  
David Salthouse 01383 889212

Vestry Secretary:  
Sandra Young 01383 415021

Pastoral Secretary:  
Gwyneth Kirby 01383 624779

Treasurer:  
Alan Taylor 01383 823902

Church Council Secretary :  
Sandra Wilson 01383 415885

Interim Treasurer:  
Howard Kirby 01383 624779

## our regular pattern of worship

### Sundays (except 4th)

9.30am Episcopalians Sung Eucharist  
(occasionally 9.15am—see diary pages for details)

11.99am Methodist Morning Worship  
(including Sunday School)

### 2nd Sundays: for the Young Church

9.00am Breakfast and “Sunday Funday”

### 4th Sundays: Worship together

11.00am Joint Communion Service

6.00pm “Sunday @ Six”

## where to find us

**On the road:** our postal address is Queensferry Road, Rosyth, Dunfermline, KY11 2JH, and you'll find us at the junction of Queensferry Road and Woodside Avenue. This is a short walk from Rosyth Rail station. The car park is behind the church. Local on-street parking is limited, but there is much more parking space at the junction with Park Road.

[www.rosythmethodist.org.uk](http://www.rosythmethodist.org.uk)

[www.stmargaretsrosyth.org.uk](http://www.stmargaretsrosyth.org.uk)

## Making a new start

So you think you were listening to the preacher? But how often do you find that you remember the sermon illustration long after all the carefully considered theological argument has been forgotten?!

I recall a marvellous sermon by Professor Brian Stanley, Director of the Centre for the Study of World Christianity in Edinburgh on “Living as Resurrection People”. The story of the departure screen at North Queensferry rail station will probably remain in the sub-consciousness mind of many in the audience for a long time. Only be in the . This shows the train having arrived while it’s still in the approach tunnel! But, once we see the message, we know that the train definitely *will* be coming! Brian used this as an illustration of the continuing tension in the Christian life between the ‘already’ and the ‘not yet’ – our new life in the risen Christ has *already* begun, though our salvation is still to come. The difference is “a short interim period in the light of eternity”.

Similarly with the illustration that Rev Thomas Brauer used at the service in St Finnian’s, Lochgelly which many of us attended. His thought-provoking sermon made use of three inputs:

1 The readings – from Isaiah 58:6–11 (the need for radical action on behalf of the disadvantaged); from 1 Corinthians 12:4–14 (the different gifts of the Holy Spirit); and from John 15:1–17 (the need to remain in Christ in order to bear fruit).

2 The occasion – the licensing of Margaret Dineley as a Lay Reader by David Chillingworth, Bishop of the local diocese and Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church.

3 The Top Gear television programme!

Thomas commented on the vital difference that Jeremy Clarkson (another JC!) had made when he joined Top Gear, converting a programme that had appealed only to the eclectic tastes of aficionados into one that met the needs for information and entertainment of a much wider range of people.

Thomas reflected: “The major reason for its global attraction is that the presenters communicate not just the facts of the vehicle they are driving, but how it feels to drive it, and the joy it brings to them as they take it down the road, or around the track. Similarly, we who are ministers (meaning all Christians) are called to show the joy of living the life of Christ, and to reveal how it feels to be in relationship with God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It is, I suggest, through this communication of joy that others will seek out that joy for themselves, and encounter Christ in their own lives.”

The listener was left to make the connection between the new start we can all make – not just Margaret at the start of her ministry – in the task of serving the community in ways that are relevant and attractive to them, as well as aiming to meet their real

## Making a new start (cont)

needs, being Christ-centred, and using our own talents. As the Contemporary English Version translates 1 Corinthians 12:5–6a: “There are different ways to serve the same Lord, and we can each do different things”.

And perhaps this month, as we gradually get back into gear for the new session, is the right time for that new start.

Martin Tarr

Based on his September entry on our church websites

## Fellowship news

Farewell. St Margaret's bade farewell to Olive McNee on 8 September after a long association with both the Naval Base Church, where Olive was a Sunday school teacher, and St Margaret's. Marc Tempelhoff presented her with a card and garden vouchers from all her friends. Our thoughts and prayers go with Olive as she moves to a new life in Winchburgh.

On the mend. Happily Lesley Yellowlees, who had an accident at Heathrow Airport when returning from holiday, is recovering well after a hip operation. It was lovely to see her back with us towards the end of September - though not yet behind the coffee bar!

Congratulations and best wishes to our interim Rector Jim who reached his 50th anniversary in ordained ministry on 22 September, our Harvest Thanksgiving. Although Jim retired from full time ministry 10 years ago, he has been involved in many interregnums since then. We

consider ourselves blessed in having experienced his leadership and sensitive ministry during the past 8 months and we look forward to Jim's continued presence with us for a further few months.

The Vacancy for Rector. St Margaret's and Holy Trinity Vestries met Bishop David on Monday 16 September to discuss the next stage in the process of filling the vacancy. We will meet again on 1 October after which we plan to advertise for a new Rector. The timetable is not yet finalised, but we hope to hold interviews in late November or early December and have a new Rector in place by March 2014. Please keep both Vestries in your prayers that they will be guided wisely in the task of selecting someone who will provide leadership and pastoral skills for the congregations.

## Thanks!

### From Valerie Lesley

On Sunday 9 June my son Paul and his wife Emma brought their daughter Jessica Grace Mei Li to St Margaret's to be baptised. As Jessica's Gran I was so proud and grateful to the congregation of St Margaret's for the wonderful way they contributed to the Leslie and Leech families special day.

A big thank you to everyone. As a choir member a special thank you to the choir and Sue for the really memorable singing. John Rutter's *'The Lord Bless you and keep you'* was truly special and *'Oh for a thousand tongues to sing'* (one of my favourite hymns) was really magnificent. Well done to the Sunday school from Holy Trinity for their beautiful singing of *'Jesus loves me'*. A special thanks to Jim for baptising Jessica and the very

special sermon - so perfect for the occasion.

The sun shone, the church was full, and the baptism stopped traffic!!!! How many churches can boast that?

I congratulate St Margaret's and our Methodist friends for the really warm welcome to all the guests. Jessica has a family that hails from many corners of the world. Her Ah Po (grandma) is Chinese Malaysian, her Grandad Leech is a Yorkshire man and her Godfather is Dutch. Paul and Emma have many friends from far flung places who all came to her Baptism so that made it a special day.

Jessica's baptism will be one St Margaret's will remember because she is the first baby in the new baptismal register.

Valerie

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### From the Rev Lily Twist

*(extract from a letter to Mary Kidd)*

You will already have had an update and letter of thanks circulated to Synod members and churches, but I wanted to say a special appreciation to the friends at Rosyth for the beautiful card and all the good wishes it contained. It stirs joy and happy memories. I thank God for

remembrance of everyone and, though few and far between, the good times of worship and fellowship we shared. Of course the last time\* was very special in various ways.

Lily

*\*The joint service with Bishop David Chillingworth in November last, to celebrate 'Christ the King'*

## Invitations to events

### Congregational AGM

St Margaret's Annual General Meeting will take place on the morning of **Sunday 17 November** after the service. Please make a note of the date now and come along to this very important event and share your views on matters affecting the running of St Margaret's.

### Sunday@ Six

On 25 August, Sue Masson devised and presented "Times and Seasons" when we gave thanks for creation and the seasons. Those who attended found the service thoughtful and reflective and were appreciative of the choir's contribution.

After a break in September for our joint Harvest Thanksgiving and lunch, Sunday@Six returns for October and November. On **27 October at 6pm** we will celebrate Bible Sunday. Our Advent Carol Service will be on **24 November at 6pm**, the week before Advent, when the choir will lead the singing in a service of music and readings. Further ahead, we will be holding our Christmas Carol Service on **Sunday 15 December at 6pm** (note this is a week earlier than usual).

We regard Sunday@Six as part of our outreach and an important part in our worship. We encourage as many as can to attend these services and invite friends and those from other local churches to come along too. All will be made very welcome.

### Advent Study

Advance notice is given of the Advent Study group which will probably start on **Monday 25 November at 7.30pm** in St Columba's Church. Further information nearer the time from Alan Taylor or Jack Fowell.

### Christmas Nativity

The Nativity event will be on **Tuesday 3 December** at 7pm in Rosyth Parish Church. This will be a ticket event (to control numbers, and give everyone a chance to sit down and hear the choirs), probably with a donation in lieu of a ticket price. Hopefully, the lights will be switched on in "good" weather, probably at the end of the indoor programme. More details later.

## Can you knit a hat for a seaman?

Adrian Masson has been working with the Mission to Seafarers, training to become a ships visitor and so far has been on a container ship and a tug in Grangemouth, a cruise ship in Rosyth and a tanker on Hound Point. As part of their ministry the chaplain and visitors take with them some phone cards, so that the sailors can keep in touch with their families, and a supply of knitted hats.

Imagine getting on a ship in the Philippines dressed in shorts and t-shirt, only to find yourself transiting freezing Arctic waters four months later. Seafarers often set out on new contracts not knowing where their ship will end up, and they may need to stock up on warm clothes to see them through some of the chillier parts of the globe.

The hats are easy to knit (see pattern below) so if you could knit one Adrian will make sure it goes to a grateful owner and you never know where in the world it could finish up!

### WOOLLEN HAT

Double knit or 4 ply wool:

Size 8 (4mm) Needles

2 oz of wool

Cast on 120 stitches.

Rib (2 plain 2 purl ) for 12 inches

Next Row – Knit 2 together to end of the row

Purl next row.

Repeat these two rows once more.

Knit 1 row.

Purl 1 row.

Pull thread through all stitches and sew up seam.

## Help the HOST Charity support a student

Many international students come to Scotland to study at our universities. Will they make contact with people and life beyond the academic environment? What will they do for a homely break if home is too far away?

For 26 years, national charity HOST has been linking students with volunteer hosts, who invite a student to spend a day, a weekend, Christmas or New Year in their home. Chatting; eating together;

playing games; seeing the area; joining in with the local community; making friends – a HOST visit lays down wonderful memories to be re-lived in China, India, the USA and many other parts of the world. And hosts learn from their guests too. If you could make a student welcome, please contact HOST through [www.hostuk.org](http://www.hostuk.org) or call HOST's voluntary regional organiser for Scotland, Alan Robson, on 01946 825170. Thank you.

## On “God was in Christ...”

*John Sawkins’ sermon at Rosyth on 15th September was widely appreciated and so is shared here with the readership. It had been preached a few weeks previously in another form at the City of Edinburgh Methodist Church*  
(John Sawkins is Professor of Economics at Heriot-Watt University)

From the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians, chapter 5 and verse 19, “God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself.”

I wonder how many of you have moved house recently, or how many remember what it was like to move? I think one of the things that stand out in my mind is that when you pack up to move you realise how much stuff you have built up over the years. So moves are often the times when we have to think about which bits of this stuff, or baggage, we need to bring with us to our new location, and which can safely be left behind.

As a Church we know we have a lot of baggage – some physical and some historical – and it’s good to find ways of getting rid of some of it. Which brings me rather neatly to a story told by the new Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, at the Church of England’s recent Synod in York.

The story is of his friend who had to take a flight from Paris to Kennedy Airport in New York. It was winter and the weather in New York had been bad so all the planes out of Paris were late. When he got one-from the front at the check-in, he was upset to see the man in front of him being very rude to the check-in person and giving her an incredibly hard time. When it was his turn, he said to her how sorry he was that

the previous passenger had been so rude, and how on earth did she stay so patient with him. And she said, “Well sir, I shouldn’t really tell you this. There’s sort of bad news and good news. The bad news is that he’s sitting next to you on the flight to New York. But the good news is I’ve sent his luggage to Hong Kong!”

There are a number of obvious applications to that, one of which is we could do with some people like that in our Church – organising for some of the baggage to go somewhere else.

But as those of us who have ever been unfortunate enough to be separated from our luggage know, there are some pieces which are absolutely essential. The rucksack with your passport and tickets. The case with the sponge bag containing your regular medication for the next fortnight. There are some things we can’t do without.

So my question this morning, as a Christian Church what are the essential pieces of luggage that we, as people who follow Christ, need?

### **The Bible**

The first piece of luggage is, I hope, so blindingly obvious and uncontroversial that I can simply mention it and move on. The Bible, God’s Word. We believe

*(Continued on page 12)*





## Diary for October-November 2013 (cont)

Wednesday 16 Oct 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship: Guest speaker Lou Davidson  
Haiti Help Update

Friday 18 Oct 7.00pm Choir practice

### Sunday 20 October

Pentecost 22 9.30am Sung Eucharist Very Rev Jim Mein  
11.00am Morning Worship Mr Edward Idle  
David Salthouse (Worship Leader)

Wednesday 23 Oct 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship: Evelyn Kenny

Friday 25 Oct 7.00pm Choir practice

### Sunday 27 October

Pentecost 23 11.00am Joint Communion Service Rev Geoffrey Baines  
Deacon Sarah MacDowall  
Traidcraft goods on sale after the service  
6.00pm Sunday@Six: A celebration for Bible Sunday

Wednesday 30 Oct 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship: Bring and Buy Sale

## November

Friday 1 Nov 7.00pm Choir practice

Saturday 2 Nov 10.00am Fresh Expressions Edinburgh, Vision Day  
to 3.00pm Ecumenical exploration and celebration of fresh expressions. St Andrew's & St George's West Church, 13 George Street, Edinburgh.  
(see page 17 for details)

### Sunday 3 November

All Saints Sunday 9.30am Sung Eucharist Very Rev Jim Mein  
11.00am Morning Worship Mr Will Carroll  
Evelyn Kenny (Worship Leader)

Monday 4 Nov 7.30pm Ecumenical study group, St Columba's Church

## Diary for November 2013 (cont)

Tuesday 5 Nov 7.30pm Local preachers and worship leaders meeting at Granton

Wednesday 6 Nov 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship: Quiz Afternoon  
Wartime/Saints/Topical

Friday 8 Nov 7.00pm Choir practice

### Sunday 10 November

Remembrance 9.00am 'Sunday Funday' and Breakfast

**9.15am** Sung Eucharist Rev Ross Kennedy

**10.50am** Morning Worship Rev Andrew Letby

Deacon Sarah McDowall

3.00pm Service at Orchardhead House, Rosyth

Wednesday 13 Nov 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship: Remembrance' Past Times'  
Memories to share

Thursday 14 Nov 7.30pm Area Council Meeting St Finnian's, Lochgelly

Friday 15 Nov 7.00pm Choir practice

### Sunday 17 November

St Margaret 9.30am Sung Eucharist Very Rev Jim Mein

**10.45am** AGM of the Congregation in Church Lounge

11.00am Morning Worship Mr Lyn Smalridge

Deacon Sarah McDowall

Wednesday 20 Nov 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship: Guest speaker Jack Pryde  
Old Dunfermline

Friday 22 Nov 7.00pm Choir practice



## On “God was in Christ...” (cont)

we are made to be ‘at one’ with him.  
‘At-one-ment’ or atonement.

The exaltation. We believe that Christ died but returned to life. Death was defeated and Christ was exalted, lifted up, a new creation.

OK, now are you happy with that? Are you happy for me to bring this piece of luggage in?

Some may say, “no problem at all! Yes, that is exactly what I thought was in the case. In you come.”

But for others this piece of luggage looks awfully big and it’s a pretty awkward shape too.

### **Awkward Size and Shape**

Look at the massive claims! Almighty God, born in the humblest circumstances, living in an obscure backwater of the Roman empire, executed and then seen by people who had known him after he had died?

Are you really saying all that? Yes we are.

OK, well the size is perhaps not the main thing, the main thing is its awkward shape. It has so many bits sticking out, it’s probably a health and safety hazard, but if not, it will certainly cause offence. Look, you can take the Bible in, but couldn’t you just leave this belief in Jesus Christ as God’s Son behind?

That bit that says Jesus is the son of God – that will be offensive to the Jews and the Moslems.

That bit that says he died but rose again from death. That will turn off the scientific sceptics and agnostics.

And the atonement, that will just confuse. Why do people need to be saved from sin, and how did this death achieve that?

Above all, it is all so specific and particular and, horror of horrors, exclusive. Are you really claiming that Christ is the only mediator between human beings and God (1 Tim ch 2 v 5)? Are you really claiming that his death and resurrection puts us right with God (Acts ch 4 v 12)?

Well yes.....

Now are you happy that I smuggle the luggage past you? I’m afraid I must insist.

Now I know that the simplest thing is to leave it behind. It works in politics. Alastair Campbell put it most pithily in his phrase “We don’t do God.” Why didn’t Alastair Campbell wish God to be ‘done’ by the Prime Minister, Tony Blair? Because in the political discourse in the UK if you do ‘do God’ you give the impression that with every political decision you are off in a corner taking it to the Lord, rather than your civil servants, in prayer. And you come across as being arrogant and high handed. Someone with a hotline to the Almighty, whose word to you will trump all rational argument and common sense. Better to leave it out. Don’t do God.

Should we take a leaf out of his book

*(Continued on page 14)*

## On “God was in Christ...” (cont)

*(Continued from page 13)*

and declare as a church, for the sake of inter-faith and civic engagement we ‘don’t do Christ’?

Tempting, isn’t it? We have a building to work in and to pay for. We have as part of our plan a desire to build meaningful, deep and sincere relationships with people of all faiths and none. And we need to fill all our rooms and we need to fund all that we do.....and wouldn’t it be just easier and more pragmatic and safe to soft pedal Jesus Christ? Listen, all our conversations would be so much more pleasant and uncontroversial if we avoided the scandal of particularity – Jesus Christ. We could plant ourselves in the moderate centre ground. Safe, reassuring, talk in a warm and unspecific way about God. So much nicer when we need to build bridges in the neighbourhood.

To quote another former Prime Minister – No! No! No!

We are Christian people. We follow Christ. We worship Christ. We preach Christ. We offer Christ to others.

Christ who was fully human and fully God.

Christ who died to demonstrate the depth of God’s love for us all.

Christ whose resurrection showed that physical death was not an end, but a door to eternal life in the nearer presence of God.

If we leave this behind, what

distinguishes us? We are just another group of people meeting together once a week at the weekend, and during the week filling our building with users. There are plenty more rival outfits in this part of Rosyth who will do that.

We have something else to offer. The offering is Christ.

We do this for a reason. The reason is Christ.

We believe this is good news for everyone. The good news is Christ.

And that was Paul’s good news for the Corinthian church as well.

### **The Text**

In his second letter Paul refers to a rather painful visit he had made, which had strained his relations with the church. It’s clear that some members of the church had attacked Paul. But equally clear is that he had been robust, stout and forthright in defence, and that was a source of concern and even pain to him. So he defends himself, assures the church of his love and concern for them all. But above all he reminds them of the central message of the gospel which had so completely turned his life around.

And what was the nub of it all?

Before Paul had become a follower of Christ he had been a devout believer, and he sincerely tried his very best to win God’s favour by faithfully keeping his commandments; making himself into a good man. But he never felt that he was succeeding in becoming good, and

## On “God was in Christ...” (concluded)

so he could not manage to earn God’s love. And then he discovered something so astonishing and counterintuitive that his life was turned upside down – in a good way.

When he began to follow Christ he realised that he didn’t need to earn God’s love. God loved him already, while he was still a sinner.

This was the great discovery of the New Testament – that God loves us before we have begun to be worthy of His love. He loves not only good people, but bad people. He loves us whilst we are still sinners. The ‘lightbulb’ moment for Paul was when he discovered that,

“God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself”

...and it astonished him.

That, in a nutshell, is the good news that we have to take out from this building to all who come here and to all we work with.

God loves us, good and bad and indifferent.

God loves us whilst we are still sinners.

There is nothing we can do to earn this love. And that might cause us to despair.

But no! The good news is that our relationship with God is not doomed to fail because we fail. But it can be put right, we can be ‘at-one’ with God when we put our faith, our trust, in Jesus Christ.

And if our relationship with God is put right, if we choose to follow Christ,

reconciliation and healing of personal relationships and an enriching of our own lives can be made real, not in some distant and far off heaven, but here and now.

In this building we offer not just rooms to let and a place to meet. We offer this. We offer the good news that God loves us, good and bad and indifferent. And if we do not or cannot believe it, we can look to a person, Jesus Christ whose birth, death and resurrection not only demonstrated the depth of God’s love for us all, but is the means by which we can be put right with Him, and right with one another.

So in the midst of all our activity, let us never forget to unpack the good news of Jesus Christ. And to live it out,

in the way in which we welcome people,

the way in which we treat people,

the way in which we respect people,

the way in which we build people up,

the way in which we forgive people,

and perhaps most of all, the ways in which we tell people that

“God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself.”

Thanks be to God for his great love in Christ.

Amen

## Church Premises

Most of the organisations close down during the summer months which gives the Property Committee more opportunity to do some maintenance work. During 2 work days in July, 6 members of the 2 congregations carried out a variety of tasks to keep the premises in good order. The main focus was on continuing the decoration of the hall corridor and crush hall (partly done during the Easter holidays) and extending this into the other corridor by the gents toilet. Other work included fixing the playgroup's wooden gate in the corridor by the ladies toilet, re-fixing the cladding on the wall of room 3 and pruning back some of the bushes in the grounds. It was a worthwhile 2 days and a lot was achieved. A major (but less obvious) piece of work carried out was the re-covering of one of the sections of our flat roof (above rooms 3 and 4). This section of roof dates from the building of the extension in 1981 and was well past its life expectancy. The work was

carried out by a local contractor, Ross Morrison and involved stripping off the existing roof covering, adding 100mm of insulation, adding boarding and topping it off with a rubber membrane made by Firestone Rubber. The total cost was £6300 of which two-thirds of the cost is being met by grants and loans from the Circuit and the Methodist Relief & Extension Fund. St Margarets have kindly made a donation of £500, and a member donated £100, leaving £1,500 to be met from church funds. This has been taken from our reserves. Hopefully we will not have any major expense of this order for some years to come.

On behalf of the Property Committee I would like to thank all those who helped at the work days and who help in other ways to maintain our premises and keep them looking clean and tidy and welcoming.

Martin Rogers  
Chairman, Property Committee

## Another choral event!

**"Most Elevating of Voices"** is a concert in Dunfermline Abbey on **Saturday 12 October** at 7.30pm, The Carnegie UK Trust and the Carnegie Corporation of New York are jointly presenting this to celebrating Andrew Carnegie's legacy of organ building and the Carnegie UK Trust's support for music.

The concert includes organ music played by Michael Bawtree, and British choral music from the Tudor period and the early 20th century, sung by the Royal School of Church Music Scottish Voices, directed by Frikki Walker. Tickets, which are free, are available from the Abbey shop. The first 15 minutes of the programme take place in the old nave.



## Ecumenical news and events

**Scottish Churches Housing Action** has arranged an event "**Churches & Homelessness – a reflection**" at the Renfield Centre, 260 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 4HZ on **Friday 4 October** from 10am to 3pm. The speakers are: Lt-Col Iain Barr of The Salvation Army; Rev Richard Frazer of Greyfriars Kirk Edinburgh; Grant Campbell of Glasgow City Mission; and Rev Sally Foster-Fulton of the Church & Society Council, Church of Scotland. If anyone from our congregations is interested there is more information at [www.churches-housing.org](http://www.churches-housing.org)

**Fresh Expressions** Edinburgh Vision Day will be held on **Saturday 2 November** from **10am to 4pm** in St Andrew's and St George's West Church, 13 George Street, Edinburgh.

This is an ecumenical exploration and celebration of fresh expression of church. Come and learn of what the Spirit is doing through new forms of church. The day will include:

- creative worship and prayer;
- stories of fresh expressions of church in Scotland and beyond ;
- input from Scottish church leaders plus Bishop Graham Cray and Andrew Roberts of Fresh Expressions, John Drane, Olive Fleming-Drane and Lou Davis;
- a celebration of the Church of Scotland joining the Fresh Expressions partnership.

The cost is £12 including lunch and refreshments. To book visit [www.resourcingmission.org.uk](http://www.resourcingmission.org.uk).

### Local Ecumenical Partnership

We have been invited to host an LEP Gathering on **Saturday 22 March 2014**. The National Sponsoring Board (NSB) will plan the event and put the programme together. On the day we will give a presentation on how our LEP works and about the good news stories. We have been asked to provide tea and coffee, but the NSB will get an outside caterer in to do lunch. We will be looking for volunteers, so please put the date in your diary now!

### Casting the Net

August saw the departure of our Casting the Net Coordinator, Caroline King, to pastures new when she began her PGDE at Strathclyde University and embarked on her career as a secondary Religious and Moral Education teacher.

The Gathering in June was a fantastic event attended by nearly 120 people from across the diocese, including 5 from St Margaret's. The day was full of enthusiasm and prayer; people left feeling uplifted and renewed.

Next year's CTN Gathering will be held on **Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2014** at St Ninian's Cathedral Perth. The focus will be our Mark of Mission for the year: Mark 1 - "*Worship that Renews and Inspires*".

## Ecumenical forum

### A report on the Dunblane discussion day

Following the decision by Methodist Conference 2013 to withdraw the Connexional Funding for the Connexional Liaison Officer for Scotland, the Scotland district set up a discussion day to focus our efforts to somehow cover at least some of the more important work and connections that Bill Reid has so excellently fulfilled for the past 10 years.

Rev Doug Swanney and Rev Neil Stubbins from Connexional Office attended to give us an outline of Connexional intentions for follow-up - The Way Ahead. Reference was made to the new recently established structure for the Churches in Wales.

About 40 people attended from all areas of the District. Rev David Easton our District Chair led the meeting ably assisted by Bill Reid - even though he is technically not in post. (Typical of the man!)

Synod had identified some of the areas of work which needed to be covered. These include Parliamentary and Civic, International, National and local, Social, Educational and Rural Issues. Not forgetting Interdenominational and Constitutional Issues relating to LEPs.

However disappointed people may feel about the withdrawal of Connexional Funding for the Ecumenical Liaison Post I felt that every endeavour will be made to keep

avenues of communication developed during Bill's tenure in the post open in the future.

A date will be announced for the further consultation as the Connexional Office and Methodist Council review the process embarked upon.

I feel that we could find that although things have changed - other developments will be established to continue the valuable work Bill has done to keep the denominations talking, working and praying together in the future.

In the Edinburgh and Forth Circuit we have 3 LEPs Granton United, Livingston Parish and Rosyth with St Margaret's and it was good to see that all were represented at the meeting.

Watch this space for further developments.

### **And the next one is:**

Place: Stirling Methodist Church  
Date: Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2013  
Time: 10.30am - 3.30pm.

If you wish to attend please advise by 20/10/13 Fiona Inglis (District Administrator) 01786 820295 [fiona@methodistchurch.plus.com](mailto:fiona@methodistchurch.plus.com) . Please bring packed lunch, hot drinks will be provided

## Contact points and meeting times

This list supplements the list of formal contacts given on the inside cover, and is for the activities and organisations run by the Methodist Church Council, St Margaret's Vestry, and by affiliated but independent organisations.

### Church activities

Methodist Gift Aid enquiries:

Ron Dempster 01383 721252  
ronmary.dempster@tiscali.co.uk

Property matters & letting enquiries:

Martin Rogers 01383 415458  
martin.rogers13@talktalk.net

St Margaret's Choir

Susan Masson 01383 824887  
susan.masson@btinternet.com

St Margaret's Gift Aid enquiries:

Marc Tempelhoff 01383 410151  
marct@talktalk.net

Traidcraft

Myra Tarr 01383 723989  
myra@mtarr.co.uk

Wednesday Fellowship (Wed 2.15-4pm)

Mary Kidd 01383 872332  
cmarykidd@btinternet.com

Sunday School (Sun 11-12am) and

Sunday Funday (2nd Sun 9am with breakfast):

Gwyneth Kirby 01383 624779  
gmkirby@hotmail.com

Toddlers' Group (Wed & Fri 9.30-11am)

Elaine Lambert 01383 417071  
elaine.lambert1@sky.com

### Organisations meeting

#### in our premises

Brambles Playgroup (Wed & Fri 9.15-11.45am;  
Wed, Thu & Fri 12.45-3.15pm)

Lesley Hynd (senior play leader)  
07758 877284  
bramblesplaygroup@sky.com

Howard Kirby (chair) 01383 624779  
brambles@rosythmethodist.org.uk

Parahandies Disabled Club (Mon 9.30am-2pm)

Peter Merckel (sec) 01383 822940  
peter.merckel@yahoo.co.uk

### Scout Group

Group Scout Leader

see Martin Rogers 01383 415458  
martin.rogers13@talktalk.net

Beaver Scouts (Tue 5.30-6.30pm)

David Sinclair 01383 410255  
davidgraeme31@yahoo.co.uk

Cub Scouts (Tue 6.30-8.15pm)

Martin Rogers 01383 415458  
martin.rogers13@talktalk.net

Scouts (Fri 7-9.15pm)

Alan Connery 01383 731391  
alan.connery@virgin.net

Explorer Scouts (Fri 7-9.15pm)

Terry O'Neill 01383 842695  
terryone112003@yahoo.co.uk

### Guide Unit

Rainbows (Mon 6-7pm)

Susan Warren 01383 414355  
susarren@aol.com

Brownies (Mon 6-7.30pm)

Nicola Byrne 07956 005996  
NicolaByr44ne86@hotmail.com

Guides (Mon 6-8.30pm)

Melissa Peel 07850 249911  
6throsythguides@gmail.com

Please let the Editor know of any changes  
or additions to this list, preferably by email  
to:

editor@rosythmethodist.org.uk

## **Can you enter data into a spreadsheet?**

**A Treasurer's lot is not a happy one ...**

**... if she/he has to do it all by her/himself!**

At Rosyth Methodist Church we already have some people assisting the Treasurer in various ways.

We need a willing volunteer or two who can happily enter data into a spreadsheet or combine data from different sheets into one.  
(Templates provided.)

Training given if you need to use techniques in Excel that you are not familiar with. No knowledge of accountancy is needed. You do not need to be a member of the Methodist church to help in this way.

Please contact the Interim Treasurer, Howard Kirby, at  
treasurer@rosythmethodist.org.uk  
or phone 013683 624779

### **CONTACT on the web**

You can view or download this issue at <http://tinyurl.com/oajzysk>

### **To our contributors**

Grateful thanks to all those who have contributed material to this issue and helped in its production phase, especially Sandra Young, and Martin Tarr .