

Rosyth
Methodist Church

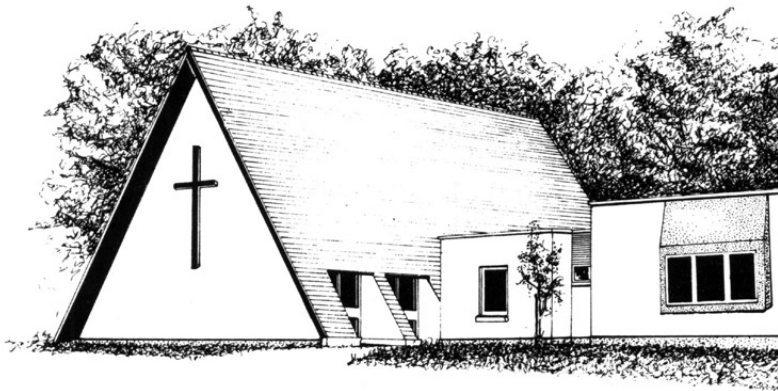
St Margaret's Scottish
Episcopal Church



Contact

the newsletter of the partnership between

Rosyth Methodist Church and
St Margaret's Scottish Episcopal Church



Issue 65

December 2012/January 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

Ministers:

Deacon Sarah McDowall
01383 611000

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Treasurer:

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Interim Priest:

Rev Ross Kennedy 01383 625887

Lay Reader in training:

Dr Margaret Dineley
01383 624377

Vestry Secretary:

Sandra Young 01383 415021

Treasurer:

Alan Taylor 01383 823902

our regular pattern of worship

Sundays (except 4th)

9.30am Episcopalian Sung Eucharist
(occasionally 9.15am – see diary pages for details)

11.00am 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”

Our postal address is Queensferry Road, Rosyth, Dunfermline, KY11 2JH, and you'll find us at the junction of Queensferry Road and Woodside Avenue. The car park is behind the church, and limited local on-street parking is available, but there is lots more space in the parking area at the junction with Park Road.

The Journey

Deacon Sarah writes ...

It doesn't seem like nearly a year since we were celebrating our saviour's birth! Like any journey, the one that Mary and Joseph took would have had its ups and downs. A normal fit man would have taken four days to get from Nazareth to Bethlehem, but of course Mary was heavily pregnant so they would have needed to have frequent stops to rest and get comfortable, if that was possible while journeying on a donkey! So it may have taken them over a week to get there.

So what has your journey this year been like? Has it been filled with joy or have there been times of sorrow? Has it been all plain sailing or has it been one of hills to climb and valleys to rest in?

In my own journey this year there has been a lot of joys. The highlight for me was of course the Methodist Conference in Plymouth, before which I went on ordinands' retreat to Ampleforth Abbey, and then being received into full connexion at the Sunday morning Conference service.



The past year has also been a time of journey for the church family here in Rosyth. Over the last year we have seen the continuation of our Sunday Funday where children and adults have learned together the stories from the Bible and also of present day Christians living out their faith day to day. During Lent we met together in an ecumenical study group, a study group at the manse and a study group at Eric and Gillian's all looking at the same material. This gave everyone an opportunity to join the study at whatever day or group suited them best. Hopefully we will be doing the same this coming year with two of the groups. Now leading up to the first Thursday in December we have begun another study group at the manse looking at the very thought-provoking Nooma films and related study material.

/continued overleaf



In the afternoon we all travelled to Gwennap Pit where I was received into full membership of the Methodist Diaconal Order, receiving a blessing and being given my diaconal cross. This was an amazing experience one that was made even better by being joined by so many friends old and new and of course Archie. It seems a long time ago now but the wonderful memories remain.

What's in this issue ...

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Fellowship News (p8)
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This year we have also seen the start of the RMC film club on a Sunday afternoon once a month. We meet together, watch a film and then have tea and cake. We look forward to our next film on 2 December which will be "Nativity" (no prizes for guessing what that will be about!). We hope and pray that the RMC film club goes from strength to strength.

It has been a joy during the last year to share so many happy times with the church family as we celebrated wedding anniversaries, baptisms and dedication of children.

During the year we have also experienced some sad times within our church family and, while this is obviously a difficult experience for us all, it is also a tremendous privilege to help and support each other in our times of need.

As we approach Christmas, many of us are only too aware that in the midst of all the jubilation as we celebrate the birth of Christ it can also be a difficult time of year for many people. With this in mind we will once again be offering our "From hurt to hope" service of worship. The first of these services took place last year and I hope it was helpful for all those who find Christmas difficult for whatever reason. Once again everyone who might find such a service helpful is warmly invited to join with us on Thursday 20 December.

Our journey will of course continue into 2013 and I look forward to us all joining together as we seek to follow our Lord who leads us, strengthens us and guides us in all that the coming year will bring.

Love and God Bless

Deacon Sarah

Christmas Cards

As usual there will be a post box in the Church crush hall over the weeks up to Christmas. This is a means of exchanging cards with friends in the Church. A full address is not required, but please ensure that surnames are included on the envelopes. The cards are sorted and laid out in racks on the worktop in the lounge to be collected after the service. **There is no delivery service**, so please do not put cards in the box for people who do not come to Church regularly.



Our Explorer Scouts are taking part in the West Fife Scout Christmas Post and cards can be sent to most parts of Fife for 30p (see poster for further details). There will be a separate post box in the Church crush hall for these cards.

The deadline for receipt of cards is 5pm on **Wednesday 12 December**, so please "post" your cards in good time. Cards and money should be placed in a plastic bag or envelope with a note of your name and contact details in the event of any queries. Please include postcodes on the cards. The cards will be delivered by local scouts in the period from 15-22 December.

One minute, please

What did Jesus say?

"Whoever comes to me I will never drive away."

John 6:37

John and Rosemary Cowell wish all their friends a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Eve and Julie Denning send their best wishes for a happy and healthy 2013 to their friends in both congregations.

Dennis Cook wishes everybody at Rosyth a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Pauline Fisher wishes all in both churches a very Happy Christmas.

Thelma and David Couch wish everyone a very Happy Christmas. They thank everyone for the love and support they have been given through the past year.

June Baines sends everyone best wishes for a Peaceful and Happy Christmas.

Jock and Audrey Headden wish their friends from both congregations a Happy and Holy Christmas.

Betty Terry wishes all her friends at St Margaret's and the Methodist Church a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Lesley Yellowlees wishes friends in both churches a Happy Christmas and blessed New Year.

David Slater sends Christmas Greetings to all members and friends in Methodist and Episcopalian churches - in Rosyth and worldwide.

Ron and Mary Dempster wish both our Church Families Love, Peace and Joy at Christmas.

Myra and Martin Tarr wish all their friends at church a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Thank you to all those who have decorated our Christmas tree, and given generously to charity for the privilege!

Invitations

Nativity 2012

The nativity scene in the grounds of Rosyth Parish Church has become an annual event. It has attracted much attention, and each year we have become slightly more ambitious. We should have had a donkey – our well-loved Sydney – last year, but he was snowed in. He tells me he hopes to be there this year!

Which is great, as we will have an enactment of the Nativity by Carnegie College Music and Drama Department, in the Scots language – is there a place for Sydney in this? Come and see! Choirs from the four Rosyth primary schools, helped along by Rosyth Silver Band, will sing well-known carols – we can join in! We will have the usual Christmas Tree lights, and then we will all go into the hall for mince pies.

Last year about 400 people attended the opening ceremony. Why not come along this year, at 7.00pm on **Tuesday 4 December**, at the Parish Church?

From hurt to hope: a different sort of Christmas service

Deacon Sarah writes:

Christmas is of course a time of joy, but for many people it can also be a very difficult time. This may be because of painful memories, fears for the future or family circumstances. In recognition of this there will be a special service on **Thursday 20 December** at 7.30pm here in Rosyth Methodist Church. In this service, we will be given a chance to sing and to pray. We will be invited to offer up the pain, the loneliness, the sad memories, and the anxiety and fear to the one whose birth we eagerly await ... Jesus Christ. We pray that you will find hope and peace in this service, and comfort in knowing that you are not alone. All are invited to this service, and tea and coffee will be served afterwards.

From an ageing member of the congregation

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
Forgive our foolish ways,
For most of us, when asked our mind,
Admit we still more pleasure find
In hymns of ancient days.

The simple lyrics, for a start,
Of many a modern song
Are far to trite to touch the heart,
Enshrine no poetry, no art,
And go on much too long.

O for a rest from jollity
And syncopated praise!
What happened to tranquillity?
The silence of eternity
Is hard to find these days.

Send thy deep hush, subduing all
Those happy claps that drown
The tender whisper of Thy call.
Triumphalism is not all,
For sometimes we feel down.

Drop thy still dews of quietness
Till all our strummings cease,
Take from our souls the strain and stress
Of always having to be blessed;
Give us a bit of peace.

Breathe through the beats of praise guitar,
Thy coolness and Thy balm,
Let drum be dumb, bring back the lyre,
Enough of earthquake, wind and fire,
Let's hear it for some calm.

More invitations

'Twas the *Sunday* before Christmas ...

Celebrate on **Sunday 23 December**,
starting with

C h r i s t m a s T e a

Assorted sandwiches
Homemade

Sausage rolls/veg. pastry
Scones
Cake
Shortbread

Served from 4.00–5.30pm

Tickets £5.00, with proceeds to Action for
Children and Church funds. See Jean Hall,
or phone/text Martin on 07772 241560.
Please note that you need to buy your ticket
before the event.

So plan to come along, relax with the family,
and then celebrate in music ...

... by joining us at 6.00pm for a traditional

C a r o l s b y C a n d l e l i g h t

The offering at the service will be in aid
of CHAS (CHAS Gift Aid envelopes are
available from Marc Tempelhoff).

Advent Study Group

The Ecumenical Advent Study group will
meet in St Columba's Church, Torridon
Lane, Rosyth on **Mondays** 26 November, 3,
10 and 17 December and 7 and 14 January
at 7.30pm. Come along and join the group
who will be using "The Voice of the Prophet"
– an advent study course with Isaiah. For
further information contact Alan Taylor.

Witness at Christmas and the New Year

Do join us ...

... on Christmas Eve

4.00pm Christmas Eve service at our
church, led by Rev Geoffrey Baines
and Deacon Sarah McDowall

11.30pm Midnight Mass at Holy Trinity,
Dunfermline

... on Christmas Day

8.00am Holy Communion (1662 Prayer
Book) at Holy Trinity, Dunfermline

11.00am Family Service at our church,
led by Deacon Sarah McDowall

... on 30 December

9.30am Service of readings, carols and
communion (Rev Ross Kennedy)

11.00am Morning Worship led by
Mrs Hilary Henderson and
Deacon Sarah McDowall

... on 27 January

11.00am Joint Covenant Service led by
Rev Dr Marion Keston and
Deacon Sarah McDowall

Annual Christmas Dinner

This year the Church Christmas Dinner
will be held at the Hideaway, Halbeath on
Thursday 10 January 2013 at 6.30pm
for 7.00pm. As before, payment will be the
grand total divided by the number of people
attending. In order to expedite the ordering
process you are invited to nominate your
starter and main course from the menu on
the notice-board. Puddings can be selected
on the night. You do not need to do this until
nearer the time.

Dennis and David

Fellowship News

Laid aside ...

Our love and prayers are with Betty Terry, Jock Headden and Erica Lock as they recover at home after surgery. We hope they will be back worshipping with us shortly.

We have all been extremely concerned about Mary Kidd's recent ill-health. We are relieved that she is back among us, and we pray that her health and strength will continue to improve. We appreciate all that Mary does for the church in so many different ways, and we thank God for her selfless devotion to others. Look after yourself, Mary – "Guid folk are scarce"!

Celebrating soon!

Ethel Douglas, a regular member of Wednesday Fellowship, and an inspiration to us all, celebrates her 100th birthday on 30 December, and we plan to mark the occasion during our meeting on 5 December. Ethel has lived in the area most of her life and is an active member of the Parish Church. Many happy returns Ethel!

Orchardhead

Residential Home

It was when the Rev Gordon Murray was our minister that he suggested that we might gather a group of our people together to sing carols at Orchardhead.

So it was that a number of us from both our churches went just before Christmas to sing carols to the residents.

Arising from that visit we have continued with a short service of 30–40 minutes on the second Sunday of each month.

Some of the residents have spent years of service in their own churches, but now cannot attend due to their many frailties.

The number of residents who attend varies, and depends on any visitors they may receive while we are there. 12–15 people usually gather for the service. We are welcomed as representatives of our two churches, and they are always pleased to see us.

Jack Fowell

Eileen Dally 1923–2012

The Rosyth Methodist Fellowship were saddened when Eileen became seriously ill. She had been a loyal member of the Church for many years.

For many years she, and her late husband Ivan, worked faithfully every Friday in the Church office. She was always kind and helpful.

Despite the loss of her daughter Frances, and then Ivan her husband, Eileen became an inspiration to many people by continuing to lead a full and active life. She carried on doing all the concerts, shows, plays and outings that she and Ivan had enjoyed, and she lived her life to the full.

In earlier days Eileen had enjoyed the outdoors and the mountains. After the war she was in Germany as a secretary in the British Control Commission, working in the British Embassy in Stockholm.

Eileen died after a relatively short illness. Her funeral, which was very well attended, was conducted by the Rev Alan Whitson. Her sister, Olive Lawson, and husband Jimmy, held a service at the same time as the one in Dunfermline, but theirs was in Australia. Olive and Jimmy wrote to thank the members of the church family for their care of Eileen during her illness, and join us in giving thanks for a well-lived life.

Diary for November/December 2012

Sunday 25 November

- Christ the King 11.00am Joint Communion Service
The Most Rev David Chillingworth
and Rev Lily Twist
Traidcraft goods on sale after the service
- 1.00pm Bring-and-share lunch
- 6.00pm Sunday@Six: a service led by the Study and Growth
Group from Holy Trinity, following a visit to Hiroshima
by Barbara and Peter Hand, and taking the theme of
peace and reconciliation
- Monday 26 Nov 7.30pm Advent Study Group at St Columba's Church, Torridon
Lane: "The Voice of the Prophet", an Advent study course
with Isaiah
- Wednesday 28 Nov 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship – Guest speakers
Eric and Gillian Potts: "A treasury of prayer"
- Thursday 29 Nov 7.30pm Bible Study Group at the Manse
- 7.30pm Area Council Meeting at St Luke's Glenrothes
Rev Canon Val Nellist will talk about the Diocese link
with the Diocese of Calcutta
- Friday 30 Nov 7.00pm Choir Practice
- 7.30pm Bible Study (continuing in the book of Acts)
at the home of Evelyn Kenny
- Saturday 1 Dec 10.00am Church stall of Chocolate Tombola at
to 1.00pm Brambles Playgroup Christmas Fair in Church Hall
- Saturday 1 Dec 7.30pm The Scottish Chamber Choir: Handel *Messiah*
Accompanied by Sospiro Baroque
Canongate Kirk, Edinburgh
Tickets from Martin Tarr

Sunday 2 December

- Advent Sunday 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Ross Kennedy
- 11.00am Morning Worship Mr Edward Idle
Deacon Sarah McDowall (Worship Leader)
- 3.00pm Film Club: 'Nativity!' (U) – an improvised comedy based
around a school nativity play
- Monday 3 Dec 7.30pm Advent Study Group at St Columba's Church, Torridon
Lane: "The Voice of the Prophet", an Advent study course
with Isaiah

Diary for December 2012

- Tuesday 4 Dec 7.00pm Launch of the Community Nativity Scene in the grounds of Rosyth Parish Church, Queensferry Road
This will include a Scottish version of the Nativity from the Drama and Music Group at Carnegie College
- Wednesday 5 Dec 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship
Brambles Playgroup visit and celebration
- Thursday 6 Dec 7.30pm Bible Study Group at the Manse
- Friday 7 Dec 7.00pm Choir practice
- Saturday 8 Dec 3.00pm Dunfermline Choral Union Christmas Carol Concert
and 7.30pm The Vine Church, Dunfermline.
Tickets £9.00, £8 (concession)
from Gwyneth Kirby or Myra Tarr

Sunday 9 December

- Advent 2 9.00am 'Sunday Funday' and Breakfast
9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Ross Kennedy
11.00am Morning Worship Mr Will Carroll
Evelyn Kenny (Worship Leader)
3.00pm Service at Orchardhead House, Rosyth
- Monday 10 Dec 7.30pm Advent Study Group at St Columba's Church, Torridon Lane: "The Voice of the Prophet", an Advent study course with Isaiah
- Tuesday 11 Dec 7.30pm Woodmill Singers Christmas Concert
St Peter's Parish Church, Inverkeithing
Tickets £5 (proceeds to church funds)
from Myra Tarr or Julie Denning
7.15pm Prayer in Unity, Yes-U-Are Partnership's Office
for 7.30pm 31 High Street, Dunfermline [ring Yes-U-Are buzzer]
- Wednesday 12 Dec **12.30pm** Wednesday Fellowship:
Christmas Lunch in the Elgin Hotel, Charlestown
Note: No further Wednesday Fellowship until 6 Feb 2013
- Friday 14 Dec 7.00pm Choir practice

Sunday 16 December

- Advent 3 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Ross Kennedy
11.00am Morning Worship Mrs Jane Peers
David Salthouse (Worship Leader)

Diary for December 2012/January 2013

Monday 17 Dec 7.30pm Advent Study Group at St Columba's Church, Torridon Lane: "The Voice of the Prophet", an Advent study course with Isaiah

Note: Next meeting 7 January 2013

Thursday 20 Dec 7.30pm From hurt to hope: a different sort of Christmas service
Deacon Sarah McDowall
(See article on page 6)

Friday 21 Dec 7.00pm Choir practice

Sunday 23 December

Advent 4 11.00am Joint Communion Service Rev Geoffrey Baines

4.00pm Christmas Tea in the Church Hall
to 5.30pm Entry by ticket only, £5.00 (see page 7)
followed by

6.00pm Sunday@Six: Joint Carol Service by candlelight
Offering uplifted will be in aid of CHAS (CHAS Gift Aid envelopes available from Marc Tempelhoff)

Christmas Eve 4.00pm Christmas Eve Service
Rev Geoffrey Baines and Deacon Sarah McDowall

11.30pm Midnight Mass at Holy Trinity, Dunfermline

Christmas Day 8.00am Holy Communion (1662 liturgy)
at Holy Trinity, Dunfermline

10.00am Family Service Deacon Sarah McDowall

10,00am Family Eucharist at Holy Trinity, Dunfermline

Sunday 30 December

Christmas 1 9.30am Service of readings, carols and communion
Rev Ross Kennedy

11.00am Morning Worship Mrs Hilary Henderson
Deacon Sarah McDowall (Worship Leader)

Sunday 6 January

Epiphany 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Ross Kennedy

11.00am Morning Worship Mr Ian Paterson
David Salthouse (Worship Leader)

Monday 7 Jan 7.30pm Advent Study Group at St Columba's Church, Torridon Lane: "The Voice of the Prophet", an Advent study course with Isaiah

Casting the Net

Margaret Dineley writes ...

This Diocesan mission programme continues apace, gradually spreading and involving more congregations. Some churches, such as Forfar, Crieff, Kirkcaldy and Kinross, are working on their Mission Action Plans, while others, including Cupar, Dollar and Newport-on-Tay are at different stages on their Casting the Net paths. This reflects an eagerness in our Diocese to examine ways in which we work on our spiritual health within our churches and how we may successfully reach out to those beyond our walls, many of whom are needy or know nothing about what we have to offer in our Lord's name.

In previous years there has been an annual Gathering in St Ninian's Cathedral in Perth, an opportunity for members of congregations across the Diocese to get together, to exchange views and ideas, to socialise and to attend workshops together in order to examine different aspects of a Mark of Mission. Those attending found these Gatherings uplifting and spiritually inspirational.

This year it was decided to hold two separate gatherings at different locations in the Diocese, All Saints', St Andrews and Holy Trinity, Stirling. The theme this year was Mark of Mission 7: 'Sharing faith by confident and sensitive evangelism.'

In company with several members of St Margaret's, I attended the Gathering at St Andrews, held in the delightful premises of All Saints' Episcopal Church. We were warmly welcomed by the Rector, Rev Jonathon Mason, and ably carried through the day's programme by Caroline King, the CTN officer. We were pleased to have Bishop David with us throughout the day. He led a workshop and also the closing worship, during which he addressed us in his usual thoughtful, reflective manner.

I enjoyed workshops on *Welcoming through music*, led by Rev Richard Evans and *Caring for others*, led by Rev Paddy Allen. But the highlight for me was the workshop entitled '*Walk the church, walk the soul*', during which Jonathon Mason took us on a spiritual journey, a pilgrimage, through the church, starting at the entrance, working through the spiritual meanings of each section within the building, finally arriving at the altar – the culmination of the whole journey. It is a beautiful church, emanating a sense of peace. I found the journey truly inspirational.

I spoke with a member of Holy Trinity who had attended the Gathering at Stirling and she was equally enthusiastic. So, any of you who did not manage to attend a Gathering this year – I would warmly recommend you to take the opportunity to attend one next year. Watch this space!

Before closing, I would like to mention again an event which took place at Rosyth in February 2012. As part of their Mission Action Plan, Holy Trinity, Dunfermline, had appointed a Spirituality Group, which organised a special Spirituality event, held one Saturday and very kindly hosted by yourselves in this lovely church building. Incorporating workshops on different forms of prayer, including centring prayer, Lectio Divina and praying with pictures, it was well attended and much appreciated. This was indeed part of Casting the Net and, once the inter-regnum is past and Holy Trinity feel able to re-address their Mission Action Plan, hopefully similar events may be experienced. So, thank you, St Margaret's and Rosyth Methodist Church.

St Margaret's Congregational AGM

Reported by Sandra Young

At the meeting on 15 November, Dr Margaret Dineley was re-elected Lay Representative for a further year. Lesley Yellowlees stood down as the Alternate after many years and was thanked for her services. We were pleased to appoint one of our newer members, Valerie Leslie, as the alternate lay representative for the next year. Peter Hutchings (Holy Trinity, Dunfermline) was re-appointed as independent examiner of the church accounts.

Members of the Vestry for the next year remain the same: Margaret Dineley (Lay Representative, ex officio), Sue Forman, Mary Kidd, Erica Lock, Myra Tarr, Alan Taylor Marc Tempelhoff, Lesley Yellowlees and Sandra Young. Howard Kirby attends as the Methodist Council representative.

We have now been six months without a rector and it is likely to be some time before Bishop David decides that Holy Trinity, Dunfermline can advertise the post.

Since May we have been looked after by Fr Ross Kennedy, who has come out of retirement to serve both Holy Trinity and St Margaret's. Ross has officiated at our services and undertaken our pastoral care, including visiting those in hospital and at home and unable to join us at present on Sunday. He will decide in the New Year whether he is able to continue to take all our services, but he is committed to looking after our pastoral needs. We appreciate all Ross does for us, and thank him most sincerely.

Psalm 23 revisited

The Lord is my shepherd	Relationship
I shall not want	Supply
He makes me lie down in green pastures.	Rest
He leads me beside still waters.	Refreshment
He restores my soul	Healing
He leads me in paths of righteousness.	Guidance
For His name's sake	Purpose
Though I walk through	
the valley of the shadow of death	Testing
I will fear no evil.	Protection
For You are with me	Faithfulness
Your rod and staff comfort me	Discipline
You prepare a table before me	
in the presence of my enemies.	Hope
You anoint my head with oil,	Consecration
My cup overflows.	Abundance
Surely goodness and mercy	
shall follow me all the days of my life.	Blessing
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord	Security
For ever.	Eternity

Found on the web by Mary Dempster
Likely original source "The Shepherd" by Bill Campbell

Two gift ideas ...

... suggested by the St Margaret's Treasurer, Alan Taylor

The 2013 Paschal Candle

For several years now we have had a Paschal Candle which is blessed at Easter to signify the Light of Christ. It traditionally burns right through the Easter season, though we do not follow that tradition in our church for safety reasons! Instead we light the candle each time we have a service.

The candle is lit on other special occasions throughout the year, the most notable of these being when there is a baptism – which usually applies only to the Methodist congregation! The candle for the child is lit from the Paschal Candle, signifying the passing of the Light of Christ to the child.

The Paschal Candle is specific to the year: the current candle has the year 2012 in wax relief around the base of the candle, while the main motif is a Ship of Galilee, with a full fishing net, together with the letters Alpha and Omega.

The tradition of the Paschal Candle applies equally to both congregations. Indeed, in Tim's absence one Easter, Andrew blessed the candle using the Methodist rite.

Each year the candle is invariably donated by a member of St Margaret's, usually to commemorate someone dear to that person, or perhaps to commemorate an event in their life. The cost is usually about £40, and the candle is given back to the donor when the Paschal Candle for the following year is blessed.

Would you, a member of Rosyth Methodist Church or a member of St Margaret's, like to donate the Paschal Candle for 2013?

For further information, please speak to Alan Taylor (01383 823902). If you are interested in giving, or helping pay for, the processional cross, you may find the Hayes and Finch web site (<http://www.hayesfinch.com>) of interest in illustrating the wide range of designs (and prices) available.

A Processional Cross

When St Margaret's left HMS Cochrane all those years ago, we were very fortunate to be given quite a lot of those elements we had become familiar with, such as our choir robes and kneelers. But other items, such as the Paschal Candle stand and the processional cross, were distributed elsewhere.

Since then, a Paschal Candle stand has been given by members of the congregation in memory of loved ones, and our Paschal Candle is donated every year.

(Ed: see previous column).

What we *don't* have is a Processional Cross, though we have been fortunate to be able to borrow one when absolutely necessary, as for example at the 40th Anniversary eucharist. Jock Headden is seen here leading the procession after the service.



At the congregational AGM on 15 November, there was considerable support for a proposal that St Margaret's should buy its own Processional Cross. This could arguably be done from general church funds, but such a significant purchase provides a great opportunity for someone to make a gift.

Our Church Premises

Trying to keep our premises well maintained and welcoming to visitors and users is not an easy task bearing in mind budgetary constraints. There is a small Property Committee consisting of myself, Alan Taylor (Secretary), Ron Dempster, Myra Tarr and Mandy Ward. We meet three times a year with occasional ad hoc meetings or email exchanges in between. The agenda can be surprisingly wide-ranging. At our last meeting we discussed fire precautions, risk assessments and energy audit in addition to ongoing matters of property maintenance and usage. At our next meeting in February we will be trying to look further ahead than normal and see what work will be necessary and/or desirable within the next 10 years or so. We welcome input and suggestions about our premises so if you have any ideas please mention them to me or the other members of the Committee.

We have managed to achieve quite a lot in the past year. A squad from the Community Payback scheme painted the outside woodwork and the hall during the summer holidays. During the course of this some areas of rotten woodwork were replaced but others have simply been painted over concealing but not dealing with the underlying problem. In recent times, largely because of the rotten woodwork, we have replaced the corridor windows and the window in the crèche room and we are about to replace the windows in the crush hall. The replacement windows are double glazed units which improve the energy efficiency of the building. Some windows still require to be replaced and also the black tongue in groove cladding in the window recesses of the Church sanctuary.

Also in the summer we had our main fuse box replaced with a modern one with residual current devices (RCDs). These RCDs rapidly switch off the power supply when a problem is detected thus reducing the risk of accidents. A small but useful improvement has been the reinstatement of one of the electrical sockets in the hall which had been out of use for some years.

We have managed to buy cheaply some small quantities of carpet tiles and this has improved the look of the crush hall and the corridor leading to the vestry. We are regarded by the Council as commercial rather than domestic when it comes to our waste disposal arrangements. Some of our wheelie bins are of a different colour to the domestic ones or are used differently. Please take heed of the labels when using the bins – particularly the light blue one.

Part of our flat roof covering is due for renewal. I am pleased to say that we have been promised grants representing two-thirds of the estimated cost of £8,700 with the balance being met from Church funds. This work will be carried out in the Spring.

An ongoing problem we have are the small blue tables in the hall where the tops are coming away from the metal framework. If there is anyone with good DIY skills who could help with this, please contact me.

My thanks to the members of the Property Committee for their help and assistance and a special thanks to Malcolm Trew who stepped down from the Property Committee earlier this year after many years of involvement in different capacities.

Martin Rogers

The Scout Group

At the end of 1942, during the Second World War, the Cubs, Scouts, Brownies and Guides were started at the Church. This photo, taken outside the former Methodist Church in Parkgate, is of some of the early leaders.



From the left:

Back row: Ralph Collier, Micky Schoenberger
Front Row: Vera Dunstan, Marjorie Fowell,
Olive Comben, Doreen Burgess

Some 70 years on they are still going strong, despite periodic leadership shortages. The Scout Group are marking the occasion during the course of their AGM and Open Night on Tuesday 20 November and a few old faces are expected to join us for the occasion.

When Stuart Fowell stepped down as Group Scout Leader last year, we had a replacement for him lined up. Sadly that did not work out and again we are looking for a Group Scout Leader.

Another loss to the Group comes with the impending retirement of Linda Adam after many years service as a helper in the Beaver Colony and as a member of the Group Executive Committee. Tony and Ann Caudrey are stepping down from the roles of Chairman and Secretary of the Committee although they will continue to be members of the Committee. Another long-serving member of the Committee, Alison Monese, will also be retiring at the AGM.

Our thanks to Linda, Tony, Ann and Alison for the contribution they have made to the Scout Group in these various capacities.

The Scout Group's annual report "Focus" gives more details of the Scout Group's activities and I would be happy to supply a copy to anyone who is interested.

Martin Rogers
Assistant Group Scout Leader

The Russians were back!

Seldom does any Methodist church resonate to the thrilling polyphony of music from the Russian Orthodox tradition. And seldom does a visiting choir receive a standing ovation, which is what happened at our church on 13 November, at the end of the concert by the Voskreseniye Choir.

Before the interval, the audience of almost 100 were treated to a feast of uplifting sacred music. The selection of folk songs in the second half covered a range of emotions from tender passion to robust good humour, including the well-known Volga Boatmen's

Song and a version of Burn's "Ae Fond Kiss" arranged for the choir by John McIntosh.

The repertoire admirably showcased the talents of this accomplished group, the basso profundo unsurprisingly proving an audience favourite, and a young tenor newcomer also displaying an amazing vocal range.

Grateful thanks to all those who worked tirelessly to attract an audience, "feed and water" choir and audience, and ensure everything ran smoothly on the night

You will find a longer report, with pictures, on our church websites.

Fair Trade – Job done?

by Sue Hamilton, Traidcraft Local Key Contact

Fair Trade has come a long way in thirty years. From being the preserve of a few dedicated individuals, Fair Trade products are now on sale everywhere, and Fair Trade sales in the UK reached £1.3 billion in 2011!

So, with Fair Trade sugar, coffee, tea, bananas and chocolate on every supermarket shelf, we might ask “Is the job done?”

Well, no. In reality, the job has only just begun. Traidcraft was established in 1979 as a Christian response to poverty. However, millions of people still live in absolute poverty. As Traidcraft says: “While people live in poverty, our job is not done.”

Having sown the seeds of Fair Trade in the minds of consumers and in the board rooms of big corporations, Traidcraft says this is fair enough.

But Traidcraft aims to be **Better than fair**.

Better than fair because of their long-standing commitment to working with poorer more marginalised producers.

Better than fair because they help to develop sustainable businesses and business communities.

Better than fair because they use their influence to change the rules of trade and make them work for the poor.

More than just ... chocolate

Today, Fair Trade chocolate is freely available and recognised as being of excellent quality, as evidenced by the continuing booming sales of Divine chocolate. However, the cocoa for most Fairtrade chocolate is now sourced from well-established producers such as Kuapo Kokoo in Ghana. Such producers are now weaned off the support that they needed at the beginning, and are thriving as independent entities.

That is why Traidcraft has moved on to support and develop the skills of other small-scale producers and introduced their own new range of chocolate.

They’ve called it ‘More than just chocolate’.

Please try it. **It’s better than fair. It’s more than just.**

Traidcraft goods are available from the stall in the Crush Hall, after the joint service, on the 4th Sunday of most months. Details of any variations are in the Contact diary, the most up-to-date version of which is on the church websites.

Myra Tarr (723989) will be pleased to supply catalogues, give advice, and take orders for specific items.

Music for Christmas

Events involving members from both churches (see the diary pages for details)

Saturday 1 December at 7.30pm:
Scottish Chamber Choir in Handel’s *Messiah*
at Canongate Kirk, Edinburgh.

Saturday 8 December at 3.00pm & 7.30pm:
Dunfermline Choral Union Christmas
Concerts at The Vine, Dunfermline.

Tuesday 11 December at 7.30pm:
Woodmill Singers “Music for Christmas”
at Inverkeithing Parish Church.

Sunday 23 December at 6.00pm:
Our own “Carols by Candlelight” service.

Contact points

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 and St Margaret's Vestry, and by affiliated but independent organisations.

Church activities

Methodist Gift Aid enquiries to
Ron Dempster 01383 721252
ronmary.dempster@tiscali.co.uk

Property matters and letting enquiries to
Martin Rogers 01383 415458
martin.rogers13@talktalk.net

Rosyth Methodist Toddler Group
Elaine Lambert 01383 417071
elaine.lambert1@sky.com

St Margaret's Choir
Myra Tarr 01383 723989
myra@mtarr.co.uk

St Margaret's Gift Aid enquiries to
Marc Tempelhoff 01383 410151
marct@talktalk.net

Sunday School and Sunday Funday
Gwyneth Kirby 01383 624779
gmkirby@hotmail.com

Traidcraft
Myra Tarr 01383 723989
myra@mtarr.co.uk

Wednesday Fellowship
Mary Kidd 01383 872332
cmarykidd@btinternet.com

Organisations meeting in our premises

Brambles Playgroup
Lesley Hynd (play leader)
07758 877284
Bramblesplaygroup@sky.com

John Bates (chair)
jonathan_bates@dell.com

Parahandies Disabled Club
Peter Merckel (secretary)
01383 822940
peter.merckel@yahoo.co.uk

Scout Group

Group Scout Leader
see Martin Rogers 01383 415458
martin.rogers13@talktalk.net

Beaver Scouts
David Sinclair 01383 410255
davidgraeme31@yahoo.co.uk

Cub Scouts
Martin Rogers 01383 415458
martin.rogers13@talktalk.net

Scouts
Alan Connery 01383 731391
alan.connery@virgin.net

Explorer Scouts
Terry O'Neill 01383 842695
terryoneill2003@yahoo.co.uk

Guide Unit

Rainbows
Susan Warren 01383 414355
susarren@aol.com

Brownies
Susan McKelvie 01383 410234
susanmckelvie@aol.com

Guides
Melissa Peel 07850 249911
weepumpkinpeel@aol.com

Please let the Editor know of any changes or additions to this list, preferably by email to editor@rosythmethodist.org.uk

Rosyth on the web

You can view or download this issue, with photos in colour, at <http://tinyurl.com/ch2df7b>.

To our contributors

Thank you to all those who have contributed to this issue.

The help given by Martin Tarr and Stuart Pearson has been invaluable in the production of this edition of Contact. To both, very grateful thanks.