



Chalmers Memorial Church Newsletter
January / February 2011



From the Locum Minister:

We find pleasure in setting short term goals for ourselves and then fulfilling those manageable ambitions. I am not a handyman by inclination or ability but over the years I have learned the pleasure of small things achieved. It gives satisfaction to put up a shelf, assemble a cupboard or fix a bit of fence. I have also learned by experience to be realistic about my own capabilities and only take on things that are within my limited range of skills. I have learned the hard way to distrust the lure of the tool box. I can still blush to think of one or two of my least successful projects.

I had a conversation recently with an elder who had in a good natured way taken on a Bible Reading scheme that he soon realised did not suit him.

It was a plan to cover reading the whole Bible in a year. It was a commitment that might interest another person but it was just too much for him. He decided to give it a miss.

Short term goals should be realistic and accept who we are and what we are capable of, what interests us and what moves us. This same elder I can imagine spends much time on visiting and will be a practical and caring friend to a number of people in the course of his work for the church.

When I was asked to take on the work of locum at Chalmers I accepted because it was a short term commitment that I felt I could fulfil. It gives pleasure to help a Church at a time when it must hold steady and seek a new minister.

I do realise however that the modern church is moving on and there are issues to be addressed and this requires the vision and fresh outlook of someone in touch with the fresh thinking moving the church today. It is a pleasure to achieve short term goals but it is vital to work together on a long term vision for the Church.

Chalmers is a busy and active Church into which a lot of people are setting forth ideas and making things happen. I am deeply impressed by much that is done in worship and pastoral care. I am happy to play my own small part in the unfolding story of Chalmers Church and look forward to the start of a new chapter when the time is right.

Graham Black

INTERIM MODERATOR

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LOCUM MINISTER

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Thanks to all who have contributed to this issue of the Church Newsletter.
The next issue will be available on Sunday 10th April 2011
Articles for this edition should be with me by **Sunday 27th March**
If you would like to E-Mail news you can contact me on: chalmerschurch@btopenworld.com
Or by phone on 819471
Sheila Bulloch

PRAYER DIARY

The Lord is faithful to all his promises and loving towards all he has made. Psalm 145 v13.

Sunday: Father we thank you that you are truly a faithful God. As we look back over 2010 we do thank you for all your blessings in times of rejoicing and during times of sadness and testing. Gracious Lord at the beginning of this New Year please renew us in our faith and inspire us as we fix our hope on You.

Monday: Let us remember the ladies of the Guild meeting on Mondays. Pray that the meetings may be informative and uplifting and that all who come along may be blessed by sharing in a time of fellowship together.

Tuesday: For the Church - Give thanks for the ministry of Mr Black. Ask God to bless the work of the Kirk Session during this time of vacancy. Continue to lift up to God in prayer the members of the Nominating Committee. Pray that they may be very aware of God's leading and guiding in every step that they take.

Wednesday: For our Nation - Pray for all MPs and SMP's in these difficult days of cut-backs that they may be given insight and wisdom to act justly.

EVENING SERVICES

Please note that these continue on the LAST Sunday of each month at 6.15 p.m. until the end of May. They are on Sundays 30th January (Communion), 27th February, 27th March, Easter Sunday 24th April and 29th May.

The Stated Annual Meeting of the Church will be on Sunday 27th March in the Church after the 11am service. This will be followed by a lunch in the Church Hall.

Thursday: Pray for Nicola Bruce and for leaders involved in the work amongst young people in the present time when there are so many attractions other than the Church, remembering that young people are the future Church and we must pray earnestly that they can be reached.

Friday: For friends and neighbours known to us who have been bereaved - for those suffering from health problems - the lonely - the worried - the house bound - families struggling with insurmountable problems - bring them to God - "He is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think" (Ephesians 3.20)

Saturday: So many people around the world we *must* pray for. Follow the news! Floods - disasters - wars - poverty - persecution of Christians - so many! Bring them all before God, asking God to bless all aid agencies working to relieve their suffering and for money and aid raised to be channelled efficiently into the neediest areas.

Praise God for the wonderful gift of prayer, for our freedom to enter His Presence because of what Christ has accomplished, and in His name to worship, thank, ask forgiveness and seek His answers for people and situations that concern us.



The next Candle Coffee Club meeting is on **THURSDAY 17th March**

Meeting at 10a.m in Longniddry Inn. The speaker will be Gladys Robertson followed by a Lunch. All welcome

Sunday School



In the Autumn, our Sunday School children planted some Spring bulbs in front of the Church in memory of Alice Thomson. We are looking forward to seeing the fruits of our labour when they start to flower in the next couple of months!

Although the number of children at the Sunday School are small, we have a dedicated group of teachers who, with your prayers, are trying to encourage more children to come along on Sunday mornings. If you know of any child who would like to come along on a Sunday morning, they would be made most welcome.

Funerals

- On 1st December James Black McCULLOUGH,
24 Links Road, Port Seton
- On 20th December Mrs Georgina Margaret TAYLOR,
12 Elcho Place Port Seton
- On 10th January James Aitchison GORDON,
20 Winton Park Cockenzie
- On 14th January Mrs Mary Louisa DONALD,
162 Northfield, Tranent

Operation Christmas Child - Shoebox Update



Thanks are expressed to everyone who contributed to the Shoebox Appeal, 2010. We collected 100 boxes, with an additional £200 in donations. 10,117 boxes were sent off from the warehouse in December to Belarus. Thank you for your support and start collecting items for this year's appeal. More details nearer the time.

We welcome contributions to the Church Newsletter. Please note however that these may be edited, summarised or omitted by the minister and editor, as circumstances require. Letters of general thanks and acknowledgement for Church flowers will be posted on the notice board in the Church Hall.

Thanks

Mary Clements wishes to thank the members of Chalmers for the beautiful floral arrangement received with much pleasure on her retirement as Flower Convenor.

Thank you to everyone who sent me get well cards and good wishes while in hospital having my hip replacement. Also, thanks to the Church for the beautiful flowers. It was all very much appreciated.
Nanna Naples

Thanks are expressed to everyone for their donations to the various activities over Christmas and Lothian Presbytery's Souper Sunday Project recently. The amounts were collected as follows:

T.E.A.R Fund	£328.80
Christmas Lunch	£100.00
Christmas Card Collection	£188.50
HIV/AIDS Souper Sunday	£162.00



The Chalmers Ramblers Walking Group meet every 2nd Tuesday

and have now begun walking every Friday. If you would like to join them for a walk, please meet outside the Church Hall at 10am. Further details from Addie Johnston (852262). The dates for the walks will be:

25th & 28th January

4th, 8th, 11th, 18th, 22nd & 25th February

4th, 8th, 11, 18th, 22nd & 25th March

1st, 8th, 12th, 15th, 22nd, 26th & 29th April

Welcome Wednesday

After a seasonal break Coffee Time and Chalmers Lunches return in February. Coffee Time meets on 1st Wednesday of the month, next meeting on 2nd Feb 10am – 12noon. Lunches meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month next meeting on 16th Feb 12noon – 2pm. YOU are most welcome at either or both of these in our Church Hall.

Services and Meetings

Sunday

- 10:15 a.m. All-age Family Worship (in Hall)
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship (with Crèche)
6:15 p.m. Evening Worship (monthly)

Monday

- 7:15 p.m. The Guild (Oct - March)

Tuesday

- 10.00 a.m. Chalmers Ramblers Walking Group
(every 2nd Tuesday and every Friday)
7.15 p.m. Prayer Meeting for the Vacancy



Welcome Wednesday

- 10a.m – 12noon Coffee Time (1st)
12-2p.m. Lunches (3rd)
10 - 11a.m. Prayer Time (last)
5:15 p.m. 1st Port Seton Rainbows (Sept. - June)
6:30 p.m. Boys Brigade –
- 7:45p.m. { Anchor boys and Junior Section
{ Company Section (Sept. - June)
8.00p.m. Badminton Group

Thursday

- 5:00 p.m. Rainbows }
6:30 p.m. Brownies } (Sept. - June)

Saturday

- 8.00 – 9.15a.m Prayer Breakfast (last of month)

OUR WORSHIP

**Rev Graham Black our Locum Minister will be preaching at the
11am services unless otherwise indicated**

Sunday 30th January

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship - Amanda JOHNSTON
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship - Sacrament of **HOLY COMMUNION** (with Crèche)
6.15 p.m. Evening Worship followed by a brief celebration of **HOLY COMMUNION**.
Rev John KNOX

Sunday 6th February

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship - Tom GORDON
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship

Sunday 13th February

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship - Ian BULLOCH
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship

Sunday 20th February

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship - Joyce BUCHANAN
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship

Sunday 27th February

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship - Tom GORDON
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship
6.15 p.m. Evening Worship - Ian BULLOCH

Sunday 6th March

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship - Anne SUTHERLAND
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship

Sunday 13th March (1st in LENT)

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship - Nicola BRUCE
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship

Sunday 20th March (2nd in LENT)

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship - David COOPER
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship

Sunday 27th March (3rd in LENT)

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship - Amanda JOHNSTON
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship
Followed by **The Stated Annual Meeting & Lunch**
6.15 p.m. Evening Worship - Duncan MORGAN

Sunday 3rd April (Mothering Sunday) (4th in LENT)

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship - Tom GORDON
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship

Sunday 10th April (5th in LENT)

- 10.15 a.m. All-Age Worship - Ian BULLOCH
11.00 a.m. Traditional Worship

LOCUM MINISTER

Rev. Graham Black
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TREASURER

Mrs Janet Farquhar
Tel: 811863

FLOWER CONVENER

Mrs Aileen Parker
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SESSION CLERK

Mr John Murdoch
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ACCESS to the HALL contact

Mr Tom Donaldson
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ORGANIST

Mrs Pamela Zenati
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HALL LETS

Mr Ian Bulloch
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BEADLE

Mr Duncan Morgan
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PRAYER SECRETARY

Mrs Alice Hood
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Please recycle this newsletter and care for the earth as God intended

SC004630 Cockenzie and Port Seton: Chalmers Memorial Parish Church 'Scottish Charity'.