

Rosyth
Methodist Church

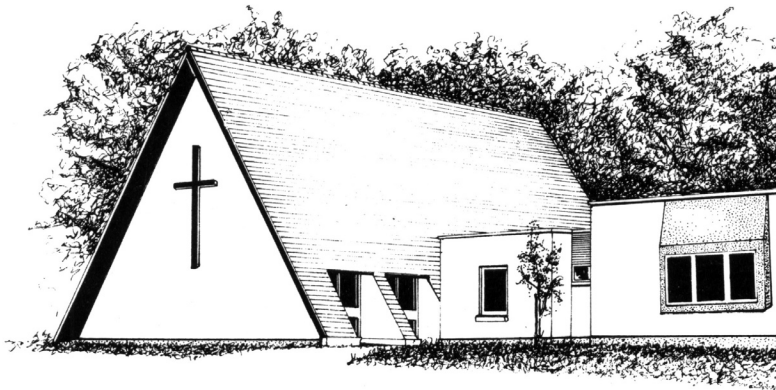
St Margaret's Scottish
Episcopal Church



Contact

the newsletter of the partnership between

Rosyth Methodist Church and
St Margaret's Scottish Episcopal Church



Issue 64

September/November 2012

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

Rev Andrew Letby 0131 663 1545

Senior Steward:

Mary Kidd 01383 872332

Pastoral Secretary:

Gwyneth Kirby 01383 624779

Treasurer:

Howard Kirby 01383 624779

Honorary 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 Episcopalians 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”

11.00am All-age service

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. Or come by public transport: the Church is on several bus routes, and less than five minutes walk away from Rosyth railway station.

From the Editor

Greetings to all Contact Readers everywhere

John Keats wrote of Autumn as it being a "Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness". Later in his poem he asks, "Where are the songs of Spring? Ay, where are they?", countering the question by answering, "Think not of them, thou hast thy music too ..."

And so it is, Spring and Summer have passed, giving a wide variety of joys and pleasures. We will forget the rain, and the cloudy days and remember the sunshine, the holiday experiences, and of course, the sport that we have enjoyed so much. The Olympic games, the Paralympics and recently, the tennis. All have brought richness to lives.

What does Keats mean when he says that "Autumn has its music too"? There will be variety in the welcomed attributes of Autumn. The memories of coal fires and toasting forks, rich stews, and steamed puddings, the amazing displays of produce and the distinctive smell of the Harvest Festival, et cetera. Bonfires, walk in the woods over crunching leaves. The beauty seen in the rustic leaves when they are

highlighted by the fading sun; cosy family evenings and Board games, and so much more.

Many people use this time of year to continue hobbies and sometimes start new ones. It is a time of new starts for many. For children starting school, and for those who have left school to take their place in the working world. Some will go on to college for further study. The doors of opportunity are wide.

It is a time for reflection. Where are we going? What do we want to achieve during the coming month? Do we really want to live out the words we speak when we say the 'Lords Prayer'? 'Thy Kingdom come on earth, as it is in Heaven.' To help to make that a reality is a 'big ask'. The concept becomes more manageable only when we take on board the other sentiments in the prayer. It is sometimes good to remember that 'Life is One Day repeated' and that each day is of great value.

May God guide us as we grasp the opportunities that are ours this Autumn.

JyM

The Church

The Church is a place of Peace, of calm, and of security.

It is a place where all people can feel 'At Home'.

It is a place where everyone can find Love,

Understanding and Strength from God the Father through Jesus.

A place to leave in the power of His Spirit to live through whatever the next days may bring.

The Church building is a centre for the work of the Church.

The Church as a body of people is the 'army of God'

involved in all aspects of life as ambassadors of God in all places.

His Love should be seen by the way that the ordinary activities

of life are addressed, and by giving reason for Faith when

opportunity presents, as well as by the way that love, integrity, fairness and social conscience are shown.

A visit to Israel

Anna Wareing went on a visit to Israel which was organised between the Amos Trust and the Methodist Children and Youth Department. She writes about her experience.

I have never been so glad that I jumped at the opportunity of going on a trip in my life. Going to Palestine/ Israel was so immensely eye opening, heart breaking and inspiring. For me the most powerful memories are those where we talked to people, young and old, who in amongst utter disaster and injustice were talking so passionately about the positives and ways in which they work for peace. For example, we visited a theatre group, run by an outstanding lady whose key aims are to bring social change and the empowerment of young people by use of music, drama, dance, life and colour.

We went to non-violence training where The Holy Land Trust works in political and social ways without violence to achieve their goals. They demonstrate, go against social strategies, sing, dance and use political interference instead of fighting. We also visited an incredible place called Tent of Nations. Here, one family's land is under threat of demolition and in response to this they do not run away, they stay and seek to build bridges of understanding, reconciliation and peace. They facilitate

conversations between young people living in conflict and help prepare young people for a good future and teach them about true belonging to their country. They want to help the young people of today gain principles of understanding and tolerance.

After coming home, all I think about is the strength, courage and passion of these people who I will remember for the rest of my life. They believe peace can come from faith, hope and love and that we should never give up hope. They are the most outstanding people I know. I think if I was living in their situation I would have ran away out of fear, anger and sadness. Yet these wonderful and inspirational people stay strong and work against the horrendous amount of injustice in creative and highly positive ways. I cannot begin to imagine how it must feel to not be able to walk wherever you please, not be able to drink and use water whenever you need to or not be allowed to create a home wherever you want. I think to live in a place where this is the case and yet to be as strong and proactive as they are deserves all the respect in the world.

St Teresa of Avila describes what it means
to be part of the 'Army of God':

Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands but yours,
No feet but yours,
Only through your hands
 can Christ reach out to the world
Only on your feet
 can Christ walk about to do God's good.
Only through your eyes
 can Christ's compassion look out on the world,
Yours are the hands,
 Yours are the feet
 Yours are the eyes,
You are Christ's Body.
Christ has no body in this world but yours.

Haiti Help News

In 2009, three nurses from Fife, Carole Hatten, Lou Davidson and Elaine Stark, volunteered to go to La Gonâve in Haiti to immunise children. Although they were expecting to see poverty, they were shocked at the deprived conditions, particularly in the local children's home. They formed 'Haiti Help' to try to raise enough money to make a difference!

'Haiti Help' is pleased to be working with Okipe, a non-profit co-operative which co-ordinates the efforts of charities working together to improve conditions for the children. Okipe is facilitating the building of a 'Children's Village' to feed, educate and care for 80 children initially and for 150 children in the longer term.

In March this year the nurses made their fourth visit to La Gonâve. The children's home now cares for 75 children, though conditions there are still poor. In the Wednesday Fellowship here, and within the church, we have been interested in the development of the project and as well as giving money, we collected new clothing for the children which the nurses were able to take out within their luggage allowance. This year they were able to leave money to renew the mosquito netting on the windows and to buy a bed and bedding. Shoes are also a necessity. Each year Lou comes to give us an excellent update with a PowerPoint presentation; we hope she is able to come and see us later in the year.

Another way of fundraising locally is through the sale of books, hard-back and paperbacks in good condition. There is a point of sale in the Surgery at Charlestown where Lou works. If you have any books you wish to 'pass on', please let me know.

May I renew my thanks for all your help, gifts and prayers in the past, and my hope that you will continue to support this good work in this tragedy-struck country.

Mary Kidd

Gwennap Pit, a special place

Dorothy Wilson makes regular trips to Cornwall to stay with her cousins who live in a village between St Ives and Penzance. She arranged to go from 19 June to 10 July, and then made the discovery that during that time our Minister, Sarah, was to be received into full membership of the Methodist Diaconal Order. She would be given a blessing and a large Diaconal cross. The Special Service was to be held at the Gwennap Pit which wasn't far from where she was staying. Dorothy decided that she would like to be there, so she spoke to Sarah who offered to get her three tickets. You had to produce tickets to get admitted.

Gwennap Pit is an amphitheatre better known as John Wesley's Amphitheatre. He first went there in 1762 and described it as 'a green hollow'. By the time he was 86 years old he had visited Gwennap Pit 18 times.

A group of Mine Captains remodelled it as a permanent memorial to John Wesley.

On 1 July, Dorothy and her cousins set off to get there in plenty of time for 5.00pm. As they entered they were each given a nice gift bag which contained a bottle of water, a plastic poncho, a box with a Cornish pasty, a scone, a small jar of jam and a pot of Cornish cream. The cream had been provided by Rodda's Creamery, a well-known business in that area. There was also a plastic bag for the rubbish!

As well as meeting up with Sarah and her husband Archie, Dorothy had a chat with our previous Minister Deborah and her husband John.

Unfortunately, just as the Communion Service started, the rain came on so the ponchos were put to good use.

Dorothy said that it was a great experience, and she will remember it in years to come.

For your diary

Coming up at Sunday@Six

On **28 October** our service will celebrate Bible Sunday. On **25 November** we plan a service led by one of the house groups from Holy Trinity, following a visit to Hiroshima by Barbara and Peter Hand, and taking the theme of reconciliation and peace.

On **23 December** we will be holding our Christmas Carol Service.

In the **New Year** we hope to have:

- A South American evening, featuring young people from St Paul's and St George's in Edinburgh who have been to Peru this summer
- A Taizé service
- More West Gallery music, with instrumental accompaniment
- Missions to Seafarers

Watch out for more details coming soon, and remember that the Sunday@Six service normally takes place on the 4th Sunday of each month.

Sue Masson

The Church

I think that I shall never see
A Church that's all it ought to be
A Church whose members never stray
Beyond the straight and narrow way
A Church that has no empty pews
Whose Pastor never has the blues
Where all are meek and none is proud
Whose Choir sings well but not too loud
Such Perfect Churches there may be
But none of them are known to me
But still we'll pray and work and plan
To make our Church the Best we can.

The Russians are back!

At their concert last November, the eight singers from the St Petersburg Music Conservatoire who form the Voskresenje Choir entertained and inspired a packed church with an evening of Russian sacred and folk music.



We're delighted that a visit to Rosyth has been included in their 6th UK tour, and that musical director Jurij Maruk will lead the ensemble on **Tuesday 13 November** at 7.30pm at Rosyth Methodist Church.

The programme will follow a similar format to last year's, but with mostly new music. So you can expect some more inspirational and moving works from the Russian sacred music repertoire, and a complete contrast in the second half, with a selection of spectacular Russian folk songs.

Tickets are £9 (£7 concessions/£1 for schoolchildren), and we strongly recommend booking in advance by emailing tickets@rosythmethodist.org.uk or phoning or texting 07772 241560.

One minute, please

What did Jesus say?

“Love your neighbour as yourself.”

Matthew 22:39

Diary for September/October 2012

Sunday 23 September

Harvest 11.00am Joint Family Communion Service
Rev Dr Marion Keston
Deacon Sarah McDowall (Worship Leader)
Traidcraft goods on sale after the service
1.00pm Bring-and-share Harvest lunch
Note: No Sunday@Six

Wednesday 26 Sep 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship:
Return visit of the Dunfermline Street Pastors

Friday 28 Sep 7.00pm Choir Practice

Saturday 29 Sep **Note:** Our plan for "A day in Thessalonica and Rosyth"
has been postponed

Sunday 30 September

Pentecost 18 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Ross Kennedy
11.00am Morning Service Rev Geoffrey Baines

6.30pm Area Council Service, St Columba's, Aberdour
Evening Prayer: preacher Rev Tim Tunley
(Mission to Seafarers) All are welcome to attend

Monday 1 Oct 7.30pm Ecumenical study group,
St Columba's Church, Torridon Lane

Tuesday 2 Oct 7.30pm Pastoral Visitors meeting (venue to be confirmed)

Wednesday 3 Oct 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship:
Guest speaker – Bob Liddle

Friday 5 Oct 7.00pm Choir Practice

Saturday 6 Oct Worship Leaders invitation to join in
residential training weekend
Tulliallan Police College, Kincardine

Saturday 6 Oct 10.00am Casting the Net Gathering 2012
to 4.00pm Holy Trinity, Stirling
For details see notice in Crush Hall

Sunday 7 October

Pentecost 19 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Ross Kennedy
11.00am Morning Worship Dr Anne Pennington
Evelyn Kenny (Worship Leader)
3.00pm Film Club: "Pay it Forward", in the Church
All are welcome

Diary for October 2012

Sunday 7 October 6.00pm Special Service conducted by the new Worship Leaders following their training course at Tulliallan Police College

Wednesday 10 Oct 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship:
A visit to Japan – Barbara and Peter Hand

Friday 12 Oct 7.00pm Choir Practice

Sunday 14 October

Pentecost 20 9.30am Sung Eucharist

11.00am Morning Worship Mr Brian Curtis

Note: No Sunday 'Funday' during School Holidays

3.00pm Service at Orchardhead House, Rosyth

Wednesday 15 Oct 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship – Games afternoon

Friday 19 Oct 7.00pm Choir Practice

Sunday 21 October

Pentecost 21 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Ross Kennedy

11.00am Morning Worship Mrs Hilary Henderson

David Salthouse (Worship Leader)

Monday 22 Oct 7.00pm Property Committee Meeting

Wednesday 24 Oct 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship
The Diamond Jubilee – Evelyn Kenny

Thursday 25 Oct 7.30pm Bible Study Group at the Manse

Friday 26 Oct 7.00pm Choir Practice

Saturday 27 Oct 10.00am Autumn Conference: 'Ecumenism in an Age of Change'
till 3.15pm held jointly by ACTS and the Church of Scotland
Committee on Ecumenical Relations and aimed at
people involved in local ecumenism.

Augustine United Church, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh
For details see notice in Crush Hall

7.30pm Prom Praise led by All Souls Orchestra,
conductor Noel Tredinnick
Usher Hall, Edinburgh. Tickets £16, £10, U16s half price

Diary for October/November 2012

Sunday 28 October

Pentecost 22 11.00am Joint Communion Service Rev Andrew Letby
Deacon Sarah MacDowall (Worship Leader)
Traidcraft goods on sale after the service
6.00pm Sunday@Six for Bible Sunday

Wednesday 31 Oct 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship: Hallowe'en
Bring and Buy Stall

Friday 2 Nov 7.00pm Choir Practice

Sunday 4 November

Pentecost 23 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Ross Kennedy
11.00am Morning Worship Mr Laurence Wareing
David Salthouse (Worship Leader)

Monday 5 Nov 7.30pm Ecumenical study group,
St Columba's Church, Torridon Lane

Wednesday 7 Nov 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship: St Margaret: Guest speaker –
Mary Welsh, Curator of Dunfermline Abbey

Thursday 8 Nov 7.30pm Bible Study Group at the Manse

Friday 9 Nov 7.00pm Choir Practice

Sunday 11 November

Remembrance 9.00am 'Sunday Funday' and Breakfast
9.15am Sung Eucharist Rev Ross Kennedy
10.50am Morning Worship Professor John Sawkins
Evelyn Kenny (Worship Leader)
3.00pm Service at Orchardhead House, Rosyth

Tuesday 13 Nov 7.30pm The Russians are Back!
Voskresenije Choir Concert (see page 6)

Wednesday 14 Nov 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship
Remembrance – 'Past Times' Memory Box

Thursday 15 Nov 6.15pm St Margaret's Annual General Meeting
of the congregation

7.30pm Sung Eucharist on Eve of St Margaret
Rev Ross Kennedy

Thursday 15 Nov 7.30pm Bible Study Group at the Manse

Diary for November/December 2012

Friday 16 Nov 7.00pm Choir Practice

Sunday 18 November

Pentecost 25 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Ross Kennedy
11.00am Morning Worship Rev Geoffrey Baines
Deacon Sarah MacDowall (Worship Leader)

Wednesday 21 Nov 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship – A Musical Quiz

Thursday 22 Nov 7.30pm Bible Study Group at the Manse

Friday 23 Nov 7.00pm Choir Practice

Saturday 24 Nov CTNLO Networking Day

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 on the theme of reconciliation
and peace (see page 6)

Wednesday 28 Nov 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship – Haiti Update (to be confirmed)

Friday 30 Nov 7.00pm Choir Practice

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

Tuesday 4 Dec 7.00pm Launch of the Community Nativity Scene in the grounds
of Rosyth Parish Church, Queensferry Road

For your diary

Area Council Annual Service

Both church families are invited to join members of the St Andrews West Area Council at their annual service which takes place this year in St Columba's Episcopal Church, Aberdour on **Sunday 30 September** at 7.00pm. This will take the form of an evening service led by Canon Val Nellist.

The preacher will be the Rev Tim Tunley, Missions to Seafarers, who is based at Grangemouth. Tim is developing ministry to the cruise ship crews that call in Rosyth and possibly tanker crews at the Braefoot terminal and is keen to involve local churches.

Refreshments will be served afterwards.

RSCM Singing Day

Choirs and individual singers from throughout Central Scotland will be taking part in the RSCM Singing Day, being held this year in Dunblane Cathedral on **Saturday 3 November** from 2.00pm to 6.00pm.

Gordon Appleton will direct an afternoon of music-making in the wonderful surroundings of the Cathedral. The music will be learnt on the day and performed during a short service starting at 5.00pm.

St Margaret's choir and friends participated last year and found the event both beneficial and enjoyable, so we plan to take part again this year. There is no charge but a collection is taken on the day to cover expenses.

Anyone interested is invited to come along. Please talk to Myra Tarr (01383 723989).

Joint Worship in November

We are delighted that the Most Reverend David Chillingworth, Bishop of St Andrews (and Primus of the SEC), and the Rev Lily Twist, Chair of the Scottish District Synod, will both be with us at our joint service at 11:00am on **Sunday 25 November**.

Although neither is a stranger to Rosyth, this is the first time that the two leaders of our respective churches will have participated together, which further strengthens our Local Ecumenical Partnership.

The service will be followed by a bring-and-share lunch, when the congregation will get a chance to talk to our guests.

Do try to attend this special occasion, and watch the notice boards for further details.

St Margaret's AGM

Vestry have decided to hold this year's Annual General Meeting of the Congregation during the week in order to enable Fr Ross to chair the proceedings.

The AGM will be on the Eve of St Margaret's Day, **Thursday 15 November** at 6.15pm in the Church Lounge. The meeting will last an hour and Fr Ross will then celebrate the Eucharist for St Margaret at 7.30pm.

Please make a note of this date in your diary now, and join us for this important event. Our Methodist friends are cordially invited to attend the service as we honour our Patron Saint.

From Church family members

It is good to hear from members of the Church family.

Mrs Iris Lines writes:

“Thank you for the Church flowers. It was a very kind thought, and much appreciated.”

Thelma and David Couch also share their pleasure in receiving flowers.

They write:

“We wish to thank all those friends who organised and produced those beautiful flower arrangements and the cake which was shared out over tea and coffee on the Sunday we celebrated our sixty years of marriage, a few weeks ago. We had so many good wishes.

“The day continued when we met our somewhat very large family who travelled from various locations in Britain and also Holland and Germany, also many of our friends country wide and locally. We all assembled at the Garvock House Hotel for the remainder of the day.

“We were overwhelmed with so many good wishes and surprises which arrived many days before, and after that Sunday, that we will never forget.

“We must however never forget the many blessings that are bestowed on us every day by our loving Creator that has allowed us to live and reach thus far.

“Great hymns such as ‘How Great Thou Art’, ‘Guide me, O Thou Great Jehovah’ and ‘Love Divine, all loves excelling’ mean so much to us and hopefully to so many others.”

The Buzzard, the Bat, and the Bumblebee

The Buzzard

If you put a buzzard in a pen that is 6 feet by 8 feet and is entirely open at the top, the bird, in spite of its ability to fly, will be an absolute prisoner. The reason is that a buzzard always begins a flight from the ground with a run of 10 to 12 feet. Without space to run, as is its habit, it will not even attempt to fly, but will remain a prisoner for life in a small jail with no top.

The Bat

The ordinary bat that flies around at night, a remarkable nimble creature in the air, cannot take off from a level place. If it is placed on the floor or flat ground, all it can do is shuffle about helplessly and, no doubt, painfully, until it reaches some slight elevation from which it can throw itself into the air. Then, at once, it takes off like a flash.

The Bumblebee

A bumblebee, if dropped into an open tumbler, will be there until it dies, unless it is taken out. It never sees the means of escape at the top, but persists in trying to find some way out through the sides near the bottom. It will seek a way where none exists, until it completely destroys itself.

People

In many ways, we are like the buzzard, the bat, and the bumblebee. We struggle about with all our problems and frustrations, never realizing that all we have to do is look up! That’s the answer, the escape route and the solution to any problem ... just look up!

Sorrow looks back, worry looks around, but faith looks up!

Live simply, love generously, care deeply, speak kindly, and trust in our Creator, who loves us.

Email shared by Pierre de Bruyn

Torchbearers for Christ

One of the functions of the committee that plan the games is to choose the individuals who will carry the Olympic Torch, the 'torchbearers'.

Individuals chosen to carry the torch are people of accomplishment. They are individuals that the host country is proud to show off. Torchbearers are people that others would want to emulate, they are role models. It is a great honour to be chosen to carry the Olympic Torch.

As Christians, we are called to be torchbearers. A torchbearer is a person who leads or inspires. We are to carry the torch which, according to the Oxford Dictionary, is something that is lit for illumination. Jesus is the light of the world and we are to carry Him wherever we go. As His children, we are to shine so that those who do not know Him may come to know Him.

The Bible says: "This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all" (1 John 1:5), and "That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world" (Philippians 2:15).

After the resurrection, Jesus met with the eleven disciples and said to them "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15). This great commission was not only for the disciples but for all of us. It is for everyone who would confess Jesus as Lord and Saviour. We have a mandate to go and preach the Gospel, the Good News of Jesus Christ in every nation of the world. We should be proud carriers of the torch and like Paul we should be quick to declare "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek" (Romans 1:16).

Like the Olympic torchbearers, we are also called to pass the torch. It is incumbent upon us as Christians to pass the torch from generation to generation. It is the duty of parents, Christian teachers, pastors, missionaries and all who call themselves Christians to ensure that the torch is passed on. Today, we hear stories of how people came to know and serve the Lord. For many, it was the godly influence of their parents, Sunday school teachers, pastors or friends that drew them to the Lord.

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 5:16). Just as the Olympic flame is lit and everyone can see it, so should it be with us. The Bible says "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid" (Matthew 5:14). People ought to look at our life and desire what we have. Christians ought to set the pace for others to follow. May we all take up the torch and carry it proudly and faithfully.

"Torchbearers for Christ" aims at educating, edifying and encouraging Christians. It is our way of fulfilling the great commission. Our prayer is that if you do not know the Lord Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour, as you read the contents of this web site, you will desire to know Him and invite Him into your heart. On the other hand, if you do know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour, we pray that you will be encouraged and challenged to have an even closer walk with Him.

Our sincere prayer is that this website will be a blessing to you.

Seen by Val Bonser in the Ewyas Harold Church Magazine, and adapted from the website at www.torchbearers-for-christ.org

Happy 1st birthday!

Singing the Faith was published a year ago on 14 September. This collection of 840 hymns and songs would take an estimated forty hours to sing from beginning to end!

Peter Brophy, who was Editor-in-Chief, said: "Having completed the editorial tasks for *Singing the Faith* it was first of all a delight to handle the published book – all those scraps of paper, urgent emails and even more urgent phone calls now transformed into a hymnbook – a physical testament to the dedicated volunteers who worked for a Biblical seven years to bring it to fruition.

"But it has been even more of a delight to visit Methodist churches from Cornwall to Berwick-on-Tweed and from London to Lancashire during the last twelve months and be handed a copy of 'our new hymnbook' by the steward at the entrance, and then to join in worship, whether traditional or modern, using what I truly believe is a precious resource given to us by God."

"This beautifully presented hymn book is transforming worship through the sheer diversity of the hymns and songs contained within its pages," said the Rev Dr Mark Wakelin, President of the Methodist Conference. "*Singing the Faith* is the one hymn and song book you have to have."

The Rev Barbara Bircumshaw, Chair of the Music Resources Group which was responsible for producing the collection, said: "I am thrilled by the success of *Singing the Faith*. It's great that it is being widely used by congregations around the Connexion – more than I ever dreamed possible. And it's very humbling to have played a part in bringing *Singing the Faith* to birth! I pray that it will be a valuable tool for worship and witness, for glorifying God and sharing the Gospel in the twenty-first century."



The Rev Dr Mark Wakelin and Michael King, celebrate the first birthday of *Singing the Faith*

Michael King, Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, said: "As with all good worship resources, *Singing the Faith* is an enriching and exciting mixture of old and new. There are significant international offerings and it is rooted both in sound theology and the needs of the present age."

The Rev Dr Martyn Atkins, General Secretary of the Methodist Church and Secretary of Conference said: "God has not given up bestowing upon us gifts of creativity, poetry and tune, rhyme and rhythm, song and harmony, profundity and poignancy, joy, insight, beauty and truth. *Singing the Faith* makes this plain, capturing all these gifts and more, and offering a rich and varied diet to God's diverse people today."

To date, nearly 98,000 copies have been sold, and you'll find some of those in use at our church by both halves of the partnership. It will be even more popular with our organists once we receive the special organ edition, and they have something that will stay on the music stand!

If you would like to own your own copy, and it's really good to have for private study, discounts are available until 14 December: see <http://tinyurl.com/ctml3ao>.

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

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

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

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

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

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To our contributors

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