

Rosyth
Methodist Church



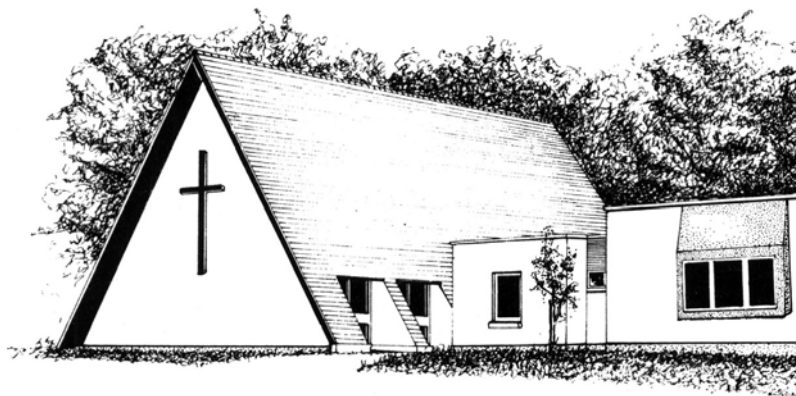
St Margaret's Scottish
Episcopal Church



Contact

the newsletter of the partnership between

Rosyth Methodist Church and
St Margaret's Scottish Episcopal Church



Issue 68
June/July/Aug

Rosyth
Methodist Church
Scottish Charity SC028559

St Margaret's Scottish
Episcopalian 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

Senior Steward (subject to approval at GCM):

David Salthouse 01383 889212

Pastoral Secretary:

Gwyneth Kirby 01383 624779

Church Council Secretary :

Sandra Wilson 01383 415885

Treasurer:

Howard Kirby 01383 624779

Interim Rector:

Very Rev Jim Mein 01506 834317

Honorary Priest (until 30th June):

Rev Ross Kennedy 01383 625887

Trainee Lay Reader:

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)

11.99am 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 2JY, 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.

On the web: you will find us at the following joined-up websites:

www.rosythmethodist.org.uk

www.stmargaretsrosyth.org.uk

From the Manse

Deacon Sarah shares thoughts of leadership and innovation

It's that time of year again when we look forward to the summer months and (hopefully!) warmer weather and sunshine. For us as a church it's also the time following our annual meeting when we welcome new members to the church leadership team. We say very grateful thanks to Mary Kidd who steps down as senior steward and to Janet Murray who has now completed her term as Church Council secretary. In their place we welcome David Salthouse (subject to approval at the General Church Meeting on 23rd June) and Sandra Wilson respectively.

One of the strengths of Methodism is that we are a movement which values lay involvement. This is of course most obvious through the many local preachers who so diligently lead our worship week by week but perhaps less obvious is the way in which in Methodism leadership is shared between the lay and ordained. We are very fortunate in Rosyth to have a leadership team, which comprises the stewards, the pastoral secretary and the ministers, who so faithfully seek to discern God's will as we move forward as a church. Much of the work which takes place is often unseen but hopefully not unvalued for without our leadership team, together with our pastoral visitors, those who look after our property, finance and everyone else who contributes in any way to all that we do as a church we simply could not function in the way that we do.

Sometimes it can be quite stressful holding leadership positions in a church and perhaps we often forget to say thank you to those who do so much work on our behalf so please join with me in thanking all of those mentioned and if you get the chance why not thank them personally too?

I will let you into a secret. We don't always agree within the leadership on what should be done in particular situations but I can promise you that we do always try to listen to what God might be saying to us. Of course we might not always get it right but that is all part of being human! So, if you have any suggestions that you would like help with in seeing come to fruition please do bring your ideas to one of the stewards or myself, so that together, we can try to make God's church stronger. If possible, try to have a word with us personally as we all know from experience how an email might not always properly express what we are trying to say!

Over the last two years we have introduced a number of new initiatives in terms of bible study groups, a special service for those who find Christmas difficult, the Sunday afternoon films, training for our pastoral visitors, the story telling day, our summer barbecue and we have strengthened some of our links to the community through baptisms, funerals and other events. Some of these have of course been more successful than others but all are important to those participating..

From the Manse (cont)

In common with most other churches we are trying to become a church which is relevant to today's world and to those who only have a very loose connection with the church as well as those of us for whom the church is such a major part of our lives. That is not always easy and all of us will have to give and take as we welcome others who may not be as used to the way we do things in church as we are. Please be patient and understanding as together we seek to share God's love not

only with each other but with all those who we come across in our daily lives.

In closing, I am reminded of the words of a hymn which we sing:

"So let us learn how to serve, and in our lives enthrone him; each other's needs to prefer, for it is Christ we are serving"

Let us make that our prayer as a church together.

Love and God Bless

Deacon Sarah

From Fr Ross

Dear Friends

When Rev Tim Bennison resigned as Rector of Holy Trinity and St Margaret's I spoke to Bishop David offering to ensure a continuity of ministry by leading the worship and providing pastoral care for an initial period of three months. That I have been able to extend this to nearly a year has been a source of satisfaction for me. Many of you, however, will be aware that during this time I have had to cope with issues concerning both my own health and that of members of my family.

I had hoped to continue until a new rector was in place but given the probability that such an event may not take place for some time I have had to accept that I simply no longer possess the necessary physical or mental resources to make such an open ended commitment. Bishop David and our Interim Rector, Very Rev Jim Mein

have kindly agreed that I relinquish my current responsibilities at the end of June.

We have been very fortunate in the appointment of Jim as our Interim Rector and I have greatly enjoyed working with him and will continue to support him in any way I can such as by providing pastoral cover when he has to be elsewhere.

Finally let me say what a great privilege it has been for me to serve our two churches over the past year and I am so grateful for the support the members of both congregations have given me. The fact that the attendance has not declined (as often happens during a vacancy) but has actually recorded a small increase has been a source of immense encouragement to my ministry.

God bless.

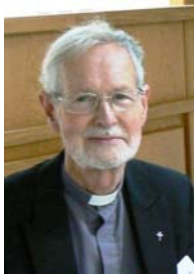
Ross

In memory of Malcolm Trew

We were all very saddened to hear of the sudden death at his home of our former minister, Rev Malcolm Trew. As his friend, neighbour and confidante, carer and chauffeuse, I have been asked to 'say a few words' about him, for inclusion of this new edition of 'Contact'. But what can anyone say about Malcolm that hasn't been said already?

He was in the middle of writing his life story, and clearly wanted to do a lot more living in order to complete it. Highlights of his life and celebrating 50 years of Methodist ministry and 50 years of marriage to Frieda, are to be found in Issue number 59, still available at our website. Those who attended the Service of Thanksgiving for his life were able to capture something of the essence of this remarkable man.

I have received many personal tributes and expressions of sympathy, and great support from my own family who loved him and were prepared to let him beat them at chess and draughts, even the young ones playing football on his lawn (They will never forget that on one occasion he actually saved my life during the first year he lived next door!) and from you, dear readers, the church family who has supported me during these first lonely weeks. One of the moving tributes I received was from a former member of our church who said: 'Malcolm was



a real genuine friend who never forgot he was Minister to his congregation. You could disagree with Malcolm and whilst your views were not his, none-the-less, he respected your point of view. He was loyal to all and treated people as if they were of value. All who knew him will sorely miss him'.

The Service of Thanksgiving was a truly memorable occasion. But such an event required planning and preparation and so I would like to express my own thanks to everyone who was involved, from both congregations of our LEP, and Kirkcaldy Methodist Church. We are indebted to Malcolm for laying the foundations for our LEP by inviting St Margaret's to worship at Rosyth after the closure of the Naval Base in 1996. In his last years he felt equally at home surrounded by the warmth and welcome and worship at St Margaret's where Holy Communion was central to worship, as he did with his beloved Methodist family.

Mary Kidd

Donations in Malcolm's memory

A total of £833.69 was donated after the funeral/thanksgiving services. At his and the family's wishes this was shared between Christian Aid, MRDF, the World Mission Fund and Action for Children. Nearly 25% more will be reclaimed under the new GA Small Donations Scheme Howard Kirby

Fellowship News

A big Thank You...

...to Fr Ross. (see his letter on page 4). We appreciate your spiritual and pastoral care to us, especially to our members who are unable to worship with us regularly, in helping us through a difficult period in our church life. You are very dear to us and we remember you with gratitude in our thoughts and prayers.

Welcome

On Sunday 9 June, **Valerie Leslie's** newest grandchild, Jessica Grace Mei Li Leslie, will be baptised at the 9.30am Eucharist. Jessica's parents, Paul and Emma who were married at Holy Trinity, Dunfermline on 10.10.10, currently live in Doha Qatar, where Jessica was born on 29 January. They are delighted to bring her 'home' to Scotland to meet friends and family at her baptism. Joining the regular St Margaret's congregation and some of our Methodist friends, will be about 40 guests. Jessica's Godfather is from Holland, there will be an aunt coming from Jersey, friends from Switzerland and family coming from England. Jessica's Ah Poh (Grandma in Chinese), called Mary, is from Malaysia and Granddad Leech is from Halifax so there is a real international flavour! We warmly welcome all the visitors to our church that day and remember the family in our prayers at this joyful occasion.

Laid aside

Our commiserations go to **Gwyneth Manley**, who having had a hip operation a few months ago fell recently and is in hospital having

damaged her other hip. Gwyneth is making good progress after this latest operation.

Our thoughts, love and prayers are with **Eve and Julie Denning** and their family on the sad loss of John, a loving son and brother.

Ruby Lucas is improving slowly after her operation, so please keep Ruby and her husband Alan in your prayers

Wednesday Fellowship

It's hard to believe that our 4th year as the Wednesday Fellowship has just ended.

We began the year in September with a devotional afternoon led by our minister, Deacon Sarah McDowall. After the dedication we took part in a Love Feast. We shared refreshments, and each answered a short questionnaire that asked:

- How did we each become a member of this Fellowship group?
- What do we find most helpful about being a part of this group?
- What is your hope/prayer for the future of this Fellowship?

From the varied answers we received, it became clear we all find fellowship and friendship within this group, and we hope and pray that it will go from strength to strength as part of the work of God's Kingdom here in this place. The autumn and spring sessions have certainly helped us in our way to fulfilling that hope. The Fellowship has enabled us to be the person God wants us to be, to share the Gospel and to love our neighbours. Re-

cently we re-learned how to pray and what it means to pray, how easy it can be to pray, and how to share prayers.

We began the year with 22 members and an average weekly attendance of 18. We now have only 3 Honorary Members: Frieda Trew, Audrie Pollard and Allison Brown. Sadly we lost May Hopper and Iris Lines who had both been long-serving loyal members of our Women's Own. Iris had taken on the ministry of sending cards and messages to members, especially on birthdays. We remember Malcolm who died quite recently. After a lifetime of Methodism and ministry, how fitting it was that his last celebration of Holy Communion was here with us during Holy Week. At the time it meant so very much to him.

Our new recruit is Roy Jarvis who we have welcomed into our midst. It seems he, too, enjoys our fellowship because he keeps coming back!

We all agreed that we've had some very interesting afternoons during the year; there's always been something to look forward to. Highlights were stamp collecting, tea drinking, local history, and celebrating Ethel's 100th birthday, and our continuing involvement with Haiti Help. As in past years members have been very generous in your giving so that we've been able to support our chosen charities, as well as giving to the church at Christmas and Anniversary time. We gave to Haiti Help, Dunfermline Street Pastors, the Macular Disease Society and the Church Flower Fund.

I expressed my personal thanks, to our Vice President, Sandra Young, and our Treasurer,

Mary Dempster for all their sterling work, especially during the autumn when I was ill for several weeks. We also thanked Erica and Lesley for serving up our refreshments each week, and those who provided transport to our less mobile members.

At the Christmas lunch we said farewell and thank you to Allison Brown who has been our pianist since the Fellowship began. She is now an Honorary Member who we hope will keep in touch and come to see us from time to time.

By the time you read this we will have enjoyed our end-of-term celebration lunch at The Elgin Hotel in Charlestown, and will be looking forward to the long hot summer! At the time of writing I'm not sure which day that will be!

We meet again on September 4th. Hope to see YOU there!

Mary Kidd

Funds raised by the Fellowship

As usual at our AGM in May we decided which Charities we would support. The amount for allocating was £470 which was divided as follows: £200 to the Church Funds (the same amount was given to the Church at Christmas Time 2012). £90 to Dunfermline Street Pastors; £90 to Haiti Help; and £90 to Paget's Disease. The Fellowship members are always so generous in their giving and always ready to help in any way they can; for instance they brought items for the Foodbank last Autumn and also gave items for the Samaritan's Purse.

Mary Dempster

Report on the Diocesan Synod

9 March 2013 at St Ninian's Cathedral Perth

The synod began with the Eucharist in the Cathedral, Bishop David, the Dean and Provost presiding.

As it was my first time at Synod I was pleased to find that the synod itself was to be held in the cathedral with the tables arranged in what the bishop called the 'cocktail style'. This made for a very comfortable and friendly atmosphere. except for the cold.

Bishop David addressed the synod by giving thanks for another year of faithful ministry and life in the congregation of our diocese. He introduced the new clergy who have recently begun their ministry. These are the Rev Thomas Brauer (Central Fife), Rev David Mackenzie Mills (St Paul's, Kinross), Rev Nick Green (St Mary's, Dunblane), Rev Christine Fraser (St Peter's, Kirkcaldy). He also announced that a new rector will soon be appointed to St Andrew's, St Andrews.

Reports were delivered; these can be perused by vestry and congregation. Synod voted unanimously to make changes to Canons 50 and 53 .

Bishop David introduced the format of the afternoon session as 'Holy Conversations' and explained that we would move with our group from one topic to the next. There were three topics, all with a 'Casting the Net' theme.

During lunch, which was served in the Chapter House, there was a slide show of photographs taken of the recent trip to Calcutta made by some members of the Diocese. The Rev Canon

Val Nellist and Rev Canon Dom Ind had given an excellent report re this before lunch and it was good to see some pictorial evidence of the trip which had sounded such a success and quite an adventure.

After lunch we went back into the Cathedral to begin the afternoon session. It was very enlightening to hear some of the really innovative ways in which congregations were moving God's mission forward in their communities. Most memorable in my group was Alan Thornton's report on how Aberdour were encouraging more young people into their church by going into the schools and inviting young people to visit the church and try some 'messy church' activities. Alan reports that they are having a "Good Friday Happening" this year. Well done Aberdour! It certainly gave me food for thought. The Provost, Hunter Farquharson, also told us of the visits to the cathedral that school-children in Perth have made recently. Reading the letters they sent to Hunter showed that they enjoyed the experience.

We talked about the need for more inclusive language in our discussion about discipleship. It was suggested that most young people would not know what discipleship meant so congregations might need to be more dynamic and imaginative in how they presented the good news of Jesus Christ to them..

We also discussed aspects of our own journey through faith. And what were our most memorable times in church. I spoke about my time as a chorister and it was agreed that music in worship that was varied and exciting enhanced the life of the church. I was particularly pleased to report that St Margaret's used innovative and inclusive ways of bringing people into the church through the use of choral ac-

tivities such as Sunday @Six.

The 'Holy Discussions' seemed to go all too quickly and were immensely interesting and stimulated a lot of fresh new ideas and lively discussion. As it ended we were urged to go on-line to www.foundation21.net, an on line resource for Christian discipleship enabling self-directed learning.

Valerie Leslie

Giving to Others – The Vestry's plan for the year

The St Margaret's Vestry meeting on 28th May decided that we will give to the following charities this year.

Mango Tree This charity, to which we gave substantial support two years ago, provides effective and sustainable programmes in African communities to improve the well-being of orphaned and vulnerable children and nurture them to become self-reliant adults.

Circle This charity helps and supports families affected by imprisonment at HMP Addiewell, HMP Greenock and HMYOI Cornton Vale. It is the first organisation in Scotland to adopt a whole family approach to throughcare support. Remember what Jesus said about being in prison!

Haiti Help We have become quite familiar with this local charity whose work among orphans and elderly people in Haiti (following the major earthquake on the island in 2010) is worthy of further support.

Bethany Christian Trust We last gave to this charity several years ago. It helps homeless and vulnerable peo-

ple to find, equip and maintain homes and to overcome addictions, social and educational barriers.

Rosyth Food Bank Food Bank outlets are increasing across Scotland to help meet the demand. Hence, Rosyth Methodist Church's support has changed from the Highland Food Bank to Dunfermline and now to the foodbank planned for Rosyth (see overleaf). A contribution of money will help to buy stock for distribution to those needy folk referred by doctors/social services.

How do we give? Each year we tithe our income, including that received from HMRC under Gift Aid. Cheques are written near the end of the financial our year (by early September) when we know the income. Last year we gave £1,175 to others, on top of our Retiring Collections (which totalled £459). So, please help this vital work among charities by filling up those Freewill Offering envelopes and Standing Orders. Thank you.

Alan Taylor

Giving to Others – reports and other plans

Christian Aid

Fund-raising activities started with the Afternoon Tea in the Parish Church Hall which raised £201; then the Super Soup Lunch in The Hub Cafe which raised £190 approx. Next was the *Rosyth's got talent* concert which was most enjoyable, given by some of the Primary Schools' Choirs and raised an amazing £626. Thankfully the general public give the committee a lot of support and give generously.

Book Stall

This is a new venture which will involve both church families. The books will be on sale on Sundays after each morning service when there will be either Sandra Young, Valerie Leslie or Mary Dempster around to take your money. Other offers to help would be welcome, so as to form a rota. A crate will be in the Crush Hall for collecting books. We are looking for: Children's Books: Educational Books: Crime Stories: Thrillers: Romance: Travel: and any others that have not been mentioned and in good condition. The money raised will be equally divided between the two churches.

A sale of books outside in the church grounds on a Saturday morning; is also planned, but the date has still to be arranged. As shelter from rain, if anyone has a gazebo or awning and is willing to lend it (and help erect it) we would be very grateful.

Mary Dempster, Sandra Young
and Valerie Leslie

Foodbank start-up in Rosyth

The organisers of the Dunfermline Foodbank are helping to start a branch in Rosyth as people in this area are having to go to Dunfermline for help. The plan is for the Rosyth FoodBank to be held in the Parish Church Hall for three sessions weekly.

There are three main needs:

- VOLUNTEERS to run it: Dunfermline have about 50 on their rota so the same people are not working every week,
- lots of "Bags for Life" for the goods; you can get these in the Supermarkets (everyday bags just split)
- Food. We had planned to start collecting food for the Dunfermline Foodbank in July but instead it will be goods for Rosyth. Items required are: pasta sauce (tin; jar; sachet); pasta/ rice; tinned fruit; tinned tomatoes; biscuits/snacks; tea and coffee. Please put your donations of these items into the box in the Crush Hall.

Please think about the families you would be helping and speak to us to learn more about volunteering.

Ron and Mary Dempster

Samaritan's Purse.

June is the last opportunity to give to this charity. The items required are Face Cloths and Notebooks but any of the other goods that we have been collecting will be very acceptable. Thank you all very much indeed for your support.

Diary for June (cont)/ July 2013

Friday 14 Jun 7.00pm Choir practice

Sunday 16 June

Pentecost 4 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Ross Kennedy
11.00am Morning Worship Dr Deidre Homer

Thursday 20 Jun 7.30pm Bible Study "Great prayers of the Bible", the manse

Friday 21 Jun 7.00pm Choir practice

Note: There will be no regular practices during the summer break.

Sunday 23 June

Pentecost 5 11.00am Joint Communion Service Rev Geoffrey Baines
Deacon Sarah McDowall (Worship Leader)

Extraordinary General Meeting for Methodists
Traidcraft goods on sale after the service

2.00pm Family Afternoon at Silver Sands, Aberdour.
onwards Bring your own drinks, seats, games, Tickets £3
adults, children Free
Do help our catering plans by signing the sheet
in the Crush Hall

Note: No Sunday@Six

Thursday 27 Jun 7.30pm Bible Study "Great prayers of the Bible", the manse

Friday 29 Jun 7.00pm St Andrews West Area Council Annual BBQ
Warroch House, Dalqueish, near Kinross,
home of Nan Kennedy

Sunday 30 June

SS Peter & Paul 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Ross Kennedy
11.00am Morning Worship Rev Eric Potts
Evelyn Kenny (Worship Leader)

Monday 1 Jul 7.30pm Ecumenical Study Group, St Columba's, Torridon
Lane

Sunday 7 July

Pentecost 7 9.30am Sung Eucharist Very Rev Jim Mein

Diary for July (cont)/August 2013

11.00am Morning Worship Mr Ian Paterson
Wednesday 10 Jul 6.00pm Circuit Stewards' meeting at CEMC, Nicolson Square

Sunday 14 July

Sea Sunday 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Gareth Benson
11.00am Morning Worship Dr Anne Pennington
Evelyn Kenny (Worship Leader)
Note: No Sunday Funday during School Holidays
3.00pm Service at Orchardhead House

Sunday 21 July

Pentecost 9 9.30am Sung Eucharist Very Rev Jim Mein
11.00am Morning Worship Mr Will Carroll
David Salthouse (Worship Leader)
Saturday 27 July 1.30pm Farewell service for Rev Lily Twist, Chair of District,
Perth Methodist Church

Sunday 28 July

Pentecost 10 11.00am Joint Communion Service Episcopal
Deacon Sarah McDowall (Worship Leader)
Traidcraft goods on sale after the service
Note: No Sunday@Six

Sunday 4 August

Pentecost 11 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Dr Marion Keston
11.00am Morning Worship Rev Geoffrey Baines
Deacon Sarah McDowall (Worship Leader)
Monday 5 August 7.30pm Ecumenical Study Group, St Columba's

Sunday 11 August

Pentecost 12 9.30am Sung Eucharist Very Rev Jim Mein
11.00am Morning Worship Professor Jeremy Bradshaw
Note: No Sunday 'Funday' during School Holidays

Invitations

Thursdays , 7.30pm: Exploring the Bible

Join us at the Manse to explore “Great prayers of the Bible”. Each one self-contained, you don't need to come to all. Up to 27th June, then four more opportunities in September.

23/06/2013 : Let's Barbeque:

Everyone - *including those from the organisations who use the church* - is invited to our annual FAMILY AFTERNOON and BBQ on Sunday 23 June from 2pm onwards at the Silver Sands, Aberdour. Food will be provided, but bring your own seat and cold or hot drink and games to play. All ages will be most welcome! The cost is £3 for adults (payable to David Salthouse), children go free. Please help our catering plans by signing up now on the list in the Crush Hall.

27/07/2013 : Farewell to Lily Twist , our District Chair

In July, Scotland's Methodists sadly say 'Goodbye' to their District Chair, Rev Lily Twist. There will be a Farewell Service for her, held at Perth Methodist Church, on Saturday 27th July at 1.30pm. We at Rosyth send to her, and her husband Colin, every good wish and God's blessing as they retire and move back to England. We will remember with affection her visits to our Church, particularly the last one in November when, with our Scottish Primus, Bishop David Chillingworth, she shared in our Joint service to celebrate 'Christ, the King'



31/08/2013 : Welcome to David Easton, our new District Chair

On Saturday, 31st August, there will be a Service of Welcome to our new district chair, Rev Dr David P Easton, at 2pm at Perth Methodist Church. David is a native of Cornwall who began his ministry in Motherwell, then moved back to Cornwall. From there he went to the Scilly Isles. He will be long remembered as one of the moderators of the British television documentary 'An Island Parish'. From there, David went to Aberystwyth as Circuit Superintendent, and where he has learned to speak the Welsh language



22/09/2013: Harvest 2013

It's a bit early to be thinking about harvest , when Summer hasn't arrived yet, but please keep **Sunday 22 September** free. The joint Vestry and Council at their spring meeting decided to have another lunch, after the enjoyable one last year. This will follow the joint Harvest Festival Service and take the form of a bring-and-share lunch in the Church Hall. More details in the next edition of Contact, but in the meantime make a note in your diaries!

Praying Together

Recently Eric and Gillian Potts led a session of the Wednesday Fellowship on the topic of prayer. We shared some of our favourite prayers and Eric presented "A Treasury of Prayer", short prayers which can be learned by heart. Fellowship members were given the opportunity to write their own, short prayers or ideas for prayer. This item collects these ideas together into a single prayer

Every morning I thank the Lord
that He has given me a new day.
Lord, thank you for this wonderful
world.

Green pastures you have given us;
fresh water from the well of life
you have given us each day of our
lives. Free will, free minds you
have given us. May we never forget
the greatest love that was
sacrificed on Calvary. We thank
you, dear Lord, for all we have each
day of our lives.

Thank you for the fellowship we
find here each Wednesday. We
thank you for our families and
friends.

Give us patience; as we get older
we have less patience. Grant us
quietness, peacefulness and calm.
May we give thanks and count our
blessings.

We are totally in Your hands. It is a
great privilege to be able to pray.

We need perseverance to help us

do what is right. Spread our love
around so we can help one
another.

We remember those past and
present, and Christians throughout
the world. Bring the churches
together to worship in unity.

We thank you for prayers
answered. We pray for those in
need. Comfort those who mourn
the loss of loved ones.

May our prayers be in accordance
with your will. Your will be done.

The day thou gavest, Lord, has
ended. Into your hands, O Lord, I
commend my spirit.

Lord, keep us through this night.
Lord, thy will be done. Amen.

One minute please!

What did Jesus say?

"What good is it for a man to gain the
whole world, yet forfeit his soul?"

Mark 8, verse 36

Snippets of News

Congratulations: to Ron and Mary
Dempster who have been invited to
attend the Garden Party at the Palace
of Holyroodhouse on 2 July.

No more school!: Sue Masson retires
from teaching music at Fettes Junior
College at the end of term. We wish
Sue and Adrian every blessing for the
future as they start a new chapter in
their lives.

The YMCA and the church in partnership

Preamble: In recent email correspondence with Rev John Knox, he happened to mention that he was involved in YMCA matters. For example, he undertakes quality reviews of local YMCAs, and twice a year he leads one-day reunion meetings of YMCA retirees resident in Scotland. Intrigued, I put the following question to him:

“Is there an increasing linkage between Methodism and YMCA? And if so is it a Circuit thing, a Scottish thing or a national trend?”

though I followed that with the reflection that maybe it's not increasing at all, it's just that I had become more sensitised to YMCA due to the good work being done at Leith. I had also become aware that there used to be a YMCA in Rosyth, but it had closed down.

John's reply was both informative and positive about the links between YMCA and Methodism, and indeed with other churches, and he later agreed that I could share it with wider audience.

Rev John Knox wrote:

“I think that YMCA Edinburgh and CEMC is an exception for most Methodist Churches. Many people I know throughout the YMCA movement both in the UK and in other countries are Methodists. I am not aware, however, of another Methodist circuit or church in the UK which has such strong links as we have here. Many of the YMCAs in Scotland,

however, have very strong links with various churches. A few weeks ago I was involved in a quality review of the work of Tain YMCA in Easter Ross and there church members from both C of S and the Free Churches have been very heavily involved in the setting up and running of that work. I hope, however, that the lesson from YMCA Edinburgh is one that can be spread more widely among various churches. It is interesting to make a comparison with Germany where a church contemplating setting up youth work often thinks of establishing a YMCA.

“The reason why in Leith we went the direction of the YMCA, rather than simply continuing with the youth work for we were already doing, was:

- 1) To enable professional support for the staff as well as staff networks which were not available since the virtual demise of the Methodist Association of Youth Clubs. I speak with both warm memories as Secretary for Irish MAYC for nine years and with close working relationships with MAYC here on this side of the Irish Sea. I do feel sad when I see how things have gone since those great heady days, not so long ago, of such as the MAYC London Week-end.
- 2) The second reason was to provide young people with the opportunity for much wider contacts at national and international level. “Living on a larger map” was once one of the watchwords of MAYC,

YMCA and the church...

coined if I remember rightly by Len Barnett. By being a YMCA, this year a number of young people from YMCA Edinburgh are taking part in a week long YMCA event in Prague with over four thousand other young people from YMCA's around the world.

“Hopefully more people will begin to ask such questions and see such partnerships as a valuable and often only way to develop work to serve the needs of young people, and to be able to share with them the challenge of Christ.”

John's remarks are a salutary reminder that the in youth work as in other areas of life, we should not be working alone but in partnership with other organisations. Could our Ecumenical Partnership be a springboard for partnership with others, and in what areas of life? Might lack of a partnership cause some ventures to fail when there was still a need for them? Are there any lessons to be learned from any such failures?

Howard Kirby

Notice

A General Church Meeting for Methodist will be held just after the 11am service on 23rd June in order to finalise the election of Stewards and members of the Church Council

Brambles Playgroup

A story. One day in March the late Malcolm Trew was passing by the door of Room 3 where parents were gathering for a special meeting – one called to consider whether Brambles should close, given certain problems. He remarked on how such a meeting had been called before (in 2006), he had become its Chair for a while, and that the playgroup survived. It was a good omen. The 2013 meeting became confident enough to press on, electing a new committee and accepting other offers to help.

Identifying and correcting the cause of such problems is not easy . They can be deep-rooted and difficult for an annually-changing committee to fully resolve. However, progress is being made: a full-time successor for a play-leader is being recruited; changes in financial procedures are being made; and a website is being developed. .

To get an idea of what happens in the playgroup, see the pictures. The large hall becomes transformed into a cafe, book corner, home with kitchen lounge and bed, and art , woodwork





music and computer areas and a slide. The garden at the side of the church is the focus for out-door activity, and funds are to be sought for enhancing it. Recently the children have been enjoying weekly 'cooking' sessions on Thursdays where they choose their own recipe each week and enjoy the end result for snack, who knows we may even have a budding Jamie Oliver in our midst!. On Friday 7th June the children will be taking part in a Teddy Toddler fundraiser at the Library . The idea is to raise funds to enable all children to participate in the end of term trip to Deep Sea World on Wednesday 19th June. In preparation



the children have been creating a rather colourful 'Under the Sea' display in the playroom, shown below.

We welcome the help of parents, carers , church members and other supporters , whether indirectly or directly. For example, an easy way of fund-raising is via a website in which, by use of a certain code, your



purchase at certain stores will generate both a discount on your own purchase and a contribution to Bramble's funds. Or you might feel you could offer to provide some skill or service to help. One skill that would be helpful is marketing ,to help improve public awareness of what Brambles offers. Word of mouth about the good that Brambles is doing is of course invaluable, and parents whose children have been to Brambles in the past, as well as those with us now, can still have a very positive role to play.

Howard Kirby (Chair)

Lesley Hynd (Senior Playleader)

The Scout Group

Our Scout Group is in good heart! At a recent Group Executive Committee meeting all four of our sections (beavers, cubs, scouts and explorers) reported membership of over 20. I can't remember this happening before. The Explorer numbers are helped by the fact that the unit is now a joint unit with members drawn from our group (13th Fife) and the 41st Fife group in Rosyth. We still have a vacancy for a Group Scout Leader and could do with one or more additional leaders in the Cub section. Some of the longstanding members of the Group Executive Committee have stood down and we are struggling a bit to re-establish the Committee. Recently a car wash and coffee morning was held to raise funds for the group and our thanks to those church members who supported this. The sum of £420 was raised.

Since April, the pace of outdoor activities has picked up. The cubs had their usual Easter hike finishing with a sleepover in the church. The scouts and explorers took part in the annual District St George's Day camp at Fordell at the end of April and the cubs and beavers paid a day visit. All of the sections took part in the District sports in May and Keiren Waddell's performances resulted in the Explorers winning their section's trophy. There was more success to come in the annual District camping competition "The Totem" which was won by a patrol from our troop (see photo) for

the second year running. It is of interest to note that the totem was carved 60 years ago by Jimmy Graham a member of our church.



The bread and butter of the section programmes are the various challenge badges which the members can gain covering topics such as outdoors, community, fitness, creative and global. The presence of police cars in the church car park on a recent Tuesday night was in connection with the Beavers Community Challenge and not because of any criminal activity!

Looking ahead, the Beavers are planning a hike to Pattiesmuir; the cubs have a weekend camp at Fordell at the end of June; the scouts are planning a night hike and, later in the year, a trip to Holland; and the Explorers will be attending Camp America in June and the National Explorer Scout camp in August. Finally, our congratulations to Stuart Fowell, our former Group Scout Leader, who was presented with a bar to the Award of Merit at the district carol service in December.

Martin Rogers

Sunday Funday update

It's hard to believe that by the time you read this, we will have had our last Sunday Funday of the season (June 9th), before taking a break in July and August.

We have looked at a wide range of themes over the years, and apart from recurring themes such as Easter, Harvest, Christmas, I don't think we have ever repeated ourselves. The range of crafts tackled by the children has been enormous!

Never been to Sunday Funday? Let me take you through a typical session. Our Episcopalian friends are well used to worshipping once a month with the delicious smell of bacon drifting into the Church, as the children and parents enjoy a breakfast of fruit juice, cereal, bacon butties and toast, prepared by Mandy and the two Davids. This is a lovely time when children and parents have time to chat to each other. A range of 6 or 7 crafts is then on offer to the children, helped by their parents/grandparents/carers. It's amazing to see how determined the children are to "do" everything. I find it particularly heartening to see an activity led by two of our young people, who are such good role models for our younger children. Sunday Funday finishes with a story and a song, and before leaving, we say the Grace to each other as we hold hands.

We don't often see the children in the service that follows, but please don't

judge the success of Sunday Funday by this. The children have already been to Church, and to expect small children to concentrate for another hour is asking too much.

Numbers attending Sunday Funday fluctuate a great deal. We would really love to give more parents and children the opportunity to come along. All children under 12 are welcome, and they are asked to bring an adult with them. If you know of any families who might enjoy this experience please invite them.

And why not come along to see for yourself what goes on. Watch out – it can be messy!

Gwyn Kirby

Fund-raising for Mothers' Union

Val and Dorrisia thank their friends from St Margaret's who joined them for the International Feast at Holy Trinity on 3rd May, when £600 was raised for Mothers' Union.



Hairy Haggis Relay 2013

On the last Sunday in May, Katie Cameron, Gwyneth Kirby, Claire and Alison (Gwyneth and Howard's daughters) took part in The Hairy Haggis Relay in Edinburgh. For those of you who have never experienced the delights (!) of taking part, this is run at the same time as the full Edinburgh Marathon, but instead of having the dubious pleasure of running the whole 26.2 miles yourself, the distance is split between four team members.

We ran as The 4 Ks a couple of years ago, so at least we knew what to expect this year as the shuttle buses dumped us in the back of beyond to wait for our turn to run. And the weather was a lot kinder to us this year, sparing us the rain and gale force winds. The sun even appeared from time to time !

Our finishing time was a very respectable 4 hours 9 minutes, and the photograph shows us shortly after

we were reunited at the finish, proudly wearing our marathon t shirts and Hairy Haggis medals.



Our run was purely for pleasure (if you can believe that!) so we didn't ask for any sponsorship, but if anyone feels like making a donation to their favourite charity on our behalf, we would be delighted.

And we are already looking out for team members from among you to form a second team for next year!

Gwyn Kirby

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, 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

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:

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

Parahandies Disabled Club

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

Scout Group

Group Scout Leader

see Martin Rogers 01383 415458
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Beaver Scouts

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Cub Scouts

Martin Rogers 01383 415458
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Scouts

Alan Connery 01383 731391
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Explorer Scouts

Terry O'Neill 01383 842695
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Guide Unit

Rainbows

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Brownies

Susan McKelvie 01383 410234
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Guides

Melissa Peel 07850 249911
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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

On Music, Song and Silence

Bishop David wrote in his blog for Sunday 21st April:

We have been marking this Sunday as Vocations Sunday. I did my best in St Margaret's, Rosyth, and Holy Trinity, Dunfermline this morning...

Just as an excursion and diversion .. I did mention in Rosyth that they sing their hymns more briskly than anywhere else I go. Actually they sing with passion. And because of the ecumenical relationship with the Methodist congregation whose building they share, there is a Wesleyan bias in the choices. Whatever it is – maybe a relic of shipshape tendencies from the naval dockyard past – I like it. And it's more than just 'get on with it' brisk. My former curate, Grace, used to say that the best worship was 'brisk with spaces' – by which I think she meant that you couldn't have meaningful and usable silence in worship without good words and music to frame it. I think she was right. I created a silence or two in St Margaret's today and they were all the better for the briskness which framed them.

(With apologies for excluding the rest of an interesting blog. Ed)

Mary Kidd writes about a musical event:

On Saturday, 25th May, half the choir members from St Margaret's took part in the Royal School of Church Music Celebration day which was held in St Mary's Cathedral in Edinburgh.

We joined singers from the other RSCM-affiliated members across Scotland, St Mary's Cathedral Choir, RSCM Scottish Voices and the RSCM Young Scottish Voices. It was a very memorable occasion and lovely to be held in Scotland. It gave us the opportunity not only to share in the service of praise, but also to learn from the experts who know how to get the best from their choristers, and to affirm the work of the volunteers, affiliates and members of the RSCM in Scotland.

We all agreed it was a truly moving experience and made us appreciate our own choir at St Margaret's, and the effort put into our regular rehearsals with Sue Masson and Myra Tarr. All the 'note-bashing', choice of music, and encouragement they each give to us inspire us to appreciate the God-given gifts of music and voice.

CONTACT on the web

For photos in colour,, view or download this issue, at <http://tinyuri.com/cnv8ycw>

To our contributors

Grateful thanks to all those who have contributed to this issue, both in writing material and during the production phase, especially Sandra Young, Martin Tarr and Jo Wight at the Circuit Office.