

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 86
August/September 2016

Rosyth
Methodist Church
Scottish Charity SC028559
www.rosythmethodist.org.uk

St Margaret's Scottish
Episcopal Church
Scottish Charity SC028426
www.stmargaretsrosyth.org.uk

in partnership

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

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Treasurer:

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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 (during term time): for the Young Church

9.00am Breakfast and “Messy Church”

4th Sundays: Worship together

11.00am Joint Communion Service

6.00pm “Sunday @ Six”

where to find us

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

Contact

Newsletter of the Methodist—Episcopalian local ecumenical partnership in Rosyth

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[Ed: some regular items are not here because of the holidays]

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Closing date for October/November issue: Tuesday 20th September 2016

Looking forward...

Rev Andrew Letby reflects on how our two congregations might explore new ways of working together

This centenary year has been the occasion for several moments of celebration and reflection in town and church. Inevitably it has brought into the spotlight the relationship between Rosyth Methodist and St Margaret's SEC. The very existence of our two churches is of course intimately bound up with the particular history of Rosyth and the dockyard. Neither would be here if it had not been the Naval community which brought with it traditions whose origins are outside of Scotland. Given this slightly unusual, shared identity it was perhaps inevitable that eventually the links between us should become strong. It is a further cause for celebration that 2016 marks the 20th anniversary of the sharing of the church with St Margaret's and 16 years since an ecumenical partnership was recognised.

I sometimes find it difficult to separate out the two church communities, both feel welcoming and seem to be bound together in so many ways. Many of the services I lead are the 'joint' ones, and when they are not, I have tried to attend St Margaret's as a worshipper prior to the Methodist service. I have chaired many joint meetings of Church Council and Vestry and of course when big moments of celebrations have come, they have involved everyone. Consequently, I see the common identity, folk sharing a

building, worship and pastoral concerns, with a real sense of being together. All this means that I occasionally find myself bemused and upset when I hear of disputes (*eg* over the administration of communion) and misunderstandings. I feel great sadness that services are not always as joined in spirit as they might be.

However, I have been heartened in recent months to hear that the conversation in various meetings has turned to the question of, 'how can we do more together?' It is an inevitable question, but also a brave one. Asking it could lead in all sorts of unexpected directions and we need to be ready to follow the prompting of the God's Spirit. Perhaps it highlights an 'elephant in the room' which we must acknowledge if our two congregations are to achieve a renewed vibrancy and mission in the local community.

In conversation with Alison Cozens and members of both congregations it has become clear that we need to explore what is possible and desirable, to take the thoughts of meetings a stage further and seek to discern what the future can look like. [*Ed: Helen Jenkins is being kept in the loop too.*]

Some of us will be meeting with Bishop David Chillingworth very soon [*23rd Aug*] to try and tease out what might lie ahead. The agenda of that meeting is very open and I hope will be wide ranging. There will be a long

road ahead and many options and obstacles will present themselves. We need to be open, honest and tolerant as we greet them.

Over the years, in many different places, I have learned that God's patience is greater than ours and He will gently lead, cajoling and forgiving, as new opportunities are presented. Once we stop being fearful and are ready to take risks, try things, fall flat

on our faces and get up with a smile, hearts filled with holy ambition and Christ like selflessness, then a real adventure lies before us.

In our togetherness we bring two strong, different but related traditions. If we can work together to share and learn from the best of both, our communities in Rosyth will be the richer for it.

Rev Andrew Letby

Book review: God Lost and Found

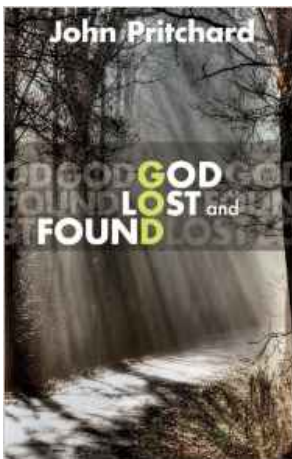
By John Pritchard. ISBN: 978-0281063529

In her sermon on 17 April Alison promoted a book that she had read whilst on a retreat in early April, "God Lost and Found", by John Pritchard, Bishop of Oxford from 2007 to 2014. Martin Forman took up Alison's challenge to supply a review for CONTACT.

The book is in two parts, first to explain the various ways people lose faith and secondly to list various solutions to this crisis.

In the first part the ways that we lose faith are described: the staleness of the act of worship; the crisis brought on by a tragic act, the death of a loved one for instance; the rejection by faith from society in general.

In the second part Pritchard proposes solutions to the problem: to see God in a new way, more domestic, ever



present in your life; to see God in the country or in a garden; to see the positive things in life that make you happy as proof of God; to find ways to improve the quality of your worship. Pritchard suggests slowing your life down to find space for contemplation, embracing the Christian community, worshipping as Jesus did, taking him as example.

Pritchard is a pleasing writer, sympathetic to the problem, writing clearly and attractively, using his sources intelligently, which range from literary and spiritual to anecdotal. But it is easier to understand the first half of his short book than the second half, it being a truism that it is easier to state a problem than provide a solution.

Martin Forman

What's on in the Diocese

Summer School at St Andrews: The Diocese has been working with St. Mary's College, University of St Andrews, to develop a summer school. On **26 August**, at St Mary's College, there will be the second full day opportunity to learn from some of the world-class faculty at St Mary's College. The day is open to all and will begin at **10am** for registration (10.30am for session start) and end at **4pm**, with an extended lunch break to enjoy some of the beauty of St. Andrews. The topics are '*Liturgy and Life*' and details are as follows:

Tom Wright - 'The place of the Bible within worship': i.e. the significance of public reading of scripture (and use of the Psalms and the Gospels in particular), the place and use of lectionaries, the possibilities of creative variation in that sphere without losing the proper impact.

Ian Bradley - 'Praying Twice: Using Hymns and Songs effectively in worship': This session will offer suggestions as to giving hymns and worship songs the maximum impact in services of worship and how best they can be sourced, integrated and introduced.

William Hyland - 'The Eucharist: Nourishing Christian Service, Community and Transformation': How liturgical prayer is meant to be transformative; in other words, how we explain and make clear to those attending worship that what happens during the liturgy, especially the

Eucharist, is meant to nourish Christian community, service and transformation.

Space is limited, so anyone wishing to go, please register with the diocesan office as soon as you can. There is no cost for the day, apart from your own lunch and transport. To register, send details (of Name, Congregation, Mobile/Phone, email Address) to: bishopsec@standrews.anglican.org.

Doors Open Day: On Sunday 11 September, St Finnian's Church, Lochgelly extends a warm welcome to everyone as they open their doors from **2pm to 4.30pm**. There will be guided tours of the church, the organist will be playing during that time and requests will be taken, display of vestments, a children's quiz and time to enjoy the special Soul Space and teas/coffees in the church hall. The day will finish with a special Taize service.

Also on **Sunday 11 September**, as part of their 40th anniversary celebrations, there will be Choral Evensong at **4.30pm** in St Peter's Church, Kirkcaldy, sung by the Cathedral choir. The preacher will be the Dean, the Very Rev Kenny Rathband. St Peter's extends a warm welcome to everyone to join them for this special occasion.

The Gathering: This will now take place on **Saturday 17 September** (rescheduled from 17 June) **from**

10am to 4pm in St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth. This year's Gathering takes as its theme 'Growing Disciples' and there will be a wide range of workshops to help us explore different ways in which we nurture our growth as disciples of Christ. There will also be an opportunity to explore Christian mountain biking! Booking forms will be available in August and we welcome people of all ages to join us at this family-friendly event. Keep the date free in your diary!

St Andrews West Area Council Service: Due to numerous events being held in September, it has been agreed to move the Area Council Praise service from Sunday 18 September to **Sunday 23 October** at Rosyth to coincide with our Sunday@Six West Gallery afternoon, which forms part of the Methodist Centenary Year celebrations.

Music at Lochgelly. On **Friday 23 September** at **7.30pm** St Finnian's Church Lochgelly are hosting a concert by the ever popular, amateur but highly professional, vocal group, Ensemble, fresh from the Festival Fringe with a new programme of music from MGM musicals. Tickets and further information from Margaret Dineley on 01592358933 or mobile 07931483906 or email margaret.dineley@gmail.com. All are welcome to attend.

Sandra Young

Sunday@Six & Harvest Supper

Sunday 28th August: Café Church

This month's Sunday@Six features our own "**Crosswater Band**" who rehearse every Tuesday in the church hall. The theme for the evening is "**Good Things**" and will include choral items from the choir, some readings and eclectic music from the band – everything from "*Summertime*" to "*Stranger on the Shore*". Having heard the band in rehearsal we are in for a real treat.

So candles, cake, cool jazz and good company - what more do you need for a summer's evening?

The following month, as part of our Harvest celebrations, we meet a day earlier, as follows.

Saturday 24th September: Harvest Supper

Please join us at **6pm** for soup and a pudding. The speaker for the evening is **Patricia Roberts** who is the chaplain at HM Prison Cornton Vale, but is also a singer and harpist AND is going to Malawi. Do come and see how she weaves all these things together for us in what should be a very entertaining talk.

Sue Masson

Cubs Brownsea Island adventure

The cubs have recently returned from their Brownsea Island Adventure. This year is the centenary of the founding of the Wolf Cub section and the cub leaders were looking for something different and special for a cub camp this year. Why not take the cubs to Brownsea Island in Poole Harbour off the south coast of England was one suggestion? This was where the Scout Movement had its origins as it was chosen by the founder, Robert Baden-Powell, as the site for his first experimental scout camp in 1907.

Enquiries were made, costings were done and the idea floated to cubs and parents at a meeting in September last year. There was sufficient interest to go ahead with the camp and bookings were made and some fundraising carried out.

We assembled at the church at 10 pm on Sunday 10 July - 11 cubs and 3 leaders. We travelled down to Poole overnight by minibus with a few stops at service stations etc en route. We took a bit of a detour so that we could pass by Stonehenge and eventually

arrived at Poole about 10.45 am. We collected our click and collect grocery supplies from ASDA along with another of our cubs who had been on holiday in the area. We had to go over to Brownsea Island on one of the ferries and our gear was then transported down to the South Shore Lodge where we were staying.

The lodge was almost ideal for our purposes and the cubs quickly settled into their temporary home. There was a large grassy area at the back for playing football etc and a beach at the end of the garden accessed by a short track. The one downside was the fact that the toilets were outside which caused potential problems at night time. This was solved by having a strategically placed receptacle on the landing area of the 3 dormitories.

The range of activities included various trails (Baden Powell, tree climbing and smugglers), shelter building, natural play area, low ropes, archery, camp fire, swimming, observation and tracking. We saw numerous peacocks, peahens and their chicks, occasionally a deer, red squirrels (although I never managed to photograph one) rabbits, ducks and hens. We had some time in the town of Poole mostly spent at the swimming pool. This photo of the cubs was taken at a statue of Baden-Powell on the quay at Poole.





We invested one of the cubs on the site of the very first camp and later in the week the cubs renewed their promises at the same spot. The cubs and leaders had the opportunity to spend one night in a tent on the site of the first camp which I personally found a very moving experience (no there wasn't an earthquake)! Only about half the cubs opted to take part. We had a camp fire not far from the original camp site which went down very well with some of the cubs taking the lead for some items.

We began our journey back on Saturday 16 July and visited Wookey Hole where there are some noted caves, We stayed overnight in a scout hall in Bath and continued our journey on the Sunday making a stop at a nature reserve at Brockholes for a



break and to allow the cubs to run off some energy in a playpark. We had our tea at MacDonalDs near Lockerbie and arrived back at the church at 9.30 pm.

It was a very successful camp. Despite a very active programme and play times we had very little in the way of injuries and only a few plasters were required from the first aid kit. Homesickness was a problem as the week progressed but a phone call home generally settled things down. Behaviour (of the cubs) was not perfect but who would expect it to be. On the whole it was very good especially on the long minibus rides when boredom can come into play.

During the week, parents were kept up to date with postings (including photos) on our Group facebook page. We were able to react to some of the comments. For instance, the mum of one of the cubs commented that her son was wearing the same T shirt on 2 successive days. He was quickly made to change it!

So ends our big adventure but like the church's centenary year, there are still some events to look forward to in our Cub centenary year.

Martin Rogers (Akela)

The Russians are back!

Do you remember the wonderful deep bass sounds and the stunning choral singing? If so, there's good news for you: Jurij Maruk will be bringing his **Voskresenije Choir** (the name means *Resurrection*) back to West Fife for *two* concerts. It's their fourth visit, after Rosyth hosted concerts during their 2011 and 2012 UK tours, and the choir enjoyed a concert in Burntisland last year.

The first half of each concert will feature music from the Orthodox Church tradition, with a set of Russian folk songs after the interval. The 2016 concerts are at **7.30pm** on **Thursday 17 November** at St Serf's Church, Burntisland, and on **Friday 18 November** at Rosyth Methodist Church, and form part of the Methodist Centenary celebrations.

Booking for these concerts will open on **1 September** both on TicketSource and through your usual church connections at Rosyth. At £11/£10 concessions/£5 schoolchildren, including interval refreshments and a programme, tickets offer real value – Fife prices for international quality!

Keep the dates free, and please pass on the news.



Can you host a choir member? The singers in the Voskresenije Choir are on the road for six/eight weeks at a time, and very much welcome being able to relax and enjoy the hospitality of host families. As

the two West Fife concerts are on consecutive days, and relatively close together, we are suggesting to the choir that they stay for **two** nights in the same home, rather than move on. We have already received offers of hospitality and we thank those who have offered to act as hosts. However, we really do need some more accommodation and hospitality, including dinner after the concerts and full breakfast in the mornings, for up to ten people for both nights. If anyone would be willing to accommodate one or two of the choir members, this would be greatly appreciated. If able to help, please contact Sandra Young (sandrasyoung39@btinternet.com or 01383 415021) as soon as possible. For more details of what is required see the domain

www.russianchoirfife.org.uk, which redirects to <http://russianchoir.stmargaretsrosyth.org.uk>, a sub-domain of the St Margaret's site.

Sandra Young

Property improvements

You will remember that we received a grant from Awards for All to make improvements to the front and back entrances of the church. In March, new vinyl flooring was fitted in the front entrance and corridor and this has now been continued through to the back entrance. This last section of flooring had been awaiting the fitting of a new more robust back door which was done in early June. Thanks to Paul, David and Mandy Ward for all their work in connection with the flooring. Replacement cupboards have still to be purchased for the back entrance.



The final item in the package is the refurbishment of the coffee bar. The units have been purchased and are being stored in the hall. It is hoped to have them fitted in the first fortnight of August.

Another change is in room 3 where the fire door has been replaced with a window. We took advice from the Fire Brigade some time ago and they felt that a separate fire exit from the

room was unnecessary. This door has never fitted well and on a number of occasions was found not to have been closed properly. It has also been badly misted up with the failure of the double glazed unit. The designated fire exit from this room is now across the crush hall and out the front entrance. In preparation for this change the lock on the front door was replaced a while ago so that it could be opened from the inside without a key thus making it more suitable for fire exit purposes. Users of room 3 should familiarise themselves with the unlocking of the front door.

Martin Rogers
Chairman, Property Committee

Fellowship news

People

A significant milestone occurred on 5 July, when our dear friend, **Jock Headden** celebrated his 90th birthday. Jock spent a memorable day with Audrey and most of their family, including his grandson and wife from China, and close friends at a lunch celebration in Garvock House Hotel. Many congratulations Jock and God's blessing always. Two days later on the 7th **Jock and Audrey** celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. Well done to you both!

Erica Lock underwent surgery on 27 July. She is now at home and is making good progress, Please remember Erica in your thoughts and prayers.

Also in July, **Stephen Tarr** and **Stephanie (Steph) Gaydon** 'tied the knot' twice - in London and Italy. Congratulations to you both and best wishes for the future.



Congratulations to **Marie Tillier**, who was baptised at the 9.30am service on 31 July. This was a joyous occasion as we rejoiced with Marie and welcomed her into the church. Marie has an eventful month ahead as she prepares for her wedding to Allan. We are delighted that **Marie and Allan** will have a special service of blessing in the church on Saturday 3 September. In the meantime we remember them in our thoughts and prayers.

Your prayers are invited for **Aaron Duncan** who suffered a serious head injury and has been in the intensive care ward in the Western General Hospital in Edinburgh for the last 3 weeks. Aaron is the Chairman of the Scout Group Executive Committee, his wife Brenda is one of our Cub Leaders and their children Noah and Hannah are in the Scouts and Cubs respectively.

Church Family BBQ

The Annual Barbeque will take place on **Sunday 21st August** from **2pm**. As in previous years, the venue will be the **Silver Sands beach** in Aberdour.

This year, the BBQ is the August event for celebrating the Centenary of Rosyth Methodist Church, so we especially welcome friends from other churches and organisations.

If you are intending to come along, please add your name, the number of adults and the number of children to the list in the Crush Hall (or contact David Salthouse directly, address below). Also, if you have any special dietary requirements please let us know on the form too. The cost will be the same as last year at £3 per adult, with no charge for children.

Any questions, please ask **David Salthouse** (davidsalthouse@sky.com or 01383 889212).

Diary for August to September 2016

- Tuesday 23 Aug 10.15am EDWJ meets at Jack Fowell's house
 7.00pm Meeting of representatives from Vestry and Council
 with Rev Andrew Letby and Bishop David (for
 context, see page 4)
- Friday 26 Aug 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall
 onwards tea, coffee and home baking
 10.00am Summer School, St Mary's College, St Andrews
 to 4.00pm 'Liturgy and Life' (see page 6 for details)
 7.00pm Choir practice

Sunday 28 August

- Pentecost 15 11.00am Joint Communion Service Rev Alison Cozens
 Traidcraft goods on sale after the service
 6.00pm Sunday@Six for "Good Things" Cafe-church style
 service led by the choir and the Crosswater Band
 (see page 7)
- Tuesday 30 Sep 7.00pm Short meeting of the joint Vestry/Council in Church
 Lounge (see page 4)
 7.30pm St Margaret's Vestry meeting in the small lounge
- Friday 2 Sep 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall
 onwards tea, coffee and home baking
 7.00pm Choir practice
- Saturday 3 Sep 1.30pm Family Hike at Loch Leven. Walks to suit all ages.
 Followed by Afternoon Tea at Cleish Parish Church

Sunday 4 September

- Pentecost 16 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Alison Cozens
 11.00am Morning Worship Mr Edward Idle
 Evelyn Kenny (Worship Leader)
- Monday 5 Sep 7.30pm Ecumenical Study Group, Rosyth Parish Church
- Tuesday 6 Sep 10.15am EDWJ meets at Jack Fowell's house
 7.30pm Coffee, Cake and Crafts - a monthly evening craft
 club run by Jean Hall and friends
 7.30pm Rosyth Methodist Council meets in the Church
 Lounge

Diary for August to September 2016

Wednesday 7 Sep 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship: Opening Session - Rev
Alison Cozens

Friday 9 Sep 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall
onwards tea, coffee and home baking
7.00pm Choir practice

Sunday 11 September

Pentecost 17 9.00am Messy Church and Breakfast
9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Alison Cozens
11.00am Morning Service Mr Will Carroll
2.00pm Doors Open Day at St Finnian's Church, Lochgelly
to 4.30pm (see page 6 for details)
4.30pm Choral Evensong for 40th Anniversary of St Peter's
Kirkcaldy, sung by the Cathedral Choir, preacher
The Very Rev Kenny Rathband, Dean of the Diocese

Wednesday 14 Sep 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship: "Mary's Meals" with
Richard Lloyd

Friday 16 Sep 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall
onwards tea, coffee and home baking
7.00pm Choir practice

Saturday 17 Sep 10.00am The Gathering St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth
to 4.00pm Growing Disciples (see pages 6/7 for details)

Sunday 18 September

Pentecost 18 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Alison Cozens
11.00am Morning Worship Rev David Easton
3.00pm Service at Orchardhead House

Tuesday 20 Sep 10.15am EDWJ meets at Jack Fowell's house

Wednesday 21 Sep 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship:

Friday 23 Sep 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall
onwards tea, coffee and home baking
7.00pm Choir practice

Diary for August to September 2016

- Friday 23 Sep 7.30pm Concert by Vocal Group Ensemble, St Finnian's Church, Lochgelly (see page 7 for details)
- Saturday 24 Sep 6.00pm Saturday@Six Light Harvest Supper followed by a talk by Patricia Roberts (see page 7 for details)

Sunday 25 September

- Harvest 11.00am All-age Communion Service Rev Ron Greig
Note: No Sunday@Six

- Tuesday 27 Sep 7.00pm Joint meeting of St Margaret's Vestry/Methodist Council in Church Lounge

- Wednesday 28 Sep 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship: Bob Liddle

- Friday 30 Sep 9.30am The Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall
onwards tea, coffee and home baking
7.00pm Choir practice

Sunday 2 October

- Pentecost 20 9.30am Sung Eucharist Rev Alison Cozens
11.00am Morning Worship Dr Anne Pennington

- Monday 3 Oct 7.30pm Ecumenical Study Group, Rosyth Parish Church

- Tuesday 4 Oct 10.15am EDWJ meets at Jack Fowell's house
7.30pm Coffee, Cake and Crafts - a monthly evening craft club run by Jean Hall and friends

- Wednesday 5 Oct 2.15pm Wednesday Fellowship

- Friday 7 Oct 9.30am Triangle Coffee Shop in the Crush Hall
onwards tea, coffee and home baking
7.00pm Choir practice



Our nautical Flower Festival

Mary Kidd reflects on the Flower Festival experience

It must have been two years ago when the planning took place for the monthly events to celebrate our centenary in 2016. It was assumed that I would organize a Festival of Flowers for the month



adopt a Nautical theme, with the emphasis on the sea, the ships, and the shore. My family helped to prepare the sanctuary for the exhibits and floral arrangements, and soon the event took off.

of June (and I was persuaded to...). I'd never done anything like this before, but I had visited several displays, mostly in churches, since coming to Scotland 35 years ago. I felt rather apprehensive about it but took a deep breath and decided to give it a go – as you do!

There were arrangements exhibited by individual members, and by families; collages made by our Brownie Guides; there was an impressive entry with an AeroNautical theme, Michael, row row rowing his boat, Footsteps in the sand, a commemoration of the Battle of Jutland, shells, lighthouses, anchors and the RNLI, to mention just a few of the items on display. The weekend ended on a happy note as Gwyneth led us in a Festival of Summer Praise for the Sunday@Six service. The whole weekend was most impressive, and worthy of praise. I do hope you didn't miss it!



Over a year went by so quickly, my home life had drastically changed, and once the Centenary Service in March took place it was awfully near! It had been decided to have morning coffees and afternoon teas to coincide with the event – a good idea and for the very good cause of Action for Children. Jean and Gwyneth undertook this with willing volunteers; they carried out a fantastic job!

May I thank all those who took part in the helping out, arranging and the catering which all contributed to the success of the Festival.

Mary Kidd

To chime with the centenary of other organizations in Rosyth Garden City, it was agreed our Festival should



Loch Leven walk and afternoon tea

Our September Centenary Celebration will be a walk by Loch Leven on **Saturday 3rd September**.

There will be a choice of walks to suit all ages and abilities, with maps provided. **Walkers should meet at Kinross Pier** (plenty of parking available) at **1.30pm**.

After walking, from **about 3.00pm** onwards, **afternoon tea** will be provided by the ladies of Cleish Parish Church at the Church Hall, which is a short drive from Kinross. You don't need to walk to enjoy afternoon tea, though. Everyone will be welcome to join the walkers for tea and a chat!

It would be helpful to the ladies serving tea to have a rough idea of

how many people to expect, so if you think you might come along please let me know (01383 624779).

This activity is open to everybody so please invite friends, relations and neighbours to join in. The more of us taking part, the greater the fun.

If you would like to come along but don't have transport please let me know – whether you want to go for a walk or just come for tea. Lifts can easily be arranged.

We will still walk whatever the weather so please come prepared!

Gwyneth Kirby

Sue Masson's Music quiz

Last issue's answers

- 1) Chopin's [*Mazurkas* were described as *repugnant* and *tortuous*]
- 2) Gilbert and Sullivan [wrote the Savoy operas]
- 3) *The Music Man* [is the musical that includes "*Til there was you,*"]
- 4) Roger Taylor of Queen [in 1999, became the first living commoner to appear on a British postage stamp]
- 5) The 1930s [is the decade in which Gustav Holst started to decompose]
- 6) Jose Maria Carreras [had Maria for his middle name]
- 7) Bo Diddley [was the name for an African guitar adopted by Ellas Bates]
- 8) Sir Artur Rubenstein [is the Polish-born pianist made an honorary knight in 1977]
- 9) Sir Simon Rattle [became associated with the Birmingham Symphony Orchestra after conducting the Liverpool Sinfonia at the age of 15]
- 10) Austrian [was Mozart's nationality]

A consistent faith and life

The committal service for Dr Geoff Headden at Dunfermline Crematorium was taken by Rev Dr Malcolm Kinnear, the minister of Kinlochleven and Nether Lochaber Parish Churches. Those present felt that the thoughts he shared would be appreciated by a wider audience, as they are not just a commentary upon an individual but on the matters involved in attaining 'A consistent faith and life'.

The morning of Geoff's death his Bible lay open. The Bible was consistently open to Geoff, and that was how he lived. His faith and life were consistent; and that is the strength of our witness to the reality of Jesus.

The passage from Revelation 21 was one that was open on the table on the morning when Geoff died; he was preparing a service for the next day and it was the epistle reading. That in itself sums up how he lived the faith, and died a holy death with the promises of faith.

Our scriptures speak of God dwelling with people: death is overcome and God has made his permanent dwelling with mankind. "The dwelling place of God is now with mankind", and "he shelters us with his presence". The Lord says that he will be personally present and permanently with his own. He promises to his people always to be our God and that we are his people.

Death will be no more; death is the last enemy to be overcome; and, in the fullness of God's kingdom, sorrow and tears will be no more. Faith encourages us to look to this glorious future of which we yet know only a little bit.

How hard it is for those left behind; for Geoff was loved by his own family, the church family and the wider community; and there were people there yesterday who were only there because of Geoff's skills as a GP.

Jesus knows and understands our pain. Jesus said, "Let not your hearts be troubled" ... or "vexed". The same word is used when Jesus reacted to the scene of the mourners weeping at the death of Lazarus: Jesus was sad too, and he went on to raise Lazarus. It was a sign of what he has done for us, being raised for the dead as the first of many. And when people saw Jesus and Lazarus, they said of Jesus, "see how he loved him".

Jesus was going to prepare a place for us, and that is why he was preparing the disciples for the day when he would be crucified, dead and buried. But Jesus rose again and, because of that, we who are his by faith will rise with him. Jesus did what no other figure in history has done, or could do, opening up the way to heaven.

It is because of God's love. Jesus said to his disciples, "I have loved you even as the Father has loved me". Jesus said, "Greater love hath no man for his friends, than that he lay down his life for them." And Jesus said of his

Consistent faith... Continued from page 19

disciples, "I call you not slaves or servants, but friends." Such was the measure of his love for us.

We can have Jesus as our friend. We can know the tender love of Jesus that is personal; he is the Good Shepherd and he knows us by name. We can know that he loves us.

Jesus came that we might know the love and the comfort of our Father in heaven. Part of what he offers is strength and consolation; these are part of the gifts of God in Jesus. Living by faith in Jesus, these things become ours. It is done by reaching out and holding on to the hand of Jesus, by the

act of believing, trusting, and receiving him as Lord.

We can trust him and hold on to him every step of the way. We have a Saviour who knows our sorrows and cares for us, and he is there for us when we are at our lowest point. Jesus has gone before us, and as he says, where he is, we shall be also.

Geoff has gone to the heavenly home prepared for us. He has left behind the shelter of his earthly body, for a resurrection body in the glory of his heavenly home. The promise for all believers is that, when our time comes, there is a home waiting for us up there too.

One minute, please

What did Jesus say?

"If you hold to my teaching you are really my disciple"

John 8 v 31

Aldersgate insights

Sunday 22nd May was not only Trinity Sunday but Aldersgate Sunday, and the sermon by Rev Linda McMurray explains its significance for us all.

Readings: Luke 9: 57-62; Romans 5:1-5

I had a moment of concern preparing this service. My first inclination was to mine all the wealth of Aldersgate Sunday and all that means to the “people called Methodists”. My second realization was that this is a church in which both Methodist and Episcopal - Anglican – work and worship together, combining both traditions. That’s when it dawned on me that is exactly what John Wesley tried to accomplish most – most but not all – of his life. He was an ordained priest in the Church of England. When people responded to his preaching ministry and formed societies to study God’s word and strengthen each other spiritually Wesley insisted they must attend their Parish Church to receive the Sacraments at every opportunity – just as we will share the Sacrament of Communion here later in this service.

John Wesley was small in stature and huge in faith and heart. But when he went unwillingly to a Bible study group on Aldersgate Street in London on the evening of the 24th of May 1738 he was every inch an Anglican/Episcopalian priest. His unwillingness most likely stemmed from the fact he’d agreed to come to that meeting even though it was being led by a lay person, certainly not by someone ordained to examine and preach the word of God. However, as it was in his diary he must have agreed to attend

for some reason. So, even if he went unwillingly, go he must because he had said he would.

He had not long returned from a disastrous, aborted mission to the colony of Georgia. On the journey there he had been humbled by a depth of faith displayed by a group of Moravian missionaries. It was a depth of faith he knew he lacked in spite of all the good things he did, the sick, poor and prisoners he and his brother Charles visited, the time spent in studying and sharing the Scriptures and countless hours spent in prayer. He was doing all he could do to earn the kind of faith the Moravians demonstrated, but knew he did not possess that. I can only guess that there was an empty space within him that only a deep genuine faith could fill. But where and how to find it?

That night, on Aldersgate Street he found it, felt it and claimed it as part of his life from that day on! He was hearing these words from the preface of Martin Luther’s commentary on Paul’s letter to the Romans. In this, Luther was declaring the doctrine of *Sola Fide* – Faith Alone, which Paul had proclaimed to the church in Rome.

“Faith is a divine work in us. It changes us and makes us to be born anew of God (John 1); it kills the old Adam and

makes altogether different men (sic), in heart and spirit and mind and powers, and it brings with it the Holy Ghost. Oh, it is a living, busy, active thing, this faith' and so it is impossible for it not to do good works incessantly. It does not ask whether there are good works to do, but before the question rises, it has already done them, and is always at the doing of them. . . then all good works are only external signs which follow out of faith, and show, like good fruit, that man (sic) is already inwardly righteous before God. . . . Thus we have it that faith justifies without any works; and yet it does not follow that men (sic) are, therefore, to do no god works, but rather that the true works will not be assent. . . . (Others) feign works of their own in which there is no peace, joy, confidence, love, hope, boldness, nor any of the qualities of true Christian works and faith."

In Luther's words Wesley found the answers to the faith questions were troubling him. Like so many, Wesley had got things the wrong way around. The depth of faith he had seen in the Moravian missionaries hadn't come from working for it – it simply came from God, as a free gift, because of God's love for them/us. And once they knew and accepted God's gift of love and faith, they experienced the peace, joy, confidence, love, hope and boldness lacking for those who sought to gain God's favour through good works.

Have you ever heard or been asked if you, or someone you know, has made

peace with God? It's often asked dramatically, in film & life, when someone is about to die. A story is told of a Christian who was dying. A visiting friend asked: "Have you made your peace with God?" The Christian simply replied: "No." The friend was horrified and kept pushing his friend to see the errors of not making peace with God before death. Finally, the Christian replied: "How can **I** make peace with **God**? My Lord made peace with me over 2,000 years ago when He died on the cross, and I accepted it. I have had peace with God ever since." It's simple, really, if Jesus "made peace" with us when He died on the cross, than all we have to do – all we **can** do – is to accept the peace He has already made. We accept that peace through the faith God instilled in us for just that purpose. That is the meaning of Romans 5.1.

Paul talks about our having been justified by faith. In a way, it's the summation of Paul's entire description of the gospel – Justification. It means 'to declare righteous'. It's the verdict returned when the jury declares the defendant 'not guilty'. It's what God has done for each of us when any one of us places our faith in Jesus Christ. The moment you fully trust in Jesus, truly believe in Him, God says: "All charges are dropped, I declare you 'not guilty'. You are free to go."

To be justified means we are freed from paying any penalty for our sins. All charges have been dropped and expunged from our records. This

acquittal is totally free because it is based on God's free grace. The offer is free – the only thing we need to do is to accept it. And what's more it's ours to keep.

The only way we lose it is to throw it away and declare we no longer trust, believe in Jesus Christ. It has been done, some choose to believe & trust in education alone to save them, others money, others political power. In other words, they've gone back to thinking their own works and/or accomplishments are all that is needed.

Paul says it all – “Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord, Jesus Christ.”

He goes on to remind us that we can/ will still face difficulties, troubles, tribulations and so on. But we still/ always will have hope because God's love “has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit” Read

Wesley's journal in the weeks following the 24th of May 1738. You'll find he experienced doubts, troubles and uncertainty; he was the subject of violent mobs, he suffered ill health and injuries. But he never threw away what he had come to know about God and himself on that night on Aldersgate Street. He simply accepted Jesus Christ as he had never done before. He stopped thinking it was all up to him and his work (even though he never stopped working). And in his own words, after he finally accepted the gift God had already given, “I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone for salvation, and an assurance was given me that he had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death.”

Even mine. Even yours.

On separation

The EU referendum and its aftermath prompted Jane Peers to reflect on our approach to separation in her sermon at morning worship on 3rd July

Scene setting

The previous ten days had been hard for many people. Many voted to remain in the EU. But after many years Britain is to leave. It is hard to vote for a losing candidate in a general election, but this is bigger! How can so many think differently. The gulf between England and Scotland has just widened. Many voted to leave, and are now hearing that immigration is likely to remain the same, some deal will be struck, we may have a second referendum. How do immigrants from Europe or Asia or the rest of the world feel when so many people seem to have voted to get rid of them? Instead of facing the task of implementing the referendum decision most politicians seem intent on fighting among themselves about whose fault it was and who can now get the plumb jobs. We see plenty we don't like. But how should we behave? Nearly 2000 years ago St Paul wrote his letter to the Church in Galatia (part of modern Turkey, hoping to gain admittance to the EU). Can his words have any relevance to us now as we deal with our own feelings and the people we meet?

Reading: Galatians 6: 1-16

Address

A young relative and her husband are separating. The family and friends are sad. We are concerned for the consequences for them and their children. We hope for a minimum of pain and recriminations and as smooth a transition as possible into their new relationships.

It is not an unusual story, but there are as many variations as there are repeats. Most versions don't achieve perfectly amicable and peaceable separation, but likewise few go to all out war.

How do we, friends and family, behave? Do we discuss the marriage behind their backs and work out how we would have managed it better? Do we take sides and find one party

innocent and the other guilty? Do we admit that no-one knows what goes on inside someone else's marriage and really it is not our business? Do we offer our help in whatever way it is wanted to both sides and not judge? Do we insist that divorce is against God's law and they should "work it out". Do we think, "well I have held my marriage together."

Is there a Christian way to approach this? Well Paul has some good advice. "I will boast only about the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ". "What does matter is being a new creature." "So let us not become tired of doing good; for if we do not give up, the time will come when we will reap the harvest."

The separation of Britain and the EU is not going to be amicable. There are factions in Britain, factions in Europe

and anger and recriminations on both sides. There are also the equivalent of the circumcision party who are mainly out for their own gain. Bringing peace and reducing harm is going to take a lot of doing.

We are not meeting on the international stage, but let us pray for those who are.

What else can we do? Can we be hands and feet doing good and not becoming tired. Well we can do what we can to build bridges and soften the anger and recriminations we hear. We can bring our own anger and frustration to God and ask His help to move forward and be agents for His kingdom here and now.

If there is deep division and hurt in Europe, there is much worse in the Middle East. As we remember the events of 100 years ago when a generation of Europeans faced each other on the battle field and so many lost their lives, the battle fronts in the middle east are claiming lives today, and the battle front keeps popping up in different civilian places. People who flee do so in fear of their lives and because their homes and livelihoods have been destroyed. We think it is far away, but that is not true today. We have all met people who call the war torn areas 'home'. We think we are not involved, but Britain has interfered in middle eastern politics for many years, trying to gain influence, trade, oil and prestige. In today's world our brother or sister may live 1000s of miles away.

Again we wonder "what can we do?" The answer is not obvious. But Paul's advice still holds: "I will boast only about the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ". "What does matter is being a new creature." "So let us not become tired of doing good; for if we do not give up, the time will come when we will reap the harvest."

Puzzle page

With puzzles from Dave Ward

New puzzles

1) Consider

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      1
     1 1
    2 1
   1 2 1 1
  1 1 1 2 2 1
 3 1 2 2 1 1
X X X X X X X X
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What are the figures in the last row?

(Clue : Write what you see)

2) What 4 Weights must a person have that will enable him to weigh any item up to and including 40lb on any set of scales? (only 4 allowed)

3) A man is pushing his car along a busy road and stops outside of a Grand Hotel, suddenly he finds out that he has lost all his money, HOW?

***For Sue Masson's Music quiz,
see page 18***

Answers to June/July puzzles

Q1) How many times can you take 6 from 36?

A1) You can only take 6 from 36 once because it then becomes 30.

Q2) The question was about two men, each with either a red or black hat on their head. As long as one of them guessed correctly the colour of the at he wore, they would both go free.

A2) There is a fool proof answer to this question which is:-If one man says what he sees and the other says the opposite to what he sees then one of them will always be right. Go on, try it, with all combinations.

Q3) The question was how to send a message in a padlocked box such that only the intended recipient can open it.

A3) The first person writes the message, locks it in the box with his padlock. He sends the box to the second person who puts his padlock on the box also. He sends the box back to the first person who takes his padlock off and sends it back to the second person. He unlocks his padlock and opens the box to read the message in secret.

Contact points and meeting times

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

Church activities

Methodist Gift Aid enquiries to
Stuart Fowell 01383 823936
Stuart.Fowell@btinternet.com

Property matters & letting enquiries:
Martin Rogers 01383 415458
martin.rogers13@talktalk.net

St Margaret's Choir
Sue Masson 01383 824887
susan.masson@btinternet.com

St Margaret's Gift Aid enquiries to
Gordon Pryde 01383 860450
gordonpryde@btinternet.com

Sunday School and Messy Church:
Gwyneth Kirby 01383 624779
gmkirby@hotmail.com

Toddlers' Group (Wed/Fri 0930-1100)
Elaine Lambert 01383 417071
elaine.lambert1@sky.com

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

Wednesday Fellowship (Wed 1415-1600)
Mary Kidd 01383 872332
cmarykidd@btinternet.com

Organisations meeting in our premises

Parahandies Disabled Club (Mon 0930-1400)
Peter Merckel (sec) 01383 822940
peter.merckel@yahoo.co.uk

Scout Group

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

Beaver Scouts (Tue 1730-1830)
David Sinclair 01383 410255
davidgraeme31@yahoo.co.uk

Cub Scouts (Tue 1830-2015)
Martin Rogers 01383 415458
martin.rogers13@talktalk.net

Scouts (Fri 1900-2115)
Alan Connery 01383 731391
scouts_13th_fife@btinternet.com

Explorer Scouts (Fri 1900-2115)
Gary Dewar 01383 411938
gary.dewar@sky.com

Guide Unit

Rainbows (Mon 1800-1900)
Susan Warren 01383 414355
susarren@aol.com

Brownies (Mon 1800-1930)
Nicola Byrne 07956 005996
NicolaByr44ne86@hotmail.com

Guides (Thu 1800-2030)
Linda Wallace 07455 213809
6throsythguides@gmail.com

** An asterisk indicates a change since the last issue (in either meeting time or contact details or both)*

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

A quick guide to when our usual things start-up again (and some centenary celebrations happen)

Organisation/Event	Date	Time	See
*Church Family BBQ	Sunday 21st August	2.00 pm	p 12
Sunday@Six	Sunday 28th August	6.00 pm	p 7
*Family Hike & Afternoon Tea	Saturday 3rd September	1.30 pm	p 18
Coffee, Cake & Crafts re-starts	Tuesday 6th September	7.30 pm	
Wednesday Fellowship re-starts	Wednesday 7 September	2.15 pm	
Messy Church re-starts	Sunday 11 September	9.00 am	
Harvest Supper	Saturday 24th September	6.00pm	p 7

Also note newly announced date:

*Russian Choral Concert	Friday 18th November	7.30 pm	p 10
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*** Centenary celebration event for the month shown. Open to all.**

The above list does not include official church business meetings or ad-hoc events organised by others. For all these, and follow-on events to the dates above, see the Diary (pages 13-16).

CONTACT on-line

You will find this issue, and many previous issues of CONTACT, on the archive pages of both of the church websites, where you will get the benefits of colour without the extra printing cost.

Our next issue

Grateful thanks to all those who have contributed to this issue. The next issue will be published in early October, so please let us have your contribution by **Tuesday 20th September**. You can send it to editor@rosythmethodist.org.uk.