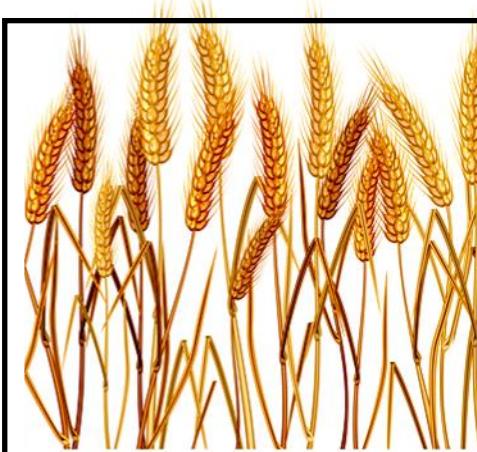


# The Bridge

October 2017



Banff & King Edward Parish Churches

*Out of the depths, I cry to you, LORD; hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy. If you, LORD, kept a record of sins, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you. I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope. Israel, put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love, and with him is full redemption. [Psalm 130 v 1-7]*

**Dear Friends,**

**Do you ever feel stuck, useless, things are going wrong. Maybe you even feel a failure or trapped with no way out? You are not alone;** many of us go through periods like that. When life's problems hit, our failures and problems seem huge, and we can't see a way out. We forget the good things that may be going on, the good we have done or known, and the good we can yet do. Yet, when we feel up against it, we can cry out to God for help as Jesus did at Gethsemane or as the psalmists did regularly. As the psalm above suggests, sometimes we have to hang in there waiting, holding on by our fingertips, but answers can come in time, not always the ones we want, but God who redeems will not abandon us if we put our trust in Jesus.

**We have finished our journey on Sundays through the history of the early church as recorded in the book of Acts, learning how the church coped with trials and failures.** We have learned how despite our many weaknesses, faith can get us through times of deep trouble, and even help us shine out. Practical guidance for us when we feel low was seen in encouraging us to be open to the daily help of the Holy Spirit, speaking to us through reading the bible, through regular prayer and through praise- singing can help. Paul sang hymns when he was chained in prison. We also saw how we need to do the basics like ensuring we eat, rest, sleep, accept help, listen for advice, use good sense, and especially be open to the needs of others, sharing together and serving others.

**Maybe our answer sometimes comes through remembering we are called to keep going because we have a purpose to help others.** We can often do this because our pain can help us understand the struggle others are going through and so even we who feel useless failures, can find God is at work in us. His acceptance and grace are there to be shared through people like you and me. It was for people like failed disciple Peter who denied Jesus three times, that He came.

***"A wise sufferer will look not inward, but outward. There is no more effective healer than a wounded healer, and in the process the wounded healer's own scars may fade away."*** \*

**Our new season of twice monthly evening services has started** ; we began by focusing on a video interview with Philip Yancey one of the most popular modern Christian writers. He discussed the basic question **why is there suffering?** **He drew partly on his book 'Where is God when it hurts?** [ which includes the above quotes \*] It addresses the question many ask at some point and his answer reflects interviews with many people who have gone through disasters, both natural and due to human evil. It also reflects on his own experiences, including losing his father when he was a baby, when his father was encouraged



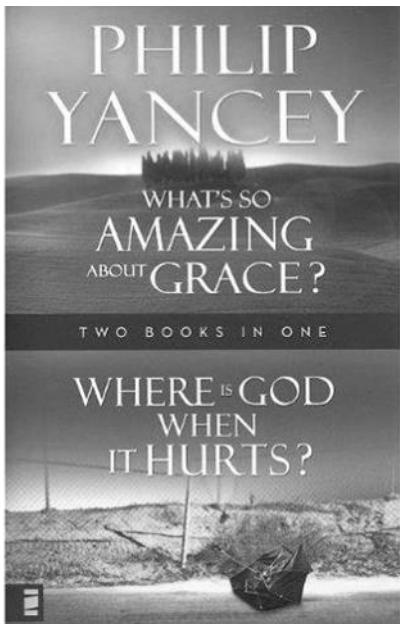
wrongly by some Christians to abandon medical advice and 'trust' God for miraculous healing.

In our evening service, Yancey spoke of the time he was facing death after a car crash and when he was asked if he wanted to contact his loved ones. The three questions he focussed on were not why, or what we would normally worry about

[ money, wealth, job etc.] but Who do I love; What have I done with my life; and What lies ahead [in life and death]? **Maybe crises and pain help us focus on what is important ?**

He argues we live in a world where pain and suffering occur; it is not God causing it specifically; it is the nature of an evolutionary world operating under fixed scientific laws. *"I believe Christians walk a mental tightrope and are in constant danger of falling in one of two errors that can have tragic results. The first error comes when we attribute all suffering to God, seeing it as his punishment for human mistakes; the second error does just the opposite, assuming that life with God will never include suffering."* \*

**God is not apart from suffering, but involved in it and feels it; and is at work to sort it;** we know this because we see it in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus "All our questions about God and suffering should, in fact, be filtered through what we know about Jesus."



His answer to where is God when it hurts, is :where is the church when it hurts, for God works though his church, through you and me working through our suffering to share with others, and share his grace.

**"Bear one another's burdens, the Bible says.** It is a lesson about pain that we all can agree on. Some of us will not see pain as a gift; some will always accuse God of being unfair for allowing it. But, the fact is, pain and suffering are here among us, and we need to respond in some way. The response Jesus gave was to bear the burdens of those he touched. To live in the world as his body, his emotional incarnation, we must follow his example. Sometimes he does enter in, occasionally by performing miracles, and often by giving supernatural strength to

*those in need. But mainly he relies on us, his agents, to do his work in the world. We are asked to live out the life of Christ in the world, announce his message, work for justice, pray for mercy . . . and suffer with the sufferers."*\*

He admits church is not perfect or easy; Christ's church puts us together to be open to people unlike us, who irritate or hurt us or have challengingly different opinions or ways. It then asks us to go out and serve others who are even more unlike us. That's how grace grows, he says. "For me, the goal is to begin to see others through "grace-healed eyes."to help each other be more graceful. Grace is far more than "niceness." It's a powerful force, the force of forgiveness and reconciliation and transformation. It begins with being amazed again and again that we in our weakness and failure are accepted; that is amazing grace!

Yancey argues that too often churches have overlooked grace and instead sought to condemn others for falling short. He was inspired to write *What's So Amazing About Grace?* after President Bill Clinton asked him, "Why do Christians hate so much?"

He was further challenged when he heard about a homeless prostitute in Chicago who had raised money for drugs by prostituting her two-year-old child. When asked if she had sought help at a local church, she answered, "Church? Why would I ever go there? I was already feeling terrible about myself. They'd just make me feel worse." This story convinced Yancey that Christians are poorly communicating the central message that God is willing to accept people, regardless of what they have done. The story haunted him, because the woman was "the type of person who would have gone to Jesus. The more unrighteous a person was, the more comfortable they felt around Jesus". **"legalists miss the whole point of the gospel, that it is a gift from God to people who don't deserve it. The solution to sin is not to impose an ever-stricter code of behaviour. Because I, who deserve the opposite, am invited to take my place at the table in God's family."**

"All of us in the church need "grace-healed eyes" to see the potential in others for the same grace that God has so lavishly bestowed on us."

**"[the world] draws lines between people; in contrast, Jesus' love cuts across those lines and dispenses grace."** "Ungrace causes cracks to fissure open between mother and daughter, father and son, brother and sister, between scientists, and prisoners, and tribes, and races. Left alone, cracks widen, and for the resulting chasms of ungrace there is only one remedy: the frail rope-bridge of forgiveness."

So for Yancey, the God of redemption and of resurrection, takes what is weak and failed, not proud and self-righteous, and can remake us into something better. He recycles and ultimately renews!

**Grace is the key word**, and in our next evening service on 1<sup>st</sup> October we will focus on what that means in practice for our lives, as Yancey draws on his book 'what's so amazing about grace? [above quotes are from this book]

Join us week by week, in the challenge to grow in grace and share it with others like us who are weak and fail and are hurting; for His amazing grace, works through you and me sharing it through our hurts and weakness; May that grace be with you all more and more.

## ***David***

Some of Yancey's books are available for borrowing at the back of Banff church

## **SHOEBOX APPEAL 2017**

**MAKE SOMEONE HAPPY THIS CHRISTMAS**

**YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY!**

Blythswood Care provides practical help, love and support for those in need.

Whether through filled shoeboxes at Christmas, relief and development aid or social projects for young and old, Blythswood brings hope to families in Europe, Africa and Asia. For every £1 donated, Blythswood delivers more than £5 worth of grass roots aid. With the support of ordinary people like you, Blythswood achieves EXTRAORDINARY transformations and provides loving care for body and soul.



In 2016 Blythswood gathered and distributed 12,474 shoeboxes.

If you would like to give hope to someone in need this Christmas please think about filling a shoebox. There are leaflets at the back of the church with checklists of suggested items needed with a few highlighted items which are more urgently needed e.g. toothbrushes, toothpaste, hats, scarves, gloves, soap etc.

Boxes can be left at the back of the church or handed into the hall during Coffee n Creche(Tuesdays 10-11.30 and Wednesday 1.30-3pm) or Coffee n Company (Thursday 2-4pm).

If you would like boxes collected please contact either Maureen Forsyth on 833767 or Ron Smith on 815440.



# Coffee Morning

Saturday, 4th November

10am - Noon

BANFF PARISH CHURCH HALL

TEA~~COFFEE~~FRESH PANCAKES~~SCONES

SALES TABLES, RAFFLE, CRAFTS, etc.

Pay at the door or tickets are available from Elders and  
other church officials.

We would be delighted if you could donate items for the sales table or for the hamper raffle prize please speak to Maureen Kaczmarek (814217) or Pat McLennan (815737).

We would particularly appreciate donations of home baking, craft items, chocolate (boxes, bags, bars, anything chocolate!) and non perishable items for the hamper.

## CHANGING WORLD.....CHANGING CHURCH

Considering how to be church with and for people in a changing world

### DAY CONFERENCE

Led by Steve Aisthorpe and Liz Crumlish

**Williamson Hall, Duff Avenue, Elgin.**

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 21st.**

**10am—3pm**

**ALL WELCOME**



# **COME AND KNIT-A-BIT!**

*(and have a cuppa)*

We would like to have as many men, women and children from Banff and King Edward communities and churches 'knit-a-bit' as possible. Whether you drop in and knit 10 stitches, 30 stitches or a metre

**WHY?** To knit knee blankets for Chalmers Hospital and raise money for Church funds.

**WHEN?** Start at 11.15am on Sat 7th October  
Finish at 11.15am on Sun 8th October

**WHERE?** Banff Parish Church Hall

**Join us on Saturday 7th anytime between 11.15am and 6pm (doors will be locked at 6pm for security) or join us at the back of the Church from 10am on Sunday 8th October.**

*Stay as long as you like - the kettle will always be on!*

**Wool, needles and instruction (if needed) will be provided.**

*Let's knit for our local hospital!*

*Let's knit together as a community and church*

## **BUSY HANDS GROUP**

Do you knit, crochet, sew or craft?

**BUSY HANDS** is an opportunity to socialise with others who enjoy keeping their hands busy whilst they chat!

Everyone is welcome to come along and keep their hands busy for fun or for charities. We meet monthly on a Saturday at 10am until around noon in Banff Church Hall. Tea and coffee are provided.

We next get together on Saturday, 28th October.

We would be delighted to see you there!

Any items collected for charity will be distributed through Loving Hands who support various charities including Knit for Peace, Blythswood Care, Hand in Hand for Syria, International Aid Trust, Hope and Aid Direct, Dementia Charity or donated to local charities.



# MONTHLY LUNCH

@ Kirk Cafe



Thursday, 5th October 12-1.30pm

BANFF CHURCH HALL

Soup and Sandwich £4

Under 5's Free



Children's play area with Karen.

TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE  
IN SOMEONE'S LIFE YOU  
DON'T HAVE TO BE BRILLIANT,  
RICH, BEAUTIFUL, OR PERFECT.  
YOU JUST HAVE TO CARE.



Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. Philippians 2:4

I presented some thoughts for the future of our Church at the Sunday service on 25 June this year. I suggested that our church and buildings should be:-

- The hub of the community;
- A multi-functional, user-friendly space which is open and welcoming;
- A lively worshipping church for all ages.

Those same thoughts were in my subconscious as I was watching the Last Night of the Proms on Saturday 9 September, joining-in on Land of Hope and Glory and reminiscing on the numerous (almost 200) prom concerts I attended as a regular front-row promenader. The concerts largely made full use of the Royal Albert Hall auditorium. Indeed, some were composed with its unique spaces in mind, such as the off-stage female choir in Holst's Planets suite. Despite its audience capacity of 6000, the Hall can present small, intimate solo recitals or string quartets just as easily as massive choral works, such as Mahler's Symphony of a Thousand. Outside the Proms season, the Royal Albert Hall has regularly hosted diverse events: tennis tournaments, boxing matches, awards ceremonies to mention but a few; and, of course, the annual Festival of Remembrance.



The ultimate in multi-functional, user-friendly space, you might say.

Anyway, to get back to our Vision, I remember the late Hugh Urquhart once showing me a photograph of himself and Wattie Robertson, as teenagers, attending a Saturday night dance in "St Mary's Hall". So, it can be seen that our main hall has served a range of community uses for many years and, indeed, our buildings are, generally, well-located and accessible.

The Hall, of course, continues to serve us well, but would benefit from some improvement. The central heating is enormously inefficient. The Property Committee has received advice that modern radiators, served by a new, self-contained boiler, will pay for themselves within a few years. Rearrangement of the backstage area would provide improved storage accommodation, and a sliding partition would allow greater flexibility.

Michael Ritchie, Architect, has prepared plans, showing possible development of the Church and Hall. These include glassing-in the High Street frontage. Many other churches have done this: Nairn and Inverurie, for example. Far from being purely aesthetic, this approach has practical advantages. Not least, it will facilitate easier, weather-resistant and disabled-friendly access between the Church and the Hall, particularly the Hall toilets.

Turning to the Church itself, there is considerable potential to make it more multi-functional and user-friendly. The plan shows the area at the back of the Church partitioned-off in glass. This affords separate accommodation whilst still integral to the Sanctuary.

At the front of the Church, there is scope for extending the chancel outwards. This would advantage Sunday worship generally, but especially the new Communion format. Obviously, it would also provide a more suitable space for musical performances by visiting orchestras, the Deveron Singers and similar entertainment.

Making the Church multi-functional inevitably raises the issue of the seating. I have already stated my own preference for non-fixed seating, which can be used more flexibly, but clearly, there are discussions to be had – on all aspects of the plan, not just the seating.

For now, Session is arranging to visit other churches in the area which have carried out comparable works, in order to inform further deliberations.

In conclusion, whilst we may not aspire to quite such a multi-use space as the Royal Albert Hall, our plans are ambitious for both the Church and the community.

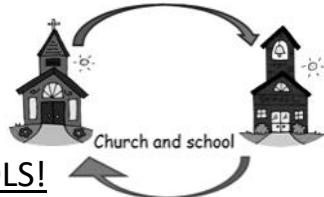
### ***Jim Buchan***

Resources Convener

### ***Point to Ponder.***



*If somebody looked at  
your diary for the week,  
would they know you were  
a follower of Jesus?*



## WE CAN SUPPORT OUR SCHOOLS!

Marie Locke

Attending the Christians in Schools conference, organised and led in Turriff last month by Christian Values in Education (CVE) Scotland ([www.cve-scotland.org.uk](http://www.cve-scotland.org.uk)) and Scripture Union, we were inspired by how ordinary people can share their faith and help schools.

One particularly encouraging example was shared by a normal mother-of-four who, despite many setbacks, has in the last two years established three successful Scripture Union clubs in schools in Aberdeenshire, and for the first time gifted tens of children with the experience of being in a church.

This success was only one of the encouraging tales we heard of God acting through people in his world. It can be easy to be disheartened by the many doors that seem closed to Christians in our schools and communities, but this conference provided a chance for Christian teachers, chaplains and family workers to meet together and learn about some of the support available, and to share encouragement and hope for the journey ahead.

For me the key message that came from the sessions was that it's not chaplains or family workers or even teachers and parents that can exclusively make the difference when it comes to sharing Christian values and beliefs with children today. Each of us, just by being seen in our communities and in our schools, has the power to make a real difference in individual lives. Chaplaincy is no longer about a minister bible-bashing once a term in assembly, but rather is about whole congregations seeking ways to serve, support and encourage our schools and, through the schools, the families that make our town.

A number of projects were mentioned at the conference, including

Prayer support

One-to-one mentoring/tutoring of vulnerable children

Scripture Union clubs

School pastors helping keep the peace!

Lunchtime clubs e.g. knitting, craft clubs

Using Bible stories and participatory story-telling to bring Christian values to life in the classroom

If you feel God might be calling you to support or develop any of these projects within our church or school community, be encouraged to explore it prayerfully and perhaps by speaking to others in the congregation or to Karen, our Children and Families worker, who was at the conference. As the mother mentioned above found, none of us knows what doors God might be about to open, and often all it takes is for one person to listen to and obey that inner prompting, and just to be there.

### **CHILDREN AND FAMILY WORK**

Karen has settled into the post of Children and Family worker. After the Circus event at the end of the summer Karen has been busy getting to know mums, dads and families who come along to Coffee n Creche, High Street Gang and Messy Church and also offering a play corner for children at the monthly lunches so that parents can enjoy a quiet relaxing lunch! Do invite young families along to the October lunch.

Karen is also available on Sunday mornings with activities for children in the hall.

Looking ahead, Karen will be organising Children and family activities during the October holidays - further details will be advertised in the bulletin and on Facebook soon.





We had a lively and fun September Messy Church. It was great to see everyone enjoying the crafts, activities, games and singing and sitting chatting over supper.

Join us at our October meeting on Friday, 6th October at 5pm when we

will be thinking about Harvest Thanksgiving.

If you have never been before and would like a welcomer to meet you please contact Karen or Janet at the church office on 01261 848211—leave a message and we will call you back.

Our November Messy Church will be held on Friday, 10th November.

On December 8th we will welcome back **OUT OF THE BOX** for a Christmas puppet show.

### **EVENING SERVICES**

Evening services are held in Banff Parish Church on the first and third Sunday of each month at 6pm. Tea is available before and after the service which also offers an opportunity to chat and get to know one another.

This session we will be using video interviews and sermons led by Rev Nicky Gumbel, founder of Alpha courses. There will also be an opportunity for discussion and an opportunity to share our thoughts. (See Minister's letter on page 1 for details)

If you are coming along for the first time and would like a welcomer to meet you outside the hall please call and leave a message on 01261 818211.

**ALL ARE WELCOME.**

**BIBLE STUDY GROUP** meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 7pm in Banff Kirk lounge. The intention is we review the previous Sunday service texts and possibly those for the following Sunday. ALL ARE WELCOME. (Enter via the main hall door)



**FOOD BAG MINISTRY** There are people in our community who, for whatever reason, may be going through a difficult time. Some families are having to choose between food and heating—can you help?

Donations of food can be placed in the box at the back of the church. There is also a box in the church hall available during any of the week day meetings

Food should be non-perishable and well within sell-by date. There is also a box for cash donations which can be used to buy specific items when needed, particularly toiletries.



### **BOOK CLUB**

The Book Club meet on the last Thursday of each month at 2.30pm in Banff Kirk lounge. This is an informal group who choose books from a wide range of authors and enjoy sharing their thoughts on the characters and story.

All are welcome to come along.

Contact person: Joyce Millar on 01261 498134





The **FRIENDSHIP GROUP** meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month in Banff Church Hall at 7pm.

We welcome anyone from the church and communities of Banff and King Edward Churches

- male or female, town or country, young or not so young; all are welcome.

#### MEETING DATES:

3 October	Irene Finlayson
17 October	Something Corny - Corn Dolly making.
7 November	Crossreach
21 November	Chocolate Truffle Making
5 December	Christmas Meal
16 January	Burns/Scots Night
6 February	Games Night
20 February	Bobs Buddies
6 March	Craft workshop
20 March	Bowling
3 April	Visit to Eden Watermill
17 April	TBC

We look forward to seeing you. For further info call Pat on 815737 or the Church Office on 818211

*When we reach out to others in friendship and love,  
We extend the hand of God.*



## **COFFEE AND COMPANY**

### **Banff Church Hall - Thursdays 2 - 4 pm**



Open to anyone in our church and wider community who would like to pop in for a cuppa and a chat.

**All ages welcome**

### **King Edward Parish Church**



At our last Session meeting the subject of Donation Envelopes was discussed. In an effort to reduce costs we decided to cut back on the distribution of these as only a few of the 140 members of the congregation use them.

We would like to hear from the congregation their views on the subject and reassure them that envelopes will still be provided to anyone wishing them. This is only being done as a money saving exercise so please contact your Elder with your views.

Gift Aid can be claimed from the money donated by the open plate and Gift Aid forms can be found in the Church for any tax payer who wishes to increase the value of their donations. Alternative methods such as Standing Order or Direct Debit can also be used.

*Margaret Brown*  
Session Clerk

## **POLICE ADVICE**

### **Helping communities stay safe against doorstep crime and online/telephone scams.**

Police are urging communities to be aware of doorstep crime and scams following a number of reports of incidents across the North east area.

Doorstep crime can affect some of the most vulnerable members of local communities, with perpetrators mainly targeting victims because of a perceived vulnerability, such as age, gender or disability.

People can also be targeted over the internet or via the telephone.

Chief Inspector Elaine Logue said: "This type of crime sadly is typically aimed at vulnerable members of the community such as the elderly and is completely callous and unacceptable.

"There are a number of simple steps people can take to help prevent themselves from becoming a victim of crime and I have included this advice in this message.

"I would also urge people to look after their family members, friends and more vulnerable members of our communities. This might mean taking a minute to go across to their house to check that all is well if you see a workman or official-looking individual on their doorstep, if you are comfortable doing so and without putting yourself in any difficulty. If you have any concerns at all please call police on 101.

"It is very important to pass on advice to friends, neighbours or family members who may be more likely to be targeted and provide them with the information and confidence to say no.

"Increasingly, criminals do not have to be present in person and will make contact via the telephone or online, often suggesting that they are from a financial organisation known to the recipient and that there is some immediate action that has to be taken to safeguard savings. Of course, the supposed remedial action sees the account holder unwittingly move monies to the criminal's account."

Information and advice on all aspects of keeping safe can be found on the Police Scotland website [www.scotland.police.uk](http://www.scotland.police.uk) or by calling 101.

## **Key advice for the public:**

- Keep your front and back doors locked at all times and be on guard if someone turns up unexpectedly.
- Use the door viewer or nearby window when answering the door and use (or fit) a door chain or bar.
- Only let callers in if they have an appointment and you have confirmed they are genuine.
- Always ask for identification badges of anyone you answer the door to, but don't rely on them. Identity cards can be faked – phone the company to verify their identity.
- Some companies offer a password system. Ask your utility providers if this can be used and if you have a password with a company make sure the caller uses it.
- Never let people try to persuade you to let them into your home even if they are asking for help – they may not be genuine. If someone is persistent, ask them to call at another time and arrange for a friend or family member to be with you.
- Never agree to pay for goods or give money to strangers who arrive at your door.
- Don't keep large amounts of money in your home.
- Don't feel pressurised into agreeing to immediate work or buying a product or service.
- Don't agree to buy from the first person who calls.
- Don't pay cash up front or offer to go and get money.
- Shop around and get a few quotes if you decide you need work done and ask for recommendations from friends and family.
- Ask what your cancellation rights are.
- If you are cold called or contacted via email don't be rushed into following instructions.
- Hang up the phone and contact the organisation yourself.

If you feel you or a vulnerable member of your family would benefit from more specialist advice, a Crime Prevention survey can be arranged by making contact with your Community Policing Team

‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ No other commandment is greater than this.

Mark 12:31

## **NEWS FROM THE KIRK SESSION – SEPTEMBER 2017**

Our September Kirk Session meeting focussed on stewardship of our church's and our personal finances. The meeting began with the Minister highlighting scriptural and other guidance to help us consider stewardship.

Our offering envelopes quote; Psalm 116; 12 'how can I repay the Lord for all his goodness to me'. In Acts, Paul encouraged the churches to give generously for the poor and be organised in doing so. We give in thankfulness to God for all his gifts to us and so the church can help others.

He highlighted how the Church of Scotland is working out how churches can focus more on three key priorities; nurturing congregational life and worship, making disciples and engaging and serving community. The General Assembly has this year called congregations to pray that God will do fresh work amongst us as God's people and Kirk Sessions are instructed to consider how best to respond to that call.

This set the scene for the discussion that followed

Mr Leuty our Treasurer explained the fall in our capital fund due to ongoing expenditure each year, and outlined the unavoidable expenses that the church has to meet. This meant that it is a priority to increase our income, by possibly £20,000 per annum to meet our central costs.

Mrs Fiona Penny, Church of Scotland Stewardship Consultant was welcomed to the meeting and gave an encouraging presentation on stewardship generally and a stewardship campaign in particular. She provided examples from other churches that had adopted "Giving for Growth", a programme that takes commitment and enthusiasm, prayer, planning, teaching, response and follow-up and thanksgiving.

In brief, it involves hosting an event/s to which all church members and adherents are personally invited. The event highlights all the work being done by the church and focuses on sharing our vision for the future. There



There is no focus on figures. Those attending are given a pack of literature which contains a response in which the individual is asked to review their giving. Visitors collect the confidential responses afterwards.

Session voted completely in favour of adopting a stewardship campaign and it was suggested that Mrs Penny be invited to give a similar presentation to the congregation. Mr Locke and I were tasked to approach individuals to undertake Planning Group responsibilities and report back to the next session meeting. Planning meetings would begin in October with a view to the campaign taking place in Spring 2018. Mrs Penny was warmly thanked for her enthusiastic and engaging presentation.

You will be hearing more about our stewardship campaign over the coming months. In the meantime, your prayers on how the Session can approach this thoughtfully and reverently will be much appreciated. If you are approached to help, please say "YES I would love to help". If you would like any further information, please give me a call.

**Elinor Smith**                      Session Clerk

### *Did you know?*

- Fifty bibles are sold every minute but it is also the world's most shoplifted book!
- Almonds and Pistachios are the only nuts mentioned in the Bible.
- Dogs are mentioned 41 times but no cats!
- The words 'Do not be afraid' appear 365 times - once for every day of the year.
- The bible is actually made up of 773,692 words, and takes an average of 70 hours to read.

We remember with sadness, the following members who have died and those whose funerals were conducted on behalf of King Edward and Banff Parish Churches

Mr Leslie Craib, Banff.

Mr Albert Hay, King Edward.

Mr Dysart Stephen Paterson, Banff.

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.*

## Ministry of Flowers

We are grateful to the following who have donated and will donate flowers to beautify Banff Church during the summer months:

9th July	Mrs G. Paterson
23rd July	Mr and Mrs G Youngson
6th Aug	Reid Family & Mrs A Graham
13th Aug	Mrs A Hay and Mrs H Gordon
20th Aug	Mrs L Leask
27th Aug	Mrs M Gess
3rd Sept	Mrs R Blanchard
10th Sept	Clark Family
17th Sept	Mrs M Barclay
24th Sept	Mrs P McNaughton
1st Oct	Mrs G McRae
8th Oct	Mrs M Kaczmarek
15th Oct	Miss M Henderson & Mrs J Clark
22nd Oct	Mrs I Cook
29th Oct	Mrs F Raymond



Flower Convener : Mrs Pat McLennan (Tel: 815737)

### NOVEMBER BRIDGE MAGAZINE

The November Bridge will be a King Edward Special. Please give some thought to articles you would like to submit. Email articles to [rjs.simpson@btinternet.com](mailto:rjs.simpson@btinternet.com) (include 'Bridge' in the subject line) or hand them to Janet by Sunday 15th October.

# CONTACT US

Session Clerk	Mrs Elinor Smith	815782
Worship & Discipleship	Ministry Team	(Contact details above)
Fellowship & Service Co-ordinator	Mrs Rosie Blanchard	861029
Outreach Co-ordinator	Mrs Moira Gess	815147
Resource Group	Mr Jim Buchan	
Pastoral Care Group	Mrs Mary Cameron	812716
Communion Elder	Mr Charlie Smith	815782
Safeguarding Co-ordinator	Mr Charlie Smith	815782
Roll Keeper	Mr Donald Galloway	
Sunday Club Contact	Mrs Karen Cumming	07484090127
Church Officer	Mr Gordon Mustard	861545
Property Conveners	Ron Smith and Ian Cameron	815440
Hall Keeping Team	Contact Church Office	818211
Magazine Editor	Mrs Janet Simpson	843221
Organist	Mr Stephen Pratt	833113
Church Secretary	Mrs Janet Simpson	843221
Life and Work Convener	Mrs Moira Ingram	812393
Flower Convener	Mrs Pat McLennan	815737
Resource Group Clerk	Mrs Irene Tewnion	
Treasurer/Gift Aid Convener	Mr Trevor Leuty	821282
FWO Treasurer	Mrs Moira Gess	815147
Church Office	janetsimpson@banffparishchurchofscotland.co.uk	818211

## KING EDWARD CHURCH - Charity No SC015077

Session Clerk	Mrs Margaret Brown	821316
Roll Keeper	Mrs Nancy Simpson	01888
Treasurer	Mrs Sandra French	568602
Fabric Convener	Mr Eric Wilson	832951
Church Officer/Hall Keeper	Mr Frank Schapitz	821123
Organist	Mrs Eleanor Wilson	818240
Flower Convener	Mrs Isobel Smith	821348
Guild President	Mrs Eleanor Wilson	818240
Hall Committee President	Mrs Jayne Pirie	821680

# **Banff and King Edward Parish Churches**

Banff Parish Church - Charity No. SC 015501 King Edward Parish Church - Charity No. SC 015077

**Minister:** Rev David I W Locke MA M.Sc., BD Tel: 01261 812107  
email:davidlockerev@yahoo.co.uk

**Pastoral Assistant:** Vera Lumsden Tel 07890865931

**Children and Family Worker:** Karen Cumming Tel 07484090127

**Church Secretary:** Janet Simpson 01261 818211

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Details of many of these activities can be found in the magazine**

Tues	Oct 3rd	7pm	Friendship Group
Weds	Oct 4th	2.15pm	Service in Doo'cot View
Weds	Oct 4th	7pm	Banff Kirk Session
Thur	Oct 5th	Noon-1.30pm	Monthly lunch in Banff Church Hall
Fri	Oct 6th	5pm	Messy Church in Banff Church Hall
Sat-Sun	Oct 7/8th		Knit-a-thon
Tues	Oct 10th	3pm	Service in Airlie Gardens
Tues	Oct 10th	7pm	Bible Study
Weds	Oct 11th	7pm	Craft Night in King Edward Hall
Tues	Oct 17th	7pm	Friendship Group in Banff Church Hall
Tues	Oct 24th	2.30pm	Service in Banff Care Home
Sat	Oct 28th	10am-Noon	Busy Hands Group in Banff Church Hall
<b><u>REGULAR</u></b>		<b><u>WEEKLY</u></b>	<b><u>ACTIVITIES</u></b>
Tues		10-11.30am	Coffee n Creche in Banff Church Hall
Weds		1.30-3pm	Coffee n Creche in Banff Church Hall
Weds		3pm-4.45pm	High Street Gang in Banff Church Hall
Thurs		2pm-4pm	Coffee and Company in Banff Church Hall