

# Happy Easter!

Friends, I hope this newsletter finds each of you well. I pray for you every day and remain thankful to be your parish minister.

I am also thankful that the sun is hanging out a bit longer these days and signs of spring are popping up daily.

We have some wonderful worship events coming up that I hope you will consider attending. This year, we are sharing Holy Week Services with our friends at Birse and Feughside Church in Finzean.

MAUNDY THURSDAY APRIL 14th

Maundy Thursday Service will take place in Birse & Feughside Church, Finzean at 7:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 15th

Good Friday Service will take place in Torphins on at 7:00 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 17th

Sunrise Easter Service will take place at 7:30 a.m. in carpark at MDC with a breakfast in Lochnagar to follow. Easter Worship Service will take place at 11:00 a.m. at MDC

Please know that if you need help with food, heating, a listening ear that I am here. Reach out and give me a call, I am your minister even if you have never stepped foot in the church.

God Loves you,

Rev. Holly Smith 🕿 013398 82915

## GUILD

We meet at 2pm on the second Tuesday of the month. Feel free to come and join us....we are a friendly group! We have a speaker from the 'Vine Trust' in April, and 'Home For Good' in May. ALL are welcome. We are still observing Covid restrictions to safeguard participants. For further information contact:- Dorothy Keir 🖀 013398 82179



#### Children, Youth and Family Dates for your Diary Spring and Summer 2022 Sunday School

Every Sunday morning during Morning Worship at 11am in term time.

For children and young people up to the age of 18. Crafts, Games, Bible Message and Conversation. We have lots of fun together - come and join us!

# Mini Mid Deeside

#### First Wednesday of Every Month at 9:15am - 10am. 4th May, 1st June, 6th July, 3rd August, 7th September

A relaxed worship time for parents and others. Do you find it difficult to get to church on Sunday mornings? Join us once a month for a short mid week worship time. Come along after school drop off time. Worship starts at 9:30am. Tea and coffee provided. Babies, toddlers and all other ages welcome.

# Messy Church

### Sunday 1st May at 2pm - 3:30pm.

Fun, Faith and Food. Everyone Welcome!

### All Age Church Family Outdoor Worship and Barbecue

Sunday 26th June at 11am with Barbecue Lunch to follow.

This will be a community worship celebration for everyone - young and old!

# Summer Holiday Bible Club

# Monday 15th August - Thursday 18th August, inclusive.

Every Evening at 6:30pm - 8pm. For children and young people up to the age of 18. **Barbecue on Friday 19th August at 6:30pm** for children, young people and their families.

Elizabeth Coulter (Youth Worker)

# PLATINUM JUBILEE PARTY & CEILIDH:

Look out for publicity after Easter for a **church family party and ceilidh** which is to be held on **Friday 3rd June** in the **Learney Hall**. Not only will we be celebrating the **Queen's Platinum (70 year) Jubilee** weekend but this is an excuse for a social get together

and party for our church family and community. There will be games, dancing and other fun activities for all ages from the very young to the highly experienced!









# FINANCIAL UPDATE:

Our income from **Offerings and legacies** which include the open plate, free-will offering envelopes, standing orders through the bank, ad-hoc donations and Gift Aid tax recoveries from the government rose slightly from 2020 by £539 (or 1%) to £59,493 in 2021. Not surprisingly, **Rental income** fell from

2020 by 18% to £5,593 due to lockdowns



and uncertainties caused by the pandemic, but enquiries for lettings are now picking up which is encouraging. **Net heating & lighting costs** have fallen by £2,380 (or 39%) to £3,650 in 2021 with most of the savings made when church buildings were closed during the lockdown. These costs are expected to rise significantly in 2022. **Repairs & renewal costs** totalled £6,828 (after grants received of £10,200) compared with £13,926 in 2020. Total income (receipts) in 2021 was £81,303 and total expenditure (payments) was £79,971 meaning that there was, overall, a small surplus of £1,332 in 2021 (compared to a deficit of £3,025 in 2020). The **General Fund balance** remains strong and stood at £62,374 at 31st December 2021 (31st December 2020: £61,042).

**Bob Auckland (Treasurer)** 

**PARISH PANTRIES** at MDC Torphins, MDC Church Hall Lumphanan & Bowling Club KON Parish Pantries were set up to help our local community during the COVID pandemic. They contain non perishable food items, toiletries and baby items. They work on the ethos of 'take what you need and give if you can'. They are open 24/7 with no one knowing who's taking and who is giving. To donate you can pop items into one of the Pantries or leave items in the box at the church door or drop goods off on a Sunday morning at church.

A little suggestion; children's drinks, children's snacks, baby food etc. tea, coffee, long life milk, tinned soups/beans/vegetables/meat/fruit/rice/ custard, packets of rice, pasta, sauces, biscuits & sweets as a treat, toiletries, house hold cleaning items, really anything you would use yourself.

To all helping to make this such an amazing success, and to those who have given a cash donation to Bob Auckland our treasurer a big "**Thank You**".

Everyone who uses these Pantries are very very appreciative and they thank you so much! I have heard some wonderful heart-felt stories on what a difference the Pantries have made to people in our community. We certainly are helping our neighbours.

For further information please get in touch with Holly 2 013398 82915 or me *Margaret Stewart* 2 013398 82598



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#### **CHURCH ROOMS AVAILABLE TO RENT**

The church meeting rooms in Torphins and Lumphanan are available to rent on a regular or one-off basis subject to availability and the approval of the Kirk Session.



We can accommodate yoga and Pilates classes, counselling sessions, meetings, musical activities, children's or family parties etc

<u>Mid Deeside Hall, Lumphanan</u> measures 9.0m x 5.5 m and the charge for letting it is currently £8/hour

In the church complex at Torphins we have four rooms-

Lochnagar is the largest measuring 9.6m x 7.2m and costs £10/hour

Morven measures 6.0m x 4.5m and is £8 /hour

Clachnaben measures 4.8m x 4.5m and is £7/hour

<u>The Sanctuary</u> measures approx 20m x 10m The charge for the Sanctuary will depend on the duration of the let and the nature of the activity taking place.

The building has excellent kitchen and toilet facilities and there is a large car park in the grounds.

Organisations wishing to book the facilities for six or more consecutive dates, weekly or monthly, will be offered a 10% discount on the hourly rates.

To enquire about renting a room please contact *Pam Auckland* by email at <u>sessionclerk@middeesidechurch.org.uk</u>

Minister:Rev Holly Smith13398 82915Session Clerk:Mrs Pam Auckland13398 82722Website:www.middeesidechurch.org.ukMid Desside Parish Church of SectlandCharity Na SC0120C

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