

LOGIE & ST. JOHN'S (CROSS) PARISH CHURCH
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER: 2nd October 2022



WEEKLY SUNDAY SERVICE at 11am
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*All good gifts around us
Are sent from heaven above;
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, For all His love.*



HARVEST THANKSGIVING: SUNDAY 2nd OCTOBER @ 11am



This week is our Harvest Thanksgiving Service. It will be an intergenerational service held in the Memorial Hall. (Use the Shaftesbury Ave. entrance). Grant will lead the service and those attending are asked to contribute non-perishable items for our new 'Foods & Goods' larder. Our Halls are used throughout the week by many community groups and the idea is that this larder would be available to anyone. It will be advertised as a give and take option; that is anyone can feel free to take what might be of use to them that day/week while others may feel able to give non-perishable items.

PASTORAL CARE

If you, or anyone you know, needs pastoral care then please contact Grant by mobile: 07507710871 or by email: GMacLaughlan@churchofscotland.org.uk

FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

We have many things to be thankful for. Unscramble the words in the apples to find what some of them are.



CONNECT ON A TUESDAY

Tuesday Bible Study continues on Tuesdays in the church building. There are two groups available. Either **2pm – 3.30pm** or **7.15pm – 8.45pm**.

Joan shared on Sunday that there is an event at Dundee:West Church on Saturday 1st October, 10am -12pm, which may be of interest to those who have been attending the Tuesday group.

Rev Philip Ross, APC Church, will be talking about the Book of Psalms

- What is the history of the Psalms in worship?
- What can we learn from Jesus and the New Testament about singing Psalms?

PRESBYTERY MISSION PLAN

There was a meeting after worship last week to share the proposed Presbytery Mission Plan. There was much to digest and so the following from Grant gives the detail again.

We are living in a world of constant change. For some this is invigorating and for others it is exhausting; for some it is exciting to think of the possibilities, for others it is deeply upsetting at what they will lose. There is no right or wrong, it is simply the reality of how we feel when we face change.

The Church of Scotland has been undergoing a period of considerable change for as long as I have been a minister (almost 25 years) and indeed longer. There have been linkages, unions and buildings closed. Some of you have been on that journey. There continues to be a number of challenges to face in order to be an effective church for the 21st Century. This has been the focus of the Presbytery Mission Plan, which has emerged over the last 12 months after conversation and discussion.

Some of the key elements are:

Staffing: We need to reduce the number of ministers in Dundee Presbytery from 27 to 18.

To enable this to happen the Presbytery has been divided into 6 Groups. Our Group is made up of Menzieshill, Camperdown, Balgay, Lochee, Dundee: West and ourselves, Logie & St John's (Cross). Currently the group has 6.6 staff- 4.6 ministers and 2 Mission Development Staff. In the future this group will in the future be served by 3 Ministers and 1 Mission Development Worker. A reduction of 2.6 staff.

Someone kindly asked about the reduction in staffing from 6.6 to 4 and whether I may be required to move. To be clear I have a permanent tenure which means that I need to decide to move, I cannot be asked or told to move. My intention is to continue serving as a minister in the West End for 60% of my week and in the North East of Dundee the other 40% for the foreseeable future. I am very happy in my roles and feel very settled serving you.

Buildings: We need to reduce the number of buildings by 1/3 across the Presbytery.

Currently the group has 6 sets of buildings. In the future it is envisaged that there will be 3 Mission and Ministry Hubs serving the wider Area. This means the following

The buildings of Menzieshill Church and Lochee Church will remain open.

Camperdown and Balgay buildings will close by the end of 2023

As there are strengths and weaknesses for the buildings at Dundee: West, Logie & St John's (Cross) there will be a feasibility study undertaken to consider which if either space is best or whether a new space should be identified. A decision is to be made by the end of 2024 with regards these buildings. We need to recognise that there is a possibility that our building may not be considered as suitable for the future.

Future Structure of Congregations:

The plan is that Camperdown and Lochee Churches Unite. The plan is for Logie & St John's (Cross), Dundee: West, Balgay and Menzieshill to consider a 4 way union. This would mean one Kirk Session, but possibly two centres/ buildings for mission and ministry and the recognition that variety and diversity is required.

There is much in the planning that we are still in the process of prayerfully discerning and I would greatly appreciate your prayerful support as, along with the Kirk Session, we seek to navigate the path ahead.

There may be times when there are rumours and speculation. People may hear stories or opinions. I want to assure you that as soon as I know something for definite, I will communicate this to you directly, through this newsletter or on a Sunday at a special congregational meeting.

Please do pray for our group in the West, for the ministry team as we continue to prayerfully work together and for the Kirk Sessions as look to discern the path God has for us.

Your friend and minister

Grant