

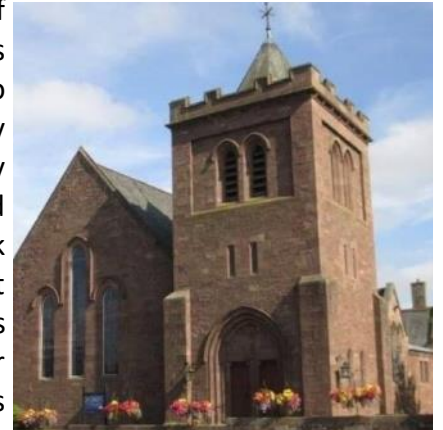
Auchterarder Parish Church Newsletter

17th October 2020


Registered Charities SC001688

Phase 2??

Autumn is fast approaching, and it feels like the start of a darker time of year for more reasons than one. As I write, lockdown is extending across England, Scotland still has many restrictions, and nothing seems set to improve any time soon. Of course, that may still turn out to be overly pessimistic, and the light is always darkest soon before the dawn. In any case, in Auchterarder Church we have many points of contact with God and between ourselves which help to lift our spirits. Our Foodbank project is up and running, and initial plans are being discussed to appoint a new youth worker. We're also back for in-person worship at 3 services every Sunday, both in the sanctuary and in the Church Centre for families – details of how to sign up are on the website and in this newsletter. Just let us know you're coming! And our services both online and on CD allow those who can't join us in person to be part of worship in your own homes. In all these ways we know the light of God's presence not only with us, but through us to our community – a light that the darkest winter will never put out! Enjoy the newsletter!



Wishing you God's blessing
Lynn




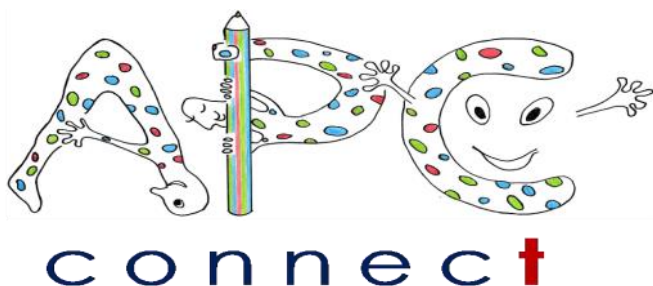
Back to Church Service Booking System

This is a reminder of how to book for the Services. Importantly, to ensure that we keep within the Church of Scotland and Scottish Government Covid-19 Guidelines, you must book for **every** service you wish to attend – **that means booking a place each week.**

There are various ways to book. You can use the online 'Eventbrite' booking system by copying this link into your browser to book a place for the day and time you want:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/auchterarder-parish-church-weekly-worship-tickets-119470516531>.

Alternatively, you can contact our Administrator, Mandy Blackadder, by email admin@auchterarderparish.org or by calling 01764 660152. Please do this **before 5 pm** on the **Friday evening** before the service date.





Auchterarder Parish Church Covid-19 Community Support

A chat on the phone

Tel: 07467 793061 or 01764 660152

E: admin@auchterarderparish.org

To speak to a Minister telephone:

Rev Dr Lynn McChlery: 01764 662399

Rev Iain Paton: 01764 682234

The kids are back!

We have had 2 x 10:30 Children and Family Services back in church – at least, in the Centre. We have had 4 families take part and here is the evidence!



Week 1: Sunday 04 October was Harvest Thanksgiving, when we heard all about how Joseph managed the famine in Egypt and made sure there was enough to share with everyone. That gave us the chance to learn about our new Blue Door Foodbank, too.



We made a pumpkin with a text from Romans 12:13 'Share with the Lord's people who are in need.'

Week 2:

Sunday 11th October was Communion in Church so we learned all about the background to Communion that was based around the Passover – how the Israelites were allowed to go from Egypt; how the angel passed over the houses where Jewish people lived, and what was eaten on a Seder Plate and how the food helps people remember that terrible time for God's people. Because of the restrictions just now, we couldn't actually share any of the Passover food, but perhaps we'll manage it next time! The children – and adults! – got into a gluey mess making an Elijah cup. If you don't know what that is, look it up!!!



PS An Elijah's cup is an important part of Passover Seder. Every year, Elijah the Prophet is invited to the Seder meal. A place is set at the table for Elijah, and we pour a cup of wine in his honour. This glass is usually highly decorated and very special.

We have space for 6 families, so please think about joining us and booking on the system. It is helpful to bring your own pencils, coloured pens, scissors, glue and tape if you can, as we are not able to share resources, but there is usually a spare set! You will get the booking details on this link to the church website. <http://auchterarderparish.org/>



Prayer Group - News

Our Church prayer Group meets on Zoom on Saturday mornings 9am-9.30. All are welcome to join, whether you can come every week or not. Please contact Lynn and you'll be sent the link – or let us know if you have particular things you would like us to pray for. We're not experts but we will do our best!

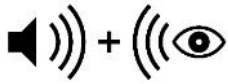


Auchterarder Area Poppy Appeal

Owing to the Covid-19 pandemic, elements of this year's local Poppy Appeal have had to be cancelled because street and house-to-house collections cannot be undertaken by volunteers whilst maintaining the required social distancing. However, many shops, cafes, restaurants, and hotels are still able to take donation cans and poppies; these will be distributed on 19th/20th October.

This year a link to a 'Just Giving' fundraising website for the Auchterarder area has been established: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ao-auchterarder> that will allow donors to contribute to the local Poppy Appeal without the need to leave home. It is hoped that this facility will compensate somewhat for the lost donations usually received in the street and on doorsteps.





Sound and Vision Team (SAV)

sound + vision

Now that we are back in church, we need to recruit a few willing volunteers to join the SAV Team. Being able to hear the service and enjoy the slides and music, we need people to run the equipment! So, If you would like to be a part of this important team, then get in touch. The more volunteers we have, the more the rota is shared out. Training and support will be given, so don't worry! If you would like to join us, please contact Stephen Miller on 078761 84378 or by email on: stephenmiller60@outlook.com

Be a Pumpkin Hero!!

You may remember that over the last few years we have celebrated an alternative Halloween, concentrating on the light rather than the dark.

We won't be able to celebrate in quite the same way this year – no Light Party for example, or mad pumpkin carvers wielding power tools!!! However, I hope to encourage as many 'heroes' as possible; - adults, teens and children – to carve a pumpkin with a 'light' symbol and pop it onto the Church steps on 31st October with a little tealight or candle inside. It can be any symbol you like – a smiley face, a heart, a cross – anything to symbolise the light. It is such a powerful message, this year perhaps more than any other, so please let's all place a symbol of hope and light for the community to see. If you can't manage down to the church, pop one on your own doorstep or a candle in your window!

Below is a link to the video all about Patch the Pumpkin learning to believe in others, most suitable for our younger children

<http://auchterarderparish.org/church/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Patch-the-Pumpkin.mp4>



Blue Door Foodbank

Opening Hours

Tuesday 10.00 am - 2.00 pm

Friday 10.00 am - 2.00 pm

Auchterarder Parish Church

24 High Street, Auchterarder

How the Blue Door works!

The aim of the Blue Door is to help tackle food poverty within the local community. It is open to anyone who needs it, and access will be through a referral process.



For any further information, please contact us on: info@bluedoorfoodbank.org or 01764 660152



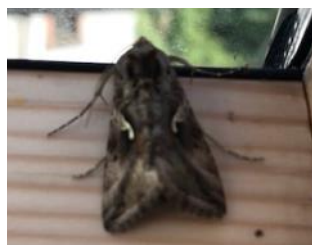
Angels and stars.

Please bring any completed angels and stars and leave them on the table at the back of the church. Please keep knitting, crocheting etc and encourage your friends and neighbours as well as it would be

wonderful to see Auchterarder festooned with angels and stars at Christmas. Our target of 1,000 would lift the spirits of many people at what will be a very testing time. How wonderful it will be to have an opportunity to brighten up Auchterarder at Christmas. If you have any queries please phone me at 01764 682234

Marjorie Paton

Another selection from Braehead of flying beauties and Autumn skies. Thanks to Sheila Ferguson-Smith.



Have seen the heron in the fish ladder of Lochy Burn at the bottom of Ruthven Street?

I have seen it twice in the last three weeks. It is not shy, in fact it is a bit of a show-off. Last Monday there were four people taking photos and it was not at all worried by them.



When I first saw it, the feathers did not look so smart and probably it had not long left the nest.

I have yet to see it catch a fish, but I assume it must have done otherwise it would not have made a return visit.

Graham

NOT EVERYTHING IS CANCELLED

sunshine is not cancelled
 spring is not cancelled
 love is not cancelled
 relationships are not cancelled/
 reading is not cancelled
 naps are not cancelled
 devotion is not cancelled
 music is not cancelled
 dancing is not cancelled
 imagination is not cancelled
 kindness is not cancelled
 conversations are not cancelled
hope is not cancelled

#keeplookingup
 SimpleStencils.com

Stay Connected With Nature – ‘Bug Hotel’

Many of us discovered more of nature during lockdown as we spent time exploring our paths and trails. Now that lockdown is over keep that connection going and help protect our wild spaces, even if that’s in our own gardens. As winter approaches and the temperature drops, animals such as hedgehogs, frogs and various insects will be looking for somewhere warm and dry to live till spring. To help them why not leave a pile of grass, leaves or wood in a corner for them to make a den and stay safe. Or even make your own bug hotel, a great one to do with the children. All you need is a container, any size will do, insects don’t need much space they are very small! Into your container you put materials that have lots of cracks and crevices for the bugs to hide in. If you have a big container then you can split it into sections for different materials. Then hang your ‘bug hotel’ up or stand in a corner somewhere that’s sheltered and leave till the end of spring when the insects will be ready to move on, thankful for their winter home.



Discover - Connect - Protect

Weekly Sermons

There is an audio version or you can watch the sermon through YouTube. The link for YouTube can be found on the church website if you scroll to the bottom, the link is on the right hand side.



If you have anything you would like me to include in the next edition of the newsletter (photos events, funnies) please email sylvia.elsmere@hotmail.co.uk.

From the editorIf you are reading this newsletter as a paper copy and would like me to send it to you by email please email me.



I am very grateful for all the poems and photos I receive and I will try my best to publish them as and when I can in this Newsletter.

Social Media Reminders

Remember, you can always keep in touch online with APC and all its goings-on in a variety of ways!



The website address is: auchterarderparish.org



APC twitter link is: @apcchat



Messy Church twitter link is: @ApcMessy

Our Facebook pages is: @auchterarderparish