

Church of Scotland

East Mainland Church News

www.eastmainlandchurch.co.uk

February 2022 Issue 53



East Mainland Church Pastoral Letter

It has been just over a month since I arrived at the Manse to be met with such a warm welcome; smiling faces, helpful hints and a lovely welcome pack to see me through until I could get to the shops. The home-made Christmas cake has gone down well with my visitors!

May I also thank everyone who worked so hard to prepare the manse for my arrival. It is very warm and extremely comfortable with everything I could possibly require for my time here. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

I won't forget our first Sunday together either. Meeting new faces and getting to know new people is always lovely and I hope you will be patient with me as I learn who you all are, do my best to remember names and find my way around the parish. Oh, and I now know not to reverse into the parking spaces as you have a one-way system!

In our first few weeks together, we have experienced great sadness as we have mourned loved ones and it is such a privilege for me as your locum minister to have been able to share that journey with you and to continue to do so for the next wee while. I have been struck by the love and concern you have for each other and how that manifests itself in so many practical ways. Christ truly works through His people.

Over the coming weeks, we will celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion and I look forward to sharing that service with you. It is such a special time and to be able to celebrate in person safely will be a wonderful experience. I look forward to seeing you there if you can manage.

Although we still have to wear masks in church, we are allowed to sing and I would love to include some of your favourite hymns in our services. If you have a favourite hymn, please either let me know or tell our organists Joy and Ruth or any of the elders – if your favourite has more than one tune, don't forget to say which tune as well. It might be an old hymn, an evening hymn or a childhood favourite – it might even be a modern hymn – whatever it is let me know and I will do my best to incorporate them into the services over the next few weeks.

In the meantime, take care of yourselves and each other. If you think I should be in touch with anyone for whatever reason, let me know.

Yours,

Liz Kay



Rev. Elinor Gordon being presented with a hamper at the end of three months as our locum (July – September 2021)



Harvest Thanksgiving Preparations September 2021

GUILD

During the Pandemic it was not possible to hold Guild meetings. However, an afternoon meeting took place on 3rd November 2021 when there was a small gathering plus two welcome visitors. Maureen Tait leading used prayers and readings from the Guild Theme: Look Forward in Faith.

Margaret Sparkes kindly demonstrated her craft of Christmas card making and helped us to make and design one of our own.

Morag Shearer followed with a welcome cup of tea.

The Guild took the decision to close again for three months until March and this would give us time to see what the restrictions would allow then. We would normally be closed for the winter months of January and February.

We look forward to meeting again, if not for the AGM in March, soon after. New members/ visitors would be most welcome.

Maureen Tait

Dear Member and friends of East Mainland Church,

Induction of Rev Chris Wallace - Wednesday 6th April at 7pm in East Mainland Church

It's exciting news! Just a couple of weeks ago the Rev Chris Wallace preached in East Mainland Church as your Sole Nominee, having been invited by your Nominating Committee. They had interviewed him, listened to him preach themselves and shown him round the parish, church and manse. Chris was voted for unanimously by the congregation of East Mainland and accepted their call to come and be minister here.

So on 6th April the induction will take place at 7pm, and the Presbytery will install Chris as your minister. I hope that as many of you as possible will come and support him as he begins his journey with you. Chris is an experienced minister and is qualified in many other areas, having served on lots of the Kirk's committees at national level. He has been a Street Pastor and is a trainer in First Aid and he is really looking forward to the Orkney experience! Chris' two sons and his daughter are grown up and married and he has four grand children down in the south west of Scotland, so I imagine they too will be looking forward to Orkney holidays – I hope so.

The Church nationwide is changing in the way it operates, with many positions being centralised, even here in Orkney, but hopefully we ought not to notice much difference in the local parishes. You have been blessed with your locums and your pulpit supply and you now have Rev Liz Kay in post until your new minister takes over. When he comes to Orkney, Chris will always be first and foremost your minister, altho' in time he may have other tasks to do for the wider community, so I hope that you all give him all the support he needs by coming to church each week, looking for ways to help in the running of the church, volunteering whenever you can and generally living out the promises you made when you joined the Kirk. These are exciting times for sure, and I have so enjoyed being your Interim Moderator over the past year, altho' I haven't met many of you, but I know you are there!

Every blessing on the way forward in East Mainland

Rev Linda Broadley (Interim Moderator)



Rev. Chris Wallace with Rev. Linda Broadley following the congregational vote for him to become our new minister.



40 Decorated and filled shoeboxes gathered for the annual Blytheswood Shoebox Appeal 2021.

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|---|-------------|
| Fund Raising - Harvest Thankgiving for Christain Aid | £942 |
| Sponsored Walk for Church Funds | £970 |
| Isobel's Quiz for Church Funds | £337 |

Thank You to all who supported those causes.

People of the Bible

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| E | V | P | Y | J | A | M | H | J | M | Q | E | Z | N | S |
| R | L | P | A | B | A | J | O | I | M | S | I | Z | D | T |
| S | S | M | R | N | B | Y | G | L | A | A | O | J | A | R |
| D | E | I | J | O | R | N | F | E | O | N | R | N | V | E |
| S | E | S | T | A | A | B | T | Y | U | S | H | Y | I | T |
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| L | H | A | J | M | A | Q | W | T | U | E | H | Q | M | P |
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| J | O | H | N | L | T | T | O | W | E | H | T | T | A | M |
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| ABRAHAM | ADAM | DAVID |
| ELIJAH | EVE | GABRIEL |
| JAMES | JESUS | JOHN |
| JOSEPH | JOSHUA | MARY |
| MATTHEW | MOSES | NOAH |
| PAUL | PETER | RUTH |
| SAMSON | SOLOMON | |

www.hsm4kids.com

St Andrews School News: Mr Taylor

My last newsletter was back in November 2019! Since then, it has been a very different couple of years for everyone. The school closed and pupils started home learning. This was all new to both pupils and the staff, but everyone adapted and worked very well together despite the major change in routines. The school has been back open for a while now, and it was great to see how quickly the children settled back into their routines.

Children in Need 2021

Lots of exciting activities took place in school in aid of BBC's annual 'Children in Need' appeal. The children came dressed in spots, stripes or bright colours and the staff dressed as dalmatians with the Primary 4 teacher, Mrs Spence as Cruella de Vil. Games included Pudsey colouring and drawing competitions, treasure hunt, guess how many sweets in the jar and a virtual bake off. St Andrews Primary School raised a grand total of £1102.71.



Harvest Assembly

A total of £222.00 was raised at our Harvest Assembly last year. This money was donated to the local charity THAW Orkney. It will go towards providing vulnerable families with Cosy Home Packs and electricity vouchers. Since THAW started in 2014, they have supported over 350 households with their Cosy Home Packs. Thank you very much to everyone that donated.



School Build

If you have been passing the school recently you may have seen the school extension going up. This additional space includes a new nursery, PE hall and office. The work started in March 2020 and was due to be completed in March this year but has been significantly delayed due to the disruptions caused by COVID 19. Our new PE Hall is wind and watertight and progressing well inside and the new nursery building is starting to take shape. The main entrance and the new school office will be situated in the new nursery extension.

Looking Ahead

I am delighted to announce that our Primary 7 pupils are going to have the opportunity in June to take part in a 4-day residential trip at the Hoy Outdoor Centre. This is a great opportunity for our P7 pupils to develop, team working skills and emotional resilience as they experience a short period of separation from home. Activities will include; hill walking, canoeing, gorge walking, orienteering and coast steering.

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|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| We Remember | Graham Jennings | 7/9/21 |
| | Kathleen Kirkness | 25/9/21 |
| | John Hepburn | 8/11/21 |
| | Arnie Foubister | 6/1/22 |
| | Kate Bichan | 18/1/22 |

What's On

| Month | Date | Time | Event |
|--------------|------------------|-------------|---|
| Each Sunday | | 11:00am | Sunday Worship in the East Mainland Church |
| February | 20 th | 11:00am | Sacrament of Holy Communion in The East Mainland Church |
| March | 4 th | TBA | World Day of Prayer in the East Mainland Church |
| April | 6 th | 7:00pm | The Induction of Rev. Chris Wallace in the East Mainland Church |
| September | 12 th | | East Mainland Church in the Blue Door – Storage space is available at the Church donations |

Further Information will be on www.eastmainlandchurch.co.uk

Editorial Team

Sheila Eunson, Joy Tait and Laurence Tait

Please email articles, using **Times New Roman size 12**, for the next newsletter to laurence.j.tait@btinternet.com by 6th May

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