



St Andrew's Parish Church

(Church of Scotland),
Inverurie

THE

JULY 2022

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Email: inveruriestandrews@outlook.com

*(To hear our services or to download them—go to
“Listen Again” on our website)*

Website: <http://standrewsinverurie.co.uk>

Scottish Charity Number: SC008791

St Andrew's is an open and inclusive Church

**The Rev. Carl Irvine, may be contacted
for pastoral care by contacting him on 01467 629163**

Our Minister's Letter



Dear Friends

The year turns and summer is upon us again. As in previous years, we look forward to worshipping alongside our friends in Inverurie West Church during July, and welcoming them to St. Andrew's for August. Rhona and I look forward to leading worship both individually and together.

This summer, joint worship has taken on new significance, as the two congregations look for ways to draw ever closer, working towards an eventual union, most probably sometime over the next ten years. The eventual union of St. Andrew's with the West Church is one of many unions in the Gordon Presbytery Mission Plan. In the shorter term, we are in discussion with Fintray,

Kinellar and Keithhall Parish Church, with the aim of forming a union within the next two years. All this change is in response to the Radical Action Plan, which covers the whole country and was agreed at the 2018 General Assembly.

The National Plan will also see the union of Presbyteries, Gordon will merge with the Presbyteries of Aberdeen & Shetland, Buchan, Kincardine & Deeside, Orkney and Moray to form the new Presbytery of The North East and Northern Isles at the beginning of 2023.

If you're anything like me, your head is probably birling at the thought of all these changes! If you let it, a 'birling heid' is likely to make you dizzy, meaning moving forward is difficult. This is where we can take a tip from ballet! When ballet dancers spins on the spot, they focus on a fixed point, whipping their head round faster than their bodies, to keep their eyes on the point for as long as possible. As a result, they don't get dizzy and can carry on dancing. For us, God is the still point we should keep our eyes fixed on, the Psalmist wrote:

'God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.'

(Psalms 46:1)

If we don't have to fear even though the earth changes around us, mountains shake and tremble, and the sea roars and foams, then we certainly don't have to be scared just because church structures are changing!

The National Church, the Presbyteries, even individual parishes are not what really matter! What really matters is God - trying to understand and do His will. The structure of the Church is merely a means through which we seek to fulfil God's mission. As long as we keep our eyes on Him, as long as He is our refuge and strength, we can be sure that He will watch over us and guide us.

Psalm 46 went on, 'Be still and know that I am God!' (verse 10a) If we still ourselves, and keep our eyes on God, we can be sure that the future of His Church is assured.

Many blessings,

Carl

Loving God,

In these times of, what seems to be, never-ending change we can find our heads birling, our hearts wavering and our will to move forward paralysed by fear. We know Your Church is struggling, we know it needs to change, yet still we are fearful. Help us, we pray, to keep our eyes on You, to trust that Your plan is unfolding as it should, and to work together as a whole Church on Your Mission.



Send Your Holy Spirit on all who work within the Church, those who are paid and those who volunteer, uphold them in all they do for You. As the Church restructures itself, guide it to reach beyond the confines of congregations, taking the Gospel into communities and transforming the lives of those who are currently living in darkness.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

**News from the combined Congregation Board/Kirk Session
Meeting held on Wednesday, 8th June 2022 at 7 pm
in the New Chapel.**

Key Points from meeting:

- Talks are ongoing with the West Church with regard to the future of the New Hall.
- Further meetings with Fintray/Keithhall/Kinellar (FKK) regarding the future union.
- Links are in place with the new Head Teacher of Inverurie Academy who is keen to set up a Chaplaincy service.

Rosie Milne, Session Clerk

FUNDRAISING (May): Teas : £117.65

Fulfilling the First Mark of Mission: Can Alpha help your church?

with Rev Martin Fair & Dez Johnston

How can we proclaim the gospel in our towns and villages across the Gordon Presbytery area? As we come out of the pandemic how can people in our communities explore the big questions of life and faith? Come and be envisioned and equipped to run Alpha.



Saturday August 27th, 2022
Inverurie West Church 10am – 1pm.
Breakfast and Registration 9.30am.

Book now at
tinyurl.com/alphaingordon
or scan the QR Code



Gordon Presbytery



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Ministry of Flowers

Church

Vestibule

JULY

3rd IMO Jean & Morag (from West Church
Allan Duff)

AUGUST

7th IMO George Black (from Eileen Law, Hays Court)
14th Alan & Eileen Robertson, The Willows
21st Family of the late Albert McCombie
28th Neil & Louise Grant, Rutherford Folds

SEPTEMBER

4th Margaret & Tom Dalglish

With the new 2022 calendar now in the vestibule, would you please add your preferred date for flowers by writing your name and telephone number in the spaces provided. A few weeks before your date, please put your donation into an envelope with your details, date, preferred colours, if any, and hand into the church office. If paying by cheque, please make it payable to St Andrew's Church Flower Fund. Could you please let the Church Office know of anyone within the church membership who has been ill or bereaved to whom we could send flowers at the end of each service on a Sunday.

Thank you. **Eileen Robertson**, Your Flower Convener

Time Out ... The final Sunday Club, Time Out until September was lovely. Our three youngest members 'reflected' on Carl's Talk which encouraged us to think about how loved we are. We took time to look in the mirror, take selfies then draw ourselves. The boys were quite sad to realise it was the last time together until after the Summer holidays but we look forward to meeting up then. I am sure September will be here before we know it.



Thank you boys for being such a pleasure to work with and thanks must go to you all for both welcoming me and supporting me in my new role.

In love and
service,

Suzanne



General Assembly 2022

The General Assembly was held from Saturday 21 to Thursday 26 May under the Moderatorship of the Rt Rev Dr Iain Greenshields. Some commissioners were in Edinburgh and others were online. This Assembly saw the retiral of the Principal Clerk, the Rev Dr George Whyte, and the swearing in of his replacement, Rev Fiona Smith, who becomes the first woman to hold the post permanently.

The following is a brief summary of decisions made:

- Final approval was given to the legislation that will allow ministers, who wish, to register to become celebrants of same sex marriages.
- It was agreed to introduce a scheme to support parish ministers facing hardship due to rising energy prices.
- Further reform of the central structures of the Church was agreed. This will bring together the work of the Faith Nurture and Faith Impact Forums under a single Active Faith Leadership Team with four Programme Groups: Mission, People & Training, Public Life & Global Justice, and Resource & Presence.
- The process of merging presbyteries continued with the approval of four new presbyteries: Lothian and the Borders (merging Duns, Jedburgh, Lothian and Melrose & Peebles), Perth (merging Angus, Dundee, Dunkeld & Meigle, Perth and Stirling), Forth Valley & Clydesdale (Falkirk joining the existing presbytery of that name) and the North East and Northern Isles (merging Aberdeen & Shetland, Gordon, Buchan, Kincardine & Deeside, Orkney and Moray).
- Arrangements were made to establish a Pioneer Mission Fund and the Seeds for Growth Fund, which will support the establishment of new worshipping communities and work with the under 40s.
- A Declaration of Friendship with the Catholic Church in Scotland, to be called the Saint Margaret Declaration, was overwhelmingly approved. The two Churches, 'recognise each other as brothers and sisters in Christ, and wish to express our friendship and respect for one another as fellow Christians, citizens and partners in announcing the Kingdom of God in our land'.
- A new Book of Confessions will be created. This will retaining the Westminster Confession of Faith as a subordinate standard of the Church, adding other confessions that 'express the range and depth of Reformed thought'. Teaching materials on the confessional position of the Church and the vows of office holders will be prepared.
- The General Assembly condemned the Russian invasion of Ukraine, calling for an immediate ceasefire and 'just and peaceful solution'.
- Professor Jason Leitch, the Scottish Government's National Clinical Director, thanked the Church for everything it had done during the COVID pandemic.
- It was agreed to recognise the 'terrible harm' caused under Scotland's historic witchcraft laws and apologise for the role of the Church in persecuting victims.
- More information about these, and all the decisions made at this year's General Assembly can be found online at:
- www.churchofscotland.org.uk/about-us/general-assembly/publications.

Congregational Roll

ST ANDREW'S PARISH CHURCH CHANGES IN ROLL 1st—25th June 2022

Recently Deceased

Mrs Margaret Skene, 46a Nether Blackhall
Mrs Elsie Farquhar, Drumdarroch Care Home

5/6/2022
7/6/2022

Service conducted by

Rev. C Irvine
Rev. C Irvine

New Members inducted into St Andrew's Church

Mrs Kerrie Murray, 3 Birch Drive Inverurie
Miss Norma Laing, 31 Hanover Court

Sunday Services & Readings

JULY : WEST CHURCH

3rd	10 am Parish Worship	Ministers:	Rev. C Irvine/ Rev. R Cathcart
10th	10 am Parish Worship	Minister:	Rev. R Cathcart
17th	10 am Parish Worship	Minister:	Rev. R Cathcart
24th	10 am Parish Worship	Minister:	Rev. R Cathcart
31st	10 am Parish Worship	Minister:	Rev. C Irvine

AUGUST : ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

7th	10 am Parish Worship	Minister:	Rev. C Irvine
		Reader:	Moiria Keith
14th	10 am Parish Worship	Minister:	Rev. R Cathcart
		Reader:	Alison Young
21st	10 am Parish Worship	Minister:	Rev. C Irvine
		Reader:	Vera Binnie
28th	10 am Parish Worship	Minister:	Rev. C Irvine/ Rev. R Cathcart
		Reader:	Ben Pawson



June 2022 We are continuing to work hard to get food to those people in greatest need at this difficult and challenging time. We know your shopping habits have had to change but we would be very grateful if you would help us, if you can, by donating the following items:

Long life fruit juice (1 litre boxes)
Tinned vegetables
Jars of Sauce
Shaving kit

UHT Milk (full cream/semi-skimmed)
Tinned Fish
Tooth brushes

Currently we have very good supplies of pasta, soup, and tea bags, thanks to your generosity.

Thank you for your continuing support and stay safe!

www.aberdeenshirenorth.foodbank.org.uk

Jennifer Ingram, Foodbank Coordinator for St Andrew's



Well Folks,

We have reached the end of a session that has been a mixed bag. We started under Covid restrictions still in place and we finished with all restrictions lifted. We have just had our Open Night at the Town Hall where we presented the boys with their badges and trophies for Best Boy / Best Squad. We were delighted to welcome the Rev Carl Irvine, our Company Chaplain, and also former Aberdeenshire Provost and church member, Hamish Vernal, who fulfilled the role of Inspecting Officer. Hamish was accompanied by his wife, Mo.



The evening went well with the boys all putting on a wee show for their parents. The Anchors did a Dance MashUp, entering to the Rocky theme, dressed in hoodies and dressing gowns, and performing to a dazzling mix of

500 Miles, Baby Shark, Time Warp, Cha Cha Slide and Macarina. Some of the Anchors then performed the Chicken Song using Makaton in a brilliantly effective way. The Company Section came on next and their skit was based at a camp which involved all sorts of hilarious antics including a very funny Irish jig. Finally we had the Juniors who decided to present a game of Ultimate Rock, Paper and Scissors. All in all the evening was a great success.

As a special end of session treat, we used some of our funds to take the boys to Skyline Inverurie on our last Saturday. We had a really happy day - full of fun. The boys got to jump and muck about for 90 minutes before getting tasty food at the end of their playtime. We are most grateful to Skyline for letting us in at such short notice and also for their donation of 2 x 10 vouchers for our raffle which we will probably hold just before Christmas. Our final outing with the boys was in Kellands Park on Monday evening when we all enjoyed a game of rounders.

Some of the boys are disappointed we are stopping for the season but their leaders need - and deserve! - a break. We pass on our regards and thanks to Fergus Campbell who has hung up his Glengarry for the last time and we wish him the very best in the future. I personally would also like to thank the church and my team of leaders as, without their help this year, it probably would have been the end of the BBs in Inverurie. They all stepped up and managed to keep things going so well - making the best of a time which faced several challenges, not least that of Covid.

Thank you all so very much and we look forward to seeing you in the new session.

Michael Cochrane, BB Leader



Craigievar Castle, Aberdeenshire

If ever a Scottish castle deserved the description "fairy tale" it is Craigievar. In fact, rumour has it that Walt Disney used Craigievar as the model for his Disney castle. Certainly there is something magical about the proliferation of towers and turrets that spring from the earlier foundations of this attractive fortified house.

The history of Craigievar goes back to at least the 14th century when the Mortimer family held the estate from 1376 and the initial house's architecture was built in a simple, plain style.

The story of Craigievar really begins in 1610, when it was purchased by William Forbes of Menie, the brother of the Bishop of Aberdeen. Forbes, though a young man, had made a fortune by importing wood from the Baltic region. In the course of his mercantile efforts, he visited the port of Danzig so many times that he became known as "Danzig Willie". Forbes married Margaret Woodward and their initials can be found throughout the castle.

Danzig Willie wanted Craigievar to reflect his wealth and status, so he removed the upper floors and rebuilt them on a grand scale. The effect - both inside and outside - charmingly combines Scottish tradition with Renaissance style.

The interiors of Forbes's mansion was decorated with a series of fabulous plasterwork ceilings. The most impressive of these is in the Great Hall, where the ceiling is embellished with classical elements and heraldic symbols. The Hall also retains its wonderful Jacobean woodwork. Craigievar was largely completed by the time Sir William died in 1627.

The castle remained in the Forbes family until the middle of the 20th century when it was purchased by the National Trust for Scotland. Today Craigievar is one of the best loved properties owned by the Trust.

The only way to explore Craigievar is by guided tour, in small groups of no more than 12 at a time. When you see the size of the rooms and the narrow winding stairs and low ceilings, it is easy to see why!!

Craigievar is 6 miles south of Alford on the A980. The castle has a small shop but no restaurant/cafe.

Needing a cuppa and a fine piece or even a tasty lunch? Do try the Bistro, Main Street, Alford - it is excellent.

2022 Opening times for Craigievar -

June 1st - August 31st

daily 10.30 am - 4.00 pm

September 1st - 26th

Friday - Monday, 10.30 am - 4.30 pm.

September 27th: Closed till 2023

Kit

St Andrew's Parish Church

Volunteer Rota 2022

		Beadle	Register	Steward	Steward
July	10	WEST CHURCH		D Stuart	V Binnie
	17			A & R Young	Y & C Clark
	24			A Smith	V Binnie
	31			R Milne	P Milne
Aug	7	A Smith	M Conn	M Keith	H Christie
	14	R Young	S Hepburn	I Fraser	A Young

If you are unable to attend please arrange for a replacement and let Linsey know. (It's not her job to find one for you). Note: All those on Duty please ensure that you are at the church in good time (**9.30 am**). Those with Beadle Duties are highlighted in Bold/Italic. (I have kept Beadles at Door, where possible, so they can pop away if needed)

Our Saltire

If you wish to receive the Saltire online please contact -

Linsey (Tel 01467 628740)

and give her your email address.

We are trying to be kinder to our environment by reducing our printing output and also fuel costs for delivery.

The Summer Garden

Summer comes and waves her hand,
The garden blooms at her command,
Plants abounding everywhere
As fragrant perfumes fill the air.

Roses, geraniums, lilies too
Agapanthus with globes of blue,
Sumptuous colours in such array,
Their beauty takes our breath away.

To sit beneath the shady trees,
To listen to the humming bees,
As Summer wears her rainbow dress
We thank God for such loveliness.

By Megan Carter (Parish Pump)

A Day Trip to Edinburgh

As most of you know, our 2 grandsons, Ben and Max, from West Sussex often come to stay with us and when they do, I draw up a programme which would exhaust an SAS chap - far less an ancient Granny!! Anyway, I decided that it was time the boys learned something about their Scottish history so a walk along Edinburgh's famous Royal Mile was definitely on the agenda.

We left Inverurie at 8.00 am and caught the train to Edinburgh. From there we took a taxi to the Castle where Granny found out her first mistake. I should have booked tickets - no



entry, either individually or tours, was available. GRRRR! A wee bit daunted we set off down The Royal Mile which was peppered by the most unusual entertainers. A woman with the largest owl you have ever seen - which in 2 seconds was perched on Max's arm - much to his delight; a 7 foot tall headless man who was

reading a newspaper (don't ask!); pipers in full Highland dress piping on every corner; street theatre involving marauding Vikings; a lonely looking William Wallace etc etc - you name it, they all seemed to be there!!

We went into St Giles Cathedral which was partly built in the early 12th century - obviously as a Roman Catholic place of worship. In the mid 16th century when the Reformation was sweeping northern Europe, St Giles was the focal point for the Presbyterian faith in Scotland and the first Protestant minister was none other than John Knox, 1513 - 1572. Did you know that he originally trained as a Roman Catholic priest?

We walked all round the inside of the Cathedral and came upon a life size statue of John Knox. I immediately got the boys to stand on either side and duly took their photo. I then asked a volunteer where Knox was buried as I knew it was somewhere close by. He seriously told me that the man who spearheaded the Reformation in Scotland was buried outside the Cathedral in



the present day car park!!! Car park number 23. Seemingly the current minister always parks his car on top of poor Mr Knox!! So off we went to find Number 23 and there was a wee plaque to say that John Knox was underneath. You could not make this up!!! The boys were somewhat amazed - as was I!

Then off to explore John Knox's house which was built in the 15th century. It was fascinating. I had been many years before but the boys were thrilled to climb the ancient spiral stairs (four floors) and to sit in rooms where Mary, Queen of Scots had argued with John Knox. Wonderful painted wooden beams, open fires, original flooring - it was stepping back in time.



We then made our way (after lunch) towards the Scottish Parliament and then to Holyrood Palace. (Of course we had a stop at a Gift Shop to buy some Scottish souvenirs).

Holyrood Palace is the Queen's official residence in Scotland, with part of the building dating back some 800 years. We saw where Mary, Queen of Scots, slept, where her drunken husband and his co-conspirators killed her Italian Secretary, David Rizzio, where the Stewart kings held court for 200 years, followed by the Hanoverian dynasty. It was fascinating and the boys loved it. They especially were intrigued by the blood stain on the floor - a memento of David Rizzio's stabbing!

After that we caught a taxi to the station, fell into the Aberdeen train, changed to the Inverurie one and finally Grandpa Tom picked us up at Inverurie Station.

I may have started the day looking not too bad for my age - I finished it looking 1,000!!! But, I loved every minute as the boys were genuinely interested in Scotland's history - with all its daftness and magnificent glory!

If you have never visited The Royal Mile -- then you MUST!. Just one wee tip - book your Castle Tour tickets in advance!

Kit

Who's Who at 'St Andrew's'

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AUGUST 2022 SALTIRE ... Will be available for distribution from Sunday, 31st July 2022. Please email material for the August Saltire to The Church Office by 20th July 2022.

St Andrew's Safeguarding Statement

*(Relating to the Protection of Children and Young People in the Church.
 Adopted by the General Assembly, May 1997.)*

The Church of Scotland has a deep concern for the wholeness and well-being of each individual. It seeks to safeguard the welfare of all people, regardless of age, who come into contact with the church and its organisations. It is the responsibility of each individual within the fellowship of the church to prevent the physical, sexual or emotional abuse of children and young people and the vulnerable. St Andrew's Parish Church has a Zero Tolerance Policy to any form of abuse.