

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 25 May - Messy Church 2-4 pm, Bellie Church

Sunday 2 June – 6pm Milnescroft service led by Guild

Mon 3 June – 7pm Moray West Guilds Together Summer Rally in Lossiemouth St Gerardine's High Church - Empowering Teenage Mothers in Zambia Project. Contact Ann Bowie 821476 or Margaret King 820937.

REGULAR EVENTS

Mondays 10-11.30am Coffee & Chat, Bellie Church Hall;
7 - 8pm Praise Group, Bellie Church Hall

Wednesdays 8 – 8.20am Prayer Meeting, Bellie Session Room
7 – 8pm Equip, Worship & Discipleship, Bellie Church or Manse

Thursdays –Luncheon Club 12–1pm, 2 courses for *4, Bellie Church Hall

Fridays 9 – 11am – Bellie Babes, Bellie Church Hall
6.30 – 8pm – Take Note, Bellie Church Hall

2nd Tue of month 7.30pm May-Aug Scottish Country Dancing, Spey Bay Hall

1st Wed of month 2-4 pm Bellie&Speymouth Knitting Group in Bellie Hall

1st Fri of month 2 - 3.30pm Brew & Blether in Speymouth Church Hall.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Minister: Rev Seòras Orr, 01343 820256, sorr@churchofscotland.org.uk

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/bellieandspeymouth

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KIRK NEWS LIGHT

Issue No 1 MAY 2019

GOOD NEWS from HOLY WEEK

Christian Heroes from the 8am Holy Week Meditations... ordinary people who found Jesus to be alive and relevant to their lives and passed on the Good News to others, until we heard it too (14-17 daily)



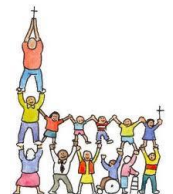
Joan Jones reminded us of **Eric Liddle** who ran for God's glory in the Paris Olympics before becoming a missionary in China, humbly serving people until he died at the age of 43 in a POW camp. His life still inspires.

John McConnachie talked of an unknown (to us) Scottish priest, called **Frank Forbes**, who fought for justice for slaves and served the poor of every colour and race in Rhodesia and South Africa, and is remembered with love and respect. John heard about him when he worked in Zimbabwe years later.

Denise Brown shared the story of **Mary Toms**, a young girl born in the north of Cornwall who felt led to take the good news to the Isle of Wight in the 1800s, where she preached in a house which later came into Denise's family. Denise read a lovely Easter poem written by her father.

Ann Bowie told us of **William Booth**, the founder of the Salvation Army. Her great grandfather was an officer of the Corps in the 1920s and a member of the family has served the Lord in the SA ever since. After her talk, Ann wowed us with a fascinating tambourine accompaniment to a marching hymn!

Liz Rennie reminded us of the famous **David Livingstone** who died in his beloved Africa on his knees, praying. His heart was buried under a tree in Blantyre. Helen Mills (Inchberry) spent her first 6 years there, where her father was a Minister.



Christ is alive! – in Scotland, England, China and Africa - and all over the world -his Spirit is still moving! We, as his church, are proof of that.

Maundy Thursday service in Lhanbryde church hall was a simple retelling of the Scripture stories of Jesus' final days read by members of both Bellie & Speymouth and St Andrew's Lhanbryd & Urquhart [SALU] Church. Some 40+ people gathered round candle lit tables, sang hymns and shared bread and wine in a quietly moving way.

SALU members joined us at Bellie (c. 45 people) and shared in the **Sounds of Easter** service which brought the hairs up on the back of our necks as the reality and horror of the events of **Good Friday** hit home.

Jesus is alive and we are free! That is what Seòras told us to say to each other after our **7am Sunrise Communion in Speymouth Church Garden** – and as we did so with hugs and handshakes, it felt joyfully true and watery sunshine broke through the atmospheric mist!

And then there was
EASTER SUNDAY CAFÉ KIRK!

Young Church, Praise Band, Praise Group, and People all enjoying Jesus being alive!



CCLI licencing – For those involved in leading worship/ devotions

It appears that we have not as a church been submitting usage reports for our CCLI licences in the last couple of years. We may also need additional licences to cover aspects of weekly worship and church groups that have been overlooked. As Colin is currently arranging our weekly orders of service and digital worship materials, he will now process the weekly CCLI reports. **However, it should also be noted that any hymns sung at extra services, music photocopied, or copyrighted materials used, should be reported to Colin via email so that he can add these to the weekly reports.**

DEPARTED FRIENDS

Jesus said, "I am the Resurrection and the Life".

2018

9 th September - Aileen Smiley	10 th September - Elizabeth Glass
26 th October - Maggie Hendry	16 th November - John Gray
14 th December - William Halket	27 th December - Gwen Anderson

2019

10 th January - Bob Malcolm	11 th January - Daisy Scott
17 th January - Anne Carlin	18 th January - Ian McInnes
21 st April – Keith Boardman	28 th April – Dr Catherine MacKay

NEXT ISSUE

We hope to produce **Kirk News Light** every month to coincide with the Pastoral Group meetings, but it is an experiment, so we ask for your patience and prayers – and ideas!

Could 'reporters' stick to highlights, 2/ 3 photos at most and have material in to me by **Sunday 2 June** to be produced for Sunday 9th June?

*May the LORD bless you and take care of you;
May the LORD be kind and gracious to you;
May the LORD look on you with favour and give you peace.
Numbers 6: 24-26 GNB*

EQUIP

Debbie Orr and her team, Seòras, Jan, Lanie, Margaret and Holly have led the Equip group [between 8 and 20 folk] through the 12 week Alpha course which aims to introduce people to Christianity in an engaging, relevant and informative way. Discussions after the videos have been moving, serious, funny, helpful, interesting, challenging ... to 'old' and 'new' Christians alike.

WEDNESDAY MORNING PRAYER MEETING

Usually between 4 ½ and 8 ½ people gather at 8am in Bellie Session Room, the 'half' being young Sullivan whose smiles remind us of God's goodness to all of us children. Candles are lit. A thought is shared along with some of the needs and activities to be prayed for. And then we go to it. Once or twice we have sung and sometimes we read prayers or a blessing together. There is often laughter, especially when some people cannot blow out one candle, or when we got lost in the middle of the Lord's Prayer once! There have been one or two very definite answers to prayer and we thank God for his encouragement. Please feel free to let us know of any situations or people you would like prayer for. Names or details need not be given [Seoras 820256, Margaret 820937] Thank you to those who join in at home.

News from PRESBYTERY...

Rev Jenny Adams, Duffus, Spynie and Hopeman Church, is to be **Moray's Moderator 2019-2020.**

Well known from her two placements with us, we wish her God's blessing!

... and the WIDER CHURCH

The **General Assembly** is held in Edinburgh 18-25 May.

Ann Bowie and Janet Whyte are commissioners along with 3/4 other elders and 4 ministers from Moray. There will be much difficult discussion about radical structural change. The Moderator Designate is Rev Colin Sinclair. We give thanks for the retiring Moderator, Rt Rev Susan Brown who has been a joyful, Godly ambassador for us.

Check out www.churchofscotland.org.uk/ga and www.heartandsoul.org.uk

Many thanks to all the movers and setters, servers, clearers, washers and driers, cleaners and sweepers and put-backers, singers, players, photographer and attenders! But to our living Lord be all the glory!



He is not here! ††† He is risen



BELLIE & SPEYMOUTH GUILD

Some of the 14 Guild members enjoying a 'Heavenly Piece' together in Knockando Church, a beautiful run and setting for our first summer outing, even in the rain.



The next one is 19th June meeting Centre, near arrangements



The new Guild Projects are all off to a flying start. We were able to add our 'two-pence-worth' after a splendid Daffodil Tea brought in 833.00 Thanks to all who gave and worked so hard, especially non-member 'friends' of the Guild in the kitchen keeping the pottie boiling and Sid the 'Scone King' ☺

Margaret King stood down from the Committee at the AGM and Elizabeth Runcie stepped up to the mark. We give thanks to God for another great year of worship, prayer and action. Why not join us next session?!

planned for Wednesday at 2pm at Boyndie Visitor Banff. Travel later.

SNIPPETTS FROM KIRK SESSION

Eco Team – Avril Clark

Recycling: It is beneficial to use small bags to go into the Rag Bag container as they drop down easier.

Stamp appeal is 50 years old this year. There is a post van collecting box available.

Foodbank: Please continue supporting the foodbank during the summer as this is a time of year that support falls away.

Traidcraft table will continue each month although support is generally poor. We intend to hold a coffee morning at the beginning of October and will go to Milnescroft and Brew and Blether in November.

Eco Congregation: The Moray network "Creation Calls" continue to hold a presence in the area and are having a coastal walk on the 21st June at Burghead. More details to follow.



Recycle, Reduce, Re-use Recycle, Reduce, Re-use Recycle, Reduce, Re-use

Finance Team – Chris Campbell

As intimated at the Stated Annual Meeting, the **Finance Team** has significant concerns regarding the long term viability of the congregational finances given the current position of the General Fund. There is absolutely no room for any complacency and the challenges that lie ahead are real.

It is recognised that this may involve difficult decisions having to be made. However, these decisions would be even more problematic if made at a time of crisis. **By being proactive, the Kirk Session can ensure that Bellie and Speymouth Parish Church can indeed have a bright future underpinned by sound congregational finances.**

Most people fail to realise
that money is both a test
and a trust from God.

Rick Warren

*Since my money
is God's money,
every spending decision
I make is a
spiritual decision.*

John Hagee

Mission and Discipleship (MAD!) Team – Isabel MacLeod

Foodbank collection for Lent was very successful and Moray Foodbank were hugely grateful for all our support

Messy Church – Saturday 25th May from 2-4 pm.

Theme – A summer celebration. Planning meeting – Sunday 19th May.

Plans are to expand and grow Messy Church into Spey Bay and Mosstodloch
Future Events

a. Refuel/Alpha/The Eden Bus (A Youth Outreach Initiative)

It is intended that Alpha courses be run after Refuel in the summer. There would be an adult Alpha taking place at Gordon Castle and a Youth Alpha in Bellie. The Bus is to be at Refuel and in our area in the week following.

b. **Speyfest Service** is to be a **Celtic Café Kirk** this year!

c. **Concert with "Celtic Worship"** – Mhairi Marwick is in a Christian Celtic group, "Celtic Worship" and has been invited to play in Bellie in the Autumn.

d. **Twinning Project** – Carol Finlay from World Mission came up to speak to the MAD team about twinning with another church abroad. She will be back to introduce the twinning idea to the congregation at a united service in August. Feedback will be gathered and any next steps decided.

Lots of opportunities for mission in and around our local community...
exciting to know that God wants to move amongst us! Please pray with us!

Pastoral Care Report

The minister has been having follow-up conversations with folk new to pastoral care in order to implement the changes to the district system agreed at the last session meeting. It was agreed that new people will be integrated with serving elders, and these changes reviewed at a future date. In particular

- Janet Whyte is now being supported by two new pastoral carers in the Garmouth and Kingston area.
- A new pastoral care group for Mosstodloch will soon be established to provide care to our members in that area.
- Some elders have decided to "pair up" to serve two districts as a team. The minister encourages other elders to do the same if it would be beneficial.