

IMPAC

Life Goes On.....



A temporary home!

**Pictures of some of
The Caterpillar Stones
which are presently resident in
Monifieth Parish Church.**



**Please consider
this offer..**

Washable **Pleated cloth** *Reuseable*
FACE MASKS
for sale: 3 for £10

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Dorothy Culloch
(01382) 534844

Post-production profits will be donated to Monifieth Parish Church
Monifieth Parish Church of Scotland Registered Charity SC008965 www.mpcos.org.uk



This is a Special Edition of IMPACT to explain the current situation within Monifieth Parish Church.

Minister's Musings.

Dear Friends, a passage that is often used to remember the human sacrifices of war is this one from John's Gospel: "*Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for one's friends*". Whilst the use of war-like language for this coronavirus-time is problematic, the truth of this verse does convey a powerful message for us just now. Much of what we have been, and are being, asked to do is for the protection of others. We might not have 'died' to save someone's life in the way we might envisage on Armistice Day, but we have all laid down aspects of our lives for those around us. And that has meant not just friends, but neighbours, strangers and enemies too. Whatever else we might have done, and will do, to curtail the spread of coronavirus by sacrificing our own comforts and freedoms, we have followed Jesus's command to love one another. I thank God for your faithful witness, in small ways and large.

With every blessing, **Fee Reynolds.**

PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE...A SNAPSHOT

How have we been "the church" since March?

Scott explains elsewhere what has been happening with regards to worship. Yet, being the church is more than singing hymns, saying prayers and reading the Bible. Here are some of the things we have been doing to serve our parish and community:

- Working as key workers in health and social care, education, and shops.
- Volunteering with Voluntary Action Angus to ensure no one in Monifieth went without shopping, prescriptions or a friendly telephone call.
- Sewing face masks, scrubs and scrub bags for various medical and care settings.
- Housing the Monifieth Caterpillar of Stones in our church windows, to keep it safe whilst allowing people to see how amazing it is!
- Staying in touch with friends, relatives, neighbours and districts, to ensure no one feels lonely or isolated.
- Providing funeral services in difficult circumstances.

What is happening now?

Much of what is happening right now remains the same as it has been in recent weeks. We have decided ***not*** to open our buildings for private prayer at the moment. One reason for this is that we are offering collective prayer online every evening, during which we pray for those in care homes every Sunday and other members of the congregation throughout the week. If you wish anyone in particular to be remembered in prayer, please contact the manse.

What is going to happen next?

The Kirk Session has decided not to re-open our buildings for prayer or services before 16th August. There are a number of reasons for this, not least of which is to give us time to get ready all the policies, procedures, materials and people we need. The other key reason is in relation to the return of schools on 12th August. The Kirk Session believes that the best of use of our buildings during this period is in helping to educate and care for the children and young people in our community. It may be that schools need additional space to teach, and this will not be clear for another few weeks. We felt that it was better to wait an extra couple of weeks, rather than start offering services that we might then have to stop, come mid-August.

When services do start back, they are not going to be what we are used to. It might be that services with fewer people—and no singing—take place at various times throughout the week, rather than having just one service per week. It may be that you have to 'book' a service in advance, so we can control numbers. Strict hygiene measures will be in place, and you will have to 'register' your details each time you visit, to enable any contact-tracing should someone contract the virus. Throughout any opening of the building, we will continue to provide alternative ways to access worship, so that no one feels compelled to come to the building if they do not feel comfortable.

Fee.

Your Church Offering.

HOW TO GIVE OF YOUR OFFERING WHILE WE ARE NOT GATHERING IN OUR BUILDING. Here are a couple of suggestions -

1. Please use 'Little Sew and Sews', 1 High Street, Monifieth, as a drop-off point for your donations while the Church building is closed. Use the letter box if the shop is closed. This is a secure facility and your donations will be treated in the strictest confidence. Please use this facility for the following:
 - a. Your weekly Freewill Offering envelopes.
 - b. Your Open Plate donation securely enclosed in an envelope.
 - c. Any one-off donations you care to make, clearly marked and placed in an envelope.
2. If you would prefer to start donating by way of a Standing Order from your bank account, please give me a call on (01382)533566. I will get a form to you, which you can complete and either send to your bank or return to me.

Any offering you care to make will be most welcome during this difficult time.

Thank you to those members who have continued to give by way of Standing Order, to those who have already handed in Freewill Offering envelopes and other donations. They have all been very welcome.

Regards, **Alastair Robertson - Treasurer.**

Online Worship During Lockdown.

With the church buildings having to close over the past few months, we had to look at how best we could engage our church family in worship. This meant looking at the resources that were available to us and how best to use them. We decided going it alone was not the best way to proceed. So, we began working in conjunction with our neighbours in St. Margaret's Barnhill and the Sidlaw Parishes. This meant we now had a worship team:- Fee, myself, Andrew, Lorna and Jean. With a steep learning curve ahead of us, we decided that our first move was to put together a video each week with the different participants in the groups taking on a different role each week, leaving me as the church nerd/techy guy to edit it all together. After a lot of confusion (and cursing) it all came together quite well. With the addition of our newly formed worship groups the 'Quaranteenies' and the 'Pandemic Pianist' we were able to put together a new video with hymns each week. With this video created, were then able to distribute the service in different formats to try and reach as many of our church family as possible.

The service is now available on-line each Sunday at the normal time in a variety of formats that can be accessed from your computer, tablet, smartphone and smart TV.

Here is a list of how you can join us in worship:-

- Full Service: <http://www.mpcos.org.uk/worship/online-service/>
- Full Service: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMpUbY-8K3RfVCsxmA-2KMA>
- Podcast: <http://www.mpcos.org.uk/worship/our-podcasts/>
- For those without access to the internet, there is a local rate phone number which you can call to hear each Sunday's service: Phone line: 01382 768990 (local call rates apply)

We are also able to put the service on to a DVD or CD, which is delivered to you each Sunday. If you would like either a CD or DVD, please contact the manse on **01382 699183**.

There are also ways to engage each day, published via our Facebook page (note that you do not require a Facebook account to access this material). In the morning, Fee writes some thoughts alongside an image for the day and then, at 9pm, a short service of Scripture and prayer is held. These can be accessed here:

- Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/MonifiethParish/>
- Facebook feed on website (*most recent content*): <http://www.mpcos.org.uk>
- Nightly Blessings via website: <http://www.mpcos.org.uk/worship/nightly-blessings/>

If you are struggling to get connected to any of these services, or would like to participate in readings, videos or sending in photos (I always need new photos to use as backgrounds on hymns and prayers) please don't hesitate to get in touch with me.

God Bless, **Scott Reynolds - Parish Assistant.**

Halls Letting Update.

We normally hold our annual Halls Letting Meeting during June, however this has not taken place due to the restrictions imposed by Covid19. Following our Kirk Session meeting, of 1st July, we decided to postpone the use of Church premises until 16th August, at the very earliest. This will allow us to comply with current Scottish Government advice on the use of Church buildings, to which The Church of Scotland has been a contributor. Before we can allow full use of our premises, we must conduct a full and thorough risk assessment, to ensure we fully meet all criteria. As the rules are constantly changing and as further feedback is expected later this month, we as a Kirk Session, have taken the prudent decision to defer any assessment until further details are available from 121 George Street and the Presbytery of Dundee.

We are sure this is not the news you wish to hear and we realise this will have a great impact on your organisations, however we cannot open our premises until we have permission to do so from Presbytery. This in turn, is dependent on we in Monifieth Parish Church fulfilling the criteria to be issued in the near future.

If you would like further details, or simply to discuss this situation, please feel free to contact me by email, or phone.

Kind regards

Morag Clapperton.

Email: ian.clapperton@btinternet.com Phone: 01382 534384

Editor's Chat.

Well then, aren't we all living in unusual times? Have you considered that we of a certain age, while being apparently in more danger from the 'virus', are probably under less stress than our younger friends and neighbours, as we do not have to be so concerned about getting back to paid work, or considering the challenges of home schooling of young children. As we all stay safe, let us not forget those who have to support us every day in whatever way. If you are one of them "We Thank You"

....and for those of you who are expecting my 'swan count'we don't have so many this year - only 75 counted so far (maybe the others are self-isolating?).

Bob Sutherland Editor.

Congregational Roll.

WEDDING

‘from this day forward....’

21st March Miss Amy Morton to Mr. Gabriel Oana

ADMISSION By Certificate of Transference

Mrs. Moira Menzies, Kingennie (*District 1 Postal*)

DEATHS.

‘I am the resurrection and the life’

1st Mar. Mrs. Eliza Masson, Monifieth. (*District 49 Morag Clapperton*)

2nd Mar. Mrs. Janet Cumming, Monifieth. (*District 24 Grant Ross*)

26th Mar. Mrs. Margaret Ross, Monifieth. (*District 44 Celina Heslip*)

27th Mar. Mrs. Sheila Auchterlonie, Monifieth. (*District 45 Vacant*)

3rd Apr. Mr. Richard Buist, Arbroath. (*District 11 D&C Gourlay*)

12th May Mrs. Pat Kinnear, Rendlesham. (*District 1 Postal*)

15th May Mrs. Joyce Smith, Monifieth. (*District 52 Pat Matchett*)

19th Apr. Mr. Jim Anderson, Carnoustie. (*District 17 Ian Greig*)

23rd May Mrs. Nan Braid, Carnoustie. (*District 17 Ian Greig*)

25th May Mrs. Amelia Shearer, Dundee. (*District 1 Postal*)

27th May Mrs. Janet Philip, Monifieth. (*District 31 Ron Jack*)

31st May Mr. David Fyfe, Monifieth. (*District 54 John Hutton*)

3rd Jul. Mrs. Jean Deuchars, Monifieth. (*District 29 Jane McArtney*)

Joyce & John Macmillan.

We would like to thank everyone for their kind expressions of condolence and sympathy following the death of our son Peter, in hospital, following a motor accident on Sunday 21st June 2020.

Joyce & John.

Contact Names & Numbers.

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Website.	mpcos.org.uk	-
Sunday Service Podcast.	monifiethparishchurch.buzzsprout.com	-