



Concord

*The magazine of
St. Andrew's and St. Peter's.
The Scottish Episcopal Church
in Ardrossan, Irvine and Dalry.*



Christmas 2013

Contents

Martin writes	3
Ladies Group	4
Bible Study Group	4
Mothers Union News	4
Prayer Support	5
Book Club	6
Junior Craft Club	6
Diocesan Growth Strategy	7
Restoration Update	8
Fellowship of Meditation	9
Children's Pages	10 - 12



Dear Friends

As I write, Freda and I have just returned from a long journey to see our baby granddaughter in North Wales. We travelled in the comfort of a modern car, sheltered from the elements outside, but I can fully appreciate the tiredness and exhaustion that Mary and Joseph must have felt towards the end of their journey to Bethlehem. At least when we arrived at our destination we were able to have something to eat and drink, and sit down in a nice warm house. What must it have been like for Mary and Joseph, though, with nowhere to go?

As we celebrate the birth of our Saviour this Christmastide there will still be some who have nowhere to go, some who will have nothing to eat or drink, and some who will be turned away from what little shelter they have. There will still be some who long to share the joy and peace that we know. There will still be some who would welcome the love and warmth of Christmas in their lives too.

As we enjoy our Christmas celebrations let us all remember those who are alone, those who are homeless, and those who have nothing to eat or drink. Let us all pray that somewhere a door may be opened, a hand of friendship extended, and the gift of something, however small, may be given to bring joy to someone in need.

With every blessing,
Freda and I wish you a happy and joyous Christmas

Martin



LADIES GROUP

The Ladies Group meets on the second Monday of each month:

9th Dec Christmas Craft Evening.

13th Jan New Year Party

As always these meetings are open to everyone.

DENISE ALLEN

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

All our meetings are held in St Andrew's Ardrossan and begin at 2pm. Everyone is welcome to attend not just MU members. We hope to see you there.

Dalry Carol Service

Joint Churches Carol Service is in Trinity Church on Saturday 7th December at 10.30am

Prayer Chain.

Each month an e-mail is sent round to members of the church with prayer requests. It compliments the prayer which is offered each day by individual members of the church. Requests can be for family or friends who are in need and if there is an emergency an extra e-mail is sent. If you know of anyone who is in need of prayer and/or would like to receive the e-mail please contact me on lilian.bancroft@sky.com.



This year sees the return of the Advent Group - we will enjoy some study time and fellowship.

We will meet on 27th November for 4 weeks at Mary Coutts' home @7:30. Please contact Linda Whitby or Susan Barlow for further details or if you need a lift.'

Prayer Support



The Prayer Support Team



In January, please remember in your Prayers
June Wallace Helen Ternent Connie Mulcock

As they pray for members of their Congregation

Remember also this month
Ministry Team



The Prayer Support Team



In February, please remember in your Prayers
Claire White Anna Currall David Williams

As they pray for members of their Congregation

Remember also this month
Intercessors



The Prayer Support Team

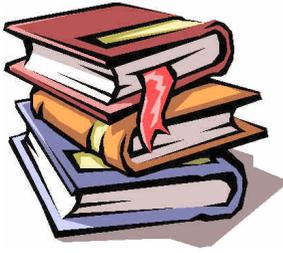


In March, please remember in your Prayers
Lilian Bancroft Anna Sinclair Susan Barlow

As they pray for members of their Congregation

Remember also this month
Worship Leaders

The Book Club



The Book club has had several interesting books to read over the past few months. Members meet every four to six weeks to choose and comment on a great variety of books and to enjoy chatting with friends whilst enjoying some light refreshments

The Library has recently updated its collection of books available to book clubs and we look forward to seeking out suitable titles for the future.

The Book Club is open to all three Episcopal congregations and to the Church of Scotland congregation in Irvine. Members are free to bring along friends to the meetings.

Please contact Yvonne on 01294 552880 if you would like further information. New members are always welcome.



Junior Craft Club.

Our Junior Craft Club meets on the last Saturday of every month (except December!) and we have a wide range of activities. All children from 3 upwards are welcome to attend. Our sessions begin at 11am and finish at 3pm. It costs just £4 per child per session. All we ask is that they bring a packed lunch except for special days which are notified in advance.

So if you would like a few hours on a Saturday to yourself bring your children along! Lilian, Claire & Clare

Lilian (01294273568)

Claire (07970338479)

Diocesan Growth Strategy prayer

*Spirit of our Loving God,
in your mercy and compassion
inspire, encourage and empower us
to live and work together as a Dio-
cese, to allow your mission for us to
take flesh through Jesus Christ our
living and Eternal Lord. Amen.*



Have you seen our new web site...? Since information technology is very relevant in our lives these days we decided to update our web-site to make it simple and easy to follow. The web site is our link to the world beyond our congregations and so as part of our growth strategy for all three churches it was decided to make some changes. Having made the changes, though, its up to you to keep the information up to date. If you have a group or you have some information about an event that you would like to share with everyone then please send details to Stuart Mitchell so he can update your page or add the event to our calendar.

Take a look now: www.standrews-stpeters.org.uk

Please let the Rector know if you have any ideas of what project to work on during 2014

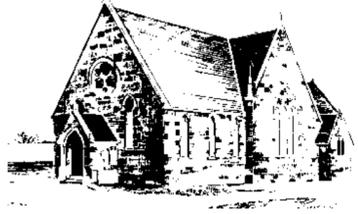
Knit and Natter

This group meets in the crèche on Thursday mornings from 10am till around noon. It's open to those who knit or sew and those who don't! It's a time to meet and chat in an informal way. We are currently making articles to sell in aid of the Church Restoration fund. If you're free and want to come along please do – just drop in on any Thursday and you'll get a warm welcome.

Ardrossan Restoration Project

The deadline for firms to tender for the work on the church is 11th November.

That is tomorrow as I write. By the time we choose which tender to accept and receive the approval of the HLF we will be into Christmas time. We expect the work should therefore start in January.



Restoration Fund of events for next year:

10th February Beetle Drive.

March Fashion Show

4th April Bingo Night - Whitlees Community Centre.

25th April Quiz Night - with Jeanette Jenkins.



“AAA screening”

Do you know what this is.....?

It stands for Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm. This is where the large artery that carries blood down to the abdomen and legs becomes swollen and may burst – sudden death! If you are a man over 65 you are at higher risk of an AAA. Survival rate is very low – 1 in 5. If it’s detected early while it’s still small it can be dealt with by day surgery.

As you all know, we have personal experience of one of these, happily with a good outcome. Scanning for this condition is now available in Scotland, through your own doctor, and all men of this age and above should be made aware of the situation. So, please spread the news and get scanned - now!

Linda

Could you be “Host” to someone far from home this Christmas....?

Many international students come to Scotland to study at our universities. Will they make contact with people and life beyond the academic environment? What will they do for a homely break if home is too far away? For 26 years, national charity HOST has been linking students with volunteer hosts, who invite a student to spend a day, a weekend, Christmas or New Year in their home. Chatting; eating together; playing games; seeing the area; joining in with the local community; making friends – a HOST visit lays down wonderful memories to be re-lived in China, India, the USA and many other parts of the world. And hosts learn from their guests too. If you could make a student welcome, please contact HOST through www.hostuk.org or call HOST’s voluntary regional organiser in Scotland, Anne-Marie Ringler, on 01738 621633. Thank you.

HOST UK

Unit 8 Water House, 8 Orsman Road, London N1 5QJ

Telephone: 020 7739 6292 Fax: 0207 033 6539

www.hostuk.org.uk

Registered Charity No. 327592

Registered Company in England and Wales No. 2179430

Fellowship of Meditation.

Our Meditation group meet on the 4th Wednesday afternoon of each month in the crèche at St Andrew’s. This is a time of quiet reflection and is open to anyone who would like to take time out from their busy schedule. The group is part of the Fellowship of Meditation which is a Christian based society with groups throughout the UK whose headquarters are at Marion Dunlop House in Dorchester. (Check it out on line if you want more information.) Come along and give us a try – you may find you enjoy it!

Children's Page

RIDDLES

Q. What do you get if you cross mistletoe and a duck?

A. A Christmas Quacker.

Q. What do call Santa when he stops moving?

A. Santa Pause!

Q. Why are Christmas trees such bad knitters?

A. They are always dropping their needles.

Q. How do you scare a snowman?

A. You get a hairdryer!

Q. What do they sing under the ocean during the winter?

A. Christmas Corals!

Q. How much did Santa pay for his sleigh?

A. Nothing, it was on the house!

Q. Who says "Oh, Oh, Oh!"?

A. Santa walking backwards!

Q. What nationality is Santa Claus?

A. North Polish.

Q. What Christmas carol is a favourite of parents?

A. Silent Night.

Q. What do you call a snowman in the summer?

A. A puddle!

Q. What do snowmen eat for breakfast?

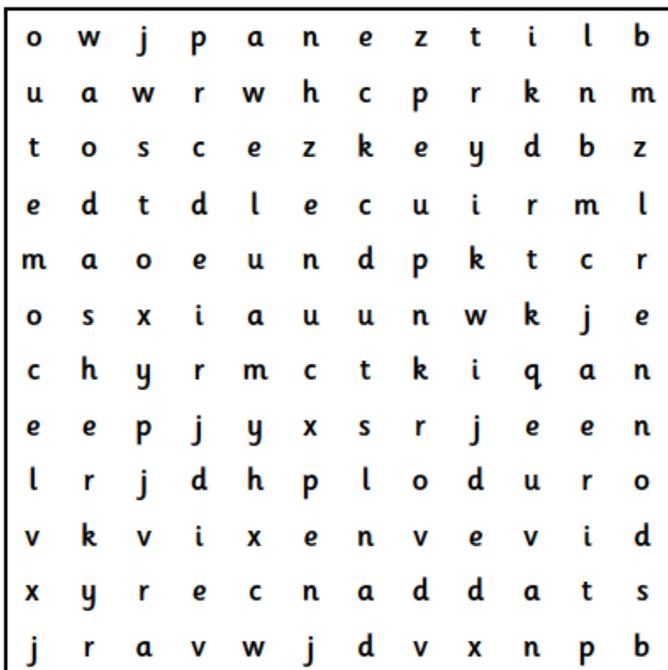
A. Frosted Flakes..

Q. Why does Santa have three gardens ?

A. So he can go HOE HOE HOE.



Santa's Reindeer



Blitzen

Comet

Cupid

Dancer

Dasher

Donner

Prancer

reindeer

Rudolph

Vixen



Children's Page

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



(See Luke 2:1-16)

12-26-2011

HERE'S A GIFT RECEIPT FOR THE MYRRH
IN CASE YOU HAD WANTED OTHER PERFUME

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



Thanks to Christopher Carver

12-24-2007

CAN YOU CHECK SANTA'S NICE LIST ...
I'M PRETTY SURE I'M ON THAT ONE

Christmas Quotes

He who has not Christmas in his heart will never find it under a tree.

Roy L. Smith

When we were children we were grateful to those who filled our stockings at Christmas time. Why are we not grateful to God for filling our stockings with legs?

Gilbert K. Chesterton

If you haven't got any charity in your heart, you have the worst kind of heart trouble.

Bob Hope

No matter how carefully you stored the lights last year, they will be snarled again this Christmas. *Robert Kirby*

I wish we could put up some of the Christmas spirit in jars and open a jar of it every month.

Harlan Miller

Advent creates people, new people.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer,

Blessing of Animals Services

We had two of these services this year: one in Irvine and the other in Dalry. The highlight of the Irvine blessing was a lovely Shetland Pony called Georgie, very well behaved and responsive, especially to carrots! There were a number of dogs too including a gorgeous pair of Yorkshire Terrier puppies.

Dogs also featured in Dalry along with a beautiful ferret by the name of Fudge belonging to Danielle and Kerry Ternent. He wasn't put-off by the dogs and walked very well on his harness.

Refreshments were on hand after both services with suitable food for the non-humans and collections were taken for Hessilhead Wildlife Rescue and Therapets.

Thanks to everyone who attended and helped in any way.

St. Andrew's Night

Saturday 30th November 6:30 for 7:00 @ S. Andrew's Irvine
Bring & Share supper (like the Harvest Supper) - if desired please 'bring a bottle' - wine glass will be provided.
Soft drinks & tea & coffee provided.

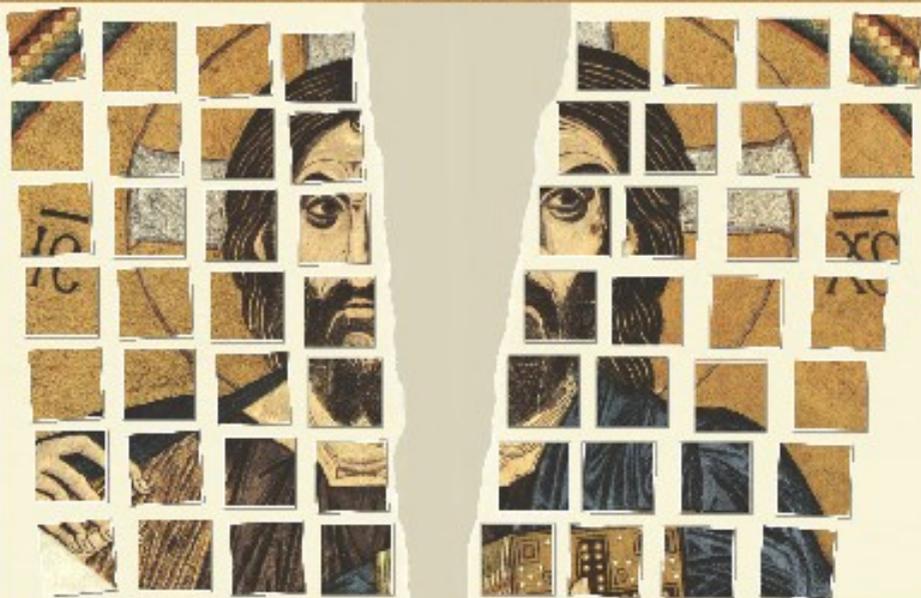
Short Haggis Drive - you will need to come to find out what it is!

Music. Quiz. Raffle. Everyone welcome!
Come along and enjoy a fun night .Please contact Susan Barlow 01294 222739 for further details or if you need a lift.



A AETH CRIST YN GYFRAN PLAID? IS CHRIST DIVIDED?

AN AMHILADIT ATÁ CRÍOST ROINNTÉ INA CHÍODA?



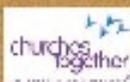
WWW.CTBI.ORG.UK/WEEKOFPRAYER

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18th - 25th January
Local Churches will mark this week in the Christian Calendar by welcoming each other to their churches for a Songs of Praise on Sunday 19th January and short services during the week at the following places of worship.

Sunday 19th - St Andrew's Church Ardrossan at 3pm
Monday 20th - Adelaide College Saltcoats 12-12.30pm
Tuesday 21st - Baptist Church Saltcoats 12-12.30pm
Wednesday 22nd St Andrew's Church Ardrossan 12-12.30pm
Thursday 23rd North Parish Church Saltcoats 12-12.30pm
Friday 24th St Mary Church Saltcoats 12-12.30pm

**Please join with us
as we share our
local Christian
heritage**

WYTHNOS WEDDIAM UNDEB CRISTNOGOL 2014
WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2014
AN tSEALCHAIN GEUF LE HÁONTACHT CHRÍOSTAI 2014



Come and worship Christ, the new born King

Sunday 15th December

St Andrew`s, Caldon Rd, Irvine

Family Communion 9.30am
Lessons and Carols with the
Church of Scotland Congregation
6.30pm

St Peter`s , Tofts, Dalry

Holy Communion 10am

St Andrew`s

South Crescent Rd, Ardrossan

Family Communion 11.30am



Sunday 22nd December

St Andrew`s, Caldon Rd, Irvine

Family Communion 9.30am

St Peter`s , Tofts, Dalry

Holy Communion 10am

St Andrew`s

South Crescent Rd, Ardrossan

Christmas Family Communion
with Nativity 11.30am

Christmas Eve

St Peter`s , Tofts, Dalry

Holy Communion 8pm

St Andrew`s

South Crescent Rd, Ardrossan

Holy Communion 11.15pm

Christmas Day

St Andrew`s, Caldon Rd, Irvine

Christmas Family Communion 9.30am

St Peter`s , Tofts, Dalry

Holy Communion 10am

St Andrew`s

South Crescent Rd, Ardrossan

Christmas Family Communion 11.30am



Last Writes

From the Editor's desk

Date of next Concord April 2014

As usual, Concord can be viewed on our Web Site.

Deadline for articles to be included in our next Magazine is 9th March
martin.sofield@btinternet.com or 01294 278341
or St Andrew's Rectory, 31 Milgarholm Ave, Irvine, KA12 0EL

Martin Sofield



**St. Andrew's, Ardrossan, St. Andrew's, Irvine and St. Peter's, Dalry
form the North Ayrshire Team Ministry
of the Scottish Episcopal Church
A warm welcome awaits you at any of our services**

Service Details:

St. Andrew's Ardrossan

Sundays 11.30am Family Communion, Crèche and Junior Church
Wednesdays 10am Holy Communion

St Andrew's Irvine

Sundays 9.30am Family Communion

St. Peter's Dalry

Sundays 10am Holy Communion

Church Web Site Address: www.standrews-stpeters.org.uk

Clergy Team details:

Rector Revd. Martin Sofield, 31 Milgarholm Ave Irvine KA12 0EL
e-mail: martin.sofield@btinternet.com Tel: 01294 278341

Asst. Priest Revd. Sandy Montgomerie, 105 Sharpill Rd, Saltcoats KA21 5QU
e-mail: sandy.montgomerie@btinternet.com Tel/Fax: 01294 465193

CCL Licences: 1199579 / 962006 / 962013 / 961997 / 961980 Calamus Licence: 2197