



Concord

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



Easter 2016

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Dear friends,

We have come to the end of the dark reflective days of Lent, and on Easter Sunday we celebrate the joy of the resurrection, three days after Jesus had been crucified. It's the most important of our festivals and we celebrate by singing joyful hymns and filling the church with flowers. But amongst all the celebration and singing do we push the rest of the world to the back of our minds? Do we abandon the joy of being able to share the good news of the resurrection with others in our community? We are still in dark times. Financial burdens still weigh heavily on all of us, war and violence still spread throughout the world, and floods and disasters devastate the lives of so many. But because of Easter **we** know that nothing is impossible for God. We know that because of the resurrection there is hope. We know that out of the darkness and the suffering there can be new life. So, in the torment and injustices of this world let us remember that we are Easter people. Let us live our lives in Christ, in the world, and let us show the world that Christ is very much alive.



With every blessing,

Freda and I wish you a happy and joyous Easter

Martin

THE REGISTERS

Departed this life

Ardrossan:

Robert John Sharpe 20th December 2015

Nancy Fletcher 3rd February 2016

Gladys Greig 4th February 2016

Dalry:

Revd Ian Boffey 11th February 2016



'Although fully understanding and supporting the decision of the members that the MU Branch at Ardrossan should close due to lack of members, I so often find that there is a real lack of knowledge of the work that the MU actually does worldwide and at home. This is detailed by Helen Stephen in the following article. So, although we no longer have a local branch I would hope that we can continue our support by becoming Diocesan members. The subscription for this year is £18. If you would like to know more please speak to Susan Garner or myself'..... **Jeanette**

Mothers' Union

"All this day, O Lord, let me touch as many lives as possible for thee; and every life I touch, do thou, by thy Spirit, quicken, whether through the word I speak, the prayer I breathe or the life I live. Amen." (The Personal Prayer of Mary Sumner)

It was in 1976, in our first parish of St. Margaret, Renfrew, that I was, very reluctantly, enrolled as a member of Mothers' Union. Though the third generation of MU members in my family, I had little knowledge of what Mothers' Union was about and did. I had my own preconceived ideas, which were very far off the mark! Mrs. Dell, the leader of the branch at St Margaret's, was a very kind lady and encouraged me to establish a young mums' group. When we left St Margaret's in 1980, Mrs. Dell was most disappointed. "I had such hopes of you, Helen" she said. At that time neither she, nor I, knew that I would later become, first, Diocesan Social Concern Representative (a department which mushroomed to become Action and Outreach), elected as Diocesan Action and Outreach Co-ordinator, then Diocesan President and later elected as a Trustee Board member of worldwide Mothers' Union. It was during these early years that I discovered the breadth and depth of the MU organisation, which I, like so many others, have come to love. I value very much the fellowship, and friendships I have made over the years, but most importantly the enrichment of my spiritual growth and prayer life which membership of MU encourages.

So what does Mothers' Union do? One bishop (and several bishops are members) said that MU is "an organisation of ordinary people doing extraordinary things—another missionary arm of the Church." In the third world / developing countries MU supports community development workers who help groups through literacy and financial development programmes, giving empowerment to women—how important it is to be able to read instructions on medicine bottles etc, so as not, unwittingly, to harm a family member; to recognise the destination of a bus; to be able to count so as not to be cheated at a market. She could then, in turn, teach and help others. The Family Life Programme is concerned with issues of health and hygiene. Help is also given in identifying money generating projects.

In the UK and Ireland, the Parenting Programme has been successfully running for many years. Since 'Passionate Parenting' began facilitators have been trained and worked with parents, grandparents and carers and also in prisons. This training programme has been requested and now taken up also in Africa and the Caribbean.

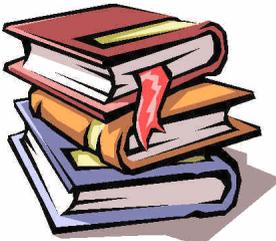
Other major projects have been: the support of Jubilee 2000; 'Wheels Appeal' (providing appropriate transport for community workers); 'Make a Mother's Day' (focussing on the significance of Mothering Sunday and encouraging donations to provide livestock, seeds and tools for use in developing countries); the campaign against gender-based violence and trafficking; 'Bye—Buy Childhood' (against the commercial sexualisation of children in the media etc). MU members run creches in prisons, and support and host 'Away From It All' holidays in caravans, camps and in family homes. Some act as befrienders to parents visiting children in hospital, especially if it is far from home. Members also share in or provide marriage and baptism preparation classes and are present at wedding fairs. In Wales, particularly in rural areas, mobile toy libraries are popular. In Scotland, some of the many projects are: helping at contact centres; running baby changing facilities at agricultural shows; parent and toddler groups / parenting classes.

In Glasgow and Galloway, several branches provide toiletries for A&E departments and women's refuges; knitted baby clothes for maternity units; small gowns and 'Angel Pockets' for still-born babies; knitted 'breasts' (a teaching aid for use by infant feeding facilitator midwives) and 'Healing Blankets'. Members participate in freshers weeks, providing baking and recipe books for those with little income. At Holy Trinity, members, men as well as women, are involved in all aspects of Church life. We provide toiletries for A&E at Ayr Hospital, baby hats for Crosshouse maternity unit and support the Glasgow Children's Holiday Scheme. New ventures are the knitting of 'Bonding Squares' for the neo-natal unit at Crosshouse, and the provision of 'Fiddle Blankets' and 'Twiddlemuffs' for sufferers from dementia. All of these MU projects and involvements are underpinned by prayer—without which none of the initiatives could come to fruition.

Helen Stephen

Unfortunately, after more than 100 years, members of our branch of M U have decided that due to a fall in numbers we are no longer viable as a group. Some of us will continue our links by becoming diocesan members and we hope that, with the continued help of our congregations, we can keep up our support to Ardrossan Women's Refuge. It is good to see the Easter Eggs rolling in again. I have had a message from Jill Cameron, MU Diocesan President, thanking us for our work and support of MU worldwide over the years. A. Big thank you from me too for your help and support

Susan Garner



The Book Club

The Book club continues to flourish and we will be continuing to read some interesting and thought-provoking books. Book club meets every four to five weeks and is open to everyone in all three congregations. Contact

Yvonne for further information. Tel 552880.

You will be very welcome.

Yvonne

Prayer Support



The Prayer Support Team

In April, please remember in your Prayers
Eveline Gray Kit Still Mary Coutts

As they pray for members of their Congregation

Remember also this month
Ministry Team



The Prayer Support Team

In May, please remember in your Prayers
Dorothy Lynam Kit Still Connie Mulcock

As they pray for members of their Congregation

Remember also this month
Intercessors



The Prayer Support Team

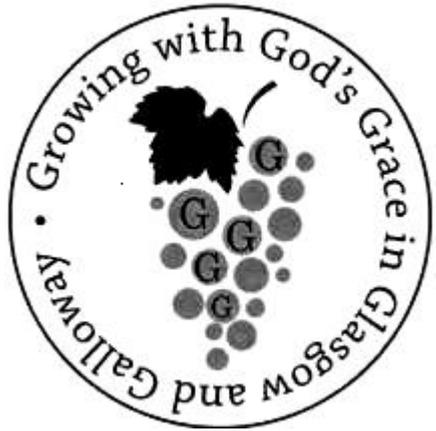
In June, please remember in your Prayers
Pauline Maxwell Helen Ternent David Williams

As they pray for members of their Congregation

Remember also this month
Worship Leaders

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
Diocese, to allow your mission for
us to take flesh through Jesus
Christ our living and Eternal Lord.
Amen.*



Just as our growth strategy is an ongoing thing, so too is our restoration work at Ardrossan. We will always find work needing to be done and the vestry have decided that we will concentrate now on parts of the hall that need urgent attention. Fundraising events are being arranged to help create a kitchen that will serve anyone who would like to use our hall, and replacing the windows will help keep more of the heat in and the cold out.

For further information on the Growth Strategy see our website:
www.standrews-stpeters.org.uk

Ardrossan Restoration Project Fundraising Events:

April 29th Bingo Whitlees Centre Ardrossan 7.30-8.00pm

May 14th Car Boot Sale 9.00 am

May 20th Quiz 7.30pm

June & July Saturdays Pop up garden fete
when weather is good 11am-3.00pm

July 10th Car boot sale 9.00am

Sept 3rd Car boot and doors open day To Be confirmed 9.00am

Oct ? Taste of Germany 7.00pm for 7.30pm

Nov 18th Bingo Whitlees Centre Ardrossan 7.30-8.00pm



St Andrew`s Guild

We have come to the end of this current session and have enjoyed being part of the fellowship with the Church of Scotland. There are at present 6 members of our Irvine congregation who are Guild members.

We have had a mixed programme and are closing with our outing in May to Loch Lomond Shores to shop, sightsee, and go on a cruise on the Loch. A day out that we all enjoy. The photograph was taken on the occasion of the presentation of long service certificates to Margaret Graham and Effie McLaren, two stalwarts of "The Guild." We are continuing to meet in the coffee lounge every Monday during the summer where we enjoy coffee, cake and a blether. Pop in sometime and join us!

Barbara Mackie

Bon Accord Club

The Bon Accord Club (Gladys' Gateau Group!) was started last October and is carrying on despite the sad loss of our founder Gladys Greig.

We meet at St Andrews' Ardrossan Church hall at 2pm on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. We occasionally have tea and a good blether in the hall but prefer, if we have enough cars with us to get out to a local tearoom for tea and cakes (and a blether). We have been to Castle Semple, Cardwell Bay and Frasers garden centres, and the Dunlop Cheese Factory (amazing cakes!). In December we had a very good Christmas lunch at Ardrossan Indoor Bowling Club.

All are welcome to join us, but please be prompt as if we are going out we tend to leave just after 2pm. Any enquiries to Toby 01294-607293.

Children's Page

Easter Word Search

T H O R N S W Y S M L A P N G
K R I S E N Y C E N O T S E C
R E T S O O R D R K H O T V R
B E L I E V E S E O N H B I U
Y T P M E Z D X S Y S O C G C
E C I F I R C A S E A S D R I
E V I L A L N B M O T R B O F
S I N U I N N A I L S C T F Y
W V G F A E N P I L A T E E S
B R E A D E Y A R P D I E D B

alive
believe
betrayed
bread
cross
crucify
died
donkey
empty
forgiven



Gethsemane
guards
hosanna
life
nails
palms
Pilate
prayed
risen
rooster



sacrifice
sin
son
stone
thorns
tomb

HAPPY EASTER



Children's Page

EASTER JOKES

Q: What do you call a bunny with a large brain?

A: An egghead.

Q: Why shouldn't you tell an Easter egg a joke?

A: It might crack up!

Q: What do you call a rabbit that tells good jokes?

A: A funny bunny!

Q: Why didn't the bunny hop?

A: No bunny knows.

Q: What do you get if you pour boiling hot water down a rabbit hole?

A: Hot cross bunnies.

Q: What do you get if you cross a bee and a bunny?

A: A honey bunny!

Q: How do you know carrots are good for your eyes?

A: Have you ever seen a rabbit wearing glasses?!

Q: How do you catch a rabbit?

A: Make a noise like a carrot.

Q: What day does an Easter Egg hate the most?

A: Fry-days.

Q: Why do we paint Easter eggs?

A: Because it's too hard to wallpaper them!



Last Writes

From the Editor's desk

Date of next Concord July 2016

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

Deadline for articles to be included in our next Magazine is 26th June
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

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