



The Cairn



News from St. Anne's Scottish Episcopal & Methodist Church in Dunbar

Letter from the Rector

Dear friends,

Christ is Risen! Happy Easter!

If you were in church on Maundy Thursday you will have heard me reflect whether it might be better for us to think of the Table, rather than the Cross, as the central symbol of the Christian faith. The thought was not an original one; it came from an article written by Diana Butler Bass, an American historian of Christianity.

It isn't that the cross is unimportant. On the contrary, what happens on Good Friday is crucial: the story of God reconciling the world to God's self. But quite how we understand - quite *how* what happens to Jesus achieves this ... well, this is something that minds much sharper than mine - and maybe yours, too - have been struggling to articulate for 2000 years.

Perhaps this is why, both at the Last Supper and when he appeared to the disciples after the

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^^Swanson, John August. Last Supper, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56552>. Original source: Estate of John August Swanson, <https://www.johnaugustswanson.com/>.

resurrection, Jesus focuses less on explaining the crucifixion, and more on hospitality and relationship. The keys to living a Christian life are found in his deceptively simple instructions that we should eat and drink in remembrance of him - as we do each Sunday - and that we should "love one another as I have loved you" - which is our task in the other 6.5 days!

I have been thinking about Jesus' instructions, and about the importance of the table in living out our faith, a lot this week. Acts

of loving service are one of the things I think the people of St Anne's do well. Among our number are people whose quiet, dedicated work in many aspects of our local community's life goes on throughout the year, often unnoticed. From offering debt advice, to reading with children in schools, to helping run civic organisations, to supporting refugees, working for environmental causes, and much more. This work embodies what it means to live out the Good News, but it is not the whole picture, since Jesus also envisaged people gathering to eat and drink in remembrance of him.

I wonder if there are ways that we could build hospitality around our acts of loving service? Could we find ways to nurture deeper friendships so that as we do this work, we might also invite people to get together to eat and drink in fellowship?

The Good News of Jesus is so good that we really shouldn't keep it to ourselves. Loving service of those around us is an important way of expressing this, but wouldn't it be great to share around the table too! Perhaps this is a way that we could work together to be part of God's resurrection work of bringing the Kingdom of God into reality.

With love,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Diana". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the text "With love,".



Methodist Corner

I the Lord of Sea and Sky

We will be opening our worship at the next Methodist service on 28th April with the hymn "I the Lord of sea and sky". With some of the hymns in our hymn book dating back 300 years or more, this hymn is still classed as a 'New Hymn' despite now being almost 45 years old.

I find it interesting to scan the internet and find a bit of background to the hymns we sing. As Daniel Schutte was studying theology at an American Jesuit college at the time of composing this hymn, a lot of the information comes from Catholic sources in the USA. This is what I gleaned from my search:

When Schutte was asked by a friend to write a song for a Diaconate ordination service he was set quite a challenge. He was asked on a Wednesday, the ordination was on the Saturday! Not only was this very short notice but the friend also was very specific in what he wanted the song to convey. The friend wanted the song to convey - in words and music - images of God, the light of Christ, along with bread and wine. It also had to fit with a congregation who had been called to the Catholic diaconate ministry and who were about to go out into the world to serve. A tall order, made harder by Schutte having flu at the time.

Once published, the song became well-loved and hated at the same time. Some considered it the "liturgical equivalent of junk food", others felt unease at singing "I, the Lord of sea and sky" as

if they are God. For many though, it resonates with their sense of call to serve God. It did for those being ordained in the USA 45 years ago as it did with those who sang alongside me when leaving the Methodist ministerial training college back in 2002.

When we sing it at the end of April, I will be taken back to both my time at college and my first visit to what would become my first church after leaving college in the following summer. We had driven in dismal January weather from Lancashire up to Buckie but, as we came over the last hill, the sky cleared and shone on the coastal strip with a fresh brilliance and the sea of the Moray coast sparkled. The sky was vast and seemed limitless. The future alive with possibility as the words of this hymn played in my mind.

Here I am Lord.

Is it I Lord?

I have heard you calling in the night.

Rev'd Geoff Shutt



Introduction to the New Testament Epistles - the Second Epistle of Paul to the Thessalonians

A regular series by Stuart Ritchie

We may wonder why there are two Epistles to the Thessalonians. They are very alike, and they must have been written by Paul within weeks, perhaps days, of each other. The second Epistle was written mainly to clear up a misconception about the Second Coming. The first Epistle insists that the "Day of the Lord" will come like a thief in the night. It urges watchfulness. But this produced an unhealthy situation where people did nothing but watch and wait, even giving up employment to that end.



^^"With all these things in mind, dear brothers and sisters, stand firm and keep a strong grip on the teaching we passed on to you both in person and by letter." (2 Thessalonians 2:15, New Living Version). Image by RegalShave from Pixabay.

The Thessalonians had got their ideas about the Second Coming out of proportion. Paul's preaching had been misunderstood. Certain phrases had been taken out of context and over-emphasised. The second letter seeks to put things back in a proper balance.

Naturally, Paul takes the opportunity in the second letter to repeat and to stress much of the good advice he had given previously. However, his main aim in his second epistle is to say to the Thessalonians "Calm down!". He tells them to wait with patience for the Second Coming.

Overall, in these two Epistles we see Paul trying to solve the day-to-day problems which were arising in an expanding Church.

And finally ... a surprising wee fact. Two Thessalonians chapter 3, verse 10: "*For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat*". Vladimir Lenin liked that. In "The State and Revolution" (1917), his adage for the Soviet Union was: "*he who does not work, neither shall he eat*".

Stuart Ritchie

Palm Sunday and Easter at St Anne's

Many photos reproduced courtesy of Stefany Hawryluk-Chisholm





Buildings Group Report

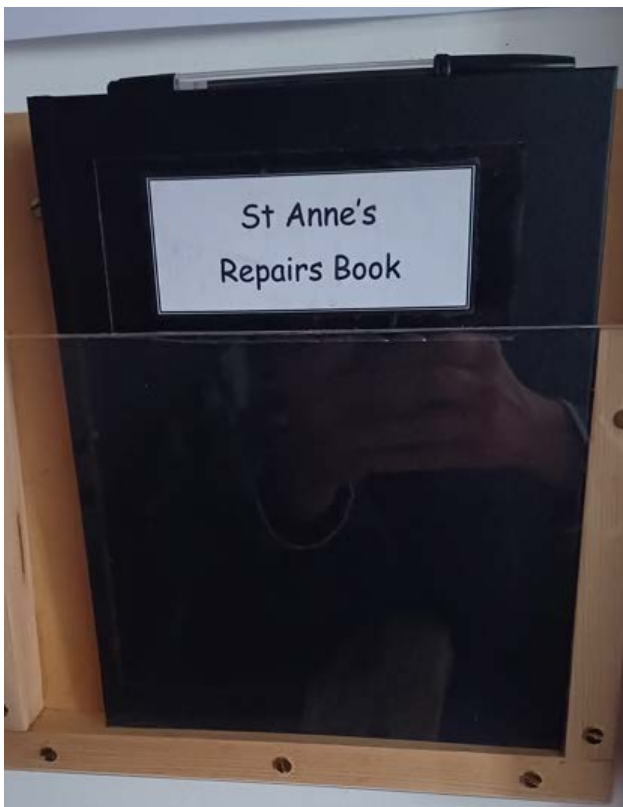
The draught excluders have been fitted on the front door.

The display boards in the Peace Garden have been repaired and reinstalled.

We are continuing to evaluate the option of an infrared Halo heater. After a visit to a church in Bradford to see them in use, we have had the supplier and installation company visit us in early March. We have approval from the Diocese to proceed with a trial provided we can raise the necessary funds.

Repairs Book

If you ever notice any items in church that need to be repaired, please be aware that we have a Repairs Book available. It is in



the kitchen area at the back of the church, on the right hand side. Please enter the details in the book, and the Buildings Group will action it. You can also always talk to any member of the Buildings Group about repairs and maintenance.

David Robins

Noticeboard

AN EXHIBITION BY
MARK I'ANSON

TUESDAY 2 APRIL – SUNDAY 5 MAY 2024



WRAPPED IN A PEA GREEN BOAT

Dunbar Town House Museum & Gallery
High Street, Dunbar EH42 1ER


Dunbar Town House
Museum and Gallery



OPENING TIMES AT
eastlothian.gov.uk/dunbar-town-house



Climate Café

An open, inclusive, café space for people to get together to talk and take Climate Action.

With a simple lunch of soup and bread from Dunbar Community Bakery. Optionally, bring a cake or traybake to share.

Second Wednesday of the month 12.30-14.00

Next Cafe: April 10th - St Anne's Church

Everyone is welcome - join the conversation and get involved.

Donations welcome.

More info from Mark: 07914 602123 or
mark@sustainingdunbar.org



COOK**EAT****TALK**

Life Bites Holiday Club and Life Walk

For all children in P7 to S6: Come and learn some basic cooking skills or join Richard on a Life Walk around Spott.

Lunch provided for all after the walk.

Fri 12th April, 11am-3pm (approx)

Based at Spott, transport provided from Asda car park.

Free, but please book in advance. Contact liz.henderson@dacyp.org.uk to register or for more information.



Dunbar Area Christian Youth Project

Sharing the Christian faith and engaging with young people in Dunbar

You are warmly invited to a

Quiet Day

led by friends and companions of the
Northumbria Community

**Saturday, 20
April 2024**

A day of prayer and reflection.

10am - 5pm

St Anne's Church, Dunbar

£10 per person

Tea and coffee include, bring your own lunch

For more information talk to Val Hale

To book a place email:

revpaulrevill@gmail.com

PENTECOST PICNIC
Sunday 19 May



*Celebrate the birth of the church on
Pentecost*

*Gather in Lauderdale Park following the
Sunday service (12pm)*

Bring your own picnic!

All welcome

I Wonderabout Pentecost



Story | Song | Creativity | Play

A morning of activities for P2 to P7

Monday 20th May 2024
10am - 1230pm

St Anne's Church, Dunbar

Spaces are limited, to book a place or
for further information contact:

liz.henderson@dacyp.org.uk

Rehome your f



Pam Shields writes:

I am reaching out on behalf of families recently placed in unfurnished social housing. The integration of social housing into new housing developments is a commendable initiative, as it promotes diversity and inclusivity within communities.

However, it's concerning to learn that such housing often lacks essential furnishings, which can pose significant challenges for families moving in. The absence of basic amenities like carpets, beds, and washing machines can turn what should be a hopeful new beginning into a stressful situation.

The Ridge support people to access basic furniture and white goods and this month, using the Rector's Discretionary Fund, we have been able to help two families purchasing two washing machines and a fridge freezer.

If you have any furniture or white goods that are in good condition but you no longer use, it would greatly assist these families in setting up their new homes. Transport of the goods will be facilitated by The Ridge.

If you can help, please contact Pam Shields (secretary@stannedunbar.org.uk). **Thank you!**

Readings and Rotas

Sunday April 7th - Easter 2

Acts 4: 32-35; John 20: 19-end

Readings: Mike

Intercessions: Liz M

Chalice: Sharon

Organ: Diana

Sunday April 14th - Easter 3

Acts 3: 12-19; Luke 24: 36b-48

Readings: Alison

Intercessions: Geoff

Chalice: Geoff

Organ: George

Sunday April 21st - Easter 4

Acts 4: 5-12; John 10: 11-18

Readings: Caitriona

Intercessions: Noreen

Chalice: Noreen

Organ: Brian

Sunday April 28th - Easter 5 - Methodist service

Acts 8: 26-end; John 15: 1-8

Readings: Chris

Intercessions: Anne

Chalice: Anne

Organ: Diana

Services at St. Anne's

Sunday

10.30am - Holy Communion

Young Church 14th and 28th April

Thursday

10.30am - Holy Communion followed by coffee and chat

12.00pm - Prayers at the Peace Pole



Rector: Rev'd Diana Hall

St Anne's House, 1 Westgate EH42 1JL

Tel: 07970 105725 - Email: rector.stannesdunbar@gmail.com

The Rector's rest day is Monday

Useful Contacts

Vestry Secretary Pam Shields: secretary@stannesdunbar.org.uk

Treasurer Rab Shields: treasurer@stannesdunbar.org.uk

PVG Coordinator Rev'd Geoff Shutt: safeshutt@btinternet.com /
07485 238663

Young Church Val Hale: youngchurch@stannesdunbar.org.uk

Event Bookings David Robins: events@stannesdunbar.org.uk

Organ Enquiries Brian Dale: organist@stannesdunbar.org.uk

Magazine Editor Alex Davey: ahdavey@gmail.com

Please send contributions by the last Sunday of the month.

Pastoral Care Team

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Rev'd David Mumford 01368 840 361

Rev'd Anne Harvey 07860 181880

Find us on 

www.stannesdunbar.org.uk

St. Anne's Scottish Episcopal & Methodist Church, Dunbar is a Scottish Charity, SC010950, regulated by the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR)