



EAGLE

The magazine of the Church of St John the Evangelist
Forfar

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Shadows lengthen

There were lots of people about as I climbed towards the Balmashanner monument. Today I changed my walking routine to accommodate the amount of light, or lack of it in the mornings. Whilst I used to walk to work with a head torch on (we were off the beaten track, not totally eccentric!) I rather thought I could use the flexibility of the ministerial life and take a lunchtime walk and enjoy the sunshine. And sunshine there was today. As I'm writing this it is still the October school holidays, the tattie holidays as we remember them, and families were making the most of a dry day.



Often, we associate darkness with the difficult, sombre and gloomy. But we find good too in the darkness as our eyes adjust to the shade. As I was walking up the hill in that shade, I could see ahead the distinctive turret of the Balmashanner monument, the autumnal leaves amongst the conifers, a long tree shadow giving contrast to the sunshine that was highlighting the depth of colour in the grass, blue sky amidst the clouds. There were lots for which to give thanks. Our harvest thanksgiving at the very end of September did just that. A few weeks

later Bishop Ian, in his sermon, reminded us of how humbling it can be to be in the presence of someone who gives thanks for whatever they have, no matter how little.

We head towards the last weeks of the liturgical year. We may have felt sadness around the time of All Souls' as we remembered those who have died. However, we find joy and warmth as we recollect the happy memories or reminisce with someone over a shared memory, maybe one of laughter, and give thanks. If we think about the ups and downs of our lives, our faith journeys, we'll find lots of light and shade in there too. We approach Remembrance Sunday and I know that will still be a difficult day for some whilst we can all be thankful for what was given for us. Of course, we know that God knows that story too.

With love

Elaine



Side by Side is a movement rather than an organisation which is tackling gender-based violence. The Scottish Episcopal Church has many people across its churches who are involved in raising awareness of these injustices faced by women. There is a desire to mobilise people of faith to do more to support this cause. From the 25th November to the 10th December there is a public campaign *16 days of activism against gender-based violence*. Please pray for this work and for women around the world who face violence in their lives.

Getting to know Ingrid Jaeckel

I was born in 1950 into a German Lutheran family. I had an older brother and a younger sister. Our father was a doctor and our mother was a domestic science teacher. We lived in the French sector of post-war Berlin and because our father was a committed Francophile I spent my formative years in a French school. I was the only German amongst French and soon French became the first language I could read and write.

Due to the next few years in the Lycée de Berlin, 'German' became a bit of a 'Foreign Territory'. After one year studying in an English Seminar for foreign correspondence in Berlin, I spent twelve months as Au-Pair in Bournemouth and passed the "Lower Cambridge", after which I had to leave the country because in those days it was impossible for foreigners to acquire a work permit for Britain. I then took on a six months' job as Nanni in Nairobi.



It was when I was back in Germany and worked as City Guide in West-Berlin and in Potsdam that I met my future husband. We were married the same year and in the space of 11 years our four children were born. I was lucky enough to have been a 'stay at home mum' for twenty years, before I started to help with the administration in my husband's Practice for Radiology. By then both my parents had developed Alzheimer's and were cared for at home by my siblings, myself and by my two elder daughters. In that difficult time I lost my husband and my job. Through a lucky coincidence I was, at that precise moment, offered the running of a Patchwork-Shop in the centre of Berlin and did that with great enthusiasm for two years.

When my parents had passed away and my children had all moved out and started their own families I felt again free to resume my life as single. Through another lucky coincidence just then I found a Lady Magazine with a job offer as carer in Angus in January 2005. And again, I am the only German ... amongst Brits, this time. Never did I have the ambition to aim for a professional career. However, I was always happy when jobs seem to find me and I was so lucky to love every single one I took on. When I look back, all my childhood-dreams became true and I feel very blessed. I always dreamt of living in a house



surrounded by nature with a front-door always wide open to family and friends ... and people to care for.

In Berlin this house is the

house of our childhood surrounded by a beautiful garden in the outskirts of the town, which I share with my sister. I love my life in Scotland, however the highlights are always my trips back home to see my four children and my nine grandchildren.

READERS' ROTA

Sunday November 3, 2019 – All Saints'

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

Ephesians 1:11-23

Reader – Richard Finch

Sunday November 10, 2019 – Remembrance Sunday

Job 19:21-27

1 Corinthians 15:51-57

Reader – Eryl Rowlands

Sunday November 17, 2019 – Pentecost 23

Malachi 4:1-2a

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Reader – Lee Winks

Sunday November 24, 2019 – Christ the King

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Colossians 1:11-20

Reader – Walter Lee

Sunday December 1, 2019 – First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5

Romans 13:11-14

Reader – Madeline Kingston

Sunday December 8, 2019 – Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10

Romans 15:4-13

Reader – Eleanor Rowlands

Sunday December 15, 2019 – Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35:1-10

James 5:7-10

Reader – Douglas Burt

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Tuesday Club – 8th October 2019

Forfar – Days Long Gone – Alex Whyte

The first meeting of the 2018/2019 session began with a warm welcome to Alex Whyte, historian, who returned once more to take us down memory lane with maps, photographs and historical information as regards Old Forfar. “East ee toon, Wast ee toon, doon ee Spoot and hame” (translation – East of the town, west of the town, down Castle Street and home) barely covers our travels around Forfar. North and South was also included, as he introduced us to buildings, factories, railways, hidden lanes and closes with such wonderful names: Pousie’s Close, Malakoff Close and Lappiedub to name but a few. Alex’s two books entitled Forfar: its Streets and its Places Volumes I and II, are on sale in Small’s Sweetie Shop, Castle Street. They explain so much more about the Auld Toon!

The speaker at the next meeting on 12th November in the Green Street Hall, is local loon Robin Wardhaugh who will be talking about, and displaying, his models of churches and buildings.

All are welcome.

Carol

Gift-Aid

Just a reminder about the Gift-Aid scheme. If anybody donates money to St. John’s and is a taxpayer, we can claim 25% back from the government on the amount donated. For example: if you donate £10 we can claim back £2.50 making your donation £12.50, £20 becomes £25, £100 donation becomes £125 and so on.

If you have not signed up to the scheme and are willing to do so, please sign up ASAP. Green envelopes are supplied for your donations.

While on the subject, using an envelope for each Gift-Aid donation guarantees that a tax refund can be claimed. This is because only a limited amount of loose change in the collection can be claimed under the Gift-Aid Small Donations scheme. It also helps the cash counters and record keepers.

John Webster

Gift-Aid Secretary



Ministry in Care Homes

Can you give 20 – 30 minutes of your time and join with the Rector in a Care Home Service once per month? It makes a difference to folk to have a bit of church brought to them.

The Bishop's Visit

What a heartening service we had on October 13th – a real pleasure to meet Bishop Ian, and to see that he genuinely felt welcome among us, and really *with* us.


In the course of the service, there was an eye-opener for some of us as we recognised how many of our fellow members are actively involved week by week and month by month in the pastoral work of the St. John's, all of them volunteers, inspired and supported by the Rector.

A former Bishop of the Diocese was heard to say that when he came to St. John's he could expect to find things "done properly". I think we can still claim that, but it doesn't begin to happen by accident – all the more reason to appreciate and give thanks for it.

Margaret



During his visit Bishop Ian Paton delivered a thoughtful and stimulating sermon, as well as presiding over the Licensing of Worship Leaders, Eucharistic Assistants and Pastoral Visitors. The photograph of those being Licensed is missing Carol Douglas and May Williamson, both of whom are Eucharistic Assistants.



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FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

Friday 1st November – 7pm – St John’s Annual Dinner & Speaker – Kirstene Hair MP

Sunday 3rd November – 11am – Sung Eucharist for All Saints’

Sunday 3rd November – 2pm – Afternoon Service at St Margaret’s, Lunanhead

Sunday 3rd November – 6.30pm – FACT Big Sing for Remembrance – East & Old Church

Wednesday 6th November – 10.15am Holy Communion from Reserved Sacrament

Sunday 10th November – **10.50am** – Sung Eucharist for Remembrance Sunday – Preacher Bishop Ted

Monday 11th November – 10.55am – Act of Remembrance – St Margaret’s, Lunanhead

Tuesday 12th November – 7.30pm – Tuesday Club – Robin Wardhaugh *Churches of Scotland - models*

Wednesday 13th November – 10.15am – Said Eucharist

Thursday 14th November – 7.15pm – FACT meeting – Forfar Community Church

Sunday 17th November – 11am – Sung Eucharist – Pentecost 23

Sunday 17th November – 2pm – Afternoon Prayer at St Margaret’s, Lunanhead

Monday 18th November – 7.30pm – St Petersburg Russian Choir in St John’s Church



Resurrection Voskresenije Choir of Saint Petersburg

The vocal ensemble *Resurrection* (Voskresenije in Russian) was founded by Jurij Maruk in 1993. It consists of seven to ten professional female and male vocalists. The repertoire of the ensemble includes Russian Sacred Music as well as folk music. Guest performances in Germany, Switzerland, Norway, Austria, the UK, France and Italy have met with great success, and the choir has recorded several CDs of their repertoire, which includes some specially composed arrangements of Burns songs by John McIntosh.

Their conductor, Jurij Maruk, was born in 1961 in Barnaul, West Siberia. In 1976 he began to study music and conducting at the local music facility in Barnaul. After finishing musical school, he was admitted to the Novosibirsk State Conservatory (1980-1985) in Professor Boris Pevsner's class. At this time he worked with the Chamber Choir (Novosibirsk) directed by Pervsner, who was working in close cooperation with the Wladimir Minin Choir in Moscow. Between 1987 and 1989, Jurij Maruk worked at the Mariinsky Theatre (opera and ballet) in St Petersburg as a choir singer. Here he had his initial experience as a conductor and artistic leader of the Mariinsky Theatre (sacred music). Between 1990 and 1992, Maruk worked as the choirmaster of the St Petersburg Radio and Television Choir.

Save the date in your diary! The Resurrection choir from St Petersburg will be performing both sacred and folk music. This one night only performance will be on Monday 18th November at 7.30pm in St John’s Church – you will not be disappointed!

Wednesday 20th November – 10.15am – Said Eucharist

Thursday 21st November – 7.30pm – The Disabled Club Open Night with *Carnoustie Traditionals* – tickets £4

Sunday 24th November – 11am – Sung Eucharist for Christ the King

Sunday 24th November – Following morning service – Annual Meeting

Tuesday 26th November – 7.30pm – Advent Studies (Ecumenical Group) – Forfar Community Church

Sunday 1st December – 2pm – Afternoon Prayer – St Margaret’s, Lunanhead

Tuesday 3rd December – 7.30pm – Advent Studies (Ecumenical Group) – Forfar Community Church

'Expecting Christ' - Advent Course (Ecumenical)
Tuesday 26th November, 3rd, 10th, 17th December 2019, 7.30pm
Forfar Community Church, Wellbraehead, Forfar

FACT (Forfar Action of Churches Together) have agreed to join together in an Advent Course. This follows the success of the Lent Course when all the churches in Forfar combined as a study group to share our thoughts and experiences and simply explore together.

This course looks at several moments in our faith and lives where a door opens and lets Christ in, catching the sense of expectancy which not only comes at the season of Advent, but throughout the year. In particular we will be thinking about how Christ can surprise us and meet us in four distinct contexts: in family, in ourselves, in prayer and in the end.

Each week will be led by a different church. The venue will be Forfar Community Church for all the sessions. The resources will be bought by each of the churches for their own members. To help with planning please sign up on the sheet at the back of church.

Saturday 7th December – 10am-12md – St John's Christmas Craft Fair & Coffee Morning

Sunday 8th December – 4.30pm – Diocesan Advent Carol Service – St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth

Sunday 8th December – 7pm – Bellshill Salvation Army Band Concert – venue to be confirmed

Tuesday 10th December – 7.30pm – Advent Studies (Ecumenical Group) Forfar Community Church

Tuesday 10th December – 7.30pm – Tuesday Club – Major Jim McCluskey – *Salvation Army*

Tuesday 17th December – 7.30pm – Advent Studies (Ecumenical Group) – Forfar Community Church

Friday 20th December – 4-7pm – Open House at the Rectory for some pre-Christmas cheer

Saturday 21st December – morning – clean and decorate church for Christmas

Saturday 21st December – 11-11.30am – FACT Open Air Christmas Carols at the Cross

Sunday 22nd December – 11am – Carols and Readings – St John's

Sunday 22nd December – 12.30pm – Said Eucharist (Lady Chapel) at a suitable point following festive refreshments

Sunday 22nd December – 7pm – FACT Big Sing for Christmas – St Margaret's, Forfar

Tuesday 24th December – 6pm – Family Carol Service – St Margaret's, Lunanhead

Tuesday 24th December – 11pm – Sung Eucharist – wrap up warmly!

Wednesday 25th December – 10am – Family Sung Eucharist for Christmas Day

Sunday 29th December – 11am – Sung Eucharist

St John's Episcopal Church

Saturday 7th December

10am—12 noon

Christmas Coffee Morning and
Craft Sale

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Gathering 2019 – Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane

St Ninian's Cathedral – 20th October

Sunday afternoon on the 20th was definitely the time to visit our Diocesan Cathedral; a combination of fellowship, information and some fascinating mini lectures about what is going on in the Diocese.

With tea and coffee provided the participants to the afternoon enjoyed packed lunches and the chance to meet old friends and to make new ones before the organised part of the day began. Some also took advantage of the opportunity to tour the Cathedral, visit the labyrinth and even to take advantage of the items available at the book-stall.

Presided over by Bishop Ian the afternoon consisted of five short talks, one being given by Elaine, our own Rector. Topics



included Lay Ministries, Community Involvement with emphasis on foodbanks, Young Peoples experience of church, Online Resources and Inspiring Worship.

The afternoon was rounded off with an inspiring Evensong followed by more refreshments and a piece of cake cut by from one made to celebrate Bishop Ian's 1st year in the Diocese.

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