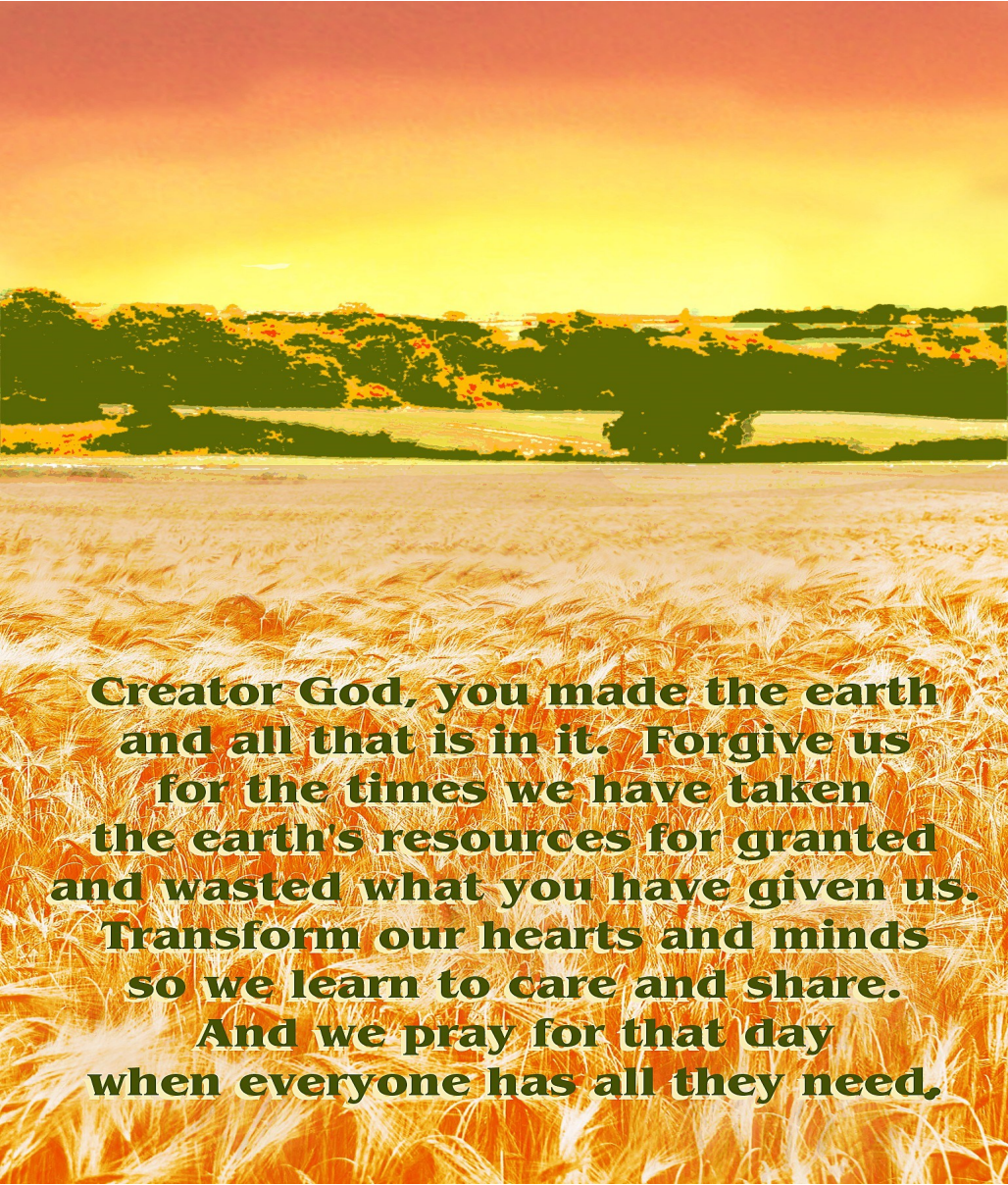


Kaleidoscope 154

St Andrew Blackadder Parish Church Magazine

Autumn 2022 September October November



**Creator God, you made the earth
and all that is in it. Forgive us
for the times we have taken
the earth's resources for granted
and wasted what you have given us.
Transform our hearts and minds
so we learn to care and share.
And we pray for that day
when everyone has all they need,**

A Message from Neil

When I was eight years old, I remember my father explaining that the earth goes round the sun. I thought he was nuts. I knew the sun rose every morning, crossed the sky and then set. It was obvious. The sun goes round the earth. Dad patiently explained that the earth goes round the sun. He picked up two pieces of fruit and demonstrated the earth going round the sun.

In 150 AD an Egyptian astronomer called Ptolemy came up with a model for our solar system. In it the sun and the planets orbited the earth. In 1609 Galileo said Ptolemy had got it the wrong way round. The earth goes round the sun. At that time just about everybody believed that the earth was at the centre and the sun went round the earth. When Galileo said they had it completely wrong, they laughed at him and then they got cross with him. When he wouldn't shut up, his books were banned and he was put under house arrest.

For hundreds of years people had been observing the sun and the planets. They were convinced all of them were going round the earth and the earth itself was still. The trouble was, they kept noticing things which didn't fit with this theory. If everything was going round the earth then there were some very obvious anomalies. They were forced to come up with some very complicated bodes to explain what they observed.

As soon as Galileo said, 'Everything's going round the sun', it all fitted into place. In a stroke all the anomalies disappeared. But it would be a long time before people were willing to accept they were wrong.

Today, our society is convinced each person needs to be at the centre of their own world. Of course we need to think about others. But essentially each person is at the centre of their own little universe. That means that the only way we will find fulfilment is by focusing on ourselves. That's why we must follow our dreams and pursue our passions.

Jesus tells us we have it the wrong way round. He said, 'Whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it.' (Mark 8:35) We find life by giving it up. We discover what we are looking for by surrendering control to Jesus.

Just as I thought my Dad had completely lost his marbles, what Jesus says sounds like nonsense. That's because we're like Ptolemy. To Ptolemy and everyone else who lived at the time it seemed so obvious that the earth was at the centre. Just like Ptolemy, people today tell us, 'It's obvious that the only way you will find what really matters is by pursuing your passions and following your dreams.'

Jesus is like Galileo. Jesus tells us we have got it completely wrong. Just as the earth goes round the sun, our lives revolve around God. That's not a choice anyone makes. That is reality. It is fact. God is there whether people acknowledge him or not. God is the fundamental reality. God is at the heart of everything. Whether we like it or not, our lives revolve around God, just like the earth revolves around the sun.

In Galileo's day most people did not agree. They didn't accept that the earth was going round the sun. That didn't stop it being true, it just meant that stuff didn't make sense. The sun and the moon didn't behave the way they were supposed to. It was only when people accepted that Galileo was right that things fitted into place.

In the same sort of way, it is only when we accept God is the centre that life makes sense. It is only when we make space for God in our lives that things fit into place.

Jesus said: ‘Whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and the gospel will save it. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?’ (Mark 8:35-37)

Prayer

O God you are the everlasting Essence of all things
beyond space and time and yet within them;
you, who transcend all things yet pervade all things
show yourself to us, who feel after you
seeking you in the shades of our ignorance.
Stretch forth your hand to help us,
who cannot come to you without you;
and reveal yourself to us,
who seek nothing beside you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN

(Johannes Scotus Erigena)

Neil

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Scottish Charity SC0006421

The Guild

The new Guild Session runs from September to April, and we are supporting two new Projects.

Blether with BEAT is a partnership with the UK's eating disorder charity. BEAT want to see everyone with an eating disorder get excellent treatment, and their families to be empowered to support their loved one. Together, the Guild and BEAT hope to help local communities in Scotland recognise the signs of eating disorders and ensure that sufferers can access treatment.

The Starchild Project addresses the challenges of stigma and myths related to intellectual and physical disability in Uganda. Starchild aims to build a holistic centre, the Sunflower Sanctuary. The Guild's partnership will focus on growth in the understanding of autism and disabilities, financing the Sunflower Sanctuary, and giving disabled people inclusion and equality.

2022 PROGRAMME

Saturday 10 September 10.30am-2.30pm: Live-streaming of Annual Gathering.

Tuesday 13 September 2.00-4.00pm: Wrap shoeboxes in Christmas paper for Blythswood Care.

Sunday 18 September from 11.00am: Youth Fellowship Bacon Roll Lunch.

Tuesday 4 October 2.30pm: Barbara Reid – Climbing North Berwick Law for Tree Aid.

Wednesday 12 October 2.00pm: Lothian East Guilds Together Communion Service in Dirlerton Kirk.

Tuesday 18 October 2.30pm: Megan-Rose Birdsall – The History of the Poppy in Scotland.

Tuesday 1 November 2.30pm: Joint Meeting: Mary Miller – Jane Haining, A Life of Love and Courage.

Sunday 6 November from 11.30am: Guild Sunday with Soup & Pudding Lunch.

Tuesday 15 November 2.30pm: Ann Braid and Helen Dennison – The Future of the Guild.

Tuesday 22 November 2.00pm: Joint Meeting in Abbey Church Hall – Blether with BEAT.

Tuesday 29 November 2.30pm: Joint Meeting: Rev Janice Andrews – Empathy International: Combatting Child Trafficking.

Monday 5 December 2.00pm: Lothian East Guilds Together Christmas Carol Service. Venue: Chalmers Memorial Church (TBC). Offering for East Lothian Foodbank.

Everyone is most welcome to attend all or any of the meetings.

Sundays at St Andrew Blackadder

Morning Worship 9.30am – 10.10am

This is a traditional and reflective service. Tea and coffee are available afterwards.

Worship for all ages 10.30am – 11.40am

This is our main service including Christian teaching for both adults and children. All meet at the beginning, then the young people go off to KLASH and YF. There is a crèche available from 10.30 for babies and toddlers. There is a multimedia presentation and CH4, Mission Praise and some traditional songs. Tea and coffee, juice and biscuits are available afterwards.

Sunday Activities

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE	CONTACT
Every Sunday	An opportunity to pray about anything with members of the Prayer Team	Church at Pulpit	Badged Team Members
Every Sunday	Junior Church Ages 3 to 12	Chapel	Stacy Cathcart
Every Sunday	YF Ages 13 to 18	Room 2	Paul Cathcart and Mary Leckie

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Regular Activities

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE	CONTACT
Mondays 7.30 to 10.00pm	Table Tennis Club	Hall	Jack Hamilton northberwicktt@gmail.com
Tuesdays 1.30 to 2.30 pm	Seniors' Table Tennis Club	Hall	Patricia Hay 893437
Tuesdays 9.30 to 11.30am	Little Angels Kids gather for fun while their carers enjoy a cup of tea or coffee & a chat	Chapel	Geraldine Woolley 01875 871219
Thursdays 11.00 — 1.00pm (soup from 11.30am)	THE BEACON Come and enjoy a bowl of soup, home baking, a chat and good company	Hall	Elaine Martin 892859 07790121742
Thursdays 1.00—1.20pm	THE BEACON SERVICE This short service is relaxed and intimate	Chapel	Ann Cubitt 894859
Tuesdays 2.30 — 3.50pm 13/9, 04/10, 12/10, 18/10, 1/11, 6/11, 15/11, 22/11, 29/11, 5/12	The Guild We gather to hear a speaker and support charities while enjoying worship, fellowship and coffee	Chapel and front vestibule	Ann Cubitt 894859

Deaths

Jean Drummond

Helena Costa

Special Events During September – November

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE
Saturday 10th September, 10.30am—2.30pm	The Guild Annual Gathering live-stream	Chapel & Front Vestibule
Tuesday 13th September, 2.00—4.00pm	The Guild – Covering Blythswood Shoeboxes	Chapel
Sunday 6th November 11.45am—2.00pm	The Guild Soup & Pudding Lunch	Hall
Saturday 19th November	Opera East	Sanctuary
27th November 9.30 & 10.30am services	Communion	Sanctuary
4th September 4 to 6pm	Messy Church The Lord's Prayer	Hall
2nd October 4 to 6pm	Messy Church Harvest—the Book of Ruth	Hall
6th November 4 to 6pm	Messy Church Forgiveness—The Prodigal Son	Hall

New Members

Welcome to Mari and Chris Scott.

St Andrew Blackadder Church of Scotland North Berwick
Scottish Charity SC0006421

St Andrew Blackadder Parish Church

St Andrew Street, North Berwick, EH39 4NU.

Minister: Rev. Dr. Neil Dougall

email to : ndougall@churchofscotland.org.uk.

Church Office Administrator, and Roll Keeper :

Julie Scanlon t. 01620 895233

email to: admin@standrewblackadder.org.uk

Office open Monday to Friday from 9 am to 12 noon.

Church Web Administrator

Ewan Bell t. 01620 861296

email to : webmaster@standrewblackadder.org.uk

Web Site: www.standrewblackadder.org.uk

Communion Services

St Andrew Blackadder Parish Church usually celebrates Communion as follows:

The last Sunday of February, May, August, and November, at 9.30am and 10.30am.

Beacon Communion Service is on a Thursday near to the Sunday.

Monday 14th November is the Winter Edition - DEADLINE.

Please send articles for consideration by
email to: kaleidoscope@standrewblackadder.org.uk

Or write to the Editor at the church office address or phone
Kirstin Entwistle tel. 01620 894933

To God be the glory, great things He has done;
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life gate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He has done.

Fanny Crosby (1820-1925) is one of America's best loved hymn writers. She was blinded at six weeks of age by a quack doctor. Of her blindness Fanny said: 'It seemed intended by the blessed providence of God that I should be blind all my life, and I thank him for the dispensation. If perfect earthly sight were offered me tomorrow I would not accept it. I might not have sung hymns to the praise of God if I had been distracted by the beautiful and interesting things about me.'

Fanny had an agreement with publishers to write three hymns a week for use in their Sunday School publications; her hymns were aimed at bringing the message of the Gospel to people who would not listen to preaching. She prayed God over each hymn asking that He would use it to lead many souls to Him. She wrote well over 8,000 hymns! Moody and Sankey used them in their campaigns and brought Fanny Crosby's hymns to the masses.

In 1954, the song leader for Billy Graham was given a copy with the suggestion that 'To God be the Glory' be included in the songbook for the London Crusade. It was so well-loved that he included it again later that year in the Crusade in Nashville, Tennessee. The audience responded enthusiastically and from that time on, he used it frequently. With this exposure, the hymn quickly became well-known to Christians worldwide and is printed in most modern hymnals.

Pastoral Care

Our new approach to **pastoral care** has had a few months to bed in now. You'll recall that we are recognising that members of our congregation are encouraged to provide pastoral care as part of our existing relationships in the well-established connections that we have.

Pastoral care can be as simple as, checking in to find out how someone you haven't seen for a while is doing, sharing what is happening in church, and letting someone know that we can include them in our prayers or taking time to pray together.

We are mindful that some members of our congregation may not have a regular connection to others among us, and these folks could unwittingly fall through our net. If you are aware of anyone in this situation whom you either haven't seen for a while, or perhaps you know has been unwell or experiencing a difficult time in their lives, please let me know.

And there will, as I've experienced, be times when someone's pastoral needs are more than that which could be provided in our normal relationships. In these situations or where something extra is needed for a time please let me know.

Mari Scott

(Mob: 07867904733)

The pictures on the back page:- show the Malawi children outside the building that we helped to create.

