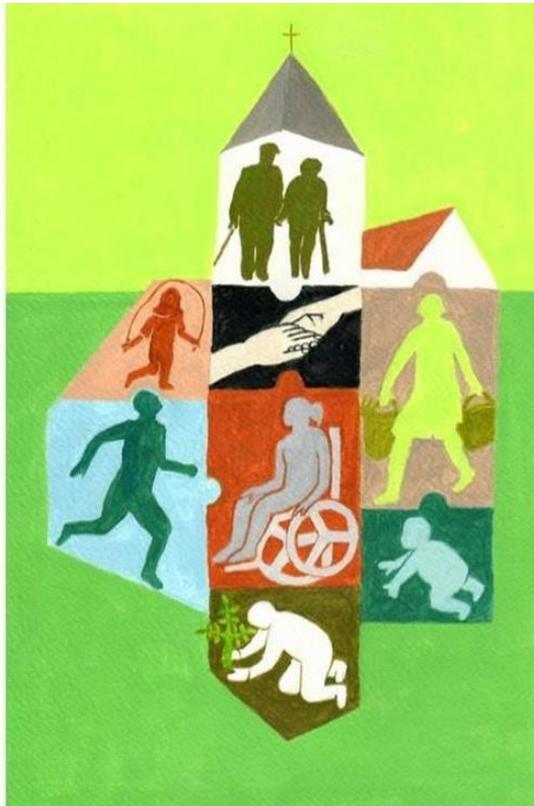


**St Margaret's Church Magazine No 129  
March 2020**



***...worshipping...loving...learning...caring...sharing...***

## Dear Friends,

As I write this letter there is only 59 days until the end of winter but as you will be reading it in March and the winter officially ends on 20<sup>th</sup> March, it will be significantly closer to Springtime! Spring is my favourite season as the gardens wake up from their winter sleep and colour begins to push through the cold earth; snowdrops first, crocuses, daffodils and tulips and so on. It is as if the world comes alive with colour and new life!

As a family, we welcomed a precious new baby on 17<sup>th</sup> January, born to Ruth and Andrew. Robyn Eileen (also known as Robin Hood to her sister!) kept everyone waiting for her arrival, but it was all worth it! Here is a photo of Robyn on day she was born – is that a cheeky grin on her face? And another with big sister. Heidi was very excited to meet her little sister. Geoff and I are delighted to be grandparents again and we are very much enjoying being GranE and Papa to Heidi, Gracie, Ben and now Robyn! All the fun and little responsibility!



From babies to new life in Christ.....Easter is also a time to celebrate the new life that is on offer to each person through the Lord. It is a time to reflect on the depth and reach of the love of God that goes all the way to death and beyond to express how much we are loved. It is love strong enough to break the power of sin and death. It is hard to understand that kind of love, for it is the kind of love where the Son of God has made the ultimate sacrifice for us to show us what love looks like. Given that most of us would want to do whatever we could to protect our families from harm, this kind of love is really incredible. God allowed his Son to die on a cross so that we would know the fullness of life and no fear of death. It is overwhelming and it invites a response. What will your response be?

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very happy Easter! May the risen Christ bring joy and hope to each one this Easter.

Eileen

## From the Editor

St Margaret's has been a hive of activity over the past three months! I hope you will enjoy reading about some of the things that have been happening. I also hope you will be able to join in some of the Church events in the next few months.

When I took over as co-editor of the magazine nearly five years ago and then as sole editor shortly afterwards, I was keen to include articles written by **you**. I am sure most of us would love to share your news and/or photographs. You can email them to me (address below) or give me a hand written copy. The Window is your magazine and we all look forward to hearing from you.



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### Holy Week Services

Monday 6th April	7pm service led by Ruth Livingstone and John Hutchison
Tuesday 7th April	7pm service led by the Guild
Wednesday 8th April	7pm service led by the Kirk Session
Thursday 9th April	Hunger meal in the New Halls at 7pm
Friday 10th April	7pm Service in the church
Easter Day Sunday 12th April	Early service in Balbirnie Park at 8am (meet in the car park), followed by breakfast in church
	Easter service in church at 10am

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## The Guild

On 29<sup>th</sup> October Rev Andrew Gardner led us in Bible study. He chose the book of Ruth, a story of poverty, hunger and sadness, a better story than any TV soap.

The following week, Adrian Shaw told of his pilgrim's journey as he walked the Camino Santiago. Often walking in the rain, he stayed in wayside inns. He compared the opulence of the Cathedral at Burgos to the poverty of many of the villages he passed through. He was a little annoyed to find that people who walked only the last 10 miles received the same certificate as those who had tramped the whole 200 miles.

Tom Fox spoke to us about the Prison Chaplaincy, and problems like drugs and overcrowding in prisons. He went on to speak about problems faced on release – loneliness can be a big problem.

Safe driving for the more mature person was the subject introduced by Gillian Kelly. We had a short quiz about the Highway Code, and six of us were offered a chance to attend a driving assessment session.

Our Guild played host to other Guilds and women's groups in Glenrothes. "Civil Folk" presented an entertaining programme of Scottish and Irish ballads. A wonderful evening, despite the awful weather outside.

Our Christmas carol service was held in the church, our four conveners reading passages from the Bible, and well known carols were sung. At the end of the service, Jean hung a nail on the Christmas tree to remind us of the ultimate fate of the child born in Bethlehem. Our Christmas lunch was held the following week.

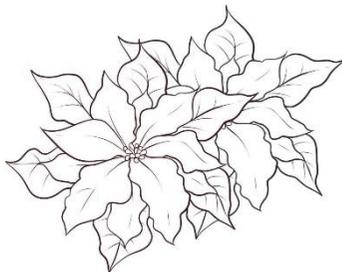
*Agnes Stirling.*



If you are shopping on the internet, please remember that St Margaret's can benefit if you use Smile, Amazon.co.uk. Simply download the App and select St Margaret's Parish Church Glenrothes as your chosen charity.

Each time you shop, a donation will be made to the church, and it does not cost you a penny.

## **A Busy Christmas and New Year in St Margaret's!**



A lot went on in the church during the month of December and at the start of 2020.

### **Worship Services and Advent Studies:**

Three Advent Study groups and the first meetings of a new Bible Study group. A well-attended Bereavement service in the afternoon of the first Sunday in Advent.

Christmas care home services with children from Carleton and Pitteuchar East. Visit of Very Rev Dr John Chalmers on 15<sup>th</sup> December.

7pm and 11.30pm services on Christmas Eve.

A service at 10am on Christmas day.

### **Children and Young People:**

The Toddlers Christmas party.

Christmas services at Pitteuchar East and West

Carleton schools services were in the Church on 20<sup>th</sup> December

Carleton school choir joined the Good Companions for their Christmas carol service.

Ruth led Christmas story time at the three nurseries.

Monday Club held their Christmas party.

A GROW Youth service was held in the Church on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

### **Church Family and the Community:**

Christmas Singalong in the Lomond Court Care Home.

Poinsettia plants were donated and distributed on the first Sunday of Advent.

Over 60 backpacks were donated for Mary's Meals appeal.

Collections at Christmas were donated to the foodbank.

Gifts were given to Gilven House and the Alexander Road flats.

Over 200 knitted angels were given away.

Christmas cards, designed by children of the Monday Club, were distributed.

There was a Christmas edition of the magazine.

Tullis Russell Mills Band held a concert in the Church.

Some of us joined with the Churches Together Carol singing in the Kingdom

centre Volunteers from the Church worked with Family Food and Fun in the Lomond Centre on 23, 24, 30 and 31 December.

Our New Year began with "drop in for a cuppa" on 3<sup>rd</sup> January.

## An Elder for Fifty Years – Congratulations, Joy!

At the 11am service on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December many of her friends joined Joy Allan as she celebrated 50 years of faithful service as an Elder in the Church of Scotland.



She was presented with her long service certificate by former Moderator of the Church of Scotland, the Very Rev Dr John Chalmers.

Joy would like to thank all her St Margaret's friends for all the kindness shown to on the occasion of her 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary as an Elder of the Church of Scotland. Not only to those who attended the

ceremony but all who gave cards and came to shake me by the hand. She received Soooooo many she cannot begin to reply by letter. It was all very humbling, but a very special occasion and a happy day. ----organised of course by our Minister Eileen-----who never misses anything!!!!

## Married for Fifty Years – Congratulations, Bill and Fiona!



Bill and Fiona Beveridge recently celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. Congratulations!

## **GROW Report**

In 2016 coffee cups became one of GROW's most regularly bought resource as school coffee drop-ins started. In 2017, following David Attenborough's *Blue Planet !!*, it soon emerged that most takeaway coffee cups could not be recycled. And so the GROW team decided to invest in compostable coffee cups to ensure that they are doing their part to "be responsible for the fish in the sea, the birds in the air, the cattle and yes, Earth itself."(Gen1:26 MSG)



In the past 3 years around 3000 drinks have been given away in Glenrothes schools, providing Oskar and his team a simple but highly effective way to serve, witness to and get to know pupils and staff. It has also provided opportunities for gentle faith exploration as pupils have been asked to reflect on different topics or ideas.

Oskar asks that we continue to pray for the coffee ministries.

### **SU Events –**

- The first joint Connect Youth Service was held in St Margaret's in December.
  - The Perth, Kinross and Fife All Age weekend took place from 31 January- 2 February at Lendrick Muir.
  - Gener8 courses have been held at Glenwood and Glenrothes High, and it is hoped that a third will soon be held at Auchmuty .
  - SU drop ins have been held in the High Schools and in Pitcoudie Primary
- Please give thanks for all of these events and continue to pray for the wider work of SU Scotland.

## **MDS Update January 2020**

I am now back to working my full part time hours. It was great to have the opportunity to ease back into work while juggling responsibilities at home. It was a busy time in the lead up to Christmas but I had a lovely break and I am looking forward to getting back into the swing of things!

### **Monday Club**

Monday Club has continued to welcome around 40 children each week. The children finished the Dress Rehearsal! Programme by focussing on the Tale of Two sons and Jesus' death and Resurrection before having a Wedding Banquet in the church where they heard what the Bible says about the end of time. The children shared food and music and Liz joined us for the harvest competition prize giving.

We then moved on to Christmas, finishing with the Christmas Party. The children shared the story of Christmas with their families through rhyme and singing before enjoying party games and food together.



Nativity Scene

We've all enjoyed the Christmas break and now the focus this term will be on Joseph and his family. This term at Monday Club will look a little different, with a completely games based approach for the older children. We hope that this will engage the children in a new way, to relate their experience playing the games to the lessons in the story.

The next school term is long (13 weeks!), please pray for the Monday Club team, that they will have energy and enthusiasm to carry them through to the holidays!

## Toddlers

Toddlers has continued to be busy each day. On Wednesday and Thursday, the children have been offered story or craft time which they have enjoyed. At Christmas, they made Christmas wreaths to take home to share with their families. We finished with the Christmas party where 60 children enjoyed music and games and a visit from Santa!

This term the children will be introduced to different Bible stories through song and craft.

## Nurseries

Over the month of December, I visited local nurseries to share the Christmas Story. The children enjoyed engaging with storytelling songs and had a chance to play with a felt nativity.

Over the next term, I hope to visit again to share more stories from the bible.

*Ruth*



Have you ever thought about ordering a copy of the Church of Scotland's magazine "Life and Work"?

Though firmly rooted in the affairs of the Kirk, it also aims to cover a broad range of subjects of interest to church-goers across the spectrum, from international affairs and British political and social issues to science, ethics, and the arts.

Each monthly issue includes a forum for views on current social and moral issues; a monthly meditation and regular articles on the spiritual side of life; reviews of the latest books, videos, and Christian resources; and regular features on the Church worldwide. The latest issue, at time of writing, includes articles about the successes and hurdles faced by uniting or linking parishes, the life and faith of ultramarathon runner Dr Mark Calder, a reflection on nuclear energy and weapons, the Awakening Youth conference in Lewis, and there is even a little piece about the angels in St Margaret's Church in Glenrothes!

You can order your copy online and have it sent to your home address, or through the church office. It is also possible to go paperless and get your copy online - it's cheaper that way!

## **An Easter Quiz (with clues to where you will find the answers)**

- 1. When Jesus died, which of the following things did NOT happen?**
  - the veil of the temple was torn
  - there was a flood that covered the earth
  - there was an earthquake
  - the dead came to life (Matthew 27: 51-53)
- 2. Who asked Pilate for Jesus' corpse and put it in his own tomb?**
  - Joseph of Arimathaea
  - Zebedee
  - Paul
  - Mary Magdalene (Matthew 27: 57-58)
- 3. What was placed in front of the door of the tomb to close it?**
  - a wall
  - a fence
  - a blanket
  - a stone (Matthew 27: 60)
- 4. On what day was Jesus' resurrection?**
  - the same day as his crucifixion
  - the tenth day
  - the fourteenth day
  - the third day (Matthew 27: 63)
- 5. What moved the object in front of the tomb door?**
  - the earthquake
  - the 12 Apostles
  - the object moved itself
  - an angel (Matthew 28: 2)
- 6. Who did not see the empty tomb?**
  - Joseph
  - Peter
  - John the Beloved
  - Mary Magdalene (John 20: 1-3)
- 7. What was found in the tomb?**
  - a sparrow
  - Jesus' burial clothes
  - a vase full of water
  - a growing lily (John 20: 6-7)
- 8. Who did Mary Magdalene think Jesus was when she first saw Him after He had risen?**
  - the gardener
  - Pontius Pilate
  - a shepherd
  - one of the Twelve Apostles (John 20: 15)
- 9. Which of these things did Jesus NOT say to Mary?**
  - "Go to my brethren"
  - "Touch me not"
  - "Blessed art thou among women"
  - "Mary" (John 20: 16-17)

# *Prayer Guide*

*March - May 2020*



We hope that you find this prayer guide helpful. You may like to detach it from the magazine and use it to pray for our church and community.

If you have particular requests for the next three month guide (June - August 2020) please do get in touch with the magazine editor who will pass them on.

## **1-7 March**

- Give thanks for all of the Lent study groups that have been taking place over the past few weeks and which will continue until Easter. Pray for the group leaders and for all who have taken part in these studies.
- Give thanks for the bright spring flowers appearing after the dark of winter, reminding us there is hope for the future.
- Give thanks for the fellowship enjoyed by all who come along to our “drop in for a cuppa” afternoons on the first Friday of each month.

## **8-14 March**

- Give thanks and pray for all of our friends and families, for the companionship and support they give us.
- Pray for those who are alone, or whose families are unsupportive. Pray that they will know the love of Jesus.

## **15-21 March**

- Pray for those who are in hospital, care homes or nursing homes.
- Give thanks for the care provided by professionals and by volunteers.
- Pray for the group from St Margaret’s who help residents of our local care homes enjoy regular sing-alongs.

## **22-28 March**

- Pray for all who are living with dementia, and for all who support them with tender loving care.
- Give thanks for all that has been done in our church and its halls to make it a dementia friendly place where all can feel safe and welcome.
- Give thanks for the volunteers in our Active Senses group and pray for group leader, Shelagh Pilgrim, whose hard work ensures that all the activities are enjoyable. Pray for the group as they host their open day on Friday.

## **29 March-4 April**

- Pray for all who are unable to manage Sunday morning services and give thanks that some of them are able to celebrate Holy Communion during our short afternoon service. Give thanks for those who bring them along to the service and join in with them.
- Give thanks to God for providing our basic needs of food, water, health and shelter. Pray that the poor, the sick, the refugees – the powerless in the world – may also receive these basic needs.

## **5-11 April**

- During Holy Week, pray for the Ministry team, especially Eileen.
- Pray for the teams leading the evening services, the Guild on Tuesday, and the Kirk Session on Wednesday. Give thanks for the helpers who prepare the hunger meal on Thursday evening.
- Give thanks that so many people can come to church to take part in at least one of the services.

## **12th April      Give thanks and rejoice!** Christ the Lord is risen today. Alleluia!

## **13-18 April**

- Give thanks for the death and resurrection of Jesus and pray for a deeper understanding of what it means for each of us to follow Jesus
- Give thanks for the enthusiastic hard work done by so many people preparing for messy church on Saturday morning.. Pray that the young children and their families will have fun, enjoy their lunch, and learn about Jesus.

## **19-25 April**

- Pray for World Earth Day, an annual event celebrated around the world on April 22 to demonstrate support for environmental protection.
- Give thanks for Oskar Forbes and his team, working throughout Glenrothes with young people. Give thanks for the drop-in sessions in schools, for cups of coffee, drinking chocolate, and talking time.
- Pray for the staff and pupils of all our local schools, especially those working hard in preparation for exams.

## **26 April–2 May**

- Give thanks for the ladies of the pancake bar and the fellowship offered to the children and adults who meet there.
- Give thanks and pray for the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides who meet each week in the halls.
- Give thanks for all who provide music for our services, praise band, organists, pianists and keyboard players. In particular, pray for Rob Fleming who is now our organist on the fourth and fifth Sundays of each month.

## **3–9 May**

- Give thanks for the fundraising group. Pray that they will continue to find ways to raise the money needed for our car park.

- Give thanks for the Ian Walker Band, performing in the Church on Saturday in aid of the car park fund.
- Pray for all of the volunteers in the Food Bank and for all who are in need. Give thanks that we are able to make regular donations to the Food Bank.

### **10-16 May**

- Pray for our our Session Clerk, Sheila Filsell and her deputy, Catriona Reidpath. Pray that they will receive all the support they need to perform their duties
- Pray for all taking part in *Christian Aid Week* to raise money to support people living in poverty worldwide.
- Pray for Ruth Livingstone and give thanks for all the hard and rewarding work done by her with families and young children.
- Give thanks for the many Monday Club helpers.

### **17-23 May**

- Pray for Ministers, elders and deacons who are Commissioners to this week's General Assembly and for the young people attending the Youth Assembly. Pray also for the Moderator, Rev Dr Martin Fair.
- Give thanks for ten years of Heart and Soul and pray that many will be inspired by this year's theme "Jesus said, Follow me and I will make you fish for people".
- Pray that many of us will participate in prayer events between 21<sup>st</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> May.
- Pray for all who help and visit the sick and housebound. Pray for our new Pastoral Visiting team who hope to provide extra help and support for those who need it.
- Give thanks for our social get together for all of our Church visitors.

### **May 24-31**

- Give thanks for politicians, local and national, and pray that they will be able to make wise decisions.
- Pray for the Good Companions group; that members, helpers and organisers may continue to enjoy the friendship and activities provided for all who attend.
- Pray for the four churches in the town and Leslie Trinity, Markinch and Thornton as they seek to work more closely together as part of a Covenanted Partnership.

EST. 1939

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# Financial Report for 2019

2019 has been a very busy year for St Margaret's and there has been a lot of activity on the financial front. The buildings are at an age where we are having to spend money to keep everything up to date and safe. The congregation have been very supportive and generous in their giving. **Thank you all very much.**

## The General Fund

### Income

The offerings this year total £45,582 which is an increase of £1,589 compared to last year. We were able to recover £10,348 in tax from Gift Aided donations. In addition the Rental of our Halls secured £4,192 - if you have a birthday party coming up why not consider having it in the New Halls...an excellent venue! The Pancake Bar continues to do extremely well with a profit of £2,709 this year.

We were very fortunate to receive donations to the General Fund of £650 from the Guild and £548 from the Good Companions.

Many thanks to John Ford for all the years he has served as Gift Aid Convener and also to Agnes Stirling who has been our Halls Management Convener for over 25 years. Our very best wishes go to you both. I am very grateful to Geoff Miller who has taken over as our Gift Aid Convener and to Gilbert Forbes who is our new Halls management Convener.

### Expenditure

The Ministries and Mission Contribution which we pay to the Church of Scotland was £38,747 an increase of £2,785. Our staffing costs were £11,537 as we ensure our employees are receiving a The National Living Wage. Our fabric bill this year was larger than usual at £3,368. this included expenses of £536 for servicing and repairing the boilers, the servicing of the fire equipment and 3 new fire extinguishers cost £464, also the 5 year fixed wiring inspection was due this year and the first part of this bill was £461 with a further bill due next year. All these expenses were necessary to keep us safe and warm. The good news is that our heating and lighting bill is now approximately £4,000 which is £1,000 less than it was before we had the new boiler installed. Similarly the replacing of our photocopier with a reconditioned one has produced a decrease of £900 in our photocopying bill.

We have had a new router installed in the New Halls at a cost of £415 ( a donation of £130 from the Good Companions was received towards the cost). The additional cost of the router and the two new projectors, which are used every Sunday, were bought using a donation of £1,000 given in memory of one of our members, the late Mr David Stevenson.

The General Fund balance at the end of 2019 is £5,186 compared to £8,768 last year. We will continue to be prudent in our spending next year.

## The Car Park Funds

The balance of the Car Park Funds on the 31st December was £18,078 this

includes the grant of £7,157 from the Co-op Local Community Fund for which we are very grateful. The Church of Scotland General Trustees have promised £10,000 towards the car park extension giving an end of year total of £28,078.

Many thanks to the Good Companions ladies who donated £319 to the Car Park Fund throughout the year.

In January 2020 we had a wonderful donation of £2,000 from the Toddler Groups and along with other donations our present total is **£30,352** - so just £10,000 to go!!

Many thanks to everyone who has donated to the Car Park Fund, we have been raising funds for 3 years and it is quite an achievement to have reached £30,000.

I would like to thank the Fundraising Committee who have had some super fundraising ideas with quiz sheets (£300) and selling bags of sweets (£148). They also helped organise the Tullis Russell Christmas concert which raised £339.

There are Car Park Fund envelopes available in the front vestibule of the church if you would like to make a donation.

### **World Church Fund**

The very successful Christmas Craft Fair raised a fantastic £673 and following a ceilidh early in the year, we were able to donate the proceeds £410, to GROW. The sale of handmade cards, sold throughout the year raised a wonderful £401. This enabled us to send £1,000 to our partner church in Sri Lanka for projects they suggest. This year it was to buy spectacles for the inmates in a local prison. Gifts totalling £121 were also sent to the residents in the Alexander flats and Gilven House.

### **Building Repair Fund**

We were very fortunate indeed to receive a donation of £5,000 towards prioritised fabric projects, it has not yet been spent. During the year new LED lighting was installed in the New Halls at a cost of £672 and what a transformation!

### **2019 and Beyond!**

We have had a fire alarm system installed throughout the church buildings, the majority of the cost was covered by the Church of Scotland General Trustees. The boiler servicing the Church and the Small Hall requires a major repair, however we are investigating the possibility of grant funding that would allow us to replace the boiler with a new more efficient one. During the stormy weather in February we have had some damage to the main church roof and with a quinquennial inspection due in March we are expecting some major expenses.

**Thank You To Everyone Involved In Any Aspect Of The Finances Of The Church - I greatly appreciate your dedication and support.**

*Jo Wylie, Treasurer*

# Caring for the people you love



## Offering personalised care and support for elderly people in our homes across Fife.

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### **Lomond Court Care Home, KY7 5RW**

Offering nursing dementia care

### **Woodside Court Care Home, KY7 5RW**

Offering nursing and nursing dementia care



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## Our Angels – “A Heavenly Host”

A photograph of our angels appeared in the February edition of “Life and Work”.

Thomas Baldwin reported on how two separate Church of Scotland congregations were involved in spreading Christmas joy last year by the sharing of hundreds of knitted angels in their local communities.

One Saturday morning in Auchterarder, hundreds of angels were hung around the town, and some shops agreed to have baskets of them to hand out. By teatime they had all flown away, with their message of love which had been placed around their necks.

He went on to tell everyone about our St Margaret's angels. Each included a small gold gift card giving the message of the angels to the shepherds from Luke's Gospel. Our angels were given to people who were sick, in care homes and hospitals, or bereaved, and many found their way to the top of Christmas trees.

Elsie Duncan recently decided to “retire” from the pancake bar after many years of service. She was presented with a small gift and a very big thank you for all she has done over the years.



Congratulations to Wilma Craig who celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday in February.



## **Fundraising Committee**

Our group has now been meeting since September and have had several successful events up until the end of 2019.

- The sale of sweets after the Sunday service has raised £150 and is ongoing.
- The Tullis Russell Mill Band concert was a great success and raised £339.40 we were very grateful for the donation of mince pies from Morrison's which were enjoyed during the break with tea and coffee.
- The General Knowledge Quiz raised £200 and the hamper was won by Alec Nicol.

This gave us a total of £689.40 raised by the end of 2019 that will go towards the car park fund.

We are now looking forward to organising events for 2020 one confirmed event is a concert by Ian Walker Band to be held on Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> May and will be held in St Margaret's Church.

The committee would like to thank everyone for their continued support.

*Allan McDonagh*



## **The Good Companions**

Towards the end of 2019, activities included Christmas card and gift making, a visit from the children of Ladybird nurture centre and a talk about the Riverside Park. In December we held a carol service in the church, enjoyed our lunch in the New Halls, and were surprised by a visit from Santa during our Christmas singalong.

We started the year with songs from David Spittal and John Blackwood. The following week was quiz week, and January ended with celebrations of Burns day and the Chinese new year.

*Liz Rollo*

## Active Senses Group – An Invitation

The group meets every second Friday morning .As you can see from the photograph of Betty Neilson “throwing” the curling stone, sometimes the mornings are more active than others, but they are **always** good fun! There is always toast and tea, and often some biscuits, followed by an activity that includes lots of chat and laughter.

**You are invited to come along to the group’s open day on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March from 10.30 till 12.30.** Have a cup of tea, have a look at some of the activities, join in if you want to.....you may find that you want to come back again. **Active Senses is a group that is open to everyone.**



## Covenanted Partnership

Following the discussions initiated by Presbytery’s Strategy and Resourcing committee almost two years ago, the four Churches of Scotland in the town, Leslie Trinity and Markinch and Thornton have reached an agreement about closer working together as a Covenanted Partnership.

The details of this agreement are to be discussed at Presbytery at the March meeting before being forwarded to the Church of Scotland for their agreement.

More information to follow!

## Flower List

Thanks to the following people who provided flowers in the church in recent months:

*Paul Turnbull, Elsie Duncan and Anna Cameron.*

Also, thanks to those who contribute through the Flower Fund Box and also to those of you who donate a potted plant for the 9.30 service each week.

## During Recent Months...

### **We were sorry to lose...**

25.12.19 Mary Tarvit,  
31.01.20 Elma Scott, Aberfeldy  
09.02.20 Betty Archibald,

### **Transferred to another church...**

22.12.19 Eleanor Macdonald to Pathhead Church, Kirkcaldy

## Pastoral Visiting Team

We are indebted to Elders and Visitors who are District Visitors who deliver magazines and keep contact with the members on our Roll.

We have been aware for some time that there are times in life when it would be helpful to have some extra visits to offer support in the challenges of life and to this end, we now have in place a team who can offer additional pastoral support, if required.

Some of the team have undertaken some Bereavement training so that they are able to offer support after a bereavement.

If there is anyone who would appreciate some additional pastoral support, please contact Sheila Filsell, Session Clerk, or speak to the `Minister.



## What's On

**Lent** begins on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February this year and to help us prepare for Easter, there are Lent Bible studies available. Please see Church notices for days and times, everyone welcome.

Times of **Holy Week Services** will be found on page 3.

**Communion** is celebrated at 11am on the last Sunday of the month (not during the summer, October and December) and 4 times per year at the 9.30am service (January, March, June, September). On the first Sunday in November, we celebrate Communion together.

**A short afternoon Communion service will be held on Sunday 29th March at 2.30pm which is suitable for those who find it difficult to attend the morning services. We remain seated throughout this service.**

The next **Messy Church** will be on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April between 10am and Noon.

Messy Church is for families with young children and it is based on creativity, hospitality and celebration. We will be celebrating Easter in story, song, crafts, games, soft play and food.

It is free and fun and it includes a buffet lunch. **Everyone is welcome!**

Speak to Ruth Livingstone for more information.



**Thy Kingdom Come** was launched in 2016 by the Church of England and it has grown into a worldwide movement. It takes place between Ascension Day and Pentecost. Christians everywhere have been encouraged to pray in different ways and different places. We are taking part so watch out for prayer events between 21<sup>st</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> May.

**The Active Senses** Group is holding an open day on the morning of Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March between 10.30 and 12.30. Everyone is welcome to come along and perhaps join in with some of the activities.

**A Fundraising Concert** with the Ian Walker Band will be held in the church on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May.

**20<sup>th</sup> May** Church Visitors Get Together in the evening.

As you know, for many years, we in St Margaret's have been contributing to the Church of Scotland used stamp appeal.

Keep putting your used postage stamps in the box in the foyer. This year the money raised is to go to a cause very close to our hearts - it is supporting the women's development centre in Kandy, Sri Lanka.