

IMPAC

Christmas Blessings from All at Monifieth Parish Church

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2021-22

“Be blest, prepare the way!”

- Sun 5th Dec 11am 2nd Sunday of Advent
- Sun 12th Dec 11am 3rd Sunday of Advent; Gift Service
- Sun 19th Dec 11am “What-if-ity”
- Fri 24th Dec 5:30pm Christmas Eve Family Service
- Sun 26th Dec 11am Lessons & Carols
- Sun 2nd Jan 11am New Year & baptism



Monifieth Parish Church of Scotland Registered Charity SC008965 www.mpcos.org.uk

2021 Christmas & 2022 New Year Edition of IMPACT.

Monifieth Parish Church of Scotland - Charity No. SC008965 - Congregational Ref. 291765.



Minister's Musings.

Dear Friends,

I wonder if everything feels to you a bit like déjà-vu all over again? It is getting cold and there is precious little daylight. Moreover, we have just been told of a new coronavirus variant which means we are to be stricter in complying with the various protections in place, with no real sense of whether or when further protections will be reintroduced. Many of us will have hoped that Christmas 2021 could be celebrated much more fully than last year...and whilst that is still a real possibility, there is now an element of doubt. We enter Advent (and Christmastide) on shoo-gly ground that feels both familiar and yet strange.

Disconcerting as this is for us, it is perhaps how we might enter Advent every year. For we know it comes every year. We know it starts 4 Sundays before Christmas. We know roughly how long it will last and what the outcome is. Yet, each year, we are somehow different. We are different for the life we have lived over the previous 12 months and, God willing, will have been formed a little more in the likeness of Christ. And so, our preparations for the coming of Christ—as a baby, in our lives, at the end of time—these preparations will look different. Likewise, the meaning of God-with-us, Immanuel, can also be different.

So, however you are feeling just now, ponder that throughout Advent. Notice what feels 'normal' and what feels 'different'. Most especially, be as open as you can to hearing afresh about how God took on flesh and dwelt among us in human form. In all these ways and places, you will be blessed by God; thanks be to God!

Yours-in-Christ,

Fee.

Presbytery Mission Planning and Linkage with Monikie and Newbigging & Murroes and Tealing.

The Basis of Linkage document, voted for unanimously by members of MPC, was not accepted by MNMT. As such, we have not moved into linkage. We are, however, still working with MNMT towards a Mission Plan for our parishes, which needs to be presented to Presbytery in draft form by March 2022. Whilst there might not be a formal linkage between us, the links are still there and need to be strengthened.

Please keep all involved in this work in your prayers.

A Prayer For The Work Of Presbytery Mission Planning.

*God who was and is and is to come, the Church of Scotland is in a time of upheaval,
and here in the Presbyteries of Dundee and Angus, we seek to be faithful in how we respond and move forward.*

*We ask your blessing upon us all as we seek to do your will in this Church,
may we listen attentively to the whisper of the Holy Spirit guiding us into new places, new opportunities, new ministries;*

we ask your comfort upon the places of grief, as we realise things cannot be exactly the same;

we ask your wisdom upon all who plan and share, that points of conflict be transformed into creative ways to grow;

we ask your peace upon every person of faith, so we might rest in your steadfast presence and lean not on our own understanding, trusting that.....

if you are the builder of the future, we are not labouring in vain,

AMEN.

Christian Aid this Christmas

Throughout this tumultuous year, Christian Aid have been working hard with partners around the world to bring relief to suffering as well as speaking out against injustice. This Advent and Christmas, MPC are looking to support them with retiring collections and "Coppers for Christian Aid", as well as there still being beautiful handmade cards for sale. Please think about supporting our sisters and brothers in Christ around the world this year, even if it just means saving up your pennies during December!

Thank you.

Fee.



Congregational Roll.

Baptism. *Let the children come to me'*

28th Nov. Logan Brackenridge
son of Andrew and Lynne Brackenridge, East Kilbride

Admission. By Certificate of Transference

Miss. Kirsty Henderson, Monifieth (*District 25 Irene Coull*)
Mrs. Janette McCallum, Monifieth (*District 21 Andrew McA*)

By Resolution

Ms. Joan Haxton-Robertson, Monifieth (*District 70 Anita S*)
Mrs. Moira Marr, Carnoustie (*District 11 D&C Gourlay*)
Mrs. Margaret Millar, Carnoustie (*District 11 D&C Gourlay*)
Mr. Frank McGlone, Monifieth (*District 30 Neil Morton*)
Mrs. Mary Galbraith, Broughty Ferry (*District 16 Maggie Gray*)

Demission. By Certificate of Transference

Mr. Douglas Coull, Monifieth (*District 51 Lesley McFarlane*)
Mrs. Alison Smith, Aberdeen (*District 1b Postal*)
Mrs. Ann Rennie, Monifieth (*District 52 Pat Matchett*)
Mrs. Pat Anderson, Kingennie (*District 1 Postal*)
Mrs. Marie Neil, Edinburgh (*District 1 Postal*)

Deaths. 'I am the resurrection and the life'

6th Jan. Mrs. Pat Davidson, Monifieth (*District 29 Jane McArtney*)
6th Sep. Mrs. Beryl Nicoll, Monifieth (*District 45 Vacant*)
6th Sep. Mrs. Clair Peterson, Carnoustie (*District 17 Ian Greig*)
? Mr. Ian Barnett, Monifieth (*District 26 Nicola Stewart*)
12th Oct. Mrs. Helen Meehan, Monifieth (*District 31 Ron Jack*)
18th Oct. Mr. Douglas Walker, Carnoustie (*District 17 Ian Greig*)
20th Oct. Mrs. Isabel Dunn, Monifieth (*District 33 Archie Peaston*)
14th Nov. Mr. Ernest Crabb, Monifieth (*District 45 Vacant*)
18th Nov. Mr. Stewart Hill, Carnoustie (*District 17 Ian Greig*)

Boys' Brigade Christmas Card Delivery Service. 'Blue Boxes'

For the 17th year, our BB will deliver festive cheer to the houses and homes in the local area as they collect Christmas Cards from numerous local business locations and deliver them for just....

30p per card (or £1.00 for 4 Cards)

.....regardless of size or weight.

Please note we will be carrying out more than one delivery, starting from early December and continuing through to Christmas week.

Find a box from..... **Monday 29th November until Wednesday 15th December.**

in**Monifieth Parish Church, Alex Troup Chemist, JM Bakery and TESCO Supermarket.**

Plus, you can use the '**Letter Box**', in the front door of the **Gerard Hall**, at the bottom of Church Street. This drop-off point, allows cards (+Donations) to be deposited at any time (day or night), seven days a week and also alleviates the need to go into any of the shops just to post your cards. We encourage our entire congregation and their families and friends to use this local delivery service to help us raise much needed funds to support all of our boys.

You can always find out more about the 1st Monifieth Boys' Brigade Company from our website www.1stmonifiethbb.co.uk and our Facebook page www.facebook.com/1stMonifiethBB

All the boys and leaders would like to wish everyone.....

A Merry Christmas and a Safe Start to 2022.

*Sincere best wishes,
Archie Peaston (Company Captain)*

Volunteers Required!

We are looking for a Chairperson and Deputy for the MPC Management Team

The Management Team is being set up to manage the various day to day functions in the church therefore allowing the Minister and Parish Assistant to be able to fully carry out their roles, knowing that the necessary support functions will be taken care of.

The Team will be supported by sub-committees for specific functions within the Church but would be a standing committee responsible to Session with the authority to make day to day decisions.

It is envisaged that this committee will meet monthly, with specific meetings being additionally held on an "as required" basis.

The Chairperson and their Deputy will support the Management Team by:

- Chairing Management Team meetings.
- Working with the Management Team to produce an annual plan for approval by Session.
- Supporting the team members in their roles.
- Being the point of contact for the Church Management Team.
- Ensure clear and co-operative communications with Kirk Session and Minister.

If you have good interpersonal skills, a knowledge of how the Church of Scotland operates, a strong drive to enable the Parish Church family in Monifieth to thrive and grow, we would like to hear from you!

This will be a developing role for an initial fixed term of 3years, would suit people who have the confidence to chair meetings, have good communication skills and the ability to prioritise.

If you would like more information, please speak to Ron Jack, Malcolm Bell, Jane McArtney or Fee

It is hoped we can start to form this committee in the New Year.

Future Structure Group

The Future Structure Group has been formed by the Kirk Session to look at the management structure of Monifieth Parish Church. The Group is to appraise all the various committees that presently look after the affairs of the Church and to streamline and put in place a structure which will satisfy the governance of a modern Church and give responsibility to a number of committees ultimately answering to the Kirk Session. A prime objective will be to remove much of the day-to-day running of the Church from the Minister and Parish Assistant to enable them to more fully concentrate on the spiritual and pastoral side of their jobs. In this regard the Group, consisting of Ron Jack, Jane McArtney, Dave Inglis and Malcolm Bell, in consultation with the Minister, hope to have the new structure in place and fully operational in the first part of 2022.

Initial thoughts are that there should be a Management Team overseeing the operation and suggested sub groups are, Congregational/Community Life, Fellowship, Safeguarding, Social & Fund Raising, Worship and Hospitality. It is our opinion that we should draw up broad remits for these groups, seek volunteers to chair them and then ask the chairperson to recruit no more than 3 members with whom they can work to flesh out their more detailed remits.

Initially the Group are looking to form the Management Team and are looking for volunteers to fill the position of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson and to this end there is a "job advert" in this edition of Impact. It is stressed that you are not required to be an existing office bearer but that the positions are open to anyone with a knowledge of the workings of the Church. Further details are available from Ron, Jane, Dave or Malcolm.

Church Organisations.

Flower Group.

You may have noticed that we are starting to have flowers displayed in the church, although on a slightly reduced basis. The flowers are funded by donations from the congregation who wish to remember a loved one on a special date.

We have quite a few dates still available throughout the year. If you wish to have flowers displayed on a certain date please give me a call, my number is on the back page.

We are also looking for members to join the Flower Group. You don't need to have any previous flower arranging skills, as we are just displaying the flowers in vases on most Sundays.

We also require volunteers to deliver after the church service.

Linda Duff.

The Guild.

The Guild held their first meeting on September 13th where we were finally able to hold our A.G.M for 2019 and 2020. Kath Harland, Betty Ewing and Scott resigned from our Leadership team and Margaret Stewart as our Project Partner. We thank them for their dedication and hard work over many years, but now are looking for new team members!

Our strategy from 2021 to 2024 will be 'Look forward in Faith' and the theme for this session is 'Lights and Bushels'. We watched a film from Guild Headquarters which gave us updates on all our varied projects. On September 27th Prof. Peter Howie gave us a PowerPoint presentation on 'The Sinai Sisters' - a fascinating tale of two Victorian sisters from Ayrshire who, with determination and grit, travelled to the Sinai desert in search of ancient scrolls and papers dating from the times, and written in the language Jesus would have spoken.



We also celebrated the 100th Birthday of Miss Marjory Dick. Best Wishes and many happy returns, Marjory.

Our Project talk on Oct. 11th on 'Beating Eating Disorders' had to be cancelled because of Covid and instead, we had a Quiz evening organised by Gillian Anderson, which was great fun!

On October 25th the minister came to talk to us about her 'Journey to Ministry'. What a convoluted journey Fee has had with many twists and turns, highs and lows before she and Scott ended up in Monifieth! We appreciated Fee taking time out of her busy schedule to come and talk to us and tell us of her interesting journey.

Ewan Jenkins came to speak to us on 8th November about 'Beekeeping'. He explained the life cycle of bees. He told us of the joys, sorrows and problems of beekeeping and the important part bees play in pollinating our plants. He talked about the different types of bees and the challenges bees and beekeepers are facing nowadays!

On 22nd November Jen Strachan, one of our members, told us a delightful story about why 'Jesus bids us shine' is her favourite hymn. She then showed us some Christmas Craft that fits in with our theme of 'Lights and Bushels'. Jen and Linda Duff then provided us with some equipment and left us to it! We all had a very enjoyable, creative time, and enjoyed the mince pies provided by Marilyn Elder.

Guild Future Dates.

Dec. 6th. Christmas meal.

2022

Jan. 10th. 'Old Dundee' Mr. John Irvine (tbc)

Jan. 24th. 'Burns Night' Ms. Lynne Campbell

Feb. 14th. 'The Vine Trust'. Project Talk

Feb. 28th. 'The Law Tunnel'. Mr. Martin Allan

Mar. 14th. 'Bank Scams'. (tbc)

Mar. 28th. AGM.

If you enjoy a chat, a cup of tea, good company and hearing some interesting talks - come along and join us in the Rattray Hall at 7.15 every 2nd and 4th week of the month. All are welcome.

Anne Jack.

Christmas Fayre.

This was a great success, especially since Covid made things a bit challenging and different. There was a good variety of stalls and what an amazing, talented group of people who made all the crafts. We raised a total of.....

£3378.78 which, for three hours of selling was a great achievement. I want to say a big thank you to the bakers, the pancake team, the tea and coffee servers, the craft makers, the jam makers, the people who manned the stalls - and everyone who donated anything that we could sell. The team would like to add a very special vote of thanks to **Dorothy Gordon**, who has personally raised **£3,000** over the year, from making and selling jam of several varieties. A big thank you too, to the team who spent most of Friday setting up the tables and moving everything to the hall, a good physical workout. It was good to be able to have the Fayre this year as the **Elf** hasn't got out much since before Covid.

This was a huge team effort and a lot of fun. *Thank you.*

The Elf [Lesley]

S.A.M. (Songs and Memories.)

We are hoping to be able to re-start **SAM** in the New Year. However, along with all the other Government regulations and guidelines, it might be necessary to limit numbers attending, but we would hope to find a way round that.

The first step is to find out roughly how many people, including helpers, would like to attend. Please can you let us know ASAP, to enable us to plan accordingly.

Please phone either **Jane McArtney 532886**, or **Valerie Jamieson 532772**, or speak to them personally.

Valerie Jamieson.

Food for All.

Our group of volunteers continue to distribute vegetables and baked potatoes to the community at the front of the Church on a Thursday morning from 10am.

We also continue to deliver to households within the Monifieth area and with the onset of winter if anyone would like to use this service, we will be happy to add you to our list.

The online ordering service is accessed via this link:

www.mpcos.org.uk/community-/food-for-all/.

For those who are not online, we can take orders via the manse phone number: 01382-699183. If anyone would like to join our group of volunteers, you will be made most welcome.

Irene Coull.

B.B. News.

The Boys Brigade restarted a few months ago, slowly and with very mixed numbers. We lost all of our Anchor Boy (*P1>P3*) Leaders, so Alice and Lesley are having to cover both the Anchors and Juniors. The Anchors now have 10 boys (*started with 5*), while our Juniors have 19 boys and the Company Section 14 boys, but at least we are back in business. Our Pipe Band has not yet had a chance to play their Bagpipes and Drums, but we are hopeful about restarting them in January 2022.

Archie Peaston, Company Captain.

Safeguarding.

After a quiet time over the past year, it's been exciting to see clubs etc. starting up again, as it means we've been kept busy!

Just a reminder that -

If you suspect harm, witness harm, or harm is reported to you, please contact either of us (*our contact details are on the back page*) and we will contact the Safeguarding Service.

It might be helpful to recap that.....

- **Harm** is *any* conduct that you suspect or know is having an adverse effect on a person.
- **Abuse** is defined as any action that intentionally harms or injures another person.

Wishing you All a very Happy Christmas and Best Wishes for 2022.

*Tricia Inglis & Karen Morton
Safeguarding Coordinators.*

Thanks from Dundee Starter Packs.

On behalf of Dundee Starter Packs, please pass on our thanks for all of the kind donations given at the Harvest Thanksgiving service. All of these items allow us to help to meet the needs of so many people who, for whatever reason, find themselves having to set up home after being homeless. These donations will help people from almost every background and of all ages.

In this time of lockdown and restrictions, we have not been able to hold our usual fundraising activities, so this is even more valuable to us at present.

Thank you all,

*Dave Inglis,
Chairman, Dundee Starter Packs*

Editor's Chat.

I would like to use my Editors Chat forum to intimate my intention to 'retire' from being editor of IMPACt after many years, as soon as I can find someone/anyone to volunteer to take over. This is not an onerous task and I am sure that IMPACt would benefit from some new blood. So, if you would like a small challenge, please get in touch by email or phone, privately in the first instance, to have a chat about what is involved..

"Another year - another dollar" to paraphrase a well known saying.

We seem to be stuck with this virus. Despite our many wishes to the contrary it simply won't go away, but overall we all seem to have found a way to live with it! If there are any light hearted moments to be had it seems to be when meeting acquaintances in shops and seeing who recognises who first behind the mask?

On a more 'normal' basis, the multitude of swans around the Dichty have all left now for the winter - except for one who seems to have been forgotten. He/she still feeds along the beach some mornings weather permitting.

I found this little song on social media and although I cannot find the author to give a proper acknowledgement, I thought that it would appeal to the young and young in heart..... **Ed.**

Santa Claus Is Covid Secure.

[To the tune of 'Santa Claus is coming to town']

Oh his suit has been pressed, the sleigh's looking pretty
He's got the go-ahead from Professor Chris Whitty.
Santa Claus is Covid secure.

When he enters your house he'll be a good chap.
He'll check himself in on the NHS App.
Santa Claus is Covid secure.

He's not displaying symptoms, you've got nothing to fear,
'Cos he isolates at the North Pole three hundred and sixty four days a year.
It's close to midnight the church bells chime,
He's late because he's washed his hands a billion times.
Santa Claus is Covid secure.

He's got new rules to follow, it's a difficult task,
But he won't go down your chimney without wearing a mask.

Santa Claus is Covid secure.

The presents are loaded, the drop-offs are mapped
All the mince pies are individually wrapped.
Santa Claus is Covid secure.

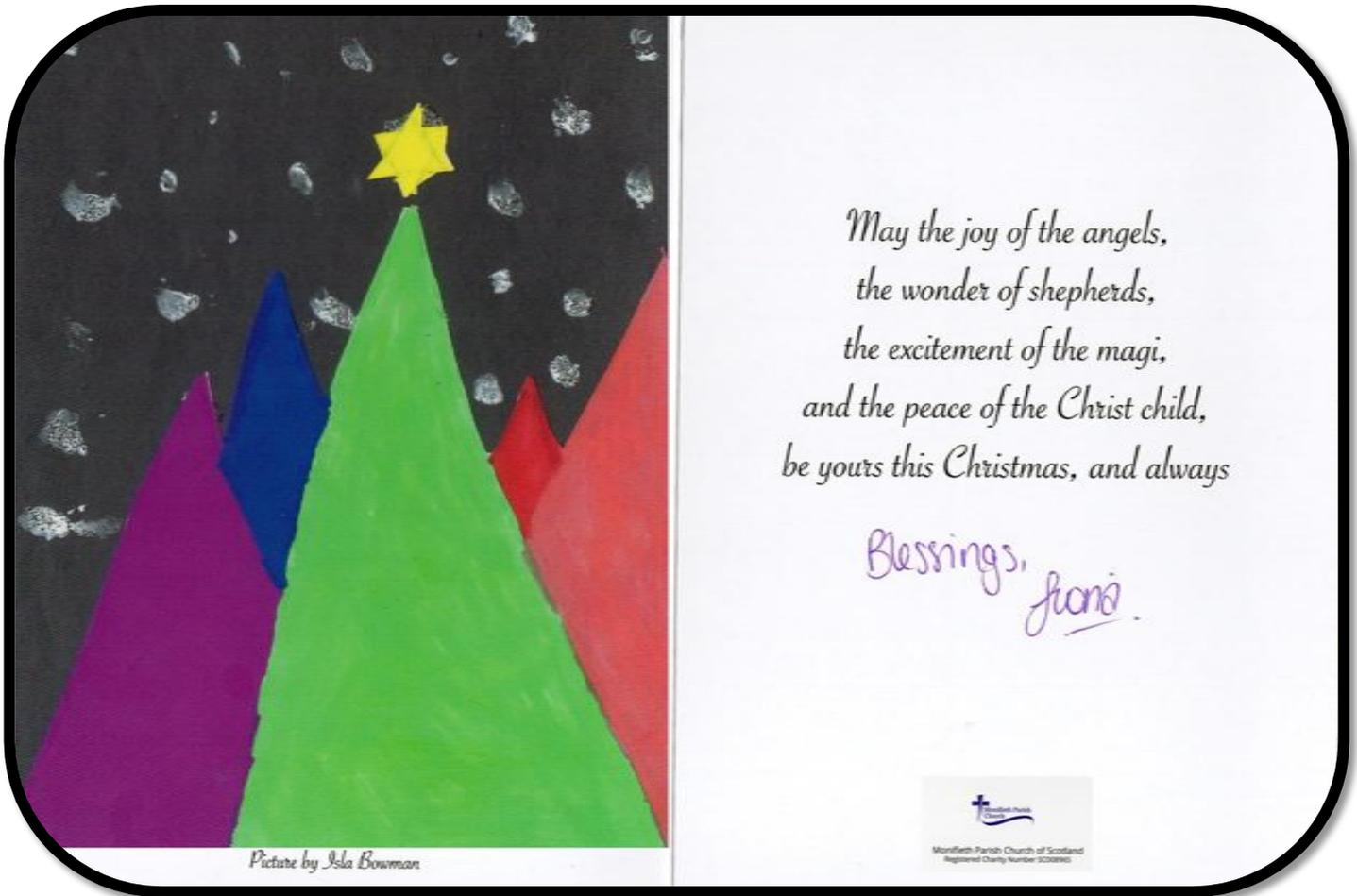
His sleigh is ventilated, the presents are as well.
And Rudolf's had his red nose rubbed in anti-bacterial gel.

The reindeer have helped, the elves played their part,
They've all placed themselves two metres apart.
Santa Claus is Covid secure.

Bob Sutherland Editor.

Contact Names & Numbers.

Minister.	Rev. Fiona J. Reynolds, 8 Church Street, Monifieth.	699183
Session Clerk.	Rod Bowman, 7b Victoria Street,	530522
Depute Session Clerk.	Barbara Burns, 18 Sunart Street, Broughty Ferry,	739009
Pastoral Assistant	Scott Reynolds, 8 Church Street,	699183
Pastoral Care Convener	Scott Reynolds, 8 Church Street,	699183
Treasurer.	Alastair Robertson, 20 Travebank Gardens,	533566
Hall Letting.	Morag Clapperton, 2 Milton Mill,	534384
Property Maintenance.	Ed McIntosh, 6 Travebank Gardens,	533321
IMPACT Editor.	Bob Sutherland, 10 Mortimer Drive,	532751
MPC Youth Group.	Nicky Stewart.	534479
Boys' Brigade Contact.	Archie Peaston (<i>Company Captain</i>)	532916
Girls' Brigade Contact.	Marion Robertson (<i>Captain</i>)	533958
Safeguarding Coordinators.	Tricia Inglis, 37 The Fairway, Karen Morton.	07752253075
Transport to Church	Colin Coull, 3 Elmgrove,	533579
Roll Keeper.	Ron Grace, 41 Roundyhill,	532832
Presbytery Elder.	Ian Clapperton, 2 Milton Mill,	534384
Flower Group.	Linda Duff, 48 Ramsay Street,	534566
Organist.	Valerie Jamieson, 8A Albert Street,	532772
Website.	mpcos.org.uk	-
Sunday Service Podcast.	monifiethparishchurch.buzzsprout.com	-



This card has been sent with IMPACT from Monifieth Parish Church to each household on the Church Roll to wish everyone a very Special and Happy Christmas.

Since you all receive your IMPACT by email, you may not get a copy, so I have created an edited e-version to send with your copy to wish you a very Happy Christmas and Best Wishes for 2022..

Bob Sutherland