



St. Matthew's Church  
Perth Newsletter No. 50  
Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021

Dear All

This Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October is a very important one in our church life and journey. It is vital that as many of our Members and Adherents as possible turn out to hear our sole Nominee, Rev Fiona Bullock, preach and that they thereafter vote after the service.

Later on in our Newsletter you can read the Report from our Nominating Committee and learn more about Rev Bullock.

It would be good if the majority of the congregation can also stay on after the service and enjoy a cup of tea and coffee while the votes are counted and reported to Kirk Session.

Thereafter the result will be conveyed to the congregation present in the church.

Please also hold in your prayers all who are taking part in this process that the Spirit of God may move among us all so that, as a church, as God's people, we may move Forward in Faith.

Fiona Bruce  
Session Clerk.

**Hymn 237**

Look forward in faith  
All time is in God's hand.  
Walk humbly with him  
And trust his future plan.  
God has wisely led  
His people by his power  
Look forward in hope  
He gives us each new hour.



Rev. Fiona Bullock

**PRAYER**

May the exuberant Spirit of God, bursting with the brightness of flame into the coldness of our lives, warm us with a passion for justice and beauty.

May the exuberant Spirit of God, sweeping us out of the dusty corners of our apathy, breathe vitality into our struggles for change.

May the exuberant Spirit of God, speaking words that leap over barriers of mistrust, convey messages of truth and new understanding

May the exuberant Spirit of God, flame, wind, speech; burn, breathe, speak in us; filling our world with justice and joy

AMEN

From the "Church of Scotland" website



**DIARY**

**Sunday: Live streamed Worship** from 10.45

ID 953 7532 1288 Pass code 058724

**Wednesday Meditation at 9am**

ID: 818 8897 1376 Passcode: 905980

The above can be accessed using the telephone by dialling : 0131 460 1196 And enter ID, and Pass Code where required, above when requested.

To Unmute yourself press \*6

Quick link for Sunday Worship

<https://zoom.us/j/95375321288?pwd=Z0ZQckF2dEVpcmNUTWtPdMZeUhGQT09>

Quick link for Meditations

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81888971376?pwd=UkYxcHo5SVV2Ky9JN0swc3JleitLZz09>

## Who is the Rev Fiona Bullock – our Sole Nominee?

### The Nominating Committee reports.

Your Nominating Committee has unanimously selected Rev Fiona Bullock to be the Sole Nominee for the vacancy of Perth St Matthew's, following interviewing and hearing a number of applicants lead worship.

Fiona Bullock is currently minister of Dun and Hillside Church in Angus Presbytery. This is her first charge – she was ordained and inducted in 2014. Her pre-ordination period included her Probationary period in Langside Parish Church, Glasgow, and working in Arbroath with Very Rev Martin Fair (who was one of her referees). She has been Team leader, Mission and Development for Angus Presbytery, and a member of the church's national Mission and Discipleship Council.

Fiona holds degrees in Scots Law (with French Legal Studies) from Glasgow University, a Masters in Peace and Reconciliation from Coventry University, and a BD (1st Class) from St Andrews. Before she came to ministry she had a variety of work experience - including administration with Tearfund.

In recommending Fiona Bullock to the congregation, the Nominating Committee was very taken with her engaging personality, her theological depth, her sensitivity, and her skill as a worship leader. As we got to know her through her worship and the interviews, we warmed even further to her. We felt that she would be good to lead St Matthew's through a period of inevitable change - particularly with the development of a new Presbytery Plan including working with the other Perth City Centre Churches.

Fiona is a 'blue sky' thinker and very creative. She is a networker and enjoys meeting new people and working with teams. She is creative by nature and writes reflections for the ecumenical 'Spirituality of Conflict' group which considers Gospel lectionary texts through the lens of conflict. Her creativity has involved a range of activities and a real sense of fun. Her referees have pointed out that she is also good at strategic planning and can delegate. She uses all sorts of technology.

Fiona is married to Ian and has a 2-year-old son, Calum, and a Border Collie called Freya.

We commend her to you.

Raymond Young  
Clerk to the Nominating Committee



## Anniversary Celebrations.

St. Matthew's Church



We are now only 4 weeks away from our **150th Anniversary Service** (21<sup>st</sup> November) when we will welcome the **Moderator of the General Assembly, The Rt. Hon. Lord Wallace of Tankerness QC** to preach for us.

Your 150th Committee continues to work hard to prepare for this service and the other events and celebrations.

A programme of events will be posted in the Newsletter and on posters within the church building. There are many objectives in a celebration of this nature - spiritual, social, community and outreach - and we propose to encompass all of these aspects throughout the forthcoming year.

Our first event, the anniversary service, by tradition, would have been the last event in our calendar, however, due to Covid our celebration year has been turned round and we start our year with the Anniversary Service. Plans for this have been ongoing for about 2 years now.

### ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

The Anniversary Service will take place on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2021 at 11am. followed by a light lunch in the church hall. There are a number of invited guests and it has been agreed that the congregation “book” their place, primarily in order that the catering can be sorted out. In the early days of the lockdown we reopened the church by using Eventbrite as a ticketing agency and are doing the same for this service.

To reserve your place at lunch on Eventbrite please use the link below which will be operative from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October. The number of spaces for lunch is limited to 150. Should you be unable to access Eventbrite please telephone Beverly at the Church office phone number 01738 636757. If Beverly cannot answer the phone leave a message with your name and phone number and a request for tickets. You will be contacted within 2 or 3 days.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/perth-stmatthews-church150th-anniversary-service-tickets-187860183867>

## SOCIAL EVENTS

We have planned to have a social event each month throughout the year. These events are designed to bring the congregation and community together following the long absence due to Covid. Full details will appear during the next weeks and in the newsletter. By the time these are underway we would like to think our new minister will be in post and using these opportunities to meet the congregation informally. More info to follow.

Tom Morrison,  
Stewardship Convenor.

### 150<sup>th</sup> Events – Advance Notice for the diary

#### ROCK CHOIR CONCERTS:

These will take place on **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December** at 2 and 7pm.



Tickets, priced at £8, now available from Bev.

#### CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING

This will take place on **Saturday 11 December**. More details to follow.



## NOTICES

#### WORK PARTY

Please join us on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November** 10-12 noon in preparation for our Anniversary Service.



**Tea and bacon rolls provided!**





On Saturday 2 October the Walking Group enjoyed a 5-mile walk around Loch of Lindores, being fortunate to dodge the rain as they went. It was a walk of great variety – with a couple of steep sections unfortunately!

However, the group afterwards enjoyed well-earned refreshments at “Cloutie McToot” in Abernethy.



The November walk will take place on **Saturday 6 November** at Dunkeld along the banks of the Tay. It is a 6 mile walk almost completely flat with the exception of one short but steep incline.

Meet at Broxden at 9.30am for those who wish to car share. Please let me know on [iy2@btinternet.com](mailto:iy2@btinternet.com) if you are joining us.

Bring a snack and lunch. Afterwards we can go to Birnam with those who want to indulge.

### 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary walks

From December, we will start as part of our anniversary celebrations to walk the **Fife Pilgrim Way** from Culross to St. Andrews.

The first walk will be from Culross to Crossford , just outside Dunfermline, a distance of 6 miles. Having visited the Abbey at Culross we will walk to Crossford and get the bus back to Culross.

The January walk will not be on New Year's Day but will be on the 8th. when buses will be running.

Jean Young

## Calling all craft workers.

A gift for the young folk who come around the church.

Last year, under lockdown, we gave a gift of advent candles with a message to all the young folk who attend our Scout and Guide movements from 5 - 15 - almost 100 of them. These were gratefully received and in return they sent a presentation which was downloaded at our service.

Can we this year make a star for each one to tell them we still care about them and send the light of the Christmas star to their homes?

A pattern is attached for a knitted star, but some may wish to crochet or sew a star. Please bring to the church by Sunday 5th December so that they can be sorted out.

### KNITTED CHRISTMAS STAR

**Finished Size:** about 4 inches wide

**Needles:** 3.25mm needles or size needed to get gauge

**Gauge:** 6.5 sts = 1”

**Abbreviations:** k: knit; k2tog: knit 2 together; kfb: knit in the front and back of stitch; p: purl; p2tog: purl 2 together; rep: repeat; skp: slip 1 st, knit 1 st, pass slipped st over the knit st; st(s): stitch(es)

**Directions:** Cast on 5 sts

Rnd 1: [Kfb] around. 10 sts

Rnd 2: Purl

Rnd 3: [Kfb] around. 20 sts

Rnd 4: Purl

Rnd 5: \*Kfb, k2, kfb; rep from \*. 30 sts

Rnd 6: Purl

Rnd 7: \*Kfb, k4, kfb; rep from \*. 40 sts

Rnd 8: Purl

Rnd 9: \*Kfb, k6, kfb; rep from \*. 50 sts

Rnd 10: Purl

Row 11: K10, turn.

Row 12: P10, turn.

Row 13: Skp, k6, k2tog, turn.

Row 14: P8, turn.

Row 15: Skp, k4, k2tog, turn.

Row 16: P6, turn.

Row 17: Skp, k2, k2tog, turn.

Row 18: P4, turn.

Row 19: Skp, k2tog

Row 20: P2tog, cut yarn and fasten off, leaving a 6” tail.

Leaving a 6” tail, reattach yarn where you left off on the main portion of the star.

Repeat Rows 11-20 for each point.

Make 2 star shapes and sew together, secure the ends and bury them inside the star. The ends give it some stuffing.

Jean Young

## CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES

If you wish Christmas shoeboxes to be collected from St Matthew's they need to be in the church by **Sunday 31st of October.**



If you wish to take any to the Baptist church yourself it will be open to receive them on Friday 5th November 10am- 12noon and 2pm- 4pm and on Saturday 6th 10am – 12noon.  
Maureen Pearson

We are delighted to advise that Teas & Coffees have restarted end of the Sunday service.



## Christian Smith

Frances, Andy and family would like to thank everyone for the beautiful flowers, cards, letters and loving support both before and after the funeral of Christian.



## Retirement Gift

If you would like to contribute to a presentation to our Church Caretaker, Paul Moran, please contact Session Clerk, Fiona Bruce, with this by 31 October 2021. If you wish to contribute by bank transfer please mark payment "Paul"

The bank details are as under:-

Account Name: St. Matthew's Church  
Sort Code: 83-47-00  
Account Number: 00760133

## C of S National Gift Day

*Can I remind you to give your support to this initiative insofar as you are able either by returning the yellow envelope, placing your donation in an envelope clearly marked "National Giving Day" in church or making payment by bank transfer, as above, again marking the payment "National Giving Day". If you are a taxpayer please also mark your envelope "Gift Aid".*

*Tom Morrison, Stewardship Convener*

## Next issue:

### WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST.MATTHEWS.

Feature on organisations. Send in your information please.

Badminton, Guild, Country Dance, Scouts, Guides, etc.

The next edition of the Newsletter, No. 51 will be on **Friday 5th November 2021.** All contributions to [FMBruce6@googlemail.com](mailto:FMBruce6@googlemail.com) by Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021



## CROSSREACH 2022 WALL CALENDARS

Featuring a series of stunning pictures of Scotland's scenery at its best.

The box layout of days gives plenty of space to note appointments.

This high quality calendar – complete with envelope - is superb value at £5.00

Available from: Fiona Bruce

## MEDITATIONS

We are pleased to announce that the Wednesday Meditations have re-started following their summer break.

These are taken by members of the congregation and are on Zoom at 9am – so you can even access them whilst on holiday!

The Zoom access code is as follows:

ID: 818 8897 1376 Passcode: 905980