

St Andrew's Wallace Green & Lowick Church of Scotland

(Registered Scottish Charity No, SC000867)

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2019

Holy Communion

Holy Communion takes place on 24th Nov@11am, SAWG. Please note there is no afternoon communion on this occasion, but there will be an informal celebration of communion@1.15pm on Tuesday 19th Nov in SAWG.

All are welcome. As usual, there will be a retiral offering after the service for a charitable cause and this time around it will be for the **Toys for Children** project run by the Salvation Army. (AH)

Christmas Fayre – Saturday 30th November 2018, 10am-2pm

Just to remind you all about the Christmas Fayre which this year will be on Saturday 30th November between 10am and 2pm. It's a great chance to catch up over tea or coffee and Robert's delicious scones, before finding that elusive present for a friend or family member. As usual, there will be the craft stall full of beautifully knitted/sewed/crafted items ideal for young and old alike; little fun stocking fillers; books and of course the bric-a-brac stall, where there are always little treasures to be found.

Plus, of course, we will be selling our very own Christmas cards – so don't buy all you need before the Fayre! Do put the date in your diary and come along and if you would like to help on any of the stalls then have a word with me. (Rita)

Christmas Postal Service

We will be running our Christmas postal service again this year. This is a very important money earner for us, but also a very vital service for our Community. The cost of a second-class stamp has

increased once again and is now 61p, which will be too expensive for some in our community – so we are providing an affordable alternative at 40p per card.

To run this service, we do need sorters and posties, so if you are able to assist in any way please speak to Rita. The more helpers we have the easier it is for everyone - "many hands make light work". Flyers advertising this service are available in the Church and one is included with this newsletter, so please pass it on to any of your family or neighbours. (Rita)

Christmas Presence

Over the last two years the churches in Berwick under the leadership of the Methodists have been running 'Christmas Presence' in the old Clarks' shop on Marygate. Since the shop has now been leased by a business, it is not yet clear whether it will be possible to have another 'Christmas Presence' along the same lines as before. However, it is intended that something will be organised, whether or not it takes the same form as the last two years. Watch this space! (AH)

Blythwood Christmas Boxes

As usual, the Work Party have been busy for some time preparing boxes for distribution to Eastern Europe and Pakistan by the Scottish charity, Blythwood Care. This year the project has been more widely publicised amongst the congregation than before. Last year 50 boxes were sent, but this time around a total of 82 boxes have been collected and sent on, which is fabulous. (AH)

Open Days 2019

A very big thank you to all those who helped out and staffed the Church for the Open Days this year. Without willing volunteers, we are unable to open the Church during the summer months and that would be a great shame. It has been another successful year with the numbers having increased again. In total, we had 306 visitors through the door, 101 during the Wednesdays and Fridays and 205 on the Heritage Days.

The coffee morning and soup lunch on the Heritage Saturday proved to be very popular again with the visitors, especially since it was a chilly day. We raised £344 so a big thank you to Robert for the scones and the lovely soups from Grace, Karen and Susan.

The visitors did appreciate the chance to look around our lovely Church and many commented on how welcome they had been made to feel. So, thank you once again to all the people who have helped out over the summer – it is very much appreciated. (Rita)

New Horizons

The group has had a very good start this year, with excellent meetings and average attendances of over 20 men and women. Our session continues on 19th Nov, when there will be a soup lunch@12.30pm followed by an optional informal communion service. On the 17th Dec@2pm we will be watching a Christmas film; on 21st Jan@2pm there will be an afternoon of Scottish music and culture and on the 18th Feb@2pm we will enjoy a return visit from Canon Christopher Smith. All are very welcome to any or all of the meetings. (AH)

Youth Activities

At the monthly Youth Club gatherings we have had some great fun... There was the 'smart phone challenge'; an evening of creating and tasting fruit and popcorn kebabs (which resulted in a lot of eating and a broken tooth!) and last month's cooking take-over of the kitchen as we made sausage and egg pies (it was suggested that Greggs should supply them). The next Youth Club will be on Friday 8th November at the usual time of 6.30-8pm when we will be having a 'lights' themed evening. December 6th will be our Christmas party evening! We have been invited to join the Salvation Army's youth club on Monday 4th Nov for a lights party, and we have

also invited them to join us on the 8th - so hopefully we will have some 'youth clubs together' time! If you know any young people who might like to come along with a friend, they will be most welcome - please have a word with me or just turn up on the night! (Jo)

Sunday Club

At a recent Kirk Session meeting, elders considered a proposal from the Youth Committee to move away from the pattern of Sunday Club every couple of weeks, to the provision of a permanent facility for children whenever they come to church. After a good deal of discussion it was agreed that this was an experiment that we wished to try. The proposal is to make use of the area at the front left of the church - adjacent to the vestry - as a space for children to use during Sunday services. The area will be set out as a small multi sensory area that children can use, under Jo's supervision, during a service without having to leave the main church area. This means that parents can stay in the service whilst children can explore something prayerful, whilst worship is going on. The space will also be useful for those times that schools visit, and for all-age events such as Fun, Faith and Friendship. (AH)

Faith Discussion Group

After a meeting of some folks who had expressed an interest, it has been decided to start a Faith Discussion Group, which will meet twice monthly on a Wednesday evenings from 6.30pm-7.30pm in the church hall. The aim of this group is to create a space in which we can discuss our faith and its relevance to our lives, grow in our knowledge of Christianity - e.g. the Christian year, specific parts of the Bible, other denominations etc - and discuss pressing questions - such as the relationship of Christianity to other faiths. The initial meetings up to the end of the year are as follows: 6th Nov - All Saint's Day, 20th Nov - St Andrew, 11th Dec - The Ministry of John the Baptist, 18th Dec - Our Christmas Traditions. All interested are very welcome. (AH)

MINISTER: Revd Adam Hood

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Berwick Food Bank

We had a great collection of foodstuffs and toiletries at our Harvest Thanksgiving, along with money offerings of £223. Nevertheless, the work of the food-bank is on-going and donations are always welcome. Please see the noticeboard for specific details of what is required. Donations can be left in the box at the back of the church near the PA system. Please see Neil or Susan for information. (AH)

Membership

If you would like to become a member of St Andrew's Wallace Green & Lowick, please have a word with me or contact me by email (AHood@churchofscotland.org.uk) or telephone (01289 332787). All enquiries welcome. Adam

Hall Lets

Our buildings are available for let, and anyone interested should contact Allison Longbone.

Finances

Many thanks for your financial support to the Church over the last year. Special thanks to those who supported the recent **Gift Day** which raised £2080. The monies that were gifted on the Day were also supplemented by an extra £344 which was raised from the Coffee Morning and Soup Lunch on that day. Over the last while a number of new standing orders for the church have been taken out, so that we now have 35 of these as against the 6 that we had at the beginning of last year. Standing orders allow for continuity of income and ease of planning. If anyone else would like to take out a standing order for the church, please fill in the form on the back of this Newsletter, handing the main part into your bank. It is also helpful if you hand/post the slip at the bottom of the form to the Minister/Treasurer. (AH)

Life and Work Magazine

This is the Kirk's, editorially independent, monthly magazine. It features articles on the Church of Scotland in Scotland, the UK and the rest of the world. There is always a variety of interesting topics covered. The magazine costs £2.80 per month or £33.60 per year and is delivered monthly to our congregation and then made available for pickup. Subscriptions are now due, so can continuing subscribers please let me (Anne McQueen) have their monies for 2020.

Also, if you haven't taken the magazine before, but would like to do so, please have a word with me or telephone on 07526223274.

Faith, Fun & Friendship

We had a lovely time at our last F, F& F, when some of us had the chance to carve our first ever Halloween Pumpkin! Thanks to Tesco, who provided a community grant to help pay for our baked potatoes on the afternoon! The next gathering will be on Sunday 1st Dec@4-6pm and will have an Advent theme. Everyone - of any age - is very welcome. (AH)

Cake and a Song

On Saturday 7th Dec@2-3.30pm, we will be having an informal time of fellowship, song and food, when we will be singing some favourite Christmas songs and learning a couple of new ones for use over the Festive Season. All are very welcome. (AH)

Good News

Jo Simpson, our families and youth worker, has been accepted to do a short course in 'Family Ministry' at Cliff College near Sheffield. The residential course will be over one week in January 2020. Elders are really keen to support Jo in taking this course and we will be helping with costs. It's great too that the Presbytery of Duns are also very supportive and have made a grant towards the course.

Dates for your Diary

24th Nov	Holy Communion@11am, SAWG
30th Nov	Christmas Fayre@10am – 2pm
1st Dec	Advent Worship@11am, SAWG
1st Dec	Fun, Faith & Friendship@4-6pm
4th Dec	Schools Big Christmas Sing@6.30pm
6th Dec	Youth Club@6.30pm
7th Dec	Cake and a Song@2-3.30pm
15th Dec	(Favourite) Carol Service@11am, SAWG
15th Dec	Service for those who find Christmas difficult@3pm, SAWG
22nd Dec	All-age Nativity Service@11am, SAWG
24th Dec	Christmas Worship@2.30pm, Lowick
24th Dec	Christmas Watchnight Service@11.30pm, SAWG, with carol singing from 11.15pm
25th Dec	Christmas Day@10am, SAWG

(Please complete, sign and return to your bank/building society)

STANDING ORDER MANDATE

Bank/Building Society:

Bank/Building Society Address:

Sort Code:

Account Number:

Account Holder Name(s):

Address:

Please Debit £

Monthly

4 Weekly

On the of each Month

Starting on

Starting on

until this instruction is cancelled

Please Quote Reference (Enter your name or FWO number)

Signed:

For Bank Use Only

Please credit payments to:

St Andrew's Wallace Green Church of Scotland
Bank of Scotland
Berwick upon Tweed Branch
61 Hide Hill
Berwick upon Tweed
TD15 1EN

Sort Code 12-12-57

Account No 00741160

This order supersedes any current instruction

PLEASE RETURN TO MINISTER/TREASURER

I confirm that I have taken out a new Standing Order Mandate for St Andrew's Wallace Green

NAME:

AMOUNT PER WEEK/MONTH: .