

# ST. BRIDES PARISH CHURCH, NEWTONMORE

## NEWSLETTER

### AUTUMN 2013

Scottish Charity Number SCO005490

From the minister's desk



There are one or two changes afoot in the church. The most obvious one will have been seen by anyone who has been into the church kitchen recently. Several of the larger pieces of equipment which were never used - a Bain Marie and a very large fridge, and some shelves which did not keep dishes dust-free - have been removed and sold, and we are waiting for new units and cupboards to take their place. I am sure that when this work is finished the kitchen will be very much improved and able to be put to better use than before. Meanwhile we have to live with dishes being stored under cloths on the window-sill of the hall.

Change is something that happens and rarely happens without someone lamenting what has gone. This seems to be a part of human nature. In Ecclesiastes 7 verse 10, written about 3000 years ago, we read "Do not say 'Why were the former days better than these?' For it is not from wisdom that you ask this." If they were asking this even then, when the pace of change was a whole lot slower than it is today, then perhaps it is inevitable that people tend to look to the past with rosy spectacles now as well.

But changes happen, and churches change too, in fabric, in the structures of worship, in the way that they are governed, in the ways and with what focus they seek to spread the good news of God's salvation. But God does not change. God is so infinitely big that he is always relevant to whatever situation we find ourselves in. God has promised to be with us always. His word tells us that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever (Hebrews 13:8). And it is because of that truth that we can face and implement changes in the church with confidence.

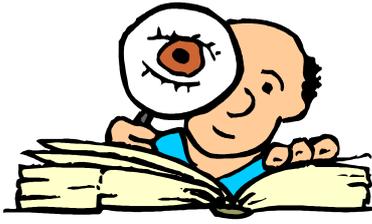
The fridge was unwieldy and too large. The Bain Marie was never used. The shelves were unhygienic. They were not fit for the purposes we wanted. We too must be prepared to change so that we can be fit for God's purposes, which are the same, but carried out in different ways in different days.

Your Minister, Catherine.



#### COMMUNION

The sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated at our morning service, 11.15 a.m., on Sunday 1st September. All followers of Christ are welcome to join us around the Lord's Table. At the service a retiring offering for Dachaidh home care will be taken.



## LOOKING AHEAD

August 25th 4-6 p.m. St. Bride's, Messy Church for all ages.

September 1st, 11.15 a.m. Sacrament of communion.

September 21st 2 p.m. Laggan Sale

September 29th 4-6 p.m. Messy Church

7 p.m. St. Bride's, Songs of Praise from the World Church

October 6th Harvest Thanksgiving.

November 3rd Unite Ecumenical service of thanksgiving, Laggan church 7 p.m.

## LAGGAN SALE

The Laggan Sale will be held on Saturday 21st September at 2 p.m. There will be the usual sale of venison, home baking, "famous Laggan teas" and a silent auction. There will also be tables available for people who have things to sell to rent for a small fee.

## Highland Games

Many thanks to those who helped in any way with the Highland games (including helping the tent not blow away!). The sum of £600 was raised and many people had a good experience of a friendly welcome from the team of helpers.

## **AUTUMN CONCERTS AT ST. BRIDE'S**

*On Friday 13th September at 7.30 the Sutherland Duo, comprising Christina Lawrie on piano and Harriet Mackenzie on violin will give a concert in St. Bride's*

*Then on Wednesday 16th October at 7.30 p.m. the Castleford Male Voice choir and our own Badenoch Chorale will be giving a joint concert. Music lifts the spirit and soothes the soul. Keep the dates free!*



*If you ever have to miss worship and want to catch up with the sermon, you can find it on the St. Bride's website, at [www.stbrides-newtonmore.org.uk](http://www.stbrides-newtonmore.org.uk). It gets posted there a couple of days **after** the relevant Sunday! You will also find the weekly notices and other information there. Check it out!*

## **Church Office Bearers**

Minister: Rev. Catherine Buchan, The Manse, Fort William Road, Newtonmore PH20 1DG 01540 673238, [catherinebuchan567@btinternet.com](mailto:catherinebuchan567@btinternet.com).

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