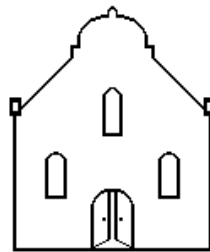




THE SOCIETY
Stirling Methodist Church Newsletter
October 1st 2017
Issue 1289



www.stirlingmethodistchurch.org.uk

33 Queen Street, Stirling, FK8 1HL

Welcome to everyone sharing in worship here today, we trust that you will find it to be an enriching experience.

If you are visiting us, we invite you to sign the Visitors' Book which is on top of the organ.

Please join us for a cup of tea or coffee in the hall after the service.

At the beginning of our service, after the intimations are given by the steward, the Peace candle is lit and there is a short period of silence for you to pray for peace and prepare yourself for worship.

10.30am **Morning Worship & Holy Communion**

Our service today is led by Revd Dr Mark Jason.

The full lectionary readings for this Sunday (any of which may or may not be used by the preacher) are:

Philippians 2: 1 - 13; Matthew 21 : 23 – 32;

Continuous *Related*

Exodus 17 : 1 – 7; Ezekiel 18 : 1 – 4 : 25 - 32;

Psalm 78 : 1 – 4, 12 - 16; Psalm 25 : 1 - 9.

The benevolent collection today is for Stirling Street Pastors. All loose cash placed in the offertory this morning will be treated as the Benevolent Collection.

Sunday 8th October 10.30am Morning Worship

Service led by : Ms Anne Baird

A collect for this Sunday (from Methodist Worship Book):

Gracious God,
you give the water of eternal life
through Jesus Christ your son.
May we always turn to you,
the spring of life and source of goodness;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GEORGE McCULLOCH

A Memorial service for George McCulloch, who died last Friday, will be held in the church on Friday 6 October at 3 p.m. There will be a retiring collection for Alzheimers Society. The service will be followed by refreshments in the hall.

GREEN TEAM – OPEN MEETING

The Green Team would like to invite members of the congregation to an open Green Team meeting which will take place at the Church at 7.30pm on Wednesday 11th October. Stirling Methodists have been involved in lots of green things in and out of the Church and the meeting will be an opportunity to take stock and discuss next steps. There is now a new EcoCongregation Award Scheme and we will discuss preparing for a Silver (and perhaps next time Gold) Award. This will involve a number of ‘stretch’ goals being set, after discussion in the Green Team and Church Council, for example: “Care for creation is embedded in the worship, study and prayer life of the congregation, and reflected in the congregation’s mission or policy statements” and “Eco activities, involving a significant proportion of the congregation, are embedded in the programme of many groups within the congregation”. Do come along if you’d like to take part in this discussion, or contact me if you can’t make it. PS New members of the Green Team are always welcome!

Jon Cape, Green Team Leader

HOUSEGROUPS

Thank you to all who expressed an interest in re-establishing church house groups. In October two new groups will start up:

- A group meeting on Tuesday lunchtimes, 12.00 to 2.00pm at the home of Jim and Christine Jones in Tillicoultry. Everyone is invited to bring a packed lunch with them. The first meeting will be on Tuesday 3rd October, and will include a conversation about what people are looking for in the group. For more information please speak with Jim or Christine.
- A book group, probably once every two months on the third Monday of the month, 7.30-9.00pm. The first meeting will be on 23rd October at the home of Mark Allison in Riverside, and the discussion will be about the book *The Vicar of Baghdad*, by Andrew White. (It is not essential but would be helpful to read the book in advance). Coffee and cake will be provided. For more information please speak with Mark, Sarah or Roger.

Please consider giving one of these groups your support. If you would like to attend, but require transport, please speak to us and we will try to make suitable arrangements. And if you would like to attend a group, but neither of these are suitable, please also let us know as we might try to establish a third group in the future.

David & Ruth Rogerson

FIRST FRIDAY FUN (3F)

This is a new initiative aimed at building links with our immediate community in and around the church. On the first Friday of the month we are planning a fun evening of activities which will also be advertised locally. A flyer is on the noticeboard. The first session will be a Whist Drive on Friday 6th October – suitable for all ages and all levels of experience. We had a lot of fun when we held one in the spring so do come along! 7.30-9.30pm. Coffee and cake will be served.

David & Ruth Rogerson

CONNEXION MAGAZINE

There are copies of the autumn Connexion magazine in the vestry. Please help yourselves if you would like one.

MANY THANKS...

...to Pam for providing the colourful harvest display last week and to Julia for the lovely flowers.

Sarah Ridley

FILM SHOWING

A sequel to Al Gore's film 'An Inconvenient Truth,' is to be shown at the MacRobert on the 10th. October at 8.00 p.m.

The film is called an 'An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power'.

This film follows on from the first film and continues to be hard hitting advocacy for the environment. Worth seeing.

Walter Attwood

FROM METHODIST RECORDER

“Members of the Scottish Parliament have commended faith groups contributing almost £100 million in time and resources to social projects.

An estimated 9,000 faith-based groups in Scotland are contributing more than 11 million hours of service to local communities.”

Walter Attwood