



Carnock & Oakley Parish Church



Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, He is a new creation;
the old has gone, the new has come!

2 Corinthians 5:17

Newsletter Spring 2019

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Diary Dates

Next Communion will be on Sunday, 3rd March 2019.

Wed, 27 th Feb	T@2	14:00pm	Oakley
Sat, 2 nd Mar	Coffee Morning	10:00am	Oakley
Sun, 24 th Mar	Annual Stated Meeting (no service in Carnock)	After morning service	Oakley
Wed, 27 th Mar	T@2	14:00pm	Oakley
Wed, 24 th Apr	T@2	14:00pm	Oakley
Sat, 11 th May	Spring Fayre	2:00pm	Oakley
Sat, 25 th May	Plant Sale	10:00am	Oakley
Sun, 2 nd Jun	Communion	10:00am	Oakley
		11:30am	Carnock
Sat, 6 th Jul	Strawberry Coffee Morning	10:00am	Oakley
Sun, 1 st Sep	Communion	10:00am	Oakley
		11:30am	Carnock
Thu, 12 th Sep	Concert with Ian Walker	TBA	Oakley
Sat, 23 rd Nov	Christmas Fayre	2:00pm	Oakley
Sun, 1 st Dec	Communion	10:00am	Oakley
		11:30 am	Carnock

Come and join us at the church

*Try one of the groups below or speak to the minister about starting a new group.
Ideas are always welcome.*

	Church Activities		Contact
SUN	Weekly Services	Oakley 10:00am Carnock 11:30am	Charles Lines (Minister) 07909 762257 / 01383 247209
MON	Scrabble	Carnock 2:00pm	Joan Burns 850470
TUE	The Guild	Oakley 7:30pm <i>(3rd Tuesday of month)</i>	Ann Riddell 850354
	Midweek Service	Oakley 12:00 <i>(2nd Tuesday of month)</i>	<i>Contact an elder to arrange a lift for anyone requiring one</i>
WED	Hobbies Group	Oakley 10:30am	Ann Rae 850566
	Coffee Morning	Carnock 10:30am-12:00	Ann Riddell 850354
THU	Bible Study Fellowship	Oakley 11:00am <i>(1st & 3rd Monday of month)</i>	Sandy Muirhead
SAT	Prayer Breakfast	Oakley 8:00am <i>(3rd Saturday of month)</i>	Mary Hunter 738101

Church Website

For latest news and information on Carnock & Oakley Church events and activities visit our website regularly at - www.carnockandoakley.org.uk

The site is updated daily whenever possible and we do our best to notify any late changes to previously advertised times or dates.

If you would like items added to the website, please contact Bob Baker,
Robert.baker16@btopenworld.com

Welcome from Rev. Charles Lines

Shine Jesus Shine

At about 3 O'clock in the afternoon on Wednesday the 30th of January I had a significant penny-drop moment! Finally, after nearly 40 years I understood the lyrics to the ABBA song, Super Trouper. We were singing along to it, as part of our T@2 tour round Scotland in song when it hit me; a 'Super trouper' was a spotlight. Further research, courtesy of Google, revealed that the Super Trouper is the brand name of a high intensity spotlight used at large events to set apart the lead performer from the rest of the stage. Hence the Lyric, 'Tonight the Super Trouper lights are gonna find me, shining like the sun...' According to more common usage a 'trouper' is someone who is uncomplaining and dependable; someone who just gets on with what needs to be done. The church would fall apart without such people. We have a number of Super Troupers in our church, but they don't seek the limelight or look for recognition.



The role of the church in the world is to be a Super Trouper spotlight, firmly fixed on Jesus; he's the star of the Gospel show. I once read in a book by J.I.Packer titled Keep in step with the Spirit (Packer also wrote the Christian classic, Knowing God, which is well worth a read) that the Holy Spirit fulfils a kind of floodlight ministry on the Saviour. The Spirit does not draw attention to himself or seek recognition but focuses us on Jesus.

Finally, this is the time of year when the winter blues can set in, so let's focus on another Super Trouper lyric: But I won't feel blue, like I always do, cause somewhere in the crowd there's you. I was given a Jesus version of Where's Wally for Christmas, he's always there somewhere in the crowd, as he promised.

***With love,
Charles***

Kirk Session Update

The Kirk Session met on Wednesday, 12th December.

The Minister updated the Kirk Session on his pastoral work including child baptism and blessings and received reports from the Friendship Team, the PVG Co-Ordinator and the Roll Keeper.



The Minister updated the Kirk Session on plans to run a weekly course in the New Year entitled “Discipleship Explored”.

The Kirk Session agreed that we invite the Presbytery Safeguarding Co-Ordinator to attend a meeting of the Kirk Session during 2019 to update elders on our current obligations.

The Kirk Session noted the Friendship Team had organised two further drop ins at Oakley entitled “T@2” and were pleased to note more were beginning to attend.

The Kirk Session noted that the Presbytery Service for the setting apart of Sandy Muirhead as a Reader would take place at Oakley Church on 31st January 2019 at 7.00pm.

The Kirk Session also noted the Deliverance from the General Assembly for each congregation and Presbytery to look at the future of the Church. The Kirk Session noted that our Presbytery planned to consider this at its meeting on 7th February and that we would consider this matter fully at our next meeting which would take place on Wednesday, 13th February. To allow further time for discussion, it was agreed the meeting would start at 7.00pm.

Andrew Croxford
Session Clerk

Annual Stated Meeting

The Annual Stated Meeting (ASM) will be held on Sunday, 24th March after the Service at Oakley. There will be no service at Carnock that day.

In this Newsletter are reports from the various Groups in the Church. Please take the time to read these and if you would like to become involved in any of the Groups, why not speak to one of the leaders at the meeting. The Annual Accounts will also be received at the ASM and there will be a chance to ask questions about our finances. Our Fabric Convenor will also give a report on property matters and again there will be a chance to ask questions.

The ASM is also the meeting at which appointments to the Congregational Board are made. If you would like to know more about what is involved in becoming a member of the Board, why not speak to Mina Kyle our Clerk to the Board before the meeting.

Andrew Croxford
Session Clerk

Communion Services

It was agreed previously by the Kirk Session that the custom of issuing Communion Cards was no longer appropriate. Instead, an invitation to come and worship and celebrate the Lord's Supper will be included in the Church Newsletter.



Accordingly, it is my privilege to invite you to come and join with us to celebrate Holy Communion on Sunday, 3rd March at 10.00am at Oakley and 11.30am at Carnock.

The Kirk Session will set the dates for the Communion Services for the remainder of the year but based on previous years, they will be held as follows; 2nd June, 1st September and 1st December.

Andrew Croxford
Session Clerk

Gift Day

The Annual Gift Day will take place this year on Sunday, 2nd June, which is also the day we celebrate Holy Communion. Letters and envelopes will be sent out as usual nearer the time.



The Guild

Guild Report



On the 20th November 2018 we had a talk from Reem Tahan, Refugee Family and this was a very emotional and interesting evening. She was joined with her helper Johann Parry and now great friend, who helped with her English, by asking her questions, to which Reem answered in very good English. Then on the 11th December we enjoyed a lovely meal at the Carnock Inn for our Guild outing. The fun afterwards went down well and Shonaid's poem and the carols finished off a fine evening. Even Dougie the owner joined in with the carols, to which he knew all the words.

The second half of the season commenced with Shonaid's Scot's night and it was every bit as good as before. The devotions and the entertainment were all around a Scot's theme and so was the fine food she provided. On the 19th February 2019 we are having a talk from the Scottish Air Ambulance with slides by Katrine McPhail. Then on the 19th March it is our annual coffee evening for our Guild Projects & Church funds and so we would love to have a good turnout. Tickets can be had from myself and Guild members. Also, quizzes are for sale to boost up the takings. The entertainment is by Bonita Bough & Walter Ireland, a singing and music playing duo. On the 2nd April it is our extra meeting to arrange the Spring Tea and on the 9th April 2019 our AGM. The Spring Tea will be held on Saturday, 27th April, with entertainment by Roy McArthur & Friends.

Our outing with Port Seton Guild is on 2nd May 2019 and Shirley is organising this. We are having a day round the museum, and they are going to put on a talk on Dunfermline for us. Then we are on to the City Hotel for high tea.

Finally, our meeting on 21st May 2019, is to make up the syllabus for 2019/2020. If you would like to join us, we would be very pleased to have you and so please come along, we are sure you would enjoy the fellowship we have together.

Ann Riddell
Secretary

Carnock Coffee Morning / Hobbies Group

The Carnock Coffee Morning/Hobbies Group at Carnock is still going fine but the weather has interrupted it a couple of times this winter.



Our coffee morning lunch at the Carnock Inn was very enjoyable and pleased to say that it was well attended. Please come along, we would love to have you with us from 10.30 am to 12 o'clock.

Ann Riddell
Secretary

Scrabble Group

The scrabble group is very popular, with the 11 participants attending most weeks. It is a very enjoyable day, with great company and lots of laughs. It is good for keeping your brain in quite good shape and also have some nice homemade cakes at our break to enhance the afternoon. Our scrabble afternoon is one we hate to miss but along with the scrabble, we also enjoy each other's company.



Ann Riddell
Secretary

TODAY'S ECCLESIASTICAL CHUCKLE

(provided by Andrew Croxford)

A minister waited in line to have his car filled with gas just before a long holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him. Finally, the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump. "Reverend," said the young man, "I'm so sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip." The minister chuckled, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business."

Kate MacDonald's visit to Gaza

I've now been to Gaza four times, three times this year alone. But no matter how often I'm there, nothing quite prepares me for the experience. I get up early as the sun is rising, turn on lights which always work when I want them to, take a shower with plentiful hot clean water, make myself a strong coffee, and drive down the coast along the smoothly paved motorways of Israel to the Erez border crossing. Permit papers in hand, we navigate Israeli passport control and walk the fifteen minutes through no-man's land to the Palestinian Authority entrance. There our passports and PA permissions are checked and our driver meets us, taking us a couple of hundred metres to the Hamas passport control. Again, our passports and papers are recorded, and we make our way along the wide pot-holed road to Gaza City, passing carts filled with produce and goods, drawn by horses and donkeys. For the next 48 hours or so, I sit in meetings where lights flicker on and off as electricity fails and generators kick in, drink only bottled water (using it also to brush my teeth), and use hand sanitiser even after washing my hands. Such a short distance, yet I always feel as though I've entered another world.

This is the reality between life in Israel and Gaza. Can we pray for Kate and all who work for peace, also the people who are living with conflict and the heartbreak and hardship it causes.

Margaret Lowe



Finance

Annual Report for 2018



Our funds at 31st December 2018 compared with those of the previous year (2017) were as follows;

	2017 £		2018 £
General Fund	18986		12645
Fabric Fund	8637		7757
Property Renovation Fund	21658		19459
Music Fund	209		209
Mrs Dawson's Legacy	1000		1000
Youth Evangelism	4410		4410
Co-op	3842		
TOTAL FUNDS	58742		45480

General Fund

- Ordinary Income & Expenditure;
 - The income for the General Fund amounted to £56976 and the Expenditure was £63316 – making a deficit of £6340.
- The balance at 31st December 2017, was £12645
- We have £2081 to come from HMRC.
- The Gift Day in June raised the sum of £7837, inclusive of tax recovered on gift aid.
- Fundraising;
 - May and November Fayres £1923
 - Strawberry Coffee Morning £541
 - Midweek Services £434
 - Oakley Tea Fund £456
 - Rag Bag £113
 - Band Concert £215
 - Plant Sale £442
 - Coffee Morning £357
 - **Total £4481**

- Our Special Collection for other charities amounted to £531 and this was disbursed as under;
 - Dunfermline Town Band £100
 - British Lung Foundation £431
- There were no large items of expenditure.
- Property Renovation Fund
 - There was no income on this fund but the expenditure was £2199. This was required to complete the audio-visual systems and Carnock and Oakley Churches so the balance at 31/12/2018 was £19459.
- Fabric Fund
 - The income to the fund amounted to £50. The expenditure was £930 for Window Grilles at Oakley Church. The balance at 31st December 2018 was £7757.
- Evangelism Fund
 - There was no movement on this fund during 2018. The balance remains the same £4410.
- Mrs Lawson's Legacy
 - There was no movement on this fund during 2018. The balance remains the same £1000.
- Music Fund
 - There was no movement on this fund during 2018. The balance is £206.
- The Restricted Fund (Co-op) £3842 was used to install the audio-visual systems at Carnock and Oakley churches
- We also received £1044 from Aviva Insurance for windows damage at Oakley. We paid McCreadie £1294 for that repair.

Thank you all once again for your support.

Isobel Gibson
Treasurer

***If you normally give your weekly offering using a FWO envelope, you should now have received the envelopes through your elder.
If you would like to start to use FWO envelopes, please see Isobel Gibson.***

Other Items



T @ 2



The Friendship Team hope that the last Wednesday of the month is now fixed in everyone's diary. We have had a couple of meetings since the last newsletter and we have been delighted that numbers coming along have been growing.

In December we enjoyed a few festive party games and some of the more able among us even had a wee dance to pop tunes from yesteryear! We started 2019 with a super singalong afternoon, which took us on a tour around Scotland. Many of us were surprised with the lyrics in songs that we thought we knew from our youth.

The dates for the forthcoming months are 27th February, 27th March and 24th April. A warm welcome is extended to all in the parish, not just Church Members, so please pass the word around your friends and neighbours and encourage them to drop in and join us for a cup of tea and a chat. You never know what else may happen!

Winifred Narbrough
(Friendship Team Co-ordinator)

Foodbank

As a church we have been donating on a monthly basis to The Dunfermline Foodbank for approximately 6 years and we collect your donations the first Sunday of each month at both churches.

We have a good group of volunteers who deliver your contributions to the Foodbank warehouse/distribution centre on a Monday where everything is sorted out and delivered to the various foodbank satellites throughout West Fife. People in need require to have a referral from support agencies and the Foodbank then provides them with enough food for 3 days.

Every week the Foodbank post on their website the items that are urgently needed and I make every effort to have copies of this the week prior to our collection day.

I would like to thank everyone who supports this very worthwhile project, those who donate goods and those who help to deliver them, you have all been very faithful and The Foodbank recognises this.

NOTE: If you are unable to bring your contributions to church there are many other agencies who also do collections e.g. Tesco, Asda and the One stop Store at 10 Wardlaw way Oakley.

Mary Hunter

Prayer Network Report

THE PRAYER BREAKFAST continues at Oakley Church hall at 8:00am on the 3rd Saturday of each month. It may seem early for you but the scriptures tell us that Jesus rose up early to pray and so we seek to follow His example.

There are 12 people who regularly attend, but there is always room for more if you would like to come along you would be made most welcome.

We pray for folk in the church, the parish, the country and the wider world. We receive requests for prayer from various places, from the Community, the Parish and further afield.

We have breakfast for 20 minutes then 10 minutes to focus, a short meditation and then we pray openly or silently as we feel led, and finish at 9:00am. It is a very special time when we know God's Spirit among us.

THE PRAYER CHAIN continues to respond to prayer requests. There are 18 members in the group, and we have all agreed to pray faithfully. The email to start the prayers goes out on a Sunday evening, however when urgent requests come in this goes out immediately.

As with the Prayer Breakfast we receive lots of requests for prayer from within the church and outwith as it is widely known that we are a praying church.

Requests for prayer can be written on the prayer book that sits on the organ in both churches, emailed to Mary, or by phone (738101), or can be written down and given to someone on the welcome team who will pass them on.

The people who are involved in the Prayer Network have agreed that due to the sensitive nature of much of the prayers they will keep them confidential. The folks in the communities of the Parish consistently ask for prayer and this is a real testament of our faith.

Mary Hunter



There are times in all our lives when we need a friend, a listening ear, a word of encouragement, a bit of help with something, the possibilities are endless. We all have friends and neighbours whom we have helped out in some way and who in turn may also have helped us. When our friends need us, we hope that we can be there for them and are able to give them support in whatever way we can.

The Friendship Team has been formed to assist in these friendships and reach out into the community. We can only do this if we are told about those who need a helping hand in whatever way.

If you are aware of someone in our community who may appreciate a friendly visit or helping hand in some way please have a word with myself, Charles or any of the Friendship Team. There are also slips in both churches which can be used to pass on names to us.

Winifred Narbrough
(Tel: 850997)

Thank You

Dear Friends,

I would like to formally record my thanks to everyone who took part in the Setting Apart Service at Oakley on 31st January - Charles, for his words of encouragement, Mary for her diligent work on the organ, Sue and Andrew for their readings, the many who tended the coffee, tea and home baking stall, those who worked away in the background preparing the goodies, the welcomers on the door and the tidiers up - not forgetting all the brave folk who ignored the cold to come along and offer their support on the night, and anyone that I may have missed out! I really appreciated all of you -and also those supporting with thoughts and prayers at home.

You helped to make the evening very special for me.

We have been studying Philippians in the Discipleship Explored course and I am reminded of Philippians 2: 3-4. The humility of our local church community in looking out not just for their own interests but also to the interests of others was clear for all to see. I hope that the Lord will judge me worthy of your support in the work that I am now about to embark upon.

Blessings to you all.
Sandy Muirhead



I will continue ...

I will continue to believe, even if everyone loses hope.

I will continue to love, even if others distill hatred.

I will continue to build, even if others destroy.

I will continue to talk peace even in the midst of a war.

I will continue to illuminate, even in the midst of darkness.

I will continue to sow, even if others trample the harvest.

And I will continue to shout, even if others are silent.

And I will draw smiles on faces in tears.

And I will bring relief, when I see pain.

And I will offer some joy, where there is only sadness.

I will invite to walk, folk who decided to stop ...

And I will stretch out my arms to those who have feelings.



Welcome

JESUS

NO GREATER LOVE



Let us Pray

Dear Lord, you are the light of our lives, open our eyes to see you working on our way. Thank you for being by our sides, for the new opportunities you give us and for giving us your love and blessings.

Amen