
OUTREACH



**You are warmly invited to join us in the
SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**Aberlady Parish Church
Sunday 25th AUGUST 2019**

**11.15am
All welcome**



MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends

Some months ago, a good friend gave me a birthday gift. It was a book; a slim volume entitled "*A Splash of Words*" and written by someone of whom I had never heard, Mark Oakley. The subtitle of the work is "*Believing in poetry*", a neat play on words, as its focus is both the importance of poetry and the conviction that "*from its very beginnings the human intuition that the world is a gift, that it has a divine origin, and that life and love come from this same source, was explored and shared poetically.*" [*A Splash of Words*" page xviii].

In the moment of receiving, I was, of course, appreciative; grateful for my friend's thoughtfulness and generosity. When I unwrapped it, my gratitude grew as I read the title and some of the reviews printed on the back cover. It looked like something I would enjoy. When I sat down, some weeks on, to read the first chapter, I had, once again, an increased sense of blessing as I felt immediately at home with the writing and enriched by it. The trend has continued as I have savoured the rest of the book and ordered another by the same author. I know that I will continue to dip into and benefit from Mark Oakley's writing. Truly this has been a gift that keeps on giving.

In the postscript to "*The Collage of God*", Mark Oakley refers to the fact that as a member of the staff at St Paul's Cathedral in London, he regularly encounters the world of theatre. He mentions the belief of the veteran theatre critic, Benedict Nightingale, that the importance of live theatre will only increase as we continue to be swamped by the vast and mega-rich entertainment industry which is available to us at the flick of a switch through the mediums of cinema, television and, ubiquitously, the internet. Nightingale is convinced of the capacity of drama in a physically intimate and shared context to be "*a gymnasium for underused imaginations.*" He, like Oakley and many others, recognises our universal need to be cajoled and enabled to go deeper in a world that seems to exist, to such a degree, at the level of the superficial; to expend effort in moving towards that which our minds do not yet comprehend.

MINISTER'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

I am certainly convinced that inner exploration, through which we seek to know and understand more of ourselves and our capacities, is a project every bit as important, if not more so, as seeking to colonise space, if we wish to secure and enrich our future as a species. That inner journey is the journey to which Christ calls us and it is one that, as a species, we have scarcely begun, even after two thousand years. At the heart of Christ's teaching is the essential importance of underpinning our exploration with worship. Worship is the core function of the Church; worship in which we come together in intimate spaces, to share collectively and to explore together. It remains the case [but for how much longer?] that we have, throughout the land, extraordinary places in which people have worshipped for generations. If we are not to lose them, and if humankind is not to be impoverished beyond comprehension by that loss, then our worship must be the very best that we can offer.

It is with that in mind that I propose to run a series of open meetings in the autumn, affording the opportunity for interested folk to come together to explore how we might use the resources available to us to enrich and develop our worship. The first of these, entitled "*The gift that keeps on giving*" will be held in Gullane Church on Sunday 13th October at 6.00pm and is open to everyone.

Grace and peace to you all.

Brian

MINISTER'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

Worship Plans 2019 / 2020**United Services**

- **Sunday 22nd September 2019: United Open-Air Ecumenical Worship Service, Goose Green, Gullane.** The Kirk Sessions have given approval to plans for an ecumenical open-air worship service to be held in conjunction with St Adrian's Scottish Episcopal Church on Sandy Loan / Goose Green, Gullane on Sunday 22nd September 2019. **This will be held at 11.00am**, taking the place of morning service in all three participating congregations and followed by an informal picnic. Please put the event in your diary now and give it your support on the day. A limited amount of seating will be available so please bring your own folding chair if possible.
- **Sunday 20th October 2019: United Service at 10.30am Aberlady Parish Church**
- **Christmas Day 2019: United Service at 10.30am in Gullane Parish Church**
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Communion Services

- **The usual quarterly celebrations of Holy Communion** will be held in both Churches on Sundays 25th August 2019; 24th November 2019; 23rd February 2020 and 31st May 2020.
- **Midweek Communion Services:** I will be seeking Session permission in September to hold a weekly celebration of Holy Communion each Wednesday at 1.00pm and alternating between Gullane and Aberlady. I hope to begin these on Wednesday 9th October, and it is likely that we will use the Church Centre / Kirk Stables as the venues. More information will be published in the weekly Service Sheets and fliers.

 MINISTER'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

Douglas Laird: Having served as an elder of the Church of Scotland for over 50 years, much of that in Gullane, Douglas has now retired from active service on the Kirk Session. We give thanks to God for all that Douglas has done for the Kirk in this capacity and wish him every blessing as we offer our own appreciation and gratitude.

Twinnings with the Eastern Himalaya Diocese of the Church of North India: Sadly, the proposed visit of the delegates [Miku and Nirwan] had to be postponed from May. It will now take place in September. Establishing our own links is accordingly taking more time than anticipated.

Congregational Register

Deaths of Members

6 th June 2019	John M. Stevenson	Aberlady
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Baptisms

16 th June 2019	Thea Christina Jane Melville	Aberlady
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30 th June 2019	Lilyana Victoria Anderson	Gullane
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Marriages

1 st June 2019	Hannah Begbie and Alexander Ratcliffe	Aberlady
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15 th June 2019	Niamh McLennan and Sinclair Cooper	Aberlady
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13 th July 2019	Nicola Kavanagh and Peter Little	Aberlady
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20 th July 2019	Caroline Smith and Adam McNally	Aberlady
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Church Finances-Treasurer's update

The Annual Accounts were sent to OSCR(the Scottish Charities' regulator) for inspection and approval in June and received approval.

The current financial situation is reasonably healthy. Current expenditure has been on aspects of maintenance in both buildings, necessary work at the manse (on improvement to the drive) and some minor repairs to the lighting in the chancel. As you are aware, property is always needing maintenance to keep it in good order.

Fellowship and Outreach

Lite Bite lunches will recommence on **Sunday 6 October** and will be held on the **first Sunday** of each month until March. Homemade soup will be served with rolls followed by hot puddings and tea/coffee. This is at the bargain price of **£3.50**. It would be good if more people attended as the cooks put in a lot of work.

The **Christmas Fair** will be held in the Stables on **Saturday 16 November**. Details to follow in the Order of Service and posters.

Stables Hire

There is availability to hire the Stables for regular meetings, classes at various times in the week, both in the large hall and the smaller rooms downstairs or for one of events, children's or family parties, conferences etc in the same venues. To make enquiries about availability, please contact the church secretary in the first instance (Tues 9.30- 1.30 or Thursday 9.30-3.00) or look on the website:www.aberlady-gullaneparishchurches.org.uk. The cost is reasonable dependent on whether it is regular use or one off events.

Recycling of Ink Cartridges and Mobile Phones

Please continue to put your used print cartridges (**apart for EPSON**) and used mobile phones in the baskets in each church. This is worthwhile both for the donations to Muscular Dystrophy and for Climate Challenge. I am very happy to do the posting.

Kaye Macaskill

SUNDAY THIRTY

A short, informal All Age Service led by the Aberlady Worship Team in Aberlady Kirk Stables at 8.45am on the third Sunday of each month, followed by coffee/tea, a chat and something to eat.

Dates for your diary are:

15th September, 20th October, 17th November

All are welcome.

A big thank you from the Worship Team to all who have attended our early Service during the past year. Special thanks to Martha for the following poem at the Songs of Praise Service in June.

Hazel Phisatory

OUR WORSHIP TEAM

We love our "Sunday 30" held in our Stables Hall

Run by our wonderful Worship Team and we adore them all

The love and warmth they offer when we walk through the door

That once we've been to a "Sunday 30" we want to come back for more

The glorious Bible stories our Worship Team convey

With favourite hymns and sincere prayers and often with a meaningful play

God gave us such a wonderful world the beauty of trees and flowers

Birds, fish and bees - He gave us these and the gentle healing showers

We end our worship joyfully with neighbours and with friends

As we leave the Hall with a happy heart

We hope our Worship Team never ends

ONE SOLITARY LIFE

Some time ago, when I was staying in the Y.M.C.A. in Skegness, I saw a most unusual notice on the notice-board. It was a quotation taken from a newspaper printed in Hamilton Ontario, and the author is not known. It was headed, "One Solitary Life". /

It ran thus:

Here is a man who was born of Jewish parents in an obscure village. He worked in a carpenter's shop until he was thirty, and then, for three years, he was an itinerant preacher.

He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never owned a home. He never had a family. He never went to college. He never put his foot inside a big city. He never travelled two hundred miles from the place where he was born. He never did one of these things that usually accompany greatness. He had no credentials but himself.

He had nothing to do with this world, except the naked power of his manhood. While still a young man the tide of popular opinion turned against him. His friends ran away. One of them denied him. He was turned over to his enemies. He went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross, between two thieves. His executioners gambled for the only piece of property he had on earth, while he was dying. And that was his coat. When he was dead he was taken down and laid in a borrowed grave, through the pity of a friend.

Nineteen wide centuries have come and gone, and today he is the centre piece of the human race, and the leader of the column of progress. I am far within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that were ever built, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man upon the earth as powerfully as has that solitary life.

This is the very beautiful description of the life of Jesus.

Contributed by Gordon Davie

I Dreamed an Interview With God

“So you would like to interview me?” God asked

“If you have the time,” I said.

God smiled. “My time is eternity. What questions do you have in mind for me?”

“What surprises you most about mankind?”

God answered...

“That they get bored with childhood. They rush to grow up and then long to be children again.

That they lose their health to make money... and then lose their money to restore their health.

That by thinking anxiously about the future, they forget the present, such that they live in neither the present nor the future.

That they live as if they will never die, and they die as if they have never lived.”

God’s hand took mine and we were silent for a while.

And then I asked... “As a parent, what are some of life’s lessons you want our children to learn?”

GOD replied, “To learn that they cannot make anyone love them. All they can do is let themselves be loved.

To learn that it is not good to compare themselves to others.

To learn to forgive by practising forgiveness.

To learn that it only takes a few seconds to open profound wounds to those they love, and it can take many years to heal them.

To learn that a rich person is not one who has the most, but is one who needs the least.

To learn that there are persons who love them dearly, but simply have not yet learned how to express or show their feelings.

To learn that two people can look at the same thing and see it differently.

To learn that it is not enough that they forgive one another, but that they must also forgive themselves.”

“Thank you for your time,” I said humbly. “Is there anything else you would like your children to know?”

GOD smiled and said, “Just know that I am here...always.”



Celebrating Nature and Art at the SOC

The wild garden at Waterston House is in full bloom this summer. It offers a perfect environment to butterflies, bees and birds as well as being an absolute treat for the visitors to the SOC (Scottish Ornithologists' Club). The SOC promotes the study of birds in Scotland and encourages everyone to take an interest in our birds. Visitors to the centre, can expect further treats inside, as the SOC presents a programme of art exhibitions focused on wildlife throughout the year. The exhibition this August is KYST (Coast) by Ben Woodhams. Ben is a British artist who lives in Denmark, on the Island of Bornholm. In this exhibition Ben presents a visual diary of life on Bornholm throughout the year in 52 paintings, one for each week of the year.

The next exhibition in September/October will bring together work by four artists: Helen Denerley, Greg Poole, Nik Pollard and Lara Scouller, who work in a range of media, sculpture, pastels, painting and print.

The SOC is open Daily 10am – 4pm

Laura Gressani





Wednesday Night Bridge

Every Wednesday evening from the beginning of October until Easter, we run a very friendly bridge club in our Gullane Church Centre from 7pm till 10pm.

This is relaxed and suitable for all levels of players, who draw for partners.

We welcome anyone who is interested to come along and join us, or anyone you may know who would like to play bridge in a friendly group.

Please give me a ring or email me at:

Phone number 01620 842393

or email at <paulajackson19@hotmail.co.uk>

Paula Jackson

There is also a Bridge club on a Tuesday evening, which is run for a range of abilities and experience and is affiliated to the Scottish Bridge Union.

If this is of interest to anyone, please get in touch with:

Elaine Hutchison, telephone number 01620 842358

or email e.hutchison850@btinternet.com

Whose we are and Whom we serve



Time moves on and we are soon thinking of our Winter programme for the Gullane Guild. This year again we are very fortunate to have interesting subjects and people who are willing to come and talk about them.

We hope to start the season with a lunch at Craigiellaw Golf club on **September 30th**. This is always a very happy and enjoyable occasion and we will contact people before the event to find out about transport etc.

On **October 6th**, Elders from the church and other volunteers have invited the Guild members to a tea party with fun and games. We hope young people from the Sunday Club will come and join in the games and entertainment.

On **October 21st** we will be delighted to hear from Fran and Nigel Goodman about their visit to Israel. This will be our first official Guild meeting and we hope there will be a very good turnout.

The meeting on **18TH November** will be a very joyful one - we are fortunate to have an afternoon with Frank Prior. Frank lives in Longniddry with his wife Bonnie and he has many talents of which music is one. This will be a musical afternoon and I can guarantee that everyone will have a good time.

If anyone reads the magazine East Lothian Life, you may have read an article in the Spring edition about Frank Prior, which tells us about his outstanding career in pharmacy and 50 years of research, experimentation and innovation.

So put a date in your diary for this afternoon. Everyone is welcome and tea and cake will be served.

On the **16 December** the Guild will celebrate their Christmas party. It seems to come round so very quickly each year. We will have musical renditions, sing Carols and have lovely food. This will get us all in great form for our own Christmas celebrations.

All are welcome to any of the Guild meetings, and you will find them enjoyable, friendly and informative.

Angeniet Black

THE BUTTERFLY

**Aberlady Church is lucky - a butterfly God sent.
It came to us at Easter - and was with us all through Lent.
I sit in awe of its beauty, as it flits to the window pane.
It sits in the warmth of the glorious sun,
Then settles on the pane again.
God made that little butterfly. It is part of His mighty plan.
He made beasts and birds. He made fish and flowers
And His greatest creation - MAN.

He made us in his image - in His hands he holds us all.
He's by our side all through our life and He'll lift us when we fall**

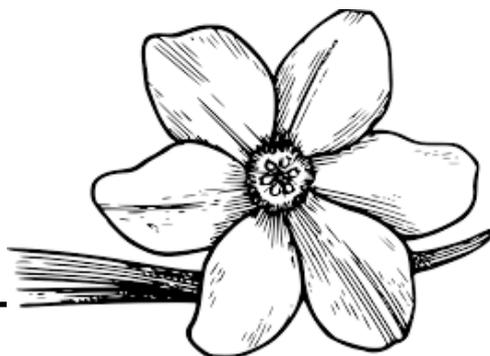
With thanks to Martha Lithgow



My apologies to Martha Lithgow. The last line of her poem 'Easter', was missed out in the May edition of Outreach. Here is the completed last verse.

His love has saved us all from sin,
With Him beside us - death can't win.
His love surrounds us so never fear
Hold out your hand and He is near

The editor



Gullane Flower Club meetings,

Thursdays at 7.30 in Church Centre except for 5 December which is 6pm for 6.30pm at Glen Golf Club

5 September	Alyson Christie – Topic to be confirmed
3 October	Pam Galloway Painting with Flowers
7 November	Julia Loudon After a Fashion
5 December - Supper and demonstration	Lilias Hoskins Christmas Joy



ON THE BUTTON

Thanks to everyone who has donated buttons to this appeal in aid of Marie Curie. I know that the organisers are extremely grateful at the response from both our congregations. Once the sale is over I will let you know how much was raised.

Dorothy Hilsley

Edinburgh Kiltwalk 2019

Sunday 15th September 2019



Last year over 5,000 walkers took part in the Edinburgh Kiltwalk and this year looks set to be even bigger.

There are 3 different routes to choose from, depending on what you fancy:

- The Mighty Stride (approx. 26 miles)
- The Big Stroll (approx. 13 miles)
- The Wee Wander (approx. 6 miles)

The Kiltwalk is a great event for all the family to get involved in and is a fun day full of tartan, cheering and fundraising.

Even better, every penny you raise will be topped up by an additional 40% from the Hunter Foundation, meaning for every £100 you raise, Bethany Christian Trust will receive £140! This will enable us to continue our work ending homelessness in Scotland, one person at a time.

Get in touch

Telephone **0131 561 8930** or email
info@bethanychristiantrust.com

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Please send items for inclusion in the next issue of OUTREACH (August) before **27th October 2019**. Details to contact the editor, Mrs Val Barrie, are on back page. Sincere thanks go to all who contribute with interesting articles. Please keep them coming...

Many thanks also go to the local companies who help Aberlady Parish Church by advertising in OUTREACH. If you can, please give them your support.

“COMMUNITY CAFF”

Aberlady Community Association holds a light lunch in the **Village Hall**, which takes place on the **second Wednesday of each month** from **11.45am - 2.00pm**. Why not come along to join in the fun?

Dates for your diary are: 14th Aug, 11th Sept, 9th Oct, 13th Nov, 11th Dec

For further information: Ros Richardson

If you know of someone who is ill at home, in hospital or in need of a pastoral visit, please fill in one of the cards at the back of the church on a Sunday and let your District Elder or Session Clerk know, in order that a visit can be made.

For your information:

www.aberlady-gullaneparishchurches.org.uk

www.facebook.com/AberladyGullaneParishChurches

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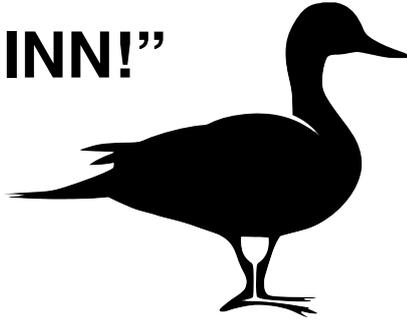
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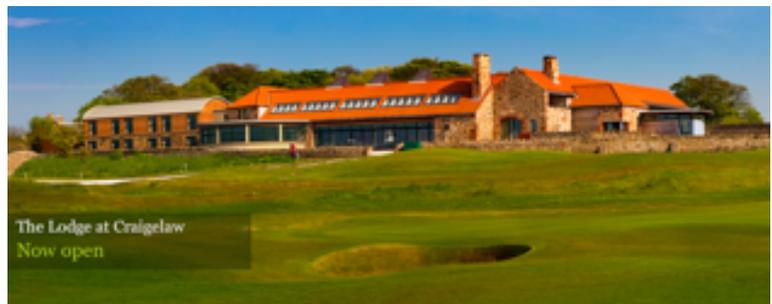
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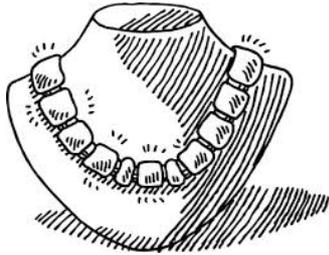
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Come in, Come in - All welcome!

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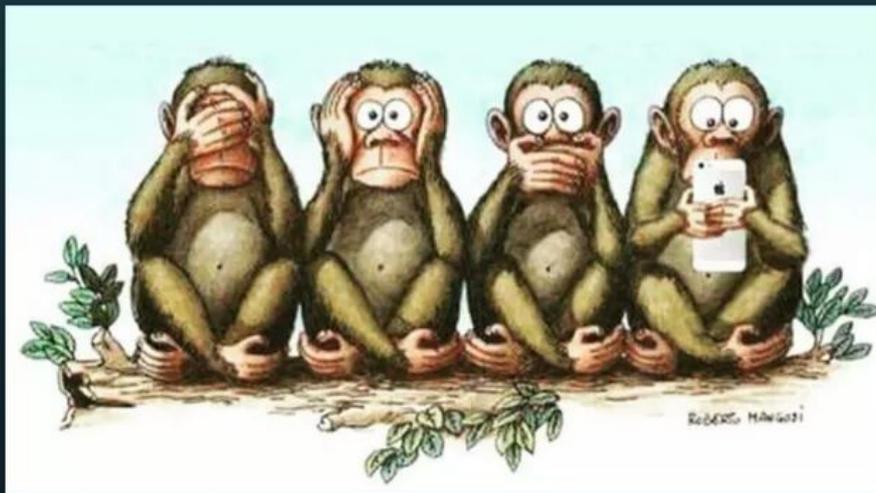
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Finally the fourth ape!



ThinkingHumanity.com



He is the sum of the first three

**He sees nobody,
hears nobody and
speaks to nobody!**

Contributed by Paul Casely.

CONTACT DETAILS

Minister	Rev. Brian Hilsley
Session Clerk	Mrs Hazel Phisatory
Secretary	Mrs Zena Shand email: agpcsecretary@outlook.com
Church Office Hours:	Tues. 9.30-1.30pm & Thurs. 9.30-3.00pm
Treasurer	Mrs Kaye Macaskill
Gift Aid	Mrs Hazel Phisatory
Beadle	Gordon McVinnie
Flower Convener	Mrs Sheena Casely
Safeguarding Coordinator	Mrs Val Morrison
Magazine Editor	Mrs Val Barrie

And finally.

If you know someone who has lost a very important person in their life, and you're afraid to mention it because you think you may make the person sad by reminding them of someone who died. You're not reminding them; they didn't forget. What you're reminding them of is that you remembered that the person lived. And that is a great, great gift.

To access OUTREACH online: go to Google. Select 'Gullane and Aberlady Churches'. Click on 'Aberlady' followed by 'OUTREACH'.