

# Holy Trinity Newsletter May 2015

**From your Priest-in Charge**

## **Diocesan Strategy 20/20 Vision**

Our Vestry, like most others, spends much of its time and effort dealing with the nuts and bolts of keeping our Church in good order and functioning as best as possible. Matters of fabric, finance and the wellbeing of the congregation take centre stage. Every now and then something drops into the Agenda from further up the Diocesan food-chain, so-to-speak. Lately, this came in the form of the Diocesan Strategy set out by Bishop Nigel at the March Diocesan Synod.

Put simply, it is a challenge to all charges to become more innovative and energetic in terms of Worship, Mission and Outreach. Two particular measures were set out as a way of seeing that we were on the right track. The first was to increase our membership by 20% over the next five years. The second was to increase our income by 20% over the next five years.

To my mind, the second measure is the easier to fulfil. It simply requires us to increase our giving and to do so in a regular and sustained way. The bottom line for us at Holy Trinity is that if all of us who give to the life of the church either through FWO or Standing Order were to increase our giving by £1 per week year on year for the next five years then we would easily meet the target of a 20% increase. If all of those who could use Gift Aid did so, then we would surpass the target.

The Stewardship Group, an Action Group of the Vestry, are presently working on how best to present and implement this challenge to the congregation. In a similar way, our Social/Fundraising Group, another

Action Group, are looking at how to make our fundraising events more effective, enjoyable and innovative. Please remember in your prayers those who give their time and energies to this vital part of our church's life.

The first challenge, that of increased membership, is a greater one. For us at Holy Trinity it means seeking around eight new members over the next five years. In an age of declining church attendance, in this age of apparent rampant secularism, the task may seem immense. In truth, the task has always been there in every age. The Church, not just Holy Trinity, has always been one generation away from extinction. Such is the nature of the Faith. The response must not be that of despair but one of faithfully and dutifully living out our faith in the face of a watching world. It requires that we are all committed to regular worship and prayer; that we take the risk of sharing our faith with those around us; that we are caring and selfless enough to let go of traditional ways of doing things so that we can make our faith relevant and accessible to the times we live in. All of this is possible if we are rooted and grounded in the love of Christ and are seeking to live out those promises which we made at our Confirmation, our lay ordination.

I hope that what I have said gives you an insight into the challenges and opportunities that lie before us all over the next five years. I pray that you will be moved to play your part in making that 20/20 Vision a reality in our church.

Every blessing

Kenneth

## **Fund Raising**

Bridget Wilson-Hunter is the new Organiser of a team for Fundraising Activities which will include our existing coffee mornings i.e. Daffodil Tea, Plant Sale and Christmas Fair; we are also planning a new Charity Lunch Event which will raise money jointly for our Church funds and Swaziland this year. More information to follow.

### **FORTHCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS**

**BARBEQUE BASH AUGUST 2015**

**CHARITY LUNCH SEPTEMBER 2015**

**CHRISTMAS FAIR DECEMBER 2015**

**Dates to be confirmed ~ please support our fundraisers as they provide essential money for our church expenses ~ usual stalls at Christmas Fair please start considering what you will make, collect, donate, help.**

### **Online fund raiser**

Holy Trinity Church Monifieth have joined easyfundraising, a fabulous way of raising money for our church without costing you a penny!  
Only three steps to start raising money.

#### **First step**

Register your support online. Visit [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)

Click on "SUPPORT A GOOD CAUSE"

Enter cause name HOLY TRINITY CHURCH MONIFIETH and "Go"

Then click "SUPPORT THIS CAUSE"

Follow the instructions for creating an Account, i.e. your own name and email address etc

Follow through the whole create account including "GIFT AID"

Add the easyfundraising site to your "favourites" as per instructions.

## **Second step**

Whenever you shop online start from "easyfundraising"

**Third step** pass on these details to your children and grandchildren and extended family and friends so they raise money for HT too!

Shops include Tesco, Amazon, Sainsbury's, M&S,

Happy Fundraising

Bridget.



## **Bishops' Lent Appeal**

The Lent Appeal in aid of ministry training and the new Theological Institute raised £131. Thanks to all who contributed. You can still hand in a donation to Keith or Ken any Sunday this month.

## **Swaziland: Walking to Clothe the Children.**

### **Can We Help?**

Twelve young people from our Companion Diocese of Swaziland have just undertaken a 200km walk, over a 7 day period from 7<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> April.

That would be quite an undertaking in any circumstances, but was particularly so given the mountainous terrain in parts of Swaziland and the lack of proper roads in rural areas.

This was a sponsored walk and its purpose was to raise funds for and awareness of the difficulties faced by most children who want to attend school in the rural areas. The poorest children, who are so eager to attend school, go barefoot and without proper uniforms. School uniforms, which are required in Swaziland, are quite basic, but many families cannot provide them and so too many children go dressed in what Bishop Ellinah once described as 'rags and tatters' – or are unable to attend school.

The money raised from sponsorship pledges and collections during the walk is to be used to purchase school uniforms and shoes for the most needy children. The walkers' aim is to provide uniforms for 200 children - although the number in need is far higher.

The walkers were given food and shelter by homesteads and small communities along their way and the walk impacted on the communities visited as the group met with children and young people and talked about life skills, personal wellbeing and the importance of education.

When I was in Swaziland, in December, we spent time with members of the Diocesan Youth Group and were impressed by their commitment and enthusiasm.

As Companions, we agreed that Iowa and Brechin should try to support them in their aim to provide school uniforms for these poorest children. This was also a priority identified by Bishop Ellinah in our discussions with her.

A basic school uniform will cost around £30.

I hope that individuals, families and/or congregations in our diocese might be inspired to support this worthwhile Companionship project.

The piece written above will feature in the next edition of Brechin Bulletin and on the diocesan website.

Over the past 8 years, we at Holy Trinity have been very active in supporting projects in Swaziland through our Starfish Projects. The members and Vestry have agreed that we should support this school uniforms' project. We have some funds available in our Swaziland account, which we will send, but, in addition, anyone would like to support this appeal should pass their donation to Keith or to me, with any cheques made payable to Holy Trinity Church.

The walkers aim to provide uniforms for 200 children, but many more need our help to access school. Our Companions in Iowa are also working to provide funds for this worthwhile project. I'm sure that together we can *'make a difference'*.

In due course, Keith will send funds collected to the Diocesan Office in Swaziland for disbursement to this project.

With my thanks,

Pat

***Companion Links Officer  
Diocese of Brechin.***



## Events in May

**Mondays Group:** every Monday at 2pm in the hall. Knitting, crafts, dominoes, tea/coffee and a chat. All welcome.

**Little Angels Parent and Toddler Group:** Thursdays 10-11.30am. £2.00 includes tea/coffee, juice and biscuits.

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May :** don't forget to vote in the General Election. Come and pray about it first at the 10am service!

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May:** 10am Holy Communion for Ascension Day at Holy Trinity.

7.30pm Diocesan Service for Ascension Day at St Mary's Broughty Ferry. Preacher Canon Fay Lamont, Bishop to celebrate.

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May:** Prayer Workshop in hall. 10am coffee for 10.30am start. The first session was well attended and enjoyed by those who enthusiastically took part. (It wasn't nearly as scary as some imagined it would be.) Do give it a try this month.

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May:** Vestry meeting in hall at 7.15pm.

## **Ministry Team**

### **Priest-in-Charge**

Rev'd. Ken Gibson tel. 01382 535920  
Mobile: 07825554419

### **Lay Readers**

Mr. Bill McFawns tel. 01382 370367  
Mrs Linda Walls tel. 01382 533107

If you require a visit or wish to talk with any member of the Ministry Team then please contact them using the numbers above.

### **Baptisms & Weddings**

Please contact Rev'd Ken Gibson in the first instance

## **Services**

Sunday 10.30am Sung Eucharist  
Thursday 10am Holy Communion