

Kintore Parish Church of Scotland

SC001406 Registered Scottish Charity

27 September 2022

Dear friends,

In almost every area of life things seem to be returning to something very like pre-Covid normality, even if some things may never be quite the same again. The schools have started in-person assemblies again to which Tose and I are able to be invited and we have restarted monthly services at Overdon as well as PLC and Airlie House.

At church we also have most things up and running in person again including the choir which has started practicing regularly again and Messy Church which celebrated its 6th birthday in September.

Although Covid is still a threat, especially to those whose health is vulnerable, we do think the time has come to relax most of the Covid measures we've had in place over the past two years. So, while everyone is still very welcome to wear masks at worship, to keep safe distances from others and use the hand-sanitisers which will remain available – all such measures will be for your own discernment and preference.

One aspect of our worship that changed during lockdown was the introduction of online worship. This option has continued to prove popular and useful for many worshippers even if the reasons for joining online rather than in person have changed. We have decided to keep this option open for the future. Currently our online worship is available on Zoom but we have also started experimenting with YouTube and during the coming months we will continue to experiment to make sure we develop a good-quality, easily accessible online option for those who cannot be with us in person for whatever reason. One of the exciting areas of development for our online worship is to explore how we can work together with the other churches in our grouping.

Harvest and Stewardship

Our Stewardship Season this year will run from 9 October – 30 October with our Harvest Festival taking place on Sunday, 9th October and a joint service with the Bennachie Churches Together taking place on Sunday, 30th October at Kemnay Church at 10am.

This year's Stewardship Season will focus on Thanksgiving. We will give thanks to God for the year's Harvest but also for seeing us, our nation and the world through the pandemic. We will give thanks for the lives of those who died during the pandemic and also for those who survived; for the minds that developed vaccines and for the communities who cared for one another during lockdown.

As for us here in Kintore, I would like to thank all those who kept the work of the Kingdom of Christ in our community alive and well. For all those who kept in touch with lonely friends and neighbours, all who reached out to offer practical help to the isolated, all who continued to support the work of the church financially through planned giving and standing orders, and all who continued to support local charities and groups like the North Aberdeenshire Foodbank – Thank You!

Getting Involved

As we enter this new session there are many ways for you to get involved. We are once again looking for volunteers to help with several rotas. Here is a list of the exciting opportunities we have for participation in the life of our church community:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcomers at Sunday Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leading prayers at church
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AV operators for Sunday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Zoom hosts on Sundays

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tea hosts for Sunday services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Girls Brigade helpers
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pastoral visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading Scriptures on Sundays

If you are able to help in any of these areas, please contact our church secretary, kintorekirk.secretary@gmail.com

We are also aware that the Foodbank has seen an increase in demand for assistance from families and individuals who are feeling the pinch in the current economic climate. We now have a collection point at the church (to the right of the main entrance) and we would like to encourage you to make whatever donations you can to the Foodbank. We publish a monthly list of the biggest needs the Foodbank has on our Facebook Page and Website as a guide.

With much love,

Rev Neil Meyer

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