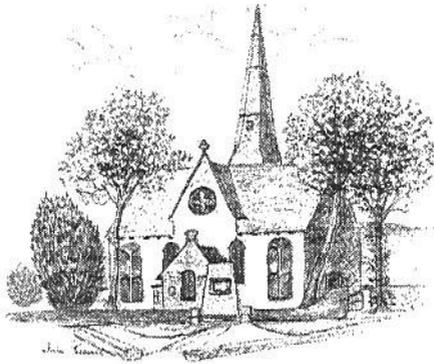


***Parish of West Linton
(St Andrew's)***



September 2017

Dear Friends,

Part of the first prayer in most Sunday services is a section in which, having expressed our wonder and gratitude to God for all that has been done for us in life, we acknowledge that we are not always deserving of that loving care and concern. The prayer then brings to mind the things we've done wrong, knowingly and (sometimes) without knowing the kind of failings most of us have most of the time. The person leading worship then assures us of God's forgiveness and the peace of knowing that forgiveness.

Some ministers and worship leaders today, omit that prayer for a variety of reasons. I never omit it. It's not that I think God wants us to be grovelling in the mud and dirt of our sin as Calvin once described it. But I do think there is always a need for us to recognise that we don't get everything right all the time, that we should be sorry for that, and that we should feel Jesus gently lifting us and setting us on the right road again and travelling in the right direction. It helps us neither to feel too self-satisfied, nor to despair.

This is a very difficult time in the life of our parishes, and for all of us there is a need to acknowledge that there has been failure of some sort, whether for things said and done or just failure to recognise and understand what was happening and what the consequences might be. But I am reminded as I look out into the garden of how much life there is out there. And in the herbaceous borders the other day we have done quite a lot of cutting out spent flowers that are now past. But I know that very soon there will be an absolute profusion of new and vigorous growth which will give us great joy.

Please know the Spirit of God is at work amongst us, that both healing and new life for everyone concerned are possible. We are in the thoughts and the prayers of many who know us, and the shoots and tips of tender but robust new growth are there.

With every blessing,
Rachel

Notice from the Principal Clerk to the General Assembly

The following notice was received from the Principal Clerk to the General Assembly the Rev Dr George Whyte and was read out in the three churches on Sunday 13th August 2017:

“On Friday the 11th of August the Presbyterial Commission concluded its hearing of the disciplinary proceedings against Rev Dr Linda Dunbar.

The Commission unanimously found the disciplinary charges against Dr Dunbar to have been established. The censure imposed was the removal of her status as a minister, effective from Friday.

Once the written decision has been issued to Dr Dunbar she will have the right to appeal against the decision or the severity of the censure. This process may take several weeks and the final outcome will not be known until it is completed.

In the meantime the congregations remain in the care of Presbytery and Dr Dunbar continues to receive pastoral support.”

Murray Campbell's moderatorial induction

Carlops Session Clerk Murray Campbell has been appointed Moderator of Melrose and Peebles Presbytery, 2017-18.

He will be inducted at a Presbytery meeting in Carlops Church on Tuesday 5 September 2017. The meeting will be preceded at 7pm by a service, led by Murray, during which Rev Rachel Dobie will celebrate communion.

Carlops congregation will host tea for our visitors before the service.

Tea will be served in Carlops Village Centre from 6pm.

Everyone (specifically, including friends from Kirkurd & Newlands and St Andrew's Churches) is invited to attend all or any of the service, tea, and business meeting.

If you could help with tea, please speak to Mary McElroy; telephone 01968 661 042;

email mary.mcelroy2@btinternet.com

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

with Ian & Lindsey Gray of Peebles Baptist Church
**Thursday 5th April to Thursday 12th April
2018**

I'm hoping to lead a tour of the Holy Land next April (the week after Easter - Thursday 5th to Thursday 12th April 2018).

The itinerary will include Tiberias; boat trip across the Sea of Galilee; Capernaum; the Mount of Beatitudes; Nazareth; the ancient city of Jericho; floating on the Dead Sea; Qumran; the Desert Fortress at Masada; Jerusalem (Western Wall, Via Dolorosa, Garden Tomb, Mount of Olives plus...); Bethlehem; and lots more.

We will have the opportunity at various points to worship and pray, as we travel around the country. Each day will conclude with a chance to gather together after dinner, for fellowship, stories and devotions.

Cost is approx £1,460 per person, including half-board accomodation and flights from Manchester.

Many thanks,

Rev. Ian K. Gray
24 Damcroft, Peebles EH45 8EF
07881 518854
ian@spinningfish.net



*Esk & Tweed
Network
Meeting*

Waste Management

Talk/discussion - Alasdair McKenzie

Carlops Church

Monday 2 October 2017 7.30pm

*Open meeting for all interested
in the challenges of waste management
All welcome!*

Property

I am pleased report that all of the items identified by the Property Committee as requiring some attention have been dealt with in our summer maintenance programme.

Within the Church these included redecorating the east porch as well as the rear staircase. The gutters and rhones to the rear of the New Church Hall have been re-painted and parts of the Old Church Hall have had a fresh coat of magnolia.

I am grateful to all who have assisted over the past weeks to ensure that our properties are maintained and fit for purpose.

I am pleased to report that the kitchen renovations in the Old Church Hall are complete, providing a much more attractive facility for use by our Church Groups and potential lets.

Neil Calvert

Fabric Convener

	West Linton	Carlops	Newlands
Sept 3	David Henderson Howat	Rachel Dobie Communion 6pm Nancy Norman	David Henderson Howat
Sept 10	Chris Levison	Chris Levison	Murray Campbell
Sept 17	Jim Wallace	Jim Wallace	Rachel Dobie Communion
Sept 24	Rachel Dobie Harvest	Jim Wallace	David Henderson Howat
Oct 1	Murray Campbell	Harvest ECO 6pm Communion Nancy Norman	Harvest Nancy Norman

	September	October
Door Duty	Marianne Moore Colin Herd £ Neil Calvert	Tony Hoskins £ Margaret Ramsay Jimmy Dripps
Readings & Welcome	Jimmy Dripps 3 rd , Michael Knott 10 th & 17 th Daryll Green 24 th	Daryll Green 1st Colin Herd 8 th & 15 th Helen Bruce 22 nd & 29 th
Flower Arranger	Helen Bruce	Nancy Porteous
Flower Donations	Anna Gibson Margaret Smith Flower Fund Margaret Pratt Also flowers in memory of Sybil McMurdo	Marianne Jack Flower Festival Anne Diamond Flower Fund Flowers in memory of Sybil McMurdo
Driver 1 Driver 2	Michael Knott 660977 TBA	Anne McDairmid 660495 Robert Wilson 660121

The deadline for the June Magazine is Tuesday 26th September. The June Magazine will be available on Sunday 1st October.

Copy to Jimmy Dripps, email: jimmydripps@btinternet.com