

Linkage News

Services Sunday 14 November 2021

Kirkurd & Newland Worship - 9.50am - Rev. Dr. Tony Foley in church

St Andrew's Zoom Worship - 10.50am - Rev. Dr. Tony Foley in church & on Zoom (see email for link)

Carlops Church Zoom Worship - 10am - Rev. Chris Levison in church and on Zoom (see email for link)



Sunday 14th November, Remembrance Sunday, there will be a joint service with St Mungo's held at St Andrews. This service will be led by Rev Dr Tony Foley and Rev Peter Woodified and will be held at the **earlier time of 10:50am** so that the 2 minutes silence may be observed. Offerings for church funds and/or Poppy Scotland may be placed in the baskets available



The Remembrance Service at Newlands will be held at the **earlier time of 9.30am**. The Rev Dr Tony Foley will lead the service and it will be followed by an Act of Remembrance at Kirkurd Memorial shortly after 10.30. led by

There will be a Zoom meeting of Kirkurd and Newlands Kirk Session on Tuesday 16th November at 7.30pm.

Peebles Youth Trust Christmas Hampers

The St Andrew's Kirk Session have agreed to help with this appeal again this year. We have been asked to donate **ALCOHOL FREE mince pies** this year. A car will be on the Green outside the church on Saturday 20 November from 10am - 11.30 am for folk to drop off mince pies with appropriate best before date.

Newlands Church will also be helping with the Peebles Youth Trust Christmas hamper appeal and will be collecting **shampoo**. Donations of shampoo can be brought to the church on any Sunday with last collection on Sunday 21st November

St Andrew's Church Floodlighting . It is proposed to floodlight the Church as usual this year from 1st December until 2nd January. In addition it is being proposed to include some inside lighting to accentuate the Church's stained glass windows. To help finance these proposals the usual sponsorship sheet will be placed on the shelf at the west door. If you would like to sponsor a day then you are welcome to go into the Church when it is open to add your name to the list. Alternatively you may contact Neil Calvert to provide details of sponsorship including an amount and date of choice. Contact details: 660807, 07803037172 or neil.calvert@btinternet.com.

Gift Collection (Toys) - St Andrew's

As in past years we are arranging a collection of new gifts/toys for young people which will be distributed all over the Borders through the Salvation Army in time for Christmas. Covid has understandably increased the need for this type of giving, so please give generously. The Salvation Army is seeking gifts ranging from newborn to 18 year olds. Gifts, unwrapped must be in the hands of the Salvation Army by 11th December. It is intended that the Church will be opened and manned on Saturday morning 4th December from 10.00 until noon so that gifts may be left inside. We are seeking your generous support.



The Home Group are starting a new series of studies in Paul's letter to the Ephesians. This will run for 8 weeks starting on Thursday 18th November. If anyone would like to join the group please contact Colin for the Zoom link carradale64@btinternet.com. There is no obligation to participate. You are very welcome just to sit in on the discussion.

FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS

Sharing of News & Information
Anything you would like shared should be emailed to intimations@standrews-westlinton.org by *Thursday lunchtime* would be really helpful to allow time to collate and distribute it.

Minister for West Tweeddale

Rev. Dr. Tony Foley

Email foley.tony@gmail.com

Telephone 07793 294000

On Reflection

Reflection : Mark 12: 38-44

I wonder if you ever engage in people watching?

I must admit it can be diverting sat on a bench (when the weather is nice) and look at the people around. Then, try and imagine what everyone may be doing.

Two people standing having an intense discussion - perhaps making plans for the rest of the day or arguing about something that happened yesterday?

The smartly dressed person hurrying along – late for a business meeting perhaps or lunch with a friend?

The young parent pushing a pram - planning the meal for later or worrying about well it could be one of a million things when it comes to children

It is this feeling of sitting watching the world go by that first came to my mind when I read today's passage. 'As Jesus sat near the temple treasury he watched the people as they dropped in their money'. People watching? Maybe. But also a chance to point out its not those who give the most who are the most righteous.

So, what does this passage tell us about giving? First, it's not just about absolute amount – it's also the cost to us. Secondly, it's about how we give – what's our motivation? We should do things for its own sake and not to show off.

This then brings us to what giving means to us as Christians. Its thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is **to respond to God's goodness and grace with gratitude**. For us, we often talk about giving our time, talents and money. And how much we give of each is a personal decision. Throughout our linkage I see many examples of such giving, such as shoe boxes near Christmas, envelopes with weekly offerings and cars full of donations to food banks and the less well off. I see people giving their talents from singing and listening, preparing accounts to preparing refreshments and much much more. And I see these things happen for its own sake and not for the glory of the giver.

This is such an exciting time with our new Minister and our new extended linkage. It's a great time to consider the time, talents and money that we all can commit to God, to help our new minister. Tony can't do it all himself, he needs us all for whatever part we choose to play. Remember to not do just enough so you are still in your comfort zone. Be like the widow giving more that you can comfortably give and give for the glory of God not yourself.