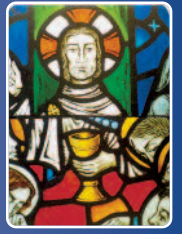




OCTOBER 2011
 CHURCH of SCOTLAND LOCAL PARISH NEWSLETTER
KILMORE & OBAN
Belonging, Believing, Blessing



WHAT'S ON

LATEST NEWS

SERVICE TIMES

FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK

BELONGING, BELIEVING and BLESSING



When folk return from visiting other places they often enthuse about the churches where they have worshipped.



'You should have seen their video screens!' 'What a brilliant set up for tea and coffee.' 'The children were so prominent in the life of the place.' 'They have prayer before worship – a real fellowship'.

People often come back with exciting tales of what congregations can do. We need to learn from how people are excited by the discovery of different expressions of doing church. For, if we are serious about growth both in

spiritual terms and in the numbers attending worships we have to hear what those who have stumbled back across our threshold have to say to us.

My guess is that one of the things that makes the biggest impression on visitors to a church is atmosphere. By this I don't mean that the building has to look 'holy' – in a big cathedral sort of way. Rather, the atmosphere created by the congregation – in its response to God's Word by living out the Gospel in Belonging, Believing and Blessing. So let us ask ourselves what sort of atmosphere we are creating in our congregation on a Sunday morning? For that is where our congregational life is offered to God and seen by others.

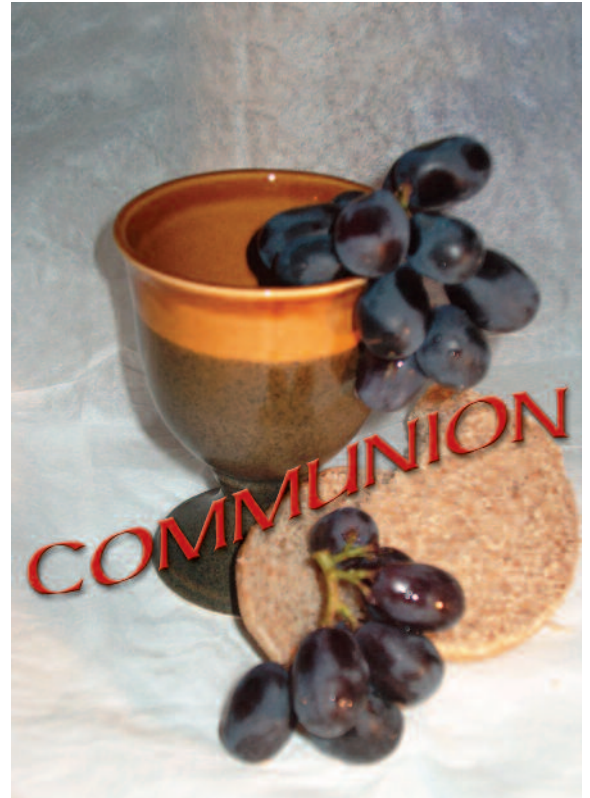
To Belong in worship you have to be there! And worship is a primary source of our faith nourishment – our Believing. Without worship our belief batteries run dry – and churches run dry. To express Blessing we need to actually share it – across ages. Can we do this sitting far apart and without taking or creating the opportunity to interact at the end of a service? Blessing needs to be affirmed, acknowledged and shared.

Belonging, Believing and Blessing combine to create an vibrant atmosphere in worship.

I started this piece by asking us to hear of the exciting things people bring back from visits to other places. Yes, we can learn and adopt from this. But creating a vibrant 21st century church is about far more than new techniques. In a sense they are the by product of Belonging, Believing and Blessing. So now ask yourself a final question; 'When do we find a vibrant atmosphere present in worship in Kilmore and Oban?'

Dugald Cameron

SHARING BREAD



COMMUNION SUNDAY 2nd OCTOBER

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated on Sunday 2nd October at

Esplanade Church at 10.00am

Glencruitten Road Church at 11.30am

Kilmore Kirk at 6.00pm

A shorter Communion service is held at Glencruitten Road Church on the following

Wednesday at 3.00pm.

Separate services are held for residents at Lynn Court and Dunmar Court.

The Lord's Table is open to all and we extend a warm invitation to all to join with us at those services.

Minister: Rev. Dugald Cameron

Administrator: Mrs Maureen Devine, The Church Office, Glencruitten Road, Oban PA34 4DH Open: Monday - Friday 9am - 1pm
 Tel: 01631 562405 E-mail: obancofs@btinternet.com Website: www.obanchurch.com

Kilmore and Oban Church of Scotland. Scottish Charity Number SC011171

ECO CONGREGATION

We remind you that recycling facilities are available at the Church Centre for batteries and used stamps that are sent on to raise funds for worthwhile charities. Newspapers, glass bottles and jars, tin cans, textiles and most plastics can be recycled at both the Co-op and Tescos and at the Council recycling plant at Moleigh where there is also a facility for recycling furniture and other household goods.

LADIES' BADMINTON

This takes place in the Main Hall of the Church Centre from 2-4pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We expect to be back to our normal routine in November but in October we have only two sessions scheduled as below. Sessions cost £1 and we welcome beginners on Tuesdays.

Tuesday 4th October and Thursday 20th October.

Margo Macdonald

GUILD COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY
8th OCTOBER

10am to 12 noon

ALL USUAL STALLS
ENTRY BY DONATION



DEVELOPMENT FUND COMMITTEE

Having raised around £25,000 last year, the Development Fund Committee met recently to discuss the way forward for 2011-2012. We felt that it was now time to focus on providing material help for new projects that would enable the congregation to develop in a number of new ways. Some of the ideas proposed were:

- Establish a 'Spiritual Development Fund' which could enable applicants to develop their understanding of, or contribution to, the church. This initiative could provide funding for people of all ages to attend faith events, retreats, seminars etc.
- Purchase digital video equipment to allow some services, and other church activities, to be recorded on video and available for distribution, particularly for older people.
- Provide finance to allow a new group for teenage children to start in the future.
- Fund local school art groups to contribute to worship with commissioned artwork.
- Establish the 'Kerrera Pilgrimage' on a permanent basis and if possible link to other National long distance pilgrim walks.
- Provide PV solar power for the church centre as a 'green' long-term investment for the future.
- Provide wheelchair access for the chancel at Glencruitten Road.

More details of how we wish to proceed will follow in future editions. Your support and suggestions are as always needed and welcome!

Andy Henderson (Convenor)

THE LORDS LARDER



There are many more people in Oban than you might imagine who for various reasons fall upon hard times and the Lord's Larder is one positive means of offering them practical help.

A food parcel is so welcome to someone who literally does not know with any certainty when they are next going to eat – and that can often be the case, friends, even in Oban.

When next you see our boxes out in the Church on the SECOND SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH, please spare a thought for those for whom a tin of soup, some teabags or a tin of beans and a packet of biscuits can be a real lifesaver, and as you place your donation in

the box remember that you are helping to feed someone who is in genuine need. Gifts of cash for which there are boxes available are equally welcome as they enable us to fill gaps in our stock and occasionally to add perishable items that we could not otherwise carry in stock.

You have contributed well over the years and we thank you most sincerely for that. Please continue to give us your support and be assured; the need is still there on our doorsteps.

*God Bless
The "Double L"*

**PS Our next dates are 9th October,
13th November and 11th December.**

THANKING YOU!



The undemoted message was received from the Rev Cat:

Session and Congregation of Kilmore and Oban

Thank you very much for the wonderful and generous send off and for all your kindness over the past few years.

We are safe and sound in the USA and enjoying heat and cold tea in the afternoon.

I love the beautiful necklace and we are thankful for the generous contribution to our "relocation fund."

Thank you for all your hospitalitywe will miss you.

Blessings

Rev Cat and Jason Knott



Betty Moncrieff, Board Treasurer, Christine MacBryde, Deputy Session Clerk and Margaret Munro with Rev Cat



THE GUILD

Welcomes Men and Women of all ages

Kilmore and Oban Guild will resume meetings for the next session in October following the theme "Called to Walk Humbly with God" While we will be looking at some serious issues in the course of the session we do also have some fun times and we would be delighted to welcome former and new members to join with us.

The Evening meeting on Wednesday 12th October will hear a talk entitled "On the Other Side" and the Afternoon meeting on Thursday 27th October will be following the footsteps of St Columba on Iona with Liz Crawford and Helen Pearson.

A Coffee Morning is planned for Saturday 8th October and we look forward to support from the congregation and from Office bearers.

June Campbell

MEETING REMINDER

Members are reminded that the initial meeting to discuss the situation faced with the Esplanade Church will take place at the Church Centre on Tuesday 27th September at 7.30pm. This is a consultative meeting and it is important that all those who have a contribution to make in this matter participate in the debate. A discussion document has been made available to members and anyone who has not seen this should seek out a copy. Copies will be available at the commencement of the meeting.

At a later date – still to be fixed - there will be a second meeting where it is hoped that an informed decision will be taken. The final decision has to be taken by the members of the Congregational Board and the Kirk Session. It is important that the process here, whatever decision is finally taken, is clear and transparent and for that reason we urge as full participation throughout the process as is possible.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT KILMORE & OBAN

Friday 30th September

19.00 CE Preparatory Service

Sunday 2nd October

09.15 CE Holy Communion

10.00 CE Holy Communion

11.30 GR Holy Communion

18.00 K Holy Communion

Wednesday 5th October

15.00 GR Holy Communion (20 min service followed by tea and coffee)
Separate services are also held for residents in Lynn and Dunmar Courts

Sunday 9th October (Remember Lord's Larder)

10.00 CE Morning Worship

11.30 GR Family Worship

Sunday 16th October

10.00 CE Morning Worship

11.30 GR Family Worship

Sunday 23rd October

10.00 CE Morning Worship

11.30 GR Morning Worship

15.00 GR Gaelic Service

Sunday 30th October

10.00 CE Morning Worship

11.15 CC Family Faithshare

11.30 GR Morning Worship

KEY: CC—Church Centre, Glencruitten Road.
K—Kilmore Kirk. CE—Corran Esplanade Church.
GR—Glencruitten Road. Church. EG—Eadar Glinn

CELEBRATIONS OF LIFE

Baptisms ...*And a child shall lead them*

Riona Mairi Erin MacInnes daughter of Ian and Donna MacInnes.

Funerals*Nothing can separate us from the Love of God*

Thomas Brogan MacKay of Richard Court, Oban

David Petrie of Duncraggan Road, Oban

Johan Bennett Stoddart of Ure Gardens, Oban

Lee Stewart of Creag Bhan Village, Oban

Catherine MacCorquodale of Longsdale Terrace, Oban

Marriages*Commitments in Love*

Samantha Kilmurray to Ruari MacLennan at Corran Esplanade Church on 10th September 2011 by Rev. Dugald Cameron.

A CAUTIONARY TALE

It is fairly common practice in the USA to employ Senior Citizens as front of house Meeters and Greeters to assist in customer relations.

One such branch of Walmart in a large East coast city had taken on Andrew who was well into his seventies but had sought such work to keep himself engaged and active. Andrew was in many ways a model worker, popular with staff members and with customers. He was always neatly turned out, cleanly shaven and keen to assist in any way that he could but Personnel did note that in the mornings Andrew was not always at his work on time. He appeared to be regularly 5 to 10 minutes late and when he faced his first appraisal he was questioned on this.

"Yes," he said. "I am aware of this and I will make special effort to be on time. It is a habit that I developed in my last employment and I have to improve on that."

His manager said, "If it was a regular occurrence did your previous office staff not say anything over the years. What was said when you came in late?"

Andrew grinned ruefully and said, "I guess they said something like, 'Good morning, Admiral! Would you like your coffee now?'"

PILGRIM WAYS

In June this year representatives from ACTS (Action of Churches Together in Scotland) met together and signed a statement of intent to raise interest officially in some Pilgrim Paths and their development throughout Scotland. Many such paths have existed over the years, some used on a regular basis while others may have fallen into disuse as means and methods of transport changed and developed. Walking pilgrims' paths was seen then to be a wonderful way of experiencing a fresh expression of faith and of church. It is an idea worth re-examining.

For instance there used to be a set route from Whithorn on the Solway coast to Tain and the birthplace of St Duthac – a journey that was a particular favourite of James IV. Another traditional route ran from St Andrews to Iona, long before Oban was established, and this is a route that is followed in part at least by many travellers to this day. The presence of CalMac must make this easier than it used to be!

Not all such routes need be long ventures, Scottish versions of the Camino de Santiago route through Southern France and Northern Spain; two months ago some members of the congregation walked around Kerrera, pausing at points to contemplate the beauty of the surroundings and their spiritual associations. We are hoping that we may establish this as a regular event. Similarly Norman Martin and Ian Kerr are presently looking at the possibilities of a walking route between the old Cross at Lerags and the site of the old Kirk at Kilmore.

We will wait to see what this brings and keep you posted!

EDITORIAL: Ken MacColl

*Our next edition for November 2011
will be available on Sunday 30th October 2011.*

**Copy and photographs should be at the
Church Office or sent direct to the editor at
kenmaccoll@btinternet.com
by Monday 24th October 2011.**

Contributions are welcomed!