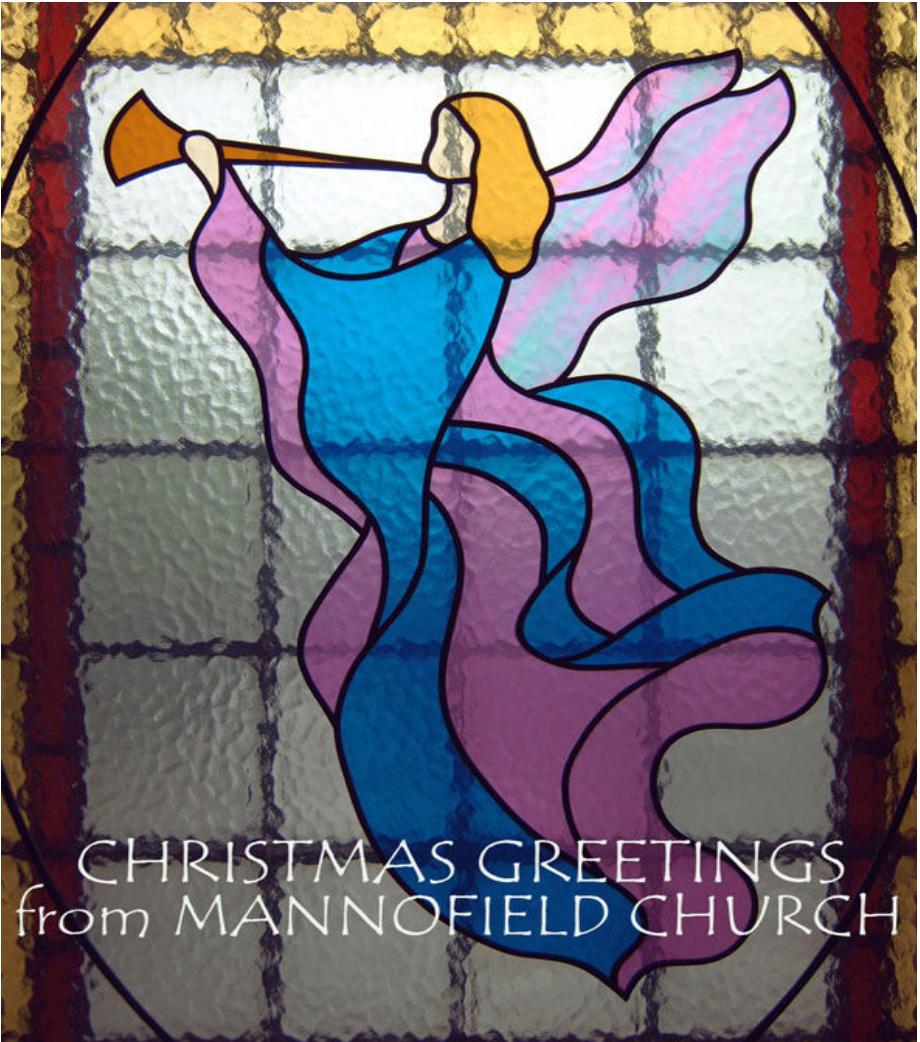




INSPIRE



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS
from MANNOFIELD CHURCH

MANNOFIELD CHURCH

Scottish registered charity SC 001680

CHURCH CALENDAR

DECEMBER

Wed 1	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 5	10am	Christmas Gift Service
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Wed 8	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 12	10am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Lessons and Carols
Wed 15	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 19	10am	Nativity Sunday
		
	3.15pm	Craigielea
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Fri 24	7pm	Family Christmas Service
		
	10.45pm	Mulled Wine, Mince Pies & Carols
	11.30pm	Watch night Christmas Service
Sat 25	10am	Family Christmas Morning Service
Sun 26	10am	Morning Worship

Blessing

God bless our advancing
 God bless our retreating
 God bless our traversing
 God bless our homecoming.



JANUARY

Sun 2	10am	Morning Worship
Sun 9	10am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Service
Wed 12	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 16	10am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Service
Wed 19	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 23	10am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Wed 26	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 30	10am	Morning Worship
	3.15pm	Craigielea
	6.30pm	Evening Service

Flower Calendar

December

5 Mary Hunter
 12 Mrs A Reekie
 19 Mrs A McCaskill
 26 Flower Fund



January

1 Karen Jones
 8 Mrs L Anderson

Advent Bible Study will run on Mondays from 29 November until 20 December at 7.30 in Room 2.

Dear Friends

Christmas will soon be upon us and although we may feel we have plenty of time to prepare for it, experience should tell us that like last year (and the year before that....) we will find ourselves rushing around in December at a frenetic pace. But that's half the fun isn't it?

There's an old adage that says the more you put into something the more you get out of it. I hope and pray that's the case for you this year. May the Season of Christmas satisfy your deepest longing to feel the presence of God's Love in your life; and may you enjoy too the chance for some fun and celebration.

Christmas comes to tell us the story of God's indwelling among us. Stories can be told in other ways too of course and many stories were, and still are, told of God's Love outwith the actual life of Jesus. The Old Testament is full of revelation of God's character and in the stories told by others today of their own faith and experiences, we glean something of the way God works.

In my view, however, there is only one 'living story' that adequately portrays the full force of God's love for us and reveals the level of his involvement in the human story and that is the Incarnation itself. Not just a story consigned to history but a 'living story' which brought God's Word to life and which continues today to connect God to his World.

May the incarnation resonate deep within you this Christmas and may the 'living story' of God's Love inspire all human beings everywhere to work together in order to heal the wounds of society, restore balance in the relationships between us and encourage a greater level of protection for the creation we live in which is God's special gift to us.

May the glory of God shine across our land this festive season and may the angelic hymn be heard across the world....

*'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and peace on earth to all humanity'*

Best Wishes

Keith

Joy and Peace at Christmas



Keith, Katrina, Aaron, Finlay and Angus would like to wish all our friends in Mannofield a Happy Christmas and best wishes for 2011!

**THE
MEANING OF
LIFE
IS _____**



**Fill in the blanks at the
Alpha Course in Mannofield**

**Starting Monday 24 January 2011
Mannofield Church-Large Hall
7pm-9pm**

WHAT IS ALPHA?

The Alpha course is an opportunity for everyone to explore the Christian faith.

It is relaxed, low-key, friendly, fun and free. There is a meal together at the beginning of each week (the course runs for 10 weeks) which gives everybody an opportunity to get to know each other.

Then after supper we watch one of a series of talks by Nicky Gumbel. We listen, learn, discuss and discover.

Ask anything..... Alpha is a place where no question is too simple or too hostile.

Alpha is supported by the Church of Scotland and all the main Christian denominations.

WHO IS ALPHA FOR?

EVERYONE – you, your family & your friends.

If your own faith is strong, be supportive and bring along someone who may need some encouragement in their Christian life!! The Alpha Team is looking forward to welcoming you on the Alpha Course.

* Please complete an Alpha registration form; you can pick one up from the Church office or look out for one of the Alpha team handing them out after some of the Sunday Church services.

Mannofield Book Club Book

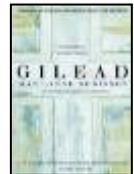
for 2 February 2011

Gilead

by Marilynne Robinson

This novel which won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 2005 presents a sympathetic portrait of Reverend John Ames who writes about his life and his beliefs ever mindful of the fact that he has only a short time to live.

Reverend Ames takes up the task of writing in the hope that his little boy will read this book when he is an adult and thus become acquainted with the father he may barely remember otherwise.



PLEASE NOTE

**The deadline for the next issue
of *InSpire* is
Thursday 20 January**

Material for *InSpire* should be deposited in the Church Office or emailed to:

**roddy@mccollassociates.com
office@mannofieldchurch.org.uk**

**The Editor and his team wish
you a peaceful Christmas and
a Happy New Year.**



Everything Must Change

'Everything Must Change' is the title of a book that is providing themes for various evening services both at the end of 2010 and beginning of 2011. It is written by Brian McLaren and seeks to address the question of how the life and teachings of Jesus address the most critical global problems in our World today.

The book seeks to infuse us with purpose and passion in order that we might faithfully address the economic, environmental, military, political and social dysfunctions that have overtaken our World.

"What might it mean to be a person of faith?" the author asks.

In the services we will find out that faith means igniting a revolution of hope for a hope starved world.

The services at which the themes of this book will be explored will take place on the evenings of 5 December, 9 January and through to 13 February.



THE PICKLED COW Drama Group
Proudly Present



A CHRISTMAS CARROT

A Sparkling Nativity Pantomime

Wednesday	8th December	@ 7.30pm
Thursday	9th December	@ 7.30pm
Friday	10th December	@ 7.30pm
Saturday	11th December	@ 2.30pm





Return ticket forms to the office
or any **PCDG** member
Also available after the 10am
Service on 5th December.

Live, on stage at Mannofield Parish Church, Great Western Road, Aberdeen



Q What is your age, occupation, marital status and family?

A I'm 47, a senior IT engineer, am married with two daughters – Ashleigh and Kirsten

Q Who is your favourite character from the Bible?

A Daniel

Q What motivates you spiritually?

A Seeing the good work God inspires in others.

Q It's not cool but.....

A. I strangely enjoyed the first series of Glee !

Q What was the best piece of advice you've ever been given?

A Never throw anything out – one day you'll find a use for it – my grandfather.

Q Who is your favourite fictional character?

A Jason Bourne.

Q What are you afraid of?

A Wasps without a doubt.

Q What situations make you lose your temper?

A Bad / stupid drivers.

Q If you could choose a profession that you would like to try what would that be? Why?

A A doctor because in my current job I fix machines so I think it would be nice to know how to fix people as well.

Q If you could change something about yourself, what would it be?

A A thick head of hair (obviously!)

Q If you could travel back in time, where would you go?

A Last Friday with the Saturday's winning lotto numbers in my pocket!

Q On what purchase have you spent most apart from a car or property?

A A state of the art computer.

Q Who was your favourite teacher and why?

A A technical teacher at Hazlehead Academy, Mr Milton, who inspired me to follow a technical career.

Q Who or what is the love of your life?

A My family.

Q What is your most treasured possession?

A. Not really an exciting answer but my iPod Touch which travels everywhere with me.

Q What has been your greatest achievement?

A. Representing the Boys Brigade in Aberdeen at the Royal Garden Party in Edinburgh and being chosen to be presented to Her Majesty the Queen.



During the year forty of Santa's elves took part in their annual freestyle race.

Twenty elves ran. Ten elves dashed.

Five elves bolted and sprinted.

Three elves bolted, dashed ran and sprinted.

Two elves ran, bolted and sprinted.

Five elves ran and sprinted.

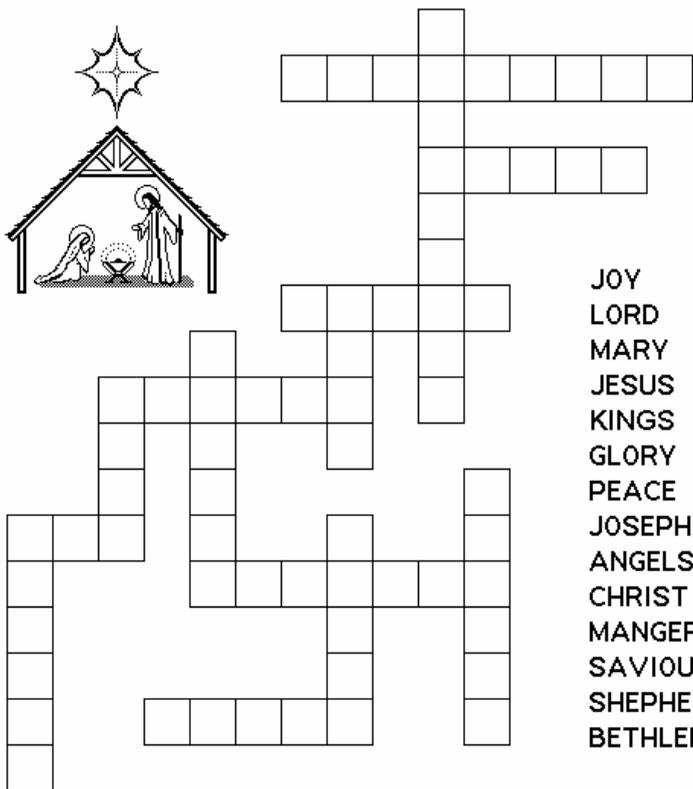
Two elves dashed, ran and sprinted.

How many elves neither dashed, ran, bolted, nor sprinted?



Christmas Crossword

Make all the words fit into this crossword.
Each word is only used once.

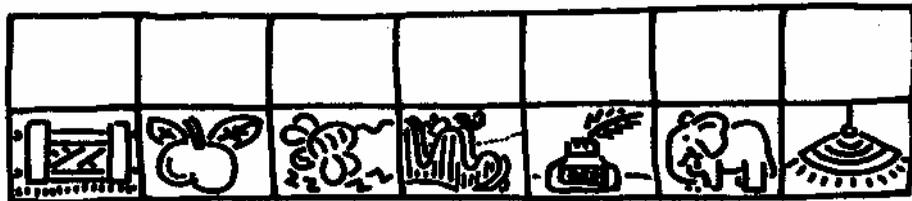


- JOY
- LORD
- MARY
- JESUS
- KINGS
- GLORY
- PEACE
- JOSEPH
- ANGELS
- CHRIST
- MANGER
- SAVIOUR
- SHEPHERDS
- BETHLEHEM

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Use the first letter of the items in the picture to solve the puzzle

What was the name of the angel?



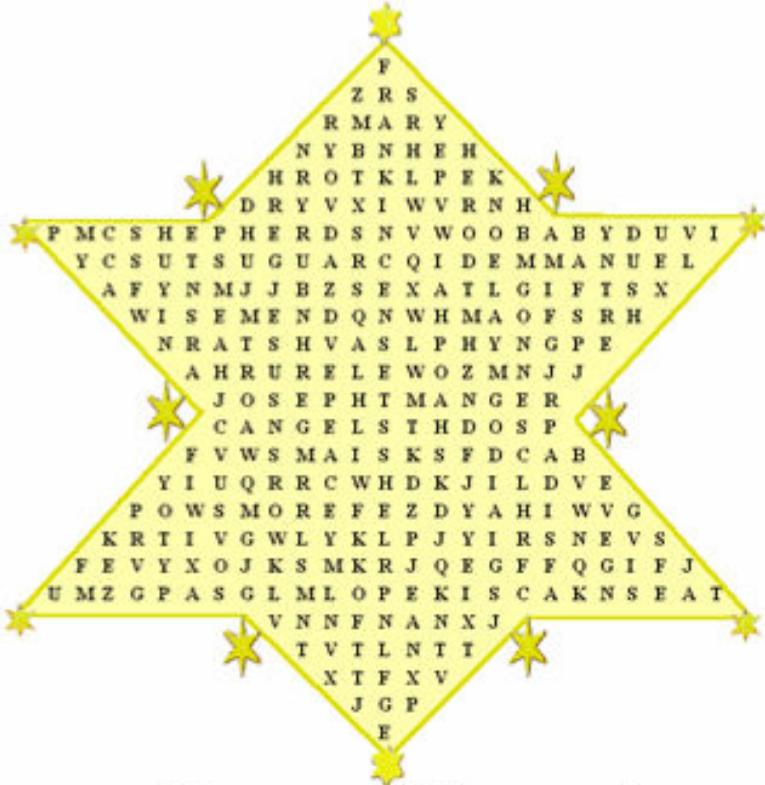


"I'd like to know whose idea it was to have a real donkey"

BIBLICAL GIFTS - CAN YOU FILL IN THE BLANKS?

1. The gift of God is _____ (Rom 6:23)
2. Who have tasted the heavenly gift _____ (Heb 6:4)
3. Every good and _____ gift (James 1:17)
4. With you of the _____ gift of life (1 Peter 3:7)
5. Let him take the _____ gift (Revelations 22:17)
6. Presented him with the gifts of _____ (Matthew 2:11)
7. To give _____ gifts to your children (Luke 11:13)
8. Eager to have _____ gifts (1 Corinthians 14:12)
9. Those having gifts of _____ (1 Corinthians 12:28)
10. If I have the gift of _____ (1 Corinthians 13:2)

His Birth



Angels
Augustus
Baby
Bethlehem
Elisabeth
Emmanuel
Frankincense
Gifts

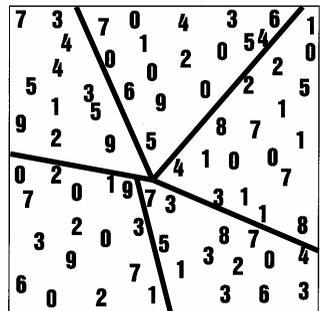
Gold
Herod
Inn
Jesus
Joseph
Manger
Mary
Myrrh

Nativity
Noel
Peace
Promise
Savior
Shepherds
Star
Swaddling

Taxes
Virgin
Wisemen

©akidsheart.com

November's solution:-



40th Aberdeen Brownies

The Friday Brownies have been very busy this term! We kicked it off by going to camp at Templars Park with a 'Little Miss' Theme. There were water fights, treasure hunts, crate climbing, wrapping the guiders in toilet roll and lots more! A fantastic time was had by all!



We had a Halloween Party at the end of October and the children dressed up and took part in dooking for apples, crafts and games. The children had a fantastic night and some went home with some very wet faces.

This year we participated in Sainsbury's Active Kids. In the October holidays we received a vast amount of new sports equipment which the girls will be able to explore and use at Brownies. Thanks to all those who collected vouchers and we hope to do this again this year.



Active Kids have teamed up with the Woodlands Trust and as part of our order we have received a free tree pack. This means that each girl in the pack has taken home a tree to be planted in the week commencing 29 November which coincides with National Tree Week. The children have been asked to take photographs of their efforts so keep an eye open for them in the next Brownie update!

Recently, we had a visit from a drama specialist, Barry Donaldson, who came to do lots of drama activities and games. The children loved it and we hope he might visit us again.



In a couple of weeks, we are having a Body Shop party. Mums, sisters, grannies and aunties of the children are all invited to come for a social evening and hopefully buy some Christmas presents! This event will last the whole evening and provides a good opportunity for everyone to get to know each other.

We are **Active Kids 2010**



Sainsbury's
Try something new today

Eco update



Dear Friend

Having recently attended a Waste Aware talk at Queens Cross Church it was sobering to hear some of the statistics regarding the amount of waste we “throw away” each year.

1. Aberdonians throw away 90,000 tons of rubbish each year into our local landfill site.
2. This equates to 9,000 refuse trucks
3. Laid end to end they would reach from Aberdeen to Forfar!
4. Unfortunately the council is closing the local landfill site in December. This will force the waste to be transported to Peterhead!

9,000 trucks x 60 mile round trip = 540,000 extra miles (and CO2 emissions) every year.

It is heartening to know that we are changing the majority’s habits with the increase in green recycling initiatives but clearly, from these numbers, we have a long way to go.

Within Mannofield Church there are a number of recycling points for us to use, but we would like to do more by focusing on the congregation’s needs.

Within the next few weeks we will be distributing a lifestyle questionnaire at the end of the pews.

It would be very helpful if you can spare a couple of minutes before or after the service to fill it in.

From this information we hope we can map the lifestyle trends of the congregation and use this positively to add to our Eco congregation goals -- improving our own personal sustainability and contribution to the wider stewardship of Earth.

If you have any comments, queries or suggestions then please do get in touch with the committee.

Colin McColl, Eco Committee

Joseph Somevi at Mannofield



I come originally from Ghana, West Africa. After completing a university degree, I worked in Ghana for ten years before coming to UK for further studies in 1997. I then worked in London for three years before coming to work in Aberdeen in 2005.

My wife is Joyce and she is a nurse. We have three sons – Nehemiah (18), Nathan (16) and Nuku (11). I am an elder in Oldmachar Church and I enjoy music, walking and reading.

Since 1945, the Church of Scotland has had a substantial influence on the part of Ghana I come from. So I have had Presbyterian discipline and education throughout my formative and adult life.

My commitment to faith and God’s work became stronger when I invited Jesus Christ to come into my life as my Lord and Saviour in 1977 during a Scripture Union programme.

Continued on P 13

44th Aberdeen Boys Brigade



Currently we have 40 boys across all Sections.

Anchor Boys - a lively bunch.

Two new helpers joined this session. Both are Company Section boys who were discharged in May and have come back to help with a view to becoming qualified leaders. Anchor Boy's activities include dodgeball and helicopter where the boys stand in a circle and have to jump over a rope as it rotates round. Great fun but dizzy work for the staff. More craft work is being done and recently the boys made firework pictures using crayons, chalk and glitter on black paper.

Junior Section— numbers are a bit lower this year but they have been enthusiastic despite this. Sport plays an important part for them and they have enjoyed playing unihoc, football and basketball. The weekly joke competition provides a laugh for the staff and points are awarded for it along with inspection. Following a discussion about Remembrance Day on 11 November the boys played a game where they had to silently guess when 2 minutes had passed. One boy was spot on standing up exactly on the 2 minute mark. They also watched an online video from Poppy Scotland.

Company Section—enthusiastic as ever. Each week they enjoy a variety of games, sports, Bible teaching and badge classes. Recent topics include Crime Prevention, the Police, Space, Money and Fundraising. Some of the boys have helped organise the recent Vie at Home fundraiser for BB mums. We have 4 Queens Badge candidates this session and so far they have planned and run a BB night back in October. We have taken part in the Battalion Table Tennis competition and hope to enter a Basketball team in December's competition.

Our website is currently down being rewritten and overhauled so keep checking

at www.40four.co.uk to see the exciting new look website when it launches early next year.

Of course we are also on Facebook at www.facebook.com/44thaberdeenbb.

My thanks to the many people who commented so positively on the boys who attended the Remembrance Service in November and in particular the Colour Party who did such a good job.

Dave Tait, Captain

Joseph Somevi

continued



Since then what defines my motivation can be summed up in the words of John 15:16:

"You didn't choose me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using my name."

So, for me, God's call is for everyone to go and bear a lasting fruit. Throughout my school and working life, I have seen working for God as my first calling and enjoy time spent in God's house and presence. That is why I have thoroughly enjoyed my initial eight weeks in Mannofield. I also find members very friendly.

In the next six months, I am hoping to tap into the vast experience Mannofield Church has in terms of Church work and ministry.

I am interested in learning about your way of worship, Church administration, management and leadership.

I am looking forward to being part of visits to homes, schools and hospitals and hope to play an active role in a prayerful and evangelistic ministry of the Church as God allows.

Joseph Somevi

YOUNG CHURCH NEWSFLASH

It's a Christmas Knockout Young Church Christmas Party

WHEN? Saturday, 18 December
WHO? All Young Church Groups
WHERE? Large Hall
WHAT TIME? 2.30pm (for Play Rehearsal first)
UNTIL WHEN? 4.15pm for 3-8 year olds
WHAT ABOUT THE REST? Stay on for Christmas movie special with pop corn
UNTIL WHEN? To Be Announced but probably 6ish

"FISHING FOR STARS" YOUNG CHURCH CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

WHEN? Sunday 19 December
WHERE? Church
WHAT TIME? 10am service
SEE YOU THERE!

Lesley Taylor

Remembrance Sunday Retiring Collection

The retiring collection on Remembrance Sunday for Poppy Scotland raised £826. 76.

Since £523 of this was Gift Aided the charity will receive an additional £147.51.



Mannofield Guild

14 December

Christmas Party
Deeside Golf Club



Christmas Eve Services

Offerings received at the Christmas Eve Services will be given to aid the continuing work of the Archie Foundation



Laundering Tea Towels

Thank you to all those who helped this year. I would be very grateful if you could take the same month for 2011. If you cannot do it, please let me know.



Leaders of groups holding a function at which they use extra tea towels and/or tablecloths, are requested to take away the extra ones, launder them and return to the kitchen as soon as possible.

Thank you

Norma Shearer

Musical Evening 5 March 2011

Following the success of this year's event Jim & Marisha Addison will again provide the entertainment augmented by their daughter Karen and Eddie McGovern.

We look forward to another evening of great entertainment. More details will be available before Christmas so keep an eye on the screen on Sunday mornings.



CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER



Baptisms

7 Nov Laura Susan Blair
14 Nov Megan Christina Keay

Disjunctions

Alastair, Fiona & Nicola Chambers

Deaths

25 Oct Mrs Margaret Stewart
29 Oct Mrs Gladys Murray

Change of Address

Mrs Wendy Aitkenhead

CHURCH CONTACTS

Minister	Rev Keith Blackwood	k5blackwood@btinternet.com	315748
Associate Minister	Rev Alisa Ferlicca	alisa.ferlicca@gmail.com M 07838 835778	277428
Youth Ministries Worker	Tim Still	tj.still@btinternet.com M 07535356346	
Secretary	Mrs Gill Terry	office@mannofieldchurch.org.uk	310087
Church Officer	Nick Youngson	nick.youngson@talktalk.net	322239
Session Clerk	Bob Anderson	Nnikibob@aol.com	743484

Christmas Sing-a-Long



Tuesday 7 December 2-3.30 pm

Music
by
Jim Ruxton & Friends

Christmas Cake,
Mince Pies, etc.

Come along, enjoy the company
and exercise the vocal chords.

Entrance is free but donations welcome.

If transport is required contact
Sheila Towns on 589812

Mannofield Church Lunch Club



16 DECEMBER

Thereafter 3rd Thursday
each month until May 2011

Lunch is served at 1pm
Entertainment 2 - 3.15pm

A cup of tea before you leave!

Cost -- £4



Need transport?

Contact: Mhairi Clark tel. 317982

Photo Gallery 2010

