

INSPIRE



**'The spirits of the air live in the smells
of fruit; and Joy, with pinions light, roves round
the gardens, or sits singing in the trees.**

**Thus sang the jolly Autumn as he sat,
then rose, girded himself, and o'er the bleak
hills fled from our sight; but left his golden load.'**

"To Autumn" by William Blake

MANNOFIELD CHURCH OF SCOTLAND ABERDEEN

Scottish registered charity SC 001680

www.mannofieldchurch.org.uk

CHURCH CALENDAR

OCTOBER

Sun 9	10am	Morning Worship
Wed 12	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 16	10am	Morning Worship <i>Harvest Thanksgiving</i>
	4.30pm	Café Church
Wed 19	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 23	10am	Morning Worship
Wed 26	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 30	10am	Morning Worship Craigielea Gardens Service
	3.15pm	<i>Songs of Praise</i> led by Jean Anderson

NOVEMBER

Wed 2	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 6	10am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Service

**The deadline for the next
issue of *InSpire* is**

20 OCTOBER

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

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

FLOWER CALENDAR

OCTOBER

2 Mrs Pat Stalker
9 Mrs Sheila Towns
16 Mrs Rhoda Wright
23 Miss S. Thomson
Mrs Sheila Taylor



NOVEMBER

6 Mrs Niki Anderson

Morning Prayer



Lord, it can be easy to
find You
in the silence of a
woodland,
or the stillness of a mountain,
or the infinity of a sea.
But help me to find You
today
in hustle and bustle,
in push and shove,
in busyness and craziness,
in towns and cities.
You are in our land, O Lord,
but You are in our people.
Help me to love people
where they are today,
be it street, or shop,
or office, or hospital,
or home.

Acknowledgement :This extract is
taken from "Living Stones : Pray
Now " and is used with permission.

"Living Stones" publications are
available from
www.standrewpress.com

Dear Friends

One of the good things about being a minister is the fact I don't generally need to commute to or from work. My travel is usually local and most of the time I manage to escape the torture of having to cross town, or leave town heading south, north or west, at the height of rush hour. On the rare occasion I do need to make a longer than usual journey at rush hour, I tend to forget what rush hour traffic entails and the depth of patience needed by those of you who make these journeys frequently.

Recently I had to make a journey to Inverurie for a dinner starting at 6.30pm and I perhaps left it slightly late to get there on time. Thankfully despite the traffic I arrived on time to enjoy the meal and then present the after-dinner talk for the Grampian and North of Scotland Funeral Directors Association. The purpose of sharing this story is that as I was sitting in traffic my imagination was piqued and the creative juices started to flow. I imagined that all the commuting backwards and forwards on the roads in an out of Aberdeen, across our city and replicated throughout the whole of Scotland (and the whole of the world), was like the circulatory systems within each human being. In our blood vessels, cells carry oxygen - the central ingredient to life; on our roads, cars carry people – the central ingredient, the Bible tells us, in God's creation.

We know that without oxygen, human life can't be sustained. We might say the same too about the human contribution to the creation which God established.

Sometimes I think as we go about the motions of life we forget just how valuable we are to God. Frequently we ignore just how crucial the role is that we play in shaping and maintaining this world we live in to the standards demanded by God.

Without the deployment of our unique and personal gifts, talents, skills and capabilities the world is denied its key ingredient.

Isn't it funny what the brain can throw up as you sit there attempting to keep calm when in a queue of traffic?

Yet, I am grateful tonight for the reminder of just how needed I am in God's world.

Remember folks -

God's need of you is just as great!

Best Wishes. *Keith*

Evening Prayer

Lord, I will take a moment now to consider some of the people I encountered but did not speak to today -

whether on the bus, or at work, or even on the TV or radio.

Lord, I pray that You will be with them tonight, wherever they are sleeping.

May they be filled by the joyful possibilities of a new earth.

Amen

Acknowledgement :This extract is taken from "Living Stones : Pray Now " and is used with permission. "Living Stones" publications are available from www.standrewpress.com

Help Wanted..... Looking after our community



Please join us for a couple of hours on Sunday 23 October 2016 to help keep our community looking beautiful.

The Outreach and Mission committee are planning a 'tidy up' of the Mannofield area.

We need as many volunteers as possible after the Church service on 23 October who will be willing to go out (in small teams) into the streets and public areas around Mannofield Church. We will be armed with lots of black bags, rakes, brushes, shovels, etc. as well as a joyful spirit, to gather up litter and leaves. Don't worry about lunch, we will provide a hearty bowl of soup, back at the Church! If you would like to help us, please contact Louise Barrack at louise@barrack.org or ☎01224 311511. p.s. we will be requiring a number of rakes, brushes and shovels,

InSpire dates 2016/2017

2016	Copy deadline	2017	Copy deadline
November	Mini InSpire 20 October	February	Mini InSpire 19 January
Christmas Community edition	10 November for 11 December issue	Easter Community edition	9 March for 2 April issue as Good Friday 15 April
		May/June	20 April



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

A. I am on the younger side of life and I am currently a graduate student at Princeton Theological Seminary in the States. I am single and I am the oldest of five.

Q. What is your favourite verse from Scripture and why?

A. I tend to have favourite passages over verses, and my favourite passage at the moment is the Exodus story. It continually shapes me and my understanding of how God interacts with humankind. I'm encouraged by the movement of oppression to liberation, all by God's mighty hand.

Q. Who is your favourite character from the Bible and why?

A. My favourite bible character at the moment is Amos. He continually challenged the norm and injustices that occurred in his time period. He was not satisfied with the status quo and he resonated with God's continual preference for those at the margins of society.

Q. What motivates you spiritually?

A. I am spiritually moved during the sacraments, especially Eucharist. When a gathering of believers, (regardless of language, age, race, social status, etc.), come together to recognize the unity they hold because of Jesus Christ, I almost come to tears. The mere realization of what unites us, which otherwise we may have never have come together, demonstrates the radical movement of Christianity that brings all type and kinds of people together.

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

A. I like to sing really loudly to music I play. If you have heard me sing, you would understand why it is definitely not cool.

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

A. "If God has called you, you need to stop listening to some of the lies you and others have told you. Step boldly into your calling. God is with you."

Q. Who is your favourite fictional character and why?

A. Harry Potter because I am a millennial. But really, who my age doesn't like Harry Potter? The correct answer: no one.

Q. What are you afraid of?

A. Failure. Hence, the best piece of advice I have ever been given.

Q. Did you have a nickname growing up?

A. Gami or Gummy (pronounced Gah-me & Gum-me, the latter like Gummy bears). Short for my middle name Gamaliel (who was the teacher of Paul).

**Q. What situations make you lose your temper?**

A. Denial of social injustice. I like to think it's a righteous type of anger when that occurs.

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

A. I would love to study law and become a lawyer. I would want to do non-profit work for death-row inmates. There is a huge need for this in the USA and our broken criminal system.

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

A. I need to call my parents more often. Hang on, I'll call them now.

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

A. I would go back to the times of Israel and the crossing of the Red Sea. Even the scene in *Prince of Egypt* when the sea is split causes me to cry.

Q. What would you do if you ruled the world?

A. Preferential option for the poor. We have enough food today to feed everyone, so I would start there.

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

A. My leather messenger bag. Let's just say it's my most expensive accessory. I am now obligated to use it for life.

Q. Who was your favourite teacher and why?

A. Dr. Paul Boles. His passion for his field, as well as his passion for making his teaching material practical, is a passion I have since sought to emulate.

Q. Who or what is the love of your life?

A. My friends. It is a beautiful thing when one can find friends that will journey through life with you in a vulnerable, authentic, and genuine way. Especially since it seems uncommon in our generation.

Q. What is your most treasured possession?

A. My experiences. I tend to have a bad long-term memory, yet I continually attempt to hold on to my once in life-time experiences. Second treasured possession of mine would be my journal, in case my memory fails me.

Q. What has been your greatest achievement?

A. Graduating University and going to a Graduate school. I'm the first in my family to do so :-)



A driver notches up
15951 miles on his milometer and
Realises that this number is palindromic,
Reading the same forwards as backwards.

He is surprised two hours later when
Another palindromic number appears.

How fast was he driving in those 2 hours?



NOAH

If you read in Genesis chapters 6-9 the story of Noah and the Flood, you will find answers to a lot of questions. Why did God send the flood? Why did he tell Noah to build an ark? Why were living creatures taken on board? Why was Noah and his family saved from the flood? For how many days and nights did rain fall on the

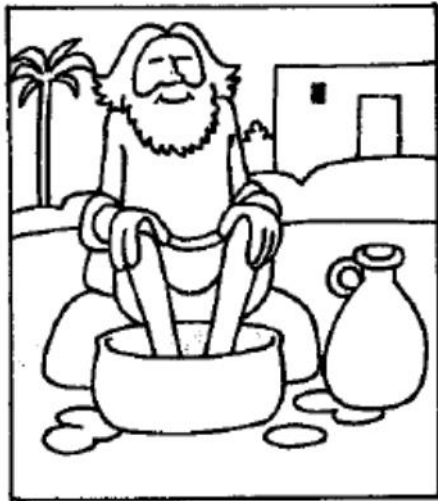
earth? Who told Noah when he and his family could leave the ark? What promise did God make to Noah?

Find the words listed below (and also given in the bible) in the letter grid. Words appear either vertically or horizontally, forwards or backwards, but some letters are used more than once.

A	V	I	O	L	E	N	C	E	B	D	B
N	D	N	I	L	F	O	R	T	Y	O	U
P	E	O	P	L	E	A	O	P	U	V	I
E	S	A	E	R	F	H	O	E	P	E	L
L	T	C	N	U	O	R	G	R	O	O	D
A	R	R	T	L	L	A	M	I	N	A	O
M	O	E	A	P	A	I	R	S	O	J	O
E	Y	A	R	C	S	K	A	H	T	W	L
F	E	T	A	T	N	A	N	E	V	O	C
D	A	U	R	R	A	I	N	B	O	W	X
R	N	I	A	R	T	R	O	F	N	I	T
O	N	E	V	A	L	A	M	W	E	N	M
L	T	G	R	E	A	T	L	Y	V	T	A
U	O	N	I	A	T	F	R	E	A	M	L
F	L	O	O	D	W	A	T	E	R	S	E



"I hear he used to be an Olympic athlete . . ."



Can you spot the 10 differences between the two pictures?

The Apostles

Find the name of all the apostles hidden
in the puzzle below.

Q	G	T	H	A	D	D	E	U	S	D							
J	A	M	E	S	A	L	P	H	E	U	S	S					
G	M	A	T	T	H	I	A	S	T	H	O	M	A	S			
Y	P	I	K	J	U	D	A	S	Q	D	P	U	F	T			
Z	L	G	G								H	Q	X	P			
G	T	M	Z								I	K	I	W			
G	W	M	Q								L	F	G	J			
B	T	Q	Y								I	V	L	A			
J	U	C	B								P	W	K	M			
E	S	I	M	O	N	P	E	T	E	R	V	L	S	E			
S	P	C	D	C	Q	T					A	N	D	R	E	W	S
V	A	U	L	V	R						Y	C	V	I	V	Z	
I	Q	Q	J	V	H	Z					G	T	D	A	D	G	M
E	X	R	W	P	F	C					P	R	C	Z	I	F	A
E	D	I	B	A	R	T	H	O	L	O	M	E	W	T			
M	H	G	G								S	I	J	T			
E	H	W	Y								I	B	O	H			
Q	P	N	S								M	V	H	E			
P	H	H	I								O	T	N	W			
Q	I	J	W								N	W	B	Y			

Andrew
Bartholomew
James
James Alpheus
John
Judas
Matthew
Matthias
Philip
Simon
Simon Peter
Thaddeus
Thomas

*This includes the 12
original apostles
and the one selected
to take Judas' place.*

COME DOWN IMMEDIATELY (LUKE 19:5)

1 Jesus was passing through which city?	-----	v. 1
2 A man was there whose name was	-----	v. 2
3 The man was wealthy and also a	-----	v. 2
4 Whom did he want to see?	-----	v. 3
5 Being a short man he could not see because of the	-----	v. 3
6 His best plan was to climb this tree	-----	v. 4
7 As Jesus came near what did he do?	-----	v. 5
8 And he said to Zacchaeus 'Come down	-----'	v. 5
9 Zacchaeus obeyed and welcomed Jesus	-----	v. 6
10 As Jesus went home with Zacchaeus the people began to	-----	v. 7
11 Saying 'He has gone to be the guest of a	-----'	v. 7
12 But Zacchaeus addressed Jesus as	-----	v. 8
13 He promised to give half of his possessions to these people	-----	v. 8
14 Anybody he had cheated, he would pay back four times the	-----	v. 8
15 What did Jesus say had come to his house?	-----	v. 9
16 And who was Zacchaeus a son of?	-----	v. 9
17 And who did Jesus come to seek and save?	-----	v. 10

September's answer: 77 units

What is wild land?

There's a little patch behind our house which we refer to as our "wildlife garden". That's a bit of a joke, really, because it's just a bit of overgrown lawn with a few weeds popping through. However, it does seem to attract some wildlife, judging by the interest shown by the neighbourhood cats.



On a larger scale, the same could be said for the embankments of the Old Deeside Line, home to many more species than I can count.

In fact, there's no land in Aberdeen which could be said to be properly wild, as it has all been modified by man over many centuries.

If we think of the whole of the Dee and Don valleys, it's pretty much all farmland, forestry or built-up. Even the few pockets of ancient woodland have been managed at one time or another.

Up into the hills, and we find the trees and grassland thinning out. This is the domain of carefully managed shooting estates, with stalking paths and bulldozed tracks criss-crossing the hills.

Finally, up at Munro height (3,000 feet), the land is virtually bare. But can even this be truly wild, with the occasional hill-walkers' path and the odd shelter or cairn on most summits?

The big question is, when does all man's interference with nature stop being a good thing and start to be harmful? There's no easy answer, of course, but we are slowly – very slowly – learning.

Maybe we should simply regard the natural world as we would our neighbour and treat it as we would want to be treated ourselves - with respect.

*Alistair Stark, Convenor,
Eco Congregation Committee*



By the time you read this the celebration evenings 26– 29 September for the congregation and community may have been held. These were an opportunity to meet with others in the various Church Districts and Zones; see how the redeveloped buildings look and work; hear from Keith about plans to move forward now that the building work is completed and enjoy a light refreshment.

There are signs already of the potential for new life and energy around our buildings. As organisations move back in to the halls, Keith has detected a palpable spirit of excitement and increased sense of belonging.

Liam Kerr MSP who visited the church in mid September said on Facebook: *"Delighted to visit [Mannofield Church](#) this morning. Great work being done on the building and it's good to see such an ambitious plan coming to fruition, ensuring that they remain at the heart of this community."*

Session has approved the concept of setting up a Community Café in the Centenary Hall and initial investigations are continuing to get the right model:

1. To see Mannofield Church at the Heart of the Community by **bridging the gap** between Church and Community.
2. To **provide a venue for people within the community** to gather and foster mutually supportive relationships.
3. To **better serve those vulnerable groups** by providing a venue for meeting/gathering and therefore tackling problems associated with feelings of isolation.
4. To provide a venue of appropriate fresh style for **enhanced mission/teaching and worship initiatives** e.g. Café Church, Alpha, Parents classes, discussion evenings, speakers etc.

An application has been submitted to the Church of Scotland's *Go For It* fund to assist with start up and running costs. A trust has already indicated that it will pump prime this project.

Designs of Door Panels "Land and Sea"

The two glass panels in the doors leading from the vestibule to the Sanctuary were designed by Fraser Beaton a former Elder of the church who has now retired to the Borders.

The panel pictured here shows the original Church of Mannofield (Chapel of Ease) set alongside the current Church building in new digital form and depicts Land, harvest of cereal – 'Give us each day our daily bread'.

Strawberry fields, for which Mannofield first became nationally famous, surround the Greek symbol Omega, reminding us of the everlasting nature of our faith and the certainty that God is with us till the end of time.





Mannofield Parent & Toddler Group

We are delighted and excited to announce that Mannofield Parent & Toddlers, a parent led group, will be resuming from the end of September in the beautifully refurbished Church.

**Every Monday & Friday morning
10.00 - 11.30 in Mannofield Church.**

Friendly group for babies/toddlers/pre -school and their carers.

Play, craft and song time to finish.

Snack for children and tea/coffee/biscuits and chat for adults.

£1.50 per session per family. All welcome and please spread the word.



Facebook Page - Mannofield Parent & Toddlers.

We were so pleased with the support shown at our first day back at Toddlers. The church has been upgraded beautifully for use as a community hub while sympathetically retaining the character of the original building. Looking forward to many happy mornings to come at Toddlers. Huge thanks from us all.

Cherry Middleton



**Mannofield Church
Balmanno Hall
11am - 3pm**

**Saturday 1 October
and
Saturday 5 November
Sale of good quality
second hand goods:**

**Household items: Bric a Brac
Clothing: Accessories: Toys etc**

We need bags, people to sell and strong arms to carry things to the hall.

If you can help please contact Jane Harper
☎ 01224 315144

Time Capsule

We are still looking for items.

If you have any thoughts about what should be included in the collection then please contact: Roddy McColl

roddy@mccollassociates.com

☎ 01224 313473



LADIES SUMMER BRIDGE CLUB 60 YEARS YOUNG

The summer bridge club reached its 60th anniversary this year and on Monday 12th September 42 ladies celebrated with a happy evening at the Gordon Highlanders Museum. The hospitality was excellent and we thoroughly enjoyed a 2 course meal with cake.

We did manage to play some bridge after dinner but there was too much fun and laughter for the hands to be taken seriously.

The club has had several venues over the years but we have been at Mannofield since 1989. Due to the renovations we had to use alternative premises but are looking forward to returning next year to playing in the beautiful Balmanno Hall.

The membership was full this year but we will have spaces next year.

Please get in touch if you would like to join - sorry no tuition.

Aileen Cruickshank,
President

☎ 01224 318935



CHURCH CONTACTS



Minister	Rev Keith Blackwood	kblackwood@churchofscotland.org.uk	01224315748
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Church Officer	Nick Youngson	nick.youngson@gmail.com	01224322239
Session Clerk	Bob Anderson	Nnikibob@aol.com	01224743484

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

Deaths

6 Aug: Mrs Louise Morrice
 22 Aug: Mrs May MacDonald
 2 Sept: Mrs Isabella Dunbar
 5 Sept: Mr Forbes Main
 14 Sept: Mrs Betty Thomson



The late Rev John F. Anderson

The family of the Rev John F. Anderson are deeply grateful to all those who sent cards and messages, phoned or came to visit him during his last illness. All your prayerful support was a great comfort and source of strength to him, enabling him to bear a difficult situation with tremendous courage and unwavering faith.

Elizabeth, Duncan and Andrew would also like to thank those who have supported them in many different ways since John's passing, including the generous donations which enabled us to pass on just over £1500 each to Cancer Research and Macmillan support services. We feel very blessed to have received such support, and can only offer you our heartfelt thanks.

MANNOFIELD GUILD

8 October - Autumn Rally,
 Queen Street Church
 2pm

11 October - Neil Cooney *Div ye mine?*

25 October - Michael Hodgson
What's happening at the Art Gallery?

8 November – Laura Walker
Gentle Exercise



RETIRING COLLECTION 13 NOVEMBER

On Sunday 13 November there will be a retiring collection for "Poppy Scotland".



Mannofield Church Lunch Club



20 October

Lunch is served at 1pm

Entertainment 2 - 3pm

**Come and join us in our
 refurbished premises**

A cup of tea before you leave!
 Cost -- £5

Need transport?

Contact: Lynn Allan
☎ 01224 323206

We look forward to welcoming our regular patrons and meeting new ones.



ABERDEEN

Queen's Cross Church

38 Albyn Place, AB10 1YN

22nd October 2016

11am - 3pm

Come and join us 'On the Road' as we discuss together and share information about the future shape of the Church, its ministry and its discipleship.

'On the Road' is about listening and responding to the thinking, experiences and questions of participants from local congregations all over Scotland.

These events are an open invitation to everyone connected with the Church. Whether you are a regular worshipper, or an occasional attender; whether you take a leadership role in your local Church or simply drop in from time to time – 'On the Road' wants to hear from you. We want to hear from folks from every background and every congregation: don't leave it to someone else – come and have your say!

Find out more and book a place to be part of the conversation!

<http://churchofscotland.eventbrite.com>

Lunch will be provided.



The Church of Scotland