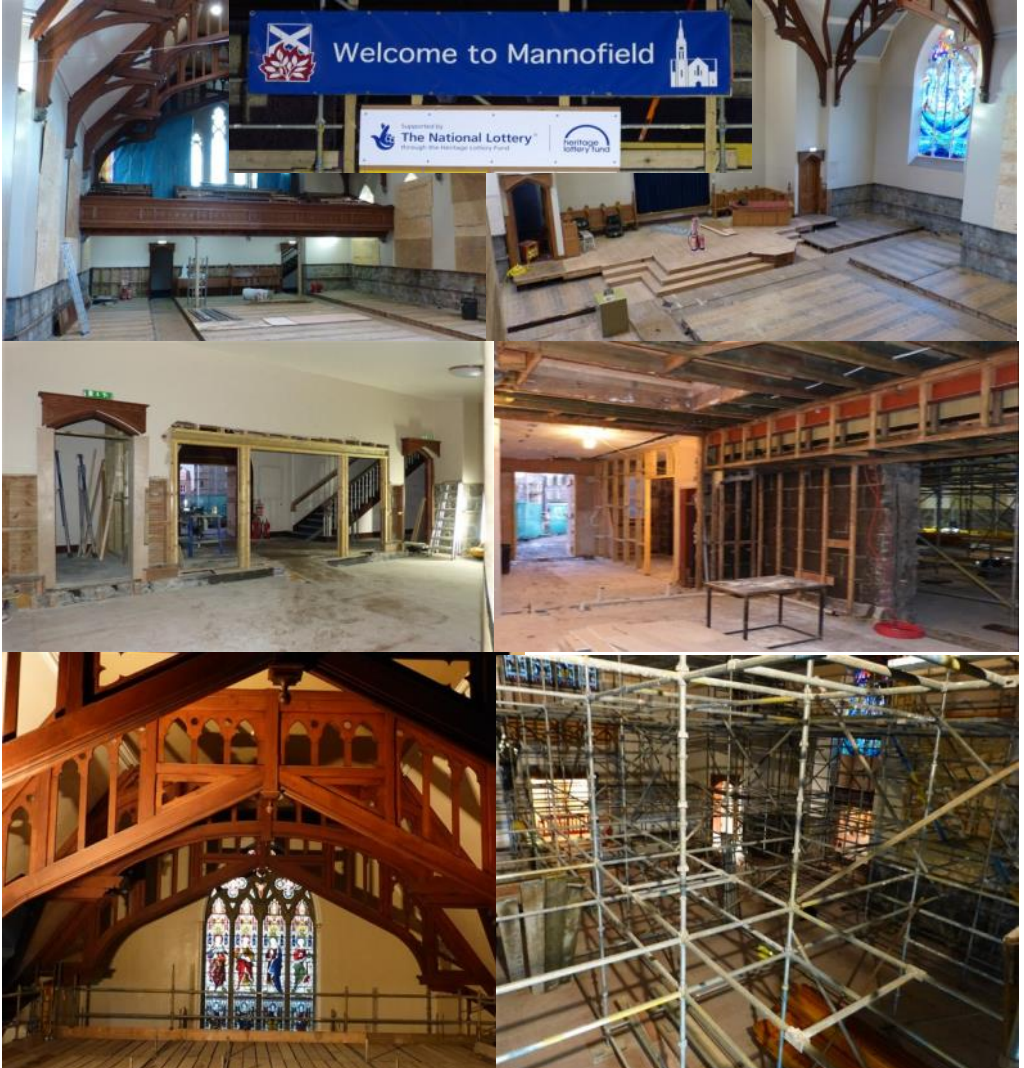




MINI INSPIRE



MANNOFIELD CHURCH of SCOTLAND

Scottish registered charity SC 001680

www.mannofieldchurch.org.uk

**Message from Keith
Who? What? Why? Where?
When? How?!**



I don't suppose in reality it matters the order in which these words are written down, or indeed in what precise order we undertake the activity of *thinking and planning and doing* that sometimes takes place under the banner of such headings.

In the Church Year, we enter into the period of Lent and it is to be used as a time of reflection and self-challenge. Like New Year reflections and resolutions perhaps - but much more based on the commands of God to live as His people as we find it in our Faith stories.

These headings above are also similar to the template under which the Kirk Session is reviewing our congregational life at present. As we prepare for entry into the refurbished building there is a lot to consider and for which to plan.

It is said that, ***'every ending is a beginning, and every beginning an ending'***. I think this is quite true for us.

Once focus on the building project comes to an **end**, a new focus will **begin**. We need to assess the direction that we want to take in order to shape and grow our congregational life in the future. We want to make good on the potential we have of a completely different and flexible building to use and to share.

I have already prepared a few documents that we have been reflecting on in committees and at Session. These set out the way I see things at present and also include some ideas to be explored for the future.

As we progress we will take up some of these ideas and that will of course see an end to some old priorities as new ones are established. With progress towards our new **beginning**, comes an **end** to some of those things that might hold us back from getting to where we feel we need to travel.

It is an exciting and important time. In the coming months I will be busy with others exploring the possibilities that are before us

Please continue to pray for God's Wisdom to be upon Mannofield and also that you and others in the congregation will be given insight into how you can help in the new congregational life that awaits.

We commit the future to you Lord Jesus.
You have called us, we are your people.
Open our eyes to see where you are leading.
Open our ears to hear what you are saying.
Open our minds to dreams and visions.
Open our hearts to worship, love and service,
This day and all days. Amen.



Martha, sister of Lazarus and Mary,
from very close to west window
See bottom left photo on cover!

Creative Worship Group

As we enter the Season of Lent we take the opportunity, during the weeks to Easter, to reflect on: our personal circumstances and faith, the world and its condition, the church and her role and many other areas in our lives.

In our worship we will bring a 'Question Mark' into our space to allow us over these weeks to focus on questions such as:

'Who do you think you love?', 'Who do you think you are?', 'What do you think you own?', 'What is it worth?', 'What awaits?', 'What next?' and 'How do we go on?'

Together with this visual stimulus there are other elements the Creative Worship Group will bring to worship in February and March.

These will not only add variety and flavour to our worship time, but also point us in the direction of the destination that the companion texts of the day seek to lead us to, through the teaching of God's Word for us in our time.



Development News

The construction work has reached a very busy and exciting stage. The internal alterations/ layout of the building are nearly completed. Bird cage scaffold (front cover bottom right photo) has been erected in the sanctuary thus allowing the strengthening plates to the rafters to be installed.

High level decoration will be commencing soon and the steeple strip out work is progressing.

The toilets at the rear of the centenary hall have been demolished and the rebuild work is progressing to create the new kitchen and meeting rooms both where the stage was situated and in the space above it.

The external roof work has commenced. However the progress is determined by the weather!

GIFT AID Church members are generally aware of the benefits of a Gift Aid declaration which allows the

giftaid it

Church to claim from the government an uplift equal to 25% of their offerings/donations. Also, those who pay tax at a rate above Basic Rate can achieve a reduction in their personal tax bill by making such a declaration and entering the details in their Tax Return.

HMRC has recently changed the wording of the Gift Aid declaration. Those making such a declaration from now on are required to acknowledge that, if the total Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax that they have paid in a tax year is less than the amount of Gift Aid on all their charitable donations in that year, then they have a responsibility to repay to the government the amount of the shortfall.

This has always been the case and applies equally to all Gift Aid declarations, old and new. **However, if one's existing Gift Aid declaration is still valid, there is *no need to make a new one.***

Voluntary Service Aberdeen

the best of care

Thanks to all who contributed to VSA at our Christmas service. A total of £361.03 was donated to this worthy cause.

OBITUARIES

Obituaries for Alistair Macdonald and Arthur McCombie will appear in the Easter edition of InSpire.

CHURCH CALENDAR

FEBRUARY/MARCH

Sun 7 Feb	10am	Morning Worship
Wed 10	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 14	10am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Café Church
Wed 17	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 21	10am	Morning Worship
Wed 24	10.30am	Midweek Service
Sun 28	10am	Morning Worship
	3.15pm	Craigielea
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Wed 2 March	10.30am	Midweek Service Lent Series
Sun 6	10am	Morning Worship Sacrament of Communion

Pastoral Care Group

The Pastoral Care Group has been fortunate to have had Jean Anderson as its convener for the past few years, as well as a loyal group of volunteers who meet a variety of needs within the congregation and beyond. Grateful thanks are due to Jean for all her hard work.

Due to the ongoing development work we will postpone our annual meeting, usually held in March, but look forward to arranging this later in the year.

Please contact Lesley Reid (01224 867874) or Jacqui Jamieson(01224 313556) if you feel the group can be of help or if you would like to join us. You would be most welcome.

Flower Calendar

FEBRUARY

- 7 Mrs E Thain
- 14 Mrs A Dyce
- 21 Mrs C Strachan
- 28 Misses M & R Archibald



MARCH

- 6 Mrs A Thompson
(Miss Youngson's legacy)
- 13 Mrs J Anderson
- 20 Mrs M Craighead
- 27 Mrs R Robertson

Mannofield Guild Meetings

2 and 16 February



Congregational Register

Disjunctions:

Mr and Mrs McAndrew
Mrs Jessie Sandison
Mr and Mrs A. Urquhart

Deaths:

Mrs Audrey Hall, 30 November
Mr Brian Jappy, 30 November
Mr Arthur McCombie, 4 December

Change of Address:

Mrs Jean Campbell

MANNOFIELD CHURCH OFFICE

New opening times

OPEN: Monday, Wednesday,
Thursday 9am-12 noon

CLOSED: Tuesdays and Fridays

Please note new email addresses

Minister Keith Blackwood

kblackwood@churchofscotland.org.uk

Parish Assistant Phil Gunn

pgunn@churchofscotland.org.uk

NOTE

The deadline for the
EASTER Parish InSpire is
11 FEBRUARY