

Kirk News

Meldrum Bourtie

February / March 06

Dear friends,

Throughout the Bible there is a strong sense of God's lordship over time. Before the birth of Jesus, God's people looked back to the time of the Exodus from Egypt and arrival in the Promised Land, and forward to the day when God would act to save his people. When Jesus came into the world this was a time of *Kairos*. In the New Testament the Greek word *Kairos* means 'the appointed time in the purpose of God', the time when God acts. In Mark ch.1 vs.15, for example, when Jesus said "The time has come" he was saying 'the Kairos is fulfilled'. E. C. White, in his *Kaironomia* states that in rhetoric, *kairos* is "a passing instant when an opening appears which must be driven through with force if success is to be achieved" (p13).

In many ways 2006 is a moment of *KAIROS* for Meldrum & Bourtie Parish Church. We have come to a point of challenge and opportunity - a time to act. What do I mean by this? Well, while we are part of an active church with much going on in different spheres we are also aware that there are elements of the life of our town that we barely connect with, if at all; there are people of all ages who need our friendship – and more importantly the friendship of Jesus Christ our Lord – who have no idea what the Church is



**Meldrum & Bourtie
Parish Church**



www.meldrum-bourtiechurch.org

really about, or who Jesus really is. The challenge for us is how we move on from here. How do we open the church (not just the building) up to be wholly accessible, extremely inviting, and a place (and a people) to which folk want to come for answers, friendship, excitement and sanctuary. How do we communicate with the young? How do we better care for the elderly and infirm? How do we support men and women through the stresses of work and life? How do we nurture faithful people and raise-up role models for our community and society? What sort of platform (including church buildings) might we need in the future from which to set about and develop these tasks?

A time of *Kairos!* A time of challenge; a time of opportunity; an exciting time; a time to be involved. I hope you're up for the challenge and want to be part of the solution. If you haven't been to church for a while (or at all) what a great time to join us!



Your friend,
Hugh O'Brien

Contacts

Name	Position
Rev. Hugh O'Brien	Minister
Jim Walker	Session Clerk
Mrs Mary Dow	Board Clerk
Mrs Marian Philip	Treasurer
Mrs Eileen Arthur	Gift Aid Convenor
Mrs Winnie Reid	Roll Keeper
Mrs Alison Milton	Rock Solid
Mrs Pat Patrone	Quest
Focus Groups:	
Billy Dalzell	Outreach & Communication Group
Mrs Ray Walker	Pastoral Care Group
Charlie Simpson	Worship Group



The Guild

On Monday 28 November the Guild held a St Andrews Night which was an open meeting when a good attendance of members and visitors enjoyed an evening which started with a stovie supper followed by entertainment by the St Andrews Church Choir from Inverurie who entertained us with songs, recitations and humorous stories. During the interval tea and shortbread were served. A good night's entertainment was enjoyed by all who attended.

Monday 12 December brought us once again to the Christmas Party. A large turnout of members and guests from the Kirk Session and the Congregational Board enjoyed an evening which started with a buffet supper and was followed by entertainment from the "The Glee Club" which is part of Inverurie Rotary Club. Different styles of music including Christmas carols were enjoyed by everyone and the evening was deemed a great success.

The first meeting of the New Year was held on Monday 9 January when an afternoon meeting found the ladies of the Guild busy knitting. Winnie Reid encouraged everyone to knit squares to be sent to the Queen Mary's Fund where they will be used to make articles to be distributed to various charities. There was also a quiz to keep members on their toes and two members had brought along "taste and try" recipes.

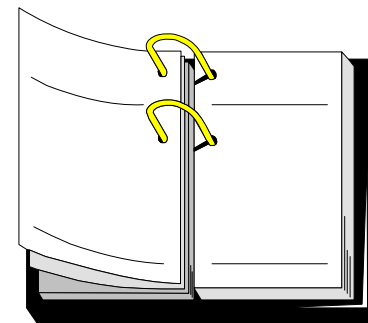
Shoe Box Appeal

A letter of thanks has been received from New Hope Trust for the 235 boxes and also the donations towards transport expenses. They appreciate the work that goes into making the parcels and asks us to convey sincere thanks to all those involved in the effort. We also add our thanks to all who responded once again to this very worthwhile appeal, including the young people at the Academy.

Information Supplement

Dates for your Diary

Date	Place	Time	Remarks
February			
1 st Wed	Meldrum Church Hall	11am	Wed AM service
	Meldrum Church Hall	7.30pm	Bible Study Group
5 th	Bourtie	9.45am	
	Meldrum	11am	Family Service
	Meldrum	6.30pm	Power Praise
12 th	Meldrum	11am	
	Wyverie Court	2pm	Transport available
13 th Mon	Meldrum Church Hall	2pm	Guild
15 th Wed	Meldrum Church Hall	11am	Wed AM service
	Meldrum Church Hall	7.30pm	Bible Study Group
19 th	Bourtie	9.45am	Informal Communion following service
	Meldrum	11am	Thinking Day
	Meldrum	6.30pm	Power Praise
26 th	Meldrum Church Hall	10am	Alternative Service
	Meldrum	11am	Informal Communion following service
27 th Mon	Meldrum Church Hall	7.30pm	Guild – Talk NHS24



Dates for your Diary

Date	Place	Time	Remarks
March			
1 st Wed	Meldrum Church Hall	11am	Wed AM service
	Meldrum Church Hall	7.30pm	Bible study group
3 rd Fri	Meldrum Church Hall	7pm	World Day of Prayer
5 th	Bourtie	9.45am	
	Meldrum	11am	Family Service
	Meldrum	6.30pm	Power Praise
12 th	Meldrum	11am	
	Wyverie Court	2pm	Transport available
	Westbank Home	2.45pm	
13 th Mon	Meldrum Church Hall	7.30pm	Guild Open Night Coffee Evening / Sales Table
15 th Wed	Meldrum Church Hall	11am	Wed AM service
	Meldrum Church Hall	7.30pm	Bible study group
19 th	Bourtie	9.45am	
	Meldrum	11am	
	Meldrum	6.30pm	Power Praise
26 th	Meldrum Church Hall	9.45am	Alternative Service
	Meldrum	11am	Mothering Sunday <i>(Remember Clocks forward)</i>
April			
2 nd	Bourtie	9.45am	
	Meldrum	11am	Jean and Susannah
	Meldrum	6.30pm	Power Praise
5 th Wed	Meldrum Church Hall	11am	Wed AM service
	Meldrum Church Hall	7.30pm	Bible study group
9 th	Meldrum	11am	Palm Sunday
	Wyverie Court	2pm	Transport available
	Westbank Home	2.45pm	
10 th Mon	Meldrum Church Hall	7.30pm	Guild Talk – Tear Fund AGM Sunshine Bags to be returned please.

Meldrum Church Duty Rota						
Date	Door			Finance		Flowers
Feb						
5 th	Mrs A Milton	Mrs E Falconer	L Stevenson	F Sinclair	Mrs L Niven	Miss H Webster
12 th	Mrs L Reid	A Dobson	Mrs Bousefield	Mrs M Philip	A McCartney	Mrs J Sands
19 th	C Donald	K Millar	Mrs A McLean	S Hill	Mrs E Oliver	Mrs M Fowler
26 th	Mrs M Green	Mrs D Davidson	Mrs S Simpson	G Stephen	Mrs A McLean	Mrs C Penman
Mar 5 th	Mrs P Patrone	Ms S McDermid	Mrs A Milton	C Donald	Miss E Hourston	Mrs Niven
12 th	Mrs I Dunbar	Mrs W Reid	A Gunn	Mrs L Niven	Mrs MacDonald	Mrs B Webster
19 th	Mrs M Dow	Mrs McCartney	A McCartney	C Donald	Miss E Hourston	Mrs M Spence
26 th	Mrs MacDonald	J Sleigh	Mrs I Reid	B Reid	Ms S McDermid	--- Spare ---
Apr 2 nd	Mrs S Simpson	Mrs L Reid	Mrs P Patrone	S Hill	G Smith	Miss E Hourston
9 th	Mrs A Gartly	Mrs B Webster	A Dobson	Miss E Hourston	Mrs W Reid	Ms S McDermid
	Bourtie Duty Rota					
Date	Door		Flowers			
Feb 5 th	G Stephen	I Peddie	Mrs M Green			
19 th	Mrs M Green	G Stephen	Mrs D Duff			
Mar 5 th	G Stephen	Mrs M Green	Mrs H Manson			
19 th	I Peddie	Mrs Bousefield	Mrs M Green			
Apr 2 nd	Mrs M Green	G Stephen	Mrs M McKay			

HOSPITAL TRANSPORT

This is a service we provide to take hospital visitors to Aberdeen on Wednesdays, the Inverurie area, including Blythwood, Port Elphinstone and Badenscoth, Rothienorman on Thursdays at request of passengers.

Prospective visitors should phone the volunteers on duty between 6pm & 7pm on the day before their chosen run. If for any reason you have difficulty in contacting the volunteers phone: Mrs M. Green on 01467 620401, Mrs M. MacDonald on 872216, or Mrs R Richardson on 872307.

Further volunteers for this list would be very welcome.

Aberdeen 2pm – 5pm	Month	Date	Volunteer
	February	1 st	Mr T Fryers
		8 th	Mr K Webster
		15 th	Mr A McCartney
		22 nd	Mrs M MacDonald
	March	1 st	Mrs M Simmers
		8 th	Mr A Donald
		15 th	Mrs M McKay
		22 nd	Mr G Silver
		29 th	Mr A McCartney
April	5 th	Mrs M Simmers	

Inverurie 2pm – 4pm	Month	Date	Volunteer
	February	2 nd	Mrs R Richardson
		9 th	Mrs R Richardson
		16 th	Mrs M Murray
		23 rd	Mrs F Emslie
	March	2 nd	Mr W Dow
		9 th	Mrs M MacDonald
		16 th	Mrs F Emslie
		23 rd	Mrs M Murray
		30 th	Mrs M McKay
April	6 th	Mrs F Emslie	

Prayer Calendar



February 2006		
Week 1	Own Church	Pray for those who are ill, in hospital or have been bereaved. Let them feel cherished.
	Presbytery	Pray for the work of the congregation of Culsamond and Rayne, linked to Daviot and for Rev. Mary Cranfield, their minister.
	World Issues	The Holocaust Memorial Day has just passed but the descendants who lived with loss every day can be remembered in our prayers.
Week 2	Own Church	Pray for our whole church family, young and old that each one has their needs met and feels special.
	Presbytery	Remember and pray for all those who care for and look after elderly and infirm people in our area. Give thanks for their patience and for all those who visit.
	World Issues	Pray for all those children and elderly people in countries where they have to work to eat and have no security.
Week 3	Own Church	Pray for the groups who use our Church Hall including the Rainbows, Brownies, Toddlers, the Sunday Club and teenagers.
	Presbytery	Remember the Ellon congregation, their Outreach Church Centre and their minister. Pray for their continued work.
	World Issues	Pray for the families in Pakistan who have lost their shelter and communities and for the Aid workers to continue their help.
Week 4	Own Church	Pray for all the members of our congregation whose work is connected with the land. Keep them safe and healthy.
	Presbytery	Remember those congregations seeking a minister and leader. Send them a shepherd to guide them.
	World Issues	Pray for all people in the world who are burdened and full of woe. Bring them peace, love and understanding.



Prayer Calendar

March 2006		
Week 1	Own Church	Pray for those members of our congregation who work away from home. Keep them safe in your care.
	Presbytery	Remember the people of Insch, Leslie, Premnay and Oyne congregations and the Rev. Jane Taylor.
	World Issues	Pray for the communities in Asia and America working to rebuild after the Tsunami and the floods. Be with them in their efforts.
Week 2	Own Church	Celebrate the work of Fair Trade at the beginning of Fair Trade fortnight for the opportunity it brings us to help practically.
	Presbytery	Remember all the churches in our Presbytery and pray that their efforts to support others and be charitable bear fruit.
	World Issues	Pray for all those involved in Fair Trade projects and initiatives throughout the world.
Week 3	Own Church	Pray for those who are hurt and deeply sad at the news of conflict and anger in the world. Bring them hope of a new tomorrow.
	Presbytery	Pray for Alan Greig and the congregation and people of Kintore. Uplift and support them in their witness.
	World Issues	Pray for the softening of the hearts and changing of mindsets of those involved in terrorism.
Week 4	Own Church	Give thanks for all the hard working mothers and grandmothers in our lives.
	Presbytery	Pray for support and guidance in decision making and planning for all members of our Presbytery.
	World Issues	Pray for the health and welfare of all mothers as we reach Mothering Sunday and give thanks for their love and care.

Pakistan Earthquake Appeal

£460 has been sent to Christian Aid – the proceeds of the offerings at the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. Sincere thanks to everyone who gave so generously.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK – SUNDAY 14TH TO SATURDAY 20TH MAY

Please put the above dates in your diary.

We are planning to hold our usual Thrift Shop on Thursday 18th to Saturday 20th, along with the Soup and Bread Lunch, Cake, Candy and Produce.

Since Smartie Tubes are no longer available, Tube Savers are to be distributed as an alternative, and will be available at the Church Service on 5th February or from Dorothy at Meldrum Motors. We hope you will fill them as usual with 20ps, although we think that they will accommodate all coins – but they are yet to be made as I write this!! If you wish to save your 20ps in any other container that's great – all will be most welcome.

Full details of all our plans in the next issue of Kirk News – so watch this space.

Baptism

Greg Thomson Mathers

22nd January 2006

Deaths

Mrs Elsie Cooper	Garioch Nursing Home, Inverurie	
	Previously 7 Provost Drive, Oldmeldrum	2 nd December 2005
Mr Alexander David	7 Park Crescent	10 th December 2005
Mr Brian Melville	East Cattie	11 th January 2006

News of Mission Partners

In the Old Folk's Home Alastair and Mary Morrice visit in Kyrgyzstan an old lady asked for a dog. She wasn't asking for a real dog, but for a soft toy dog, which she could hold and cuddle. She is one of the folk who may have been abandoned by family. Some of those folk fought in the Second World War and many have no one to visit them and are very depressed. Kyrgyzstan as a whole is more secure nowadays and our partners ask us to pray for their work in a country where there is still a great deal of poverty. It is hoped that they will visit us again next summer.

ALTERNATIVE SERVICE

Meldrum & Bourtie Parish Kirk invite you to their Alternative Service in the Church Hall, Oldmeldrum on the last Sunday of the month. Services normally start at 10am unless otherwise stated.

We look forward to welcoming you.

The next two services will be on 26th February and 26th March

The Alternative Service is a complementary service which takes place on an informal basis in the Church Hall rather than the Church.

The band 'Reachout' play for us every month and there is always a short talk and plenty of song in this short service.

All items for the April / May 2006 issue of Kirk News should be in the hands of the Editor by Sunday, 19th March 2006.
If you know of anyone who does not normally receive Kirk News and would like to, please contact the Editor, Simon Hill.



Rotary Club of Oldmeldrum

Santa and his elves would like to say a big thank you to the children of all ages who supported them when they visited in December. Over £2084.24 was collected overall from Oldmeldrum and the surrounding villages. All the money collected will go to local charities and to other good causes.

Some more news about the Art & Music Festival planned for March. The final of the Young Musician will take place in Meldrum Academy on Wednesday 15th March at 7.p.m. Come and hear the wonderful talent of young people in this area.

On Friday 18th Methlick Scouts will be hosting an event for young local bands and for adults there will be an Open Mic at Morris's Hotel Oldmeldrum Singers, musicians, comedians, magicians etc if you have a talent you want to share come along and entertain the audience, or come and be entertained admission is free.

On 17th & 18th there will be a photography competition and display at Glen Garioch Distillery Visitor Centre The photographs should have a theme of "Faces and Places of Oldmeldrum and its Environs" .Forms with details and conditions of entry will be available locally or see our web site for details.

On the 18th we have arranged a photography workshop, a children's art workshop and an art workshop for adults. In the evening there will be Ballroom and Latin American Dancing at Lochter and on Sunday afternoon at the Redgarth a "jamming session" where musicians will be welcome to come and join in playing for fun

Look out for posters and leaflets with more information about this exciting Art & Music festival or visit our web site on www.oldmeldrumrotary.freeserve.co.uk

We hope you will come along and enjoy these events