



## Thank You For The Music!



On Sunday 20th May, Martin paid tribute to Jane Miller who has been organist for 35 years and Session Clerk for 10 years. (See also, the Minister's Letter inside.)

## Queen's Badges Awarded

The 57th Display and Awards Night was held in the church on Thursday 17th May, 2018. The Inspecting Officer was Mr Fraser Dunphy from The Dalitso Project and Mrs Sheila Dunphy presented the prizes. Opening worship was conducted by Euan Robb and Andrew Murphy our Vocational Volunteers.

After the inspection for all sections, the Anchor boys entertained with two poems - Humpty Dumpty and Jeannie Deans. The Junior Section gave a drama about the Lord's Prayer and the Company Section invited 'Parents to Parade' - a drill item. A report was given of the year's work in Anchor section by O.I.C. Mrs Sharon Jamieson before awards were given out. Best Boy for Anchor Section was awarded to Dylan Cargill.

Mrs W. H. Ewart gave her report about the year's work in the Junior section. Best Boy 1st year - Scott Garden, Best Boy 2nd year - Shaun Cargill, Best Boy 3rd year - Ben Garden. Ben Garden was also the recipient of the Marshall Shield.

Mr Michael Clark, O.I.C. of Company Section gave his report for the year after which the following awards were made. Recruit Shield - Alistair Mullet, Attendance Trophy - Alastair Mullet, Cameron Mullet and Robert Thomson. The Ewan Findlay Memorial Cup went to Tom Christison.

Two Company boys received the highest award in the Boys Brigade - The Queen's Badge. Fraser Fair and Joshua Gall were presented with their Badges and certificates by Mr Fraser Dunphy.

Before the Benediction, a vote of thanks was given by the Chaplain, Rev Martin Fair. After the summer break we will resume all sections again on Thursday 6th September.

Captain W. H. Ewart



Fraser Fair and Joshua Gall with their Queen's Badges

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**ST ANDREW'S ARBROATH****Member Records - May 2018****Baptisms and Blessings** - Annie Masson,  
daughter of Terry  
and Kate.**Wedding** - Jamie McLeod and Paige Smith**Funeral** - Margaret Kemp

Martin and Ian, our pastoral assistant, conducted other funerals though none were of members of our congregation. Nonetheless, we remember the bereaved families in our prayers.

**IMPORTANT DATES****JULY EDITION****Handwritten/typed articles should be handed in to the OFFICE by the FIRST date and NOT to Editor.****Word Processed files, as attachments, can be sent directly to the Editor or via office by second date.****Please DO NOT embed articles in an email as these then need additional formatting work.**

Friday 15th June (Written/preferably typed)

Tuesday 19th June (Word-Processed file)

**Service Core Group****Eco tips****Use a pressure cooker**

This is a terrific way to save time, money, and energy all at the same time. Pressure cookers can take up to 70 percent less time (and less energy) to cook a meal, and they're more versatile than one might think: they can make chilli, pot roast, soup, whole chickens, bread—and even desserts!

**Soup Lunches**

The following are planned for this year -

23 Sept Dementia Drop-in Café

28 Oct Dalitso Project

25 Nov Havilah

**SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE****Organisations will alert members when groups resume after holidays or when changes to venues are made.****SUNDAY**

10.15 am – Gathering for prayer.

10.30 am – Choir practice.

11.00 am – Morning service (with short communion on the third Sunday of each month. Tea/coffee after. Creche – up to age 3. Infants – ages 3 to 5.

Juniors – ages 8 and 9. Seniors – ages 10 and 11

Sunday Club – Elaine Fair (873238). Teen Scene – S1 to S2

7.30 to 9.00 pm – Youth Group - Adele Marr (07762 740 317)

**Monday to Friday - 12.00 – Havilah : Drop-in Centre – Community Spirit (434088)****MONDAY**

2.00 pm – Dorothy Dobson Over 50s Exercise Class

6.00 pm – Rainbow Guides – L Hadden (875379)

7.30 pm – St Andrew's Guild : Fortnightly – Shona Kemp (878526)

7.30 pm – Flower Club : Fortnightly – M McIntosh (876993)

**WEDNESDAY**

10.30 am – Midweek Meeting Point – M Fair (873238)

**THURSDAY**

9.30 am – Parent and Toddler Group – M Laidlaw (07840 966 438)

2.00 pm – Friends Club : first Thursdays – J Lonie secretary (07712 538 306)

6.00 pm – Anchor Boys – S Jamieson (431942)

6.00 pm – BB Junior Section – W Ewart (876114)

7.00 pm – Church Prayer Group

7.30 pm – BB Company Section – M Clark (437758)

**FRIDAY**

9.30 am – Coffee morning

**Intimations, changes of address, hall bookings etc., please contact the Church office, Monday to Friday, 9 am to noon and for 15 minutes after Sunday Service, telephone 431135.**

# Martin Fair

June 2018

Dear friends,

On Sunday 20th May, as the closing part of our morning worship, we took some time to make a presentation to Jane and to acknowledge all that she has brought to us in her roles as organist and Session Clerk. That we are losing her from these roles, in these circumstances, is a cause of deep dismay to us all. However, it was, and is, important in the midst of all of this that we do two things - first, that we express to Jane our love for her and our appreciation of her long and loyal service and second, that we thank God for her, acknowledging that the gifts she brought to us were nothing short of gifts of God to her. These two things we were able to do through Sunday's presentation.

Naturally so, it has been very difficult for Jane to even begin to contemplate NOT being at the organ on Sunday mornings to lead our praise. And doubtless there were some things in her role as Session Clerk that she considered to be 'unfinished business', and that ideally she would have brought to satisfactory conclusion. But from our point of view, she has ALREADY earned the tag, 'Well done, good and faithful servant!' And we want her to know that we value her primarily for who she is - our sister in Christ - rather than for the roles she filled and the duties she carried out. This, again, we were able to express through the moments we took to thank her last Sunday.

While Jane wasn't one who regularly spoke of her personal faith, no one should be in any doubt about the deep nature of that faith. I am qualified to testify to that because it was my privilege, as minister, to talk personally with her and to sit with her in prayer. It was faith that carried her through some tremendously difficult times in life - that few know much of - and it has been her faith that has enabled her so courageously to face up to this ultimate challenge. She has been calm and at peace because she has within her the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ. Again, therefore, we say, 'thanks be to God.'

But this I also know, that Jane would say to us now, 'what are you waiting for; there's much to be done!' In other words, she'd be concerned to see us committing ourselves to the advancement of the congregation she so loves and, consequently, to the building of God's Kingdom. Not given to overdoses of sentimentality, she'd want us to be thoroughly practical in making sure that everything is in proper order, fit for purpose for all the challenges that lie ahead.

Perhaps in some ways this is a moment when a certain period in the life of St. Andrew's Church is coming to an end. Jane would, rightly so, encourage us to see that in every ending there is scope for new beginnings. So in thanking God for Jane, we will at the same time be asking of God, 'Lead us, Heavenly Father, lead us.' Where, to what, and how is God calling us in these days? The landscape is so drastically different to the one we knew when, back in 1983, Jane started playing the organ. A changed landscape will demand of us a freshness of approach. The Gospel is unchanging, rock solid, but the way we 'do' Church must always be open to renewal and reform, never petrifying.

In closing, and from a personal point of view, knowing what was coming, I will be forever grateful that Jane remained well enough that on Easter Sunday she led us in the triumphant singing of 'Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son.' Because Jane would want it so, in all of this, let the glory be God's and God's alone.

Thine, Lord, be the glory, now and for ever after.

In love,

Martin

[mfair@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:mfair@churchofscotland.org.uk)

## Martin's Health Update

I'm delighted to say that following many months of seemingly little progress, there now does appear to be light at the end of the tunnel in terms of recovery from my broken elbow and upper arm!

A third operation, to clear continuing areas of infection, took place at the end of April and it seems to have led to greater freedom of movement. Furthermore, I'm now off all painkillers whereas after the second operation I continued

with daily morphine tablets for over five months.

My ongoing treatment is regular doses of strong antibiotics which it is hoped will eradicate the infection altogether or at least minimise it as much as possible. Thereafter, lifelong antibiotic pills are likely to keep any remaining bone infection under control.

It remains to be seen what else, if anything, can be done for the arm in terms of reconstruction but, for now, I'm feeling A LOT BETTER! For your faithfulness in prayer and practical support, I remain extremely grateful and believing that it is indeed making all the difference to me.

## Ask Theophilus

### Question :

In John 7:8, Jesus is quoted as saying to members of his family, 'You go up to this feast, I am not going to the feast, for my time has not yet fully come.' Then verse 10 says, 'But after his brothers had gone up to the feast, then he also went up, not publicly but in private.' Was Jesus being dishonest, saying one thing to his sisters and brothers, then doing what he had said he was not going to do?

### Theophilus answers :

There are two things we need to know in order to understand this seeming contradiction. The first is that here many ancient manuscripts have the Greek word *oupo* meaning 'not yet', while other manuscripts have the Greek word *ouk* meaning 'not'. So in verse 8 which you quote, if the reading 'not yet' is taken, Jesus is saying, 'for my time has not yet fully come'. However, the context makes it clear that even if *ouk* is the correct reading, it also must be the meaning of 'not yet'.

The second thing is that the word 'time' in Scripture can have two rather different meanings. One word *kronos* (from which we get our English word 'chronometer', a clock) often means 'a season'. So when it says in the Gospel, 'the time (*kronos*) for figs had not yet come' (Mark 11:13), the season for figs is meant. However, when it is a specific, very special time, a second word is often used, *kairos*, which can mean 'an appointed time'.

The incident John is writing about was when his brothers and sisters asked Jesus if he would be going with them to the Feast of Booths, one of the great annual festivals held in Jerusalem. They would be going in a 'caravan', trooping along together with donkeys carrying their holiday baggage, sharing in laughter and jollity. However this chapter opens ominously with John telling us Jesus knew that in Judea, the province where Jerusalem was situated, there was a plot to kill him (7:1). Jesus also knew that his *kairos*, his 'appointed time' to be crucified, had not yet come. So that is why he said, in effect, 'I am not yet going up to the festivities. You go without me.'

Then in verse 10 (which your question also quoted), John tells us that Jesus deliberately avoided the festivities of a party of Galileans travelling together, including his own family members - 'he went up, not publicly'. He chose rather to go up 'incognito', as we say, no doubt mingling with other groups not from Galilee, among whom the plotters would not think of looking for him. So John says 'he went up... privately'.

The contrast between *kronos*, the usual season for something normal to happen, and *kairos*, 'the appointed time', is important for all of us. One simple example. Many people have gone to church every Sunday for years; it was the usual thing for them to do. But then one Sunday became for ever different, because it turned out to be for them a *kairos*, 'an appointed time', when the Lord specially met them in a new, living way. That happened to me once and I will never forget it! Has it ever happened to you? **David Searle**

## Weekend of Invitation

Last year, the Church of Scotland agreed that the weekend of June 15-17th, 2018 would be a national 'Weekend of Invitation.' Every congregation has been encouraged to have its members inviting friends on the Sunday AND to plan another event – of any description – that would serve as a good way to build contact with folks from outwith the church.

We have decided on 'Family Fun' event and its taking place on Saturday 16th June, from 2-4pm. It's being designed for families with pre-school and primary-aged chil-

dren in mind. At this time, given the dearth of children and young families across nearly every congregation in Scotland, this seemed a 'no brainer' as far as the planning team was concerned.

In terms of organising the detail of the day, the project was handed over to the same group (principally made up of young adults) which organises our holiday clubs. They've put together what looks like being a GREAT event and we encourage you to pray for its success – that lots of families will come, that lots of fun will be had, and that more bridges will be built between ourselves and those who presently have no dealings with the church and no particular faith.

## Life Moves Fast!

Life moves fast, and it seems to only be getting faster. The VV programme is coming to an end. Soon I will be off to university and it doesn't seem that long ago I came! We have smart phones which can tell us what we want when we want, smart watches and almost infinite ways of communicating with each other. Just turn on the TV and there are more channels than you could ever watch in every different genre. We have so much, the NHS, freedom of speech, endless entertainment and on the weekend my friend deliberately overdosed twice on drugs which were there to help her.

Our world has it all, yet our lives can be so empty. In a world that "has it all" why do some people try to end their lives? For all our advancements in technology we still haven't solved this human condition - we will always have people in need of help. Havilah shows us this so clearly. But it

isn't always visible. Bereavement, depression, and mental illness don't show as easily as a drug addiction and yet those suffering need just as much help.

So often we feel helpless, we feel we can't do anything and sometimes that can be the case. We are not all psychologists and doctors who can understand and know what is going on and the best ways to treat it, but then neither was Jesus and he had the greatest impact on the lives of all he met. He wept with people, mourned with them, celebrated with them and most importantly he loved them, and that is something we can all do. Love is central to our faith - it was for love Jesus died on the cross and it was the one new command he gave his disciples, John 13:34, "A new command I give you: Love one another as I have loved you". You might not be able to preach, or work in Havilah or do youth work but there is one thing you can do, and that is love. Love God and love people.

**Andrew** (Euan is at the General Assembly this week.)

## Youth Work Update

Bible Alive was run in Warddykes Primary School for eight weeks, teaching the children an overview of the Bible through songs, drama, storytelling and much more. The most favoured elements were drama and 'Rhyme and Sign' (BSL set to 10 rhyming couplets summarising the Bible). I cannot tell you how much I enjoyed working with the P6s during these two months. Being accepted by the school and allowed into the classroom was a real privilege especially given the enthusiasm, joy and curiosity the children brought to the sessions.

The questions some of the pupils asked were ones scholars have spent years debating: 'Why doesn't God save everybody?' and 'Where is heaven?' In particular, there was one pupil who will stick in my mind who was full of questions and wanted to be involved in all the dramas. Generally, he has a very low level of ability in school, affecting his attention during lessons, and therefore the teacher was very

pleased to see him so engaged.

Heart and Soul Youth was an event we took some of our Youth Group to on 19th May in Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh. It was a great evening for us to socialise together but also hear great testimony and jump around to LZ7, an electronic dance music group. Whilst it was a late night for us, it was clear to see the journey had been worth it and everyone had a great time.

Finally, there are many 'thank yous' to be said! This will be my last Quest article for a while as I will be beginning my maternity leave during the summer break. Euan and Andrew, I am grateful for your hard work over the last year and wish you both all the best as you continue to serve the Lord. To all those who have given their time, talents or resources over the past three years towards the youth work in the church, I really couldn't have done it without you. And, of course, thank you to the young people who have made the start of my career the inspiring, challenging, exciting time it has been!

Blessings, Adele

## GUILD NEWS

Although we are now on our summer break the new committee has already met to plan next session's syllabus so we're all very busy contacting speakers etc. Joyce McPherson is our new convener and committee members are Jenni Tosh, Pat Jackson, Anne Whyte, Margaret Low, Roberta Brand, Isobel Wright, Pat Mill and Gaynor Scott. This year is the start of our new projects and a Projects Roadshow has been organised for Saturday 26th May when speakers from all six organisations will tell us a bit about

what they do - more about this in the next edition of the Quest. Our Guild trip to Scone Palace is on the 16th of June and our Fish and Chip Supper and DVD evening will be on the 6th of August. The Annual Gathering is on the 1st of September in the Caird Hall, Dundee - this is a fantastic day out so if you've never been, please at least think about it. If you want to know more about any of the above please speak to one of the committee members.

Always remembering -

**"Whose we are and whom we serve"**

## From Tim Mineard

So, here I am now at the end of my second year of University already, and also having completed all my three Church placements. It's amazing how quickly time flies by, although I've still got another two years until I'm ready to be set fully loose on an unsuspecting congregation! As I write this, I've got one more exam left and then one more Sunday at Lawson Memorial Church in Forfar. It's been a great placement with Karen Fenwick, and I've really enjoyed getting to know a great bunch of folk.

Over the summer I'm leading services at a couple of my previous placements and also helping to lead an assault on the national 3 Peaks Challenge. Hopefully I'll also be able to pop back to St Andrew's for a few weeks before starting

Locum work at Letham Parish Church. It looks like being two days per week, a Sunday and one other day, which will run alongside my final year back at University from September. I'm really looking forward to the opportunity, and would very much appreciate your prayers for this new adventure. Please do feel free to pop up one Sunday if you fancy a change of scene - I'm hoping to start at the end of August. As always, we're incredibly thankful as a family for the ongoing support that we receive from so many of you, both financially and spiritually. The ongoing journey towards ordination has its ups and downs, but it's certainly an exciting road to travel and to see God's faithfulness being worked out in our lives. God really does provide when we step out in faith for him, and I'd very much encourage you to consider what God might be calling you to get involved in.

## Dementia Café

A big THANK YOU to everyone who came to our recent Soup Lunch and donated money to the Cafe. Also a big THANK YOU to the Church Guild who kindly remembered us when they were disbursing their funds. The Cafe team have already had a meeting to discuss what we can buy and we have decided that a few more activities would be a good idea.

The Cafe was set up for folk with dementia to come

along with their friends, family or carer to enjoy an afternoon of relaxation and chat. A time to take things easy and enjoy home baking and a cup of tea or coffee. They can compete at the putting, or have a hand massage, do a craft, have a go at flower arranging, or bingo, or look through a 'memory box', or just sit and chat. It is a chance for some to share their worries or even share something that will encourage others. If you know of someone who would appreciate such an afternoon, please think about bringing them to the Cafe, where they will have a warm welcome from our team of volunteers.

## Vocational Volunteers

We're nearing that time of year when we prepare to say goodbye to our volunteers. Sadly, Eveline had to return to The Netherlands at Christmas time but Andrew and Euan have been with us throughout the year and like those who've gone before them, they've contributed lots and consequently will be greatly missed. Their involvement has been varied indeed and all of the experience gained will stand them in good stead in the years ahead.

The great news is that Andrew is starting his Divinity studies at the University of Aberdeen in the autumn and that Euan is going to be working his way through the process that he hopes will see him accepted as a candidate for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament within the Church of Scotland. If we at St. Andrew's have been able to play even a small part in allowing these two fine, young men chart their future steps then we can be glad indeed.

Sad as we will be to see them go at the end of June, we're much saddened too that

the CofS is discontinuing the Vocational Volunteers scheme and that as a result, there will be no more such young men and women coming to do 'gap years' with us. That's going to be a huge miss for us and the gap that we'll be left with will be significant. It also means that we'll have to give up the flat on Townhead Rd where, for these last three years, the young people have been housed. What a great base it was!

To mark the end of this scheme, our service on Sunday 24th June will include an act of thanksgiving and most of the volunteers from over the years will be joining us for that. Of particular note, Chris Palmer – our Yankee cousin! – will preach the sermon on that day. Chris had completed a theology degree before his year with us and he returned to the States to undertake a Master of Divinity degree at Princeton Seminary. He is to serve a summer placement in Northern Ireland and, while there, will be coming over to Scotland for a few days, including an Arbroath stopover.

Chris is a very fine young preacher and you'll want to hear him for sure so we hope for a very busy sanctuary on that Sunday as we say a big 'Thank you' to all of our volunteers. See you there!

## Dalitso Project News

Our annual trip leaves for Malawi on June 9th. A team of four will spend three weeks visiting Thyolo and Kambilonjo catching up with staff, meeting with each of the resident children and spending time in the clinic.

These trips are an important part of the work, with an opportunity to discuss plans with our administrators Kiri and Charles which will shape the fundraising for the coming year. As always a meeting will be set up with the chiefs of the two areas to get feedback on how the centres can best support their communities. We will let you know in the next Quest edition how this trip goes.

Fundraising continues. Next is our Encore concert (Jimmy Gray, John Hayes, Josh Wright, Sara Whitton, Tracy Gibson and our very own Jonathan Milne) being held on -

**Saturday 7th July at 7.30pm.**

It is sure to be a great night for everyone with a range of music and dance on offer from show tunes and opera, to pop and rock. Tickets for this evening are now on sale and it is sure to be a sell out so please do buy early to avoid disappointment. Tickets will be £12 and will include stovies and can be purchased by speaking to Sheila, Jonathan or Doris, emailing us at -

**info@dalitso.org**

or Facebook or by popping in to RS Joinery, Lindsay Street.

Something to look forward to this summer is our -

**Afternoon Tea**

**On Saturday 14th July from 2-4pm.**

**Tickets will be £6.**

Alongside tasty sandwiches, scones and cakes will be a Childhood Teddy Display. If you would like to bring along your teddy, forms will be available two weeks prior to the event which will give you a chance to tell us about your favourite stuffed toy. These will also be available from now until the event by emailing us at the above address.

Charis

## LOOKING AHEAD

### JUNE

**Sunday 3**

**11 am - Worship Service**

**Sunday 10**

**11 am - Worship Service; inc presentation of B.B. Queen's Badges.**

**Sunday 17**

**11 am - Worship Service; inc Sunday Club prizegiving**

**Sunday 24**

**11 am - Worship Service; with guest preacher, Chris Palmer, and thanksgiving for the Volunteer Vocation scheme.**

### JULY

**Sunday 1**

**11 am - Worship Service**

**Sunday 8**

**11 am - Worship Service**

**Sunday 15**

**11 am - - Worship Service**

**Sunday 15**

**11 am - - Worship Service**

**Sunday 29**

**11 am - Worship Service**

### AUGUST

**Sunday 5**

**11 am - Worship Service**

**Sunday 12**

**11 am - Worship Service**

**Sunday 19**

**11 am - Worship Service**

**Sunday 26**

**11 am - Worship Service**

**Midweek services, lasting approx. forty minutes, take place every Wednesday at 10.30am (followed by coffee.)**

**The programme of evening services, including the location of the particular service, is published week by week in the Sunday morning bulletin.**

**(NB. There will be no evening services during the weeks of the summer holidays.)**

## Children and Youth

Whilst it's obvious for all to see that retaining children on Sunday mornings is extremely challenging these days, you should also be aware that there is much that we're doing at other times of the week to advance work in this area. Most of it is properly outreach work, aimed as it is at those who have little or no contact with church.

Annual Easter holiday clubs, with the club this year – Jungle Kids – being written and led by our young adults and older teens and proving to be a great success, with the 'sold out' sign being put up with a couple of days still to go. Holiday Club follow-up - a month after the holiday club, we ran a trip to Murton Farm, near Forfar, and around thirty of the children came to that Saturday afternoon trip. It was a gloriously sunny day and the children had a great time at the park AND feeding and petting the animals! For us it was another wonderful opportunity to further develop the relationships established earlier.

In mid-June, we're hosting a family fun event to build further on these relationships. (See elsewhere in this edition of Quest.)

On that same day as the Murton Farm trip, Adele, our Youth Worker, took members of the Youth Group to Edinburgh for a 'Heart & Soul' youth event, featuring guest speakers and a live performance from the Christian dance

group, LZ7. By all accounts, the youngsters thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Our Messy Church continues on the last Sunday of each month with the majority of the families who come being from beyond the present congregation.

At Warddykes PS, Adele and our volunteers have run a weekly lunchtime club to which a number of girls have come faithfully throughout the year. They've been learning Bible truths, hearing accounts of Christian missions and thinking about how they are valuable as individuals. And, for a six-week block, Adele has a brilliant Scripture Union programme entitled, 'Bible Alive, which the children absolutely loved and which the class teacher was hugely impressed by.

Though not a St. Andrew's project as such, a number of our members continue to lead a Monday night Girls Group which takes place in OBs and which is open to secondary-aged youngsters. This year, again, the group has proved to be a big hit with very healthy numbers attending.

So you'll see from that little snapshot that although we're hardly inundated with children on Sunday mornings, in fact we retain contact with LOTS of children and young people and our collective prayer should be that this work will come to fruition with lots more children and young people finding their way towards a relationship with Jesus.

## Look what the postman brought!

From time to time we receive cards and notes, often expressing gratitude for a way in which our congregation, or a group or individual, has helped them. Here's a few from recent weeks.

The first is the wording from a card received from the Angus Strathspey and Reel Society, which now holds its annual concert in our church:

*'Dear Linda,*

*Just a short note to thank you very much for all your help in the lead up to, and on the day of our annual Fiddler's Rally.*

*The facilities provided by the Church are excellent and your volunteers were so friendly and happy to assist us with even the smallest query – nothing was too much trouble. The catering provided throughout the day was really high quality and certainly set us up for a good concert.*

*Thank you again and we look forward to seeing you again next year.'*

*Kind regards...*

Great to see our facilities being highly regarded but, more importantly, that our staff and volunteers are giving such a positive impression of who we are.

The second is a card, signed by lots of names – each saying 'thank you, so much,' or words to that effect. These

are the names of the members of Carnwadric Church on the South side of Glasgow. Following a break-in and damage caused, our congregation took up an offering and as a result were able to gift £1,260 to this congregation to assist them and, just as importantly, to let them know that they were not alone.

Here's a congregation serving one of the poorest communities in Scotland. We were able to stand with them in partnership in Christ. It is always good to look beyond our own situation.

The third is a card received from a lady, following the death of her father. He had been one of the men who came to our dementia drop-in café.

*'I can only say 'thank you so much' to you all for giving so much to the dementia café at St. Andrew's Church. It certainly meant an awful lot to me that Dad would come out of the café with a big grin on his wee face.*

*I miss Dad so much but now that he has passed I am so thankful to the people that made the last two years a bit easier and enjoyable.*

*Special thanks to Gaynor for her lovely card and beautiful thoughts on behalf of you all. It meant so much on a very difficult day.*

*When I feel better I will pop in to see you all.'*

Here we have one of our newer ministries proving its worth and being warmly appreciated. Long may we continue to serve.

# More in pictures

