

The Presbytery of Lochaber

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Newsletter from Lochaber Presbytery - Spring 2006

Edited by the Presbytery Clerk, Rev David M. Anderson, email: akph62@uk.uumail.com

Congratulations

Congratulations to the Rev Billy and the Rev Alison Burnside on the birth of their daughter, Aoife, on 11th March.

Presbytery Plan

A special meeting of Presbytery, to consider the Proposed Presbytery Plan, is being held in Caol on Tuesday 25th April at 7.00 pm. All the congregations of the Presbytery have been cited to attend for their interest. Members of Presbytery and Session Clerks have already been sent a copy of the Background Report and the draft Plan. Copies are available from the Presbytery web site by clicking on to the "Presbytery Meeting" button and following instructions from there.

Web Site

Our web site continues to grow with additional pages being added. Presbytery minutes and newsletters can now be downloaded. Some congregations have put latest news items on to their page.

The site received over 5000 "hits" in March. The

Clerk would welcome any feedback from these "hits", for example people who attended church as a result of the web site.

Fort Augustus Video

The Oxford-based film and video production company Ignite Creative has named three Christian organisations as winners of a competition to convey a Christian message. The prize is a heavily discounted promotional video.

One winner is the parish church of Fort Augustus. The Minister, the Rev Dr Adrian Varwell, plans to convey the Christian faith using a video that examines the area's dramatic history and also its modern environmental challenges.

Congratulations to all at Fort Augustus.

Nether Lochaber

has recently had an improvement of their sound system and installed data projection for displaying the words of hymns. The installation was undertaken by members of the congregation with advice from the

companies supplying the equipment. It is planned to train teenagers to work the projection system.

Presbyterial Council

dates for the remainder of 2006 are: Wednesday 31 May - Summer Rally at Kinlochleven, 6pm; Tuesday 24 October - Autumn Rally, Duncansburgh, 12noon

Next Moderator

The Presbytery Moderator for next session is to be Mr John Fraser, who is a Reader and who is presently serving as Interim Moderator and locum at Acharacle and Ardnamurchan.

John will be the first elder to be Moderator of Lochaber Presbytery. He will be installed at a service in Duncansburgh Church on 6th June at 6.30 pm.

Lin Ramsay

Lin gave a most interesting report to the March Presbytery meeting on her recent World Mission Council Exposure Tour to Israel/Palestine. The trip, which Lin paid for herself, included a stay in the new hotel which the Church of Scotland has built at Tiberius.

Prayer Section

“Very early on Sunday morning, at sunrise, they went to the tomb. On the way they said to one another, ‘Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?’ (It was a very large stone.) Then they looked up and saw that the stone had already been rolled back. So they entered the tomb, where they saw a young man sitting on the right, wearing a white robe – and they were alarmed.

‘Don’t be alarmed,’ he said. ‘I know you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who has been crucified. He is not here – he has been raised!’

Mark Ch 16 vv 2 – 6 Good News Bible

Almighty God,
through the rising of your Son from the grave,
you broke the power of death
and condemned death itself to die.
As we celebrate this great triumph
may we also make it the model for our living.
Help us to identify in our lives
all that should rightly die –
redundant relationships,
tired habits,
fruitless longings.
Resurrect in our lives faith, hope, and love,
as surely as you raised Jesus Christ
from the grave.

Amen

In Prayer remember:

- With thanksgiving, the Rev Billy and the Rev Alison Burnside on the birth of their daughter Aoife. We remember their other children and all children in our church family. We remember their congregations of Glencoe St. Munda and Duror as they cope while Alison is on maternity leave.
- The charges that are without a Minister - Arisaig linked with Mallaig remembering their Interim Moderator the Rev Richard Corbett, Acharacle linked with Ardnamurchan remembering their Interim Moderator Mr John Fraser and Morvern remembering the Interim Moderator the Rev Archie Speirs.
- John Fraser as he prepares for his term as Presbytery Moderator.
- The Convener of the Presbytery Appraisal and Ministry Committee, the Rev Dr Adrian Varwell, and his committee, as they prepare a plan for our Presbytery for the next ten years.
- Having heard from Mrs Lin Ramsay on her recent trip to Israel/Palestine, we remember in prayer Mrs Gwen Thompson, World Ministry Council employee in St. Andrew’s Guest House, Jerusalem.
- Our Commissioners to the General Assembly in May: Ministers Archie Speirs, Richard Corbett, Ruth Lawson and David Anderson and Elders Tommy Williams, Kathleen Cruickshank, Margaret Livingston and Sallie Parrish.