

The Presbytery of Lochaber

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News from Lochaber Presbytery - Spring 2005



New Moderator

The Presbytery Moderator for the 2005/06 Session will be the Rev Archie Speirs, minister of Kinlochleven linked with Nether Lochaber. He joined us in December 2002 having previously served in a Parish in Paisley. He will be installed in Kinlochleven on 7th June.

Visit by Moderator

The Moderator of the General Assembly will be making a Presbytery visit to us on 16th to 21st June. The Rev David W. Lacy will succeed the present Moderator, Dr Alison Elliot, at the General Assembly in May. The Clerk is presently drawing up a programme of events. It is hoped that the Moderator will conduct morning worship in Mallaig on

19th June. That same evening, Presbytery plans a "Get together" with the Moderator for the whole Presbytery in Duncansburgh Church. Further details to follow.

Arisaig & Mallaig Congregations to link

The Service, to mark the linkage of the congregations of Arisaig & the Small Isles and Mallaig St. Columba's & Knoydart, is to be held in Mallaig Church on Sunday 1st May at 6.00 pm with the reception in the Astley Hall, Arisaig, following the Service. Everyone is invited to attend.

The Rev David M. Anderson will initially become the Interim Moderator. Attempts are being made to secure the services of an Interim Moderator from out with the Presbytery.

Rev Alan Lamb

Alan Lamb is retiring at the end of April. He has served as locum to Arisaig & the Small Isles for eleven years. Over that period, the congregation has seen a remarkable build up of both numbers and enthusiasm.

At the last Presbytery meeting, the Interim Moderator at Arisaig, the Rev James Carmichael, expressed Presbytery's "deep and sincere gratitude" to both Alan and Helen for their ministry and wished them a long and happy retirement.

Jane Petty

Jane, our Missionary Partner, is planning to visit Presbytery in early June. Details from Lin Ramsay.

Christian Aid Week

This year's dates are 15th to 21st May.

Prayer Section from John Maitland

"They will speak of the glory of Your royal power and tell of Your might." Psalm 145. 11

Father God, You are here! Not in the form in which we see each other, but neither as a being we cannot understand. You are the power we recognize in living things, the love we see in people who care for us, and the urge we find coming to us challenging us to discover more about the meaning of life. Heavenly Father, help us to worship sincerely. Help us to be so anxious to find You that we shall recognize Your power, Your love, and the challenge You are constantly making to all Your people. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Give thanks for the Rev. Dr. Adrian Varwell's year of office as Moderator of the Presbytery of Lochaber. His Moderatorial year is memorable for the competent manner in which he led Presbytery's business and especially for the inspiring opening devotions month by month. Here indeed, is a man who reflects the joy of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Please pray that God's richest blessing will be on the Rev. Archie Speirs, the minister of Kinlochleven and Nether Lochaber Parishes, newly elected as Moderator of Lochaber Presbytery. Pray that through the Holy Spirit, Archie may have the wisdom, power, dedication and love that will enable him to accomplish all that is required of him in his Moderatorial year.

Give thanks for the visit of Miss Jane Petty, our missionary partner.

She has been made welcome in all parts of our Presbytery and she has explained the progress of her agricultural work in Mwandi, Zambia, in a delightful way. Jane's four and a half years in Zambia are over, but pray that she receives God's guidance and protection for the future and pray that we shall continue to have information of the work she does on God's behalf

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The Moderator of the General Assembly, the Right Rev. David W. Lacy, and Mrs Lacy, both seemed to thoroughly enjoy their visit to our Presbytery from the 16th to the 21st June. The Moderator is no stranger to the Highlands as he grew up in Inverness, worshipping in Ness Bank Church. Please pray that the rest of his year may be as enjoyable and as successful.

"The church has been entrusted with something every politician on earth would give an arm and a leg to have: the power to see hearts changed" Ed Silvano

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