



CULTS PARISH CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Update from *The Manse* and other news.



LETTER FROM SHUNA

Dear friends,

Things seem to be heading in the right direction. As of Monday we were allowed to do a few more things. I am looking forward to a little more freedom and a good dander round the shops when I can find time!

I am also pleased to announce that the Hub Cafe will be reopening as of the 12th of May. I know how much people appreciated being able to meet friends for a coffee and lunch when we were open in the autumn. Opening hours will be 10am-1pm Wednesdays and Thursdays.

You may have heard that the restrictions on the numbers that can attend worship have been lifted. Whilst this is the case, because of the social distancing required we will still be limited to a capacity of 50.

The Church of Scotland continues to work closely with the Scottish Government and the guidelines on what can and cannot be done are updated regularly. Be assured that as and when activities can start we will be doing all we can to enable that to happen. Sometimes the guidelines seem confusing or even unfair. Why can this happen but not that? The basic answer is mitigation and reducing risk. The Scottish Government has a balancing act to perform. To reduce instances of transmission they have to balance wellbeing and benefit against risk, so if they allow one particular activity they have to say no to something else. Personally I feel that churches have been treated more than fairly. We have been allowed to gather in person for worship, albeit with restrictions, when other groups have not. This is because the government see the benefit to peoples' wellbeing by being able to worship together. Patience is very much what is being asked of us. We will get there and life will feel more 'normal'.

We are going through many changes, indeed we have been doing so for over a year. Not all change is easy, but we do not walk alone through these changing days. We have each other and we have God beside us and in front of us walking the path with us. We should have no fear of what is ahead.

Much love,

your minister and friend

Shuna

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www.youtube.com/c/cultsparishchurch

WORSHIP



Sunday Live can also be watched live or on catch up on our youtube channel. Details below

Other options

ABERDEEN WEST JOINT SERVICE
Each Sunday from 10.30am on the
Aberdeen West Churches YouTube
channel
Click [HERE](#)

Or try our 'DIAL IN' facility!
Call 01224 013222 to listen to an
abridged 30 minute version of our
service. Available from 10.30am every
Sunday. Calls will be charged at a
standard rate or may be free with
inclusive minutes.



EVENING SERVICE
HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday 2nd May at 6.30pm
in the Sanctuary and online.

A short service with
music, readings, poetry, prayer
and time for quiet reflection
culminating with the sharing of
Holy Communion.

Book a seat in the Sanctuary [HERE](#) or Tel 01224 867260
Or join us online at www.youtube.com/c/cultsparishchurch

NOTICES



Join us for coffee
and a chat after
worship on
Sunday
mornings
on Zoom
from 11.15am

Access code:
897 4034 2401
Password: Coffee

[Click Here](#)



BALLOT ON PARISH GROUPING

Church Law demands that the move to a Parish Grouping must be approved formally by each congregation. Normally this would take place at a specially convened congregational meeting following Sunday worship, but current circumstances oblige us to undertake a remote ballot. Answers to the questions we have received since circulating the document, the 'Basis of Grouping' document itself, and the methods of voting are included with the email or paperwork accompanying this newsletter. Responses must be received by 14th May 2021.

G Robertson, Session Clerk

PRESBYTERY NEWS

Aberdeen North Church

On Monday 1st Feb 2021, Aberdeen North Parish Church came into being, with the union of the three churches, Mastrick, Northfield and Summerhill. This was the first grouping outlined in the Presbytery Plan to come together.

They realised that their congregational numbers and the circumstances related to their existing church buildings needed radical action to develop and nurture a new and innovative way of being a church. They chose to come together and become one church and are now known as the 'Aberdeen North Parish Church of Scotland'. The ministers, the Rev Susan Sutherland at Mastrick and the Rev Michael Shewan at Summerhill, have been actively working to bring their congregations together since 2017.

More recently, the Northfield congregation has also been working with the other two congregations to help bring the three of them together as one. The Northfield minister, the Rev Scott Guy, retired at the end of 2020.

Aberdeen and Shetland

The Presbyteries of Shetland and Aberdeen united in July 2020 to form one Presbytery. What was the Presbytery of Shetland became the parish of Shetland. They are commencing Phase 2 of the Presbytery Plan, to reshape the church estate to allow for the renewal and revitalisation of the Church of Scotland in these areas. Phase 1 included the marketing of a number of church buildings. Some have already been sold, offers are pending on some and there is community interest being shown in others. Eleven places of worship will remain in Shetland.

The Church of Scotland has appointed 3 full time ministers and 3 full time support posts to bring about these changes and plan for the future.



VACANCY

Cults Playgroup are recruiting a new manager. Full details can be found [HERE](#)

Application forms available from: chair.cultsplaygroup@gmail.com

Closing date: 6th May 2021