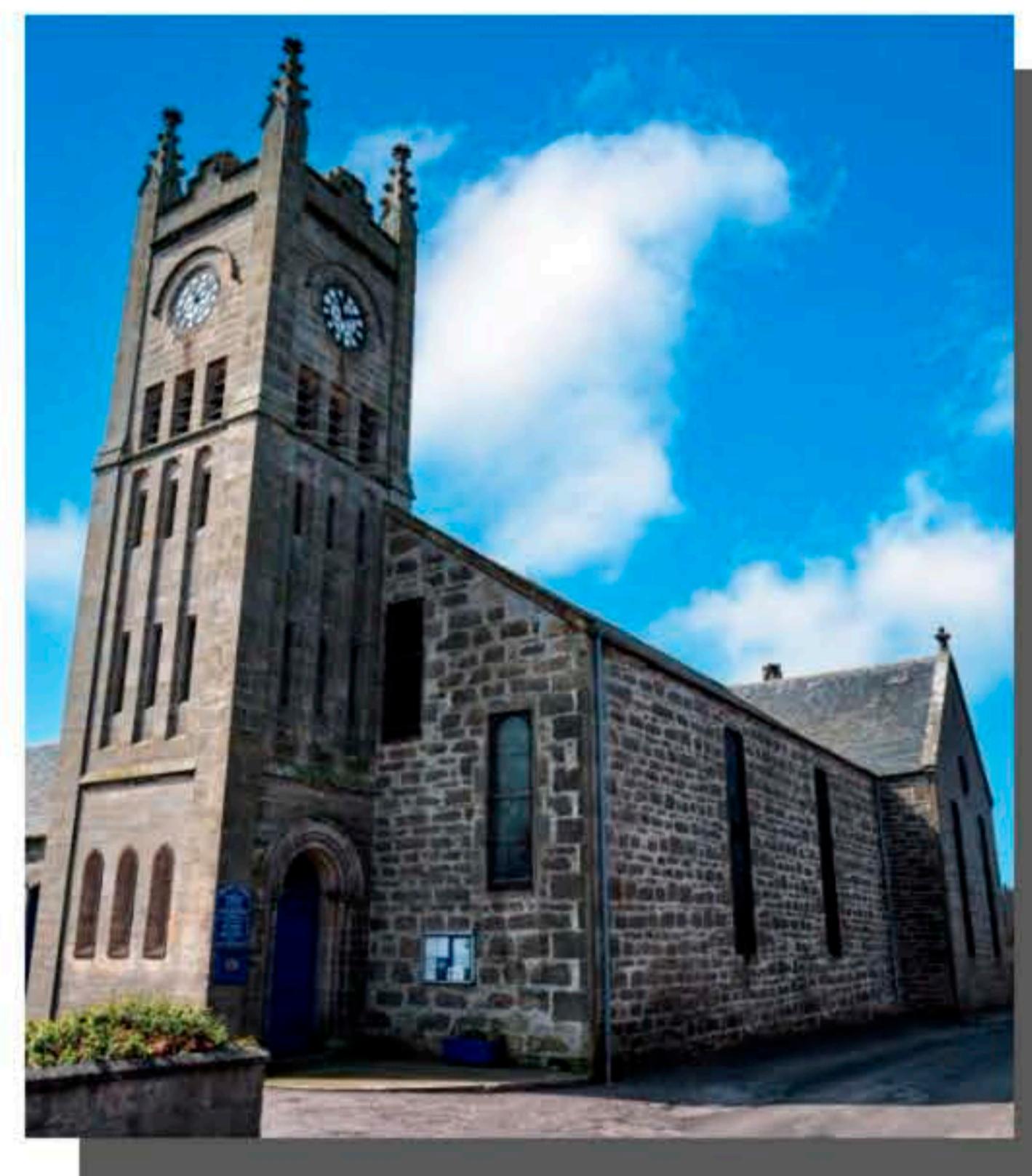
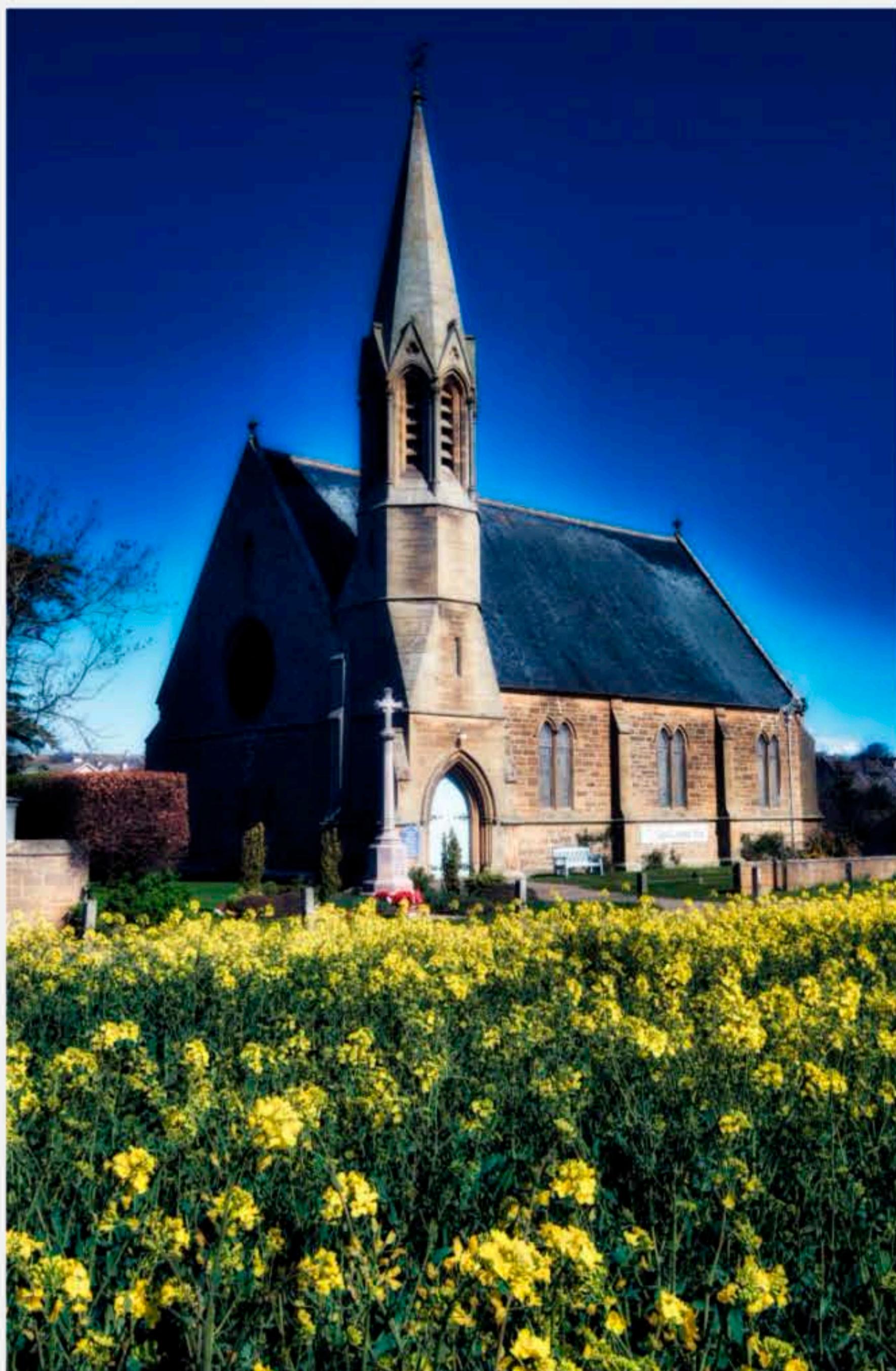


Duffus, Spynie and Hopeman Church



Church Magazine Autumn 2023



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Dear friends,

We are in a season of change in many contexts. There are changes of light, temperature and outdoor activities as we shift towards autumn. Some of that will be welcome, in colours and harvests, but longer nights and increasing heating needs can be challenging.

In creation we also see the increasing effects of climate change, locally and globally. The brunt of the damage is borne by people in the global south who have done least to cause global overheating, so Christian Aid are inviting us to campaign to make polluters pay for loss and damage done. Let's take action.

This is a time of year of new starts for students, and we're delighted that Anne-Marie has completed her probationary period with us. Change, loss and new life will keep coming amongst families, friends and our church family.

And in the church there is change. As we get closer to having an approved Presbytery Mission Plan an unsettling period of limbo will end, but that's also been a spell of getting on with activities and with each other with less tension.

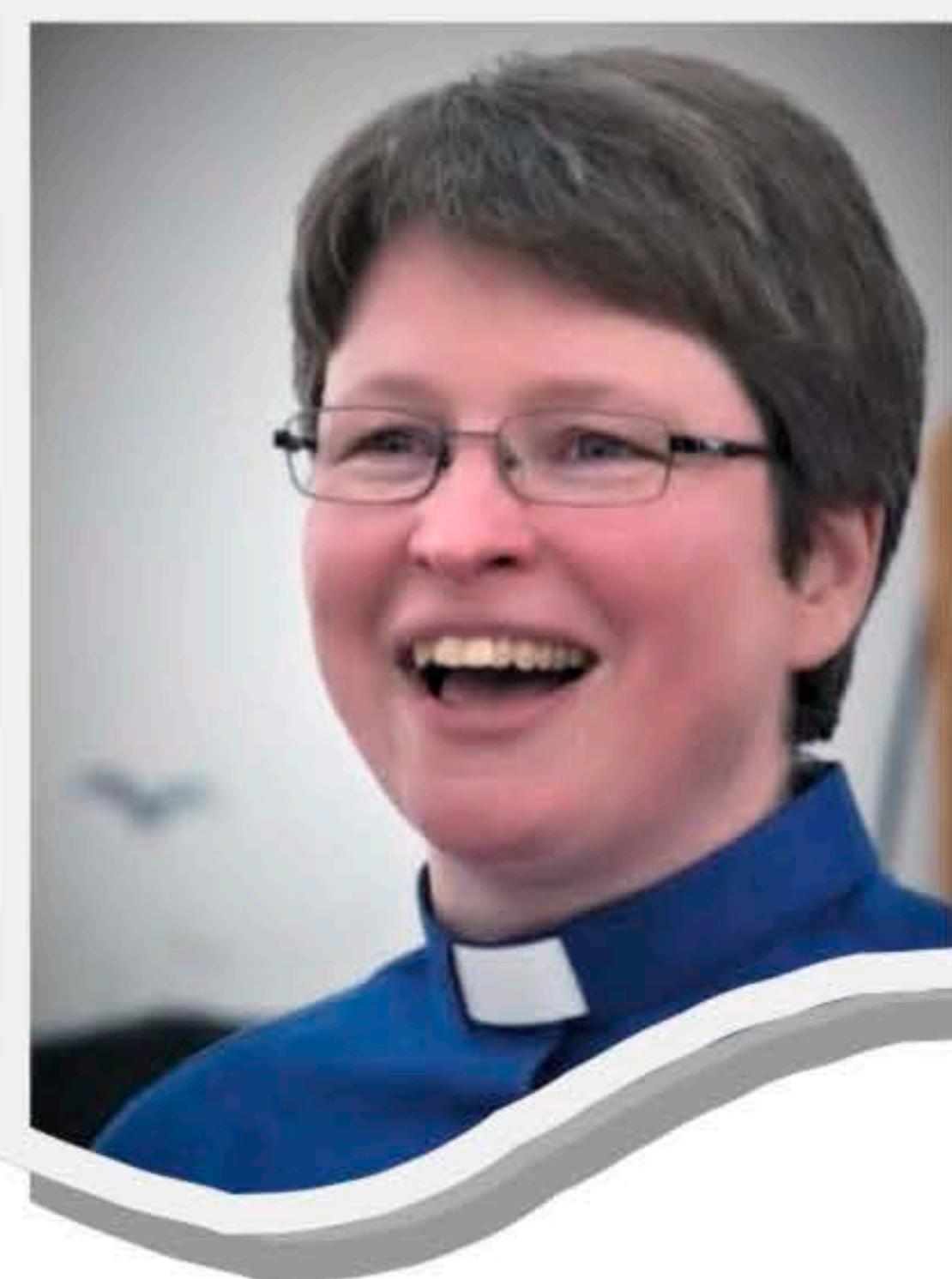
As seasons remind us, change is part of life and will elicit all sorts of reactions. Change is also central to our life of faith, as we are invited to be made new by God, to follow Jesus in new paths, and to be transformed by the Holy Spirit. I find that both exciting and scary – as I find much of the change around us just now.

Through it all, we have the promise that God is with us – in fact, God is at work transforming us and so changing the world . Jesus promises, “I will be with you always, to the end of time.”

Change is with us, but so is God. May we find the comfort and challenge of that throughout our lives and in our life together.

With love and prayers,

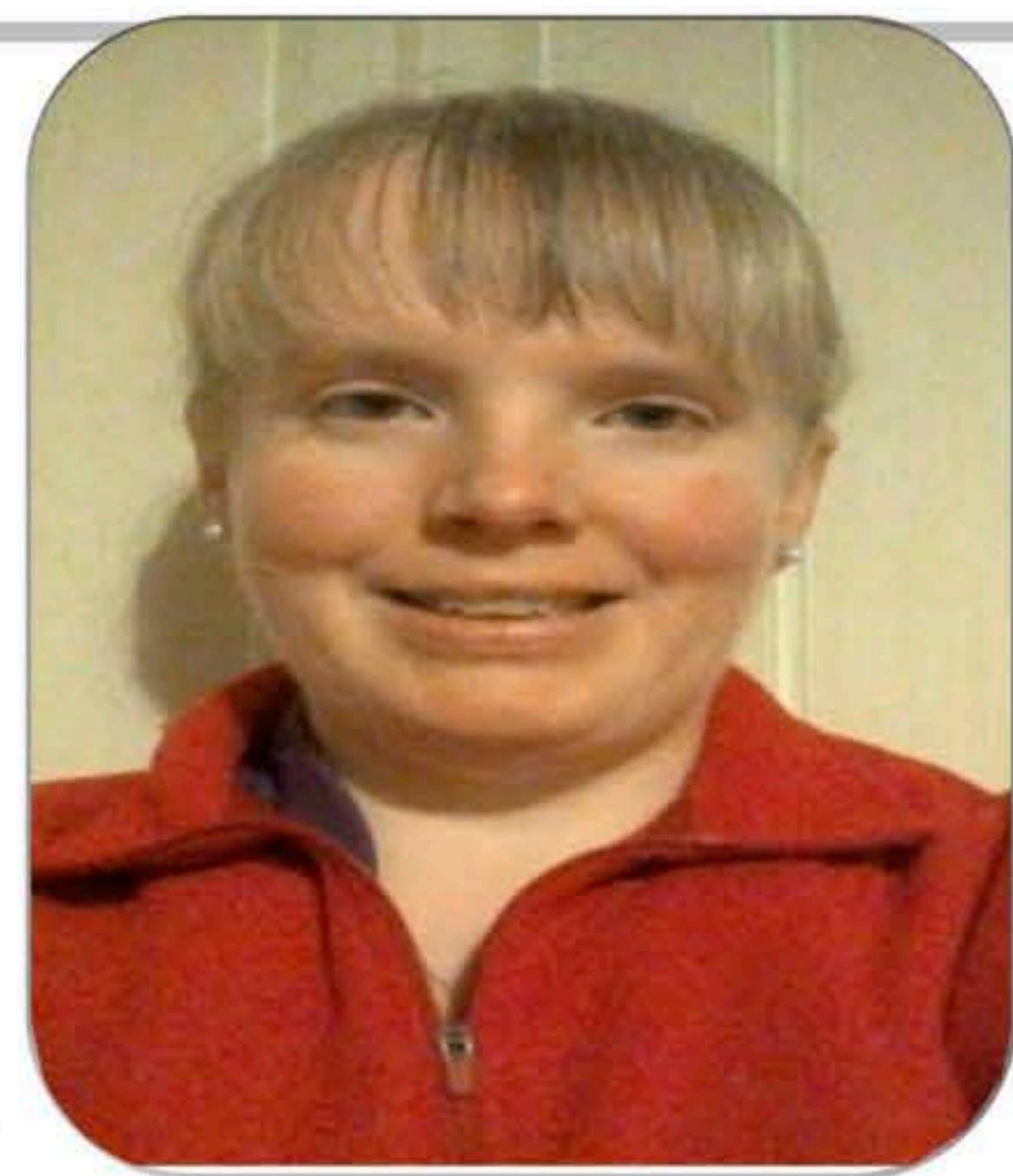
Jenny



From the Assistant Minister

Dear friends, it is now past a year since I began my post as Assistant Minister with Duffus, Spynie and Hopeman and Lossiemouth.

Journeying towards the autumn months, our thoughts will likely turn towards harvest. For many of us in the rural areas, at this time of year, the ongoing busyness around farms, and getting stuck behind tractors, wide loads, and other farming vehicles on the road is no surprise.



I have been in such a predicament a few times over the last few weeks, and it has prompted me to try to leave plenty extra time to reach destinations, to avoid falling into the familiar trap of me 'blaming' farmers for my running late, or my rising frustrations.

When I do see farm workers and vehicles hard at work in the fields, or travelling on the road, it usually sparks the song "Turn! Turn! Turn! (To Everything There Is A Season)" made especially famous by The Byrds, to go off in my head, which paraphrases Ecclesiastes 3.

It also humbles me, as occasionally I have been travelling home later in the evening, and notice the lights of farm vehicles in the fields on and moving, still working into the late hours, even when many of the rest of us are winding down for the evening. It is with this in mind, despite when frustrations at road delays occur, that I strive for patience and avoid the 'blame game'.

In this vein, I would like to share with you, intended in a light-hearted voice, an excerpt and paraphrase of a poem by John Betjeman, 'Blame the Vicar' -

"When things go wrong it's rather tame, to find we are ourselves to blame.
It gets the trouble over quicker to go and blame it on the minister.

The minister, after all, is paid, to keep us bright and undismayed.

The minister is more virtuous too, than lay folks such as me and you.

They never swear, they never drink, they should never say what they think.

Their collar is the wrong way round, and that is why they're simply bound,
to be the sort of person who has nothing very much to do,
but take the blame for what goes wrong, and sing in tune at each Sunday
morn.

For what's a minister really for, except to cheer us up?

In their car to give us lifts, and when we quarrel, heal the rifts.

In that enormous house they get, they should always pay their debt.

They should be neat and nicely dressed, with polished shoes and trousers
pressed, for we look up to them as higher, than anyone except the Squire.

Dear people who have read so far, I know how really kind you are, I hope that
you are always seeing, your minister as a human being."

With blessings, love, peace, and prayers,
Christine

Hello again,

I'm writing this with a mixture of both sadness and excitement as my probation with you comes to an end on the 17th of September. How quickly the last twelve months have passed, and how busy I've been over that time. I've enjoyed so many very varied experiences in church, during school chaplaincy visits and at community events.



Personally, passing my driving test in July has made an amazing difference to my life. Thank you to everyone who prayed for success, even if it took a couple of attempts. I also must say a very huge thank you to everyone who offered me lifts – Jenny and Christine ferried me around to all sorts of meetings and so many others dropped me off at the bus station. I won't name you all, but please know how very grateful I am for your kindness.

One of the community events I've enjoyed over the summer was the songs of praise at Hopeman Gala. It was lovely to see so many people gather to sing God's praises, on what was a very wet and windy afternoon. Some very hearty singing was followed by a splendid spread of tea and cake and a chance to chat to new faces and old pals alike.

I also had an enjoyable time at the Refuel Festival at Fochabers in July, meeting fellow Christians from all over Scotland for open-air praise, learning events and good fellowship. I was joined on two of the days by David Sim, who many of you will remember from his student placement with you a couple of years ago, during Covid times. David is a fellow probationer now, and it has been a pleasure to work alongside him. He sends his best wishes to the congregation. The weather held up for most of the week, and I was quite comfortable on the campsite, despite problems with the plumbing facilities. I got my tent home dry, so that was a bonus.

One of my favourite things from probation has been Forest Church and I led the September one at Hopeman beach which was very well attended. Being in the middle of Creation Time led to us thinking about fish and Jesus' hospitality for people. This type of outdoor worship really helps me to connect with God, and it is something that I very much hope to continue in my ministry going forward.

I've been in discussion with presbytery over what will happen to me in the coming months regarding ordination and deployment. There are a few things on the table, but no firm decision yet. My final assessment will be on September 21st. This is a time of prayerful discernment for me as I move on to becoming an Ordained Local Minister.

As my probation placement draws to a close, I want to thank everyone for all your help, advice and encouragement over the last year. It has been an enormous pleasure to work with Jenny and all the Lossie Area Team, alongside our ecumenical partners. I have learned so much, been stretched and challenged, and really found my feet amongst you. There are too many of you to offer individual thanks, but I really have appreciated getting to know you all, and every friendly chat and pastoral conversation. You have embraced me, and my family, with thoughtful kindness and heart-felt welcome. I promise to keep in touch and I'm sure that you'll see me around in the future. Thank you so much.

Every blessing,

Anne-Marie

Lossie Area and Mission Planning Updates

On 2 September, the Presbytery of the North East and the Northern Isles voted to approve an updated version of the Moray Presbytery Mission Plan. The only changes since the November 2022 version relate to the categorisation of buildings in Birnie, Elgin and Cullen, following discussions with a Mission Review Panel.

This plan will now be submitted to the appropriate national bodies, who are expected to approve it. Such wider approval will then be recorded by Presbytery at its meeting on 7 November 2023, and the Moray part will join the rest of the Presbytery Mission Plan in implementation. That will be subject to a 14 day period where members of Presbytery or a Kirk Session can request a review, based on a very limited set of criteria, none of which is anticipated in Duffus, Spynie and Hopeman or Lossiemouth.

Our part of the Presbytery Mission Plan proposes:

- ◆ The eventual union of Duffus, Spynie and Hopeman congregation with the two Lossiemouth congregations, forming one new inclusive congregation with one set of office-bearers and finances
- ◆ An eventual team ministry of 1 full-time Minister, one half-time pastoral assistant, one part-time Ordained Local Minister, and trained local leadership
- ◆ The potential for Local Mission Churches in the Hopeman and Duffus areas, where local leadership can get on with worship, service and outreach with less administration
- ◆ The retention of Duffus Kirk building and Lossiemouth St. James' Church and hall
- ◆ The disposal (probably sale or transfer) of Hopeman Kirk, Spynie Kirk and Lossiemouth St. Gerardine's High buildings by August 2027
worship, service and outreach in all parts of the parish will continue, at times and in places that are available, accessible and make sense in each community

The two Lossiemouth congregations and Presbytery have now agreed a Basis of Union which will see the Lossiemouth congregations become one congregation (with one set of office-bearers and finances) on 1 January 2024. This is an interim step towards the larger union, hopefully making things simpler in Lossiemouth Meantime...

The Boards and Sessions of Duffus, Spynie and Hopeman, St. Gerardine's High and St. James' continue to gather, to share hopes, fears and to start working more closely together. The eventual Team Ministry of 1.5 paid posts cannot be formed while the two full-time Ministers (Geoff McKee and myself) are in our current posts, so the timescales for that are unclear and will depend on our discernment of God's call to these or other roles. There will be a considerable time of transition, which I hope will allow us to acknowledge the importance of these places of worship and the many stories associated with them. It will take time to find the best outcome for each building, particularly if external groups are involved. During that transition time, the buildings will all remain in use, serving our congregation and communities.

Rev Jenny



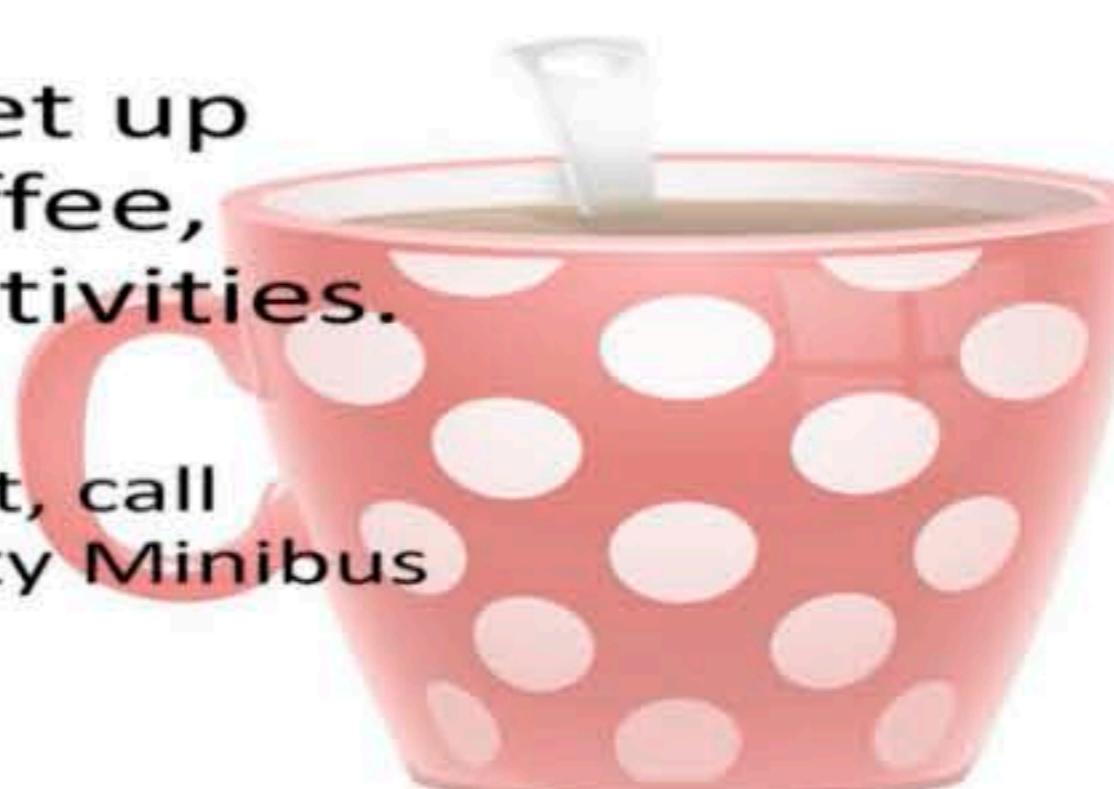
**Open Door
Social Hubs**

Mondays 2-4pm Hopeman Kirk Hall
Thursdays 12noon-4pm Spynie Kirk
**Thursdays 2-4pm Lossie St. James'
Church Hall**

A chance to meet up
over tea and coffee,
with optional activities.

If you would like a lift, call
Hopeman Community Minibus
07485 561007

If you can help,
please contact Rev Jenny



Quiet Mornings

Spynie Kirk hosts quiet mornings most months, on Saturdays 10.30am-1pm. These mornings are gatherings of an ecumenical group of local Christians, offering time for individual reflection while experiencing the strength of silence with others. For more information or to attend, please contact Sandra Black 07792 920707 sandrajblack6@gmail.com

You are Invited to Communion

We are invited to gather together for communion - the family meal of the church. In communion we are fed and nourished by Jesus for the journey ahead. A sacrament is a visible sign – in this case, visible, edible, tastable and touchable – of God's invisible grace. God loves us first and always, and the sacraments enable us to know that with our senses. Jesus invites us to come, take, eat – we are all invited. You are invited.

We will remember Jesus' last supper with his friends on the evening of Maundy Thursday

(6 April). With friends from the Lossie area, we will share a celebration feast on Lossie East Beach on Easter morning at sunrise. We also continue to celebrate communion every four weeks.



Whenever we share communion, we do what we can to make it safe, inclusive and welcoming for everyone. To include everybody, we use non-alcoholic grape juice and bread that is free from gluten, wheat and milk.

Please join us if you can. And if you are unable to join us, please speak to your elder or contact me about home communion.

Church Benevolent Fund

This Benevolent Fund is for anyone connected with the congregation who would benefit from financial help which cannot be provided from other social funding or agencies. It is **strictly confidential** and administered by the minister and session clerk.

For more information, contact Rev Jenny....

jadams@churchofscotland.org.uk



In Memoriam

Roy Staniforth of Hopeman – funeral 27th July 2023

Joan Sutherland of Hopeman – funeral 15th September 2023

*We remember them with love,
give thanks for their lives,
entrust them to God's loving arms,
and hold their families and friends in our thoughts and prayers.*

We also remember others who have died in our communities and families.

WEDDINGS

Laura Miller and Drew Scott, Duffus Hall 5th August 2023

*God is love; and those who dwell in love are
dwelling in God, and God in them.*



Forest Church

We continue to gather for Forest Church every month, alternating between Hopeman East Beach and the woods around Duffus House.

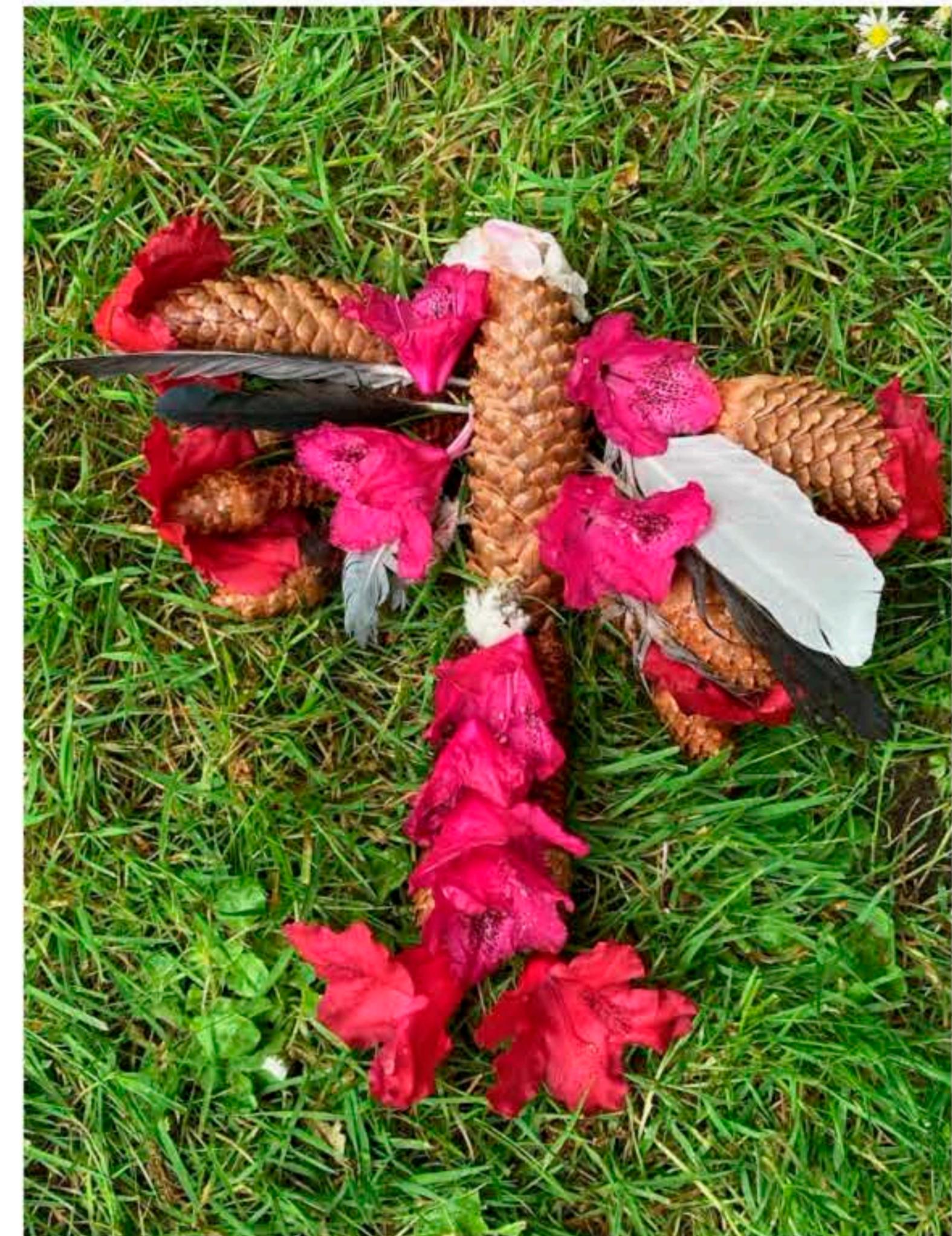
In June, in the season of Pentecost, we paid attention to birds. The Holy Spirit is often symbolised by a bird – a dove or the celtic wild goose. Birds crop up throughout the Bible, especially lots of sparrows. We found signs of birds – including feathers and a fallen nest – and made our own wild image of the Holy Spirit.

Then the torrential rain came on!

On the beach in July Anne-Marie shared the story of the tower of Babel, then we all got building – trying to build in a way that would be pleasing to God. We got lots of fabulous creations, with decorations and welcoming entrances.

Our August gathering took us on a wander around the Duffus Estate, finding messages that told us a story and paying attention to everything around us.

September brought a meeting at the beach between showers, thinking about the season of Creation Time and read of Jesus telling Simon to cast the nets again and the huge number of fish they then caught. We thought about stories of Jesus feeding people with fish and of how the fish sign (ichthus) became a secret symbol of being a Christian. Fish signs were then made using grass, seaweed, stones and shells.



Forest Church aims to help everyone (currently aged around 2-90) to encounter God in the big book of creation. Why not join us some time?

Rev Jenny

Gather us In

Here in this place new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away,
see in this space our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in – the lost and forsaken,
gather us in – the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young – our lives are a mystery,
we are the old who yearn for your face,
we have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in – the rich and the haughty,
gather us in – the proud and the strong;
give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away,
but here in this place the new light is shining,
now is the Kingdom, now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us for ever,
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in – all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Marty Haugen

Let's Get the Job Done!

This thought-provoking hymn was written by Marty Haugen in 1982 and explores how God changes us and moves us to become his people, working for the coming of his kingdom here, now. The title seems very appropriate for our autumn edition of scribe, as we celebrate the gathering-in of this year's harvest and give thanks for God's great goodness to us. In John's gospel, Jesus says "the fields are white for harvest" [John 4:35], meaning that people are ready to hear the Word of God and to follow him, and we are reminded that we ourselves are those people and the time has come for us to do God's will: to live with love for one another and to tell the Good News to everyone we meet.

For most of us that's a scary thought – we're shy of talking about our faith to others and fear ridicule and rejection; we find it difficult to find the right words; we worry that we might say the wrong thing, or that we lack knowledge to explain properly. We think that we're not the right person for this job. But the words of this hymn tell us that God can make use of everyone, even if we're proud or haughty, lost or lame, God welcomes us into his family because we are each known intimately and loved unconditionally, and he calls us by name to serve him. Not one person is 'not right for the job' in God's eyes; we all have a part to play in bringing his kingdom to come on earth as it is in heaven, as in the words we pray together each week.

This hymn is a wonderful affirmation of the work of the Holy Spirit within us and within the church. God doesn't just set us a task and then leave us to get on with it, to fail or succeed on our own merits. No, he equips us in many amazing ways. We are reminded that however much we are afraid, he gives us courage and he changes our hearts to be "meek and lowly", so that we have the right attitude of willingness.

The third verse makes this hymn very appropriate to read as we come towards the season of Holy Communion again. It shows us how God gives us so much strength through the grace of the sacraments. We "take the wine and the water" symbols of the Lord's supper and of baptism, along with the "bread of new birth" which feeds us spiritually and inspires us to follow God's call. Again, through the sacraments, God changes our hearts and teaches us to live "lives that are holy" and to have "hearts that are true". The transformation in our lives that begins with our baptism, is renewed and re-energized each time we take the bread and the wine, receiving nourishment through grace, and re-committing ourselves to live in the way that Jesus taught us to do.

One of the most exciting aspects of this hymn is that it calls us today, in the very here and now to bring the kingdom – not at some time hidden in the future, but to begin immediately. The "new light is shining" right now, so we have no reason to delay. "Now is the Kingdom, now is the day." Fired-up with the guidance, companionship and transformative power of the Holy Spirit, gathered in by our Father God and all working together in Jesus' name - let's get the job done!

With every blessing,
Anne-Marie Simpson

SPYNIE SOCIAL HUB

When it was suggested last year that we open Spynie Kirk from ten to four every Thursday as a “warm space,” we didn’t know how well it would work, but it has developed into a thriving social hub where anyone who turns up finds a warm welcome.

There is a core of about twelve adults plus our two little ones, Blaire and Lenox who come most weeks and other people drop in. We’ve had dog walkers, befrienders who bring the people they’re out and about with, and one or two who live locally and just enjoy a bit of company.

Although there’s plenty of chat going on, it’s so much more than that. We have board games, old Northern Scot magazines to take us on a trip down memory lane, and do puzzles and quizzes to exercise the little grey cells. And we have two lovely little girls to play with. It has been a joy to watch how their language and social skills are developing.

The first time I went last October, we were carving pumpkins which were then dotted around the kirk at the Harvest Service, then for Remembrance Day we made big red poppies. As Christmas approached, we had a demonstration of wreath making using fresh greenery followed by a chance to have a go ourselves. Then we made little snow globes, and a couple of weeks later Grant came and played for us to enjoy singing some Christmas carols, fuelled by mulled apple juice and mince pies kindly donated by McLean’s bakery. All very enjoyable in the Advent season.

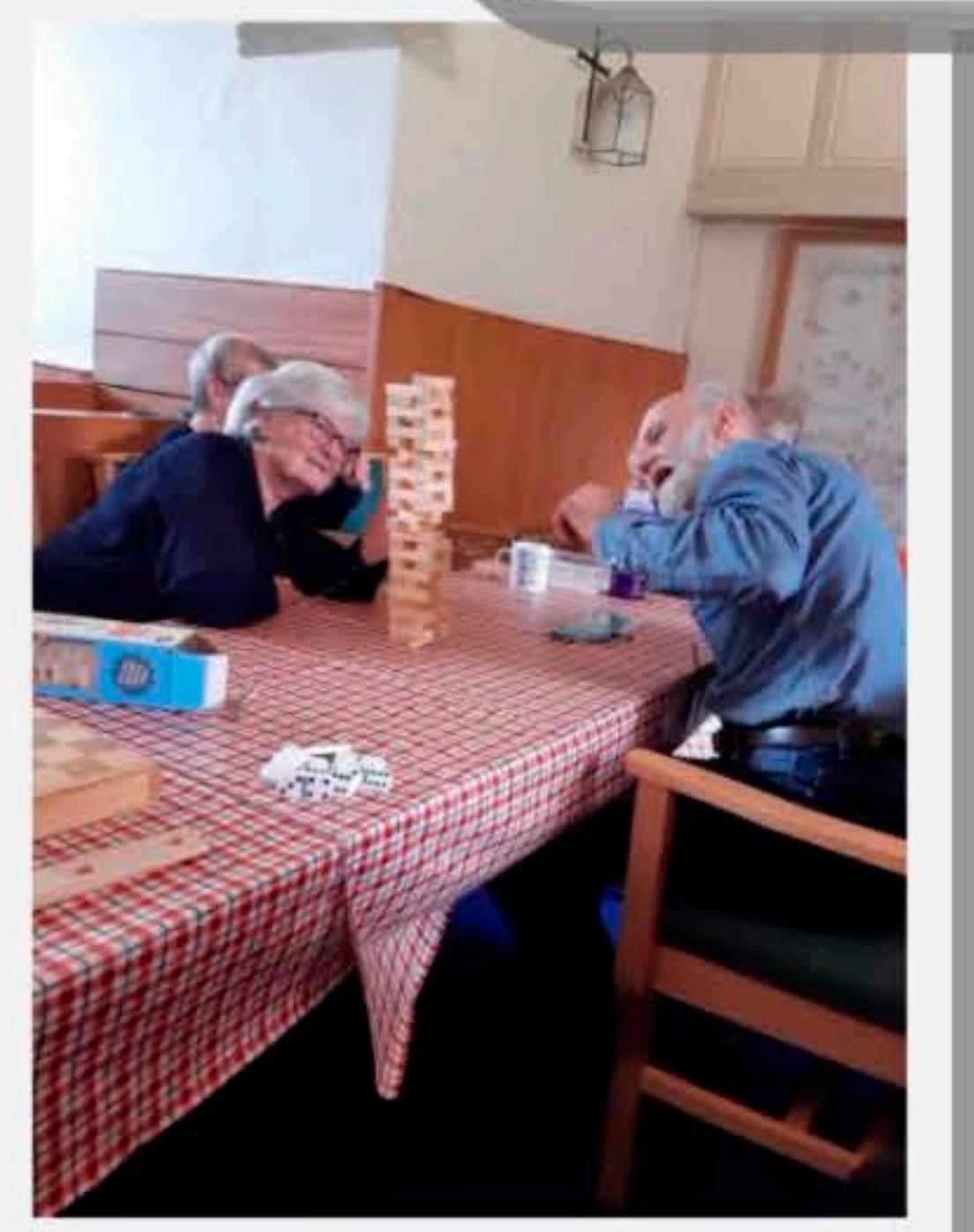
In the Spring we had a discussion with Paul, of Age Scotland, who was a fund of information on benefits and grants to help with fuel bills etc. Another week we had a go at making little baskets, and for Easter more wreath making, this time using scraps of fabric. One afternoon Lyn gave us a lovely presentation of the Lossie Singers’ trip to Germany. Some of us got together at Spynie to watch the Coronation and make a social occasion out of it rather than sitting at home on our own. We each brought a contribution to a little buffet lunch.

The biggest thing we've done is our barbecue in July which was a huge success in spite of the rain. We had around fifty people sitting at tables set up in the kirk while the cooking was done under a gazebo outside, with lovely burgers and sausages from the Hopeman butcher.

We've continued to meet in the afternoons over the summer and have sometimes been able to sit outside in the sun and enjoy some strawberries and ice cream.

There is a variety of cuppasoup and oatcakes available at lunch time, and you can always bring your own sandwich if you wish. The kettle is always on for a cuppa along with a constant supply of biscuits and cakes. As we move into winter we will continue the present pattern of meeting between twelve and four on Thursdays. Please come and join us any time you feel like it. Just drop in at a time that suits you. You will be very welcome.

Helen McKidd



The Guild

Everyone (of all genders) is welcome to The Guild which meets at Lossiemouth St. James' Church Hall (Prospect Terrace, Lossiemouth) every second Monday afternoon. Meetings begin at 2pm, running till about 330pm. There is a short worship and prayer time first, any business, and then a speaker. The meeting concludes with refreshments.

The programme so far includes:

Mon 25th September – Communion;

Mon 9th October – Lynne Hawcroft speaking on working with people with impaired hearing;

Mon 23rd October – Margaret King speaking;

Mon 6th November – a slide show with Katherine Milne;

Mon 20th November – Murray Campbell speaking;

Mon 27th November – Christmas party.

A reminder that the Hopeman Community Minibus is available for lifts – call them on 07485 561007.

There is also the Moray Council m.connect bus service, bookable up 2 weeks in advance or just an hour before – call 0300 123 4565 or find the m.connect app on a smartphone.

Family film nights

In October and November we will host two more family film nights, using the excellent big screen capability in Hopeman Memorial Hall. Licensing rules mean that we can't advertise what film we'll show, but it will always be a "U" certificate film suitable for all ages. There's popcorn, sandwiches, healthy nibbles and juice/water, so families can enjoy the movie without worrying about feeding everyone afterwards.

Entry is free, but donations are welcome to help with hall hire costs. Children must be accompanied by an adult, and all ages are very welcome.

Any suggestions of films are very welcome – just get in touch with me.

Rev Jenny

Recycling Options in the Church Buildings

Hopefully we all make the most of the doorstep recycling opportunities Moray Council offer us. We also try to make it easier to recycle some other stuff through collection points in our church buildings:

Ink cartridges, batteries, lightbulbs and spectacles:

can all be put in a box in each of the church buildings. They will be taken to appropriate shops in Elgin for recycling processing.

Stamps:

can be put in a separate box in each of the church buildings. These will be passed on to the Church of Scotland for their current Stamp Appeal - Firmly Planted: Agroforestry for Sustainability.

Firmly Planted is a community-based agroforestry initiative with the ambition of making a sustainable impact across Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe. It is spearheaded by our partners in the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP), and built around the church's community structures.

Agroforestry presents an opportunity to address challenges of food insecurity, deforestation, climate change and youth unemployment. Tree nurseries create employment opportunities, fruit trees improve nutrition and wider tree planting helps mitigate the impact of the climate crisis, in turn improving agricultural productivity. Firmly Planted will provide community-based training tailored to the community's needs, ensuring woodlots are well maintained to have the greatest chance to thrive.

Clothing and textiles:

can be brought in bags to Hopeman Kirk, where the Hopeman Rainbows, Brownies and Guides collect them as a fundraiser. The clothing and textiles are processed by Blythswood Care - anything good goes to the Blythswood shops, and all other items get recycled and made into tents and mattresses to go abroad to refugee camps. The scheme accepts:

curtains; towels; sheets; blankets; clothes; shoes; bags; belts; hats.
(No duvets or pillows)

Please remember that it's even better not to buy stuff we don't need, rather than trying to find the best way to dispose of it! Remember the 5 R'S: REFUSE, REDUCE, REUSE, REPURPOSE, RECYCLE.



Rev Jenny (on behalf of the Eco Team)

TODDLER GROUP

**COMPANY FOR PARENTS & CARERS
WHILE CHILDREN PLAY & LEARN**

**SPYNIE KIRK
WEDNESDAYS
9.30-12 noon
EVERYONE WELCOME**

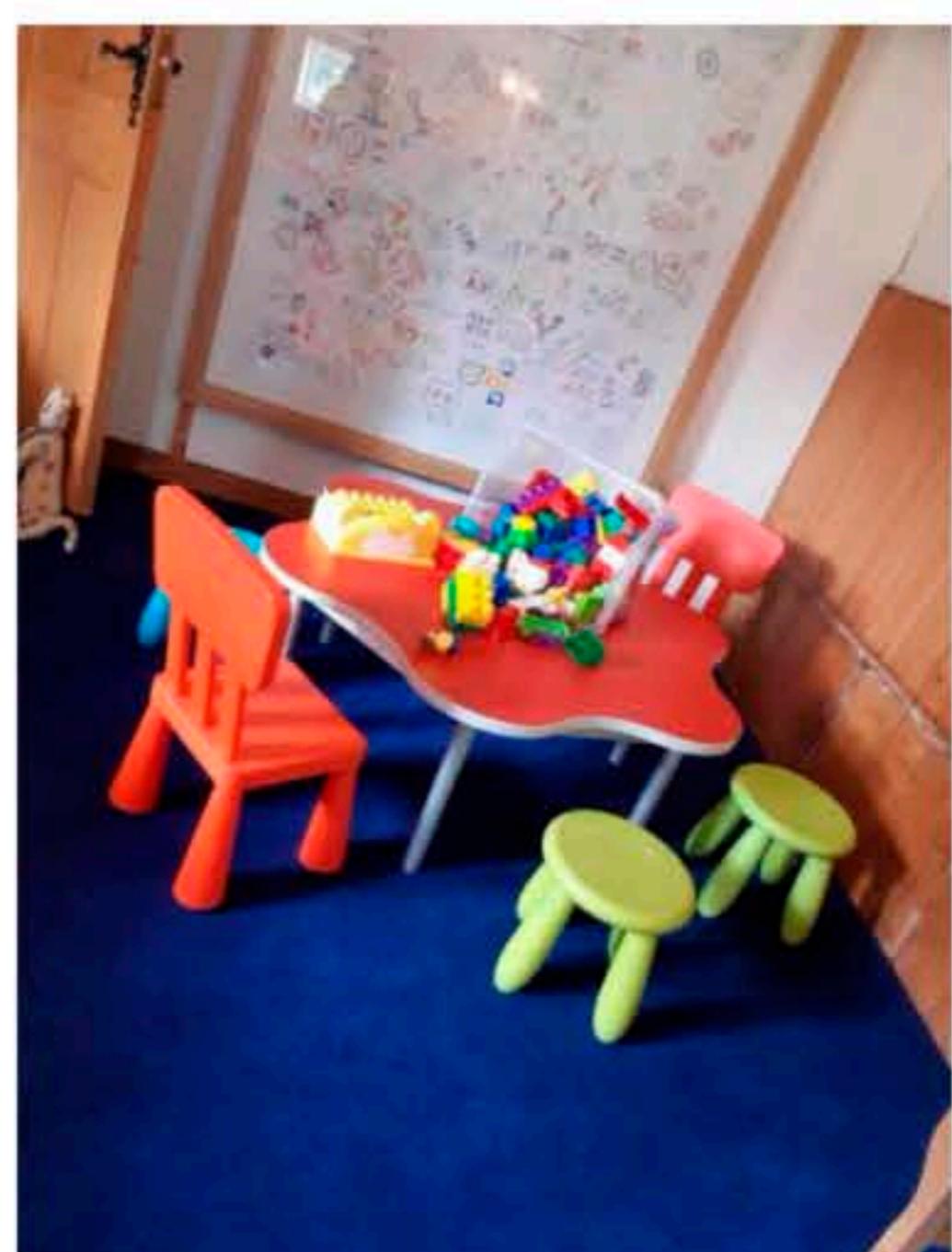
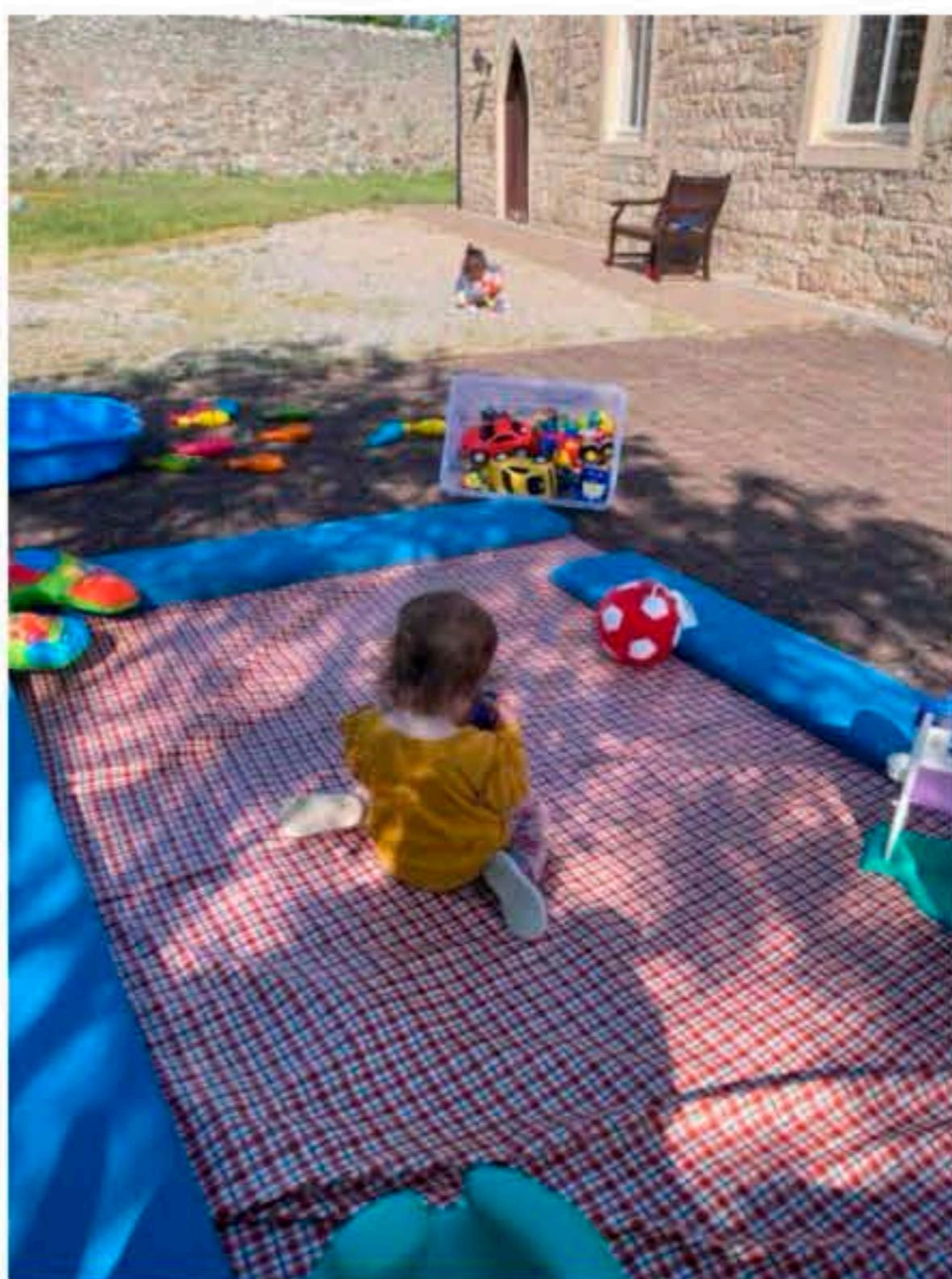
DUFFUS SPYNIE & HOPEMAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND SCO04853

The Toddler Group at Spynie Kirk continues to thrive. Before the summer break numbers had dwindled a bit. Since we have started up again we have more new children joining us & we feel very positive that we are going to have another successful term. We offer company for the children & their parents or carers and a safe environment for the children to play.

Before the summer we took advantage of being able to go outside into the garden which was very popular.

Anyone can come along & join us on a Wednesday morning from 9.30-12 noon (term times). You will be very welcome. The kettle is always on !

Shona Rowand



Watch with others?

We are aware that many of those unable to attend worship in our buildings may not have skills or technology to access YouTube. One option is for people who do have the skills and equipment to **visit and sit with others**, watching and sharing in worship together.



Perhaps even a couple of visitors – friends and elders alongside someone who can work the technology – either on a Sunday morning or at times that suit.

To do this on behalf of the congregation we would ask volunteers to get appropriate Safeguarding checks for work with vulnerable groups, which we can assist with.

Do you think you'd enjoy sharing in worship with someone unable to come to our buildings? Do you think you can (or could learn how to) watch the church's YouTube channel on a tablet or laptop to share?

To help, please contact Jenny- jadams@churchofscotland.org.uk



Thanks to Michael and Chris Thompson we are now able to “livestream” services from Duffus Kirk. These are available to watch live at the time of the service, and are also available for people to watch afterwards – all through our YouTube channel (see above). It would be really helpful to have a few others willing to learn **how to use that technology** to share our worship and funerals. It is not sustainable for it to be totally depend on Chris and Michael. If you would be interested in learning more, with time to occasionally help livestream from our buildings, please contact Jenny jadams@churchofscotland.org.uk

MILLENNIUM YOUTH FUND

We were delighted this year to have an applicant for the Church Millennium Youth Fund which has not been used for some time. Ethan Hendry of Harbour Street, Hopeman and former pupil of Lossie High School has for some time now been representing Scotland at International Kick Boxing tournaments attaining very high standards and winning Gold medals at various age groups. Ethan aims to continue into senior level which means a great deal of costly travel so we were happy to help, even in a small way.

Ethan was keen to share some of his experiences and also his ambitions as follows:

The weekend of the 29th of August, we travelled down to the WKC International Championships in Glasgow Braehead, where the "Battle of Braehead" took place. Here, I fought in Kickboxing, K1 and Low Kick picking up 3 Golds in those disciplines. I didn't lose a single fight over the two days. The weekend of the 9th of September, I travelled down to the Ravenscraig Regional Sports Facility for the WKA European Championships where I picked up two Gold medals. The final fight of the day, I won via TKO to an Irish opponent. These were two unforgettable weekends, and I learned lots from these experiences. This wouldn't have been possible without my sponsors, and I am very grateful to have people behind me and supporting me so I can open up as many opportunities as possible. What's next? Next is my Adult Black Belt Grading as I am now 16. I can go for my first Dan as well my black belt, which will go along with my I previously earned three stars. I have a Fight Night in Glasgow on the 30th of September for a District title, then a Fight Night in Fife in November as part of "The Goliath Fight Series". Next, I plan to take some time out to fight in Bali and train in Thailand. First, I will fly to Bali for the "WKA Open Ring Sports Pacific Championships" which runs from 29th of November to the 4th of December. From there, I will fly to Thailand on the 9th December to train in Muay Thai fighting, probably flying back before Christmas or New Year. This trip will take my Thai Boxing skills to the next level and help my game all round. I deeply look forward to these things on the horizon, and again I thank you for your support, Ethan.

(Submitted by Ron Duncan)

Moray Food Plus

As part of our harvest thanksgiving this year we will have a special (financial) collection for Moray Food Plus on 1st October and will enjoy a soup lunch in aid of Moray Food Plus after worship in Spynie on Sunday 15th October too. This is in addition to our regular gathering of food and toiletries on the first Sunday of every month.

Moray Food Plus provides a variety of services to those either experiencing or at risk of food insecurity. They also work with partners to reduce the amount of local food waste taking surplus food and redistributing it amongst the community.

Food poverty is on the increase in Moray. Moray Food Plus is working hard to support people who through no fault of their own find themselves in crisis. Reasons for this are varied but include changes in personal circumstances, illness, welfare reform, low income, and unexpected bills.

The crisis service works on a referral basis from agencies such as social work, housing and health. They also accept self-referrals. Once a referral is received a team of volunteers make up a food parcel containing three days' worth of food (including pet and baby food on request).

If you or your family are experiencing a food crisis and need the support of the Moray Food Plus, please get in touch with them: 01343 208293 request@morayfoodplus.org.uk

For those with the technology, you can download the “Bank the Food” app which lets you see what items Moray Food Plus are most urgently needed at any time.

THANK YOU

The Hopeman Gala Committee pass on thanks to everyone involved in the coffee mornings and Songs of Praise during Hopeman Gala Week. They say, “The coffee mornings provide space and time for our community to come together and enjoy company and pancakes and are a great part of Gala Week.” A lot of work goes into these things – thank you all!



Duffus, Spynie and Hopeman Church Calendar

October - December 2023

We know that attending Sunday morning worship is not possible for everyone. We hope you continue to find ways to encounter God and to share in reflection and prayer. Here are some options:

At youtube.com/@duffusspyniehopeman find a video reflection for each Sunday, including livestreams & videos of services in Duffus Kirk.

Find Duffus Spynie & Hopeman (or Jenny Adams) on Facebook, for the YouTube videos and livestreams, and other posts.

BBC Radio Scotland, BBC Scotland TV, BBC One TV on Sundays.

September 2023

Sat 30 Sept Macmillan Coffee Morning, Hopeman Kirk Hall

Sat 30 Sept Quiet morning, Spynie Kirk 10.30am-1pm

Sat 30 Sept Hopeman Community Information/Coffee afternoon, Memorial Hall 1-4pm

October 2023

Sun 1 Oct All-age worship, Hopeman Kirk 10.30am
Harvest thanksgiving and Communion
plus Moray Food Plus collection

Mon 2 Oct Open Door social hub, Hopeman Kirk Hall 2-4pm

Wed 4 Oct Toddler group, Spynie Kirk 9.30am-12noon

Thu 5 Oct Open Door social hub, Spynie Kirk 12noon-4pm

Sun 8 Oct All-age worship, Duffus Kirk 10.30am

Forest Church, meeting at Earthtime by Duffus House, 4-4.40pm

Mon 9 Oct	Open Door social hub, Hopeman Kirk Hall 2-4pm The Guild, Lossie St. James' 2-3.30pm <i>Spkr: Lynne Hawcroft, working with people with impaired hearing</i> Eco team meeting on Zoom, 7.30pm – contact Rev Jenny
Thu 12 Oct	Open Door social hub, Spynie Kirk 12noon-4pm
Sat 14 Oct 10am-12noon	Lossie area office-bearers, Duffus Church & Hall
Sun 15 Oct	All-age worship, Spynie Kirk 10.30am followed by soup lunch in aid of Moray Food Plus
Mon 16 Oct	Open Door social hub, Hopeman Kirk Hall 2-4pm
Wed 18 Oct	Men's Group, Hopeman Kirk Hall 7.30pm <i>Speaker: Lynne Donaldson, choir visit to Europe</i>
Thu 19 Oct	Open Door social hub, Spynie Kirk 12noon-4pm
Sun 22 Oct	All-age worship, Hopeman Kirk 10.30am Family film night, Hopeman Memorial Hall 5-7pm
Mon 23 Oct	Open Door social hub, Hopeman Kirk Hall 2-4pm The Guild, Lossie St. James' 2-3.30pm <i>Speaker: Margaret King</i>
Wed 25 Oct	Toddler group, Spynie Kirk 9.30am-12noon
Thu 26 Oct	Open Door social hub, Spynie Kirk 12noon-4pm
Sat 28 Oct	Quiet morning, Spynie Kirk 10.30am-1pm
Sun 29 Oct	All-age worship, Duffus Kirk 10.30am - Communion
Mon 30 Oct	Open Door social hub, Hopeman Kirk Hall 2-4pm
Mon 30 Oct	Kirk Session meeting, Hopeman Kirk Hall 7pm

November 2023

Wed 1 Nov	Toddler group, Spynie Kirk 9.30am-12noon
Thu 2 Nov	Open Door social hub, Spynie Kirk 12noon-4pm
Sun 5 Nov	All-age worship, Spynie Kirk 10.30am

- Mon 6 Nov Open Door social hub, Hopeman Kirk Hall 2-4pm
The Guild, Lossie St. James' 2-3.30pm
Speaker: Katherine Milne
- Wed 8 Nov Toddler group, Spynie Kirk 9.30am-12noon
- Thu 9 Nov Open Door social hub, Spynie Kirk 12noon-4pm
- Sat 11 Nov Act of Remembrance, Spynie Hall 10.45am
- Sun 12 Nov Remembrance service Hopeman Memorial Hall 10am
Act of Remembrance, Duffus War Memorial 10.45am
Remembrance service, Duffus Kirk 11.30am
Forest Church, meeting at Hopeman East Beach 2-2.40pm
- Mon 13 Nov Open Door social hub, Hopeman Kirk Hall 2-4pm
- Wed 15 Nov Toddler group, Spynie Kirk 9.30am-12noon
Men's Group, Hopeman Kirk Hall 7.30pm
Speaker: Michael Rowand, "The world's greatest shortcut"
- Thu 16 Nov Open Door social hub, Spynie Kirk 12noon-4pm
- Sun 19 Nov All-age worship, Duffus Kirk 10.30am
Family film night, Hopeman Memorial Hall 5-7pm
- Mon 20 Nov Open Door social hub, Hopeman Kirk Hall 2-4pm
The Guild, Lossie St. James' 2-3.30pm
Speaker: Murray Campbell
- Wed 22 Nov Toddler group, Spynie Kirk 9.30am-12noon
- Thu 23 Nov Open Door social hub, Spynie Kirk 12noon-4pm
- Sat 25 Nov Quiet morning, Spynie Kirk 10.30am-1pm
- Sun 26 No All-age worship, Spynie Kirk 10.30am – Communion
- Mon 27 Nov Open Door social hub, Hopeman Kirk Hall 2-4pm
The Guild Christmas Party, Lossie St. James' 2-3.30pm
Congregational Board meeting, Hopeman Kirk Hall 7pm
Congregational Board meeting, Hopeman Kirk Hall 7pm

Wed 29 Nov	Toddler group, Spynie Kirk 9.30am-12noon
Thu 30 Nov	Open Door social hub, Spynie Kirk 12noon-4pm

December 2023

Sun 3 Dec	All-age worship, Hopeman Kirk 10.30am plus Moray Food Plus collection
Mon 4 Dec	Open Door social hub, Hopeman Kirk Hall 2-4pm
Wed 6 Dec	Toddler group, Spynie Kirk 9.30am-12noon
Thu 7 Dec	Open Door social hub, Spynie Kirk 12noon-4pm
Sun 10 Dec	All-age worship, Duffus Kirk 10.30am Forest Church, meeting at Earthtime by Duffus House, 2-2.40pm
Mon 11 Dec	Open Door social hub, Hopeman Kirk Hall 2-4pm
Wed 13 Dec	Toddler group, Spynie Kirk 9.30am-12noon
Thu 14 Dec	Open Door social hub, Spynie Kirk 12noon-4pm
Sun 17 Dec	All-age worship, Spynie Kirk 10.30am
Mon 18 Dec	Open Door social hub, Hopeman Kirk Hall 2-4pm
Tue 19 Dec	Hopeman Primary School carol service, Hopeman Kirk
Wed 20 Dec	Toddler group, Spynie Kirk 9.30am-12noon Carol service, Duffus Kirk 7.30pm
Thu 21 Dec	Open Door social hub, Spynie Kirk 12noon-4pm
Fri 22 Dec	Blue Christmas service, Hopeman Kirk 7.30pm
Sun 24 Dec	All-age worship, Hopeman Kirk 10.30am – Communion
Sun 24 Dec	Family “light” service, Duffus Kirk 6pm
Sun 24 Dec	Watchnight service, Spynie Kirk 11.15 for 11.30pm
Mon 25 Dec	All-age Christmas morning celebration Hopeman Kirk 10.30am
Thu 28 Dec	Open Door social hub, Spynie Kirk 12noon-4pm
Sun 31 Dec	All-age worship, Duffus Kirk 10.30am

plus Thursdays 2-4pm, Open Door social hub, St. James' Church Hall, Prospect Terrace, Lossiemouth