

24 January 2025

May the words of my mouth
and the meditation
of my heart be
pleasing to
you, O Lord,
my rock and
my redeemer.

- Psalm 138 (NLT)



FIFE



PRESBYTERY

Weekly News

Induction of Rev Sarah Smith

A lovely service of induction was held to welcome Rev Sarah Smith to the team ministry of Fife: Forthview Parish Church on Sunday 19th January, in Rosyth Parish Church.

Sarah was joined by members of the five congregations that have come together to make up Fife: Forthview Parish Church, along with members from across Fife Presbytery, and friends from her previous congregation in Stonehaven.

Most special however was being able to welcome Sarah's father who had travelled from America for the occasion.

We were also delighted to welcome friends from other presbytery's and denominations who came to support Sarah, and the congregation, on the special occasion.

We wish Sarah, and Fife: Forthview every blessing as they journey together.



Pictured from left: Rev Alan Kimmitt, who preached the sermon, Rev Alec Shuttleworth, Presbytery Clerk, Rev Sarah Smith, Rev Brian Porteous, Presbytery Moderator, and Mr Fergus Duncan, Interim Moderator.

**Come and join at Messy Church at Pathhead
Sunday 26 January from 2—3.30 pm**
Messy Church is for all the family: children of all ages, parents and grandparents (children must be accompanied by an adult).
At Messy Church we have crafts, songs, Bible stories - with refreshments and time for a chat at the end.
And it's all free! Find us at Pathhead Church, Harriet Street, KY1 2AG.

Sunday 26th January
10:30am til 12:30pm
Find us in the Church halls (children must be accompanied by an adult)

Messy Church

New year - new resolutions
The story of John the Baptist

Messy Church is a Christ centred way of being church for families and others of all ages, based on creativity, hospitality and celebration.

Please send any articles and photos or flyers to be included in the Presbytery Weekly News or on the Facebook Page to Evelyn at:
fife@churchofscotland.org.uk



[facebook.com/
FifePresbytery](https://facebook.com/FifePresbytery)

Bricks of Wonder - Lego Church

This exciting Lego event with an international theme is being held at Crossford Village Hall.

Come along and recreate natural and human-made landmarks with Lego - everything from Edinburgh Castle to the Eiffel Tower and from the Giant's Causeway to the Great Barrier reef.

Running on Saturday 25th January, the weekend before International Lego Day, which marks the anniversary of the LEGO® brick patent on 28th January 1958.

The Abbey Church of Dunfermline will give building suggestions and lots of Lego - all you need to bring is your imaginations and a sense of curiosity about the world around you.

The event is free and tickets can be booked at

<https://bit.ly/BricksofWonder2025>



Bricks of Wonder
Wonders of the World
A LEGO CHURCH EVENT

1 - 3 pm, Saturday
25th January 2025
Crossford Village Hall

Book your space at
<https://bit.ly/BricksofWonder2025>

This is Our Wonderful World!
Activities for Children, Youth, & Families at Dunfermline Abbey, January - March 2025

Scottish Churches

Disability Group

Save the date!

There will be a gathering on Zoom for Roofbreakers, the church disability inclusion champions, for those in Fife, Kinross, Perth and Dundee areas on Monday 27 January from 7–8pm.

If you would like to join in and don't yet have the Zoom link, please email Carol at Through the Roof:

carol@throughtheroof.org

For more information on Roofbreakers please see

<https://throughtheroof.org/forchurches/roofbreakers/>



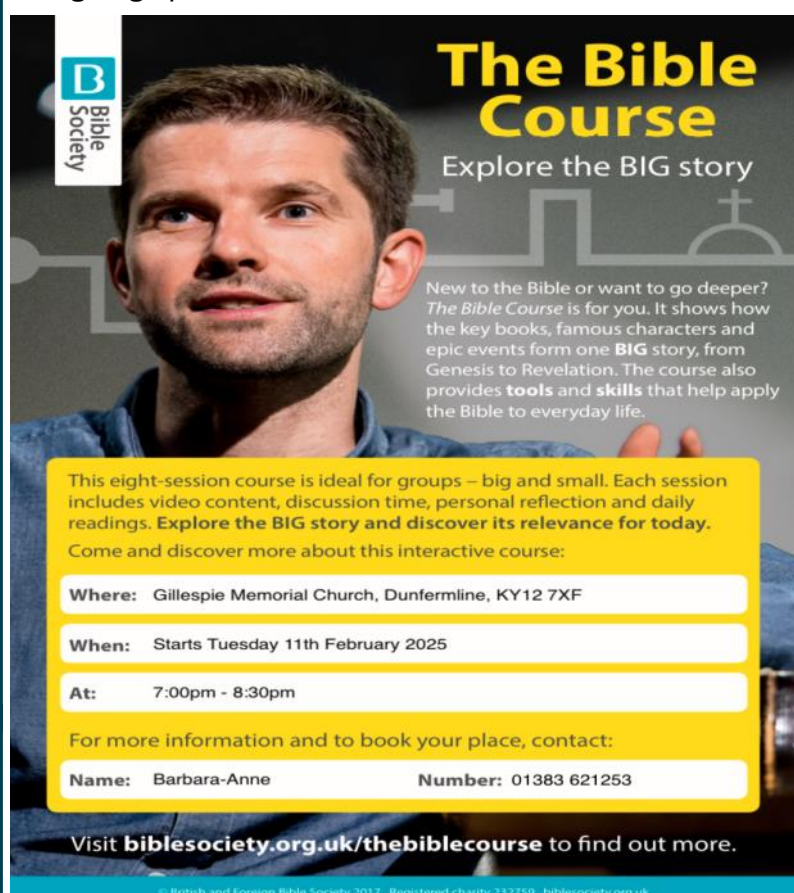
Bible Course

The Bible Course which will run at Gillespie Memorial Church, Dunfermline over 8 sessions shows you how the 'key books, famous characters and epic events form one BIG story, from Genesis to Revelation.'

It is an amazing course that isn't just for new Christians, but for all who want to understand how the Bible 'fits together'.

The Bible Course will run on Tuesdays 7pm to 8.30pm starting on February 11th.

The course book costs £5, though if this is an impediment to signing up the cost will be covered.



The Bible Course
Explore the BIG story

New to the Bible or want to go deeper? *The Bible Course* is for you. It shows how the key books, famous characters and epic events form one **BIG** story, from Genesis to Revelation. The course also provides **tools** and **skills** that help apply the Bible to everyday life.

This eight-session course is ideal for groups – big and small. Each session includes video content, discussion time, personal reflection and daily readings. Explore the **BIG** story and discover its relevance for today. Come and discover more about this interactive course:

Where: Gillespie Memorial Church, Dunfermline, KY12 7XF

When: Starts Tuesday 11th February 2025

At: 7:00pm - 8:30pm

For more information and to book your place, contact:

Name: Barbara-Anne **Number:** 01383 621253

Visit biblesociety.org.uk/thebiblecourse to find out more.

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WHEN I AM AFRAID
I PUT MY TRUST
IN YOU.

Magnitude 2025

The Church of Scotland is once again running a 'Church of Scotland Village' at Magnitude 2025, a five-day annual Christian youth festival for young people aged 11-18.

Magnitude runs from Sat 19th to Wed 23rd July and is based in at Lendrick Muir near Kinross – and very close travel distance for those in Fife Presbytery.

It is a great opportunity for young people, providing a space to encounter God, enjoy community and experience nature together.

If your church group is interested in going along, please contact the Presbytery Mission Director, Lorraine Orr, on 07546 966112 or lorr@churchofscotland.org.uk and she will provide more information.

More information about Magnitude can be found at these links: <https://youtu.be/5kVo1HagWbY>

<https://www.canva.com/design/DAGXxzA8mEc/FCdn4vw4bWmnbimdKJRUTQ/watch?>



Denis Duncan Lecture 2025

30th January 2025 : 7.00pm-9.00pm

Restorative Presence: Presence, Belonging, and the Journey of Healing - Prof John Swinton

This lecture filmed in Aberdeen explores how to create healing communities of presence and belonging founded on the ministry of Jesus.

With stories, practical suggestions and profound theology, John invites each of us into a vision of Christian community that does not seek to 'fix' brokenness but rather honour each person's unique journey. He explores in depth the lived experience of those with mental health problems and makes practical suggestions for churches in extending and deepening their ministry for those who suffer.

You can ask your questions to John on the evening, which will also include live music and prayers.

Everyone is welcome. Tickets are free and available here: <https://gohealth.org.uk/shop/dd2025/>

Calling Notice - 30th January 2025

Fife Presbytery is called to meet on Thursday the 30th of January 2025 at 7.00pm on Zoom for a Special Purpose Meeting.

Presbytery Papers have been emailed out to all presbytery members in advance. If you have not received your papers, please contact the Presbytery Office.

Rev Alec Shuttleworth
Presbytery Clerk

February Presbytery Meeting

Fife Presbytery will meet for its ordinary business meeting at 10am on Saturday 15th February, in the Wellesley Centre, Methil.

Please send any apologies to Evelyn at: econnell@churchofscotland.org.uk

GA Youth Representatives 2025

January might seem a bit early to be talking about the General Assembly in May, however it's the time when all Presbyteries need to nominate Youth Representatives for the forthcoming GA.

Again Fife Presbytery have 4 places available for Youth Reps - that's those aged 18-25 on the day the General Assembly starts.

The GA this year runs Saturday 17th May through to Thursday 22nd May 2025, in Edinburgh.

The youth reps will hold the role for the length of the GA, with an expectation to give a report to presbytery afterward. Other opportunities may include feeding back to their home church and youth groups. Youth Reps must be involved in the life of a congregation within the bounds of the Presbytery they are to represent and be regularly involved in the life and worship of the Church of Scotland (for students living away from home this means they could either represent their home presbytery or the presbytery where they are a student, whichever they feel they have the stronger ties with at the time). They should be committed to attending as much of the event as possible although there is a flexibility when attendance at exams is needed!

Cost should not be a barrier as all youth reps get their expenses paid (accommodation in Edinburgh will be provided and reps are able to claim back food and travel costs they incur).

If you know someone within your church who may be interested, please have a conversation with them. And contact the Presbytery Clerk, Rev Alec Shuttleworth on ashuttleworth@churchofscotland.org.uk

Nominations must reach Alec by Wednesday 29th January.



Ramblings On the Fife Pilgrim Way

BBC broadcaster Clare Balding was a special guest on the Fife Pilgrim Way in December.

Clare, and her producer Karen, were walking some of the path to record an episode of her popular BBC Radio 4 show Ramblings, which will be broadcast on Radio 4 at 3pm on Thursday 30th January and again just after 6am on Saturday 1st February, and will be available on BBC Sounds.

You can read more about Clare's visit in the latest Life and Work Monthly Newsletter, which is available to download here:

<https://www.lifeandwork.org/downloads/monthly-newsletters/life-and-work-newsletter-feb-25.pdf>

Service of Union

Fife Presbytery will meet on Thursday 20th February at 7pm in Methilhill Church for the Service of Union of Methilhill and Denbeath with Buckhaven and Wemyss, forming New Hope Kirk Levenmouth Parish Church of Scotland.

Rev Alec Shuttleworth
Presbytery Clerk



Special Guest on Pilgrim Way

Fife route features on Radio 4 Ramblings programme

BBC broadcaster Clare Balding was a special guest on the Fife Pilgrim Way in December.

Clare, and her producer Karen, were walking some of the path to record an episode of her BBC Radio 4 show Ramblings, which will be broadcast at the end of January.

The Fife Pilgrim Way team of Tom, James and Craig met Clare and Karen at Clatto Reservoir on a very wintry morning, with temperatures as low as minus six degrees. Craig set up a scope at the bird hide and Clare was able to observe the swans on the icy water.

They then walked to Ceres where they were joined by Peter Milne from Ceres Church, Dr Paula F de C Martin from Fife Folk Museum and Grant Robertson from Ceres Highland Games, before continuing further on the path.

The Fife Pilgrim Way follows a 64-mile medieval pilgrim route across the county.



Ramblings features Clare and guests sharing inspiring conversations in the Great Outdoors.

The Fife episode will be broadcast on Radio 4 at 3pm on Thursday January 30 and just after 6am on Saturday February 1 and will be available on BBC Sounds.

Welcome to the Life and Work monthly newsletter, a free resource helping Church of Scotland members stay up-to-date with everything going on in the Church and its partners.

Each month there will be exclusive features, news and updates from Church organisations.

The newsletter is free to download from www.lifeandwork.org/newsletter. Feel free to share with church members, friends and family, and get in touch if you have any comments or suggestions.

Inside this month

Page 2
The findings of this year's World Watch List of countries where Christians are persecuted

Page 3
Updates from Heriot Watt University chaplaincy, Interfaith Scotland, Christian Aid and more.

Page 4
This month's Life and Work: The Big Picture.

Presbytery Year of Prayer - month one: West Fife

Wednesday 22nd January saw the start of the Fife Presbytery Year of Prayer, which invites you and encourages you to join us as we take steps on our faith journeys - whatever they may be - throughout 2025.

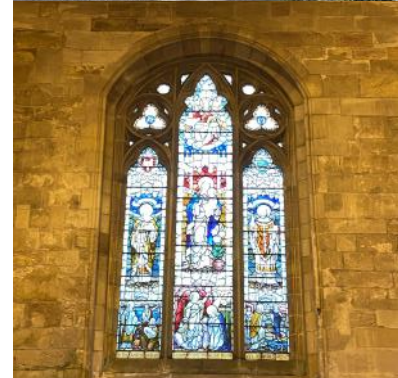
The day started with a welcome and prayer at 10am, and an explanation of the various prayer stations, then some time to explore and have conversation, before a led prayer session at 10.30am.

A group went off on the prayer walk at 12noon while others stayed in the solace of the sanctuary. Tea and coffee was on offer, as was a quiet area for personal prayer.

Around 20 people came and went throughout the day, and it was a blessing to share in God's presence with people throughout the time together.

The next day of prayer is at Dunfermline St Columba's Church on Wednesday 19th February beginning at 10am. Please do come along if you can.

If you'd like any more information, please get in touch with the Presbytery Mission Director, Lorraine Orr, on 07546 966112 or lorr@churchofscotland.org.uk



Office Admin (P/T)

Cameron & St Andrews: St Leonard's Church is looking for a part-time administrator who is interested in supporting a community. If you are computer literate (mainly MS Office; website maintenance would be a bonus), able to work unsupervised, discreet, empathetic, creative and well organised, this is a great job for you! You can work from a hybrid home / office base, and working hours are flexible by agreement - ideal if you have school runs etc to negotiate...

Please see our website: <https://stleonardschurchstandrews.com>

for more details in the first instance, then apply to stlencam@gmail.com by the closing date of 10th February.

Interviews will be in the week beginning 17th February.



Dates for your diary

Saturday 25th January : 1.00pm-3.00pm

Crossford Village Hall
Bricks of Wonder - Lego Church

Sunday 26th January : 2.00-3.30pm

Pathhead Parish Church, Kirkcaldy
Messy Church

Monday 27th January 2025 : 7.00pm

Online Event (see page 2)
Roofbreakers

Thursday 30th January 2025 : 7.00pm

Online Event Zoom
Special Purpose Presbytery Meeting

Thursday 30th January 2025 : 7.00pm-9.00pm

Online Event (see page 3)
Denis Duncan Lecture

Tuesday 11th February 2025 : 7.00pm-8.30pm

Gillespie Memorial Church, Dunfermline
Bible Course

Saturday 15th February 2025 : 10.00am

Wellesley Centre, Methil
February Presbytery Meeting

Thursday 20th February 2025 : 7.00pm

Methilhill Church, Methil

Service of Union - New Hope Kirk Levenmouth Parish Church

Inspection of Records

A reminder to Session Clerks that the following dates have been allocated for the Inspection of Records for year ending December 2024 :

- Thurs 8 May - St Marks Church, St Andrews
- Thurs 15 May - St Ninians Church, Glenrothes
- Thurs 29 May - St Ninians Church, Dunfermline

We are short of one volunteer to assist with the inspection of records at St Andrews on the 8th May 2025, and would be grateful for an offer of assistance with this.

Ideally someone with Session Clerk experience, who is familiar with the requirements of the Inspection of Records process. Training is provided. If you can help, please contact Evelyn in the Presbytery Office:

econnell@churchofscotland.org.uk

Message from the Presbytery Property Team

A gentle reminder for Property Conveners /Kirk Sessions to submit your property reports to the Presbytery Property Team. These are requested to be submitted by 31st January.

Submission should be made by email to

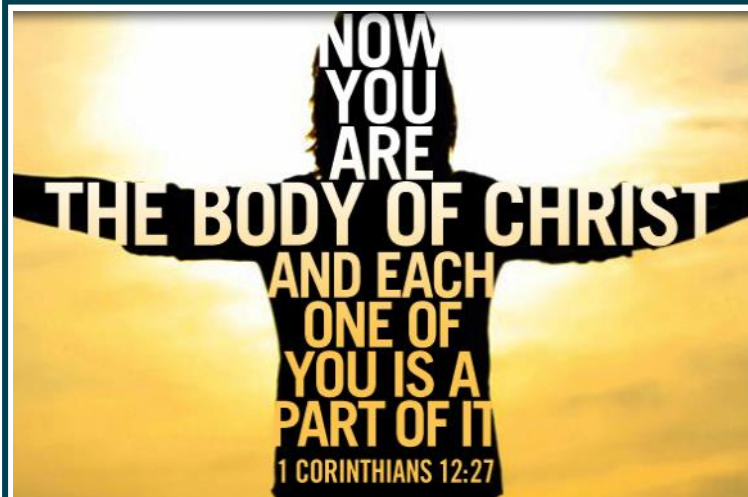
churchpropertyfife@gmail.com

Please contact us if you require assistance.

Dates of Presbytery Meetings for 2025

Ordinary Meetings of Presbytery are scheduled to be held on:

- Saturday 15th February
- Saturday 21st June
- Saturday 20th September
- Saturday 15th November



Presbytery of Fife, Presbytery Office, Wellesley Centre, Wellesley Road, Methil, KY8 3PD

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Email: fife@churchofscotland.org.uk