

Brechin Bulletin

Diocese of Brechin Scottish Episcopal Church

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The Bishop writes:

Greetings to all the sisters and brothers of the Diocese of Brechin!

The past couple of months have been a rich time in the life of the Diocese of Brechin. A new Dean and Synod Clerk were installed, the Very Reverend Fay Lamont and Canon Kenneth Gibson starting their new roles at a celebratory evensong in early June. Thanks was given to the outgoing Dean, Francis Bridger, and Kirrilee Reid the last Synod Clerk. The cathedral was very busy as congregation members and friends gathered to worship and support Fay and Kenneth. It was a wonderful diocesan occasion, with the cathedral and team, as ever, at their best! Please do continue to support Kenneth and Fay with your prayers, along with all Diocesan officers as they support the work of the charges of the diocese.



The Cathedral Chapter at the Installation

I now approaching my first anniversary as your bishop: and it has been a wonderful and intense year, from my perspective. It has been very encouraging to start mission and ministry work with 'Clusters' of charges in the north and coastal areas of the diocese: work in Dundee City and west will follow. Charges are getting to know each other and to plan how they can work together in many areas of their mission and ministry

I am also looking forward to meeting with the Diocesan Synod on the 28th of September for an autumn synod focused on 'Mission and Money': how we can work with the resources that we have to be creative and effective in our mission as the SEC in this part of Scotland. Please watch out for more information on that in the next few weeks and months.

My prayers for all in the diocese and in the wider SEC is that we can still be confident and trust in God that our mission and ministry will reach out and touch the lives of all those living in our towns and villages. We will have to make complex decisions about our priorities and strategies, but I believe we are able to listen and have those discussions and make good, faithful decisions about our future as a church. May I wish blessings to you all!

+ Andrew

A Message from Dean Fay Lamont

Reading my daily devotional recently I was struck by this verse:

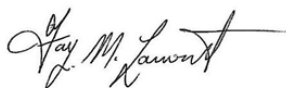
"I am with you, and no one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city." (Acts 18:10) and the commentary on it said: "In his travels as a missionary, Paul regularly has companions who share in the work of bringing the good news of Jesus and starting churches. Paul is not alone and of course he travels with God at all times."

As we read through the book of Acts, we find that the people who helped Paul came from many different countries, classes, culture and occupations. The gospel of Jesus is shared and spread by many people and ALL were crucial in bringing others to believe and be baptized and to the building up of the church. As your new Dean I could be tempted to think, along with many of my fellow clergy and some lay people, that the burden all falls on me. It is so comforting to remind ourselves that there are so many different people with varieties of gifts working lovingly and tirelessly in varieties of service with God in His church and in the world.

I am privileged to serve this Diocese as one among you and together with Bishop Andrew to encourage and assist you all, clergy and laity in your service as we work together to honour the name of Jesus and spread God's message of peace, love, hope and joy. The book of Acts and subsequent books of the New Testament remind us the Bible reflects everyday life. Like these new church communities of old we will still have differences of opinion and practice but I believe there is a deep desire to work together to see not only the Kingdom of God grow but also to see our Diocese flourish and grow.

I have promised to help that to happen and to walk with you all in your struggles. The good news is that we are not alone because God is with us in our all our weaknesses and our struggles whatever they are and wherever we may be.

May God richly bless you in your service for him and may the summer warmth bring us light and life.



Safeguarding

A reminder to all congregations to make sure they have an up-to-date First Aid Kit with appropriate sign in the church so people know where to find it. Also even better the name of anyone with knowledge of First Aid – just in case.

Boots' Chemist's *Family Essentials First Aid Kit* (£6.99) contains the basic first aid items needed to treat minor injuries – and it includes a first aid guide to provide information and advice on dealing with minor injuries to more serious injuries. Also do you have an accident record book? So should an accident (even a small one) occur you can write up the date, time and other details.

Denise Herbert
Diocesan Safeguarding Officer
Diocese of Brechin

All Souls, Invergowrie Strawberry Fayre

Saturday 24th August 2019

10am - 11.30pm

Raffle, Home Baking & Craft Stalls
Strawberries & Cream and
refreshments
Entry by donation

SECMA 'Time for Reflection' 2019

Thursday 15th August 2019

11am - 3pm

will be held at

Our Lady of Good Counsel
29 Westfield Road, Broughty Ferry,
Dundee DD5 1ED

A New Priest for the Scottish Episcopal Church in mid-Angus: The Rev John Skinner

Fr John trained for the ministry at Lincoln Theological College in the late 1970s and early 1980s. He has worked in a wide variety of church and non-church posts in the UK and abroad. John and his wife Linda are now coming to Angus in the Diocese of Brechin to build up a new linkage of Scottish Episcopal charges.



John and Linda's Biography: John and Linda Skinner help individuals, communities and churches grow and flourish and face the challenge of living in a post-Christian society. They have lived and ministered in Northumbria, Bermuda and Turkey and have an ecumenical and inclusive outlook. John and Linda are two of the three founders of the Northumbria Community, an international and ecumenical Christian community which is committed to finding new ways of living as a Christian in contemporary society. John is co-author of Celtic Daily Prayer, Celtic Night Prayer and the Northumbria Community Rule.

In Bermuda John's brief was to oversight two churches located in areas of social deprivation. This included: a complete refurbishment of the churches and their halls; identifying and training new worship leaders, lay readers and eucharistic ministers; leading a collaboration of churches, businesses, national and local government in a \$750,000 urban renewal scheme. Linda began a liturgical dance group, with members aged 16-80 who danced in various venues from the Cathedral to the street and became a feature of worship and mission.

In Turkey, John and Linda led the Little Farm School of New Monasticism, holding residential courses for young people aged 16-35 which included lectures, working in the local community, and a hands-on experience of life in a new monastic community. John was also part of the Izmir Chaplaincy pastoring a mixed congregation of Turks and Expats. To support their ministry John began a construction company, building new and refurbishing existing properties, together with an estate agency and land management company.

Following the death of their best friend and business partner and a change in the political and economic climate they could not continue their ministry in Turkey. In 2016, they returned to Northumbria and spent a year grieving over the loss of their friend and leaving their life in Turkey. Slowly, they began to look forward again, and over the border into Scotland. With the support and encouragement of Bishops in the Scottish Episcopal Church they have been looking for opportunities to put their distinctive ministry to good use. They believe they have found that opportunity in the Diocese of Brechin. John and Linda are the best of friends, have four brilliant kids and six grandkids who call them Dede and Nine (Turkish) They have had a menagerie of horses, dogs and cats which have a special place in their lives. They love the cinema, theatre, swimming and the gym. Their door is always open to welcome one and all, with food and friendship.

Fr John said 'Linda and I are looking forward to starting a new chapter in the Diocese of Brechin with the folk from Montrose, Brechin and Inverbervie. Together we can achieve so much!'

St Martin's Church ,
Dundee
Tea and B'lether

Saturday 10th August 2019

11.00am - 12.30pm

Free entry with Donations Welcome

Holy Trinity
Summer Fayre

Saturday 31st August 2019

10-2pm

Local Craft stalls, refreshments,
usual stalls Come along and enjoy the fun
all welcome

Holy Rood, Carnoustie
Quiz Night

Friday 30th August 2019

7pm for 7.30pm start

Laurie Lounge, British Legion, 88 Dun-
dee Street, Carnoustie DD7 7PH

£12 per team, maximum of 4 people.

**Ticket includes refreshments. To
book please contact Joanna Fitz-
gerald on 07790988063 or**

email jofitz1967@outlook.com

St Mary & St Peter,
Montrose
The Big Sing—Mozart's
Requiem

Saturday 7th September 2019

6pm

Fundraising event for St Mary & St Peter,
Montrose,
Come and enjoy singers from far and wide
All welcome

St Martin's Church ,
Dundee
Tea and B'lether

Saturday 21st September 2019

11.00am - 12.30pm

Free entry with Donations Welcome

St Martin's Church,
Dundee
Prize Bingo

Wednesday 25th September 2019

Eyes down 1.30pm All Welcome



Bishop's Lent Appeal - Thank you

Dear brothers and sisters,

May I thank all of Brechin Diocese who were able to support the Bishop's Lent Appeal for 2019. This appeal, supporting Macmillan Cancer Support, raised £1127 in donations, including a final last minute generous amount! Some of these were Gift Aided and sent directly to Macmillan, so the total we raised was just over £1200 for this worthwhile cause.

I hope to have another Lent Appeal in 2020 and would like to ideas for charities to support – please do send me suggestions for local, national or international causes!

Wishing you every blessing +**Andrew**