



Brechin Bulletin

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SPEAKING PERSONALLY

Recently I found myself sitting next to Bruce Gowans, the Lay Reader from St Luke's and Centre of Mission when a colleague asked him "how are things going?" For those who don't know the history of St Luke's, they have faced many challenges over the years. I was not sure what the answer would be.

Without any hesitation, Bruce summed it up in one word "GREAT". Whilst acknowledging times had not always been easy they had worked hard to keep it together, giving particular praise to an individual member who had truly kept it going. He felt blessed that Reverend Kerry Dixon had arrived on their door step and realised the way to move on was to do worship in a very different way and reach out. Bruce's positivity and enthusiasm for his Church was infectious, so much so, his ears must have needed a rest after all my questions!

Being a football mum, Sundays don't offer me the luxury of choice to go to Church or anywhere else for that matter but an invite appeared in my inbox so I thought let's see what actually happens at Café Church.

What did I find? Well I've never written an article for the Bulletin or anything else for that matter and here I am scribbling at 3am in the morning as I can't quite get it out my head. The set-up is very different. It is what it says "Café Church", tables and chairs, a sofa and the smell of coffee. Somehow I managed to get a comfy sofa but I would have been as equally comfortable sitting at a round table. The set up made it so much easier to talk to people and I had the pleasure to meet some lovely interesting people.

The topic was "Choice". This is where I thought "wow, this is different". I recognise it is not for everyone but I looked around me and watched the older members of the Church who would have had to embrace a huge change in worship and I could see how much they were enjoying not just being at Church but being part of a Church. I took part in a quiz, a discussion and learned more about Pilate than I had ever known before and even sang a few songs. Each and everyone's opinion had a place and it was all part of worship.

I could go on and on and am not doing St Luke's full justice. Prior to Communion an option was given to share a thought on being thankful for God. Two people bravely shared. One positive outcome, the other has a hard journey ahead. St Luke's affords Communion to be given in a semi-circle which itself was nice. I looked up and noticed the two people who had shared their thoughts had come together.

If I am honest (you can ask yourself the question), many times I have lost concentration and my thoughts drift to all the other things I need to do that day. Did this happen? Not a chance. My brain had been too busy participating, thinking and digesting this whole experience so much so I should have been someplace else 45 minutes earlier!!! To top it up, when asked what my favourite hymn is, no contest, "This little light of mine, I'm going let it shine" wins every time, well St Luke's – you shine!!!!

Jackie Milton

Bishop Nigel's Midweek Evening Lent Talks 2016

A Faithful Future?

Our Christian Faith in the World Today

Talk – Questions -Discussion – Refreshments – 7.00pm

Bishop Nigel will share his thoughts on the challenges to our faith amidst the turbulence and uncertainties of the world around us.

Coming to locations across the Diocese including

St Andrew's Brechin Tuesday 16 or Wednesday 17 February (date to be confirmed)

St James's Stonehaven Tuesday 23 February

St Luke's Dundee and **Holy Trinity Monifieth** (March dates to be confirmed)

Candlemas Service

St Salvador's invite you to their annual civic, academic and religious festival celebrating

Our Lady's Patronage of the City of Dundee

Tuesday, 2 February 2016 at 7pm

Celebrant: Bishop Nigel

Preacher: Right Rev Philp North, Bishop of Burnley

Music by Cantiones Sacrae

Links Lenten Lunch of Soup and Cheese

Wednesday, 17 February 2016

12 for 12.30 finishing 3pm

St Margaret's Church, Ancrum Road, Dundee

followed by a talk from **Rev Tracy Dowling**

Bring and Buy Stall

Financial donation for the lunch

for LINKS Mission Projects.

St Martin's Dundee February Prize Bingo Wednesday, 24 February 2016

Eyes down 1.30pm

Admission 50p

includes refreshments and free raffle.

All welcome.



St Mary the Virgin, Arbroath and St Peter's, Auchmithie together with the Diocese of Brechin welcome Reverend Peter Mead and his wife Linda.

Peter will take up post as Rector and his Institution will be celebrated on Saturday, 12 March 2016 at St Mary the Virgin, Arbroath at 3pm to which all are welcome.

Annalu would like to thank everyone for all the prayers she received while she was recovering from acute sciatica most of last year. She is a 'new, taller Annalu'. She has been overwhelmed by the sheer number of friends and colleagues sending their best wishes on her OBE.

"I am so humbled by it all as I have been honoured for work I love and about which I am so passionate. I am also keenly aware that I am only able to do what I do with the help and support of family, friends, colleagues and all my students who have worked on projects with me."



Glenalmond Annual Youth Camp—Sunday 24-Saturday 30 July 2016

Details will follow shortly on the SEC website.

MISSION SPOT

The greatest inhibition to mission is the lack of discipleship"

Let us use Lent to grow in our discipleship of Christ and in the joy of planting and nurturing the seed in new disciples.

In whom can you plant the seed this spring?