

Focus

The Church Newsletter of Peterculter Parish Church
June 2025

FROM OUR LOCUM MINISTER

I am always amazed how a tiny seed when put under several inches of compost then given enough water, light and fertiliser can turn in a beautiful plant. It is truly a miracle!

As Bill and I were away visiting Vivien and August in the Philippines in April and May I didn't plant any seeds in my greenhouse this year. Friends and family would have had to come and water them daily! Instead, I have bought bedding plants from garden centres. That is not the same as growing your own.



Jesus told the Parable of the Sower. It begins 'A farmer went to sow seed.... and goes on to say that some seed fell by the wayside, other seed fell on rocky ground, other seed fell among thorns and other seed fell on good soil'.

There are many lessons to be drawn from this parable. For example, that our lives need to be like fertile soil, receptive to the word of God. Another important message is that we need to beware of temptations that may destroy our faith. It could also be that the underlying theme is to guard against shallow discipleship. We could also argue that Jesus is telling us that some people will never respond to the gospel no matter how often they hear it.

Yet a further lesson is perhaps more important and that, quite simply, is the need to sow seed. The seed may be the object of the story, but the sower has first to sow it. The final harvest is out of our hands, but sowing the seed is very much IN them, and the results may well surprise us. If you want to see a miracle, plant a word of love deep in someone's heart. Nurture it with a smile and a prayer, and watch what happens.

Thank you for the privilege of being your Locum Minister for the last 17 months. It has been good to rekindle previous friendships and make new ones. Thank you all for playing such a special part in my faith journey and I wish you every blessing as you step out on the next stage of yours under the ministry of Emma. May God bless you as you continue sowing seeds and working for the Kingdom.

Love to you all

Susan xx



WORSHIP

See page 2 for details of all our June services

LIVE STREAMING

Our services are live-streamed on our YouTube channel.

These can be watched live (or later) at our YouTube page: <https://youtube.com/user/CulterKirk>.

After the service they can also be found on our website: www.culterkirk.co.uk

THURSDAY WORSHIP AND COFFEES

A short Thursday midweek service is held at 11.30am, as follows:

- 1st Thursday of month:
Culter Kirk
- 2nd Thursday of month:
Drumoak Church Hall

Tea and coffee is served prior to these services from 10am at Culter and from 11am at Drumoak.

SEPTEMBER FOCUS

**No Focus in
July and August**

Deadline for articles:

Sun 24th August

Publication :

Sun 31st August

SAVE THE DATE - NEW MINISTER INDUCTION 24TH JUNE!

At the end of April Rev. Emma McDonald preached as sole nominee for the vacancy at Peterculter Parish Church.

After the service the congregation held a vote and elected Rev. Emma McDonald as its new minister with 117 votes in favour and 2 against. Rev. McDonald's appointment has now been approved by Presbytery and her induction service will be held on the evening of Tuesday 24th June.

Further details will be given closer to the time but please keep this date free and make every effort to attend this service and show your support for our new minister.

PRESBYTERY MATTERS

The last meeting of Presbytery was on 29th of April by Zoom and in person at Fountainhall Church at the Cross. It included receiving reports from nine committees and a presentation from a representative from the charity Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF).

Started 80 years ago at the end of World War 2, MAF's founders, inspired by their Christian faith, decided to use their flying and engineering skills to deliver help, hope and healing to the world's most isolated people.

MAF believe every community, however remote, should have the essentials for life. It is now the world's largest humanitarian airline flying in and out of 1,500 airstrips in over 25 countries. MAF pilots and personnel deliver relief workers, doctors, pastors, school books, food, medicines - everything that can only be safely and speedily transported by air. Their supporters give and pray to make this all possible.

With MAF planes taking off and landing every six minutes the need is great.

Presbytery will next meet at 10am on Saturday 21st June at Fountainhall Church at the Cross.

Richard Little



WORSHIP FOR JUNE

Sun 1st June, 10.30am	Sunday Morning Worship	Rev. Susan Sutherland	Culter Kirk
Thu 5th June, 11.30am	Short midweek service	Rev. Susan Sutherland	Culter Kirk
Sun 8th June, 10.30am	Sunday Morning Worship including Family Communion	Rev. Susan Sutherland	Culter Kirk
Thu 12th June, 11.30am	Short midweek service	Rev. Susan Sutherland	Drumoak Hall
Sun 15th June, 10.30am	Sunday Morning Worship	Rev. Susan Sutherland	Culter Kirk
Sun 22nd June, 10.30am	Sunday Morning Worship	Rev. Susan Sutherland	Culter Kirk
Tue 24th June	Induction Service for Rev. Emma McDonald	Rev. Shuna Dicks (Presbytery Moderator)	Culter Kirk
Sun 29th June, 10.30am	Sunday Morning Worship	Rev. Emma McDonald	Culter Kirk

SATURDAY COFFEES

Saturday Coffees are held in Culter Church Hall from 10am to 12 noon on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month.

If you are able to volunteer to help with coffees, please contact the church office. This appeal also includes volunteers for Sunday teas and coffees after the service.



INSTANT NEIGHBOUR

Please note that as well as the Monday morning drop off from 11am - 12 noon, you can bring goods on a Sunday morning and leave them in the basket at the extension door. This is a very much appreciated community effort.



DRUMOAK AND DURRIS

As a result of the union between Peterculter Church and Drumoak & Durrus Church, we've all been introduced to new friends and colleagues.

However, it's also resulted in both Drumoak and Durrus church buildings being deemed to be surplus to requirements and being put on the market.

Some elements of these churches have been retained and are now in Peterculter Church. The more eagle-eyed amongst you may have noticed the painting of Durrus Kirk which is now hanging in the extension.

Also the fall on the lectern may be familiar to those who previously worshipped in Durrus Church. Over the next few months we hope to display several more elements from Drumoak & Durrus churches in Peterculter.



PASTORAL SUPPORT

Rev. Susan Sutherland

07483 296859

susan.sutherland@sky.com

FUNERALS

- Valerie Dubber
- Alasdair McRae

**FLOWERS**

Thanks to all who contributed to the Church Flowers in May:

- Moira West
- Alan and Anne Dey

Convener: Violet Smith

01224 733317

Treasurer: Mabel Taylor

01224 732030

**EMAIL CONTACT**

It would help administration greatly if you are able to provide an email address that the church can use for communication.

If you have an email address and have not already supplied us with it, can you please email

secretary@culterkirk.co.uk

**CONTACT US****Interim Moderator:**

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CHURCH OFFICE

The Church Office is open to the public on Friday mornings from 10am - 12 noon.

