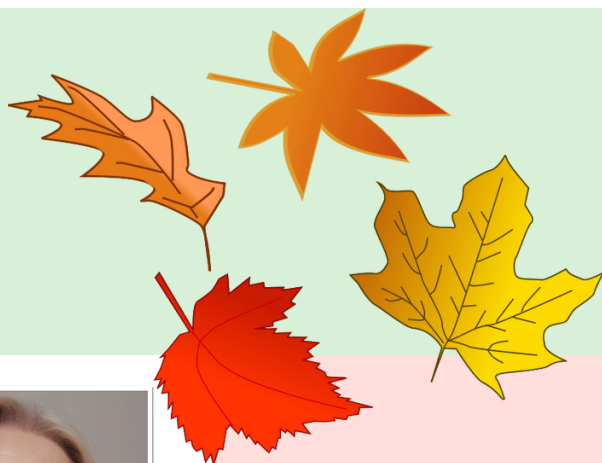


# Focus

The Church Newsletter of Peterculter Parish Church  
October 2025



## FROM OUR MINISTER

*"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." - Psalm 118:24*

As the quiet rhythm of summer gives way to the busyness of September, life in the church community begins to stir once more. Meetings fill our calendars, services resume with renewed energy, and signs of the changing season—coats, scarves, cooler mornings—gently nudge us toward autumn. Our minds inevitably begin to reach ahead: Fireworks Night, Remembrance, Advent, Christmas... so much to plan, prepare, and anticipate.

Yet in the midst of all this forward-looking, how easy it is to overlook the gift of today.

Psalm 118 reminds us of a deep truth: this very day is not just another item to cross off the calendar—it is a amazing gift from God. It has been made by the Lord, and that alone makes it holy. That alone makes it worthy of our joy and gladness.

God's grace meets us in time—in every passing hour, in each new morning, in the ordinary and the extraordinary alike. His grace is not only found in future celebrations or long-awaited milestones; it is found in this moment, in this breath in each day whether it be filled with joy or tears.

How often do we pause to acknowledge that? To give thanks not just for the good days, or the productive ones, but for each day simply as it comes—as a sign that God is with us and for us? That we are part of his divine plan for creation.



Emma McDonald

As the trees begin to turn orange and leaves clutter paths and our breath can be seen in the frosty mornings, let us remember to rejoice not only in what is to come, but in what is. Let us recognise each day as a testament to God's grace, made new every morning, and let us walk through them—busy or quiet, light or heavy—with hearts open to that grace, and lips ready to give thanks.



With every blessing,  
Emma

## WORSHIP

See page 3 for details of all our October services

## LIVE STREAMING

Our services are live-streamed to our YouTube. 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](http://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.

## NOVEMBER FOCUS

**Deadline for articles:**  
**Sun 19th October**  
**Publication :**  
**Sun 26th October**



## The Presbytery of the North East and the Northern Isles

THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

### PRESBYTERY MATTERS

The new session of Presbytery started with an "all day" meeting on Saturday, 13th of September at Fountainhall at the Cross Parish Church.

With reports from nine committees and other matters having been circulated before the meeting, the business, with some discussion, was mostly completed in the morning.

In the afternoon a conference session was addressed by Professor Paul T. Nimmo, a theologian at the University of Aberdeen, who spoke about:

#### "Celebrating Nicaea"

1,700 years ago, in 325 AD, the first Council of Nicaea was a gathering of hundreds of Christian bishops from across the Roman Empire, called by the Emperor Constantine to resolve theological disputes and to establish a common understanding of Christian Doctrine.

From it came the Nicene Creed which affirms fundamental Christian beliefs. It was later revised in 381 AD. The Creed summarises essential biblical truths about God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.

**Richard Little**



### DRUMOAK FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The club resumes its meetings on Monday 6th October, 2pm - 4pm in Drumoak Church Hall.

### TIME TO TALK

#### How's Things?? What's Happening??

Do you sometimes wish the phone would ring and the friendly caller would be asking how you're feeling, how's your family or what have you been doing in the past week?

Sometimes we may feel lonely or bored and miss our friends or family, or just wish that the phone would ring to break up the long dark evenings with only the television or radio for company.

Are you a good listener and interested in other people? Do you think you could arrange to chat to someone on a regular basis?

We are hoping to start a telephone friendship service where we can arrange a call for a chat with someone you may not know but over time could become a good friend. If you are interested in having a phone friend, please let us know.

Alternatively, you may like to consider volunteering as an occasional caller.

To find out more details or register your interest in helping to provide a friendship service, please contact Katie in the office, Donald Muir, Pam Fraser or the minister.

**Pam Fraser**

**Care Team Administrator**



## ANGIE MUTCH FUNDRAISING FOR CROSSREACH

Angie Mutch, who preached for us a number of times in our vacancy, will be abseiling from the Falkirk Wheel in March 2026 to help raise funds for CrossReach.

CrossReach is run by the Church of Scotland with a remit: "to provide social care services and specialist resources in Christ's name to further the caring work of the Church to people in challenging circumstances". They are one of the largest care providers in Scotland, with experience across a broad range of services. If you would like to support Angie and help raise funds for this worthwhile cause you can donate by logging on to the JustGiving website (<https://www.justgiving.com/>) and searching for: "Angelina Mutch".



## PROPERTY DEFECT REGISTER

One of the challenges in keeping the Church going is in maintaining the church buildings. We are grateful that we have a Property Team who look after this on our behalf.

However, if they don't know that something is broken, it can't be fixed! They rely on the congregation pointing out things that aren't quite right. To help the Property Team manage the work, a Property Defect Register has been put together. This is normally stored on the shelf in the vestry corridor. If you see something that needs fixed, please make a note of it in this folder so that a repair can be scheduled.



## OCTOBER WORSHIP

Thu 2nd Oct, 11.30am	Short Midweek Service	Culter Kirk	Rev Emma McDonald
Sun 5th Oct, 10.30am	Morning Worship	Culter Kirk	Rev Emma McDonald
Thu 9th Oct, 11.30am	Short Midweek Service	Drumoak Church Hall	Rev Emma McDonald
Sun 12th Oct, 10.30am	Morning Worship	Culter Kirk	Rev Susan Sutherland
Sun 19th Oct, 10.30am	Morning Worship	Culter Kirk	Angie Mutch
Sun 26th Oct, 10.30am	Morning Worship	Culter Kirk	Rev Emma McDonald

## THURSDAY WORSHIP AND THURSDAY AND 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.



## FLOWERS

Thanks to all who contributed to the Church Flowers in September.

- Albert & Alison Middler
- Isabel McIntyre

**Convener: Violet Smith**

**01224 733317**

**Treasurer: Mabel Taylor**

**01224 732030**



## LIVINGSTON OUTLET CENTRE SHOPPING TRIP SATURDAY 8TH NOVEMBER



Bus leaves Peterculter Parish Church at 7.30am, returning approximately 8.30pm. £30 per person includes refreshments. All profits to the church.

**Contact Fiona Jones on 07775 955250 to book your seat.**

## 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.



## 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](mailto:secretary@culterkirk.co.uk)



## CONTACT US

### Minister:

- Rev Emma McDonald
- 07956 750026

▸ [emcdonald@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:emcdonald@churchofscotland.org.uk)

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- Katie Gillies
- 01224 735845
- [secretary@culterkirk.co.uk](mailto:secretary@culterkirk.co.uk)

## CHURCH OFFICE

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

