

Focus

The Church Newsletter of Peterculter Parish Church
February 2026



PRESBYTERY MATTERS

Presbytery last met on December 2nd 2025 when the business included the following matters:

Anti-migrant Protests

The Church, Society and International Committee reported on anti-migrant protests following a request for comment. There are parishes within our Presbytery that contain hotels where people seeking asylum are housed and where recent protests have been raised. Extreme language was in evidence, some racist and dehumanising, with some protesters using Christian symbols as weapons. Such behaviour can follow from legitimate concerns being manipulated through misinformation and the raising of illegitimate fears.

The Committee recognised that in a time of increasing protests there will be folk in our congregations who want to respond in a way that maintains faithful witness to Jesus Christ. It was aware of the sensitivity around this issue, acknowledging that individuals within the same congregation may hold differing views on immigration and faithful witness.

The report quoted the former Principal Clerk stating; "Jesus calls us to love both our neighbours and our enemies and to welcome the stranger. Any co-opting or corrupting of the Christian faith to exclude others is unacceptable."

Presbytery Congregation Numbers

In 2024 there were 114 congregations within Presbytery. By the end of 2025, due to adjustments, this number had fallen to 90. 37.8% of congregations (including ours) now contribute more to central funds than the cost of ministry whereas, before the changes, it was only 22.4%. Note that a congregation can occupy one church building or, as in Orkney and Shetland, a number of buildings.

Richard Little

AFTERNOON TEA WITH ENTERTAINMENT BY VOCAL ZONE

**Sunday 29th March 2-4pm
£6.50 payable on the day.**

Vocal Zone is a quartet of singers who sing in 4-part harmony a cappella style.

Come and enjoy a variety of songs from across the decades.

Names please, for catering purposes, to Katie in the church office, to elders or at church.

Transport can be arranged if necessary.



WORSHIP

See overleaf for details of all our February 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

Thursday Coffees resume after the Christmas break on Thursday 5th February.

A short Thursday midweek service is held on the first Thursday of each month at 11.30am, in Culter Kirk.

Tea and coffee is served prior to this service from 10am.

MARCH FOCUS

Deadline for articles:

Sun 15th February 2026

Publication :

Sun 22nd February 2026

FEBRUARY WORSHIP

Sunday 1st , 10.30am	Sunday Service	Rev. Emma McDonald
Thursday 5th, 11.30am	Short Midweek Service, Culter Kirk	Rev. Emma McDonald
Sunday 8th, 10.30am	Sunday Service	Rev. Emma McDonald
Sunday 15th, 10.30am	Sunday Service	Rev. Emma McDonald
Sunday 22nd, 10.30am	Sunday Service followed by Informal Communion Service	Rev. Emma McDonald

FLOWERS

Thanks to everyone who donated to the Church Flowers for November, December and January.

- Myrtle Farquhar
- Moira West (Outside Tubs)
- Moira Marshall
- Cecil & Margaret Crichton

Convener: Violet Smith, 01224 733317

Treasurer: Mabel Taylor, 01224 732030

INSTANT NEIGHBOUR DONATIONS

Our foodbank drop-off for Instant Neighbour takes place each Monday from 11am - 12 noon. Alternatively you can bring goods on a Sunday morning and leave them in the basket at the Culter Church extension door.

SATURDAY COFFEES

Saturday Coffees restart after the Christmas break on Saturday 7th February.

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 Sunday teas and coffees after the service.



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



Minister

• Rev. Emma McDonald
• 07956 750026

• emcdonald@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk:

- Ross Andrews
- 07816 593042
- sessionclerk@culterkirk.co.uk

Focus Editor:

- Val Muir
- 07766 740878
- editor@culterkirk.co.uk

Church Office:

- Katie Gillies
- 01224 735845
- secretary@culterkirk.co.uk

CHURCH OFFICE

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

