



BURNTISLAND PARISH CHURCH

December 2023/January 2024



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Details of our Worship Services are in the What's On section inside the back cover of the magazine



Burntisland Parish, Erskine UF
and Kinghorn Parish churches

This church exists to:

- ♥ **Bring** people to Jesus
- ♥ **Grow** disciples
- ♥ **Love** one another
- ♥ **Serve** the wider community
- ♥ **Glorify** and **worship** God together



Twas the Month before Christmas

*When all through our land,
Not a Christian was praying
Nor taking a stand.
See, the PC Police had taken away
the reason for Christmas - no one could say.
The children were told by their schools not to sing
About Shepherds and Wise Men and Angels and things.
It might hurt people's feelings, the teachers would say
December 25th is just a 'Holiday'.
Yet the shoppers were ready with cash, checks and credit
Pushing folks down to the floor just to get it!
CDs from Madonna, an X BOX, an I-Pod
Something was changing, something quite odd!
Retailers promoted Ramadan and Kwanzaa
In hopes to sell books by Franken & Fonda.
As Targets were hanging their trees upside down
At Lowe's the word Christmas - was nowhere to be found.
At K-Mart and Staples and Penny's and Sears
You won't hear the word Christmas; it won't touch your ears.
Inclusive, sensitive, Di-ver-is-ty
Are words that were used to intimidate me.
At the top of the Senate, there arose such a clatter
To eliminate Jesus, in all public matter.
And we spoke not a word, as they took away our faith
Forbidden to speak of salvation and grace
The true Gift of Christmas was exchanged and discarded
The reason for the season, stopped before it started.
So as you celebrate 'Winter Break' under your 'Dream Tree'
Sipping your Starbucks, listen to me.
Choose your words carefully, choose what you say
Shout MERRY CHRISTMAS,
Not Happy Holiday!
Please, all Christians join together and
Wish everyone you meet
MERRY CHRISTMAS*

From our Pulpit and Pastoral Officer

I was sharing with Auchtertool this last Sunday about the parable of the goats and the sheep. So often we focus on God our Shepherd but how often do we reflect on what it means to be a part of His flock. This parable, found in Mathew 25: 31 – 46 reminds us that when Jesus returns, He will separate humanity into two groups, sheep and goats. The sheep are those who know their Shepherds voice and have been living out their faith with acts of love to serve all people. All are welcome in our flock and therefore we are challenged to reach out to others, share with and support others in any way we can. Goats are those who say they are Christian but do not live out their faith. Their actions do not match their words and often are non-believers. Jesus, our Good Shepherd will return and when He does, He will separate us into one of these two groups. This of course calls us to reflect on our lives. Do we practice what we preach? Do we truly love all people with the love of Christ? Do people see Jesus reflected through our words and actions?



When we first heard we were coming to Scotland, I was so angry at God. Why on earth would you send us to the other side of the world? What difference could we possibly make there? We know absolutely no one in Scotland Lord, are you punishing us I thought. Despite my feelings we chose to answer God's call and boy did He have a lesson for me to learn. When I was still a teenager, I felt a calling on my life into the ministry and so I went on to attain my Degree in Theology and worked in ministry for many years. Due to many hurts, disappointments, false accusations and burnout, I finally left full time ministry and entered teaching. God let me run for a while but somehow, after arriving in Scotland, He has managed to rope me back into the ministry which has forced me to place my trust in Him as well as His flock. A flock I did not know AT ALL. We came over because of Adrian but I too came over with a servant heart. Use me where you will Lord. Use me to share your heart with your flock. I choose to be a sheep who loves and serves all. And the rest is history.

What a blessing and an honour it has been to serve Burntisland Parish Church as the Pulpit and Pastoral officer. I am eternally grateful to all of you for entrusting me with this position of sharing God's word with us all and to assist in guiding us into this union. It has been such a privilege to get to know many of you a little better as well as challenging myself in and through God's Word once more. I am not entirely sure what my future holds and where exactly God wants me, but I continue to serve Him and His flock wherever I am needed. I choose to live out my faith through word and deed as best I can through guidance of our Shepherd. I choose to serve God and His people equally in and through this union which brings with it great excitement. My prayer is that we will all love people with the love of Christ, welcoming all into the flock. There is safety in numbers and strength in unity. May God strengthen His church mightily as we choose to work together and serve our community. May God bless you in and through all you do.



Taryn



Carol Singing – On Saturday 16th December at 11am, members of the four Churches in the town will be on the High Street (at St Andrews Court) singing Christmas Carols, led by the Praise Band. Come and join in all the well-known songs and get the Christmas feeling.

Dear Friends,
Thanks to Rae, the Magazine Editor and Liz the Session Clerk: I've been asked to do a "This is your life" for this issue of Burntisland Church's Magazine, which will be the last before the Union with Kinghorn Church happens on 1st January 2024. Let me introduce myself: some of you will know me and some may not (it would be easier if those who did told those who didn't, but we're Scots and a bit reserved!)



I have been Minister of Kinghorn for 27 years out of 39 years in Ministry, first in Bridge of Don, a suburb of Aberdeen, then in Avoch, a fishing village on the Black Isle, north of Inverness.

I grew up in Larkhall, Lanarkshire, with many of my forebears being coalminers, though my great uncle George McQueen, also a Miner, played football for Airdrieonians, captaining them to their only Scottish Cup win in 1924! Coming to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ while at Secondary School made a big difference in my life. On leaving School I worked for a firm of Industrial Auctioneers and Valuers based in Hamilton and conducting Auctions all over Scotland.

I sensed God's calling to be a Minister of the Gospel in 1980 and after studying Theology at the University of Edinburgh, graduating with an Honours degree in Christian Ethics and Practical Theology and at the Scottish Congregational College I was Ordained in Middleton Park Primary School in the fast-growing Bridge of Don (going on to plant another new Church there in 1986).

In 1990 I was called to Avoch Congregational Church on the Black Isle. A traditional highland fishing village, a big change from the growing community of Bridge of Don. My appreciation of working together with different churches/denominations, grew immensely there and also introducing a new Hymn book: Mission Praise and encouraging women to take leadership in the Church as it hadn't been allowed in the past. So, when we thought of a move to be nearer family in central Scotland, it was a natural move to look for a Church of Scotland parish.

I had a very clear call to Kinghorn, which emerged from there being two Churches which approached me to be their Minister and we would have been very happy to go to either place, but we gave it over to the Lord and He placed us in Kinghorn, in a very clear and unanimous way.

The motto verse which we took for Ministry in Kinghorn was:

4 For he was crucified in weakness, but lives by the power of God. For we also are weak in him, but in dealing with you we will live with him by the power of God. 2 Corinthians 13:4

As a family we have enjoyed living and serving the Church and Community here and look forward to Ministry widening (for no increase in pay I might add!) to Burntisland in January.

Living and serving in Kinghorn has involved Bible based preaching and music at the centre of worship in which I've always encouraged lay participation. Fellowship features highly, with us emphasising the Church as a family of faith. There are many community connections, for instance at the Gala and the Church Shop.

I have been 10 years as Chaplain of Raith Rovers (though I also support Aberdeen FC!) Chaplain at Kinghorn Primary School, Balwearie High School and the DAS, and of Clan Donnachaidh (Robertson, of which Reid is a sept).

I have served the Church in Fife: I am the Moderator of Fife Presbytery for 2023/4, having also been Moderator of the former Kirkcaldy Presbytery in 2001/2 and at different times: Chaplain to Ministers, Business, Ministries and Complaints Convener. I have served the Church Nationally on Ministries Council and been Convener of Interim Ministry. I am a trained Supervisor and have supervised 12 students in various stages of training for Ministry, who serve now, all over Scotland.

I have been Married to Marion, who hails from Northern Ireland via Shotts, for 29 years. Marion has been Cook Supervisor at Kinghorn School for 17 years, she was a training Officer for Highland Training and prior to marriage was Catering Manager at Motorola in Bathgate. Our son Andrew, who although born in Inverness, has grown up in Kinghorn; graduated from Aberdeen University and is now, in Glasgow pursuing his career with AECOM as a

Transportation Planning Consultant. Andrew is engaged to Emma who works as a Special Needs Psychiatric Nurse, also in Glasgow.

My vision for Ministry is to know Christ and make him known in Kinghorn and now Burntisland and through a Church Family where everyone is loved, valued and their gifts grown and honoured. Building, with Jesus a Church which grows warmer through fellowship, stronger through worship, broader through ministry, deeper through discipleship and larger through evangelism.

I firmly believe that we will be “Better Together” (to borrow the title of Bishop David Shepherd’s book which tells the story of Churches working together in Liverpool). We have invested four years of work, planning, meetings and preparation to come to this point of Union and the hard work of building our togetherness will continue, so I will value, your patience, support and above all your prayers as we move forward!

I enjoy working with people to further God’s Kingdom, make Jesus known and be open to the Holy Spirit, my motto verses for understanding Ministry are this passage from Paul’s Letter to the Ephesian Christians:

“He handed out gifts above and below, filled heaven with his gifts, filled earth with his gifts. He handed out gifts of apostle, prophet, evangelist, and pastor-teacher to train Christ’s followers in skilled servant work, working within Christ’s body, the church, until we’re all moving rhythmically and easily with each other, efficient and graceful in response to God’s Son, fully mature adults, fully developed within and without, fully alive like Christ.” The Message Ephesians 4: 11-16

I’m an enthusiastic supporter of Churches working together (Ecumenism if you like!) and support our local BEK (Burntisland C of S, Erskine UF and Kinghorn C of S) Partnership: now moving towards the Union of Burntisland and Kinghorn C of S.

I am an avid reader, a keen gardener, an adventurous cook, a committed gym attender also enjoying walking (half of the Munros and nearly all of the east coast of Scotland), love to sing and listen to a wide variety of music and enjoy a nice malt and occasional ale.

Little did I think, when, as Kirkcaldy Presbytery Moderator in November 2001 and I inducted Rev Alan Sharp as Burntisland Minister that I would be his successor; called to be the Minister of the new United Church of Burntisland and Kinghorn.

With a sense of history, a sense of humour and a sense of humility I’m ready to respond the Lord Jesus’ call and the congregation’s appeal to “Come over and help us”.

Blessings in the Lord’s service,

Jim Reid,
Minister of Kinghorn,
Minister elect of Burntisland and Kinghorn Church of Scotland,
Moderator of Fife Presbytery

Elders Duty

December	3 rd	A. Duffin, C. Fitzpatrick and A. Smith
	10 th	K. Cameron, C. Gillan and R. Sweenie
	17 th	F. Dempster, J. Fitzpatrick and K. MacLean
	24 th	G. Brownlie, P. Gibson, S. Lees and W. Ramsay
January	31 st	L. Duffin, A. Halpin and D. MacLean
	7 th	S. Gillan, E. Taylor and F. Watson
	14 th	A. Duffin, C. Fitzpatrick, A. Smith
	21 st	K. Cameron, C. Gillan and R. Sweenie
February	28 th	F. Dempster, J. Fitzpatrick and K. MacLean
	4 th	G. Brownlie, P. Gibson, S. Lees and W. Ramsay
	11 th	L. Duffin, A. Halpin and D. MacLean



Prayer

O holy Night, the stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of the dear Saviour's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till He appeared and the soul found its worth.
A thrill of hope, the weary soul rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.

Fall on your knees! O hear the angels voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born;
O night, O holy night, O night divine!



This is the first verse and chorus of my favourite Christmas carol. Not just because of the beautiful melody but also the inspired lyrics.

I always look forward to the Christmas music on the radio. It adds reality to the anticipation and the joy of Christmas and what we really ought to be celebrating, namely the birth and fulfilment of God's promise of a Saviour and Redeemer.

Loving, faithful Father God,

We praise and thank you with all our hearts, that in your love for us you kept your promise of long ago to send a Saviour and Redeemer, your Son Jesus Christ.

He came as a baby, born as man, bringing us joy and peace, growing up just like us, becoming a man with a divine mission.

He taught, He healed, He loved, He lived a sinless life.

He was persecuted, He was misunderstood, He suffered, He was nailed to a cross for our sins - yet He forgave us. He died and, in His death, He conquered Satan and his minions. Through his blood He saved us.

Then, joy of all joys, He rose, He lived! He appeared to many. He ascended to heaven where He intercedes for us and He lives in our hearts if we invite Him in.

Thank you Jesus, for the joy and peace you give us, for your friendship, your presence in us, and your promise to never leave us.

Holy Spirit please help us this Christmas to remember what our celebration is really about, fill us with joy and help us to share the Greatest News - Jesus - with our families and friends.

Father God you kept your promise to send us a Saviour, your Son Jesus. We believe that you will keep your promise that Jesus will come back again. Help us to be ready.

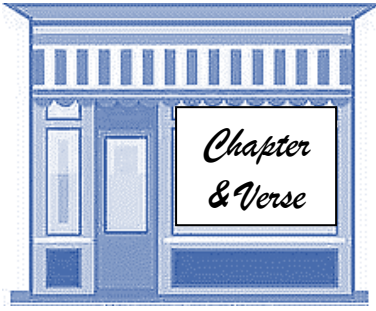
Glory to God in the Highest and on earth peace to men on whom His favour rests. (Luke 2:14).

In Jesus precious name. Amen

Ruth Connor

BEK Prayer on Zoom

The Tuesday prayer time on Zoom is at 7pm for 40 minutes. You can get the joining details from Ruth Connor, email: ruthconnor28@gmail.com.



Opening Hours

Monday and Tuesday -10am to 1pm

Wednesday - 11am to 2pm

Thursday, Friday and Saturday – 10am to 4pm

Chapter and Verse will be closed for some time during January

CHRISTMAS

at
Chapter and Verse



**cards, advent calendars, books,
decorations, candles, jewellery,
handbags, purses, scarves, gloves
and gifts**

(please shop locally and support Burntisland Parish Church)



A joint Kirk Session Meeting of Burntisland and Kinghorn takes place in our Hall at 2.30pm on Sunday 3rd December and later we will be joined by Erskine Kirk Session

The first Kirk Session Meeting of the Union is on Thursday 11th January.



George Johnston would like to thank everyone for their cards, visits, telephone calls, and enquiries about his health during his current illness and to wish you all the Season's greetings.

The Guild



DECEMBER 2023

5 th	Christmas Party Social	Moir & Chris
12 th	Christmas Lunch	

JANUARY 2024

9 th	Opening Social	Moir & Chris
16 th	Quiz & Games	ALL
23 rd	Falkland Palace	Marion Walker
30 th	Inner Hebrides	Arthur Lloyd

FEBRUARY 2024

6 th	BEK Youth	Adrian Minnie
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Fife Bus

Would you like to attend The Guild on a Tuesday afternoon, but can't manage 'The Hill'? Fife Council run a bus service that might be able to help you.



Who can use it?

Anyone who has difficulty in using mainstream public transport due to some form of reduced mobility. Your reduced mobility may be physical, mental or a sensory impairment, and may be permanent or temporary.

What Can I use it for?

You can use the service for any transport you require, for example:

- shopping trips
- visiting relatives and friends
- going to work or to college
- going to the cinema or bingo
- visiting the park

How do I use it?

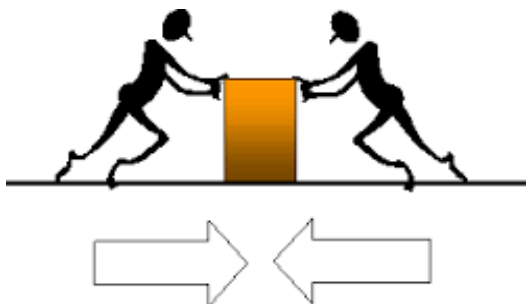
Firstly, you need to register before you can book a journey. Registration is quick and simple. Please telephone the Fife Bus office on 03451 55 11 88. The staff will talk you through the process and let you know if you qualify. Registrations will be accepted between 11am and 2pm.

Working Together

A man grabbed the other end of a piano when he noticed a storekeeper trying to get it through the door of his shop. They struggled for about fifteen minutes, unable to budge the heavy object. Finally, the store owner puffed, "I don't think we'll ever get this thing out of the store."

"Get it out!" the man wailed. "I thought we were trying to get it in!"

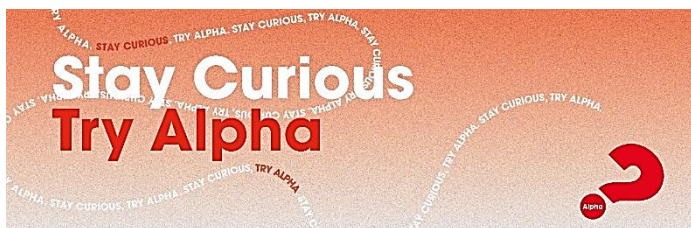
Church members often waste valuable time and energy working against each other instead of working together. Now is the time for everyone to grab the piano and start pushing in the same direction!



In aid of

tearfund

those in poverty and providing disaster relief for disadvantaged countries. Their belief is that poverty is not God's plan, and an end to extreme poverty is possible. They help individuals and churches to speak out on poverty and injustice issues, and respond quickly to disasters, supporting those in need. Tearfund believe that we can all play a part in ending extreme poverty by reaching out to people in need. That is why on Friday 23rd February 2024, the 'Churches Together' are planning a 'BIG QUIZ NIGHT' in Erskine Church Hall to raise funds to help Tearfund continue their excellent work. More details of the quiz will be in the church news nearer the time. So, put the date in your diary or calendar and help make the evening a success.



Alpha – Starting in January

We will be starting Alpha in the Salvation Army Hall on Thursday evenings on 25th January at 7 p.m.

Alpha is a great chance to learn more about the Christian faith in a relaxed, friendly environment. Come along with a

friend, or come along and make friends and enjoy delicious home baking.

What is Alpha?

Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that explore the basics of the Christian faith.

Who's it for?

Alpha is for anyone who's curious to explore the big questions of life, faith and meaning. The talks are designed to encourage conversation and explore the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. You can say anything you like or nothing at all.

How does it work?

Alpha runs over eleven weeks and will start each week with delicious home baking and tea/coffee. On the first week we will also warm you up with some soup. After we have shared food together there will be a short video/talk and a discussion where you can share your thoughts. There's no pressure and no follow-up. If you cannot manage to come to every week; no problem, you can miss a week or catch up by watching the video at home.

The Twelve Days of Christmas



In western Christian tradition, January 6th is the "12th Day of Christmas", (hence the song), and it's known as Epiphany, celebrating the visit of the Wise Men to Jesus' home.

In the carol "my true love (God) sent to me" was originally a reminder of Christian beliefs. The partridge in a pear tree is Jesus. The two turtle doves were a reminder of the sacrifice Mary and Joseph made in the temple following Jesus' birth. The three French hens were reminders of the costly gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Four

calling birds were the four Gospels. Five gold rings were the first five books of the Old Testament. The six geese-a-laying, the six days of creation. Seven swans – the seven works of mercy. Eight maids a milking were the Beatitudes. Nine ladies dancing were the nine fruits of the Spirit. Ten lords a-leaping, were the 10 commandments. Eleven pipers piping were the disciples (minus Judas). Twelve drummers drumming, the 12 points of the Apostles Creed. So now you know! Happy New Year!



November 2023

Burntisland & Kinghorn Parish Churches



Dear Members

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

***“Two are better off than one, because together they can work more effectively.
If one of them falls down, the other can help him up.*”**

- How true and by working together **WE HAVE** achieved our goal of joining together in harmony and the service of union and induction will take place in Burntisland’s church on Thursday 18th January 2024.
- **WE HAVE** our Minister. Burntisland had a vote and Jim has accepted the invitation and call to be Minister of the United Parish. He will be writing a Pastoral Letter in which he will tell those who don’t know him well, more about himself.
- **WE HAVE** volunteers to take on the role of Session Clerk, Assistant Session Clerk, Treasurer, Fabric Convenor, FWO and Gift Aid Convenors.
- **WE HAVE** teams working together for worship, finance, community and outreach, fabric.
- **WE HAVE** a name. Burntisland and Kinghorn Church of Scotland.
- **WE ARE**, working on a programme of services so you will know what type of service will be where and when.
- **WE HAVE**, OSCAR, the charity regulators rubber stamp on our union and will use the existing Burntisland charity number.
- **WE WILL**, amalgamate Kinghorn’s accounts into Burntisland’s after this year end.
- **WE WILL**, continue to work with our friends in Erskine in the BEK partnership.
- **WE WILL**, be developing a new Pastoral Care Team and approach.
- **WE WILL** create a combined web site and Facebook page.
- **WE NEED**. Your ongoing support, encouragement and participation.

Yours in Faith

The Union Task Group

Burntisland Parish Church of Scotland Session Clerk – Liz Taylor, 20 Kilmundy Drive, Burntisland, KY3 0JW. 07712 630018 ebltaylor@aol.com

Kinghorn Parish Church of Scotland Session Clerk – Ena Hudson, 1 Glebe Place, Kinghorn KY3 9XP.
01592 890181 enageohud@aol.com

This headed paper is being used by the task group as an interim measure.



FATHER OF ALL COMFORT



Psalm 34:18 Isaiah 41:10 Mathew 11:28-29 Philippians 4:6-72 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

“Praise be to the god and father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the father of compassion and the god of all comfort, who comforts us in all troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we receive ourselves from God.”

These readings remind us that not only does God comfort us during times of emotional distress, but he also gives us the opportunity to comfort others who may be going through similar struggles. ESPECIALLY at Christmas time it is important to keep faith. Turn to Him and pray and He will help peoples heart, mind and spirit to recover.

Fiona Dempster

BEK Youth Update



November Update

Hey Everyone! So, it's been busy busy busy, with the BEK youth worker project. We have been working hard on keeping all our events and programs running and all items have grown from strength to strength. We could use a few more volunteers, so if you are keen and want to get involved, give us a shout. The following activities between the three churches are as follows:

- BEK Youth Group
- Pulse Teenager group
- SU Group Kinghorn
- Young Islanders Burntisland
- Lite Bites Erskine
- Kinghorn Toddlers
- Kirkcaldy Rugby Club
- Balwearie Chaplaincy
- Kinghorn Rugby Training
- Burntisland Rugby Training

Personal Feedback

Taryn and I had a great holiday to Rome and we recharged our batteries ready to tackle the rest of the year.



Alexander sharing with the Teens

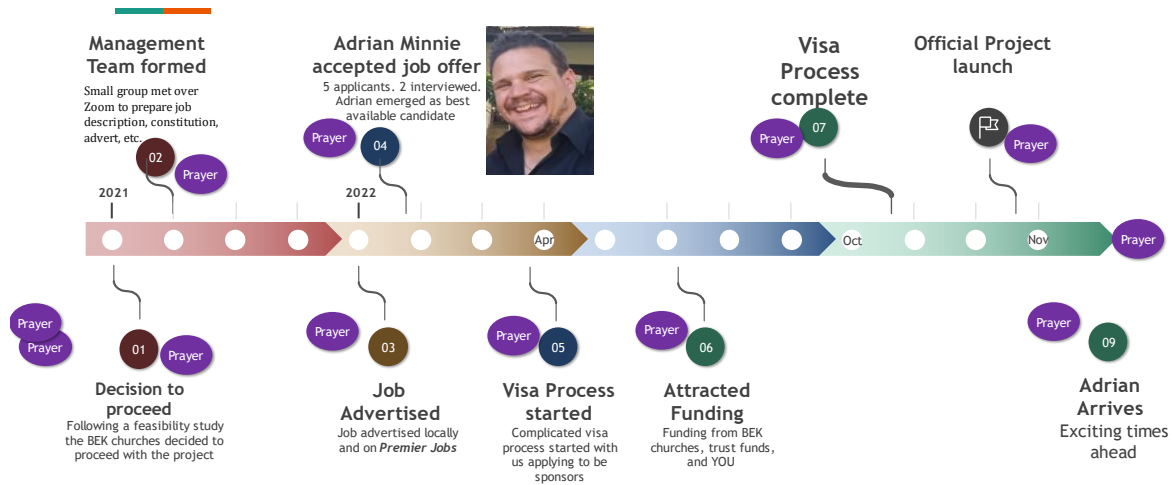


Taryn and myself standing at Trevi Fountain

BEK Children, Youth & Families Worker – A look back over the year

Who would have thought that a year has passed since Adrian Minnie joined us as our Children, Youth & Families Worker. It was a year ago in November 2022 that we launched the project in the Salvation Army Hall and we have achieved a lot in the year since. It took a lot of work fundraising, advertising, filling out visas before we even got started – we had to be patient.

Timeline displayed in November 2022



Thankfully Adrian did arrive; in time for Christmas and some December snow. Taryn and Jordan joined Adrian in early 2024 and the Minnie family have been a real blessing to the three BEK churches.

The BEK Worker project held it's AGM in the Salvation Army Hall on 26th November – a good excuse for delicious home baking and rousing worship. Together we looked back at what has been done over the past year.

We have achieved a lot since then



Adrian, Taryn and Jordan have come all the way from South Africa and we are truly grateful that God has called them to our wee towns.

We received funding from the Church of Scotland, Presbytery and each of the three BEK churches for the project. It has, however, been the giving from members of the local churches that have enabled the project to start and be sustained. Thank you for your contribution. We have funding in place for another year and hope to continue to build funds to enable the project to continue into the future; our work with children, youth and families has only just begun.

Carer and toddler groups are running in each of the three BEK churches with the church taking on the organisation and funding for these groups. This is really appreciated by the parents, carers and grand-parents who come along. We have seen numbers growing steadily through the year and we are starting to build stronger relationships with the families involved.

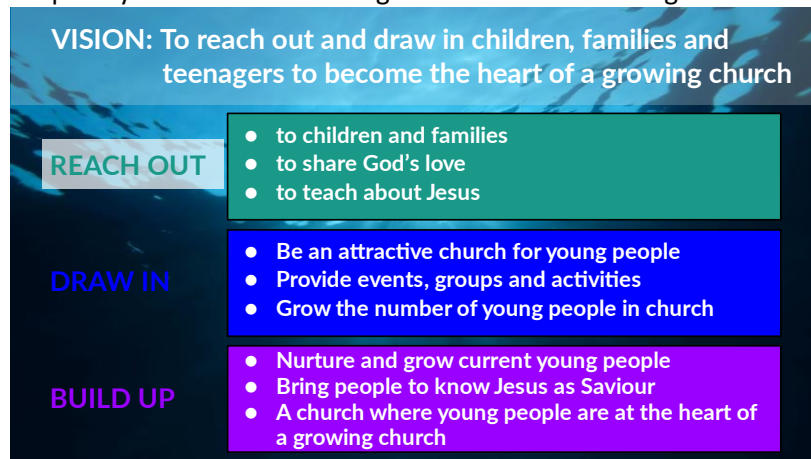
Three new youth groups have been started – Scripture Union in Kinghorn Primary School, BEK Youth for P5 – P7 which initially met in Burntisland Parish Hall on a Friday night and has just moved to meet in Kinghorn Church Hall to make space for a S1 – S6 group (Pulse) to meet in Burntisland.

Chilled Church continues to meet every three weeks, rotating between the three BEK churches and we are seeing a growing number of families coming along and enjoying the relaxed atmosphere. Adrian is taking an active part in the planning and delivery of Chilled Church and some of the youngsters from the youth group are starting to attend.

The Holiday Club in Kinghorn was a great success this year with more than 30 children attending during the week. Adrian and a few others from Burntisland helped to plan and deliver the programme along with an excellent team from Kinghorn. It was great to work together.

Adrian is building relationships with children in the primary schools by delivering rugby coaching – as part of the PE sessions at Burntisland and after school at Kinghorn. He is also coaching at Kirkcaldy Rugby Club with his young team putting a winning run of games together.

Adrian is also part of the chaplaincy team at Balwearie High School and is becoming a well kent face.



Our vision is TO REACH OUT AND DRAW IN CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND TEENAGERS BECOME THE HEART OF A GROWING CHURCH.

We have started on this journey and the relationships we are starting to build will help us to DRAW IN and BUILD UP our young people, so that they are not only the heart of a growing church but also where they know Jesus.



Adrian has done a great job, but very little of this could be achieved without the help of volunteers – behind the scenes helping with administration and finances, and working alongside the children and young people in the various groups. **Thank you to all those who help in this way – you really are appreciated.**

If you have a few hours to spare, we would love for you to be involved – no experience is necessary. Please contact Adrian on adrian.bekchurches@gmail.com, or 07481 127799.

Have you noticed all the new activities the BEK churches have going? Isn't it wonderful! Even better, there are volunteering opportunities with the very youngest and their families in our communities. Don't tell yourself you don't have the skills. At the toddler groups running at Burntisland Parish, Erskine Church and Kinghorn Parish you can volunteer to lay things out ready for folks arriving, or help with serving the snacks, or help tidy up at the end. Best of all, being able to get alongside someone and have a chat is a great skill. Making folks welcome is something all our congregations are good at. Don't be thinking time is an issue - if you can volunteer even once a month, for one day, that would be a great blessing and you will love being part of the team and know that your kindness is appreciated. The groups meet on the mornings Tues, through to Friday. Get in touch with Adrian on 07481 127799 and he will gladly help you sort out what location and day suits you best.

Poster skills: Adrian (BEK worker) is looking for a couple of people with the IT skills to help produce posters for events. If you could help, email him at adrian.bekchurches@gmail.com



Kids' Corner - and maybe the grown-ups too?

The Sweet Tooth Christmas Story

Complete the Christmas Story by inserting the names of Chocolate, Chocolate Bars, Biscuits and Confectionery.



"Behold, I bring you _____ (4,4) of great joy..."

A young girl called Mary heard a _____ (5) from the angel Gabriel that she was to be the mother of God's Son. But how could this be? She was not yet married to Joseph to whom she was betrothed. To have a baby out of wedlock would certainly be a _____ (5) of conversation in the village. She told Joseph of God's great plan, but before the baby arrived political events overtook them. By order, Joseph had to return with Mary to his native town of Bethlehem, miles away. It was a _____ (8) journey for a girl heavily pregnant, but Joseph thought the _____ (5) would do them good. After a tough time travelling, Joseph desperately tried to find lodgings, but _____ (4) after _____ (4) let them down. 'No room,' they all said. Eventually they offered the chance to stay in the outhouse of a local pub. It was there that the baby was born. He was named Jesus, which means 'Saviour'.

That night some shepherds and _____ (8) heard _____ (5) in the sky: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven and peace on earth...' They said, 'Come on, let's _____ (2) to Bethlehem and see what has happened there.' When they arrived, they found the _____ (4), Joseph, Mary and the baby, who had been laid in a manger. It was not at all a _____ (4) place; smelly and dirty, not really a fit place for a maternity ward. They however, were filled with wonder, _____ (6) in the feeling that this child was special. Could he be just as the prophets had foretold, the _____ (4) of Judah? It was getting late, _____ (5,5) in fact, so the shepherds returned to the hills.

Meanwhile in a far country, some _____ (8), wise men, (or astrologers) were busily scanning the _____ (6), when they saw a bright star near the _____ (5,3). Was it _____ (4)? No, it was a star shining with extraordinary brilliance, way out east. The wise men realised that the star signalled the birth of a prince. They travelled hard, and arrived at King Herod's palace. They were not embarrassed to _____ (6) with royalty. Herod was really interested. 'A prince has been born in the land you say?' He tried to _____ (5) the issue by saying that he wanted to worship the prince who has been born as King of the Jews, and so he ordered the wise men to report the baby's whereabouts. They came to Bethlehem, found Joseph, Mary and the child, and offered their _____ (6) - gold, frankincense and myrrh. Then God warned them in a dream that Herod was up to his _____ (4) again, seeking the child's life. So, they returned to their own country by another route.

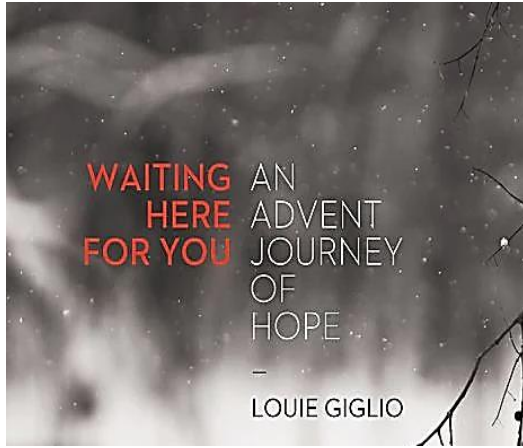
Now that's familiar story; the _____ (7) tale told at Christmas. It has little to do with reindeer and _____ (6) of snow and robins, and a baby in a cleaner-than-clean crib decorated with tinsel. The original story was not that _____ (4). Jesus was born as a refugee; he was a threat, a danger ... but don't miss the meaning.

Jesus was born so that _____ (8) of people may know God's love for them. Many people are looking for a life with a meaning and a purpose, others find life dull and boring, in need of _____ (10) of one kind or another...

We need a message of hope; something to give us a _____ (5) in the face of tragedy and difficulty; and that really is the _____ (4,4); Christ was born to save.

- | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|------------|
| 1. After Eight | 10. Flakes | 19. Mars | 28. Twix |
| 2. Allsorts | 11. Fudge | 20. Milky Way | 29. United |
| 3. Boost | 12. Galaxy | 21. Nice | 30. Wispa |
| 4. Bounty | 13. Go | 22. Nice | |
| 5. Break | 14. Good News | 23. Refreshers | |
| 6. Classic | 15. Good News | 24. Smarties | |
| 7. Club | 16. Hobnob | 25. Topic | |
| 8. Club | 17. Lion | 26. Trio | |
| 9. Drifters | 18. Marathon | 27. Tunes | |

14, 30, 25, 18, 5, 7, 8, 9, 27, 13, 26, 21, 29, 17, 1, 24, 12, 20, 19, 16, 11, 4, 28, 6, 10, 22, 2, 23, 3, 15



Inspired by Louie Giglio's book, "Waiting Here for You," this advent we at Burntisland Parish Church will journey together through a time of waiting on the Lord and waiting for our union. Advent and our soon to be union, brings us into a season overflowing with anticipation, great hope and promise of a baby born long ago. But this season meant for joy is often consumed by busyness, pressure, mixed emotions, and is gone as quickly as it came. And it is throughout this waiting season that we prepare our hearts to greet December 25th with joy, peace, hope, and refreshed promise in our newborn King. I look forward to us entering this series together and hope to see a few more friends and family joining us.

Taryn

Please notify Fiona Watson, the Roll Keeper if you are changing your address. Please also notify Anne Johnston, who will arrange delivery of your Parish Magazine to your new address if you receive a printed copy.



What's On

December

3 rd	11.15	Worship in The Church: Advent theme 'God Works While We Wait'
10 th	11.15	Worship in The Church: Advent them 'If we are truly waiting on God, we won't miss anything'
12 th	7pm	Christmas Carol Singalong in Kinghorn
16 th	11am	Carol Singing on The High Street
17 th	11am	Chilled Church Nativity in The Hall
24 th	11.15	Worship in The Church: Advent theme 'While we are waiting on God we are waiting with God'
	7pm	Christmas Eve Service in The Church
	11.15pm	Watchnight Service in Erskine
25 th	10.30	Short Christmas Day Service in The Church
31 st	11.15	Worship in The Church: Advent theme 'Who you become while you are waiting is as important as what you are waiting for'

January

7 th	11am	BEK Communion at Erskine*
11 th		The Kirk Session*
14 th	11.15	Morning Worship in The Church*
18 th	7pm	A Service of Union in The Church
21 st	11am	Chilled Church at Erskine*
	11.15	Worship in The Church*
	6pm	A Service of Christian Unity in St. Serf's Church
28 th	10.30	United Parish Service in Kinghorn*

February

4 th	11.15	Morning Worship in The Church*
11 th	11am	Chilled Church at Kinghorn*
18 th	11.15	Union Service at Burntisland*

*To be confirmed

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Hall Bookings	VACANT		

*New positions from 1st January 2024, subject to united Kirk Session approval

Church Magazine

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Thanks to Dad Hengeveld (See Luke 2:1-16) 12-20-2001
**SORRY FOLKS, WE'RE BOOKED SOLID ... GOD
 HIMSELF COULDN'T GET A ROOM HERE TONIGHT**

As we move into the Union, soon to be called 'Burntisland and Kinghorn Parish Church', we are planning some changes to our communications with church members. We propose to send out a short monthly newsletter from our Minister, Rev. Jim Reid, and a longer quarterly magazine which will be produced by myself and Pam McLean, the editor of Kinghorn's magazine. Hopefully there will be a smooth transition to this and we will try to keep everyone informed.



Rae

Scottish Charity Number SC016418