



Bon Accord Free Church N e w s l e t t e r

Glorify God. Be like Jesus. Change the world.



Summer 2017

New Beginnings at Bon Accord

As the building work in Bon Accord draws to a conclusion, provisional plans are being made for some activities to be held on our return to the building. Please note the following dates in your diary. Volunteers will be needed nearer the time for both the open days and the service.

Thanksgiving Service

A service to give thanks to God for the completion of the building work will be held on **Saturday 26 August at 7.00pm**. It is hoped to have former ministers, Iver Martin and Alex MacDonald, and the moderator, Derek Lamont, at this service. This will also be an opportunity to invite those involved in the building works and other friends of the congregation to the refurbished building.

Open Days

It is planned to have two open days on the return to the building to allow people in the area and other interested people to come and have a look at the completed work and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee with us. These would be held on...

Friday 18 August 10am – 2pm

Saturday 19 August 12pm – 4pm

David is away in South America for the next three Sundays and the following people have kindly agreed to fill in for him...

Sunday 4 June: Rev. Ngwana Aboseh
Presbyterian Church of Cameroon and PhD candidate
at Aberdeen University

Sunday 11 June: Mr. Neil Angus Macdonald
Elder, Chalmers Church, Edinburgh

Sunday 18 June: Rev. Dominic Smart

Bon Accord News

Wedding Countdown

Anthony Fong and Enid Tiang are due to be married on Saturday 29 July at Bon Accord. We wish them every happiness on their big day and we can't wait to share some photos in a future newsletter.

Engagement

Congratulations to Allan Green, eldest son of Frank and Ruth, on his engagement to Sarah Beverstock.

Goodbye

This summer sees us bid farewell to David, Sarah, Finlay and Elsie Morrison. The family will be heading north over the coming weeks to Inverness. We thank them for all they have done for Bon Accord over the years and we will miss having them in our Bon Accord family.

Graduation

Congratulations to Samuel MacPherson who graduates this month from Heriot-Watt University. Samuel has completed his MEng in Mechanical and Energy Engineering.

Welcome

We welcome to Bon Accord, Alec and Ann Bowes who have moved from Skye to Aberdeen. Alec has been a frequent visitor over the past few months while he has been in Aberdeen visiting family but they have now made the move permanent so we hope they settle well into city life.

Communion

There will be a communion service at Bon Accord at the morning service on Sunday 2 July. If you would like to become a member of Bon Accord by profession of faith or by transfer from another congregation, please speak to David (minister@bafreechurch.org.uk).

Students & Teens News

This summer six of our Bon Accord students will be finishing their studies - Katie Morrison (Conservation Biology), Caroline Mackay (Hospitality Management), Rachel Green (Management), Hannah Maciver (Contemporary Art Practice), Mark Mackay (Sound Engineering) and Murdo Mackenzie (Electrical Engineering).

We wish them all well in their future plans. Both Hannah (Teacher Training) and Mark are heading to Glasgow next year along with Millie Kirkwood who is transferring her course.

The next academic year will see Tara MacLeod heading off to Malaysia to complete the second year of her engineering course at the Heriot-Watt Malaysia Campus. We wish her well in her future travels.

Erin Coghill returns from Brazil this month after her time studying as part of her Spanish and Portuguese degree with Glasgow Uni. We look forward to hearing all about her travels.

School Leavers

This summer Mary Maciver, Joseph MacPherson and Sarah Campbell finish secondary school. Mary hopes to have a year out working, Joseph continues with AFC fulltime and Sarah has accepted a place at RGU to study Accountancy and Finance.

Bon Accord Road Trip to Broughty Ferry Free Church

In the past couple of months we have taken the opportunity to visit two new Free Church congregations; Montrose and Gardenstown. On the visit to Gardenstown there were 38 folks from Bon Accord at the evening service and the experience was greatly enjoyed by visitors and hosts alike.

We have planned one further visit before recommencing our own evening services; to Broughty Ferry Free Church on **Sunday 25 June**. The service starts at 6:30pm.

The Brook
Brook Street
Broughty Ferry
DD5 2DS

It would be great to have another big crowd and it would be a great encouragement to the minister, Alberto di Paula, and the congregation.

BSF

BSF (Bible Study Fellowship) provides a non-denominational bible study in 38 nations throughout the world and runs from September 2017 to May 2018. New members can join anytime during the year.

Women's Day Class meets every Tuesday at 9.45am at Hillview Community Church, Earlsells Road, Cults; provision made for infants and pre-school.

Women's Evening Class meets every Tuesday at 7pm at Hebron Evangelical Church, Summer Street; provision for school age children and teens.

Men's BSF Class meets every Tuesday morning at 6am at Fernielea Gospel Hall, Summerhill.

The study questions are available in English, Spanish, Simplified Chinese and Traditional Chinese.

For more details on what the study guide will be this year please speak to Catriona Macleod (the original!).

<https://www.bsfindernational.org/bsf-home>

Congregational Walk

Thank you to everyone who contributed at the congregational walk on Saturday 27 May. £70 was raised towards the chairs.

Senior Citizens' Fellowship

Senior Citizens will meet on Thursday 29 June at 12 noon at the manse. Please speak to Martha for details.

Newsletter Deadline

The next newsletter will be out on Sunday 3 September 2017. The deadline for items will be Monday 28 August.

Items can be emailed to newsletter@bafreechurch.org.uk

Buildings Update – May 2017

This will be the final newsletter update on the refurbishment of our building in Rosemount. By the time you read the next newsletter we will have settled back into our old abode.

Much has been happening since the last update...

External works

Significant additional pointing work has been carried out on the North Tower and both lead domes have been replaced. The South facing roof slating is also complete and the South Tower scaffolding removed. The remaining scaffolding on the North Tower is now being taken down and once this has been completed, the final slates will be laid on the north facing roof.

Pointing and other work on the west chimney stack now complete and scaffolding removed.

Work is continuing to repair and refurbish the stained glass windows and these will be replaced on completion of the external works at the front of the church. Once all the scaffolding has been taken down then work to create the disabled access ramps will begin.

The soda blasting of the external front doors has revealed their poor condition and therefore the planned finishing of a stain and varnish will not be possible. Planning permission is being sought to paint the door an eggshell grey, this will match the rear external door.

We had hoped to have external facade lighting but the advance stage of the work in the foyer and failure to gain planning consent has meant that this will no longer happen. We will however have a new external lantern.

Internal refurbishment

The lift is now installed. Work continues in the cafe area of the foyer and the toilets are well advanced. Floor tiles are being laid in the cafe area. The oak doors have arrived and will be hung this week.

In the sanctuary, the heated floor is now complete, the decoration is at an advanced stage and much of the audio-visual equipment has been installed. Specifically, large screen monitors, projector and screen have been installed in the sanctuary and the pendant and wall lights are now in place.

Work is continuing behind the sanctuary to smarten up the rooms off the vestry corridor and install the new toilet.

The contractors have been pushing on with the mezzanine area where the former kitchen wall has been moved to make way for a larger bathroom. The gas fire has been removed, rewiring is taking place and the new kitchen unit installation is almost complete. This will give us two additional meeting rooms, a kitchen area and a bathroom.

Refurbishment of the stairs, large hall and meeting rooms continues and is at an advanced stage. The large hall ceiling has now been repapered and painted. The servery in the large hall is almost complete, as is the main kitchen and lower ground floor toilets.

It is now anticipated that we will be able to take possession of the building during early July.

We give thanks to God for His provision in all things but specifically, in relation to the project, for professionals that we have working on our behalf, the workmen carrying out the refurbishment, the financial support that has been committed to the project and the alternative facilities that we have been enjoying over the last few months.

Please pray that His hand would continue to be on all matters related to the refurbishment of the building and that, on our return, it may be open and used daily to great effect for His glory.

The Refurb Team

Summer 2017 Cover

Our cover is of the Teens' Bake-Off and the congregational walk.

National Prayer Breakfast Scotland

The annual National Prayer Breakfast for Scotland which is held in Edinburgh is to be streamed live to Gilcomston Church on Tuesday 20 June from 7am to 9am.

A light breakfast is available for you if you email info@gilcomston.org

For more information about the event see the NPBScotland website.

<http://www.npbScotland.org.uk/>

Views from the Pews – Bon Accord People

Thanks to Dougie Longmuir who is answering our questions this month...

Please tell us a little about yourself. Where are you from [and what brought you to Aberdeen]?

I was born in Bucksburn and attended Cloverfield Primary School before moving on to Bankhead Academy. I spent thirty years working as a Maintenance Electrician in Mugiemooss Paper Mill then worked overseas in the oil industry for ten years. I currently work as a Maintenance Engineer in a food factory. Lorraine and I have four children and seven grandchildren to keep us occupied.

What does a typical day look like for you?

I work shifts and drive a fair distance for work so my working day lasts around eleven hours. Because of this, finding time for bible study can be difficult depending on my shift that day. On these days I get my teaching by listening to RC Sproul's Renewing Your Mind podcasts in the car. I also manage to go through the Explore readings once I return from work. I am blessed enough to return every day to a comfortable home, some great cooking and a wonderful family.

How did you become part of Bon Accord?

Lorraine and I were Church of Scotland members but didn't like the direction it was taking so decided to leave. Our daughter, Kerrie, had been a member of Bon Accord as a student and we had worshipped there with her occasionally when Iver Martin was Minister. We felt led to return to Bon Accord so went along. Our first Sunday there was the Sunday School prize-giving and, since then, we've looked on that as our 'anniversary'. We have been members now for five years.

Please describe how you became a Christian?

As a child, I attended Bucksburn Church Sunday School but wandered off the path as I grew up and the world beckoned. Fast forward to the late 90s, Lorraine and I thought we should go to our local church on Christmas Eve. We went back the next day and from then on attended regularly having accepted Jesus as our Lord and Saviour. I became an Elder and was active within the congregation and church with responsibility for outreach and as a Boys' Brigade officer and member of the school chaplaincy team.

How do you try to keep growing as a Christian?

By reading the bible and praying to find the answer to this very question and trying to serve the Lord wherever possible.

Do you have a favourite Bible passage/verse?

Psalms 16:8. "I will keep my eyes always on the Lord. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken." Always an encouragement and comfort.

What do you like most about Bon Accord?

The preaching, the fellowship and the puddings!

3 Likes - Most types of music especially Blues, Rory Gallagher in particular, Watching Aberdeen Football Club, Lorraine's Mince and Tatties.

3 Dislikes - Mint chocolate (gads), Celebrity Reality Shows, Bad parking (taking up two spaces).

Explore Reading Notes

It is now time to order the next issue of the Explore daily bible readings as the readings as the current issue of Explore finishes at the end of December. The next volume runs from the start of July to the end of September 2017. The cost is still £4.50 per copy, but it is well worth it as there are ninety-two dated and numbered daily Bible readings to help you understand clearly the message and challenge of the Word of God.

We will automatically reorder for those folks who purchased a copy of the previous issue, but please send an email to bookstall@bafreechurch.org.uk if you:

- would like to order a copy (and did not do so last time)
- wish to order additional (or less) copies for friends or relatives
- do not wish reorder a copy of Explore

The final date for orders is Sunday 4 June and your copy can be collected from Sunday 11 June.

Bon Accord Bookstall

Holiday Club 2017

It's that time of year again when we begin to think of Holiday Club plans for our week long kids club for primary school aged children! This year the week will take place at the BEGINNING of the summer school holidays - so mark your calendars: Holiday club will be running every morning from **Monday 3 July to Friday 7 July**, with the joint service on Sunday 9 July.

This year we are going on an Island Adventure and we would love to see lots of new faces join us. Bring friends and neighbours for a free, fun week of songs, games, crafts, story-time and more! Registration is available online at the Hebron Evangelical Church website,

http://www.hebron-evangelical.co.uk/Groups/255053/Kids_Clubs.aspx

Please register your children to save time on the opening day.

Please speak to Cassia Martin if your children and/or you would like to join this adventure in any way!

Legacy Summer 2017

Teens Epic Games in the Dark, week long, evening events! This summer join us for Epic Games in the Dark, food, team chants, face paint, star speakers, possibly a smoke machine, and an opportunity to run around with NERF GUNS in brain challenging strategic games that confound even the cleverest of lawyers!

This is open to teens entering S1 through to S6.

Are you too old to fit into that slight bracket? Do not cry; JOIN OUR TEAM! We are always looking for volunteers for one night or the whole week of nights. NOTE: We have changed the date to the first week of the summer school holidays 3 – 7 July, from 7:00-10:00PM! If you are interested in finding out more please speak to Cassia Martin, Iain Meredith, or John MacPherson. Wear Black, Bring Friends...

And of course we need help for the daytime activities too...

Summer Volunteers

Are you too old to come as a child or teen to any of these events? Then join us as part of the TEAM! We are needing folk with a heart for sharing the Gospel with the children of our community. We have many needs for helpers to work with crafts, story-time, drama, music, games, children's group leaders, people to provide lunches for the team after the day's activities, and more.

This is a joint churches ministry in Aberdeen, and we team up with our friends from Gilcomston, Hebron, Crown Terrace Baptist and other churches in the West Central Group, so it is an excellent opportunity to make new friends in the city and support our work for the Lord together.

(Please note any volunteers for regulated work require to be PVG registered in line with the Child Protection Policy.)

Sunday School

The final Sunday School before the summer holidays will take place on Sunday 18 June. Our annual Sunday School prizegiving will take place the following week on Sunday 25 June at the family service. We will then take a break for the summer holidays returning on Sunday 27 August. Under 7s will take place during the holidays.

This year we are losing two of our teachers, Hannah Maciver and Mark Mackay. We thank them for all the hard work that they have put into their classes and wish them well in Glasgow.

Memory Verses

Sunday 4 June:

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know^[a] my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him." **John 14:6-7**

Sunday 11 June:

I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. **John 15:5**

Sunday 18 June:

I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. **John 10:9**

Free Church Youth Camps 2017

FCYC 2017 is almost upon us! Please pray for the work of the camps as they take place over the summer. A number of our children and teens will be attending camp as campers and a few of our members are going to help lead or cook. Here is a handy list of the camps...

Oswestry Junior 1	6 - 14 July	S1-S3
Comrie Kids 1	8 - 15 July	P5-P7
Senior Football	8 - 15 July	S2-S6
Oswestry Junior 2	14 - 22 July	S1-S3
Oswestry Senior	14 - 22 July	S4-S6
Comrie Kids 2	15 - 22 July	P5-P7
Junior Football	15 - 22 July	P6-S2
Kincraig Girls	15 - 22 July	P7-S2
B.A.S.E Camp	22 - 29 July	18-23
Kincraig Kids	29 July - 5 Aug	P5-P7
Skye Shinty	29 July - 5 Aug	P6-S2

You can click on the link below to find out more about the work of the Free Church camps:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EA07RdGknUs&feature=youtu.be>

www.freechurchyouthcamps.org

Big Free Rally

A date for your diaries...

Big Free Rally 2017
Saturday 30 September 2017
Smithton Culloden Free Church, Inverness

Neighbourhood Fellowships

Group	Leaders	Day/Time	Location
City North	Rob Grant	Wed 7:30	Rotates
City West	Steven Inglis	Thurs 7:45	Rotates
Deeside	Dave Morrison	Wed 8:00	Rotates
Westhill - Kingswells	Donald Smith & Norman Laing	Wed 7:45	Donald & Anne Smith
Shire North	Seoras Mackintosh & Norman Buchanan	Thurs 7:30	Rotates
City Centre	David MacPherson	Wed	Rotates

During our relocation to Hilton Community Centre, two people from the Neighbourhood Fellowship groups will be assisting with the set-up of the morning service. The following rota has been produced...

Date	NF Assistance
04/06	Deeside
11/06	Shire North
18/06	Shire North
25/06	Central
02/07	Central
09/07	GBS
16/07	GBS
23/07	City North
30/07	City North
06/08	Westhill
13/08	Westhill
20/08	City West
27/08	City West
03/09	Deeside

Notices

Please remember to check the website for weekly notices, newsletters, rotas and up to date intimations.

If you do not have access to the web site or the mailing list please speak to Isobel Morison.

Ladies' Bible Study

The next Ladies' Bible Study will be on Wednesday 21 June at 10am at Hebron. This will be the final meeting before the summer holidays and we will be studying the last chapter of our book which covers Acts 27 and 28.

There will be **NO STUDY** on **Wednesday 7 June** due to Hebron being unavailable.

All ladies are welcome to come along anytime as you don't need to have been at previous studies to join in.

Ladies' Book Study - Monday 5 June, 7.30pm

We will be meeting on Monday 5 June at Linda's to study Lesson 4 (chapters 5 and 6) of the book, The Pursuit of Holiness.

We will be meeting during the summer, further details will be in the intimation sheet or emailed to the group.

If you are interested in joining the group please speak to Wilma Nicolson.

Door Duty

Date	Door	Door	Door	Church Officer	NF
04/06	Steven Inglis	David Morrison	Cath-Anne Smith	Ian Smith	Deeside
11/06	Gordon Macleod	Angus Maciver	Martha MacPherson	Dougie Longmuir	Shire North
18/06	Mike Bowman	Seoras Mackintosh	Margaret Ferguson	Gordon Ferguson	Shire North
25/06	Kenny Maciver	Rob Grant	Mairi Macleod	Gordon Ferguson	Central
02/07	Murdo Macleod	John Gillies	Wilma Nicolson	Iain Meredith	Central
09/07	Norman Buchanan	Donald Smith	Anne Smith	Ian Smith	GBS
16/07	Steven Inglis	David Morrison	Isobel Morison	Dougie Longmuir	GBS
23/07	Gordon Macleod	Angus Maciver	Janice Stewart	Iain Meredith	City North
30/07	Mike Bowman	Donald Smith	Cath-Anne Smith	Ian Smith	City North
06/08	Kenny Maciver	Rob Grant	Martha MacPherson	Dougie Longmuir	Westhill
13/08	Murdo Macleod	John Gillies	Margaret Ferguson	Gordon Ferguson	Westhill
20/08	Norman Buchanan	Seoras Mackintosh	Mairi Macleod	Gordon Ferguson	City West
27/08	Steven Inglis	David Morrison	Wilma Nicolson	Iain Meredith	City West
03/09	Gordon Macleod	Donald Smith	Anne Smith	Ian Smith	Deeside

Crèche Rota

4 June	Janice Stewart, Marion Campbell, Sophie Tan, Sarah Barrett
11 June	Julia Mackintosh, Val Buchanan, Carol Au, Wilma Nicolson
18 June	Derin Nzonlie Fosso, Isobel Morison, Lorraine Longmuir, Jennifer MacLeod
25 June	Sarah Morrison, Phoebe Graham, Claire Macdonald, Rachel Stewart
2 July	Wilma Morrison, Fiona Meredith, Fiona Bowman, Christine Couper
9 July	Janice Stewart, Marion Campbell, Sophie Tan, Sarah Barrett
16 July	Julia Mackintosh, Val Buchanan, Carol Au, Wilma Nicolson
23 July	Derin Nzonlie Fosso, Isobel Morison, Lorraine Longmuir, Jennifer MacLeod
30 July	Linda Stephen, Phoebe Graham, Claire Macdonald, Rachel Stewart
6 August	Wilma Morrison, Fiona Meredith, Fiona Bowman, Christine Couper
13 August	Janice Stewart, Marion Campbell, Sophie Tan, Sarah Barrett
20 August	Julia Mackintosh, Val Buchanan, Carol Au, Wilma Nicolson
27 August	Derin Nzonlie Fosso, Isobel Morison, Lorraine Longmuir, Jennifer MacLeod
3 September	Linda Stephen, Phoebe Graham, Claire Macdonald, Rachel Stewart

Bon Accord Free Church of Scotland

Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen

www.bafreechurch.org.uk

Sunday Services - 11:00am - Hilton Community Centre

6:30pm - Gilcomston Church, Union St.

Sunday School and Crèche - 11:00am - Hilton Community Centre

Wednesday Prayer Meeting/Bible Study - 7.30pm - YMCA, Skene Terrace

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