



April 2024
Dear Friends

The final leg of the St.Cuthbert's Way Pilgrimage from Melrose to Lindisfarne was completed barefoot following the wooden poles that have guided pilgrims for centuries to the resting place of Cuthbert.

It was a stunning conclusion to a marvellous few days. I had been joined on different days by folks from different places along the way. Strangers had become friends as together we had tramped up hills, crossed swollen rivers and forged paths across the mud! Local hospitality at Morebattle was outstanding and deserves a shout out!

Carrying a full pack was a huge part of the challenge and it made me repeatedly ask what I really needed and how -following Luke 10 -I could travel light!

Jesus call to each of us in our Christian lives is to 'Follow me.' We don't always know the terrain that we will cross but our walking experience can be greatly enhanced when we walk together with others. This week without others I would have taken a wrong turn; not known half the stories that inhabit the trail and would have certainly have taken longer! We live our lives 'in the shelter of others' writes Padraig O' Tuama. I give thanks for my hosts, my companions, for those who serve strangers and for the witness of Christians on the Way. Interested in pilgrimage? I'm thinking of the next one...

Breakfast Club at Broughton

Does your church struggle to engage younger people?

When the head teacher asked our minister Tony if the church would run a breakfast club in the school he was delighted to help. Broughton Breakfast Club went into operation in February 2023. It runs twice a week from 8am till the school bell (later if the busses are late) and offers to every child in the school, cereal, toast, and fruit. Volunteers are a mixture of parents and church members, and funding has come from a whole range of sources including the local shop, the church, wind farms and donations. Broughton school is small, but we regularly get half the pupils attending!

A year on, what have we learnt?

- 1) The Club is much appreciated by both children and parents. It's a relaxed and fun way to start the school day.
- 2) It's a real privilege to get to know the children. Their enthusiasm, energy and curiosity are an incentive to get up early each morning. And they are (mostly!) incredibly well behaved.
- 3) A large quantity of toast is consumed each session. We learnt very quickly that

brown bread was not welcome and pineapple or blackcurrant jam was not an option!

I'm not sure how this relates to mission, all I know is before the congregation had very little link with the school but now, we do and that is what we have been praying for. We have to keep listening for where God is leading us. Fiona Burnett, Parish of Upper Tweeddale

In the Presbytery Prayer Calendar we continue this week to pray for **Dirleton linked with North Berwick Abbey**

From Sunday 21st April we give thanks for the Dryburgh District Churches

We remember in prayer this week the leadership and all involved in the life of this community.

We give thanks for the success of our first Messy Church at Newtown and ask for prayer for the conversations around the future of our church buildings.

Seeds for Growth (SFG) > Community Audits & Mission Tuesday April 23rd at 730pm .

Join us online as we share ideas as to how to conduct Community Audits as the first step to developing a mission project. SFG are offering up to £1000 to carry out such work

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87903812680?pwd=R2szWmxCQmJkclhTOTFueHhjaVJBZz09>

Meeting ID: 879 0381 2680 Passcode: 532818

Presbytery Zoominar Tuesday April 30th at 7pm: Faith Sharing

'Start to Stir' is offering a session about sharing faith by offering a new perspective on evangelism that works with the people you already know and will see again tomorrow... and the day after that! Christians across the country are discovering several new starting points and practical tools that build confidence and help to overcome people's increasing indifference towards the gospel.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81521980476?pwd=SWprUIRaOHJpaVA2RUhUcjVHdmRvQT09>

Meeting ID: 815 2198 0476 Passcode: 135519

***Thy Kingdom Come* Global Prayer Initiative**

Ascension Day to Pentecost Sunday 2024

(Thursday 9 May – Sunday 19 May)

"Prayer takes us from where we are to where God calls us to be." Rt. Rev Sally Foster-Fulton
Since November 2018, the Church of Scotland has partnered in the *Thy Kingdom Come* Global Prayer Initiative. Launched in 2016, it has since grown into a movement which unites Christians from across different traditions to pray for family and friends, for neighbours and colleagues, to come to a deeper understanding of the meaning of faith in Jesus Christ.

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

An integral part of the resourcing of *Thy Kingdom Come* is the provision of a Prayer Journal. In 2024, and for the first time, there will be a digital Scottish Prayer Journal featuring voices from across the Scottish church.

 **OpenDoors**

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STANDING STRONG

SCOTLAND | 11TH MAY · 10AM-3PM
FINDLAY CHURCH, GLASGOW

Book today at: opendoorsuk.org/standingstrong



RENEW WELLBEING

An introduction from Ruth Rice, founder and director

How being prayerful, present and in partnership can impact our churches and communities

Thursday 25th April 2024 7pm – 9pm

The Renfield Centre, 260 Bath St, G2 4JP

to book email hthorp@churchofscotland.org.uk



I hope and pray that your Easter celebrations are still ringing in your ears and that you know God's Spirit at work in your community.

If I can help you in mission do please get in touch -retreats, training, worship, resources- or get in touch any way for a coffee and a blether. It would be good to hear how things are.

Love & prayers

Peter

Rev. Peter J. Wood
Mission Officer for Lothian & Borders Presbytery

[Link to Presbytery Facebook Page](#)

[Link to Presbytery Youtube channel](#)