



# **Church Focus**

**SPRING 2025**

**Maud & Savoch  
with  
New Deer, St. Kanes**

*Charity Numbers: SC009773 & SC007917*

# Welcome

The story of Jonah is one many of us will remember from childhood, if for no other reason than the drama of a man being swallowed by this huge sea creature only to survive and be spewed back up to tell the tale and live another day. The story is, in fact, a parody of what a real prophet should be like. This doesn't make the book any less important or valuable as scripture though; if anything it helps us to understand that God will use anyone he sees fit to proclaim his message, and it reminds us that few, if any of God's prophets were ever perfect.

Jonah is called to proclaim a message of repentance, a message Jonah didn't believe that the people of Nineveh deserved to hear, so Jonah chose to ignore God and ran as far and as fast as he could in the opposite direction. Is this something you have done? I know I have. But Jonah learnt, as do we all given time, that run as we might, God can always run faster and that there is nowhere to hide from God.

God changes his mind about the fate of Nineveh – he gives them a second chance by offering them forgiveness and a place in his kingdom and Jonah is raging because he believes God should have just gone on ahead and destroyed the city. So what does he do? He goes and sits under a tree and sulks like a child who is upset because they didn't get their own way. In his anger with God, Jonah was unable to hear the message of his own preaching. Is this something that we too may also be guilty of from time to time? Can we live what we say; walking the walk as well as talking the talk?

If we are sincere in our desire to follow where God leads to the

people of God's choosing, then we have to take on board the extent of God's graciousness and recognize that his mercy goes way beyond our understanding. Forgiveness is one of the hardest concepts in the Bible I think, at least when it comes to putting our call to forgive into practice. Some things we find easy to forgive, but others are an altogether different matter and we struggle. Like Jonah, we may find ourselves raging at God for deigning to forgive those who in our minds have done the unforgivable. In such circumstances, we, like Jonah become deaf to the message of our own preaching, and metaphorically sit under our own trees sulking with God.

God did not give up on Jonah though, and Jesus doesn't give up on us. Just as God spent time with Jonah afterwards and listened to what was making him angry, so through Jesus he continues to listen to us when we are angry or confused. God reminded Jonah that it was God's own business who he chose to forgive or destroy. Jonah's job, and ours, is to do what God asks of us. God responded to Nineveh with mercy and love, in the same way he deals with us, always with mercy and love. In his immeasurable grace we are given an opportunity to make a fresh start, to begin again. Surely such love inspires us to extend that love far and wide, but perhaps most especially with those who feel most neglected, abandoned, or lost. Reminded of our own imperfections may we see beyond the imperfection and frailties of others to share with them the love of Jesus, because this is what he has called us to do.

Wishing you every good and perfect blessing from the God who loves us with a perfect love.

*Aileen McFie*

# Church Services

With the closure of the building of St Kane's Church all services in New Deer now take place at St Kane's Church Centre.

In December it was wonderful to have our first Family Nativity Service in the Church Centre on Christmas Eve. It was a joyful evening of faith as folk of all ages from across the community came together to celebrate the birth of Christ.



# Sunday Morning Worship

All Age Morning Worship takes place at 10.30 am each Sunday morning, month about between Maud & Savoch Church and St Kane's Church Centre

Sunday Services in February - Maud Church

Sunday Services in March - St Kane's Church Centre

Sunday Services in April - Maud Church

Young families, children and young people are always welcome at Church services. Children's Church is held the first Sunday of each month and there are regular dedicated family services.

## Holy Communion

### **Communion @ Maud & St Kane's 2025**

2<sup>nd</sup> February - 10.30am - Maud Church

4<sup>th</sup> May - 10.30am - St Kane's Church

3<sup>rd</sup> August - 10.30am - Maud Church

2<sup>nd</sup> November - 10.30am - St Kane's Church

# Holy Week



## EASTER

at Maud and Savoch Church

linked with

St. Kane's Church Centre, New Deer

### **Monday 14th April**

Walk from St Kane's Church to Maud Church 6pm  
Followed by a short service and refreshments in the Church Hall

### **Maundy Thursday 17th April**

Agape Meal, Maud Church Hall 7pm

### **Good Friday 18th April**

St Kane's Church Centre 7pm

### **Holy Saturday 19th April**

Holy Saturday Service, Maud Church, 7pm

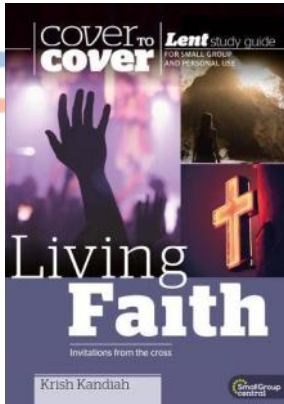
### **Easter Sunday**

Son Rise Service at Culsh Monument, 7.30am

- followed by breakfast at Mustard Seed Cafe

Family Service at Maud Church, 10.30am

# Bible Study



The season of Lent will soon be upon us and with this in mind we are inviting you to join us in our Lenten Bible Study. We are going to be following the book **Living Faith: Invitations from the cross** pictured on the left. We have a number of copies available for loan or purchase for a small cost. The studies shall be on Wednesday 5th March for six weeks from 2-3pm in Maud Church Hall. Please contact the minister or email the church at [stkanes@outlook.com](mailto:stkanes@outlook.com) to register your interest. We look forward to seeing you.

## Craft Group



Craft Group meets 10.30 am til 12 noon the first and third Monday of the month at Maud Church Hall. Come along to share skills learn new ones or get involved in a project or just come for a cuppa and chat. All are welcome.

Contact Jan on 07460307416 if you are interested and would like to find out more or just come along one morning.

Dates for this quarter:  
Monday February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>  
Monday March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>  
Monday April 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>

# Walking Group



Walking Group is a great way to get out and about with others and whilst we are generally fair weather walkers, this year we have started up early, already heading out for a couple of lovely walks in January. Walks will be through the day for the next couple of months but we will move to both day and evening

walks once the days get longer and warmer.

In the summer, shorter walks are always taken in the afternoon, are on easy terrain and usually involve a fly cup so suit all ages and abilities. Longer walks are taken in the evening and sometimes during the day if we are heading out for a bigger challenge.

Last year, we found it better to organize walks on an ad hoc basis when we know there is going to be good walking weather so will be keeping with this format for 2025. We have a WhatsApp chat where information about walks is posted and folk can sign up. We can let folk know other ways if they are on WhatsApp. If you would like to know more about Walking Group or get involved contact Jan on 0746307416 or ask to get added to the WhatsApp Chat.



We do have plans for another fabulous **Journey through Lent Challenge**. We are still working on the details of this but it will take us on a faith based journey through a series of walks during Lent starting out in early March and ending on the Monday of Holy Week.

Full information on the walk will be posted in February. If you want to find out more contact Jan.



# Warm & Welcome, Soup and Sweet



All are welcome at our twice monthly Monday soup and sweet at Maud Church Hall which runs from 11.30 am to 1.30 pm. Come along for a warm welcome, cup of tea, chat with friends and a warming soup and sweet lunch.

There is no charge for teas or lunch but folk can make a small donation if desired.

Dates for this quarter  
Monday February 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>  
Monday March 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>  
Monday April 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>

## Maud Church Buttery Morning and Pre loved sale

Maud Church Hall  
10.00 am til 12 noon Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

Come along, enjoy your fly cup with friends and you are sure to find something lovely to take home



# Boy's Brigade

1<sup>st</sup> New Deer Boy's Brigade meets Monday evening during term time,  
6.30 pm to 8.00 pm at St Kane's Church Centre

Anchor Boys P1 to P3  
Junior Section P4 to P6

New members are always welcome so if you have boys who are interested in coming or would like a bit more information just get in touch with Anne Marie on 07768850894



## Boy's Brigade Pancake Morning



St Kane's Church Centre  
9.30am til 11.30 am Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March

Donations at the door to St Kane's Boys Brigade.  
All welcome - so come along and enjoy some yummy pancakes.

# St Kane's Guild

The Church of Scotland Guild is a movement within the Church of Scotland which invites and encourages both women and men to commit their lives to Jesus Christ and enables them to express their faith in worship, prayer and action.



St Kane's Guild meet at 7.00 pm on the fourth Thursday of the month at St Kane's Church Centre and extend a warm invitation to folk to come along , get involved and be a part of this Scotland-wide faith movement.

February 27<sup>th</sup> - Talk on Autism

March 27<sup>th</sup> - Robert Esson will be coming along to talk to the Guild about the great work of Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) who support isolated communities ensuring that they have access to some of the essentials for life.



April 24<sup>th</sup> - Anne Milne will lead the Discussion Topic for the evening. If you would like to find out more contact Anne on 07789382721 or just come along to one of the meetings.

## Funeral Teas

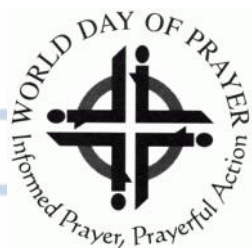
If anyone can spare some time and is willing to help out with preparations and serving of funeral teas in the Church Centre occasionally, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Anne Milne for more information or to volunteer.

# World Day of Prayer

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025 7.30 pm - Maud Church Hall

**"I Made You Wonderful"**

**Psalm 113 1:18**



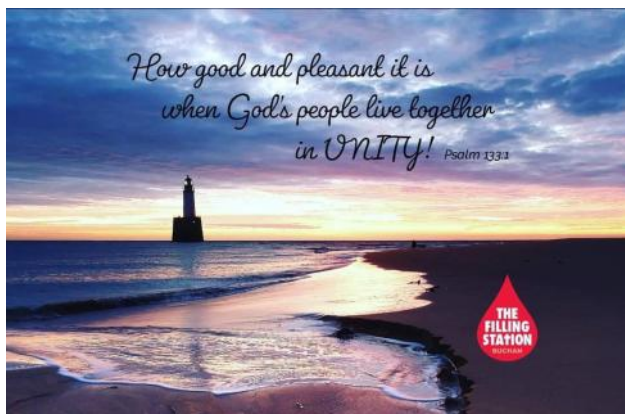
World Day of Prayer is a global, ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join together in prayer and action for peace and justice.

The 2025 World Day of Prayer programme, written by the women of the Cook Islands, invites us into the knowledge that each one of us was made with love and care by God. When we can receive this profound truth, everything in our life changes and we begin to radiate and shine from within. We also learn to treat every other person as made wonderful by God.

Please join us at this special World Day of Prayer service which will be taking place right across the world on the 7<sup>th</sup> March. All are welcome.

## The Filling Station Buchan

Meeting at Maud Village Hall at 7.30 pm on the first Saturday of each month with various speakers, authors and evangelists from across the UK sharing God's Word and faith in a relaxed and informal setting. Come together with people from across The Church to gather and share worship.



# Men's Breakfast



Men's Breakfast is held at The Mustard Seed Café, St Kane's Church Centre 8.30 am to 10.00 am on the first Saturday of the month.

Men come together to share fellowship and faith over a tasty breakfast where they have a platform to chat and on all manner of subjects.



If you would like to find out more contact Alistair on 07551406204 or just come along one Saturday morning.

Dates for this quarter:

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April.

# Time for Prayer

Come together for prayers on Wednesday morning at 10.00 am in St Kane's Church Centre. We also have a WhatsApp Prayer group where we share prayer requests and prayer points are shared.

All are welcome to join the Prayer Groups and if you want to find out more contact Rev Aileen McFie or just come along one Wednesday evening.



# Prayer

Almighty God,  
Your Son came to be the Saviour of the world  
and the Prince of peace.  
Give us grace to follow in His ways  
and to fulfil our calling  
as peacemakers in His name.  
May His Holy Spirit  
so move in the hearts of all people  
and among the nations of the world,  
that barriers of fear, suspicion, and hatred  
which separate us may crumble and fall,  
and the peoples of the world  
be united in justice and peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

(A prayer for Peace – Book of Common Order)

## Church Meetings

Maud and Savoch Congregational Board  
7.00 pm Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February and Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April

St Kane's Congregational Board  
7.00 pm Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February

Joint Kirk Session  
7.00 pm Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April at Maud Church Hall

St Kane's Annual Stated Meeting  
Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March (after Morning Service)

Maud and Savoch Annual Stated Meeting  
Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April (after Morning Service)

# Presbytery News

“From the Sublime to the Ridiculous”

New Aberdour Church – 2.00 pm Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February

Come to hear Mr Gordon Hay MBE relate his story of translating the Bible into Doric. You can keep up to date with other Presbytery News and Prayer Points at [www.nenipresbytery.org.uk](http://www.nenipresbytery.org.uk)



A promotional poster for a 'Foodie Favourites' event. The title 'Foodie Favourites' is in large, bold, red letters with a white outline, slanted upwards. Below it, 'A Cookery Demonstration and Tasting Evening' is written in a smaller, red, cursive font. A white chef's hat icon is in the top left. The event details are in a central blue circle: '2024/2025 Thursdays', '7th November', '5th December', '6th February', and '6th March'. A green circle in the top right says '7pm Start'. A pink circle on the right says 'St Kane's Church Centre'. A purple circle in the bottom left says 'Free Entry All Welcome'. A yellow circle in the bottom right says 'Presented by New Deer St Kane's Parish Church'. There are six circular images of food: a stack of three small cakes with cream and fruit, a roasted meat joint with slices of ham, a bowl of red chili con carne, a strawberry shortcake dessert, a bowl of mixed salad, and a bowl of vegetable soup.

**Foodie Favourites**  
*A Cookery Demonstration and Tasting Evening*

**2024/2025 Thursdays**  
7th November  
5th December  
6th February  
6th March

**7pm Start**

**St Kane's Church Centre**

**Free Entry All Welcome**

**Presented by New Deer St Kane's Parish Church**



# Poppy Appeal



Thank you to all who donated knitted and crocheted poppies for the Poppy Flow for the War Memorial in New Deer and to those who helped to put it together. It is a really beautiful tribute. We hope to add to the poppy display this year so are still asking for folk to knit or crochet poppies. Patterns and wool can be picked up at The Mustard Seed Café. If you want to know a bit more, get involved or have the materials dropped off to you get in touch with Anne on 07789382721.

## Supporting Our Community

We continue to take donations of non perishable foods for the local Foodbank and also essential items for young families for Bairnecessities. These include toothpaste, baby shampoo, sponges, oil, wipes and talc, nappy bags, non bio washing tablets and ladies deodorant. Donations can be made at both Churches and at St Kane's Church Centre and are really appreciated by those in need.  
**Thank you for your donations and continued support**



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Find us on Facebook - Maud and Savoch Church and New Deer St. Kane's Parish Church  
Our Minister is Rev. Aileen McFie 01771 644631