

# **Coldstream & District Parishes Church Magazine October 2024**



**You are invited to Holy Communion  
at the Sunday Service on  
20 October 2024  
at 11.15 a.m.**

..... Elder

Interim Moderator: Rev Dr Adam Hood  
Tel. 01289 332787

Email: [Ahood@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:Ahood@churchofscotland.org.uk)

Session Clerk Michael Rowe  
Tel. 01890 883333

Email: [michaelrowe.coldstream@gmail.com](mailto:michaelrowe.coldstream@gmail.com)

## **AUTUMN REFLECTIONS**

Summer is definitely behind us and the days are getting shorter. Summer is often a busy time, looking after children or grandchildren, tending flowers and vegetables in your gardens... or just trying to keep on top of the weeds! As ever, the Coldstream Flower Show in September displayed a wealth of gardening and other talent. And in Church at the beginning of October we had our Harvest Celebration and Lunch when we gave thanks to God for our farmers and for another harvest successfully brought in, while also thinking of those who are less fortunate than ourselves.

It's time for us to enjoy a change of pace, as the leaves turn and plants die back and the earth rests before bursting into life again in the spring. As we spend less time outdoors our town's clubs and societies get into full swing and our Church activities resume after the summer.

November brings Remembrance, when Church and Community join to honour the memory of those who have given their lives for freedom and justice in the wars of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, to pray together for those now serving in the Armed Forces and to pray that peace may reign in our fragile world.

And as the days grow ever shorter we move into the season of Advent and begin to prepare for Christmas, when we celebrate the birth of Jesus who came as God's Son into our world as a vulnerable baby to be alongside us and to share our human experience – and to be the light of the world.

We will have a special family service at 10.30 a.m. on Sunday 1 December for the beginning of Advent. Do join us then as we light the first of our Advent candles and turn on the lights on our Christmas tree - all to remind us that Jesus brings hope and light at this darkest time of the year.

## **NEW SERVICE TIME**

The Kirk Session has agreed that from 17 November 2024 our Sunday services will take place at 10.30 a.m. We hope that this earlier time will be more convenient for the majority of our members. We are committed to being open for worship every Sunday of the year, so do come along and join us.

## **EVENTS THIS AUTUMN**

Friday 25 October, 7.00 p.m. - we are privileged to host a concert in the Church by the **Belcando Chamber Choir** from Dortmund, Germany during their tour of Northumberland and the Borders. They are a sixteen-strong ladies' choir and they will be bringing us a varied programme of classical, modern and religious music. We will be serving refreshments in the interval. Entry to the concert is free and there will be a voluntary retiring collection shared between Berwickshire Christian Youth Trust and Church funds. Please do come to give the choir a warm welcome to Coldstream – and, of course, to enjoy the evening.

Saturday 26 October, 10.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. “**The Workshop**” **Activity Day** for primary age children with BCYT. Children must be registered in advance to attend – please look out for details.

On Sunday 24 November we are holding an alternative **Church Fayre** between 1.00 and 2.30 p.m. in the Church and the Hall. There will be stalls for Cake and Candy, Christmas/bric a brac and jigsaws, tea and coffee, guess the weight of the cake, a quiz, a children's treasure hunt and the ever popular Christmas Hamper raffle. Come along at any time – if you can't stay for the raffle draw and you win, we'll make sure you are told!

## **PLANS FOR THE CHURCHES IN OUR AREA**

As the parishes in Berwick and Berwickshire move forward with plans for five ministers to work together as a team to serve and lead our churches, there are at last signs of a light at the end of the tunnel! We can be more optimistic that during 2025 new arrangements will be put into place and new ministers appointed, including in Coldstream.

There is agreement in principle that each minister will be responsible for several linked congregations centred on the churches in Coldstream, Earlston, Duns, Eyemouth and Berwick. Each minister will spend a small proportion of their time in traditional parish ministry, with most of their time spent supporting the development of lay leadership in all of the churches to take increasing responsibility for all aspects of parish life. Each of the five ministers will have a special focus on one aspect of ministry – Worship, Pastoral Care, Mission, Youth and Christian Education.

All of the parishes in the five linkages will together form a parish grouping. This is not another level of church bureaucracy! It's a forum where we can agree areas of cooperation and engage with the five ministers as they work as a team supporting all our congregations.

The Kirk Session has agreed in principle to these arrangements. When detailed plans are drawn up the Kirk Session will vote on them and members and adherents of our congregation will also have the opportunity to vote before any plans are implemented. Votes will take place at congregational meetings after morning worship and notice will be given in the weekly intimations and on the website. Once these arrangements have been agreed by all congregations, we hope to be able to proceed to advertising for new ministers based in Coldstream, Earlston and Duns.

*Michael Rowe, Session Clerk*

## OUR ONGOING ACTIVITIES

As well as our Sunday morning Church services a lot of other things are happening in our congregation.

**Ladies@10:** We meet every other week on a Wednesday morning from 10.00 to about 11.30. We enjoy catching up with each other over a coffee or tea and some cake! We have a look at the Bible and pray for any concerns that we may have. Our next meetings are on 16 and 30 October and 13 and 27 November. To check the venue please email [ColdstreamPC@gmail.com](mailto:ColdstreamPC@gmail.com)

**Sunday Sing:** Every two weeks a group of us meet at 10.15 a.m. to sing and worship God before the Sunday service. There can be up to 14 of us. We generally sing contemporary worship songs and hymns, but it does vary! Everyone is welcome to join us and there is no requirement to stay on for the service and you do not have to be a great singer! We are not a choir, just people who enjoy singing together. We'll be meeting next on Sundays 20 October and 3 November – please check the website for plans from 17 November.

**Men's Prayer Breakfast:** A group of up to a dozen men meet every other Saturday from 8.00 to 9.00 a.m. in the Church hall to share a breakfast of bacon or egg roll and tea and coffee and a time of fellowship and prayer. We come from different church traditions and are equally comfortable with times of silence and with spoken prayers. We share a common concern to bring to God the needs of the world, our community, neighbours, friends and families. New members will be very welcome. The next breakfasts will be on 19 October and 2 November and then every two weeks throughout the winter.

**Iona service:** On the third Wednesday evening of the month we hold an informal service in the Church hall. We begin and end with responses and prayers drawn from the worship of the Iona Community and each time reflect on and discuss a different theme, continuing to share with one another over a cup of tea or coffee. The next services will be on 16 October and 20 November at 7.30 p.m., with refreshments served from 7.15 and afterwards.

**Sunday Focus:** If you can't manage to get to church – or would like something additional to the Sunday service – you will find on our website a weekly programme of hymns, songs, a Bible reading and prayers, along with some thoughts on the Bible reading. You will find a link on the home page of the Church website and also posted on the Church Facebook page.

**Parish Church Guild:** The Guild is open to everyone – male or female – and meets on the second Wednesday of the month from October to March in the Church Hall at 7.00 p.m.

Our first speaker on Wednesday 9th October is the Rev Dr Derek Brown who will be talking about his work as a Hospital Chaplain. Derek was the Lead Chaplain for NHS Highland based at Raigmore Hospital and it should be most interesting to hear about his work there. On Wednesday 13th November Caroline Douglas is coming with her handmade resin jewellery and gifts which is sure to be popular with Christmas on the horizon! Wednesday 11th December is our Christmas Party when, if we have all been good, Santa may put in an appearance! Subs for the year are £10.00 and £1.00 is payable each meeting. Visitors are always welcome at a cost of £2.00.

*Helen Park*

## **NEWS FROM SWINTON KIRK**

The Swinton Hub is in the process of finalising a business plan for the continued use of the church as a community hub and for worship, but inevitably the summer and holidays have held up our progress. In addition, we have had to appoint new Architects as our previous pro bono architects were not heritage accredited. We have been fortunate to secure the services of Ben Glennon of Aitken Turnbull who has extensive experience of working with historic buildings, including the redevelopment of Station House, Stow as a community space. We hope to be able to apply to funders by the end of October.

We continue to hold our services on the third Sunday of each month and in September we had our first visiting preacher the Reverend Canon Tim Morris. Our Services for the rest of the year are as follows and you are most welcome to attend.

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October Harvest Festival at 10.00 a.m.

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November 11.15 a.m. Remembrance Service

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November Celtic Communion at 10.00 a.m.

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December Carol Service at 10.00 a.m.

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day at 10.00 a.m.

*David Dalglish*

### **KEEP IN TOUCH**

For the latest news and updates on Coldstream and District Parishes please visit our Church website

[www.coldstreamdistrictchurches.org.uk](http://www.coldstreamdistrictchurches.org.uk)

and Facebook page [www.facebook.com/ColdstreamKirk](http://www.facebook.com/ColdstreamKirk)

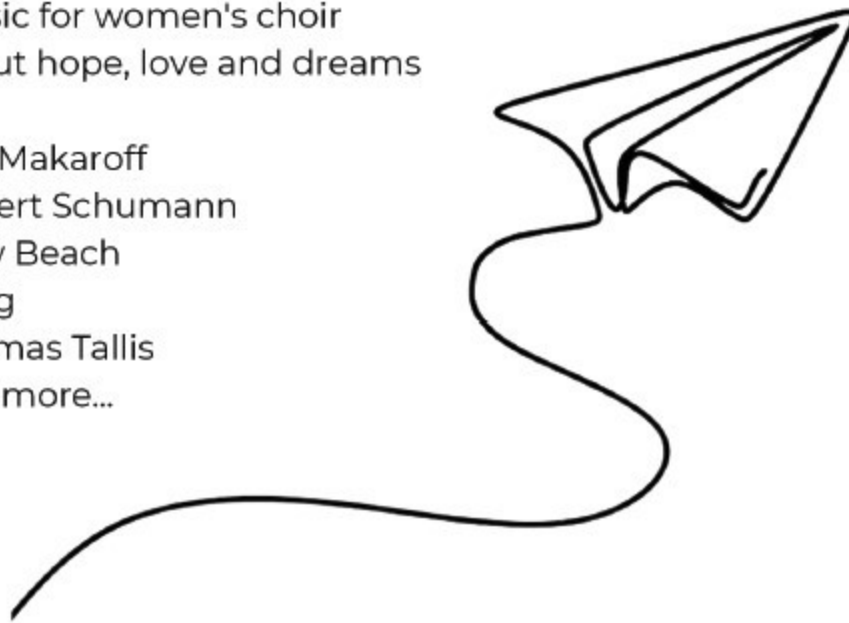
Message us on the website or Facebook page or email to [ColdstreamPC@gmail.com](mailto:ColdstreamPC@gmail.com)

Kammerchor belcando  
Conductor: Stefan Steinröhder

# *Longing...* SEHNSUCHT

music for women's choir  
about hope, love and dreams

Mia Makaroff  
Robert Schumann  
Amy Beach  
Sting  
Thomas Tallis  
and more...



**Friday, 25. October 2024 - 7 pm**

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**Coldstream Parish Church**  
High Street, Coldstream, TD 12 4DH

No pre-booking or tickets  
free entry with retiring collection