

# **Udny & Pitmedden Church**

## **Newsletter**



**September 2017**

## SERVICES FOR JUN T00 SEP 17

### Sep

3 <sup>rd</sup>	10am	Udny Green
10 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Pitmedden
17 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Pitmedden
24 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Pitmedden

### Oct

1 <sup>st</sup>	10am	Udny Green	Harvest Thanksgiving
8 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Pitmedden	
15 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Pitmedden	
22 <sup>rd</sup>	10am	Pitmedden	
29 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Udny Green	Communion
29 <sup>th</sup>	3pm	Pitmedden	Communion

### Nov

5 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Udny Green	
12 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Udny Green	Remembrance Sunday
19 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Pitmedden	Guild Dedication Service
26 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Pitmedden	

### Dec

3 <sup>rd</sup>	10am	Udny Green	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent
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## KIRK CAFÉ



The Kirk Café is held on Wednesday mornings. Come along and enjoy a cup of tea/coffee and a scone.

## MUSINGS FROM THE MANSE

Hello from the Manse,  
How quickly the summer seems to go in! I'm alarmed to note that the trees outside my office window are already beginning to change colour. What seemed like the promise of many weeks to catch up on all the things that have been left undone during the winter months, has come to an end with the filing cabinet untouched and the tax return still not started!

Although I can't be described as a YouTuber and Blogger (as someone was recently on TV, incidentally is that a job?) I do occasionally look at some of the things that go (as they say) viral just to see what's going on in the collective mind. I just loved and felt inspired by the US Admiral who exhorted everyone to start their day small by simply making their bed. He went on to describe how if we begin by taking care of the small things in life then we will also take care of the big things. That, he says, will logically follow. If we start by making our bed, then we will move on to the next task with a sense of achievement and so on through the day and if the day doesn't go well then at least we come home to a made bed...One that we made ourselves.

It's such a simple idea and so logical, so why has it taken the nation's Internetters by storm? Everyone's Granny could be credited with similar if not identical statements and yet our young people are following this man and his book is heading for the best sellers list at great speed! Well, it's not so much about what he said it's more about who said it and the way he said it.

Here is a man who has trained as a Navy Seal with all the tough challenges that that brings. He comes with some gravitas to the task of offering advice. (To say nothing of the crisp white uniform and the chiselled good looks!)

Nobody's Granny can really compete! Admiral McRaven has been there. He's seen what it was like. He's lived a successful life and is now able to say with absolute authority what others need to do to emulate his success. It's true we take much more notice of people that we know have walked the walk and not just talked the talk. For me that brings Granny back into the picture. Most grannies have been or seen most things in their long lives and are qualified to offer advice based on their experience. Advice that we would do well to consider carefully.

But the ultimate in life experience was surely lived by Jesus Christ. He is the only one that can say he died and lived to tell the tale and his book is still on the bestseller list for perfectly good reasons.

Pick it up sometime and have a read.

Blessings!

Gillean

## **GOOD COMPANIONS CLUB**

The new session of the Good Companions Club starts on Wednesday 20th September at 2pm in Pitmedden Public Hall. Making a welcomed return for our opening meeting are Kintore Ladies who will be our entertainers for the afternoon. New members will be made very welcome, so come along and enjoy the music followed by tea, sandwiches and homebakes.

Future meetings

18th October - A case of hats!

15th November - Newburgh WRI

Our annual coffee morning is on Saturday 28th October  
10am in Pitmedden Hall

## **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2017**

The Rev. Sally Foster-Fulton, Head of Christian Aid Scotland writes, "I am delighted to confirm receipt of £2,180.00 arising from fundraising by Udney & Pitmedden Church this Christian Aid Week".

With an additional £350 from the Souper Sunday lunch, the total this year is £2,530.00.

"Christian Aid Week remains our greatest opportunity to raise awareness of what Christian Aid does, and to invite the people of Scotland to contribute to this work.

I would like to thank you, and everyone who joined with you, for enabling us to continue to show solidarity with, and support to, people such as Nejebar whose story featured in this year's appeal.

Together with our global neighbours in the thousands of communities that we work, and in partnership with the hundreds of local organisations who help us, we can build a world where everybody has a safe place to call home." Together, over the past 3 years, the parish of Udney & Pitmedden has donated £7,333.93 to Christian Aid.

## **FUNDRAISING**

17<sup>th</sup> September – Scavenger hunt in Pitmedden Village followed by afternoon teas

10<sup>th</sup> November – Gourmet Auction in Udney Green Hall

## **THE STORY OF OUR COMMUNION TABLE, UDNY PARISH CHURCH, UDNY GREEN**

On the 25th February 1876 the Rev. Alexander Spence was inducted into the Udney parish and ministered here until his retirement in 1923, in fact he served the parish for 47 years, the longest serving minister we have had. In November 1928 the Udney Church was re-opened and re-dedicated following a complete and major renovation. At the same service there was also dedicated a beautiful carved communion table inscribed to the memory of the late Rev. Dr Spence who had died about five years earlier.

An interesting report of the ceremony was made in the Aberdeen Journal from which I quote -:

“This memorial was the outcome of a decision of the session and congregation to combine the placing of a communion table with the renovation scheme.

In the large congregation were worshippers from Aberdeen and many of the surrounding parishes. The service was taken by the Rev. J. M. McQuitty, Gilcomston Parish Church, Aberdeen, while the Rev. W. McNutt, minister of Udney, read the lessons.

The communion table was dedicated by the Rev. T. McWilliam, minister of Foveran, as the oldest member of the Presbytery of Ellon, and as an old and intimate friend of the late Dr Spence and of his family. He recalled that Dr Spence’s ministry lasted forty-seven years from 1876, winning in an amazing degree the loyalty and affection of his people.

Let them think of what such a lengthened service might mean - of the children baptised, and of his sympathetic relationship with parents dedicating a precious young life to God; of the many at the altar of marriage pledging their troth till death did them part, and remembering in kindly

thought the minister who bound them in sacred bond; of the sick beds attended, where his words cheered and comforted, of all the helpful sympathy to stricken hearts; and of the pastoral and kindly intercourse of Sunday worship with the gifted and scholarly culture of their old minister.

What was there, then, left for them but to cherish his memory and to thank God for his worthy, upright, lovable life and his faithful and devoted service, remembering and commending also to the blessing of God the dear partner of his life, his true helpmate, who so faithfully upheld and assisted him in all his ministry, together with those near and dear to him, and a loyal and generous people ever ready to aid him in every good work?

Of all that had been added to the beauty and dignity of this church in which his voice was so familiar surely nothing could be more fitting than that communion table, from which the sacred symbols of the broken body and shed blood of Christ would be dispensed for long years to come, and ever kindly associated with their testimony to the memory of their minister, a faithful and honoured servant of Jesus Christ.

Mr McWilliam then dedicated the table by prayer, and the service concluded with the singing of the 66th Paraphrase, "How bright these glorious spirits shine." " End quote.

Bill Johnston

## **FORMARTINE YOUTH PROJECT**

### **3 years on and still going strong**

What a great opportunity summer is! Less pressure, less on and great time to meet with people and do life together... plus we've actually had some sun!

The summer has been a great time to meet up with families at our kid club days and we manage to host them in our different villages that complete the Formartine Youth Project. We had great fun exploring who Joseph was and David – 2 guys, born to loads of brothers with very little prospect, who go onto great and mighty things. We sang, ran and made catapults and had lots of fun completing our challenges. Thank you to the volunteers and all the families who came along. For our young people, we managed to pin down the Youth For Christ team to come with their fantastic football cage. A great afternoon hosted in Pitmedden kept the teens very busy and having a great time. Thank you YFC.

The project continues to meet in numerous ways, places and times. This term we aim to focus on our basics of Christianity and ask some of the big questions through Youth Alpha. This gives us time and space to look into the basics of our faith and lets everyone explore it at our own pace. If this is something you are interested in, please just get in touch.

Our usual weekly groups will be up and running through August and September so keep an eye on our Facebook page for announcements of one off and weekly events. It's going to be a busy year as we look for the next round of funding for our worker to continue the engagements between the youth and the church as well as the 4



churches working together. We are excited about everything the project brings to our communities, schools and churches and look forward to new avenues that are coming our way.

Our focus on families and youth has brought many into our church family on a wider basis than just a Sunday morning. Our buildings are used through the week to serve others through food, music, games, fun and conversation. This is something we should be proud of hosting but keen to develop and move forward. The world isn't standing still, God definitely isn't so we shouldn't be either. Opportunities regularly arise for change or to connect with another group of people. We take time to analyse and seek out where we can continue to serve in these areas. It's exciting and challenging and one that will continue to shape the project for years to come.

Continue to remember the groups that are part of the project:

Messy Church, Mainly Music, Sunday School & Youth Groups, Schools classroom sessions, lunchtime groups, Udney Green BB's, Barthol Chapel Youth Club & Pitmedden Youth Café, Youth Alpha, Wee Gems and BE:LONG.

Claire Bell  
Children and Youth Work  
Formartine Youth Project  
[clairefyp@outlook.com](mailto:clairefyp@outlook.com)  
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## **GUILD**

The Guild starts again in September with meetings held in Pitmedden Church at 7.30pm

- Wed 6<sup>th</sup> Sep ~ Howard Drysdale – Aberdeen Seafarers' Centre.
- Wed 4<sup>th</sup> Oct ~ Mary Rasmussen & Guide Dog 'Living with Blindness'
- Wed 1<sup>st</sup> Nov ~ Rhona McKeown – 'Care for the Family'
- 19 – 26<sup>th</sup> Nov ~ Guild Week: Guild Theme : 'Go in LOVE'.
- Wed 6<sup>th</sup> Dec ~Scott Baxter – Cyrenians.

### **Baptism**

Grace Elizabeth Anne Reid. Pitmedden Church  
23/7/2017

### **Weddings**

Stephanie Howarth and William Hopps. Udney Green Church 28/5/2017

Leanne Marie Davidson and James Buchan Duncan,. Udney Green Church 14/7/2017

Tanya Elizabeth Shepherd and Robin James Conningham Howeson. Udney Green Church 15/7/2017

### **Funerals**

Norma Watson nee Taylor. Udney Green Church.  
29/5/2017

Peter Goar. Udney Green Church 11/8/2017

The weekly **Church Diary and Parish Prayer Pointers** is the best way to keep everyone informed of your organisation's regular meetings and one-off events, and draw attention to any issues or individuals you would like the church family to pray for. Please email details to Elaine at [elainemoff@aol.com](mailto:elainemoff@aol.com) or phone 01651 842898 - and don't forget to let me know when a regular meeting is cancelled or takes a break!

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### **FIND US ON FACEBOOK**

- Udney and Pitmedden Church of Scotland
- Formartine Youth Project
- Mainly Music Pitmedden Church

### **CHURCH NEWS ARTICLES**

The **DEADLINE** for the December edition is 12<sup>th</sup> Nov 2017. Share your information & news at any time by emailing [udnypitmeddenchurchnews@gmail.com](mailto:udnypitmeddenchurchnews@gmail.com).

## CONTACTS

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Treasurer & Gift Aid	Mr Garth Entwistle	01651 842412
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Organists contact	Mrs Anne Woodward	01651 842900
Church Officer (Udny Green)	Mr Bill Shewan	01651 842346
Church Officer (Pitmedden)	Mr Alvan Milne	01651 842967
Youth Cafe	Mrs Fiona Entwistle	01651 842412
Big Breakfast	Mr Andy Burslem	01651 842092
Boys Brigade		
Good Companions	Mrs Joey Sleigh	01651 851256
Guild	Mrs Carol Marr	01651 842242
Kirk Café	Mrs Gladys Ross	01651 843068
Mainly Music	Mrs Fiona Entwistle	01651 842412
Messy Church	Mrs Maria Weeds	
Formartine Youth Project	Mrs Claire Bell	07983759925
Safeguarding Coordinators	Sheila Burslem Roy Burnett	01651 842092