

Canonbie United Parish Church

CANONBIE CHRONICLES

Edition 15

www.canonbiechurch.org.uk

Winter 2012-13

The Manse, Newcastleton. Tel. 013873 75242

Dear Friends,

This is my last contribution to the Canonbie Chronicles, as on 27th November I will be moving to my new parishes, and will no longer be your Minister.

Canonbie has been an excellent place for me; your kindness, thoughtfulness, patience and support have encouraged, enriched and challenged me. I think I am a better Minister because of having worked with you. Being part of a United congregation has been very important to me; please continue to value how important Canonbie Kirk is.

I am very sad to be leaving, especially as I have not been with you for as long as I had hoped. Do not forget though, that God has a plan, hard as it sometimes is to work His plan out! I know Canonbie is a strong, gifted congregation, and I am confident you will continue to flourish, because you earnestly seek to serve God.

You will continue to be in my prayers. When I have made mistakes and annoyed you, please forgive me. I go feeling very loved and supported by Canonbie folk. Thankyou.

We could do no better than read again St Paul's advice to the church at Thessalonika (1 Thess 5: 12-22), which concludes

"May the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; may your spirit, soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and He will do this".

God bless you all,

Steve

Our next Communion is Sunday 2nd December, 11:30am

Please join us

Everyone welcome

Communion is held at Canonbie United Parish Church on the first Sunday of March, June, September and December.

Christmas Cool Club

Will be held in the church
Friday 30 November, 6 – 7:30pm
Games, crafts, music, stories, videos, a
wide range of activities for primary
school age children.
Contact Lois (71386) or Ruth (71583) for
more information

Langholm Concert Orchestra presents **A Christmas Concert**

In the church
Sunday 9th December, 2pm
Also

Christmas Bazaar

Admission £5; School children £2.
Including tea, coffee, mince pies
traybakes.

Christmas Services

Canonbie School Service, Wednesday 19 December, 9:30am.
Sunday 23 December, 11:30am, Nativity Service.
Christmas Eve, 8pm.
Christmas Day, 10am.
Sunday 30 December, 11:30am.

Soup Kitchens

Canonbie Village Hall
11:30am to 1pm
Saturday 26 January 2013
Saturday 23 February 2013
Saturday 30 March 2013
with

Table Top Sale

All proceeds to church funds

Safari Supper

Across Canonbie
Saturday 5 January 2013
To raise funding for the Youth Group linkage trip to Malawi in July 2013 (see below). Tickets on sale soon. If you can be a host/hostess or can give any help, please contact Lois, Lizzie 71386 or Ruth 71583.

Our Youth Group will be

Exploring links in Malawi

**2013 – 200 years after the birth of David Livingstone
Scottish missionary and explorer**

In July next year our Youth Group is aiming to travel to Malawi to experience the historical links between this African country and the Church of Scotland. 5 girls between the age of 15 to 18 have already committed themselves to the project and are working over the coming months to raise the money to get there. A two week stay in the Ekwendeni area will involve a variety of work activities but primarily the organisation of a Holiday Club for children with the objective of increasing the spiritual, social and economic awareness of the girls and of the friends they will make in Malawi too. Please look out for further details on how you can help support us. We have a Safari Supper planned for January (see above) and a Quiz Night in February. A £2000 grant has already been secured from the FaithShare charity. £92 was realised from a cake sale at the Soup Kitchen at the end of November. We estimate that each girl will have to raise around £1000 each to make the trip. March 2013 marks the 200th anniversary of the birth of Dr David Livingstone. After qualifying as a doctor, he became a missionary and explorer in Africa where he helped to end slavery, especially in Malawi. A trip is planned for the Youth Group to an exhibition at the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh, launched recently for the anniversary.

Farewell to Revd. Steve Fulcher ...and Revd. Chris Fulcher

Many people from our congregation shared in the joy of Chris' ordination to the ministry at the Border Kirk in Carlisle on 23 November. We congratulate you Chris. Your success eases the sadness as Steve and you leave us. But we know we are much better equipped for spreading the Gospel in Canonbie and much farther beyond because we have known you both here over the last 3 years. That work has touched and strengthened the hearts and minds of so many across the Canonbie community. We want to say 'Thankyou' and pray for God's direction and power for you both in your ministry in Argyll.

A message from our Interim Moderator

As many of you will be aware, I have been appointed as your Interim Moderator by Presbytery, for the first six months of the vacancy. I am sure I shall enjoy working with you as we seek a new minister for the pastoral charge of Canonbie United linked with Liddesdale. Many of you will be saddened by Steve's departure but I would encourage you to look forward in hope. For some of you, the vacancy period and beyond will give an opportunity to come forward and share your gifts. Please do not hesitate to do so. The process will require us all to pull together.

I. Scott McCarthy
Langholm
November 2012