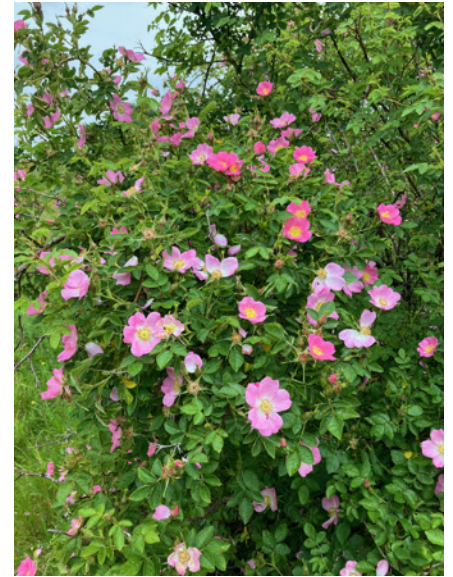


July
2026

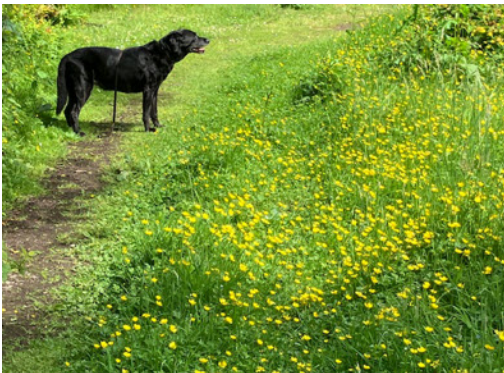
Strathmore Parish Church Newsletter. *You are receiving this email because you have passed on your email address to the church. If you do not want us to have your email address, or if you don't want to receive these emails, please let us know right away at admin@strathmoreparish.org Please feel free to forward this newsletter to anyone you think might be interested, or to send us the email address of anyone who would like to be added to the mailing list.*

Hello, everyone - the summer solstice is past (Sunday 21st June was our longest day this year) and that officially marks the beginning of summer in the UK. It has certainly felt like summer since then, hasn't it? Some of us enjoy the hot weather, but for many folk everything feels like a bit of a trauchle when the temperatures get up into the mid-twenties.

These very high temperatures do make us think about the changing climate of our planet, don't they? There doesn't seem to be any doubt now that the catastrophic climate events that are happening more and more often are due to the activities of the human race - more specifically, to the amount of carbon that we are putting into the atmosphere of our Earth. The enthusiasm that existed 10 years ago for reaching 'net zero' carbon emissions, after the international Paris Climate Agreement, is less evident now - we are realising how difficult it is to achieve meaningful reductions without major changes in our lifestyles and in our business practices.



Most of us try to do our bit for the planet, don't we? We try to stick to the 'reduce, re-use, recycle' advice, even to the extent now of taking a wee baggie of used soft plastics when we go to the supermarket; we switch off lights rather than have the house looking like the Blackpool illuminations; we put on an extra jersey in the winter rather than turn up the heating. But I think we all compromise to a certain extent, do we not? I know, for example, that I'm guilty of over-using the car at times when I could walk. 'It's up to governments to do more!' we say, and that's true, but governments change direction all the time, as we are seeing in Westminster right now. It's very hard to know what the answer is, but all of us should certainly be concerned about finding it, or the world our grandchildren inherit will be unrecognisable from the one we know now!



And it definitely is a lovely world we live in, especially in our own Strathmore Parish area - the wild flowers are stunning at the moment, aren't they? Buttercups on every grass verge, wild roses in the field margins and alongside all the paths, foxgloves all over the place in the woods (where it is such a joy to walk on these hot days!) Everyone's garden seems to be doing well this year, too, though some plants are looking a wee bit thirsty, as are the tatties, it would seem, from the number of watering systems that are out on the farms in our part of the country.

You'll be pleased to hear that, at its meeting on Tuesday past, the Presbytery of Perth, to which we belong, voted to allow Strathmore Parish Church continued leave to call a minister until June 2027. As we all know, there is a shortage of ministers in the Church of Scotland at present, so it is not going to be an easy task to find the right person, but the members of our Nominating Committee hope that soon someone will feel called to minister to our congregation. Presbytery also resolved on Tuesday that, if we have not succeeded in finding a minister by next June, then our 'permission to call' will be reviewed at that time.





One of the arrangements made at the time when we joined together to become Strathmore Parish Church was that the manse in Newtyle should be sold and that the Meigle manse should become the home of our new minister. Those of us from further afield in the parish may not know where the Meigle manse is - it's on Dundee Road, the main road through Meigle, just about opposite the school, and entered via Belmont Place. The manse, which has been let for several years (since Ardler, Kettins and Meigle last had a minister), has in the past months been freshly decorated indoors, but sadly, over the years, the manse garden has got somewhat out of hand, as Meigle residents may have

noticed. Our Kirk Session, though, has recently agreed that the garden should be thoroughly overhauled and spruced up so that it will be ready for our new minister and his/her family, when required. A contractor has been found and will be working regularly in the garden, so members at Meigle, and the general public passing by, should soon notice a difference.

It's good that the Session want to make our manse as pleasant a home as possible for the person who is called to be our minister.



As many of you will know, this is Diane Strachan, the Treasurer of our congregation. We are fortunate in Strathmore Parish Church in having many excellent people taking on roles of responsibility - as elders, for example, and as trustees of the congregation, and in many other ways. They give up their own time to make sure that our congregation can continue to function, and without them, frankly, we'd be sunk! The time commitment probably falls most heavily on the Church Treasurer and the Session Clerk and although we now have a paid Administrative Assistant who has taken on many of the routine tasks of both, and of the Property Conveners and the Safeguarding Co-Ordinator, we still ask a great deal of our volunteer office-bearers. Making time for church business is particularly difficult if you are also working full-time, as is the case with Diane, and she is asking now if there is anyone in our congregation who might be able to give her a bit of help.

Do you have experience of book-keeping or accounting? It's not necessary for this to have been in a church situation. If you do, and if you feel that you could offer some assistance to Diane with aspects of the Treasurer's work (for example, helping to check over the year-end accounts) please contact her at treasurer@strathmoreparish.org or on 01250 876765.

If you do have book-keeping or accounting skills but you're not sure if they are up to the task, why not contact Diane anyway and have a chat about exactly what she needs help with? Please don't wait for someone to approach you personally, or think 'someone else will do it' - this is a plea for assistance from our Church Treasurer, and it's up to us as church members to help if we can!

As we move ahead into the summer months, most of us like to get out-of-doors with friends and families as much as possible, and there's nothing better than a picnic in a quiet spot, where we can laze around or play a game, and enjoy a snack and a cool drink (or a hot cup of tea, depending on the day!) So don't forget our

Parish Picnic on Sunday 5th July, 2.30 to 4pm, on the green at Kettins Church.

There will be tables and chairs set out, but bring your own picnic chairs if you like and something to eat - please note that tea, coffee, cool drinks and strawberry sundaes will all be provided!!

Feel free, please, to bring along any family members or visitors with you, and also any garden games you may have (eg boules, hoopla, giant Jenga) as the organising team want us all to have as much fun as possible!

There's going to be singing as part of the afternoon's events and a small (very small!) pop-up choir met on Thursday night past for a short practice - along with the musicians, they will lead the singing of a hymn that's



a great spot
for a picnic!

a traditional favourite, '*What a friend we have in Jesus*', but . . . we'll all be singing it to the magnificent Welsh tune, Calon Lân. If you're a rugby fan, you'll definitely know that one!

In true 'pop-up' style, the choir would be happy (very happy, actually!) to be joined on the day by anyone else who can sing - if that's you, and you'd like to have a listen to the tune, Calon Lân, beforehand, you can find many videos of it on YouTube - the Treorchy Male Choir version is very good at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W1D5zIH-rm4&list=RDW1D5zIH-rm4&start_radio=1

The Sunday School teachers at Kettins and Iona Johnstone, who plays the organ there, have been working hard to prepare for the picnic (poster attached to this newsletter) and it sounds as if it will be a really enjoyable time - if you can't manage the whole afternoon, drop by for as long as you can! Football warm-up session for all ages and abilities from 2.00pm, picnic starts at 2.30!

Services and events during July

Sunday 5th	10.00am Kettins; Newtyle 11.30am Glamis 2.30pm Picnic for whole parish at Kettins
Sunday 12th	10.00am Meigle; Newtyle 11.30am Glamis
Sunday 19th	10.00am Kettins; Newtyle 11.30am Glamis
Sunday 26th	10.00am Meigle; Newtyle 11.30am Glamis

Whatever you are planning for this summer - going away for a holiday, visiting friends, having days out, staying at home or working - I hope you will enjoy it!

With best wishes,
Mary Reid

