

***Auchterless & Auchaber
Parish Church of Scotland***

SCO09168



Spring Newsletter 2026

Rev. Stephen Potts Tel. 01888 511058



Local photo



Dear Friends,

Firstly, thank you for your support of our church through the giving of your time, talents and money, which is much needed and very much appreciated.

A comedian said 'I have an angel on one shoulder and a devil on the other, I'm also deaf in one ear.'



This is a joke with some truth in it.

A Native American proverb called the 'Two Wolves', speaks of two impulses within a person, one orientated towards life, the other toward destruction. These 'Two Wolves' are in constant tension, the one that prevails is the one that is fed the most.



As I write this, the situation in the Middle-East is still ongoing and very worrying. At least eleven countries have been directly affected by this, having been bombed, either by America and Israel or in retaliation by Iran. Once again civilians, men, women and children will bear the brunt of yet another conflict.

Jesus was asked what the greatest commandment was. He replied the greatest commandment has two parts to it, 'love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul, mind and strength and love your neighbour as yourself.

The second part' he said 'is like the first.' This second part weakens the impulse inclined toward destruction and strengthens the impulse inclined toward life.

Lent is a time of introspection to recognise which impulse we feed the most. As we do this we keep our eyes on Christ our Lord. Jesus said 'The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy;

I have come that you may have life, and have it to the full.'

The word Lent comes from the old English word Lencten which means the lengthening of days in the season of spring, when we welcome more light, more warmth, new growth and new life. This is the very stuff of Easter, more light, more warmth, new growth and new life. The Easter story is the food I need to nourish the impulse toward life.

All blessings to you in Christ our Lord,

Rev Steve Potts

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Dates for Your Diary 2026

March Fri. 6th-

World Day of Prayer at Old Meldrum Church- 7 pm
Compiled by the ladies of Nigeria

March Sat. 7th

Coffee Morning in the British Legion, Turriff

March Sat. 29th

Clocks go forward

April Thurs 2nd

Maundy Thursday Service, 7.30pm at
Auchterless/Auchaber

Apr Fri 3rd- Good Friday

Community Easter Egg Hunt & Refreshments 2-4pm
Good Fri Evening Service at 7.30pm

April Sun 5th

Easter Day Service at 10.30am

Apr Sun 26th

Communion Service

May-Sun 10th-16th

is Christian Aid Week

Community Cuppa

is on the last Wednesday of the month between 2-4pm
All are welcome to join us for a cuppa, a fine piece and a blether.



from *“Walk with me”* by Greg Olsen



*“Walk with me,” I heard him say.
“Walk with me awhile today.”*

*“Talk with me,” I heard him speak,
“Talk with me of the things you think.”
Share with me the things you feel,
Share with me so you can heal.*

*Cry with me through your heartbreaks,
Cry with me when your soul aches.
See with me the world anew,
See with me my point of view.*

*Laugh with me in pure delight,
Laugh with me, it's all alright!
Sing with me as we stroll along,
Sing with me, I love your song.*

*Learn with me your wondrous story,
Learn with me your prior glory.
Know with me just who you are,
Know with me, we've travelled far.*

*Create with me, and dreams come true,
Create with me, I create through you!
Walk with me on Heaven's shore,
Walk with me forevermore!”*

The Kirk's 'Ash Wednesday' Service was conducted by the Rev. Steve Potts on Wednesday, 18th February '26. Ash Wednesday marks the first day of Lent, to reflect on Jesus' 40-day fast in the wilderness.

During the service, the minister placed the ashes on each person's forehead, in the shape of a cross, as he said, *'Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. Turn to the Lord, and be faithful to Him.'*

The ashes act as a visible sign to live your life according to Christian values.

The use of ashes is a symbol of sorrow for our sins and a reminder of our frailty, ultimately leading to our mortality.

In ancient times, palm branches would be burned to produce the ashes, whereas nowadays, the palm crosses from the previous year's Palm Sunday Service are used.

George Paterson, Elder, receiving the imposition of Ashes with Maggie and Sam in the background



"I Want to Age Like Sea Glass" by Bernadette Noll

This poem emphasises the importance of embracing life's challenges and finding beauty in the journey of ageing.



This is a shortened version of Bernadette's poem.

I want to age like sea glass.
Smoothed by tides but not broken.
I want my hard edges to soften.
I want to ride the waves and go with the flow.
I want to catch a wave
and let it carry me to where I belong.
I want to be picked up and held gently by
those who delight in my well-earned patina and
appreciate the changes I went through
through to achieve that beauty.
I want to enjoy the journey
And always remember that if
You give the ocean something breakable,
it will turn it into something beautiful.
I want to age like sea glass.





If you would like to come to church but transport is a problem, any of our church Elders will be happy to collect you from home and take you back again.

All you have to do is contact the minister and he will arrange transport: 01888 511058