

West Linton St Andrew's Parish Church

June 2024

Scottish Charity No SC003938

Minister: Rev Dr Tony Foley

Language matters – beware of misplaced metaphors.

Metaphors, it's pretty much impossible to speak without them. We constantly use them to refer to ourselves or others, or God. The Bible is full of them. We use them every day, in so many different ways but danger of using them so much is that we forget that they are *metaphors*.

For example, isn't there something quite pleasing about being able to say, 'I'm going to recharge this weekend.' But of course, the more we use mechanistic metaphors to describe ourselves the more likely we are to forget that we are using mechanistic language. Before we know it, we unconsciously start to think that we really do need to "recharge," that we really do need to "update people," that our "wires really are crossed." Before we know it, we end up talking about ourselves as computers that need to '*process things*.' Until one morning we wake up to find we have without realising it become increasingly functional in our relating all by imposing on ourselves and others language that is better used for talking about machines not human beings.

Take another example, think of how often we talk about love. How often do we speak about love as though it was some kind of disease? How often do we say of a person, '*Oh, she's just lovesick*.' It is as though love is some unfortunate thing that happens to us,

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

something we ‘fall into’ or fell out of.’ All of which makes love sounds like unfortunate accident, something outside of our control. Of course, if we insist on describing love as something that just happens to us, then it’s something that can stop happening to us, something about which we don’t really have choice.

Jesus taught that love is a habit of the heart rather than a feeling in the heart. He speaks of loving others as a choice we intentionally make on a daily basis. He taught us that the more we practice this habit the more obvious it will become to others that we are his disciples. Perhaps that is why when the writers of the New Testament spoke of church, they used relational metaphors like ‘brothers and sisters,’ ‘family,’ ‘friends.’

The language we use to describe ourselves and others inevitably affects the way we relate to ourselves and others. Beware of misplaced metaphors.

Peace,

Tony

Whipman Service - Sunday 2nd June at 11.00 am

Join us on Sunday 2nd of June in the Marquee on the Lower Green at 11:00 am for the joint (St Andrew's and St Mungo's) Whipman Service to celebrate the installation of Tanny and Jill.

The service will be led by Kevin Scott, Steven Whalley and Rev Nick Bowry. All are welcome. Please come and join us to give thanks to God for our 2024 Whipman and Lass, for our village and for our community and its traditions.

We are planning to stream the service over Zoom, however, without the technology in the church the sound might not be as good as we might like.

Prayer Focus Group

Each month the PFG sends out some pointers for prayer by email. If you would like to be added to the list please contact Helen Bruce. A few of us meet over Zoom at 9.30am on Wednesday mornings to pray together. Please contact me if you would like the Zoom link.

All requests for prayer are kept strictly confidential. If you have an issue that you would like prayed about please contact Helen or myself.

Colin

Sunday Club

As Sunday 2nd June falls on the same day as the Whipman service in the marquee, the Sunday Club will be slightly different, as we plan to welcome the children of all participating families to join us on that day.

Traditionally the Sunday School in St Andrews held an annual Prize Giving in June. It is our intention to revive this by providing all the Sunday Club children on our list with the gift of a small book, to mark the end of the academic year. This will take place during the morning service on Sunday 16th June.

After the school summer holidays, Sunday Club will resume on Sunday 1st September.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to you all for your continued support of us in what we are doing with the children and for welcoming them and their families.

Best wishes

Ann and Kate

Sunday Club

***On the first Sunday of each month
for children in P1 to P5***

Contact Kate Whalley or Ann Lyon

07973 501665 or 07973 501665

Church Maintenance

For many months our contractor has been attempting to finish the external repairs and painting of the church. By the time you read this the work should be complete. There have been a number of reasons for the extended period of the work but the weather over the last 6 months has been the major factor.

Hopefully now we can enjoy the beauty of our church in its setting in the village and that it will attract more people to worship with us.

All this has been done at considerable cost and now that the external work has been completed, we will be seeking tenders to do some repairs to the plasterwork inside the church.

The Property Team

Church of Scotland Stamp Appeal

Thank you to all who have put stamps in the box in the church. These have been passed on for sending to the coordinator. Although we do not receive so much mail with a stamp please keep collecting as you can.

Colin

The Open Gate

Just a reminder that The Open Gate is still available to offer an appointment to anyone of any age who could do with a little bit of counselling. This uses a Brief Solution Focussed Therapy (BFST) approach which is pleasant and helpful for all sorts of problems- often after only 1 session.

Phone 07535 898 244 to ask for an appointment in Newlands Centre on Friday afternoons 2-5pm.

This is confidential and free.

Baby Brunch

every Friday during term-time

10.00 to 11.30am In the Old Church Hall

For parents, grandparents and carers with young children

Community Cosy Coffee Afternoon

Our hours are 2pm to 4pm on Fridays, at the Old Church Hall. Come along for a chat, cuppa, company and cake! Everyone very welcome, although under 16s need to be accompanied by an adult. Free of charge although donations welcome but not expected. More information from **Kate Whalley**.

Contacts

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Administrator

Kate Whalley has taken over the role linkage administrator. Kate will be in the linkage office in West Linton on most Friday mornings from 9.30 to 12.30, and also in the Old Church Hall on Friday afternoon from 2.00 to 4.00pm.

Services June

	West Linton 11.30 am	Carlops 10.00 am	Newlands 10.00 am
2nd	Whipman Service at 11.00am In the Marquee	Rev Chris Levison	David Henderson-Howat
9th	Rev Dr Tony Foley	Rev Dr Tony Foley	Iobel Hunter
16th	Steven Whalley	Patsy Campbell	Rev Dr Tony Foley
23rd	Mary McElroy	Mary McElroy	Peter Worthington
30th	Rev Dr Tony Foley	Rev Dr Tony Foley	Fiona Bruce

Door Duties

June

Colin Herd £	Choir
Mary Turnbull	Main
Kevin Scott	Gallery

July

Daryll Green	Choir
Michael Knott £	Main
Helen Bruce	Gallery

Readers

June

2nd Whipman & Lass	
9th Pat Graham	
16th Tony Hoskins	
23rd Tony Hoskins	
30th Neil Calvert	

Readers

July

7th Neil Calvert	
14th Morag Kerr	
21st Morag Kerr	
28th Daryll Green	
4/8 Daryll Green	

Material for the July Newsletter should be submitted to the editor by Monday 23rd June 2024. Please include 'Newsletter' in the subject of your email.

The July 2024 issue will be available by 30th June 2024