

A photograph of a dirt path lined with trees in autumn, with fallen leaves on the ground. The path is covered in a thick layer of fallen yellow and orange leaves. The trees are tall and have dense foliage of similar colors. The background is slightly hazy, suggesting a misty or overcast day. The overall mood is peaceful and seasonal.

Langtoun Central Church

Langtoun Echo
October Edition 2025

Letter from Julie Rennick Interim Moderator



Greetings Friends,

This will be the last communication you will receive from me as I will be handing over the reins to Rev Eileen Miller in a couple of weeks as she takes up the post of Interim Minister for this transitional period. Eileen brings a wealth of experience in parish and chaplaincy settings and will be able to guide you all through this next stage as Langtoun Central begins to bed in and find new ways of serving the community and expanding the mission in the parish.

It has been a very interesting time to work with you and the Kirk Session as you move from four distinct congregations with their own traditions and identities to this new, bigger parish - one congregation now, exploring and getting to know each other.

I have met many of you on the Sundays that I have been in church to lead worship, and have felt so very welcomed by you all. This is a true blessing to anyone who may come in the future - visitors and worship leaders alike - the welcome in Langtoun is warm and open, and you are well served by the dedicated teams who work to keep the buildings in good condition, to offer friendship and compassion and to ensure that all who come to our buildings either on a Sunday, or through the week are well looked after.

As a retired minister I am blessed to be able to offer support in times of vacancy, and when ministers take time out; it is a joy to be invited to lead worship and to share a short time in the life of a congregation. Thank you for welcoming me in, and bless you all as you continue in all the different ways that ministry is offered: welcome and hospitality; leadership and service; offerings and skills - all are our ministries - God calls each of us in unique ways, and each is as vital part of the whole Body of Christ in this community.

With every blessing

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie Rennick". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Introducing Rev Eileen Miller our Interim Minister

- in her own words!



I have taken a long and winding road into ministry which has taken me to many interesting people and places on the journey.

My call into ministry came later in life and I enjoyed studying at the University of St Andrews for my BD (Hons). I was Parish Minister at the former Glenrothes: St Margaret's Church between 2014 - 2021. When it was time to move on, I took up a part time position as a Healthcare Chaplain for NHS Tayside whilst also covering a Locum role for the former Burntisland Parish Church. Thereafter I moved to NHS Fife as a Healthcare Chaplain to cover a secondment (2023-24).

My current role as Pastoral Support Coordinator for Fife Presbytery utilises my pastoral skills and experience as the remit includes ensuring high quality support, proactive and reactive, to all those engaged in the designated ministries of the church.

I am a good listener who can be discrete and sensitive with others. At the centre of it all is a desire to serve God, work with others and for the Church to be an effective witness in the local community.

On the long and winding road, I have embraced new opportunities and found creative ways to deal with obstacles and challenges. In whatever role I have been in, I have tried to work with others in ways that builds trust and deepens relationships. I do not avoid difficult conversations and where there are serious differences of opinion, I seek to give space for all the voices to be heard respectfully with boundaries in place to make it a safe environment.

Married to Geoff, we have 4 grown up children.

An unusual fact is that 4 out of 6 of us are lefthanded!!

Upcoming Services

St Bryce Centre

**Presbytery Service of Introduction for
the Rev Eileen Miller
our Interim Minister**

on

Thursday 23rd October at 7 p.m.

Bennoch Building



**Celebration of
Holy Communion
Sunday 2nd November
at 11 a.m.**



**Remembrance Sunday
Sunday 9th November**

Note

Service starts at 10:50 a.m.

“We will remember them”

Church of Scotland Statuary Notification

The Communion and Adherents Roll of this congregation is going to be attested by the Kirk Session as a true and accurate record of all members and adherents of the congregation, If you are not a member or adherent and wish to be, please can you contact the Session Clerk who will discuss with you what happens next.

If you have any changes to your address, email address or any other details and have not informed us of these during our Survey of Members in September, please email the change(s) to

roll@langtouncentralchurch.org.uk

Deaths



Miss Avril Sibbald of Raith Gardens
Mrs Barbara Wakefield of Craigie Place
Mr Raymond Ingram of Links Street

Baptism



Gracie-Mae July 2025

New member by resolution of the Kirk Session

Iris McTighe

Langtoun Central Church of Scotland

Office Bearers



Interim Minister
Rev Eileen Miller



Session Clerk
George Drummond



Assistant Session
Clerk



Finance Team
Leader
Euan Fraser



Property Team
Leader
Alistair Hugh



Pastoral Care
Team Leader
Dorothy Murray



Communications
Team Leader
Bruce Farrell



Safeguarding
Coordinator
Dianne Waddell



Safeguarding
Coordinator
Alison Hamilton



Musical Director
Richard Michael



Our thanks to all our members who helped in the preparation for our Harvest Thanksgiving Service. Thank you to all the members of the congregation who supplied goods and donations for Kirkcaldy Food Bank. £330 was collected in money donations

“A time to dream dreams”



On September 28th Rev. David Cameron spoke of a dream he had for one of the churches in which he served, To read more about this vision, please visit our website.

Prayer for Autumn

Dear Lord, as the leaves transition and the air turns crisp, we thank You for the beauty of autumn. May this season remind us of Your steadfast love and grace. Help us to embrace change with open hearts, nurturing gratitude and hope in every moment. In Your holy name, we pray. Amen.

Update from our Members Survey

A **big thank you** to all the members who have completed and returned our Members Survey forms.

So far we have had an over 60% return from those not on email and a 55% return from those on email.

We understand that some members may be housebound or have changed their email address, so have either not received the Members Survey or have been unable to return it.

The results are now being analysed and will allow us to update our Congregational Roll and other tasks.

Thank you to those members who have provided us with their email address to add to our list of members who can receive information online. These members will now receive notification of the Newsletter by email, helping to reduce our Newsletter printing cost.

Based on the returns our Pastoral Care team will now work with our new Interim Minister to be in touch with those members who requested a contact.

To those who have submitted comments, these will be addressed in due course.

Stitched with love: Suicide Memorial Quilt

From 30th October to
13th November,
Langtoun Central Church
St Bryce Building
will host the

‘Lothian Speak Their Name
Quilt’.

Not merely a beautiful piece of art, each square on the quilt tells something of the life of a loved one lost to suicide. It was created by family and friends, survivors of bereavement by suicide, brought together as a community, where they've found support and friendship.



In 2023, 792 people died by suicide in Scotland - 590 of them were men.

It is hoped that seeing the quilt and thinking about the lives (not just statistics) it remembers, it could open up conversations about mental health and suicide. Additionally, people struggling with their own mental health could be encouraged to seek help and support.

Since its launch in October 2024 at St John’s Church, Edinburgh, the quilt has been seen in the Scottish Parliament, the SECC, and throughout central Scotland. Now, at the start of a nationwide tour, Langtoun Central is privileged to host it, especially when many people in our community may be affected by suicide loss.



at Bennochty
Thursday

11am until 2pm

(last orders 1.30pm)

Serving tea, coffee and
home baking from 11am and
light lunches from 12 noon.

St Bryce Café

Monday - Thursday
10am until 2pm

Serving tea, coffee and a
large variety of
homemade cakes.

Breakfast rolls are available
from 10am

and hot lunches and soup
from 11.45am - 1.45pm

We specialise in
gluten free cakes.

What's On

St Bryce Centre

Monday Bible Study Group 10:00 a.m.,

Tuesday Friendship Group 1st, 3rd and 5th weeks of the
month from 1.30 p.m.

The Guild 2nd and 4th weeks of the month
from 1.30 p.m.

Friday Girls Allowed 1st week of the month
from 7:00 p.m.

Bennochty Halls

Sunday Young Church during morning worship

Monday Craft Group 10:00 a.m.

Carpet Bowling 2:00 p.m.

Community Choir 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday Women's Group fortnightly 7:00 pm

Handbell Ringers 2:30 p.m.

Linktown Halls

Thursday Drift Inn 1st and 3rd weeks of month
from 2:00 p.m.

Guild National Convener

Helen MacKenzie, a member of Langtoun Central Church, has been appointed Guild National Convener.



Helen is an independent member of the Guild, and has been an active member of the National Council for a few years, starting in 2018. She is part of Fife Guilds together. Helen's father was a Parish Minister and prior to his retirement was minister in Burntisland linked with Auchtertool.

Helen studied Law at Edinburgh University and worked as a lawyer with Kirkcaldy district and then Fife Council. She is a curler with Raith and Abbotshall Ladies.

She was very active whilst at Linktown Church and Guild.

Congratulations Helen on your appointment.



Congratulations to Rowland Carson who was 100 on 30th September.

The Power of One Voice

I sat in the garden listening to a blackbird, his beautiful song soaring over the sound of traffic, as people returned home from a day at work. I couldn't see him at first and then I spotted him, high up on a chimney stack, he looked so small and yet what power was in his 'evensong'.

As I listened, I wondered about the power of a single voice. Which voices do we listen to and why? Do we only listen to those voices that express similar views or beliefs to our own and switch off to the voices that challenge our thinking and might encourage us to have a change of heart and mind? Do we listen to those whose voices echo our own, reinforcing the beliefs that we have about ourselves? This little blackbird and his powerful voice raised so many questions for me.

One voice can start a movement and write a powerful chapter in our world history.

Hitler spoke and his voice came from a place of hatred and tyranny with millions dying at his hands and the Nazi movement. Why did they listen? But they did, in their millions.

I visited Auchwitz a few years ago, and what struck me was that despite the passage of time, there remained a palpable air of pain, anguish and torture. Despite all the trees, particularly at Birkenau, even the birds had been silenced by the atrocities that had been committed there. As we walked round no one spoke, there was nothing to say. All we could do was weep for all those who had perished because of one man's voice and the many who had listened and been influenced by it.

Jesus on the other hand, spoke of love and tolerance. Jesus openly spent time with people who were considered unlovable and unclean. He actively sought out the tax collector, the prostitute and the leper. Jesus listened to them, understood them at a deeper level and challenged them by speaking the truth in love. Their lives of fear and hatred were changed by a voice of love and forgiveness, a voice which challenged the establishment and laws of the time, non-judgemental and inclusive.

I challenge you to take time and do an audit of the voices you have listened to today. Did you make a conscious choice to listen to voices that confirmed your own views, rather than challenge them? Which voices upset, angered you or left you feeling afraid and powerless? Which voices inspired you, bringing you hope, peace and feelings of gratitude and power?

I find it interesting that the voices of those who seek to make a difference, who challenge governments, have to be sought out, whether it be about policy making, climate change, poverty or any number of other areas that need questioned. Generally speaking, they are not making headline news, or speaking to us from the front page of newspapers or high up on social media posts. We have to seek them out and when we do, boy is it worth it! There are so many voices out there who are, as Brene Brown would say, Braving the Wilderness, and speaking out on important issues. Those voices are calling to us to look at what is happening in our world, David Attenborough, Marcus Rashford, Richard Rohr, Louise Hay, Marianne Williamson, Cheryl Richardson, Greta Thunberg and so many more. It's worth spending time to search for these voices, voices that can inspire and set our hearts alight with a passion to help and support others, and to help heal this beautiful planet we live on.

All these thoughts from a little blackbird's evening song. He has challenged me to listen to voices that inspire me and raise my spirit in love, joy and hope. Some of these voices have challenged my thinking, as uncomfortable as that was, but a lot of personal growth is hard, but so worth it. Is it not time to tune in to more human "blackbirds" despite life being noisy and discordant at times?

Which voices do you listen to? Make up your own list and encourage others to listen to them, that would be a song in itself.

Rae Walker

News From Our Groups



**The Guild meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays
of the month in the St Bryce Building
from 1.30pm - 3pm.**

Whose We Are and
Whom We Serve.

The Guild resumed in September with 28 members, where our Speaker spoke on our Theme Living Stones, which was very meaningful and uplifting. We then had our feet tapping and voices raised as Derek Muir entertained us on the accordion, lots of memories shared in music. We have a varied Programme and all our activities are on the notice boards of both buildings.

You are welcome to join us at any, or all of our meetings. We have some good and interesting speakers coming up, including our Project Build Our Church when hopefully Hope and Pathhead Guilds will join us, we also have a Bring and Buy sale to help raise funds for the Project that day.

**Our Coffee Morning is on Saturday 15th Nov
10am till 12noon in the St Bryce Centre**

All the usual stalls including Hamper, Cake & Candy, Christmas goods, Tombola. Tickets are £4.00 for adults £2.00 for primary school children. Hopefully you will come along and support us, and if you have any unwanted gifts lying about, the Guild is always looking for items for our stalls.

Thank you in advance.

We look forward to seeing you.

The Monday Bible Study Group

St Bryce Building on Monday at 10am



"We are a mixed bunch - we have been called,
"A Motley Crew"!"

We come from a variety of traditions and churches; some like to ask questions and some like to just listen; we like to discuss and hear other folk's opinions which are respected even when diverging from our own.

Our only rules - "Always be polite" & "What is said in the room, stays in the room."

We officially start at 10.00 but by the time folks' tea / coffee have arrived, it is usually slightly later. We finish about 11.30 - but these times are affected by personal appointments / holidays / unforeseen circumstances. We don't keep a register and often recap important bits.

We use the N.I.V. Bible and usually listen to it via C.D. recordings by David Suchet (Hercule Poirot !). We can *Pause* and *Rewind* if necessary.

We have over the years followed *The Travels of Abraham*; *In the Footsteps of Jesus*; *The Journeys of Paul*; *Ruth*; *Job*; various of *The Prophets*; *Selected Psalms*; all 4 *Gospels*; some of the *Letters*; *Women of the Bible*; *Creeeds*; and other topics raised by members e.g *Favourite Passages*.

Over the last few weeks, we have been studying Nehemiah rebuilding the ruined walls of Jerusalem and found lots of parallels and insights into our own situation as we move forward with our new united congregation.

The programme is determined by "what people want" to learn more about the Bible, their Faith, and how to follow the teachings of Jesus more closely. We will be looking at *James* and obviously *Preparing for Advent*.

Come along and join in the fun of learning together;
And, if it's not your cup of tea, the Coffee Bar is open

next door! *George Luke*

Pastoral Care Team

When the results of the Congregational Questionnaire are available we will be able to set up a Visiting Programme which will meet the specific needs of the Congregation.

Depending on the results we may also set up a Telephone Team to meet the needs of Members who would prefer to keep in touch by phone.



ADVANCE NOTICE



It is planned to hold a **Christmas Event on 07/12/25** for those on our Pastoral Care list.

This will include Christmas Worship, Festive Food and Fellowship.

Please put this in your Diary as an important date to keep free as we move into the Season of the Celebration of the Birth of Jesus

Details of the Event are in the process of being decided.

Dorothy Murray (Care Team Convenor)

Friendship Group

The friendship group is open to all ages though we are primarily retired. Come and join us in a relaxed environment in the small hall at St Bryce. Fun, games, friendship and chat is the order of the day. We always have refreshments on hand. Give it a try.

A calendar of events is on the notice board at St Bryce. We meet on **1st, 3rd and the occasional 5th Tuesday of the month from 1.30pm.**

Handbell Ringers

**Bells will be a-ringing throughout the day on
Saturday, 25th October
in the Bennoch building, 10am – 4pm.**

Scottish Handbell Ringing Society have chosen to hold their Autumn Rally in Fife and happily in Kirkcaldy.

Teams from all over Scotland will attend: from Aberdeen, Thurso, Aboyne, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dunkeld, Haddington and more still to register.

The programme will include “masse” ringing :
”The merry peasant” ; “You are my sunshine” and
“Hosanna “ by Jason Krug’.

Each team will also give a performance of music of their choice- adjudicated accordingly.

---and Bennoch Bells ?-- we , as hosts, are serving refreshments at three intervals during the day and in between times listening and learning!

We have had fun playing the set pieces, will be watching closely!

The day ends with a finale concert @ 3.30pm, when there will be limited seating for spectators. --could be worth a try---.

A good experience for all.

A pleasure to offer hospitality as part of the event.

Margaret Simpson

Craft Group

The Craft Group meet **every Monday morning 10 am - 12 noon**. Initially the group had 5 members and our final project was creating Ladybirds and Bumble Bees from Bowling Balls donated by the Bowling Group. This was a successful fundraiser for the Church.

Our number now has increased to 18 and we have already had a very successful Fundraising Event which raised £500 donated to the Church . We have many talented ladies within the Group making and sharing their knowledge on various crafts.

We are very busy at present creating items for the

**Christmas Fayre, on Saturday 29th November
10am to 1.00pm in Bennochy Building.**

We would like to thank the members of the congregation who have offered to help us on the day. A few weeks before the event we will be asking the congregation for their support in donating items for the Fayre, which will be very gratefully received. An Intimation will be made outlining items required. If you are able to help serving at a table, you would be very welcome.

We look forward to having a happy, family festive Christmas Fayre.

Women's Group

We meet **fortnightly on Tuesday evenings at 7.00 pm.**

Our opening event, after the Summer break, was a Walk and social catch-up having Fish/Chip Suppers. We have had interesting Guest Speakers, Arthur Lloyd "USA Wild and not so Wild West", John Campbell and Derek Simpson from the Men's Shed giving a demonstration on Stained Glass and David McNeil from "Literacy Trust" informing us on Literacy in Scotland's school. We have a very varied Syllabus for the rest of the year and there is a copy on the Notice boards at the side entrance in Bennochy and also in St Bryce Buildings. We have grown in number this session and we now have 30 members.

Anyone is interested in joining us you would be made very welcome

Girls Allowed

Girls Allowed meet on **first Friday of the month at 7 p.m.**

Girls Allowed is a group of fun loving “young ladies at heart” who meet at St Bryce on the first Friday of the month for an evening of fun with drinks and nibbles. Examples from our programme are scarecrow drive, film night complete with fish supper, quiz night etc and we are very happy to have new members and new ideas. Please come and join us with your friends at 7pm or have a chat to Andzia or Sheena for more information.

Books of the New Testament

H	C	M	A	M	S	T	R	S	E	E	N	N	M
E	T	O	E	T	P	M	E	T	T	P	E	O	W
B	U	L	R	P	E	M	T	I	R	H	K	I	M
R	J	A	I	I	A	N	E	T	O	E	U	T	A
E	G	U	I	J	N	C	P	U	M	S	L	A	R
W	A	S	D	P	O	T	O	S	A	I	C	L	K
S	J	Y	T	E	E	H	H	N	N	A	T	E	A
S	E	E	E	R	L	A	N	I	S	N	L	V	C
H	D	Y	H	T	O	M	I	T	A	S	M	E	T
N	P	H	I	L	L	I	P	I	A	N	S	R	S
I	R	T	N	O	M	E	L	I	H	P	S	J	I
A	N	S	N	A	I	T	A	L	A	G	T	E	S
S	N	A	I	N	O	L	A	S	S	E	H	T	V
W	E	H	T	T	A	M	I	L	S	R	N	T	O

HEBREWS
 REVELATION
 GALATIANS
 JAMES
 CORINTHIANS
 THESSALONIANS
 JUDE
 LUKE
 PHILEMON
 ROMANS
 ACTS
 MATTHEW
 TIMOTHY
 MARK
 TITUS
 PHILLIPIANS
 EPHESIANS
 PETER
 JOHN

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/8848376/>

Information Page

Intimations If you wish something included in the intimations please contact the office at the St Bryce Centre by Thursday noon on 01592 640016 or email office@langtouncentralchurch.org.uk

Fife Free Press Press notices should be sent to Beryl Luke at berylluke@gmail.com by Monday noon.

Website If you wish something included on the website please email the office.

NEXT NEWSLETTER - November 2025 Submissions by 12th November

We will be looking for articles for our next newsletter. These can be submitted to the Office at St Bryce Centre or by e-mail to office@langtouncentralchurch.org.uk or by giving it to any of the communications team.

THANK YOU

Newsletter Safeguarding and GDPR policy.

Articles and pictures are accepted from contributors on the basis that after review, the Editorial team may modify content or refuse to publish on the basis of Safeguarding and GRPR requirements.

Articles published are contributed and may have content which does not reflect the views of the congregation or that of the Church of Scotland.

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