

# ***West Linton St Andrew's Parish Church***

**July 2025**

**Scottish Charity No SC003938**

**Minister: Rev Dr Tony Foley**

## ***'A death bed life.'***

I want to begin with some questions around a question. As you read my questions don't try to answer them just notice what they do to you. Try to pay attention to the feelings, thoughts and memories that they bring up. Are you ready?

If you were on your deathbed, if you were dying and you knew you were dying, what would be your final prayer?

Would you ask God to spare you, perhaps try to bargain with him?

Would you express your gratitude and thanks for the life you got to live, for lessons learned and the blessings received? Would you focus on the past or would you look to the future? Would your prayer be for yourself or for others? Would your last words be a recounting of your successes, accomplishments, regrets, disappointments? Would you speak about the things you did and or perhaps left undone? Would you ask for forgiveness? Would you offer forgiveness? Would your prayer be for your loved ones? What would be you best hopes and desires for them?

I'm not trying to be morbid. I'm thinking about Jesus' *'deathbed'* prayer in John's gospel (chapter 17). It's the night of the last supper. Jesus is about to die, and he knows it. What strikes me about Jesus' prayer is that he doesn't review his life. He doesn't evaluate what he did, how well he did it, or what he didn't get done. He doesn't negotiate his ending with

*(Continued on page 2)*

God. He doesn't even list his thanksgivings. He doesn't give any final instructions or advice to his disciples. Instead, Jesus prays for them and us. He prays for theirs and our future. He bears his heart and expresses his deepest longing and desire; that we "*may become completely one.*" Honestly, at this time in our history I cannot think of a more timely and relevant prayer for us, for our country, and our world today than Jesus' prayer for oneness.

Jesus' '*deathbed prayer*' wasn't something new that came to him at the end of his life. His prayer expressed how he had lived his whole life. It was at the heart of everything he did and taught. In a way Jesus '*deathbed prayer*' reflected the fact that he lived a deathbed life. Now there's a thought to mull over.

***Peace,***

***Tony***

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## **Sunday Club**

Sunday Club meets on the first Sunday of every month in the Old Church Hall during school term times. We leave from church during the service and walk the children to the hall. For those who wish to meet us at the hall we suggest 11.45am, this is particularly useful for our children and families who attend earlier services at their churches in Carlops and St Mungo's West Linton. After Sunday Club we escort the children back to the church for tea and coffee time or they can be collected by parents at the hall around 12.15pm.

Our apologies for the error in the June Newsletter regarding the date Sunday Club restarts after our summer break! We resume on the first Sunday in September, which of course, is Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>.

Thank You

***Ann Lyon and Kate Whalley***

## Church Flowers

As we approach the summer holidays, I would like to express thanks to all who continue to donate to the Flower Fund which provides the beautiful flowers both in church and for distribution to people in our community. The recipients of church flowers continue to express sincere appreciation.

If you would like to donate to the Flower Fund, please use the details below:

Account Name: St Andrews Kirk Session

Sort Code: 80-09-39

Account number: 00817827

It would be helpful if you could add 'Flower Fund' to your donation and if you are a taxpayer please consider to 'Gift Aid' your donation. If you have any questions, or would like further information, please email [treasurer@standrews-westlinton.org](mailto:treasurer@standrews-westlinton.org) or call 660977 or write to Michael Knott, 9 Tarfhaugh Brae, West Linton EH46 7DP.

Thanks also to our amazing team of flower arrangers who work tirelessly to ensure our beautiful church is adorned with colour and fragrance every single day of the year and to our flower distributors who spread joy and fellowship as they deliver flowers to people in the community. If you know of anyone who would benefit from our flower distribution outreach, please don't hesitate to let me know by email to [annlyon@live.co.uk](mailto:annlyon@live.co.uk) or calling or texting me on 07702984185.

The flower arrangers for July, August and September are Fiona Hessey, Jill Green and Cathy Hoskins

Thank you

**Ann**

### 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**.

## ***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.

## ***Need some emergency help?***

These organisations are nearby: Penicuik Food, Facts & Friends

42 John St Penicuik EH26 8AB [www.foodfactsfriends.org.uk](http://www.foodfactsfriends.org.uk)

Peeblesshire Foodbank 1 Silverbirch Studios, Cavalry Park, Peebles  
EH45 9BU 07413 484174 [www.peeblesshire.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.peeblesshire.foodbank.org.uk)

Crisis Assistance from the Minister's Barnabas Fund 07943 509906  
[emergencyfoodbank@standrewswestlinton.org.uk](mailto:emergencyfoodbank@standrewswestlinton.org.uk)

## **Pastoral Group**

We are a small group of people who are there to offer a listening ear in confidence. If you know of anyone who might appreciate a visit please do contact our minister The Rev Tony Foley

[TFoley@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:TFoley@churchofscotland.org.uk) or

Jean Howat [howatjean@gmail.com](mailto:howatjean@gmail.com)

We are not professional counsellors but rather sympathetic listeners.



# Jekyll & HYDE

The Musical

Come and join us!  
No auditions, all welcome.

Rehearsals on Tuesdays  
7.30pm-9pm  
at Newlands Centre,  
Romano Bridge.

For more information call/whatsApp

Tom 07726180600

Or

Lucy 07768288072

Join us and help create  
a film set in the  
Scottish Borders



Tom Celeketic  
Writer



Lucy Inglis  
Director



Lukas Svoboda  
Director  
of Photography

*Your support  
matters*

Check out  
our campaign



## Contacts

### **Minister: Rev Dr Tony Foley**

Telephone: 01968 660221      email: tfoley@churchofscotland.org.uk

Mobile:      07793 294000

### **Linkage Administrator: Kate Whalley**

Office:      01968 733112      email: cos1560.tweed@outlook.com

Telephone: 07973 501665      email:      kate@westlinton.com

(Most of the time Kate will be working from home therefore use the contact details immediately above)

### **Joint Session Clerk: Kevin Scott**

Telephone: 01968 661744      email: kevin.scott@energrow.co.uk

### **Joint Session Clerk: Steven Whalley**

Telephone: 07525 378187      email: stevenwhalley.westlinton@gmail.com

### **Treasurer: Michael Knott**

Telephone: 01968 660977      email: michael.knott@talk21.com

### **Property Convener: Steven Whalley**

Telephone: 07525 378187      email: stevenwhalley.westlinton@gmail.com

### **Weekly Linkage News: Christine Leith**

Telephone: 01968 660800      email: intimations@standrews-westlinton.org

### **Newsletter Editor: Colin Herd**

Telephone: 07792 815953      email: newsletter@standrews-westlinton.org

### **Sunday Club: Kate Whalley, Ann Lyon**

Telephone:      07973 501665      01968 661347

### **Flowers: Ann Lyon**

Telephone: 07702 984185      email: annlyon@live.co.uk

**Cosy Café:**      **Kate Whalley**      Telephone: 07973 501665

**Guid Blethers:**      **Helen Dry**      Telephone: 01968 660506

**Baby Brunch:**      **Mary Turnbull**      Telephone 01968 661737

**Boys Brigade:**      **Emma Lyon**      Telephone  
Email: westlintonbb@gmail.com

## Services July/August

	<b>West Linton 11.30 am</b>	<b>Carlops 10.00 am</b>	<b>Newlands 10.00 am</b>
6th	Rev Dr Tony Foley	Rev Dr Tony Foley	David Henderson-Howat
16th	Patsy Campbell	Patsy Campbell	Rev Dr Tony Foley
20th	Isobel Hunter	Isobel Hunter	Fiona Burnett
27th	Rev Dr Tony Foley	Rev Dr Tony Foley	Murray Campbell
3rd	Patsy Campbell	Patsy Campbell	Rev Dr Tony Foley
10th	David Henderson-Howat	David Henderson-Howat	Isobel BHunter
17th	Rev Dr Tony Foley (C)	Rev Dr Tony Foley (C)	Peter Worthington
24th	Rev Chris Levison	Rev Chris Levison	Rev Dr Tony Foley

### Door Duties

#### July

T Hoskins	Choir
S Whalley	Main
P Graham	Gallery

#### August

C Herd	Choir
H Bruce £	Main
K Scott	Gallery

### Readers

**July**

6th	Neil Calvert
13th	David Campbell
20th	David Campbell
27th	Lisa Towers

**Aug**

3rd	Lisa Towers
10th	Colin Herd
17th	Colin Herd
24th	Robert Higgins
31st	Robert Higgins

**Material for the September Newsletter should be submitted to the editor by Monday 18th August 2025. Please include 'Newsletter' in the subject of your email. All submissions should be in MS Word or equivalent. Please do not embed in an email. The September 2025 issue will be available by 24th August 2025.**