

The Church of Scotland is Trinitarian in doctrine, Reformed in tradition and Presbyterian in polity. It exists to glorify God and to work for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom throughout the world. As a national Church, it acknowledges a distinctive call and duty to bring the ordinances of religion to the people in every parish of Scotland through a territorial ministry. It co-operates with other Churches in various ecumenical bodies in Scotland and beyond.

In furtherance of these objectives, Alvie & Insh Church of Scotland holds two weekly services within its parish boundaries. Services are open to visitors and all are welcome. Once each month there is no Sunday School and the whole church joins together for a family service in which is shared the Sacrament of Holy Communion. The Church holds shared fellowship meals every month. On other weeks the Sunday School, under the banner JAM (Jesus And Me) Gang meets in the Church Hall. JAM Gang invites all the children of the parish to share in its activities. In member's homes, the Church holds five Bible Study meetings every week which aim to offer fellowship opportunities to as wide a range of ages and experiences as possible. Prayer meetings are held twice every week with monthly meetings focussing on the needs of missionaries. The church shares in various ecumenical prayer times each month. Young adults meet each week for Bible Study, discipling and fellowship meetings, which are open to all and are shared with peers from other churches. The Church encourages its members to be involved in all kinds of activities in the community. The church is used for weddings and funerals.

In an attempt to broaden its horizons the church is twinned with a church in Luwero Province in Uganda and actively supports the neighbouring Christian Hospital in the Ugandan community of Kiwoko. This hospital is much involved in helping those suffering from HIV/AIDS. The Church, through its members, encourages contact with and supports the work of, amongst others, Scripture Union, the Cairngorms Christian Centre in Kincaig, the Gideons Bible Society, the local primary and senior schools and activities run by other churches in the area. In more practical terms Alvie & Insh supports the use of church premises for, amongst others, the Brownie Pack and the Kincaig Under 5's playgroup as well as encouraging interaction with the community at particular festivals in the Christian calendar such as Easter and Christmas by arranging more informal events. In a further attempt to extend contact with the community at large the church has commissioned the publication of a quarterly magazine which, together with various other greetings through the year, is delivered to every home.

Based, as we are in an area of special beauty, the church also has the opportunity to welcome many visitors to its meetings and tries to ensure all feel welcome. In an attempt to share the Christian faith in a relevant and challenging way the church holds, in member's homes, regular 'Alpha' courses which are open to all and to which all are invited. To enjoy each other's company Alvie & Insh actively engages with the growing Christian community in the area through shared events like 'Unite', monthly prayer times, fellowship meals, drama and worship groups and a variety of other activities including its first Church Weekend away. The church made an arrangement to 'twin' with the Church of Scotland Urban Priority parish of Dundee Mains and that contact grows.

Whilst maintaining our normal activities of weekly worship and study, the church has sought to encourage members to take a much larger part in the planning and running of activities - these groupings of members, known as 'Streams', show continuing signs of growth and success. One of the 'streams' - that of worship - has been very successful, contributing greatly to the weekly services. Since worship activities are now arranged regularly by a growing number of people, the style of worship is wide ranging. During the year we have been pleased to welcome an average of 62 adults and 19 children to share in our regular worship times. Bible studies attract approximately 51 people in total although numbers rise and fall throughout the year. We are pleased to welcome visitors at many of our activities. During the year we have continued to sponsor Kiwoko Hospital in Uganda, which treats many patients including those suffering from AIDS, by holding various fundraising activities.

These activities, e.g. concerts, regular talks, attendance at the annual village fete etc, have all been very well attended and are well supported by church and wider community alike. Regular prayer meetings are attended by approx. 15-20 members. Church members visit all homes newly occupied with a small 'Welcome Pack' and take that opportunity to meet new village residents. There is a Pastoral team which together with the efforts of the Minister and Elders tries to take an interest in the lives of the whole community. Members of the church spend much time working within the Scripture Union field in schools as well as a wide range of other activities which, whilst not actually under the guise of the church reflect their own faith in the community. The church sees these works as extremely valuable. In 2009, members planned an Estate open day event for the local community. This involved much valued support from Alvie Estate and their colleagues as well as church members and friends. Costs will be drawn from the Parish & Wider Work Fund mentioned earlier

The church is linked with the neighbouring congregation of Rothiemurchus and Aviemore with whom we share a minister. During recent years a joint venture between the two churches has sought to reach out to the growing Eastern European workforce engaged principally by local hotel companies. This venture aims to help these visiting workers to develop their English speaking skills. The linked parishes seek to increase contact and shared activities through a variety of initiatives and continue to look for more opportunities for co-operation.