

Cruden Parish Church



We are a congregation of the Church of Scotland, in the Presbytery of Buchan in rural Aberdeenshire.

In Cruden Parish Church we are committed to providing regular and meaningful worship within the tradition of the Church of Scotland and as part of the worldwide Church of Jesus Christ.

We will use, through Christian fellowship and education, our God given resources, which are rich and varied, to encourage the development of Christian faith and practice in all ages and groups within the church and the community.

We will let our awareness of the needs of the congregation, the community and the world direct our church life and the activities and projects we will support.

In Cruden Parish Church we are outward in our approach and are always willing to consider and embrace new ideas which we believe can encourage growth in our Christian faith.

We would like our new minister to be someone who is...

- A facilitator who is able to inspire us through their God given gifts.
- An excellent communicator who is able to reach out into the community.
- Willing to encourage us to develop our faith and church community as we journey together.
- Can reach out to the youth in our community.
- A team player who can work well with others and be prepared to lead or delegate as appropriate.
- A listener who responds to the needs of those in the community
- Has a good sense of humour

Who we are

For a number of years Cruden Parish Church has operated under the Unitary Constitution model. We currently have 25 Elders who all serve on at least one of the Session Committees. In order to involve the congregation more in the running of the church we have 9 elected members of the congregation who are elected for a three year term at the Annual Stated Meeting and serve on one of the committees.

Services are held at 10 am every Sunday morning with the Junior Church meeting during term time.



We have a roll of approximately 400 with average attendance of about 60.

We are a faithful Church family trusting in our Lord Jesus Christ and believe ourselves to be welcoming, friendly and supportive of our community.

Holy Communion is celebrated 5 times a year on the last Sunday of January, March, May, September and November.

We celebrate Easter with short evening services during Holy Week and an informal communion on Good Friday.

For a number of years now we have held a Christingle by candlelight service.

A Watchnight service is held annually and is always well attended.

We share in the World Day of Prayer with our neighbouring Episcopal and Congregational Churches in the Parish.

On the second last Sunday in May we visit our neighbours at St James' Scottish Episcopal Church for shared worship and the following Sunday they join us for the celebration of Holy Communion.

We actively support Christian Aid Week in May by holding a Buttery morning and organising a door to door collection round the villages which raises in excess of £3,000.



Over the years a group of Elders has become involved in leading worship and at times when our previous minister was away they regularly conducted morning worship. During our vacancy these Elders have agreed to conduct one service per month.

Monthly services are conducted in the local care home, during our vacancy these are being conducted by Elders.

Our previous minister had regular contact with the schools at Hatton and Longhaven.

Committee Structure

District Elders Our Parish is currently divided into 8 districts and the pastoral needs of the members is looked after by a team of 8 Elders, they are assisted by a number of other church members who regularly deliver the Church Bulletin round the parish.

Education & Worship The Education & Worship committee is responsible for overseeing the Christian witness of the congregation and has over the years been involved in promoting Adult Sunday School, Bible studies and Lent celebrations.

Membership & Outreach The Membership & Outreach committee is responsible for promoting meaningful and active Christian Stewardship and also reaching out into the community and wider world. It has oversight of our links with Malawi which are continuing despite now having no official Missionary Partner. Looking nearer home a Messy Church has been established and this has been well received in the community.

Finance Committee The Finance Committee under the guidance of the Treasurer is responsible for monitoring and controlling the finances of the church.

Property The Property Committee is responsible for maintaining the congregation's buildings.



Social The Social Committee is responsible for encouraging the social fellowship of the congregation and regularly organises events which are well supported.

Church Groups / Organisations



Guild We have an active Guild with approximately 25 members who meet monthly from September through to April. They actively support the various national Guild projects and also invite a wide variety of speakers to come and share their various experiences. In April each year, in conjunction with the Walking Group a sponsored walk is held and the proceeds go to pay for a senior citizens outing in June.



Messy Church In an attempt to outreach into the parish of Cruden a Messy Church was established in autumn 2012. This is held on a monthly basis during school term time in Hatton Village Hall. There are now over thirty children on the Messy Church roll and it has been well received by those attending.



Walking group A series of monthly church walks are held from March through to October in a wide variety of places. Longer more distant walks are held on Saturday's with shorter walks being held on Sunday afternoons.

Watch & Talk From September to April the Watch and Talk group meet monthly to view a religious DVD and share their thoughts on what they have seen as well as sharing excellent fellowship.



Craft Group The Craft Group meets fortnightly on Tuesday afternoons when up to 25 people, both members and non members, meet and take part in various craft activities, mostly knitting, and shared fellowship. A significant amount of the garments produced are sent to Malawi whilst most of the remainder are donated to other charitable groups.



Coffee & Chat Coffee and chat is held monthly from September through to May in the Church Hall when members meet for a cuppa and blether.

Our Church

Our Church is located in a rural setting midway between the villages of Cruden Bay and Hatton. The present building dates back to 1776 with major renovations taking place in 1834, when the balcony was added, in 1913 when the organ recess was constructed and finally in 2002 when the present configuration was finalised.



Where are we





Church Hall

The Church Hall is located on the same site as the church and is used by most church groups for their meetings.



Manse

Currently the manse is situated in Main Street, Hatton. The Kirk Session are currently in discussion with the General Trustees with a view to developing the site owned by the church in Hatton. An integral part of this development will be the construction of a new manse.

The Parish

The parish of Cruden has a population of 3,500 and lies to the south of Peterhead, the two main communities being the villages of Cruden Bay and Hatton. There are also the smaller hamlets of Longhaven and Whinnyfold with the hinterland of the parish being agricultural. The parish is served by three primary schools in Cruden Bay, Hatton and Longhaven. For secondary education children travel to either Ellon or Peterhead depending where in the parish they live.

The A90 trunk road runs through the parish as does the costal A975 meaning that the northern outskirts of Aberdeen are about 30 minutes away by car. There is also a good public transport service to both Aberdeen and Peterhead along both these routes.

The parish has its own medical practice, pharmacy, post offices, general stores, hairdresser and hotels. We are also home to the internationally known Cruden Bay Golf Club and the historic ruins of Slains Castle.

Reaching out

The Church Bulletin which contains relevant information about ongoing church activities is delivered to all members by our team of delivers. Comprehensive information on the church can be found on our website www.crudenchurch.org.uk .

Contacts

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