

THE ANCHOR

The magazine of Kiltarlity and Kirkhill Churches

Summer 2021



A word from the editors -

You will notice this is a short Anchor magazine. Quite often we miss out a summer edition as there is not so much going on. However, we felt we should have an article from our new minister, Drew, to introduce him and his family.



Also, we really needed a final word from Seoras. He has been a stalwart in the Anchor, giving us his thoughts, his wisdom and his encouragement over the last years. We shall miss him dearly, but now we have our own minister again, we can look forward to new things.

By the way, both Drew and Seoras were very prompt in putting in their articles. And there were no complaints about having to do it either! A lesson to us all.....

Living in the love of Jesus in the rural Highlands

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Induction of Rev Andrew Kuzma

I was honoured to be at the Induction of our new minister, the Reverend Andrew Kuzma, on Friday the 9th July 2021, to Kiltarlity and Kirkhill Parish Church held in Kiltarlity Church of Scotland. The Church was as full as it could be with Covid restrictions, and a goodly number were listening and watching on Zoom.

Rev. Douglas T. Robertson led Worship during the Service and the Moderator of Inverness Presbytery, Mrs Issy Freudenthal, presided over the formal parts of the Induction Service. Rev Hector Morrison, gave the charges to the minister and congregation, also acting as Clerk, with Bill Flett and Sheila Proudfoot as representative elders. Also present was our Interim Moderator for the past three years, Rev Seoras Mackenzie.

The Rev Douglas T. Robertson opened the service with Prayer and scripture reading from John chapter 1 verse 29-51: we were invited to stand and say the Apostles Creed together. The Congregation sang 'Great is thy Faithfulness'. Rev Hector Morrison read out 'The Narrative' to Rev. Andrew Kumza and the Congregation. Rev. Morrison reminded us that the Charge was a Renewable Tenure after five years.

Moderator Issy Freudenthal asked Rev Andrew Kuzma to stand in front of Members of the Presbytery and Members and adherents of the Congregation and she presented details of the event. Ten Vows of the Induction were read out. Rev Hector Morrison stepped forward to read out The Formulae of three main parts. Moderator Issy Freudenthal invited Drew Kuzma to kneel in front of the Moderator and the Lord's Prayer was said over him. In pre- Covid times members of the Presbytery would have given Drew the right hand of friendship. The Declaration was read out and the congregation was asked to stand and take the Vows to support our new minister in Christian Love, Prayer and in the Work of the Church. We then sang 'Be Thou my Vision'.



The Rev Hector Morrison came forward and presented the Sermon on the Charges that we the congregation made to Rev Drew Kuzma, remembering the verse in John's Gospel chapter 1 verse 14. He underlined that we have to remember that Rev Drew Kuma is the Parish Minister of Kiltarlity and Kirkhill and of both Parishes, to be seen in the Community at events and in both local schools; he is our Minister of Word and the Sacraments in fulfilment of Psalm 2 and we are now united as one Congregation. We must remember that Inverness Presbytery is reducing the number of ministers from 22 down to 14 full time ministers, therefore our congregation must "step up to the plate" with help and support to our new minister. The Service finished with the singing of 'When I Survey the Wondrous Cross' and the Benediction.



Hayley and Iona Bradley stepped forward and presented a Bouquet of flowers to Margie Kuzma from the Congregation as a welcome our new minister's wife.

Margo MacLennan - July 2021

And from our new minister -

[A little about us...](#)

Starting at the beginning. :) I was born on the 31st of July, 1974 in Kindersley, Saskatchewan to Janice Cameron and Paul Kuzma. My mother's side is predominately Scottish with a little Irish thrown in and have recently found out that we have historical relations in the Kirkhill area. My father's side is a mix of Ukrainian and Polish. For interest sake, the name Kuzma is actually a very old Russian male first name that is derived from the word Cosmos or universe. I was brought up on the Prairies and the Prairie provinces are Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Which is basically the central western section of Canada known for its agriculture and for being rather flat. There are parts of the Prairies where we joke that is so flat you can watch your dog run away from home for days!

When I was 12, my step-father was transferred from Winnipeg, Manitoba to Brandon just a couple of hours down the road. At my new school I was invited to a youth group and then to Sunday school at a local Pentecostal church. I came to faith later and began to grow as a believer. I was no stranger to church as I would attend our local United Church in Winnipeg to delay my Sunday chores, and at 10 years of age along with a friend joined an Anglican boys choir for a couple of years despite the fact my family was not a church going family then. Growing up in the Pentecostal church was great and provided up with a foundation that I am still very grateful for. I trained initially as a Pentecostal minister and spent several years ministering in various capacities in Lethbridge, Alberta, where Viktoria and Asher were born.

In July 2007, having been led of the Lord to minister in another church across town the previous year, I was asked by our minister to accompany him on a trip to Scotland where he had a speaking engagement. It was a lovely trip with some ordained conversations that led to us moving to Scotland some three months later to take up work with Youth Inclusive. By the end of December

2007 the whole of the family had arrived in Inverness to begin a new chapter.

Our first couple of years were spent worshipping with King's Factory in Smithton and then later at Hilton Parish Church as that was the community I was working predominantly in. Margie, who is a nurse, was able to take up her skills again on this side of the Atlantic and in 2010 Isabella joined the family to complete the family.

We were on the move again sensing the Lord leading us back into church-based youth work and July 2012 saw us move south to Kirkliston just outside of Edinburgh to join the Kirkliston Parish Church family. The rapidly growing village was a hub for young families and we were blessed to be able to minister to and alongside some amazing people. While in Kirkliston I felt the need to see to the transfer of the ordination from Canada to the UK, and the Church of Scotland seemed the natural choice given that we had been worshipping within for several years. Various conversations led us to take up some further study and in 2016 I completed the educational and transfer requirements the Kirk had demanded which in turn took us to the Outer Hebrides to take up the post of parish minister of Benbecula linked with Carinish in Uist. We enjoyed 5 years of ministry in a wild, windswept

and beautiful part of creation and now find ourselves once again led back to the Inverness area for another chapter. We are delighted to be back and are very much looking forward to working together, to getting to know the church family and to seeing what the Lord has in store!

God bless

Drew



Last Word

“Last Word” is an obituary programme on BBC Radio 4, so it was probably an unfortunate title to spring to mind when I was asked to write something for the Anchor! It is my last word in the sense that I have now departed from my duties as Interim Moderator (IM) at Kiltarlity and Kirkhill.

We have battled over buildings and disagreed and agreed on various courses of action. People have gone and people have come. COVID has come and the way we meet and worship has changed and will doubtless continue to change as time goes by. There has been a great shake up and we are being forced to evaluate what matters less and what matters more: What can and maybe should be let go; and what should be retained or even newly started.

Still on Radio 4, I recently heard a service from a Church in Wales. It was closed around two years ago because of a dwindling Congregation. The building is now open again and people have come in with a vision to breathe new life into the place and to use it as base for reaching out into the Community with the Gospel or Good News.

The Congregation at K&K is very much alive and has demonstrated grit and determination in coming through what has seemed like one challenge after another. Some folks have perhaps retreated into the shadows due to a combination of COVID restrictions, struggles with new technology, difficulties with the IM or any number of other things. There is now a new minister in place: the Kirk Session is continuing to look at the way forward. The Congregation is working together at being the Church of today. If you know that you should be part of this and are not: then get yourself plugged in and contributing to the future.

I consider it a privilege to have been the IM at KandK and leave with good memories and more than a few lessons, hopefully learned.

May you know God's richest blessing,

Seoras

Having retired from both the army and Kiltarlity and Kirkhill, Seoras must be at a loose end! Actually, a well-earned rest is required.

We have all loved having Seoras with us and wish him and Elizabeth the best in any new ventures.

A few notices.....

We have not forgotten youth work in the church! Young Life is continuing over the summer with various projects taking place, and Open the Book, Friday Club and the Sunday Club are scheduled to restart after the school holidays.

As Covid restrictions are lifted, other regular features such as fellowship, Guild and coffee mornings will start up again in time.

However, the good news is that it is no longer necessary to book a seat in church on Sundays. There is much more space with the new one metre distancing rule now in place. At Kiltarlity, no need to worry about seat numbers. If there is a seat cushion on the pew, sit on it! This is a great relief to us all, though at least one sensible worshipper used to bring her own cushion with her.....

Zoom services remain as usual, but we would encourage members to come along to the church buildings if possible - both are very well organized for Covid protection. It is a great encouragement to a minister to see people in person and get to know them. Don't be shy!

We hope you are all having a lovely, relaxing time this summer. God bless and see you soon