

Presbytery of Melrose and Peebles

Prayer Diary



June, July & August

2021

Ashkirk I/w Ettrick & Yarrow I/w Selkirk

Praise God for the way in which He has been working in and through the members of each congregation in the new linkage. Praise Him for the applications received for the post of Pastoral Assistant.

Pray that God would enable members to use the gifts that God has given them to facilitate congregational worship and through witness within the different communities.

Pray that the paperwork for the new Pastoral Assistant would be completed in good time so that a start date can be agreed as soon as possible.

Bowden and Melrose

We give thanks for worship in our sanctuaries, online and by telephone.

We give thanks for those from further afield who now join us regularly and appreciate worshipping with us.

As our buildings reopen and in-person activities begin again we pray for our church family, old and young, for caution and for confidence.

We pray for God's guiding as we look ahead - what to take with us, what to leave behind, what new thing to do.

We echo the thanks of so many who live in our parish...

We give thanks for community support and good neighbourliness throughout the pandemic.

We pray that these may be lasting legacies of this difficult time.

We give thanks for the history and the beauty of our surroundings, for space to walk and time to watch the changing seasons.

We pray that the loving hand of the Creator will be seen in these.

We pray that the compassion and concern of the Saviour will be known.



Melrose Parish Church / Image from [Scotland's Churches Trust](#)

Caddonfoot I/w Stow St Mary of Wedale and Heriot

Pray

- for our newly linked charge of Caddonfoot with Stow and Heriot - that we'd quickly get used to new arrangements and that we'd enjoy working together in partnership for the glory of the gospel.
- that the dry rot in Stow Church (which has currently closed the building) would be quickly fixed, so that we can go ahead with baptisms and weddings and our Sunday worship again.



Stow St Mary of Wedale / Artist: Eric Johnstone

Channelkirk and Lauder

There is much to give thanks for, and at this time we give thanks to our worship team who have during our vacancy provided reflections and worship to our members.

We give thanks for our buildings that we can use them to come together and pray that as the restrictions ease more of our congregation will feel confident in returning to worship together.

We pray and seek your prayers, too, as our office bearers begin to look ahead and start the process of linking with our friends and neighbours in Earlston.

Dryburgh District Churches

Maxton, Mertoun, Newtown & St Boswells

We give thanks for our members and office bearers as we continue to work together in our united congregation and explore what we can do in mission and service to build and enrich relationships. Giving thanks to God for his goodness as we continue to open our Churches as the restrictions ease to enjoy being in the presence of God and in fellowship with one another. We give thanks, too, and ask that you keep in your prayers Fran, our attached Reader, for all her work pastorally and in leading worship, as well as Caron, our elder and Presbytery Worship Leader, and Sarah, our candidate for ministry, may they know his presence in their lives as they continue in their learning and serving God.

Earlston

Please pray for the Kirk Session as they finalise arrangements for opening up the services to the congregation.

Give thanks to those who have worked tirelessly throughout this time of lockdown to make sure that all risk assessments have been met.

Please pray for all elders as they continue to serve their members and to bring the love of Jesus to the community of Earlston.

Eddleston I/w Peebles Old I/w Stobo and Drumelzier

Holy Spirit of God

Breathe through us in our

attitudes

expectations

approach

as we open our eyes to your evolving Church.

Teach us to be both bold and humble, obedient and imaginative.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

Galashiels

Give thanks

Wait on the Lord patiently and give thanks for his great faithfulness, mercy and love which is able to sustain, comfort and revive us. Sing to the Lord all you his children because of his goodness and blessings which are new every morning. Let us rejoice in expectation of all that the Lord has done for us in the past and all he will do for us in these future days.

For answers to prayers, especially regarding people's health and for God's guidance in planning for the uniting of the three churches in Galashiels.

Prayers

Father, we pray that you will be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path in these coming weeks. As we become a united church of three congregations, there will be many bridges to cross. We pray for the churches united together with Jesus as the head and cornerstone, and for his love to be among us. Praying for a new minister to be called to this place. One who is just right for us, one who loves You Father, and your word.

Pray for those who will be on the Nominating Committee. May you give them wisdom and guidance and the desire to seek your good and perfect will. We know that of ourselves we can do nothing, but with you all things are possible.

Pray that as we continue to pray for families, friends and others, needing God's healing, help and guidance, we faithfully put our trust in our awesome God and His supernatural power, infinite wisdom and unfailing love.

Pray for David Donaldson, our Interim Moderator, and the leadership, seeking and trusting God, who has a plan for the three churches uniting in Galashiels.

Pray for St John's to maintain a Christian presence and serve the community in Langlee, as we seek to fulfil Christ's commission to the church in our own community.

Innerleithen, Traquair and Walkerburn

We give thanks for:

Reopening Innerleithen Church on 23rd May and the joy of resuming worship services together.

The technology that allows us to continue to livestream our service online and also broadcast over the telephone.

We continue to pray for:

The situation with the manse to be resolved, allowing our minister and family to move to the Parish.

Wisdom about new ways to connect with the community, especially with children and families.

Those who are anxious or unwell and not yet able to come back to Sunday Worship.

Lyne and Manor I/w St Andrew's Leckie Peebles

Lyne & Manor:

Give thanks for the faithful congregation of worshippers and pray for ongoing witness to our community.

St Andrew's Leckie:

Give thanks for the growth of Soul Restore counselling and pray that the Lord would use the service more and more to bless our community.

Parishes of West Tweeddale

Please pray for the Nominating Committee drawn from the six congregations of the Linking as it sets about its task of seeking a minister for the charge. May the Committee know the guidance of the Holy Spirit as well as the support of the congregations in the exciting weeks that lie ahead.

We ask prayers, too, for the folk of the six congregations and parishes, that their shared lives of worship and service may be sustained through this time of vacancy.

Especially we give thanks for our Locum Ministers, the Rev. Nancy Norman and the Rev. Pamela Strachan, together with our teams of worship leaders, all of whom are deserving of our deepest gratitude.

Presbytery

Pray for:

- all the charges that are newly adjusted (through linking or union).
- the ministers taking on new responsibilities and vacant charges that they would find a new minister.
- Channelkirk and Lauder and Earlston, that they will be able to move forward soon in linking.
- the whole Presbytery, that we'd be able to agree a new Presbytery Plan soon, under God's guiding.



Give thanks:

For the opportunities to express God's love to the people of the Borders as we prepare to go back out on the streets.

For the continued enthusiasm of the team.

That we continue to be blessed financially, with a healthy balance to start us off again in 2021.

Prayers for Street Pastors:

Pray for continued guidance to the Committee and the team that we continue to do what God wishes us to do.

Pray that our resources are used to the best effect for the benefit of the people of the Borders.

Pray for the protection of the team, and for team members who are currently unwell or recovering from surgery.

Please pray for Rev. Les Isaac, founder and head of the Street Pastor movement: Les recently went into hospital for minor surgery but has been twice readmitted since his discharge.



We give thanks that the Hospital has slowly recovered its previous pre-Covid life only with added PPE and tighter visiting protocols.

We give thanks and pray for the staff who have performed brilliantly under stressful and draining circumstances.

We give thanks and pray for the Chaplaincy team, who have given their all in the support of staff and family.

