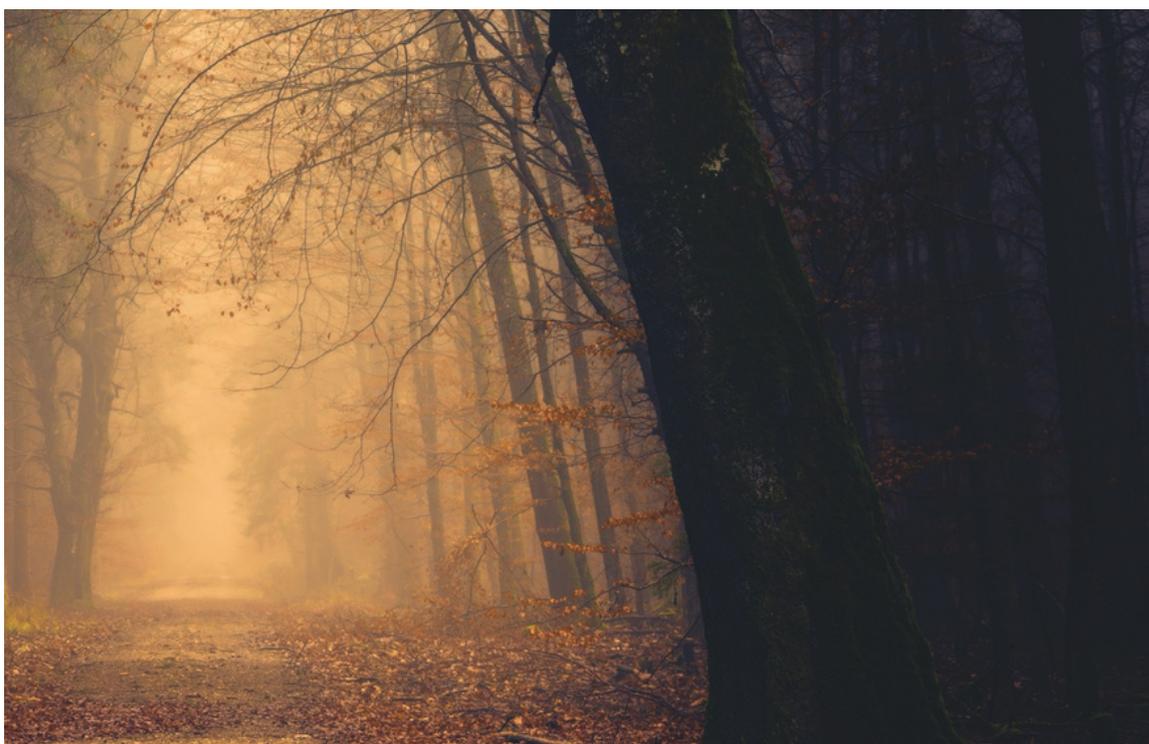

SUMMER 2021 ISSUE 7

PROVINCIAL YOUTH NEWSLETTER

YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Coming out of the dark

SEE PAGE 2



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Nothing can stop Glen! The Provincial Youth Week (known as Glen) is happening between Sunday 1st August and Saturday 7th August 2021. It is a 'blended' (or 'Glended') week, with online and offline activities, plus in-person gatherings in regional groups during the week and a grand reunion of delegates and leaders for a Covid-safe act of worship on Saturday 7 August in St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth.

It's not too late for young people of High School age to join in, and it's FREE! Find out more and sign up [here](#) by 12 July.

DAY	AM	PM	EVE
SUN 1 AUG			6:30pm Worship 7-8:30pm Quiz
MON 2 AUG	10am Breakfast 11am-12 House Group		7-9pm Murder Mystery
TUE 3 AUG		1-2pm House Group 2:15-3:30pm Activities 2-4pm Cuppa & Chat	
WED 4 AUG	Offline activities and Regional meet-ups		7-9:30pm Film
THUR 5 AUG	10-11am House Group 11:30-1pm Activities		8pm Night Eucharist 9-10pm Hot Choc & Chat
FRI 6 AUG	10am Breakfast 11-12am House Group		6:30-8:30pm Family Ceilidh
SAT 7 AUG		12 noon Final Worship in Perth	

Above is the timetable for Glen 21. Everything takes place over Zoom apart from the in-person events on Wednesday and Saturday. Activities include: Scavenger Hunt, Pizza Making, Pisky prayers, Robot Olympics, Taskmaster, Nail Art and more! There is something for everyone.

House Groups will explore themes of light and darkness in the Bible, from the first darkness before Creation to the people in the Bible who faced all kinds of challenges, sometimes in dark and lonely places. They, like us, sometimes wonder: 'Where are you, God?' But just when it seemed most dark, God's light dawned. We will be exploring what this means for us and our faith.



PROVINCIAL YOUTH AND CLIMATE ACTION



The Provincial Youth presentation to General Synod reflected on the climate crisis and the need for action. Youth representatives spoke with passion and some exasperation: Mia from Brechin Diocese (top left) summed up their message: "We are constantly asked, as young people, to speak about climate change. But there is nothing left for us to say... We don't need you to ask us about this topic any more. We need you to listen to what has already been said, by everyone from David Attenborough to Greta Thunberg, and we need you to take action."



Martha from Moray, Ross & Caithness (centre left) shared examples of practical action, and we heard from children at St Cuthbert's Colinton in Edinburgh, who made a bee hotel for their church garden.

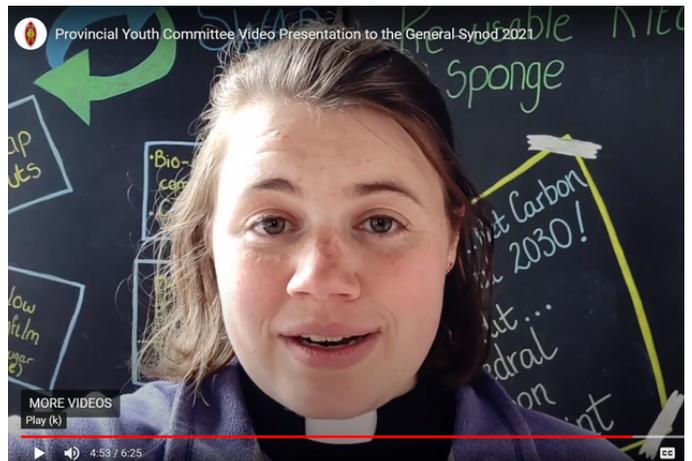


Revd Beki Cansdale (below) is Youth and Children Officer for Argyll and the Isles and curate at Oban Cathedral. She spoke about the cathedral's focus on the climate crisis during Lent, and its practical efforts to make small changes that add up to significant climate action. She ended the PYC presentation with this challenge: "**The time has gone for thinking and pondering: the time to act is now. Will you join us and hear the call of our young people?**"

You can view the full PYC presentation to General Synod [here](#).

"The house is on fire. The clock is ticking"

Olivia from
Edinburgh
Diocese
[above]



Designing a Church of the Future

COMPETITION WINNER FOR THE DIOCESE OF
ST ANDREW'S, DUNKELD & DUNBLANE



During Lent 2021 the Diocesan Youth Committee ran a “Church of the Future” competition for young people to share their ideas for a Carbon Neutral Church. The judges were impressed by the variety of innovative ideas which were shared by telling a story; comic strip, art, video and presentation. The winning entry came from Hannah Buxel of St Mary's Dunblane. Hannah addressed the question of what Church is (“it is a building but more importantly it is the people who belong to it”) before challenging us to do something about the climate crisis: “Our words and actions need to set an example to care for God's creation”. Hannah's presentation included an Action Plan which detailed for her own congregation “the different steps to becoming more eco church and the way we can achieve them”. She issued a call to action: “We each need to make changes in our own lives”. Well said, Hannah!



Fun in the sun for Fife Cluster Youth Fellowship

BY JAMES GARDNER, YOUTH OFFICER FOR THE DIOCESE OF ST ANDREW'S, DUNKELD & DUNBLANE

At the start of June, the Fife Cluster Youth Fellowship restarted face to face meetings again after a year of Zoom meetings. Our first meeting was at the public park in Dunfermline and the young people enjoyed reconnecting with each other and leaders while playing rounders and ultimate frisbee. While Zoom had kept us all connected as a faith family, being able to meet in person was great as it was something that we had all missed. Bubbles the YF mascot wasn't a fan of Zoom, so rarely made an appearance on screen: the delegates asked that she came along to the face-to-face meetings, and all the YF were happy to see her again.



Photos: (top to bottom) Socially-distanced rounders in the park; Bubbles the YF Mascot keeping watch over the beach football

Our final week of term was celebrated at Aberdour beach. We bought our own picnics to enjoy between rounders and football, and paddling in the sea. This is an open night for family members to join us and it was nice to see former YF delegates. Due to the way exam grades were awarded, some of our senior members had already received provisional grades and were making plans for university in the Autumn. Huge congratulations and best wishes to our senior members as they prepare for the next chapter of their lives.

Christian Aid's Prophetic Activists

IN THE SCOTTISH
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

Christian Aid's Prophetic Activist Scheme is an annual, year-long campaigning scheme for 18-30 year olds of all backgrounds and denominations, exploring the relationship between faith and action for global social justice. This year the Scottish Episcopal Church boasts two Prophetic Activists: **Petko Marinov**, Digital Missioner for the Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway, and **Rachel Walker**, a youth leader with Fife Cluster Youth Fellowship in the Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane. Rachel writes about her experience so far...



I'm Rachel Walker, 27, a youth leader with Fife Cluster YF and for this year a Christian Aid Prophetic Activist. The Prophetic Activist Scheme inspires, engages, and equips us to co-create a climate justice campaign. Throughout the year we attend workshops, training, conferences and more to put our faith into action in our communities and wider society. Looking towards COP26, the UN conference on the climate in Glasgow in October this year, it is vital we use our voice and campaign for a more just world. I am enjoying it so far, have met some inspiring people and learned loads! Looking forward to sharing the next part of this journey with you all soon. You can read more about the Prophetic Activism Scheme [here](#).

(Right) Pre-lockdown photo of the 2020 cohort of Prophetic Activists (from Christian Aid News). You can read more about their campaign, 'Stop Fuelling The Fire', [here](#).



AND FINALLY...

"So what is the PYC, exactly?"

This was the very reasonable question asked by Revd Beki Cansdale (*see page 3*) when we invited her to join the Provincial Youth Committee after she had taken on the role of Youth and Children Officer for the Diocese of Argyll and the Isles. Beki has been involved with Provincial Youth work for several years, so if she needed more information about the PYC, then she figured that other people might do, too! Beki wrote the following piece for her Diocese:

What is it? The Provincial Youth Committee, or PYC, is a place for young people to come together from across the Scottish Episcopal Church. (Editor's note: the colourful interlocking cross, below, is our logo: it represents the coming together of our seven dioceses).

Who is on it? Each diocese can have up to three Youth Reps. Two are aged 12-18, and one is aged 18-25. Each young person is required to apply, and it is the bishop who reviews applications and chooses who is to represent the diocese. In addition to the young people, each diocese has one Youth Officer who attends. The Youth Officer is there to support the young people, and to listen to all that they say. Only the youth reps have voting rights within the committee.

What do they do? The PYC discusses what is going on for young people in each diocese; they are consulted on current ideas for new initiatives and youth work; they give their feedback, ask questions and share their own ideas and thoughts on what they would like to see in the church and in local communities. In addition they regularly make presentations to General Synod, representing our young people and speaking out about important issues.

What does this mean for us?

Well, first and foremost this is an opportunity for our young people to be represented and to have a voice. Secondly, the PYC are there to be consulted. As representatives of young people from across the SEC, they are best placed to give us feedback on any youth-related initiatives, and on key issues facing church and society, such as the climate crisis.

The PYC is convened by the Provincial Youth Convener, Revd Tembu Rongong, and served by the Provincial Youth Committee Enabler, Claire Benton-Evans. If your diocese doesn't have a youth officer, Tembu or Claire will be very happy to answer any questions about diocesan youth representation on the PYC.

Stay in touch...

Do you have a contribution from your Diocese for the next newsletter? Please get in touch below. Follow Provincial Youth news on our Facebook page: [Scottish Episcopal Church - Provincial Youth Committee](#).



This newsletter has been produced by the Provincial Youth Committee Enabler, Claire Benton-Evans. Contact: ClaireBE@scotland.anglican.org