

**“Who are these
people
and how can I be
with them
in such a way that
we can become
what God
is making us?”**



If you're reading this, you've probably already looked at many parish profiles. We're not going to try and tell you everything about ourselves in this one. If you're interested, there's plenty of time to get into the detail.

All we want to give you is a flavour of the people and the parish of Meldrum and Bourtie to help you discern whether the gifts, skills and heart that you bring in ministry will help us develop our life and ministry here, and help you become more of the minister (and the person) God wants you to be.

If the opening quotation from Eugene Peterson resonates with you, please read on!

Matthew 5: 16. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Who are these people?

Meldrum & Bourtie is set within a dynamic, rapidly expanding community in Aberdeenshire. Although rural in nature we are within easy travelling distance from Inverurie and Aberdeen. While wishing to take the best of our tradition with us, we seek to explore and embrace new and engaging methods of worship, teaching and outreach that speak to people of all ages.

Our Vision is to:

- grow in faith, mission & service
- reach out with the love of God and the Good News of the Gospel to the heart of our community
- encourage the growth of fellowship in an inclusive Church family.

Proverbs 3: 27. Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it.



Meldrum Kirk:

In the small town of Oldmeldrum the present church has served the community well for over 300 years having moved from the 'Auld Kirk' at Bethelnie. [Meldrum](#) is a welcoming and inclusive church family who are open to new ideas.

Bourtie Kirk:

Nestling in the midst of Aberdeenshire fields at the hamlet of [Kirkton of Bourtie](#), this historic little church sits on land that has been a site of Christian worship for over 800 years. Monthly worship here remains fairly traditional with services in an 'intimate' atmosphere.

We celebrate the beauty and heritage of our two church buildings but look to the future and what we can achieve together as one Church Family led by the Spirit.

In the spirit of inclusion the Kirk Session of Meldrum & Bourtie Parish has decided to depart from the procedures contained in the Ministers and Deacons in Civil Partnerships and Same Sex Marriages Act (Act I 2015) in order to permit the appointment of a minister who is in a civil partnership or a same sex marriage.



We like to think of ourselves as a friendly, good humoured congregation, many of whom work hard for God within and beyond the church. We gather for worship every Sunday in Meldrum and on the first Sunday of the month in Bourtie. We have a variety of different forms of worship. Sunday morning in church is a traditional service. The second Sunday of the month is usually “family worship” with less formality and more noise. After each morning service in Meldrum we share fellowship over a cup of tea or coffee. We also have:

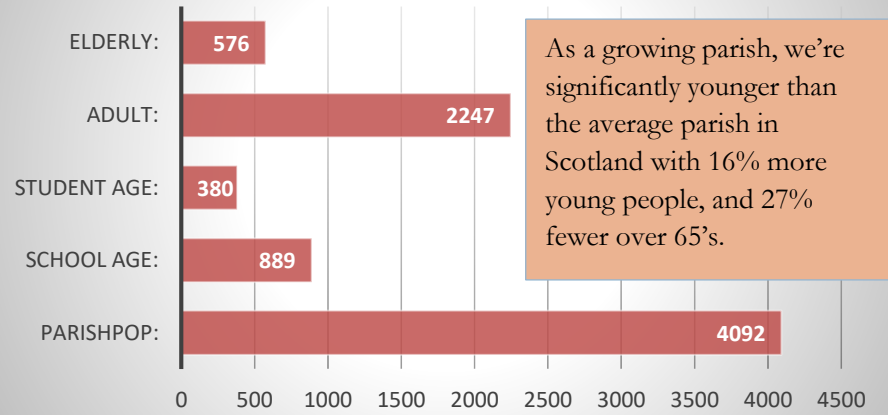
- an active worship group who help prepare and deliver our family services
- formal Communion celebrated twice yearly with an informal Communion service on the last Sunday of the month after the morning service
- Sunday school which is held weekly in the hall
- monthly services held in our sheltered housing complex and nursing home
- shared ecumenical Easter services and an annual bereavement service, which is open to all
- Experience Easter & Christmas events which enables us to share our Christian beliefs and the stories with local primary school children, their teachers and helpers.

Psalm 52: 8. But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God. I trust in the steadfast love of God forever and ever.





Meldrum & Bourtie Parish:



We Have:

- a Congregational Roll of 371
- a Kirk Session of 22
- approximately 80 regular worshippers of all ages
- adopted the Church of Scotland Unitary Constitution in 2008
- a bi-monthly Church magazine the 'Kirk News'
- moderate pastoral load of weddings & funerals.

We are financially independent.

John 10: 16. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

How can I be with them?



Fellowship, learning and care also take place through:

- our active Guild
- the Pastoral Care visiting team
- the Sunday School
- regular Bible Study & Prayer Groups
- our talented Embroidery Group
- special services throughout the church year.

We reach out to our community through:

- an annual community BBQ
- quarterly afternoon 'Sing Along'
- Playlist for Life – advice and contact point
- Messy Church tent at the annual Meldrum Sports event
- regular contributions to the local Foodbank.

• Social events

- Ceilidh, Burns Supper
- Concerts., Annual Golf tournament.



Mark 16: 15. And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.



Working with the community:

- Meldrum Primary has around 300 pupils:
 - Meldrum Academy has around 900 pupils:
- We have excellent links with both schools. The minister is a chaplain with the academy, and the primary school visits us for seasonal and end of term services.

Groups who use our premises:

- Mother & Toddlers
- Brownies
- Trefoil Guild
- Wednesday Wailers singing group
- AA
- Yoga class
- SWRI
- Grampian 50+ network
- Pure Art Group
- Private functions.



Our members take an active role in the community through:

- Community café & Lunch Club
- Christian Aid & other charity fundraising activities
- Meldrum Amenities Improvement Group
- Community Council
- Various sports clubs & walking groups.



John 21: 15. Jesus said to him, take care of my lambs.



So that we can become what God is making us:

As modern day disciples we want to use our gifts to grow in faith, mission and service by reaching out to our community. We are ready to work as a team alongside our new minister to achieve this vision.

Our Minister:

We hope to find a minister who can inspire with clear preaching and thoughtful worship and leadership, who has a heart for building supportive enabling relationships of all ages.

Colossians 3:12. As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.



We are restricted in what we do with Bourtie as this is an 'A listed' building but we ensure it is kept in order for its small but faithful congregation.



Future plans for our buildings:

Though our buildings are well used and well loved, we recognise that they are going to need to be reconfigured to meet our needs and aspirations as a congregation. Our hall is situated some distance from our church which restricts the number of Sundays we have the children from the Sunday School with us in church. We are blessed to have a marketable glebe in the heart of the village and plans to sell it are well advanced. These funds should allow us to:

- fully renovate Meldrum Church
 - create a new entrance
 - install new eco friendly heating system
 - renew electrics
 - install modern IT equipment and wi-fi connection
 - redecorate throughout
- build a new hall close to our church in Meldrum (we would aim to sell our existing hall)
- this will help provide modern facilities for the existing hall users.

We will be retaining 1.5 acres of land in the Glebe for future development. One option discussed is to develop a kitchen garden & café with training facilities for the community.

Proverbs 3: 6. Remember the Lord in everything you do, and he will show you the right way.



The Manse:

Purchased in 2016, this is a modern spacious family home with 4 bedrooms, family room, dining room, sitting room, dining kitchen, utility room and cloakroom. It is set in a quiet cul-de-sac within walking distance of schools, amenities and our Church.

Local amenities:

- Academy & Primary schools
- GP clinic
- NHS & Private dentists.
- Nursery
- Variety of shops
- Post office
- Garages
- Golf clubs
- Hotels & Restaurants
- Play barn & Gym
- Park and Sport facilities
- Veterinary surgery.



Isaiah 32: 18. My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.



For further information please follow the links below:

Website: <https://www.meldrumandbourtiechurch.com/>

Direct links:

Kirk News:

https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/38f486_24c17c64c7a142f8aea_dfea076a268ec.pdf

Accounts:

https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/38f486_fe84a3bac4794486bff9e798f90f46a2.pdf

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/meldrumbourtiechurch.org.uk/>

Statistics for mission:

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church_finder/profile.php?property_id=19535

St Nechtan – our local saint, who sowed and reaped in faith as we seek to do.

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