

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end; They are new every morning; Great is thy faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I will hope in Him."

(Lamentations 3; 22 - 24)

# Parish Profile

Colvend, Southwick & Kirkbean Sarish Church



Southwick Church

Congregational 27° 080437

#### What do we want from our Minister & Why!



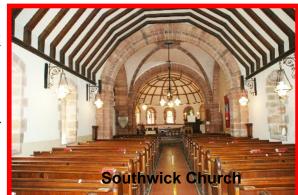
Following the recent move of our minister after 18 years of happy service with us we are now looking for his replacement.

To this end we welcome applications from

individuals who have a strong relationship with the teachings of Jesus Christ. We are looking for someone towards the evangelical end of the ministerial spectrum. Equally, individuals applying must have a good ability to relate and encourage members of the parish and non-members alike. We are also happy to consider male/female ministers and individuals who are in a civil partnership or same-sex relationship.

We recognise that our parish is relatively small and rural in nature but contains a strong and focused congregation dedicated to serving Jesus Christ. Services are held in

both churches every Sunday starting 10.00am in Southwick and 11.30am in Colvend; music being provided in both locations by our organist.



For further information please contact:

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#### **Church Halls**

We have two church halls one at Colvend located within the grounds of the Manse and one at Southwick located immediately behind the church.

#### Where are we Located!

The "Post Codes" of the churches/halls are:--

Colvend Church	DG5	4QE
Colvend Church Hall	DG5	4QW
Colvend Manse	DG5	4QN
Southwick Church & Hall	DG2	8AL

Our Church Website can be found at:-

Colvendchurch.com

## What our congregation will provide the successful Minister in a religious sense!

The Kirk Session of some 10 members (8 men and 2 ladies), brings a considerable and varied amount of experience and support to the Minister and meets four times a year.

Up until the onset of the pandemic and necessary isolations we operated a number of House Groups to discuss and develop aspects of the life and teachings of Jesus.

Whilst we have individual services in both churches we come together for specific services throughout the year at Easter, Harvest Festival (especially important in a rural and farming community), Christmas and twice a year celebration of Communion. We also have an additional Communion service held yearly in each church.

The readings within each service in both churches are given by members of the congregations.

### What our congregation will provide the successful Minister in a secular sense!

Looking after all things secular we have a Congregational Board of some 14 members answering to which there are two sub-committees – Finance Committee and Fabric Committee.

Following all services refreshments are available at both churches providing an opportunity for people to meet with the Minister and others, especially during holiday periods when visitors come to worship with us.

Visiting is seen as a vital aspect of our Christian life and the Minister would be expected to take an active part in this task. The Elders regularly visit all members of their individual districts, especially if it has come to their attention that a pastoral visit would be welcome. Elders also visit potential new members who have recently arrived into the area.

Up until the pandemic our active Guild and Sunday morning Breakfast Club for young children met regularly.

Our parish is self-funding and in a very healthy financial position. A tradition which has been in place for many years is our annual Church Sale. Always held on the second Thursday in August. It attracts local people from a wide surrounding area, dealers and holiday makers alike raising sums in excess of £5,000. All proceeds from our fund raising events are available for our Kirk Session's tithing allocation, currently set at 10%.

Apart from investments held by the General Trustees we have separate investments held and managed on our behalf by Smith & Williamson of Glasgow. These are in two parts, one part unrestricted and one part restricted for the benefit of the parish Minister.

We publish a church magazine – "Parish Link" – four times a year. This has items sent in by members of the congregation as well as Minister's items and editorial. The magazine is delivered throughout the parish by our Elders.

#### Our Manse



The Manse is Georgian in style and built in 1804, a beautiful 4 bedroom building with approximately 3 acres of garden. The latter, at present being tended by a professional gardener

The building is well maintained having had a considerable amount of funds spent on it in recent times as has the garden.

The Glebe land is rented out to a local farmer via the Church of Scotland Law Department.

On occasions the manse and grounds have been used to host social events for church members and non-members.