



Join with us for a colourful  
Messy Church Year



### Messy St Mary's

takes place on the last Saturday of each month up to June  
from 4pm to 6pm



### Messy St Leonard's

takes place on the last  
Wednesday of each month up  
to May  
from 4pm to 6pm



**Friday 28th February 7pm**  
**Dalkeith Rugby Club**

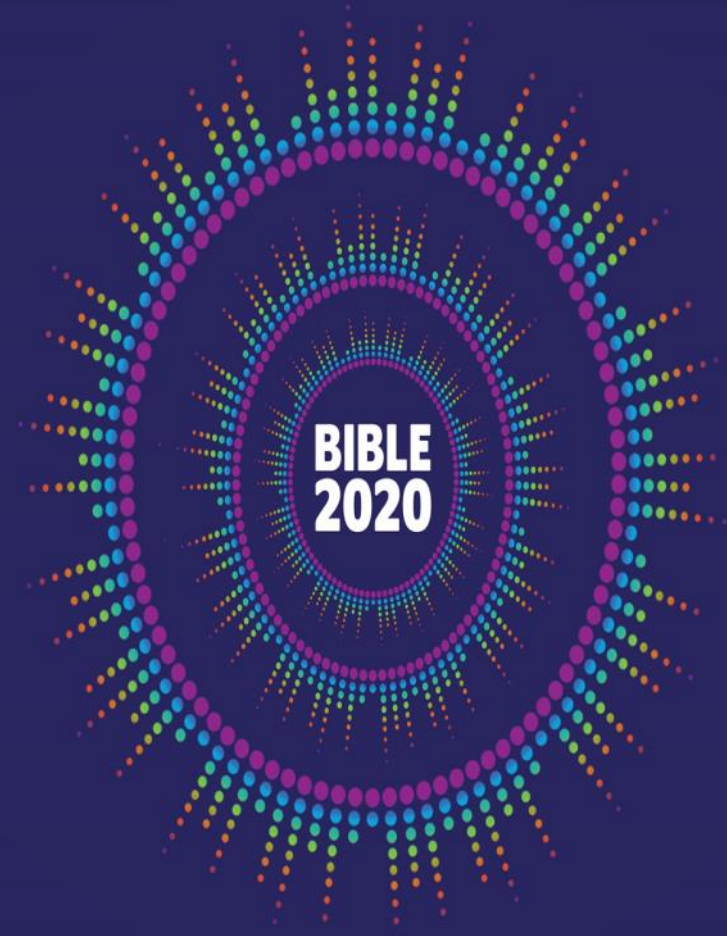
**Entry £8 per person & includes Buffet Supper**

**Teams of 4    1st Prize £40    2nd Prize £20**

**Bar provided by Rugby Club**

All in aid of St Mary's Church Restoration Fund

# The Link



**BIBLE  
2020**

**What book is at the heart of your year?**

FEBRUARY 2020

*The Magazine of the Scottish Episcopal Churches  
of St Leonard's Lasswade & St Mary's Dalkeith*

# St Leonard's & St Mary's



We warmly invite and welcome you to come and be part of the Church family of St Leonard's and St Mary's.

Although we are known as a Scottish Episcopal Church we are a mix of individuals and families from many different backgrounds who seek to know Jesus as our Lord, Saviour and friend while supporting one another as we live, journey and explore the Christian faith together .

**We look forward to seeing you.**

## St Mary's

The church in the park  
Dalkeith Country Park  
High St, Dalkeith

**Sunday Worship 9.30am**

**stmarysdalkeith.org.uk**

## MESSY CHURCH

Last Saturday of each Month  
4-6pm Crafts, Song, Story, Food  
All Welcome



## St Leonard's

Dobbies Rd  
Lasswade & Bonnyrigg

**Sunday Worship 11.15am**

**stleonardsllasswade.org.uk**

## MESSY CHURCH

Last Wednesday of each Month  
4-6pm Crafts, Song, Story, Food  
All Welcome

Find us on  **@StLandM**

Church Office & Rectory  
11 Peacock Parkway  
Bonnyrigg EH193RQ

 0131 663 7000 or email  office.stlandm@gmail.com

Both Churches are registered with the Scottish Charity Register as  
St Leonard's Episcopal Church: Lasswade SC014151  
St Mary's Episcopal Church: Dalkeith SC001677

## St Leonard's 11.15am Sunday Rota

Sunday	Sidespersons	Coffee	Flowers	Cleaning
<b>2nd February</b> O: V Scott C: A Bruce R: C Todd I: N Stewart M: E Steart	<b>J Shannon J Strong</b>	N Whannell A Cunningham		M Kurian B Poulose
<b>9th February</b> O: A Bruce C: T Mooney R: M Johnston I: C Todd M: E Stewart	A Cunningham N Whannell	<b>C Todd A Bruce H Buchan</b>		<b>J &amp; T Mooney</b>
<b>16th February</b> O: T Mooney C: V Clark R: Mary J I: N Stewart M: E Stewart	<b>N Fyffe B Poulose</b>	J Mellon D Reid M Hall		A McKenzie V Clark
<b>23rd February</b> O: Peter C: A Bruce R: V Scott I: Clergy M: Peter et al	M Hall D Reid	<b>R Simpson A Mckenzie B Poulose Heather Buchan</b>		<b>J &amp; J Mellon</b>
<b>1st March</b> O: N Stewart C: V Clark R: I Bolan I: V Clark M: E Stewart	<b>A &amp; I Bolan</b>	J Strong A Engh A Miller <b>Fiona Harris</b>	<b>LENT</b>	

O = Officiant, C = Chalice, R = Reader, I = Intercessions & M = Music

**St Mary's 9.30am Sunday Rota**

Sunday	Sidespersons	Coffee	Flowers	Cleaning
<b>2nd February</b> O:L McEwan C:J Fleming R: A Watt I: K Donald M: E Stewart	<b>N &amp; D Grieve</b>	B & N Hallworth	<b>N Grieve</b>	
<b>9th February</b> O:A MacKay C: J Fleming R: K Donald I:R Donald M: N & D Grieve	K & R Donald	<b>P Elliot</b> <b>C Prior</b>	N Grieve	
<b>16th February</b> O: A Watt C: J Fleming R: P Willis I: L Maguire M: D Law	<b>M McPhail</b> <b>C Prior</b>	K & R Donald	<b>P Willis</b>	
<b>23rd February</b> O: R Donald C: J Short R:M McPhail I: P Willis M: E Thomson	J Fleming A Mackay	<b>P Willis</b> <b>L Maguire</b>	P Willis	
<b>1st March</b> O: C: R: I: M:			<b>LENT</b>	

O = Officiant, C = Chalice, R = Reader, I = Intercessions & M = Music



~~A Rector's Muse~~  
**Izzy's Page**

*with love and licks from Izzy*

Oh I do love gathering up crumbs falling from the table and Christmas has been a smorgasbord of delights supplementing my usual kibble diet. I do hope many of you had something tasty too over the festive break and enjoyed the celebrations.

My Dad says that when I sit under the table it reminds him of the Story of Jesus and the Phoenician woman we read about in the Gospel of Mark Chapter 7. In that story Jesus in some way tests the woman and says to her that "it is not right to throw the Children's bread to the dogs". But the woman replies "Yes Lord, but even the dogs eat the crumbs from under the table." This story is also reflected in the old prayer of Humble access that we sometimes use before we partake in the feast of Communion.

We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table. But thou art the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy.

Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Although all of creation is to come humbly before God and although none of us are worthy of being accepted by God by our own merits, there is Good News for you and me. God through the gift of Jesus, opens up for us a way for us not only to draw near to the Lord's table but to have an actual place at the table as members of the family. No longer are we to scramble around begging for scraps! We are to draw near with full assurance that God loves us and has forgiven us, yes even you can be forgiven! And not only forgiven but invited and welcomed to feast at a heavenly table, to enjoy being in God's company sharing with God and God's family around the table of faith.

Don't settle for scraps why not commit yourself afresh to know God more, and to know that you have a seat at his table.

## Readings for Sunday Services

The list of Lectionary readings as well as being provided for those preparing to read at Sunday services are also provided for all of us to read and to reflect upon as we prepare to meet together week by week.

If you would like to offer to read in church as part of our worship please do speak to Peter or one of the Clergy Team. We are also looking for people to take on the duty of reading our intercessory prayers during the Sunday services. Help can be given to help you formulate the prayers or guide you by using set prayers which can then be adapted to include prayer requests.

### FEBRUARY

Sun 2nd Presentation of Christ	Hebrews 2:14-18	Luke 2:22-40 9th
Sun 9th 5th after Epiphany	1 Corinthians 2.1-12	Matthew 5.13-20
Sun 16th 6th after Epiphany	1 Corinthians 3.1-9	Matthew 5.21-37
Sun 23rd Transfiguration	2 Peter 1.16-21	Matthew 17.1-9

### ASH Wednesday 26th February

10am Service at St Mary's  
7.30pm Service at St Leonard's

*During Lent our Study groups will be using this years Churches Together resources titled Opening the Scriptures "Setting out hearts on Fire". The weekly Sunday Service readings will therefore reflect the passages being covered in this study*

### MARCH

Sun 1st The First Sunday of Lent	Exodus 3.1-15	Mark 6.48-51
Sun 8th 2nd Sunday of Lent	Genesis 1.1-2.4	John 1:1-14
Sun 15th 3rd Sunday of Lent	Genesis 32.22-32	2 Corinth 3.12-18
Sun 22nd 4th Sunday of Lent	Psalms 22:1-18	John 16.20-24
Sun 29th 5th Sunday of Lent	Genesis 22.1-18	John 15:9-14

### How we do it

Eco-Congregation Scotland primarily works with congregations. There are a growing number of congregations committed to taking action through our Eco programme from Shetland to Dumfries and Galloway.

We also operate over twenty local networks, run by volunteers, who encourage and help each other to do more to help the environment locally and globally. We have a small staff based in Edinburgh who support these volunteers and the delivery of the Eco Programme

Our Eco programme has three strands:

#### Spiritual living

*Making the link between environmental issues and the Christian faith. We believe the earth is a gift to us and placed by God into our care.*

#### Practical living

*Taking practical action in the church and in the home There are many practical steps we can make both in our own homes and in the God's house the church you use to reduce our environmental impact*

#### Global living

*Influencing attitudes and take action in the local or global community on issues like climate change. Campaigning and lobbying for change.*

### St Mary's & St Leonard's

Here at St Mary's and St Leonard's Pauline Jones and Vicki Clark are heading up our joint Eco Committee. In the coming months they will be asking us to get involved in a number of different activities as individuals as well as collectively challenging the churches to see what can be done with the buildings in our care as well as the activities we run to be more environmentally conscious in our actions and decision making



More information about Eco Congregations Scotland can be found on their website

[www.ecocongregationscotland.org](http://www.ecocongregationscotland.org)





## St Leonard's & St Mary's Eco Congregations

We are all aware of the current and urgent concerns regarding our care of the Planet. Although some would still prefer to deny the science many are calling for Governments, Businesses and individuals to take action.

As a Church we too are called to be part of the solution and to that effect both congregations have recently signed up to become Eco Congregations.

Eco-Congregation Scotland is a movement of Scottish churches, of all denominations and none, who are committed to addressing environmental issues through their life and mission. The movement was founded in 2001 and became a registered charity in 2010.

As members of this movement the church agrees with the following Vision, Values and Mission and will be actively working towards playing our part.

### Our Vision

A Scotland that cares for God's creation, now and forever.

### Our Values

We care passionately for God's creation

We are a faith based movement

We are rooted in local groups of Christians

We work co-operatively with each other and with others who care about the environment

We encourage transformational change at individual, community and national levels

### Our Mission

In prayer, worship and conversation we discover what it means to care for God's creation

We put that care into action individually, locally, nationally and globally, desiring to live justly in a transformed world

We commit ourselves to campaigning on urgent threats to the web of life in our vulnerable world



## BIBLE 2020 A Global Bible Reading Initiative

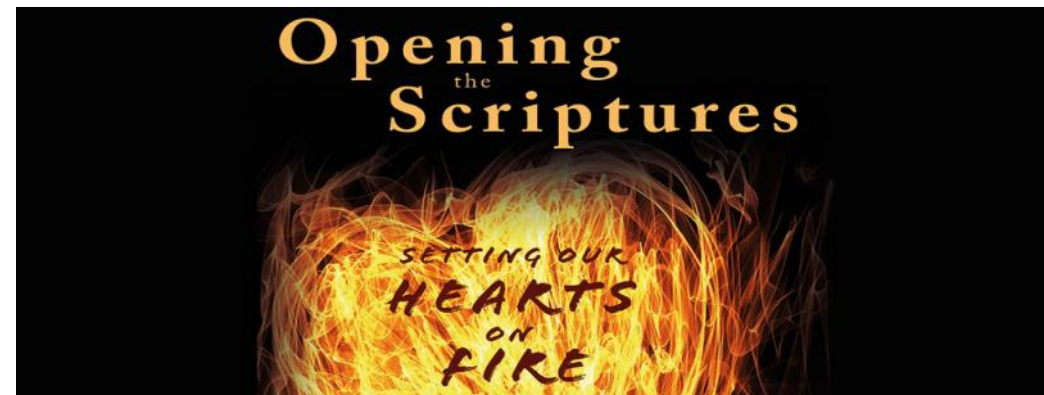
The Bible Society, Scripture Union and a number of other agencies are encouraging us to join with people from around the Globe in reading the Book which should be at the heart of our everyday reading.

Each day you are asked to read a short passage of

Scripture and if you like to record yourself and post the video to a world wide wall of videos through downloading the Bible2020 App from you App Store.

If you are not that tech savvy do get in touch and we can provide you with a Reading list giving you all the readings and themes for the year so you to can join in. So get in touch with Peter or find out more at:

[bible2020.org](http://bible2020.org)



## LENT STUDY 2020

During Lent we encourage you to take time out and to meet with other people from the Church to explore and study together. This year we are asking the question "What passage of Scripture sets your heart on fire?"

On Easter day it is recorded that two disciples were travelling together when they were joined by another travel who was unknown to them but he turned out to be Jesus. They then said "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

So let us open the scriptures and journey together with one another. Study groups run on a Monday and Tuesday Night throughout Lent a day time group may be formed if there is enough interest shown. Please do let Andrew (Monday's), Fiona (Tuesday's) or Peter know if you would like to be involved in this years Lent Study Groups.

## Pastoral Ministry of the Church

There are a few different metaphors we can use to describe “the church” it is a building of living people, supporting one another or it can be described as a body with many different parts where all are needed.

Although the overall management and running of the church for us is vested in the Rector, supported by the Vestry and Clergy Team, when it comes to Pastoral Ministry we find that it starts with you and me. Every member has a responsibility to care for the other as we are encouraged to do by Jesus. So it involves all of us working together, to care for one another.

Pastoral Ministry at its heart is about loving one another, caring for each other in Jesus name and letting each other know when there are times of need or concerns.



Within our church we are also supported by a number of Lay people who are trained and being trained as Lay Pastoral Ministers. At St Leonard's we have JOY, Tom, Alison, Ruth, Chris, Neil and Beena and at St Mary's: NOREEN, David, Margaret, Cheryl, John, Bill and Pat.

These people will be visiting formally on behalf of the church when an expressed need is identified. Joy Mooney and Noreen Grieve act as the Pastoral Group Coordinators for each church and should be contacted if you have or know of a Pastoral need. They work alongside and communicate with the Rector and Clergy Team about the Pastoral needs of the congregation. To keep a more coordinated overview of our Pastoral Visiting the Rector and Clergy Team are also being asked to contact Joy and Noreen. Where there are emergencies and special requests the Rector or another Clergy person will of course visit when notified or are invited to attend.

## WhatsApp Prayer Group

A few people in the church have started to share prayer requests through using WhatsApp. This gives them a private and secure way of sharing prayer requests and updates. If you are committed to praying for others in the life of the churches or wish to add a prayer request please contact Fiona Harris at the Church Office.



## Link Book Report

Our last book was the novel.

### *The House by the Loch by Kirsty Wark.*

Altogether a book we would highly recommend.

Walter Macmillan is bewitched by the clever and glamorous Jean Thompson (Walter and Jean are the two main characters) and he can't believe his luck when she agrees to marry him and neither can Jean.



For Jean, Walter represents a steady and loving man who can perhaps quieten the demons inside her. Yet their home on remote Loch Doon soon becomes a prison for Jean and neither a young family nor Walter's care can save her.

Many years later Walter is with his adult children and grandchildren on the shores of Loch Doon where the family has been holidaying for two generations. But the shadows of the past will come to haunt them and will affect all their lives during one fateful weekend.

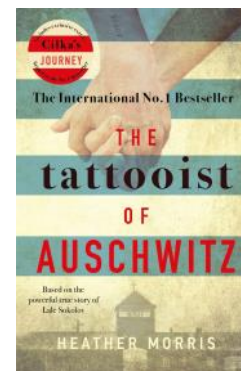
Kirsty Wark, Journalist, Broadcaster and Writer was inspired by childhood memories of her family particularly her father. This was a very enjoyable account of a family forced to come to terms with each other and learning to adapt themselves, whilst experiencing tragic loss and bereavement.

Kirsty Wark's debut novel *The Legacy of Elizabeth Pringle* is also worth read!!!



Our next book is a novel "*The Tattooist of Auschwitz*" by Heather Morris which is based on a true story of survival and love in a concentration camp.

More details of when we will meet in next month's Link until then enjoy the read or speak to me about the group.



John A. Fleming  
TSSF

**Remember too to:** hold the Pastoral Group members and the work of Scripture Union and our Mission Partners David and Shelly Stokes in your prayers. The current Newsletter from the Stokes' can be found in Church giving you up to date news on what to pray for.

### Prayers Answered

Give thanks for prayers answered and for all the good things that have happened for you, your family, friends and neighbours.

**This space is for you to write your own prayers and concerns**

### Serenity Prayer

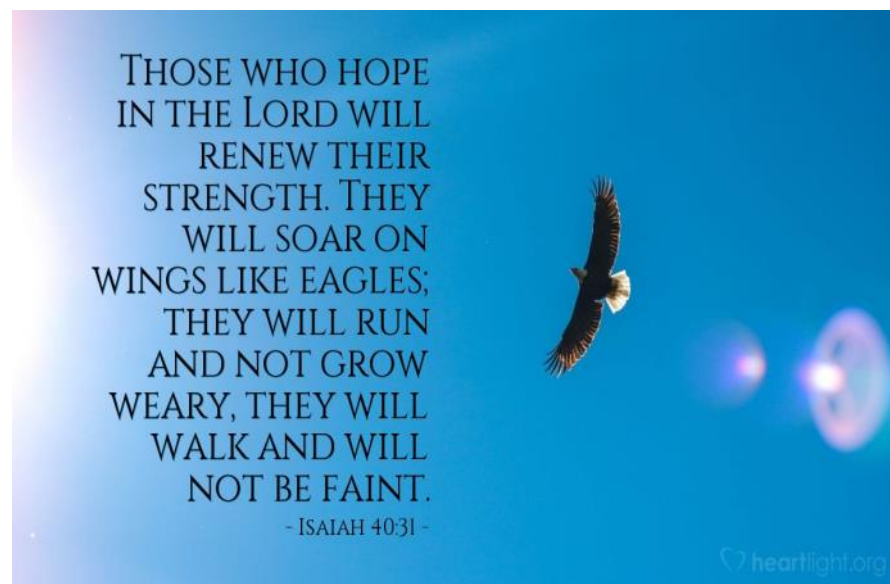
God grant me the serenity  
to accept the things I cannot change;  
courage to change the things I can;  
and wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time; enjoying one moment at a time;  
accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;  
taking, as He did, this sinful world  
as it is, not as I would have it;  
trusting that He will make all things right  
if I surrender to His Will;  
that I may be reasonably happy in this life  
and supremely happy with Him forever in the next.  
Amen.

- Reinhold Niebuhr (1892-1971)

*Please remember that you can also add your prayer requests to the Prayer Diary at St Mary's or add them to the Prayer Tree at St Leonard's. Please also update us on answered prayer as we believe God is at work through us.*

# St Leonard's and St Mary's Prayer Diary February 2020



**P** - Pause, be still, rest

**R** - Rejoice, remember what is good and give thanks

**A** - Ask, intercede for others and yourself

**Y** - Yield and say Yes to God's will to be done

## Praying for and with St Leonard's and St Mary's

There are a wide variety of people and activities involved in the life of our two churches and in this Month's Prayer Diary we want to focus in on a number of these groups and remember and uphold them in our prayers. Please take a moment each day to hold the church and its people in prayer.

### Monday's

We pray for the Monday Home Group and for all who attend that they would deepen their knowledge of God and the Bible as well as continue to support one another in fellowship and prayer. This group is hosted by Andrew Watt and we give thanks for Andrew's open house and his love of God's word and desire to encourage others to have a personal relationship with Jesus. Andrew also serves as the Vestry Secretary at St Mary's

### Tuesday's

We pray for the Tuesday Home Group as they travel around members houses would always find a warm welcome. We pray for them in their discussions to know God more and to deepen the desire within them to share their faith with other. We Pray for Vicki Clark and Fiona Harris who co-ordinate this group giving thanks for their friendship and the support they give to others as they journey together in faith.

### Wednesday's

We pray for the Midweek Communion Service which meets at 10am most Wednesday mornings. We pray that this group would continue to be an oasis of worship, reflection and fellowship for all who attend. We give thanks for Shan and Roger who offer to host the group over the winter months before we return to St Leonard's in March

We Pray for the Fellowship Group who meet on a Wednesday evening at St Mary's. We give thanks for the fun and laughter of the past year and the various guest speakers and activities enjoyed. We pray that this group would continue to be a place of fruitful friendship, and fun for all. We give thanks for Anne MacKay for leading this group and ask that she would be encouraged and equipped for the various tasks that she does for the church.

We pray too for St Leonard's Vestry who often meet on the 2nd Wednesday Evening of the Month. Pray with thanks giving for those who serve as Vestry members and ask that they would have wisdom, boldness and vision in their decision making in the year ahead.

### Thursday's

We pray for those involved with the Monthly Bake Stall at the Pitcairn Centre in Bonnyrigg offering many a delicious and tasty treat while raising funds for the new Community Hall at St Leonard's.

We pray too for the Knitting Group as they meet with the residents of the Newbyres

Nursing Home. We give thanks for how their various knitted gifts have touched those in their time of need from Premature Babies, to Dementia Suffers or Child who have been involved in trauma . We pray that this group would both touch the residents and those who receive the knitted goods with God's love in a practical way.

We pray for the Ministry Team: for Elizabeth, Jennie, Jacqui, Mike, Bill and Peter. As a Team they meet together often on a Thursday to pray fro the work of the churches and to discuss the practical and pastoral needs of the church. They give thanks for the 5 Voices course that has enabled them to deepen their understanding of Team work. Pray that we might be open to God and his will for the future.

### Friday's

We pray with thanks giving for all those who will be involved in getting the church ready for the Sunday Services. For those on cleaning duty or responsible for flower displays. We pray to for those who will be leading in worship or assisting with readings and prayers or helping with the administration of the Chalice. We pray to for our musicians and those with responsibility to preach and preside at these services. Pray that God would touch each one and through them touch us with his presence and love.

We pray for the Book Club and the opportunity it gives people to meet together and enjoy time together discussing the high's and lows of the latest plot line. We give thanks for John Fleming who co-ordinates this Club and warmly welcomes all who come.

### Saturday's

Pray for Coffee at Mary's which takes place on the 1st Saturday of each month. Giving thanks for this time of fellowship. We pray that those who may see the open door may come in and join with us and through this simple act be welcomed to step closer to God and his church.

We pray for Messy Church which runs both on the last Saturday of each month at St Mary's as well as on the Last Wednesday of the Month at St Leonard's. We give thanks for all who are involved for those who work behind the scene providing food or holding Messy Church in prayer. We Pray for those involved with leading the crafts or other activities and that we would be able to share in some small way our faith with those who come. Pray for all who attend that it would indeed be a Church Service like no other as we explore each theme month by month in a creative way.

### Sunday

Do pray for the Sunday Services that these would be meaningful and relevant and that through them people would be touched by God's presence.

Pray for St Mary's Vestry who meet on the 2nd Sunday of each month. We give thanks for all who serve the Church in this way and pray that they would know and follow God's will and vision for the church in this year.