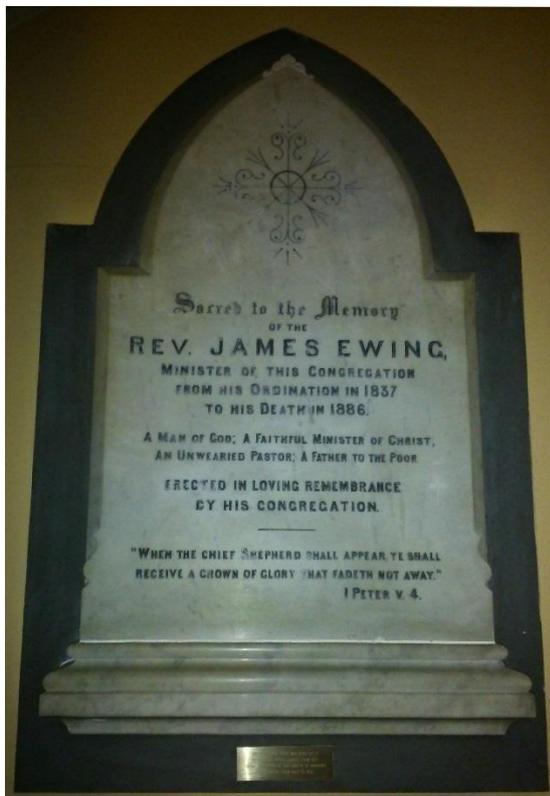


Five into One – Meadowside Church



The origins of the Meadowside congregation date from the Disruption of 1843, when the Rev. James Ewing, the young minister of St. Andrew's Church (The Trades' Kirk) broke away with most of the members to form St. Andrew's Free Church, meeting in Shaw's Mill in King Street until their own new building at the corner of Bell Street and Meadowside was opened in 1845. Mr Ewing served the congregation until his sudden death in 1886.

He was a prominent and respected member of the Dundee clergy and a kenspeckle figure, well-known in the city. His son [Alfred](#) became the first Professor of Engineering in the newly founded University College in 1882 and later Principal of Edinburgh University. Two other sons followed in their father's footsteps, Robert becoming an Anglican priest and Canon of Salisbury; and John, after becoming the first minister of Ogilvie Church, later serving the Church in Australia. Not to be outdone, his daughter Edith married his

successor at St. Andrew's, the Rev. Charles Shaw. Meanwhile mission work in the Wellgate and Stobswell areas led to the establishment of Wellgate (St. Stephen's) Church in 1858 and Ogilvie Church in 1876.

On the retirement of Mr Shaw in 1915, the charge was united with Chapelshade United Free Church, the Bell Street/Meadowside building being retained for worship and the nearby Chapelshade premises being sold to a firm of mill-furnishers.



The Rev. James Cosh assumed responsibility for the united charge and provided another long and distinguished ministry of 39 years. At the Union of the Churches in 1929, the name of the congregation was changed to St. George's. Shortly before Dr. Cosh's retirement, he received the honorary degree of DD from St. Andrew's University. His retirement provided an opportunity for

readjustment and union with Albert Square Church.

The Rev. John B. Coupar was called to the united charge in 1956. Again, the original St. Andrew's building was retained, and the former Albert Square Church was converted to provide much needed hall accommodation. In 1958, the somewhat cumbersome name "Albert Square - St. George's" was changed to the neater and more apposite "Meadowside". Under Mr Coupar's leadership, the united congregation prospered. The church was completely redecorated, and many structural improvements, including the installation of modern electronic organ equipment were undertaken.

In 1973, the former Euclid Crescent Church property was acquired in exchange for the old Meadow Street Hall, which was demolished in the course of the new Wellgate development. Euclid Crescent was a United Original Secession a Church, owing it's origin to the Anti-burgher breakaway in 1808. After various vicissitudes it joined the Church of Scotland in 1956. Dwindling membership necessitated its dissolution in 1968. The building was reconstructed after 1973 to provide further useful hall accommodation for Meadowside, its close proximity making it especially suitable for Sunday School purposes.

The retiral of Mr Coupar in 1980 led to the Union with St. Paul's in the following year.

[Location on Google Maps](#)