



Kilbarchan Parish Church

Your local church magazine

Dear Friends,

Do you like quizzes? Do you like puzzles? What is your favourite?
Are you a fan of the TV shows The Chase or Pointless?
Are you a whizz at Sudoku, Crosswords and Alastair's word searches.
For a while CandyCrush was a favourite but more recently I have discovered World of Solitaire.

There are over 50 different games of Solitaire, or Patience as we used to call it. And you play and you play and you play. And the computer counts up your stats. It can tell you your fastest time and the percentage of times you 'win'. You can compare your stats to everyone in the online world playing the game on World of Solitaire.

It's great. It's great until the next new thing comes along. Remember the Rubic cube - the plastic puzzle made up of little squares of different colours that could be moved in different directions. The object was to finish with all the reds on one side and all the blues on another, the yellows on another and so on.

It can be done. I never managed it. I could get one side and then nearly two but I couldn't finish the puzzle. Of course, once you can do it there are folks who try to do it in the least amount of time or least amount of moves.

But I've never been able to do it.

Occasionally I had a bad thought, it happens, hard to believe I know, but it happens. What if I sabotage it?

What if I peeled off just one little red square and put a blue one or a green one in its place. People could click the cube forever and get more and more frustrated as they could never complete it.

And then they would know my frustration.

Sometimes we can oversimplify problems. Sometimes we can oversimplify solutions.

Sometimes we assume that one answer is right and therefore another answer is wrong. OK, sometimes that does happen, spare a thought for all those kids sitting Nat 5's and Highers these past few weeks.

Unfortunately, many problems don't have easy solutions. Most difficulties involve people, and when people are involved often there is no one solution that is right for everyone. No one size fits all.

I recently finished a book by Barbara Kingsolver called the Poisonwood Bible. It tells the story of a missionary family from America going to the Belgian Congo.

Part of the story tells of the unsuccessful attempts of the missionary, Rev Nathan Price to win over the locals. He begins by trying to encourage the locals to send their children for baptism to the nearby river. He wonders why they are extremely reluctant. Local knowledge – crocodiles.

There are language issues between the Rev and the African people. There is a clash between the two cultures and the difference in the native Congolese and English creates a barrier for communication when understanding various things.

The book encourages us to think about how different words can mean different things—but that *both* meanings can be correct at the same time. Think about Nathan Price's favorite phrase, "Tata Jesus is *bangala!*".

Now, that phrase means two things: Father Jesus is precious and dear, and, Jesus is poisonwood. We're pretty sure that Nathan doesn't want to be saying "Jesus is poisonwood."

But to the Congolese—whose culture is practically destroyed by Westerners coming in to convert them and steal their lands' natural treasure and oppress them for kicks—Jesus probably does seem a lot like poisonwood.

As the church seeking to share God's love with all we need to constantly remind ourselves that actions speak louder than words.

Hope you have a lovely Summer.

Your friend

Stephen

FROM THE EDITOR

What a wonderful spell of weather we have had this May. I only hope it carries on over the summer and we will be able to get out and enjoy a break from routine and come back refreshed and ready to play your part in the life of Kilbarchan Parish Church.

Holidays no doubt will be on your mind and wherever you go, either home or abroad, if you do happen to visit a church and especially if you take in a service, I would love to print your thoughts on your visit.

The Autumn Issue will be out on Sunday 1 September and all items for inclusion should reach me at alastair.mackinnon@ntlworld.com by Sunday 18th August.

Have a great holiday

Alastair



PRESBYTERY PRAYTIME

Let us pray in faith and hope.

Eternal, loving God, amid the shrill cacophony of competing and often enticing ideologies that tempt and sometimes beguile us, help us to keep calm and hold on to the message of hope based on love as illustrated in the gospel of the words and deeds of Jesus.

In confusing and contradictory times, show us your way, and encourage us to Follow it over all the obstacles. Amen.

Douglas Scott - Presbytery Prayer Coordinator



KIRK SESSION REPORT

People

At the time of issuing the last Newsletter Fulton Dunn had stepped down as Session Clerk after 8 years, serving in this role in the former East Church and then in the united Parish Church. The Kirk Session has since appointed Christine Erwin and Alasdair Law as Joint Session Clerks, with Helen Robertson continuing as Assistant Session Clerk. Fulton continues to assist in a number of specific areas. We all owe a huge debt of gratitude for his tireless work, especially in dealing with the huge workload associated with the union of the two churches, bringing together two sets of records and procedures etc.

We were saddened to lose Robert Clark, who died on 19th February 2019. Robert was ordained as an elder on 3rd February 2008, serving in the former West Church

and in the united Parish Church.

June Burgess has successfully completed a Worship Leader training course and ~~for this week with a probationer at Presbytery, We look forward to October~~ more of June's participation in leading worship.

Local Church Review

In Fulton's last report for the magazine he outlined the main conclusions from the Local Church Review Report from Presbytery and indicated that the full report would be made available to the congregation. On further reflection, the Kirk Session felt it would be most appropriate for a summary of the main Action Points to be included in the Newsletter and anyone wishing to see the full report should speak to Christine or Alasdair.

The main Action Points may be summarised as follows :

Worship

- Seek to identify and train additional Worship Leaders, so that they may participate regularly in leading worship;
- Introduce regular all-age services;
- Investigate the possibility of installing an Audio-visual system within the church, including installation of an internet connection;
- Consider alternative forms of worship by examining best practice in other churches.

Service and Fellowship

- Investigate developing further links with the Trussell Trust;
- Consider other models of pastoral care by examining practice in other churches;
- Review the format of the Seniors' Outing.

Discipleship

- Offer short Christian Education courses for adults;
- Seek to empower members of the congregation who wish to become more involved but who do not wish to hold formal office;

Evangelism/Outreach

- Develop a greater presence on social media and web-based communications to provide a more visible presence within the community;
- Build on the success of 'Messy Church' to bring more people into the church family;
- Seek to build links with local secondary schools in conjunction with the West Renfrewshire Trust.

Finance/ Fabric/Ministry Team

- Run a Stewarding Programme;
- Explore the feasibility of improving access to, and facilities within, the church for those with limited mobility;
- Seek to identify members of the congregation suitable for Eldership;
- Support the Minister with Study Leave.

BEADLE DUTIES

| | |
|--------|---|
| June | Marie Alexander, Gwen Howden, Margaret Gibb |
| July | Mary Marrison, Christine Erwin, John Fleming |
| August | Willie Beattie, Ian Keith, Isabelle Robertson |



CHRISTIAN SAYINGS

- Greed is not a financial issue. It's a heart issue.
- God often showcases his power on the stage of human weakness.
- It's better to make a difference than to make a point.

INTERIM TREASURER'S REPORT

Many thanks for the beautifully inscribed glass plaque presented to me, on behalf of the congregation, at a Church Service last month following my retirement as Treasurer. I would also like to thank my good friend, Willie Beattie, for the kind words in his speech before the Minister made the presentation.



I am sure it will not be long before a new Treasurer is appointed. In the meantime I intend to keep the financial records up to date to ensure the new Treasurer does not have any backlog to encounter.

Over the last few months the new Parish Church's Bank Account has pre occupied me with the monitoring of the roughly eighty Standing Orders that went directly into the former Bank Account to ensure they are now going into the new Account. Due to Data Protection legislation, Banks are not allowed to assist in "transferring" Standing Orders from one Account to another. It is up to the Church member to complete a new Standing Order and hand it in/send to their own Bank. If you bank on line a new Standing Order can be set up using this facility. Any member having difficulty establishing a new Standing Order please do not hesitate to contact me.

Income from Offerings and Fundraising is holding up well. Expenditure has concentrated on the Church with replacement of damaged cornice and electrical work carried out; Reserves have not changed much from the end of the financial year.

Marjory Love, the new Gift Aid Convener, has completed and forwarded her first claim to HMRC for the period to 31 December 2018. A lot of paperwork has been completed, change in Bank Account as well as personnel, to reach this stage. We wish Marjory well with her new duties.

Once again thanks for your support.

Jim Moffat



We had a very successful Annual Inspection and Display on Friday 10 May when our young people showed off some of the things we do on a Friday evening during the year. The Company Section boys and girls demonstrated their Drill moves and were extremely well turned out in their uniforms. The Anchor Section also showed how good they were at maze marching along with help from the Junior Section boys. Badges and Awards were given out at the end of the Display.

ANCHOR SECTION

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Best Anchor | John Slaven |
| Promoted to Junior Section | Ben McMurray Harry McMurray Archie Douglas John Slaven |

JUNIOR SECTION

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Best Junior | Ryan McSloy |
| Promoted to Company Section | Calum Milburn |

COMPANY SECTION

| | |
|--|---|
| Cross Country Medal Winners | James Wheeler – Junior Cross Country David McNish - Senior Cross Country |
| Christian Faith Paisley and District Winning Team | Ben Cunningham Jacob Cunningham David McNish |
| Best Squad | Squad 2 (by 2 Points) |
| Best Boy | David McNish |
| Best Drilled Boy | Jacob Cunningham |

Best Senior Ben Cunningham (by one point)

Promotions Alexs Malone – Lance Corporal
Ross Carmichael – Lance Corporal
Jacob Cunningham – Corporal
David McNish – Corporal

President's Badge Jacob Cunningham
David McNish

Highlights of the Anchor Boy year was the Battalion Anchor Boy afternoons for Primary 2 and Primary 3 boys and Anchor Boy Day in Gleniffer HS where the boys were involved in doing craft work, learning new games and stories as well as meeting boys from all over Renfrewshire who attend the Boys' Brigade.

Highlight of the Junior Section year was the Giant Sleepover in the Glasgow Science Museum. The boys participated in a number of science experiments and experienced the planetarium. Hopefully we will be going back next November.

Highlight of the Company Section boys and girls was competing in the many competitions organised by Paisley and District Battalion. 1st Kilbarchan won the Christian Faith Competition and we had 2 boys, David McNish and James Wheeler who won medals in the Cross-Country Championships held in Johnstone Public Park on a fabulous Spring morning in March.

We attended the Battalion Parade which took place in Lochwinnoch at the end of April and boys and girls from all our sections took part marching through the village to Lochwinnoch Parish Church. It was another good day and the weather was kind to us. Our young people were thrilled to see so many people from

Lochwinnoch turn out to see them march to church to mark the 100th Anniversary of the 1st Lochwinnoch Company of The Boys' Brigade.

We look forward to more young people joining us in our new session starting in September. If you know anyone who would like to join The Boys' Brigade and Girls Association in Kilbarchan then encourage them to join us on a Friday evening between 7 pm and 10 pm.

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Anchor Section 8.30 pm | Primary 1, 2 and 3 | Church Hall 7 pm to |
| Junior Section 9 pm | Primary 4 to Primary 6 | Church Hall 7.30 pm to 9 pm |

Company Section
pm to 10 pm

Primary 7 to S6

Church Hall from 7.30

If you do your internet shopping with Amazon.co.uk then you can support 1st Kilbarchan Boys' Brigade by using smile.amazon.co.uk and choosing 1st Kilbarchan Boys' Brigade as your nominated charity and a small percentage of your purchases will be donated to us at no extra cost to yourself. You know it makes sense!

Thanks for your continued support.

Robert Stevenson Captain



PRESBYTERY OF GREENOCK AND PAISLEY NOTES

March and May 2019

SPEAKERS: Tribute to the late Miss Helen Smith – Moderator, Report from the Pioneer Minister – Rev Stuart Davidson. North End of Paisley; Report on Assembly Radical Action Plan – Rev Kenneth Gray and Rev Teri Peterson; Work of the Guild in 2018/19.

PRESENTATIONS: Safeguarding Certificates to Gail Abraham and Ann Craig, a number of Leading Worship Certificates were presented, including June Burgess of Kilbarchan Parish.

CONGRATULATIONS: to Rev Bill Armstrong who is celebrating 40 years in Ordained Ministry on 16th May 2019.

ELECTION of 30 Commissioners for the May 2019 General Assembly, including Rev Stephen Smith and Mrs. Ann McLeod.

VACANCY PROCEDURAL COMMITTEE: a call has been received from Glasgow Hillington Park Church to the Rev Robert Craig, Minister of Stowbrae Parish Church and Presbytery has agreed to the release of Mr. Craig. The date of his induction has been set as March 21st 2019.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

BUSINESS: Mr. Jack McHugh has been nominated as the next Moderator for the Presbytery of Greenock & Paisley from September 2019; Rev Eileen Ross, Rev Eileen Manson and Rev Peter Gill are on sick leave; Rev Philip Wallace has been appointed interim moderator at Paisley Martyrs', Rev Mhairi Breingan at Paisley Stow Brae, Mr. Jack McHugh at Langbank linked with Port Glasgow St Andrew's, Rev Owen Derrick at Greenock St Margaret's, Rev Dr Charles Cameron at Paisley Wallnuek North, Rev Ian Ramsden at Erskine, Rev May Bell at Greenock St Margaret's, Rev Alistair Shaw at Howwood and Rev Alan Birss at Paisley: Lylesland following the resignation of Rev John Murning; the Rev Jim Cowan has indicated his intention to retire on 6th July 2019; Paisley St Mark's Oldhall has adopted the Unitary Constitution; a determination has been received from the General Trustees with regard to the sale of the manses of Greenock: St Margaret's, Greenock St Ninian's, and their respective Consolidated Fabric Funds will be credited with the free proceeds of the sale; the sale of the former manse of Barrhead South & Levern and credits the respective Consolidated Fabric Funds with the free proceeds of the sale after meeting the cost of refurbishing Barrhead St Andrew's Church and Halls; Rev Alan Sorensen has stepped down as Convener of the Presbytery Plan Review Committee, temporarily the Rev Ken Gray and Rev Dr Peter McEnhill will oversee this work.

REFORM of M & M: proposals are being submitted to May's Council of Assembly to introduce a more equitable and sustainable system for funding the needs of the church; any such system should recognise the significant burdens

being placed upon congregations by the current system of allocations; some form of limit on what can be taken from congregations when they are in vacancy should be set; no increased burden should be placed on congregations without a rationalisation of the central programs and Councils of the church.

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE: the 2017 accounts of Linwood have been attested and should be forwarded to OSCR, the Presbytery Office and the Church's Stewardship and Finance Department no later than 31 March 2019; reminder congregations now have until 30th June to hold their Annual Stated Meeting; the following sums have been awarded from the 5% Discretionary Allowance to reduce the 2019 Ministries and Mission contributions of the congregations concerned: Bridge of Weir St Machar's Ranfurly £5,000, Houston and Killellan £3,000, Inverkip £6,345, Paisley St Mark's Oldhall £7,500 and Glasgow Hamilton Bardrainey £1,500.

MINISTRY: the Ministers of all Worship Leaders are responsible for their continuing Development; potential Worship Leaders should gain some experience of participation in worship before applications are made; Presbytery has nominated Mr. Dougie Adam, an Elder in Bridge of Weir: Freeland, as a candidate in training for the full time Ministry of Word and Sacrament; Mr. Adam is well known to many congregations in the Presbytery, due to his role as Youth Worker for West Renfrewshire Youth Trust.

TREASURER: the Independent Examination of the Annual Accounts of the Presbytery for the year ended 30 June 2018 (as approved by Presbytery on 11th December 2018) has been completed. The final signed accounts have been lodged at the General Treasurer's Department of the Church of Scotland and the Annual Return to OSCR has been submitted.

PROPERTY: Greenock St Margaret's congregation wish to dispose of their present manse, the Church of Scotland Insurance Services (COSIS) now say that cover is available for water damage and other risks at empty manses; any installation and upgrading of AV equipment and/or lighting at churches and halls should be notified to Presbytery and the General Trustees or CARTA before any works begin; congregations who handle and prepare food such that they fall into the category of a food business operator must take adequate preventative steps to manage the risk of illness from food allergies; a compulsory purchase order issued by Renfrewshire Council for part of the access to the glebes at Inchinnan has been accepted; the annual Presbytery Diligence Return on the Care of Ecclesiastical Properties has been completed; applications have been received by Paisley: St Columba Foxbar for renovation of their manse, Gourock: St John's - essential major repairs to their clock tower, Elderslie Kirk - refurbishment of their manse, Greenock: St Margaret's congregation to replace a flat roof and install an accessible toilet, Paisley: Wallneuk North to carry out repairs to the car park surface, financial aid for property repairs by way of grants under the Historic Environment Scotland Repair Grant Scheme is now possible; instructs the

Property Committee to obtain tenders for the 2019 quinquennial inspections for fourteen congregations.

HEALTH AND SAFETY SEMINAR: The property committee has invited Brian Auld, Assistant Secretary (Safe Buildings) at the General Trustees' Department to speak to representatives of all congregations in Presbytery at a Health & Safety seminar to be held in the Cornerstone, Bishopton, on Tuesday 2nd April 2019 at 19:00. Tea and coffee will be available prior to the seminar beginning and congregations are invited to send up to three representatives; the Health and Safety Seminar, which took place on Tuesday 2nd April 2019, attracted over 50 representatives of congregations in Presbytery and was well received.

MISSION & DISCIPLESHIP: Sessions requiring training other than for new volunteers may contact the Presbytery of Glasgow on 0141 332 6606 to access their provision; applications for the General Assembly Youth Representative should be submitted; Kirk Sessions are encouraged to complete the questionnaire outlining their existing provision for mission and discipleship; the Boys' Brigade leaflets, from their Disability Advice Network, for working with young people who have a disability, contain useful advice for all organisations; no applications have been received for the General Assembly Youth Representative; Kirk Sessions can nominate a young person as delegate to the National Youth Assembly in August 2019; Kirk Sessions are reminded to explore what opportunities exist for a fresh expression of church in their parish, as per the General Assembly 2018 remit from the Mission and Discipleship Council; all interested (elders, members, prospective partnership partners) are invited to a Mission Conference 2-4pm on the 12th May at the Cornerstone, Bishopton; safeguarding training has been progressing well within the Presbytery; the Moderator of the Church has called for all to take part in the "Thy Kingdom Come" initiative from Ascension to Pentecost (30 May - 9 June).

WORLD MISSION & ECUMENICAL RELATIONS commends "Thy Kingdom Come" Prayer Event 30th - 9th June; encourages attendance at the upcoming "Heart & Soul" event on Sunday 19 May, 2019 in Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh; commends the "Journeying Together-Empowering Teenage Mothers In Zambia" trip, 28 February-7 March 2020, and encourages members of Presbytery to make this opportunity known to congregations, especially Guilds; encourages congregations to take part in the national "Weekend of Invitation" from Friday 15 - Sunday 17 June.

PRESBYTERY PLAN REVIEW: a conference has been organised for congregations within the Paisley, Neilston and Barrhead area on 30th March at the Cornerstone, Bishopton; the committee has recommended a number of amendments to the plan relating to Paisley St Luke's and Paisley St Columba Foxbar by severing the linkage there; Paisley Lylesland and Paisley St Luke's to read that the congregations shall be united; Port Glasgow Hamilton Bardrainney

and Port Glasgow St Martin's by severing the linkage there; Langbank and Port Glasgow St Andrews by severing the linkage there ; Port Glasgow St Andrews and Port Glasgow St Martins to read that the congregations shall be united; the committee' intends to enter detailed discussions with (a) Neilston and Barrhead Bourock; (b) Paisley Glenburn and Barrhead St Andrew's towards effecting a union or linkage between them; (c) St Mark's Oldhall and Paisley Sherwood Greenlaw towards agreeing a deferred union or linkage (d) Port Glasgow Hamilton Bardrainney and (e) Langbank with a view to readjustment; It is the intention to work towards a series of unions in Paisley designed to bring the overall number of posts down to 8 for the town and to plan for no more than 6 buildings in the town.

LOCAL CHURCH REVIEW: report for Kilbarchan parish Church was distributed to all Presbyters.

SUPERINTENDENCE: the annual Inspection of Records has taken place and that the committee is satisfied as to the generally high level of record keeping.



THE GUILD

Once again the Guild has had a successful year with a good turn out of members at each meeting. Due to the generosity of our members and our annual fund raising coffee morning in September, 2018 we have been able to increase our donations to both the Church and our chosen Guild Project . A point of interest, since November 2018, donations by Guilds who pledged their support to Seema's Project. have reached the fabulous total of £21,473.73. and our members are delighted to have been part of this.



It has not been all "plain sailing" for the Guild this year, as both our Secretary and Treasurer have been ill and unable to be with us. A big "thank you" must go to the committee members who rallied round and took over additional duties. Our very best wishes go to Joan and Jean and we look forward to having them with us again in the Autumn.

The Syllabus for 2019/20 is almost complete and we look forward to giving some details in the Autumn edition.

Jan Howitt

*It is some time since we had variations of the 23 Psalm. Here are another
rd
couple for you to enjoy.*

THE LORD IS MY CHOIRMASTER

The Lord is my choirmaster, I shall never be out of step with the music.
He leads me in songs of praise and thanksgiving as I remember all His love and
goodness to me.

He causes me to hum softly as I go about my daily tasks.

He sings me a quiet lullaby to bring me rest at the close of the day.

He teaches me a restful, quiet, air to sing which brings peace to my troubled
spirit.

Sometimes as I feel God's power and majesty my soul is lifted up in a symphony
of swelling music; I sing out in joy and praise, letting myself go and losing myself
in the glorious sound of the orchestra, full of confidence, pride, happiness and
enjoyment.

But there are times when the music is silent, or strident, or unfamiliar.

At those times I look to my choirmaster to guide me and keep me on the right
note.

Then once again there will be harmony.

I shall sing happily and my song will bring me joy and inner peace,
until the day when I shall join in that heavenly chorus above.

with those I have loved and lost awhile. Amen.



ART
off the SQUARE

2019

THURSDAY 22nd AUGUST - 2pm until 9pm

FRIDAY 23rd AUGUST - 2pm until 9pm

SATURDAY 24th AUGUST - 10am until 4pm

THE 23rd
PSALM – A SPIRITUAL M.O.T.

The Lord is my Shepherd,
I shall lack nothing.

*Is the Lord my Shepherd?
Have I asked him to be my Saviour?*

He makes me lie down in green pastures,
He leads me beside quiet waters.
*Am I aware of his provision, refreshment and
restoration? Do I thank him for them?*

He guides me in the paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.
*Do I pray for God's guidance and seek it in the Bible?
And does my life reflect the glory of Jesus?*

Even though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil.
*When my journey is hard, do I fret and worry
Or look to God to deal with my fears?*

For you are with me;
Your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
*Do I accept God's discipline humbly
comforted by the fact that he disciplines
those whom he loves?*

You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.
*Am I aware that I am totally secure in Jesus,
that nothing can wrench me out of God's hand.*

You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
*Do I recognise that blessings flow from consecration?
That's not the promise of an easy life,
but is the recipe for a blessed life.*

Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life.
*Are goodness and love my companions and guides
Do I heed them and follow God's leading?*

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.
*Do I allow myself the joy of anticipating what it
Will be like to see Jesus face to face – for ever?*

Irene Howatt



Footprints

'Walk a little slower, Daddy,' said a Child so small. 'I'm following in your Footsteps and I don't want to fall.

Sometimes your steps are very fast. Sometimes they're hard to see. So walk a little slower, Daddy, For you are leading me.

Someday when I'm all grown up, You're what I want to be; Then I'll have a little child Who'll want to follow me.

And I would want to lead just right And know that I was true; So walk a little slower, Daddy, For I must follow you.'

HAPPY FATHERS DAY

16TH JUNE, 2019



HILL WALKING CLUB

The weather on Saturday 16 March was so bad that the five who turned up at the Steeple not only did not want to go to the Glentroof Forest to climb the Merrick, but did not want to walk at all! The high level April walk was changed to An Caisteal which only Eilidh, Phil and

Alasdair tackled. The summit was very icy which made for tricky climbing, but Eilidh and Phil continued on to climb Beinn a' Chroin as well. Seven low levellers were content to walk a stage of the West Highland Way from Tyndrum to Auch Glen, a relatively easy walk which would have been more pleasant if the rain had stayed off. The reward, however, was tea/coffee and bacon rolls, cakes and/or scones in the Green Welly!

On one of the best weekends of the year so far, six went to Braemar Hostel to do a variety of climbs including the daunting Munros of Cairn Toul with Angel's Peak and Devil's Point, the Corbett of Creag nan Gabhar and walks near Tomintoul. The weather and scenery were magnificent and all thoroughly enjoyed seeing Scotland at its best.

Ratagan Hostel at Kintail is the venue for the June weekend; the Munros of Binnein Mor and Binnein Beag in the Mamores (with the low level walk to Loch Eilde Mor) is planned for July 13, and for August 3 a trip to Blair Atholl for the Corbetteers to climb Beinn Mheadonach while the low levellers will (hopefully) have a pleasant day in Glen Tilt, Fingers crossed the weather will be kind!

Margaret Beattie



BENEVOLENT FUND

Due to the generosity of the congregation I have been able to gift £100 to St Vincent's hospice and Adams house.

Thanks to everyone for their kindness.

Alan Fulton

Benevolent Fund treasurer

HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

Website

There is now a Health and Safety page on the Church website, so we can keep everyone up to date with the work of the Team. We will also be able to publish all the plans and procedures as they are drawn up.

The first document to go public is the Health and Safety Policy Statement and the Health and Safety Management System mentioned in the last magazine. To see it, just go to the Health and Safety page and click on the link. Thanks to Alan Vaughn for making this possible.

Progress

Since the last article Fire Safety Risk Assessments have been finalised for the church building, the halls and the kitchen, and Fire Evacuation Plans have been drawn up.

On 7th May a member of Scottish Fire and Rescue came to the Church to audit these procedures. A few details need to be tidied up before these documents will also be put onto the website. Being a listed and historic building the Church Sanctuary lacks some of the evacuation facilities you will see in modern halls and meeting places so our emergency procedures need to take this into account, and as many people as possible need to know what to do if we need to get out in a hurry.

Making people aware of the plans started on the evening of 7th May, when the Team met with a large group of Elders and Board Members in the Church and talked them through the evacuation plan. This means that the duty Board Members who greet you at the door on a Sunday, and the Beadles, will also be able to help you out if the need arises. Of course this is not a secret, and by the time this article is printed and circulated I will have talked to the Congregation so that everyone will know what is happening.


The powers that be in the Church of Scotland also want every congregation to hold a Fire Drill at least once a year. This will not be a surprise, you will know when there is a drill. If you have not been warned of a Drill and you hear an alarm or smell smoke it will be for real, please leave the building in a calm and orderly manner, following the directions of the Elders or Board Members.

These procedures will also be communicated to external groups and bodies which use Church facilities. As we have no input or control of their actual activities then it must be the responsibility of the organisers of these groups to ensure that their

activities are managed in a safe manner, but we still have to ensure that they have a safe environment and know what to do if an emergency occurs.

Further Information

If you do not have the facility to visit the website copies of the documents and further information may be requested from myself or any member of the Team. And of course any worries or points of concern can be raised at any time.

Tony Martin  352490



FUND-RAISING NEWS

Dear Friends,

The Easter Extravaganza was not as well attended as some years, probably because it was during the school holidays. Nevertheless, the sum of £540 was raised and it was a lovely morning. There were several decorated eggs and hats, thanks to the children who took part and to the committee and helpers, also the ladies of the Stitching Group who had a lovely Easter sales table.

Regrettably, we decided to cancel the Plant Sale and Pancake Morning as it has not been possible to find a supplier on wholesale terms.

The next event, unbelievably, is "Art Off the Square" from Thursday-Saturday 22-24 August. We shall be looking for volunteers to bake the usual delicious cakes, and to help to serve the teas and coffees. There will be a list on the notice board nearer the time.

Thank you for your continued support even in small ways - e.g. collecting change, it's surprising how this mounts up.

Jenifer Pitchers-Chairperson, Irene Moffat-Treasurer, Margaret Allan, Elizabeth Anderson, Rosemary Clark, Margaret Gray, Marjory Love, Jemima McDermid, Joan MacKinnon, Helen Miller, Una Strachan and Fulton Dunn, Myra Grant and Susan MacAskill.



We were privileged to have Val Brown, from

Christian Aid's Glasgow office, take part in our service on 17th March. She gave an eloquent and inspiring talk about the work of Christian Aid, from its beginnings supporting those communities which were torn apart in the aftermath of the Second World War. Over the decades since, it has responded to emergencies, funded projects which empower local communities to transform the lives of their people and increasingly has campaigned - targeting the underlying causes of poverty and disadvantage.

Some key themes which Val touched on were :

- **Climate Change.**

Climate Change affects the poorest first, as they are least well equipped to cope with floods, droughts and other extreme weather.

Recent protests in London organised by the "Extinction Rebellion" group have brought this topic to the fore, but Christian Aid has been campaigning on this issue for many years. Its current campaign "Act for our future" urges people to lobby government for stronger Climate Change legislation, with adequate funding support.

Action is required urgently because Climate Change is responsible for the destruction of homes, which in turn can trigger the displacement of large numbers of people. Destruction of resources such as crops and infrastructure as a result of floods and fire removes the ability of communities to feed themselves. Unpredictable weather patterns mean that farmers can no longer be sure that traditional times for sowing and harvesting will be successful.

- **Financial justice.**

A major focus of Christian Aid's 2019 campaign is on Sierra Leone, one of the world's poorest countries, still struggling to eradicate Ebola. Sierra Leone needed loans from the IMF in 2014 to cope with this devastating outbreak, yet the effect of repaying the loans and interest is such that the country is unable to provide even the most basic health care facilities for its citizens, with 10 mothers dying each day in childbirth.

One outcome of the successful "Drop the Debt" campaign in 2005 was to enable Uganda to introduce free primary education for all, after its debts

Renfrewshire Foodbank
Westway, Porterfield Road
Renfrew
PA4 8DJ



Kilbarchan Parish Church
Steeple Square
Kilbarchan

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your continued support of Renfrewshire Foodbank.

2018/19 has been another very busy year. So far we have provided food for 9,358 people including 2,567 children. We could not have done this without your help. This coming year will be challenging as more and more people in our community are left without money for food while they wait at least five weeks to receive payment of the welfare benefit, Universal Credit.

Our wonderful volunteers continue to work very hard to ensure donations are collected and sorted, parcels made up and that people receive the food they need for themselves and their families and crucially, support them to get back on their feet.

Many thanks once again for everything you do to help those in our community struggling with hunger.

Your sincerely,

Elizabeth Alexander

Project Manager

Renfrewshire Foodbank

The two main items required this month are long life milk and potatoes tinned or powder. We would encourage the congregation to think especially about giving to food bank during the school holidays. The demands are greater on families as there are no school meals available during this time.

A special thank you for the great donation from the BB to the food bank recently collected at their display.

Thank you for your continued generous giving.

Graham & Jack

JUNIOR CHURCH

It's been a busy few months and as usual we have covered a variety of bible topics, some favourites like David & Goliath, Feeding the Five Thousand and Palm Sunday. The children have also been learning about the patron saints of the four countries that make up the United Kingdom and thus far they have learnt about St. David, St. Patrick and St. George.

Fiona Stewart has joined us as a helper and we have utilised her musical talent to teach the children new songs and learn more ourselves. On the craft front we have engaged in lots of fun activities such as making votive candles, collage vision of heaven, making unleavened bread, (the baking crafts are definitely a favourite with our Junior Church attendees), making Celtic crosses, growing carrot tops, bracelets for Mothers Day, so plenty of variety.

Our end of year prize giving will be in June, date yet to be confirmed, however we will let everyone know once it has been.

As summer approaches again there will be a Summer Sunday Club taking place during the months of July and August, this is informal and there are crafts, games and puzzles for the children to enjoy.

Also I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our helpers whose contribution of their time to assist us in Junior Church is invaluable, Shona and I really appreciate all that you do. We would also like to welcome our new volunteers, June Burgess, Fiona Stewart, Gordon Highet and Morag Law and we hope you all enjoy working with our wonderful children and have lots of fun in doing so.

Ros & Shona



STITCHING GROUP

The Stitching Group is now on holiday for the summer and will resume in September. We had a successful Easter Eggstravagana, raising £200. We are now thinking about Christmas! Any ideas for the stall would be welcome.



Alison McNicoll

PRAYER FOR TOURISTS

“Heavenly Father, look down upon us your humble tourist servants, who are doomed to travel this earth, taking photographs, mailing postcards, buying souvenirs and walking around in drip-dry underwear.

“We beseech you, oh Lord, to see that our plane is not hi-jacked, our luggage is not lost and our overweight baggage goes unnoticed. Protect us from surly, unscrupulous taxi drivers, avaricious porters and unlicensed English-speaking guides.

Give us this day divine guidance in the selection of our hotels, that we may find our reservations honoured, our rooms made up and the hot water running from the correct tap if at all. We pray that the telephone works, that the operator speaks our tongue and that there is no wanting from our children which would force us to cancel the rest of our trip.

Lead us, dear Lord, to good, inexpensive restaurants where the food is superb, the waiters friendly and the wine included in the price of the meal. Give us the wisdom to tip correctly in currencies we do not understand, forgive us for undertipping out of ignorance and over-tipping out of fear. Make the natives’ love of us for what we are and not for what they can screw out of us.

Grant us the strength to visit the museums, cathedrals, palaces and castles listed as “musts” in the guidebooks. And if per chance we skip a historic monument to take a nap after lunch, have mercy on us for our flesh is weak.”

For husbands only.

“Dear God, keep our wives from shopping sprees and protect them from bargains which they neither need or can afford, lead them not into temptation for they know not what they do.”

For wives only.

“Almighty Father, keep our husbands from looking at foreign women and comparing them with us, save them from making fools of themselves in cafes and nightclubs. Above all, please do not forgive them their trespasses for they know exactly what they do.”

Together.

“And when our voyage is over and we return to our loved ones, grant us the favour of finding a willing audience for our movies and a sympathetic ear for our stories so that our lives as tourists shall not have been in vain.

Amen.”

MESSY CHURCH

We ran two Messy church sessions since our spring magazine with about fifty people attending each one. In March, our crafts and activities theme was Mothers day, celebrating all the "mums" in our lives who care for, teach and nurture us. We then shared a meal together of the favourite hot dogs, pasta, fruit and veg.



Our May session was a games and picnic fun day. We had hoped to be outside but the wet weather meant we held it in the hall. The rain failed to dampen our spirits and the hall was soon buzzing with happy families going round the various games and activities provided. There was something for everyone with a quiet corner teddy bears picnic, fishing game, bean bag challenge, obstacle course, bead craft, archery, egg and spoon race and parachute games. Did you see "Joe" on Lillias day. He was the Messy Church entry in the Lillias Day scarecrow challenge, the children loved putting the colours on his coat and the end result has amazed us all. We then shared our picnic finishing of with an ice cream .

The next messy church will be in September when we look forward to seeing all our "messy" friends again. A warm welcome is extended to any families for fun and fellowship, come along and see what you're missing.

A final word of thanks to the Messy team who make it all happen. A few ordinary people who create an extraordinary experience. Thank you

Margaret Gibb

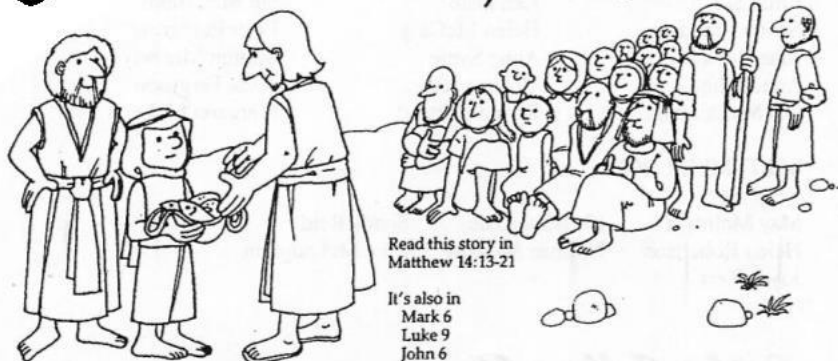


We were saddened in May to learn of the death of Margaret Dick. A former resident of Kilbarchan, a member of Kilbarchan East Church and founder in 1968 of the Young Women's group where the Mums had talks on a variety of topics while the children attended the Tufty Club, which taught them road safety – and they loved it!

Our sympathies are extended to her family; husband Bob and children Graeme, Ann and John now living in Norway and Ayrshire.

Willie Beattie

Feeding the 5,000



Read this story in
Matthew 14:13-21

It's also in
Mark 6
Luke 9
John 6

Jesus makes a lot out of a little given to him

Can you fit these words
into the boxes?

3 LETTERS

BOY
SEA
TWO

5 LETTERS

BREAD
GRASS

7 LETTERS

BASKETS
GALILEE

4 LETTERS

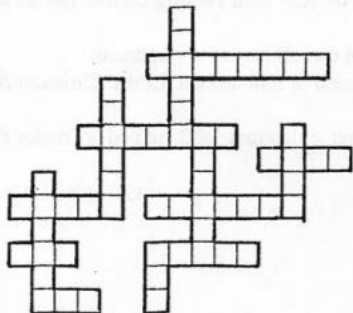
FISH
FIVE

6 LETTERS

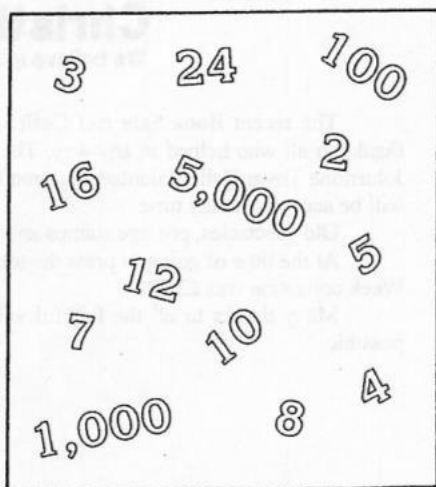
CROWDS
LOAVES
PEOPLE
TWELVE

8 LETTERS

MOUNTAIN



Put a circle around the numbers
which are in the story



PARISH REGISTER



DEATHS

'In my Father's house there are many mansions'

| | |
|------------|--|
| 15/02/2019 | Frances McIntosh – Elderslie, as Interim Moderator |
| 17/02/2019 | Allan Burns |
| 21/02/2019 | Bill McSkimming |
| 07/03/2019 | Billy Beveridge – Elderslie, as Interim Moderator |
| 08/03/2019 | Ryan Sallows - Johnstone |
| 12/03/2019 | Jimmy Stoddart |
| 12/03/2019 | Audrey McFarlane - Johnstone |
| 24/03/2019 | Kerr Wilson - Largs |
| 12/04/2019 | Margaret Lochrie – Elderslie, as Interim Moderator |
| 29/04/2019 | Pamela McGregor – Fairlie |

BAPTISM

'Suffer little children to come unto me'

| | |
|------------|--|
| 26/05/2019 | Marcus James Havlin, son of Brian and Lynsey |
| 02/06/2019 | Robert Adam Al Hosni Booth son of Robert and Aliya |

ROLL

The Roll of Kilbarchan Parish Church now stands at 414 and 19 Adherants.



Many thanks for the flowers, cards and e-mails received while I was in hospital and then at home. Also to Stephen for his visits. Your best wishes and support has been greatly appreciated by both myself and Alastair.

Joan MacKinnon

USEFUL CHURCH CONTACTS

Minister - Rev Stephen Smith

Joint Session Clerk - Mrs Christine Erwin

Joint Session Clerk - Mr Alasdair Law

Ass. Session Clerk - Miss Helen Robertson

Treasurer - Position Vacant

Clerk to Congregational Board - Mrs Gwen Howden

WORSHIP PROGRAMME

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Sunday 2 nd June | 11.00am | Morning Worship Sacrament of Baptism |
| Sunday 9 th June | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| Sunday 16 th June | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| Sunday 23 rd June | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| Sunday 30 th June | 11.00am 2.00pm | Sacrament of the Lord's Supper Sacrament of the Lord's Supper |
| Sunday 7 th July | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| Sunday 14 th July | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| Sunday 21 st July | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| Sunday 28 th July | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| Sunday 4 th August | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| Sunday 11 th August | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| Sunday 18 th August | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| Sunday 25 th August | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| Sunday 1 st September | 11.00am | Morning Worship |

