



Kilbarchan Parish Church

Your local church magazine

Dear Friends,

“**Elvis has left the building**” is a phrase that was often used by public address announcers at the conclusion of Elvis Presley concerts. It was used to disperse audiences who lingered in hopes of an encore. It has since become a catchphrase and punchline.

Recently I saw a poster that proclaimed, ‘The church has left the building’. It was cleverly printed to look like a post it note that had been taped to a church door.

Not only was it quirky but a profound reminder of who and what the church is. We have just begun our Raise the Roof capital campaign to provide essential maintenance for Kilbarchan Parish Church building. It is important to provide beautiful wind and watertight structures as places of worship. But as awe inspiring as many are, they are not the church.

Consider the differences between these sentences: I go to church and I am the church.

The Confession of 1967, a confession of faith from the Presbyterian Church USA states it this way:

The church gathers to praise God, to hear God’s word for humankind. The church disperses to serve God wherever its members are, at work or play, in private or in the life of society.

In other words church doesn’t stop at 12 o clock on a Sunday, we simply become church in many places, disperses throughout the community and society.

It was Archbishop William Temple who famously coined the phrase,

‘The Church exists for the benefit of those who are not its members.’

We in Kilbarchan Parish Church serve in mission and outreach wherever we are throughout the week.

Perhaps on a Sunday morning after worship as we lock the door we should stick a poster to the door, ‘The Church is not here!’ We have left this building and gone out into the world.

At all times we are called to listen and look for God’s presence in the world. Rather than simply attract people to a church building we should adopt a missional approach. I encourage you to continue coming and sharing in worship in order to leave the building and engage in shared ministry in the community.

We don’t go to church; we are the church.

O Pentecost the winds of the Holy Spirit blew those early followers of Jesus from their upper room into all the world. Where might God’s Holy Spirit be blowing us to share good news?

Your friend

Stephen

FROM THE EDITOR



Welcome to this, the second issue of the Kilbarchan Parish Church Magazine. There has been a good response regarding a possible name for it but none have ‘ticked the box’ so until then we will continue with the current masthead. I do hope you found the magazine informative with all that is going on and all that is going to happen in the future. I hope that as well as keeping you up to date with the happenings there will be some lighter items to raise a smile or two.

Many thanks to all those who contributed so promptly for this issue. It is always appreciated when items come in early and in an easy format for me to use.

The next issue will be in September and all items for it should reach me by Sunday 20

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August.

Alastair MacKinnon - Editor

alastair.mackinnon@ntlworld.com

ISHBEL CHALLENGER – An Appreciation

Mrs. Ishbel Challenger, an Elder in the former Kilbarchan West Church passed away peacefully on 23rd March, 2016 aged 83 years. As well as her duties as an Elder she was very much involved in Church activities. She was a long serving member of the Church Choir, both Secretary and President of the Guild and a member of the Pastoral Care Team. Ishbel also assisted the Treasurer by recording in a register the F.W.O. offerings of the members of Kilbarchan West Church. For many years she also typed the Kirk Session minutes for the Session Clerk.

Outside the Church she was a member of the Trefoil Guild. She was also a keen curler and a member of Brookfield Bowling Club and won a number of competitions in the District. She was also a member of a small group who went out entertaining local Guilds, Pensioners' Clubs etc. until failing health curtailed many of her activities.

She was widowed at a relatively early age and is survived by her son Douglas and his family who live in Portland, Oregon, U.S.A. and daughter Susan and husband Sean who live in the village.

She will be sadly missed by her family and wide circle of friends she made since she and her husband set up home in Kilbarchan nearly 40 years ago.

John Connell

FAITH

Faith is knocking at your door. Please open it with care.
She comes to you with love and hope within her heart, a prayer.
Faith will take you by the hand and lead you through life 's way
along a path of verdant dreams, where cherished memories play.
Faith will share your troubled mind, your hopes, your joys, your fears.
She will whisper softer words and soothe away your tears.
Faith will greet you with a smile and comfort you in pain,
so you will walk among the kings, strong in spiritual gain.
Faith will clasp you in her arms and hold you to her heart,
and She will still the sands of time that we may never part.

KIRK SESSION REPORT

At the first formal Communion of Kilbarchan Parish Church a total of 162 members, adherents and visitors received communion. The offering for the church benevolent fund was £223.98.

At the last Kirk Session meeting it was agreed that the Church would open on a Tuesday afternoon during the months of June, July and August and Jenifer Pitchers will arrange a rota.

This year the Senior Members Outing organised by Graham McKay and Neil Chittick, will take place on Saturday 3 September to Dunblane.

A number of groups/committees have been set up to look at everything from buildings to grant funding to young church and much more. We are very fortunate in the people who give their time so freely and work tirelessly for the church in Kilbarchan. We do still need volunteers to become involved in different aspects of the church. Please speak to me if you feel that you can help in any way.

Session agreed to the following regarding church properties:-

- ☐☐ To set up a Sub Committee that will be given full powers to deal with the sale of the East Manse and purchase of a new manse. The title of the new manse will be held by the General Trustees.
- ☐☐ To set up a Sub Committee that will be given full powers to deal with the sale and marketing of the West Church and Hall. The sale will be dealt with by the Law Department of the Church of Scotland.

A congregational meeting was arranged to decide whether the titles should be held locally or by the General Trustees in Edinburgh. The meeting was held after the service on Sunday 15

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May 2016 at which the congregation voted by a majority to transfer the titles to the General Trustees. At the same meeting the congregation, by a majority vote, agreed to sell the former East Church Manse. We have since been successful in purchasing a new manse. The property is a relatively new build, in very good condition, at 41 Shuttle Street Kilbarchan.

Our offer is subject to survey. The former East Church Manse will be going on the market soon.

Progress is being made and arrangements have been agreed to relocate items such as pianos, clavinos and furniture from the former West Church. The following was approved by Session.

- ▮▮ All war memorials to be installed in Kilbarchan Parish Church vestibule.
- ▮▮ Four brass plaques from former West to be installed in pairs between the rear and second from rear windows at the tops of the stairs.
- ▮▮ Four stained glass windows from the original Parish Church, now in the former West church office to be safely framed and located in Kilbarchan Parish Church.
- ▮▮ Former West church communion table and three central chairs related to communion table to go to Kilbarchan Parish Church.

PRESBYTERY PRAYTIME



Here is a prayer for togetherness and solidarity.

Lord, bless us.

Make us thankful, always ready to praise you as long as we live. May we actively use all the good gifts and talents that you give us to foster your work of creation.

Lord, bless us,

And send us out to help, to heal, to encourage, to reconcile and to share our lives with all, as you share your body and blood, your all, for all.

Amen.

(from Douglas Scott, presbytery prayer coordinator)

TREASURER'S REPORT

The last few months have been hectic with a number of Committees meeting frequently on a range of subjects covering all aspects of Church work from Worship to property issues and the financing of the priority work in the Parish Church together with the security and care of the former West Church Buildings until disposal. To satisfy the Church of Scotland Insurance Company and the General Trustees in 121 George Street (Titles of the former West Parish Church are vested with the Trustees in Edinburgh) a tremendous amount of work has taken place moving combustible material out of the property together with relocating ecclesiastical furniture etc to the Parish Church and disposal of much more by returning donated items, accepting a donation for furniture etc. and recycling .

The Ministry and Mission contribution will be the most significant part of the Parish Church's revenue expenditure and initially, for this year, was calculated at roughly £82,000. After Appeal this figure has been reduced to £67,000 due to the fact that the original calculation was based on the average of the total of both Churches' annual income over the last three years. Over the last four months this simply has not materialised. The Ministry and Mission contributions from all Churches in Scotland are utilised for the wider work of the Church including paying Ministers' salaries and all on costs, upkeep of Care Homes etc.

The reduced figure is still a huge challenge and I am aware of the many Fundraising events and Appeals that are ongoing in the Church but if any member is in a position to increase their Offering, please do so. Increasing your Offering by 25% through Gift Aid is now easy if you are paying income tax. Contact Richard Pitchers (703786) or myself for more information. If you wish to contribute by way of Standing Order via the Bank please contact Richard or myself.

To those Members who have redirected their Standing Orders to the Parish Bank Account -Thank You! The former West Parish Church Bank Account will be closed shortly. A number of Members' Standing Orders are still going through the former West Parish Church Bank Account. A letter will be sent to these Members thanking them for their continued support and requesting them to notify their Bank and change their Standing Order to the Parish Church Bank Account.

The capital sum from the proceeds of the sale of the Manse of the former West Parish Church about a year ago is currently invested and once a "new" Manse has been purchased (by the time the Magazine has been printed this should be accomplished) and the former East Church Manse has been sold we can utilise the

balance on much needed fabric work including a new roof. With the titles of the Parish Church and Halls now vested with the General Trustees the way has been cleared for access to the balance in this Fund and also to apply for a grant to them if necessary for the urgent work required.

In terms of the programme of works for the Parish Church and Halls a Committee has been established to apply for grants to assist in financing this work. An extensive data base of grant providers is in place and already a number have been approached. In fact, by the end of June we should know if we have been successful with a grant application to help in financing a new roof. A wind and watertight Church must be the first priority.

The launch of the Roof Fund Appeal was a great success as were the Easter Eggstravaganza and the Produce Sunday morning in the Hall after the Service. With the amount of planning have taken place the Plant and Pancake morning and Lilies Day (hopefully) should also be successful. Please support as many fundraising events as possible.

Thank you for your continued support.

Jim Moffat



PRESBYTERY PATTTER –

Snippets from recent meetings of Greenock and Paisley Presbytery

At the meeting in April the Very Rev Dr Lorna Hood led the valedictory tribute to the late Sandy McDonald who passed away on 17th March 2016.

The application made by the Rev Alistair Cherry, a previous Clerk to the Presbytery, for transfer of his membership from the Presbytery of England to this Presbytery was given approval.

The Very Rev Dr Lorna Hood has indicated she intends to retire from Renfrew North on the 2nd October 2016. Rev Alistair Shaw has been appointed as Interim Moderator at Renfrew North as of the 10th May 2016.

Paisley St James's will have their final service on the 15th May 2016 and the agreed dissolution of the congregation will take place on the 31st May 2016.

Approval in principle to extensive repairs and improvements to the Kilbarchan church and hall amounting to £341,113, inclusive of VAT, fees and contingencies has been approved, CARTA having already been consulted on the proposals. In addition to these repairs and improvements, approves the intended sale of the former West church and hall, as directed by the General Trustees.

An application from the Kilbarchan congregation for a short-term loan of £125,000 to meet a potential shortfall in the purchase of a new manse within the parish boundary has been approved; and the presbytery has given their approval on the choice of accommodation at 41 Shuttle Street, Kilbarchan.

Encourages presbyters to pray for the two congregations of this Presbytery (Paisley: Sherwood Greenlaw, and Linwood), which have been accepted for the Path of Renewal Pilot Scheme, and for its Co-ordinator, Rev Liz Crumlish.

Encourages members and congregations to pray for the Moderator Elect's focus on 'People of the Way', with special emphasis on the homeless and encouraging people into the ministry.

Commends the Learn publication "Learning Disabilities: Creating Communities of Belonging" to Kirk Sessions and congregations for discussion, action and further study. **"Top Tips for Churches: Welcoming People with Learning**

Disabilities" as produced by the Church of Scotland Learning Disabilities Working Group is available for the attention of Kirk Sessions and congregations.

Gratitude was expressed for the support given by churches within the Presbytery to the World Mission Council's challenge to raise funds to support the 'Let's build a house' appeal for victims of last year's earthquake in Nepal.

The current Presbytery Plan for Bridge of Weir: St Machars Ranfurly Church has been suspended; the committee is to draw up a Basis of Adjustment indicating that St Machars Ranfurly Church will be designated a Reviewable Charge in terms of the plan. The Basis of Adjustment will include a clear provision that the next Minister will be inducted for a period of not less than seven years before the review is undertaken; for the avoidance of doubt, one possible result of any future review will be a continuation of the ministerial tenure there.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Abraham gave up city life and went wandering in the desert in obedience to God.

Jonah was prepared to look foolish for God.

Moses gave up his life as a prince to lead a tribe of runaway slaves.

Ruth left her home.

Jeremiah gave up his peace of mind and wept night and day for an unrepentable people.

Amos gave up a quiet life in the country to warn the people of the judgement of God.

Peter gave up a life he enjoyed to follow Jesus.

James and **John** gave up a profitable business - for their father owned many boats.

The widow at the temple gave all she had.

Joseph gave up his tomb - so that Jesus could have a decent burial.

Stephen gave his life for Jesus.

Barnabas gave his lands and estates to the church.

Thomas gave up his doubts.

Mary gave up her son.

Jesus gave up his life.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

AOTEAROA INCIDENTS

Aotearoa (the land of the long white cloud) is the Maori name for New Zealand. I would like to tell all of you about an intriguing little series of incidents that happened to me while Margaret and I were out there, visiting our son, Alan, our daughter-in-law, Celine, and two lovely, lively, granddaughters.

It was the second Sunday morning, and we decided to go to church. However while Margaret favoured the “little white church” she had talked about, and which we had gone to the previous Sunday, I wanted to go to “St Peter’s Presbyterian”, partly because it’s service would be more familiar to me, and partly because Celine and the wee ones had been to something which that church ran called “mainly music” and was in the nature of a mother and toddlers group. Margaret was firm for the “little white church” and it seemed daft that we should go to, two different churches. So I swithered and dithered, and dithered and swithered, but eventually set off for St Peter’s. However, due to my much swithering, I mixed up the place where we were to meet again. It was to be at the motel, but I had got it into my head that it was to be at the fountain by the shops. As any husband will know, I was heading for trouble with a capital T.

St Peter’s turned out to be a single story six-sided building which was very warm — so the minister took the service in a sports shirt. When I entered, a drummer from a praise band was thumping away and I felt “this may be too ‘happy-clappy’ for me” but it turned out that the traditional outweighed the “happy-clappy”. It was small congregation — around forty, I guess — but this allowed for exchanges between the minister and members of the congregation, during the service. (Something akin to what happens at our own midweek fellowship.) People spoke to me and I felt welcome there. There were no hymn books, the words of the hymns came up on a screen, which allowed those who felt so inclined to wave their arms in the air.

However, it was on my way in that the incidents started. A lady handed me an order of service. I found out later that her name was Annie and that, on that Sunday, she was “duty elder” (sets things up, brings in the bible, and does the intimations). She asked me if I was a visitor and I told her I was a visitor to her country. Then the conversation went something like this.

Annie said “*where from?*”

“Scotland”

“*Where in Scotland*”

“Near Paisley”

“*Oh. My great grandmother came from near Paisley, but I can’t remember the name of the town*”

“Renfrew?”

“**No**”

“Johnstone?”

“**No**”

“Elderslie, Bridge of Weir?”

“**No**”

“It’s not Kilbarchan, is it?”

“***That’s it. Kilbarchan***”.

Her great-grandmother’s name was Arabella Barr, and she came out (to New Zealand) on the “Duchess of Argyll”, when aged 13, in 18??” (I think it was fifty something)

So, half way round the world, I meet the great-granddaughter of a Habbie, and had I gone there on any other Sunday I probably would not have met her. Then during the service I heard Annie’s voice from the pew behind. “Air yew Ellen’s daid?” (Well that’s what it sounded like to me — for Ellen read Alan.) I said yes and when the intimations were read out I got a special mention, along with a lady from Taiwan and someone else from somewhere else.

I later found out that Annie ran the “mainly music” group. So, the lady with the Kilbarchan connection knew Alan’s family, and was on duty the particular Sunday that I turned up.

After the service Annie said she would run me back to Ellerslie (Where the motel, fountain, and Alan and Celine’s house were). I said it was a walk of less than 20 minutes, but she was most insistent. So I gratefully accepted her offer.

With nearly 10 minutes to spare I was about to be dropped off near what I thought was the meeting place with Margaret; only I had the wrong place. Annie pulled into a parking place about 10 yards ahead of a zebra crossing. And who should I see crossing at that zebra but Margaret. I opened the door and gave her a shout. (What an escape!)

Annie and Margaret — who also has great grandparents that were Habbies (by the name of Green) - had a good natter and then a hug. Then we went our separate ways.

As Margaret and I walked up the hill to Alan and Celine’s house, there came into my mind an American proverb. It goes something like this. “One time is “happstance”; two times is coincidence; three times means that there is something, or someone behind it.”

Alex Christine



THE GUILD

Our session finished in March with our AGM followed by tea, cake and chat. Retiring members of the committee were thanked for their work over the years and Eliza Mackenzie who had been President of the East Guild for many years and then joint Convenor for the past two years was presented with a pot plant.

Rosemary Clark will be Convenor next session.

At the moment we are making up the new syllabus and hope that there will be something to interest everyone. More will be revealed in the September magazine. We intend to hold a Coffee Morning on Saturday 17th September so keep that date free.

Sadly just after our session ended we lost two long serving and faithful members. Both Jean Baird and Ishbel Challenor had served as both Secretary and President in the East and West respectively. Ishbel was still on the committee and Jean was our Honorary President. Both will be sadly missed.

In May we had our outing to the Antique Centre at Doune and then on to Callander. A good day was had by all despite the weather being rather disappointing

BRITISH SUMMER

This is summer, so they say,
Another grey and murky day
With rain somewhere along the way,
No summer sun, no bright blue sky,
Only clouds floating by.

And yet birds carol their summer song.
The grass is gloriously green.
Flowers abound in every colour.
Who would want an arid scene?



TOTS' CLUB

The club has had a successful session with a large number of tots and adults in attendance each week. Our Summer Party is on Monday 20th June at 9.45am - if you would like to come along and join in the fun - and sample the delicious food! - you will be most welcome. We have been able to make a substantial donation to the church even although we only ask adults for £1 each week for coffee. We have also received money from the Paisley Express Wish Campaign, thanks to those who saved vouchers for us, and we have applied for a grant from Renfrewshire Council Under-fives forum.

Our toy-cleaning morning is on Monday 22 August at 9.45am and the club resumes on Monday 29 August from 9.15am. If you feel you would like to help, even occasionally, please speak to any of the helpers: Christine Erwin, Cathy Millar, Margaret Allan, Fiona Stewart, Judith Ansell, Jemima McDermid, Jenifer Pitchers, Malcolm MacAskill, Elizabeth and Fulton Dunn, Rosie and John Picken, Ian and Alison Keith, Janet and Bobby Stevenson.

A GOOD AND LOVING FATHER

Almighty Father help me to be a good and loving Dad,
That my dear children may enjoy the Blessing I have had.
Give me the Blessing I should use to teach them right from wrong,
And how to keep on going when the road is rough and long,
To do the duty that is theirs until the very end.
To look for lasting beauty and appreciate a friend.
Endow me with the Grace I need, to mould their gentle touch,
According to the measurements of loyalty and truth.
Enable me to comfort them, whenever they are sad,
And O My Father grant that they, "Will always love their Dad."



Reminder - Father's Day is on Sunday 19 June, 2016.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

There has been a variety of topics covered in the last few months with the smallest members of the Sunday School — we have talked about Easter, our families, God's world and the people and animals in it. We've had fun with arts and crafts and made an ark, lion's face, "I love you" flowers, bookmarks, a 3D cross and a mini book of the Lord's prayer to help learn it, just to name a few. Several of the youngsters will be moving up to the bigger group after the summer, but there are a few little ones from the crèche nosey to find out what is going on so they will be joining in soon no doubt!

Our older group have been learning all about Moses and how God worked through him to free the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. We covered all the important points, Moses being found in the bullrushes and being brought up in the palace by Pharaoh's daughter, Moses having to leave Egypt and encountering God in the burning bush, returning to Egypt and asking Pharaoh to let the Israelites go, which of course he doesn't agree to. God sending the 10 plagues to persuade Pharaoh to free his people, the parting of the Red Sea and finally receiving The Ten Commandments. The group made accompanying crafts to remind them of each lesson.

At Easter the two classes joined together to decorate hard boiled eggs and we hope that the congregation enjoyed the children singing 'Jesus Wants Me For A Sunbeam' on Palm Sunday.

Looking forward, the Sunday School prize-giving will take place on Sunday June 19th. Finally, the Sunday School would love for a couple of volunteers to go on a rota (like the crèche) to help out on a Sunday — just to keep an eye on the wee ones with scissors, glue and so on, as numbers are growing (which is fabulous) and we are finding it hard to keep an eye on all the little ones.

Ros & Linda



FAIRTRADE

Unfortunately we have not heard from the Fairtrade Foundation concerning our application for Fairtrade status. I would like to thank everybody who helped with the very successful pancake breakfast, we hope to repeat this in the future. You can buy your favorite Fairtrade such as tea, coffee and chocolate at Rainbow Turtle in Paisley. Let's hope we hear from the Fairtrade Foundation soon.

Moirra Stark

RAISE THE ROOF CAMPAIGN

We started with a most enjoyable family soup lunch on 8th May, when we received donations of £530. There was an amazing variety of soup and thanks to all those who made it. At the lunch, Tony the Totalizer, created by George Grant and John Picken, was unveiled by Stephen, and the amount raised towards the £75.000 target will be revealed each week. Fund-raising is very important and the Raise the Roof committee is starting the ball rolling by organising a Jazz and Swing evening

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probably on 8 October in the hall - date to be confirmed - there will be a Jazz band and singer, with supper included. This should be a very enjoyable event and we hope you and the family will support it. Tickets will be on sale in September with further information in the next magazine. We hope others in the congregation will have their own ideas about fund-raising and let this committee know if you need help to organise your event. Committee members: Gwen Howden, Susan MacAskill, Una Strachan, Joyce Scott, Margaret Allan, Jenifer Pitchers and George Grant.

At time of going to print, Tony the Totalizer (shown with Stephen at the lunch) has now got the first 'Golden Tile' on the roof. Ed.



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

The total raised for Christian Aid Week in Kilbarchan and Brookfield was £4,423.00 which showed an overall increase for 2016. Although the collections at the doors of £3,951.00 was down the Gift Aid element of £472.00 was higher due to more people filling in the Gift Aid form.

Many thanks to all the collectors without whose effort none of this would be achievable.



UND-RAISING NEWS

Dear Friends

Fund-raising has always played an important part in the social life of the church and is particularly important now as we work towards the Raise the Roof campaign. The money raised from the Fund-raising committee's events will continue to be used for general church income. The Easter Extravaganza was a great success with £673 raised, followed by the Produce stall after church which raised £163. The Plant Sale and Pancake Morning on 21 May raised a magnificent £1150. Thanks are due to Fulton for organising the plants-along with his Friday afternoon helpers - and the pancake-makers Margaret Jamieson, Marie Alexander and Maria Chittick.

Our next event is "Art Off the Square", always a very well-attended and beautiful show of paintings, jewellery, sculpture and ceramics. This takes place on Thursday and Friday 18/19 August from 2-9pm and Saturday 20th from 10am - 4pm in the halls. We hope as many of you as possible will come along with family and friends and enjoy the show and of course the baking! As usual, we are asking for donations for the tearoom, a very important part of the show, and volunteers to serve the teas/ coffees. From mid-July, there will be lists on the hall notice board, where you can add your name.

We intend to have another Produce Stall on Sunday 4th September after the

service, hopefully you will bring along jams, baking and fresh produce to sell and buy.

Our Ladies' Evening is on Tuesday 15th November at 7.30pm in the hall when Aileen MacLeod of "Oh Sew Tartan" will talk and demonstrate the art of using tartan to make fascinators, brooches etc. She will bring along gifts to buy. We are also pleased to welcome back the Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice shop - many of you like to buy your Christmas cards and gifts and it's good to be able to help this worthwhile charity. The date is later than usual this year, so do make sure you wait for your cards! Entrance will be £3 which includes home-baking with coffee.

The Burns Supper is on Saturday 28th January at 7pm in the hall. You can book

your tickets at any time by speaking to a committee member. There will be a limited number of tickets available, price £20, so first come, first served! There

will be a 3-course meal followed by coffee and shortbread. Plans are well under way, the meal, speakers and entertainment have been booked.

We would be delighted to welcome some new committee members-especially men.

Jenifer Pitchers

ripitchers@ntlworld.com

Committee members: Irene Moffat (Treasurer), Margaret Allan, Elizabeth Anderson, Betty Clark, Rosemary Clark, Margaret Gray, Marjory Love, Jemima McDermid, Joan MacKinnon, Helen Miller, Una Strachan, Anne Whyte, Fulton Dunn.

NEW HOMES FOUND

Part of the Relocation & Integration Committee's remit was to identify items surplus to the needs of the new Parish Church. The following have been donated to organisations in the area from the former West Church:

Hall chairs to the Masonic Lodge in Kilbarchan, Kilbarchan Scouts & Lapwing Lodge.

Marque & tea towels to Johnstone Scouts.

Nativity scene figures to St. John's Episcopal Church, Johnstone

Crèche toys to St. John's Episcopal Church, Johnstone & Kilnside Evangelical Church, Paisley.

Wine glasses & baby changing mat to Old Library Centre.

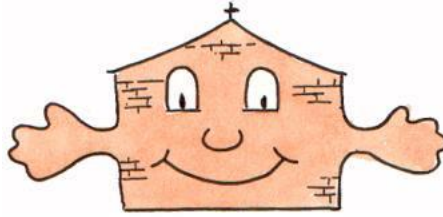
Urn to Masonic Lodge in Kilbarchan.

Assorted milk jugs & sugar bowls to Kilbarchan Bowling Club.

Tea sets & other assorted items were sold at the Boys' Brigade Table Top Sale raising £108.50. The remainder were given to Charity shops.

Knitting yarns to Christian Aid.

Snowdrops from the Church grounds were sold at the Easter Extravaganza & Produce Sale



CHURCH OPEN DAYS

Once again the church will be open to visit on Tuesday afternoons from 2-4pm during the months of June, July and August. Although there is a new rota, if anyone would still like to help, please give your name to Christine Erwin, Myra Grant or Jenifer Pitchers. Thanks to all who have volunteered already.



What is Messy Church? Messy Church is a form of church for children and adults that involves creativity, celebration and hospitality. It typically includes a welcome, a long creative time to explore the biblical theme through getting messy, a short celebration time involving story, song and prayer and a sit down meal together at tables. Children have to have an adult with them.

We are planning to start Messy Church in our halls in Kilbarchan and have already had one very positive planning meeting. The date we have in mind for our first Messy Church is Saturday 17

nd th September between 4.00pm and 6.00pm. If you would like to get involved in any way come along to our next meeting on Wednesday 22 June at 7.30pm in the small hall or contact Joan MacKinnon.



1 Kilbarchan Boys' Brigade Report st Friday 13 May 2016

1st Kilbarchan Boys' Brigade was originally registered on the 1 of June 1935 and was connected to both the West and East Churches in the village. The first Captain was John A Lightbody and the Chaplain was the Rev F Wood of the West Church and in 1945 the Chaplain was Rev R L Sim and Rev V C Alexander. The Junior Section, formally known as the Life Boys was enrolled on 16th February 1955 and met in the East Church Hall. A young man called John Connell was the Officer in Charge of the Life Boys that night. John has served the church over many, many years and was the Session Clerk of the West Church for many of those years. John was one of a number of people who over the years would stop me in the street and donate money for the work of the Boys' Brigade in Kilbarchan. On 13 May John did us the honour of being our Inspecting Officer at our Display and Inspection.



Our last Captain was Mr Willie Speirs, who retired last session and at the moment we are still looking for a young man or woman probably between late 20s and mid-50s to lead the company through the next few years. If you are

that person – please see Bobby Stevenson, Alan McCulloch or Mary Love so that the Kirk Session of Kilbarchan Parish Church can sign you up for an exciting adventure and help co-ordinate the work of the Boys' Brigade in Kilbarchan Parish Church. We really need more helpers especially for the Company Section on a Friday night. Unfortunately Andy Maclean, Officer in Charge of the Company Section indicated that due to pressure of work he would have to give up his Friday nights at the Boys' Brigade. Andy is a Maths teacher and has taken on the task of teaching advanced Higher next year and felt unable to continue with the Company Section. Andy has been a great leader of the Company Section over the session and will be greatly missed by the officers and boys. We wish Andy well in the future and look forward to him dropping in and helping us from time to time over the coming years.

The Boys' Brigade would like to thank all parents, grans and grandpas, aunts and uncles for bringing along the boys every Friday evening and for supporting us throughout the year with Coffee Mornings, Race Nights, Competitions and all the other activities we do in the Boys' Brigade. A special thanks to all our officers and helpers for their hard work and enthusiasm on Friday nights. We would also like to thank church members for their support over the past year.

Bobby Stevenson

Company Section Report for the Session

It has been an action packed session for the Company Section this year. All the boys have been busy most Friday nights with the usual programme of badge work activities and sports. Two of our Senior boys, Cpl. Joe Barrett and Cpl. Calum Carmichael, have been particularly busy as they have been working towards gaining their President's Badge this session.

Trips & Outings

In addition to our usual Friday night activities, we've had various other trips and events on throughout the session:

September 2015: Our first outing was a trip to Laser Station and Adventure Golf at Soar at Braehead.

October 2015: For Halloween we had Elaine Muir come and show the boys how to do some gruesome special effects make-up.

November 2015: In November we had a very cold outing to the rugby to see Glasgow Warriors play Treviso.

December 2015: In December, Sgt. Jack Miller, Pte. David McNish and some of the officers took part in the Glasgow Santa Dash to raise money for the National Autistic Society. Pte. David McNish deserves a special mention as he raised a phenomenal £208!

February 2016: In February we had a trip to Climbzone at Soar at Braehead.

March 2016: In March we had a trip to Air Space in East Kilbride.

Battalion Championship & Competitions

We have been having lots of success in the Battalion Championship this year:

September 2015: In September, C/Sgt. Scott Simpson, Sgt. Stuart Brown and Pte. Ben Cunningham came 3rd in the Senior Quiz.

October 2015: In October, C/Sgt. Scott Simpson and Sgt. Jack Miller came 3rd in the Senior Badminton competition.

November 2015: In November, C/Sgt. Scott Simpson, Cpl. Joe Barrett, Pte. Ben Cunningham and Pte. Conrad McAllister came 2nd in the Physical Education competition.

January 2016: In January, Cpl. Callum Carmichael won individual gold in the Ten Pin Bowling competition and Pte. Ben Cunningham, Pte. Jacob Cunningham and Pte. David McNish came 2nd in the Senior Relay at the Swimming Gala.

Unfortunately we narrowly missed out on 3rd place in the Battalion Championship but finishing 4th is still a commendable achievement for a small Company such as ourselves.

Andy Maclean, Officer in Charge of the Company Section



HILLWALKING CLUB

In March we had a long journey to reach the Graham of Ettrick Pen which was beyond the Grey Mare's Tail and St Mary's Loch on the Moffat to Selkirk Road, then doubled back to the Southern Upland Road. We were surprised to see so much snow but kicked steps to the Graham then on to the Donald of Hopetoun Craig. We returned to the car by walking a part of the Southern Upland Way and past the Pawhope Bothy. Sixteen of us enjoyed the lovely border country side in beautiful sunshine.

We were ambitious to put on the syllabus the Munros of Stob a'Choire Odhair and Stob Ghabhar near Bridge of Orchy for April. There was quite a lot of snow on our first hill and we decided on this occasion that one Munro was enough for the conditions. Again we were lucky with lovely clear blue skies and perfect weather.

Our May weekend was another successful trip when sixteen of us from the club had sole occupancy of Tulloch Station Bunkhouse near Spean Bridge. On weekends we often divide into smaller groups, so on the Saturday some climbed the four Munros in the Grey Corries, some went into Glen Roy to admire the parallel roads and climb Corbetts and Grahams one climbed the Graham above Loch Laggan while two walked the track along the loch to Ardverikie House — made famous by the TV series "Monarch of the Glen". Those of us who knew we would be back at the hostel by seven enjoyed having our very tasty meal made for us by the warden on the Saturday night. Because the weather was still glorious on the Sunday, most people climbed somewhere before driving down the road home — these walks were in Glen Roy, Creag Meagaidh, Loch Arkaig and Glencoe. Margaret counted up that she had attended at least 40 club weekends since joining and husband Douglas had been at 43 — in very mixed weather conditions.

The June outing is to Ratagan Hostel for the weekend, where a variety of walks have been planned. In July the Club is going down Glen Etive to climb Ben Starav, Beinn nan Aighenan and Glas Bheinn Mhor (all Munros) or alternatively the Corbett of Beinn Maol Chaluum. For the August walk it is planned to climb Aonach Mor and Aonach Beag and because of the distance away and the difficulty of the climbs, the starting time from the steeple is an hour earlier at 7.00 am.

Margaret Beattie

STITCHING GROUP

The Stitching Group is in summer mode. We meet in Bobbins at 2.30 on Tuesdays. Anybody who would like a chat is welcome to join us.

We'd like to thank all the friends who contributed to the Easter Eggstravaganza. With your help we raised £200.

Two years ago, the Earl Haig Fund issued patterns for poppies, asking for groups to donate some of their proceeds to them. This summer the group are making knitted and crochet poppy brooches. If anybody would like to join in with us, we can provide patterns and yarn if necessary.

Best wishes to all from the Stitching Group.

Alison McNicoll



FIXING LIFE

Please see the operating manual, the B.I.B.L.E. (Believers Instructions Before Leaving Earth), for further details on the use of these fixes. As an added upgrade, the Manufacturer has made available to all repaired units a facility enabling direct monitoring and assistance from a resident Maintenance Technician, the Holy Ghost. Repaired units need only make Him welcome and He will take up permanent residence on the premises!

WARNING: Continuing to operate the human being unit without correction voids any manufacturer warranties, exposing the unit to dangers and problems too numerous to list and will result in the human unit being permanently impounded. For free emergency service, call on JESUS.

DANGER; The human being units not responding to this recall action will have to be scrapped in the furnace. The SIN defect will not be permitted to enter Heaven so as to prevent contamination of that facility. Thank you for your attention.



DRAMA GROUP

Save the Date!



The next performance of the Drama group will take place week commencing 21st November 2016. At the moment, we have not selected a play.....but watch this space!

We are looking for new members for some smaller “extra” parts and would like to encourage you to come and join us. No experience necessary, we have great fun while rehearsing so come along and join in the camaraderie!

Don't be shy, please speak to any member of the Drama group for details of rehearsal dates and times.

Fiona McKenzie

DEATH

What a wonderful way to explain it.

A sick man turned to his doctor as he was preparing to leave the examination room and said, ‘Doctor I am afraid to die. Tell me what lies on the other side.’ Very quietly the doctor said, ‘I don't know.’ ‘You don't know? You're a Christian man and don't know what's on the other side?’

The doctor was holding the handle of the door, on the other side came a sound of scratching and whining, and as he opened the door a dog sprang into the room and leaped on him with an eager show of gladness. Turning to the patient the doctor said, ‘Did you notice my dog? He's never been in this room before. He didn't know what was inside. He knew nothing except that his master was here, and when the door opened he sprang in without fear.

I know little of what is on the other side of death, but I do know one thing . . . I know my Master is there and that is enough.’

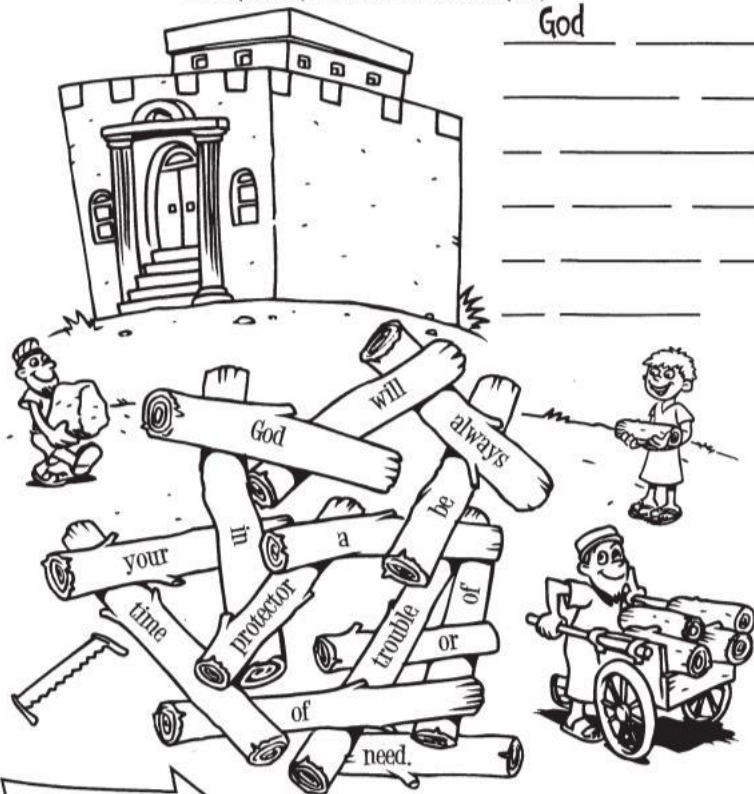
PICK-UP STICKS!

1 Kings 5-8

The Challenge

The builders of the Temple used a lot of logs to build the Temple. To solve this puzzle, pretend you're playing Pick-up Sticks. "Pick" up the log that's on top of the pile. Write the word on it in the first blank below. If you pick up the logs in the correct order, you'll spell out why we can worship God. (The first one is done for you.)

God _____



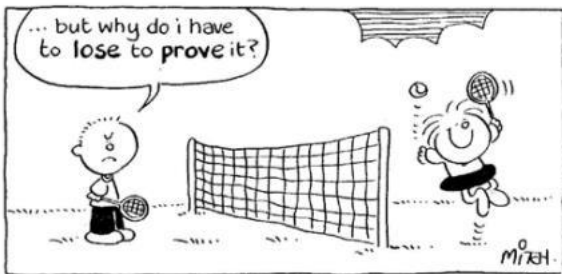
The Super Challenge

How many squares can you find on the Temple? _____

© 2000 by Gospel Light. Permission to photocopy granted. The Big Book of Bible Puzzles

the mouths of babes

by Roy Mitchell





T: 0141 889 7999

E: info@renfrewshire.foodbank.org.uk

Dear Friends

I hope you had a happy Easter. Thank you for the Easter eggs which many of you donated. Lots of small smiling faces left the foodbank at Easter time, some (those who couldn't wait) already covered in chocolate.

Things continue to go well at the Foodbank. Our success is all due to your support and to the support of our wonderful volunteers. This support is as vital as ever. On the 15th of April we released our annual figures. These figures remain at record levels. 6,106 people received a 3 day emergency supply of food from Renfrewshire Foodbank in 2015-16. 1,644 were children, 300 more children than in 2014-15.

We have had more changes at the Foodbank. We now distribute food from the Central Baptist Church in Lady Lane, Paisley instead of Connect Church in Broomlands Street. We are very grateful to the people of Connect Church for allowing us to distribute food from their premises for the last 3 years and to the people of Central Baptist Church for being so welcoming and allowing us to use their church hall.

You will notice when you come to deliver your donations to Abercorn Street, that we have closed Unit 13. This was possible because Doosan Babcock have given us another shipping container beside our Renfrew warehouse, allowing us to store all of our food donations on the one site. This will be so much easier for the volunteers. Not only that, they helped us move all of the food over from Unit 13, clear out the unit and sort and store the food at Renfrew. They also draft proofed, decorated and carpeted the back room in unit 12. This room can now be heated for the comfort of the volunteers working there to receive your donations.

The items we are short of at the moment are: potatoes; tomatoes; milk; juice; sugar; toothpaste, babies nappies (larger sizes) and bags to carry the food.

Thank you so much for the help you give us to provide food to local people in need.

Warmest regards

Elizabeth Alexander,

Project Manager

PARISH REGISTER



MEMBERS LEAVING THE CHURCH

A certificate of transference was issued to Mrs Patricia Newman.

The former East Church roll is now 331

A certificate of transference was issued to June Barrett, Elise Duncan, James Shaw, Susan Lafferty, Christine Steele, Karen Logan, Jane Whitelock.

The former West Church roll is now 381.

BAPTISMS

March 6th Lucy Elizabeth Margaret Darge, daughter of Andrew and Iona

April 17th Gregor Brian Havlin, son of Brian and Lynsey
Brian William Brown Havlin

DEATHS

25/02/16	Peter Lang	(Date of death – 18 th February)
01/03/16	Catherine Fraser	(Date of death - 19 February)
22/03/16	Isabella Hamilton	(Date of death – 14 th March)
22/03/16	Alice Keith *	th March)
24/03/16	Jamie Hepburn	(Date of death – 13 March
31/03/16	Ishbel Challenor *	th March)
13/04/16	Ethel Thomas *	(Date of death – 12 March)
08/04/16	Jean Baird *	th March)
17/05/16	Tony Wooden	(Date of death – 33 May)

(* denotes member) (Date of death – 30

rd

th

(Date of death – 31

st

USEFUL CHURCH CONTACTS

Minister - Rev Stephen Smith

Session Clerk - Mr Fulton Dunn

Ass. Session Clerk - Miss Helen Robertson

Ass. Session Clerk - Mrs Christine Erwin

Treasurer - Mr James Moffatt

Clerk to Congregational Board - Mrs Gwen Howden

WORSHIP PROGRAMME

Sunday 5 th June	11 am	Morning worship
Sunday 12 th June	11 am	Morning worship
Sunday 19 th June	11 am	Morning worship
Sunday 26 th June	11 am	Morning worship (Followed by a short informal Communion service)
Sunday 3 rd July	11 am	Morning worship
Sunday 10 th July	11 am	Morning worship
Sunday 17 th July	11 am	Morning worship
Sunday 24 th July	11 am	Morning worship
Sunday 31 st July	11 am	Morning worship
Sunday 7 th August	11 am	Morning worship
Sunday 14 th August	11 am	Morning worship
Sunday 21 st August	11 am	Morning worship
Sunday 28 th August	11 am	Morning worship (Followed by a short informal Communion service)

