

WALLNEUK NORTH CHURCH

NEWS UPDATE

AUTUMN EDITION

OCTOBER 2020

Greetings in the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, Amen.

I thank God for the re-opening of our church building for worship and meeting with the congregation every Sunday. On the last Sunday of August I conducted the last service in St. Ninian's Church. Our parish boundaries have now been extended to include Ferguslie Park.

We are now discussing our union with Sandyford Church.

On 13th September I ordained two new elders Ian Williams and Grant Hume. Later that day I baptised Alba Luna Patton. After the recent lockdown situation, God is calling us for a revival just as God called the Israelites, after the Babylonian captivity. In the Book of Ezra we can see some guidelines how they accepted the challenge. The first Challenge was to leave the familiar. God used Cyrus, King of Persia to allow the captive Israelites to go back to their homeland. Just imagine those who were taken in captivity 70 years before. Babylon was now their home, and they had no real memory of Israel. To fulfil God's call to revival they were now being asked to return to a place which was unfamiliar to them.

In the same way we now need to leave behind some of the familiar traditions and let go of whatever is holding us back from moving ahead with God's calling upon our lives. This may involve changing our style of worship and other familiar habits. For some coming to church on Sunday, sing hymns, give the weekly offering, listen to the message, and then go off to do their own thing the rest of the week is what happens. God's call is for us to step out of the familiar and begin to stretch and share our faith with others. We need to grow in our own faith so we can walk in God's Path of righteousness. If we want to experience revival then we must be willing to step away from the familiar and then step deeper into our service, pastoral care, evangelism, and commitment to God.

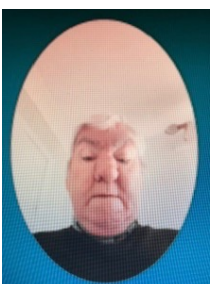
We all need to move out of our comfort zones and move by faith into the unknown to accomplish what the Spirit of God desires. But how do we do that? It can only happen when the Holy Spirit comes into our hearts as we read in **Ezra** "God moved their spirits. They received the Holy Spirit to leave their familiar ground and begin to do what God had called them to do". This is what we need to do if we are going to move by faith from the familiar into a new level of spiritual maturity and activity. God will take us to places we've never been before and show us things we've never seen or done before.

In Ezra, God encouraged everyone to share their gifts, skills, including their silver and gold, besides the freewill offerings for the house of God. Sometimes we are shy to share our gifts. We have to stop worrying about what others may say or think, and move forward with God's calling upon our lives and upon the church.

Let's move forward by faith and let God revive us again. If we expect great things from God let's do great things for Him. It's God's desire to pour out His Spirit and to fill us with His power. That's what we need to ask of God. Jesus said, that if we as sinful people know how to give good gifts to our children, how much more will our heavenly Father give to those who ask the Holy Spirit.

You are all in my thoughts and prayers. If anybody would like a pastoral visit please feel free to contact your elder or call me directly.

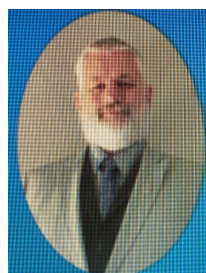
Kind Regards,
Peter Gill



Welcome to our New Elders

Ian Williams

I'm excited to be part of this wonderful team and all the church family



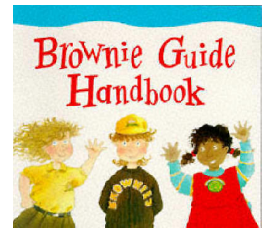
Grant Hume

Eldership, to me, means having the opportunity to use the life skills that I have gained over the years, to hopefully help or assist others through times of struggle or hardship. To learn from the teachings of my peers and to be able to assist in, however small a part, the advancement of God's word and the fellowship of Christianity



8th Paisley Brownies and Guides have started back the new session online using zoom. We are currently working our way through the Renfrewshire County Challenge Badge. At the end of July we had a virtual sleepover where we visited the 5 world centres in England, Mexico, Switzerland, India and Africa. We did activities connected to each country and gained a badge for our uniform or camp blanket.

We hope to be able to meet again face to face soon.



Gillian and Lorraine



Why do we miss singing in Church?

I never would have thought in a million years that one of the most delightful and loved things in the world, singing, would be banned as a risky activity. Currently singing in a school building is not allowed, theatres are closed, concerts have been cancelled, and the whole experience of going to an event is largely lost by having to abide by social distancing rules, not to mention the reduced capacity being unsustainable for venues.

My next singing engagement is September 2021 and currently I am unable to teach singing in the traditional way in school, it's all on Microsoft Teams out of school hours. While I am delighted the schools are working round it and I was pleased to be able to accept GCC's offer of full time hours when my performing work dried up, working from home is a double edged sword and all the nuances of the human voice are not carried down an audio setup. No matter how expensive your microphone is, Scotland's internet is not top notch, not to mention that a third of families in Glasgow do not have access to the internet. Glasgow City Council is trying to level the playing field a little, giving every school child an iPad for the duration of their secondary education and music lessons are still free (they are approx. £150 a term in Renfrewshire) and I'm pleased to be able to keep teaching singing where possible.

So why fight so hard for it?

The bottom line is, singing is tremendously good for you on a variety of levels.

- It releases endorphins into your bloodstream. Endorphins are a mood boosting hormone and also a pain reliever
- It tones the abdominal, intercostal and facial muscles
- It gives the lungs a workout and clears and strengthens the respiratory system
- It improves your memory and coordination

With the risks posed to respiratory health by Covid-19, it seems counter intuitive that something as free and fun as singing has been side lined. The good news, however, is you can still sing in your own home and outdoors. So if it's singing along to Songs of Praise, putting a CD on, getting the radio on, I urge you for the sake of your mental, physical and emotional health to do some singing! Even if you think you are dreadful, God is listening and as the great theologian Martin Luther said: 'As long as we live there is never enough sing.'

We all really enjoy Jemma's singing and choice of music each Sunday, if you have a favourite hymn please let Jemma know and she will do her best to include it in a Sunday service.

ZOOM Sunday Services

In the early days of "Lock-Down", there was a suggestion made that we should have a "Normal" (as much as possible!) Sunday Service, using the computer software called ZOOM, something that was foreign to most people at that time.



We had a few teething problems at the beginning, but once they were ironed out, most weeks ran smoothly and the 'congregation' seemed to enjoy the services and also the chat, which took place after the service, over a cup of tea or coffee, served in each person's home!

After a few weeks, we were joined by members of Sandyford church and a good rapport was established between all in attendance.

Since the re-opening of our church, I personally have missed the chat, as it was one group chatting instead of, a number of small groups, like we have at coffee fellowship, after our Sunday (church building) service.

Robert Turner

WELCOME BACK



Janette

A great feeling of connection and fellowship. So nice to see everyone



Anne

Sitting in the church gives a great sense of peace. The singing and music is wonderful.



Margaret

Wonderful to see all of my friends



Laraine

The place you want to be on a Sunday. Life is not the same if you are not at Wallneuk North.



Margaret and Gordon
Really good to see everyone again even if they are slightly covered up.
Really enjoying worship.



Ina

The place of peace to be during times of troubles. Being together in God's house. Jemma's sing throughout the service is lovely.



Agnes

So good to have fellowship and worship again



Anne and Catherine

Delighted to be back and church and seeing all our friends



Margaret

Lovely to be meeting people again



John

Great being back and meeting again with Christian people. Sets you up for the week ahead. A feeling of nice harmony

**Please remember to Phone 07943 585949
between 12noon and 2pm EVERY Saturday to
book your place for Sunday.**





Young Church

It's great to be back at Young Church and hearing what everyone has been doing during the lockdown. We now meet in Hall 2 to allow more space for social distancing. Each family has their own table, their own box which contains craft materials, wipes, hand sanitiser and tissues. The children have all been very good at following all the new rules - they are keeping us right!!



We have enjoyed watching Bible story videos followed by a quiz or craft activity. We have learned about Joseph and his brothers, Daniel in the Lions Den and Jonah and the Whale.

Lochlan and Ruaridh with their lion pictures

The Baptism of Alba Luna Patton:

A 'baptism with a difference', due to Covid restrictions, was held on the afternoon of Sunday 13 September 2020 for Alba. It was held in the garden of her grandparents and a small group attended and were made very welcome by the family.

Fortunately, although it was gusty, the rain stayed away and a pleasant afternoon was had by all.



Harvest Thanksgiving Service



Our Harvest service took place on Sunday 4th October. It was very different from our usual celebration due to the restrictions. After the service we distributed gifts for our senior members. This year we also decided to ask for monetary donations for the STAR Project. This project works together with families and others in need in our local community. We thank everyone for their very generous support.

HALL LETS -WELCOME BACK

We have finally been able to welcome back three of our regular hall users Tango, Slimming world and Zumba.

Drew from Tango, Julia Anne from Slimming World, Denise and Cat from Zumba worked in conjunction with us to put all the correct measures in place to make sure their classes were safe for their users.

We wish Drew, Julie Anne, Denise and Cat all the best during these very strange times and hope all goes well for them.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help cover the Tango Friday night hall hire

