



# Kilbarchan Parish Church

## Your local church magazine

Dear Friends,

Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2023

I have just returned from the 2023 General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. Or, to be more precise, I have torn myself away from my computer screen, for this year for a change, I was an online commissioner as since Covid, the Assembly has been a hybrid assembly.

Despite the doom and gloom of some of the reports that has been reported extensively in the media, the Assembly never fails to be in many ways challenging and inspiring.

Without going into all the debates and covering the many issues covered, I was impressed by the speech of one of our overseas delegates, the Rev Lydia Neshangwe. In addressing the GA on behalf of all the overseas delegates, she said that one thing the Church of Scotland has in common with all churches around the world is that we are living in what has been termed a VUCA world. VUCA is an acronym that was coined years ago, to describe that we are operating in conditions of Volatility, conditions of Uncertainty, conditions of complexity and conditions of extreme Ambiguity.

It is into this VUCA world that we are all trying to serve God in the church and in society. In other words, it isn't surprising that we are facing challenging times, personally, in our church, in society and in our world.

And yet, has it not in some sense always been tis way?

The Church has faced many times of challenge in the past, both in Scotland and around the world.

Jesus was born into a challenging world. He experienced volatility, uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity too.

We are called, as the Church, to be people who have hope. Our hope lies in Jesus Christ. The theme of the General Assembly this year was , **'Remember who you are'**. We are people who have a living hope.

Anne Frank, in her book, *The Diary of a Young Girl* wrote,

'It's really a wonder that I haven't dropped all my ideals, because they seem so absurd and impossible to carry out. Yet I keep them, because in spite of everything, I still believe that people are really good at heart.'

Children of God, people of faith, have hope. Remember who you are, remember whose you are.

Your friend

*Stephen*

## FROM THE EDITOR

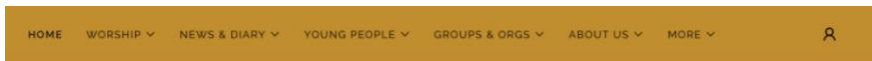


Sumer is nearly upon us, or have we had it already. Whatever you plan to do over the summer break, I hope you return fresh and ready to do your part in the life of our church. If you visit a church on holiday I'd love to print your experience. And don't forget the leaflets etc for Willie.

The Autumn issue of YOUR magazine will be out on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September and any items for inclusion should reach me by Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August.

*Alastair MacKinnon*    [alastair.mackinnon@ntlworld.com](mailto:alastair.mackinnon@ntlworld.com)

Editor



Kilbarchan Parish Church



# kilbarchankirk.org

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# FINANCE TEAM REPORT

The Trustees Report and Financial Statements for the year to 31<sup>st</sup>. December 2022 were approved by the Trustees at their meeting on 30<sup>th</sup>. March 2023 and were signed off by the Independent Examiner, Graeme Handley on the following day, 31<sup>st</sup>. March.

In summary, the Statements show:-

Income from all sources	£116,191
Expenditure	£125,626
Deficit for the year	£9,435
Total Reserves at end of year	£142,663

The deficit for the year might have been greater had it not been for the financial support of members, through regular giving, through fundraising events and also through donations from Church organisations. There are also members who provide support by volunteering in different ways and that type of support is not reflected in figures.

Given the current economic position, it is anticipated that some items of expenditure will increase in 2023. Unfortunately the number of members giving by monthly Standing Order or Free Will Offering envelopes has reduced in recent months, mostly through deaths. With expenditure in 2023 expected to increase and a potential reduction in income, the Church's reserves could be adversely affected. We would therefore ask members to consider their method of giving and if it is right for them, to look at giving by monthly Standing Order, if they do not already do so.

Any member who is interested in giving by Standing Order should contact any member of the Finance Team who will be happy to provide them with the appropriate forms or deal with any queries.

Sincere thanks are extended to all members for their continued support of the Church.

**FINANCE TEAM** Marjory Love (Treasurer), Neil Chittick (Free Will Offering Convenor) Myra Grant, Ian Trushell, Alex Christine, Cathy Millar

# KIRK SESSION REPORT

The last couple of months have been busy ones for the Church in Kilbarchan but not only with regular worship.

At the start of March, the Session presented Rev Stephen Smith with a Celtic Cross and card to mark the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his Ordination to the Ministry.

On that Sunday, we also recognised the fact that it was 100 years since Jimmy Henderson had been appointed as the organist of what was then part of the United Free Church of Scotland and that for the last 40 years his nephew, Ian Trushell has followed in his footsteps as organist and choirmaster. A plaque recognising Jimmy's time as organist was put on the organ and Ian was presented with a certificate in recognition of his dedicated service. The hymns which were sung that day would have been very familiar to Jimmy during his time at the organ.

It was good to have the Choir lead the Maundy Thursday service with a selection of music from Karl Jenkin's Armed Man as we joined for worship on such a significant evening in the Church calendar.

Our service of Reflection brought about 150 people together to remember friends and relatives who died during the previous three years. Many of those present came forward during the service to light a candle in remembrance of their loved one and during this part of the service Rosie Picken and Ian Trushell played some reflective music. The choir contributed to this service by singing The Lord's my Shepherd to the tune Brother James' Air. Many of the congregation then enjoyed a time of fellowship while having some refreshments in the hall.

Sunday 14 May saw Fulton Dunn being presented with a Church of Scotland certificate in recognition of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination as an elder. Fulton has supported the work of the Church in many ways including as session clerk and presbytery elder, and continues as a district elder, volunteer at the Monday Tots group and working in the buildings and grounds of our property.

It is good that Cuppa at the Kirk is now established and is welcoming about 20 folk each week for a time of fellowship as well as enjoying tea and biscuits.

We were sorry to be told that Kilbarchan Guild had been wound up following its annual meeting on 28th March. An invitation had been received from the Guild at Howwood Church to join with them after the summer break and this had been welcomed by members. The Guild was a valued part of our Church for many years, providing fellowship, raising awareness of local, national, and international issues, and undertaking fundraising. We are grateful to all those who have been involved.

The Presbytery Mission Plan was approved by Presbytery at their meeting on 18th March and will now be considered at the General Assembly. The plan will impact on

many churches in this area, but it is unlikely that the decision-making process will be finally concluded until nearer the end of this year.

Stephen will be attending this year's General Assembly as a commissioner although he will be participating online rather than in person.

We are pleased to welcome another new member to our fellowship but sadly, four members have died recently and at the start of May our roll now has 355 members. It was lovely to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism recently when two young boys were joined by their family and friends on such a special occasion.

Our Stated Annual Meeting was attended by 49 members who heard the financial report for 2022 as well as a summary of the main achievements of our Church. At this time thanks were extended to everyone who gives of their time to make Our Church as successful as it is.

*Alasdair, Christine, and Helen*



## **PROPERTY REPORT**

The Property Team received the Presbytery Quinquennial Property Report in March. There are a number of recommendations for works which should be undertaken over the next 12 months and The Team will look to prioritise these items, subject to funding availability.

The Halls are now connected to the internet by a wireless link to the main broadband router in the Session House. If you look closely you might see the wi-fi dishes. A few minor works have been carried out to the manse and some resultant redecoration will take place.

The Team continues to consider other works to repair, improve or enhance our buildings.

If you are aware of any property matters which should be examined, please don't hesitate to speak to any of the Property Team - Fulton, Graham, Iain, Marie, Tony or me.

*Malcolm MacAskill*

Property Convener

## MEET THE MODERATOR FOR 2023-2024



The head of a Christian charity which fights global poverty has been named as the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Rev Sally Foster-Fulton, 58, who has led Christian Aid in Scotland since 2016, has taken a year's sabbatical to become the Kirk's ambassador at home and abroad for 12 months from the General Assembly last month.

The Church of Scotland minister said she is looking forward to meeting and encouraging people involved in church work at local, national and international level at a time of unprecedented challenge and opportunity.

The Moderator said: "I'm excited about what the year will bring. "I genuinely love and am inspired by the Church of Scotland and its people. "Over the past years of the pandemic in the face of a global climate emergency and now a cost-of-living crisis, people across the Church have been stepping up and doing their very best to make an extraordinary impact in communities, locally, across our nation and in the world."

Born and raised in South Carolina in the USA, Mrs Foster-Fulton has been a Church of Scotland minister for more than 20 years and has served in several parishes as well as hospitals as a chaplain.

She is married to Rev Stuart Fulton, a fellow Church of Scotland minister who serves the parish of Newlands South Church in Glasgow.

The couple, who live in Glasgow, have two adult daughters, Alex and Gracie. Mrs Foster-Fulton recently became a grandmother and she said her new role has “shifted her perspective and given new meaning” to her commitment to try and make the world a better place.

The Moderator convened the Church of Scotland’s former Church and Society Council from 2012-2016 and helped advance work on human rights, climate justice and support for people struggling to overcome poverty in Scotland as well as overseas.

She campaigned on behalf of detainees at Dungavel House immigration removal centre near Strathaven in South Lanarkshire and led the Church’s work with ecumenical and interfaith partners to create networks of support for asylum seekers and refugees.

In the run up to the 2014 Scottish Independence Referendum, she helped create space for respectful dialogue between campaigners on both sides of the debate. Mrs Foster-Fulton said the Church of Scotland’s voice on national and international issues has authenticity because it represents people working across the country to support and uplift local communities

She said she is proud of the support that local churches give to national and international partners.

Mrs Foster-Fulton said: “What church congregations do locally in their communities is critical.

“It is what gives the Church’s voice validity when we speak truth to power.

“Sometimes we talk about local and international work as if it is an either or, but if there is one thing my work with the Church of Scotland, Christian Aid, this recent pandemic and the climate crisis has affirmed, is that we are all in this together.

“There is no separation between what we do for people in our global neighbourhood and what we do here at home.

“There is no them and us, there is just us and we have all got to look after one another.”

Ordained as a Church of Scotland minister in 1999, Mrs Foster-Fulton’s first charge was Camelon Irving Parish Church in Falkirk where she spent four years.

The married couple took up the role of co-pastors for a Presbyterian Church in the USA congregation in Seneca, South Carolina, and stayed for four years before returning to Scotland, the place that the Moderator considers home.

In 2007, Mrs Foster-Fulton was appointed associate minister at Dunblane Cathedral where she served for 10 years before taking up her role at Christian Aid.

# JUNIOR CHURCH



It's great to see that we now have a core group of children attending regularly on Sundays.

Currently we are learning about how Jesus told parables to teach his followers and us about how we ought to behave and live our lives. So far we have covered the Sowing of the Seeds, Blind Bartameus and the Good Samaritan, and we will continue to work through these till this Junior Church session ends for the summer break. For the sowing of the Seeds the children planted seeds for them to take home, care for and watch grow, zinnia and dwarf sunflowers, so hopefully these are now starting to sprout in their homes. Our children thoroughly enjoy the craft activities which reinforce the lesson each week and they never fail to amaze us with their creativity.

We will have the Junior Church prize-giving as usual at the end of this session when we break for the summer holidays, prize-giving date TBA.

Shona and I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Fiona Stewart for providing the musical accompaniment each week. Also a big thank you to Margaret Gibb and Christine Erwin for stepping in when either Shona or myself or neither of us are able to attend on a Sunday. Also to Evelyn Connell, Elizabeth Dunn and the other Mums and Grandparents who have assisted us too, we are so very grateful for your help.

Lastly we would just like to wish all our children and their families a wonderful time over the summer break and we look forward to welcoming them back after the holidays and hearing all about what they did during their holidays.

Happy Holidays.

*Ros & Shona*



## BENEVOLENT FUND

Thanks to the congregations support, I was able to send £100 from the Benevolent fund to the Adams house mini bus appeal.

Adams house is a Church of Scotland residence and we often see residents from Adams house being brought to the church on a Sunday, some of which are members.

We will continue to supply financial support whenever we can on your behalf.

*Alan*





## ECO NEWS

We held our 3<sup>rd</sup> eco-forum on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May, which was well attended and proved to be very successful.

There were two speakers, first Paul O'Brian from Enva waste management, giving us detailed information on the journey taken by the contents of our wheelie bins. It was quite a revelation to find out just how much is made from recycling the waste into so many other products, and how little goes to landfill these days. Paul gave us so many hints and tips about recycling, a 'what goes where' guide for us all.

The second speaker was Tom Knockolds from 'Loco Home Retrofit' who spoke about his co-operative project in Glasgow. It was formed to assist people in finding the best ways to improve the energy efficiency of their homes and buildings. This project gives sound impartial guidance on insulation and heating solutions, to a high environmental standard. Tom's ideas and information sparked many thoughts on how these practical improvements can lessen our impact on climate change.

Summing up, we had a large number of questions and a good informative discussion.

I think all who attended would agree that it was a very worthwhile evening.

We will be having another forum in the Autumn, so look out for that.

*George Grant*



As spring becomes summer the Eco-Forum has us focussing on the environment close to home. At the May Messy Church the children put out more roosting boxes, bird baths & feeders in & around the kirkyard. Research has shown that graveyards possess more diversity of species than most other locations. By fostering this natural wealth we can play our part in protecting the environment. We encourage you too, to relax & observe the wonderful wild creatures & plant life here whenever you can; both the common & the rarer visitors. In a week or so we will place **RECORDING CARDS** on the windowsill in the church foyer to note down sightings. The children were keen on this idea so do please you & they spend time in our beautiful grounds & see what you can spot. Record as much as possible & return the cards to the box so we can display the results from time to time

Thank you

*Judith Ansell*

## CLYDE PRESBYTERY Saturday 18th March 2023

The moderator constituted the meeting with the hymn: Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, and the Readings: Isaiah chapter 9: 2 - 7 & John chapter 14: 2. After a number of administrative matters thereafter the remainder of the meeting was given over to the Presbytery Plan.

The convener of the Planning committee began by thanking the congregations of Clyde Presbytery for their assistance in producing the Presbytery plan including their Mission Audit reports. The Mission Plan Task Group representatives had all be assigned a Local Mission Group from the opposite side of the River Clyde to analyse. This was to prevent any conflict of interest.

The submission of each congregation had been analysed according to the following:

- 1-5 Evidence of demonstration of each Mark of Mission
- 6 Is the congregation a Priority Area congregation?
- 7 Proximity to other churches
- 8 Size of Parish
- 9 Asset Management Building Audit AMBA score
- 10 Where are the 'gaps'?

**NOTES:** Five Marks of Mission criteria can be found on CofS website <https://churchofscotland.org.uk/about-us/our-faith> The financial situation of each congregation as far as keeping up with M&M payments is concerned, was also noted but was not a part of any 'score'.

Based on this information the Presbytery Plan was produced for the conference. Each area was discussed then voted on. The complete Clyde plan can-be found on the homepage at <https://clydepresbytery.org>

The Moderator read out the narrative regarding Kilbarchan and Howwood.

### **Area B5 – Howwood and Kilbarchan**

Net population: 7,402 Parish Area: 37.39 sq.miles <sup>[1]</sup>2022 M&M Allocation:

HOWWOOD £29,428 and. KILBARCHAN £73,336

PROPOSED ALLOCATION 1.0 Full Time minister (FTE)

BUILDING CATEGORISATION Howwood - A and Kilbarchan - A

(A - building is required to be kept at the present time.)

### **MISSION HIGHLIGHTS AND POTENTIALS:**

Both of these churches have a strong sense of calling to witness for Jesus in their

own communities and we have seen that Howwood and Kilbarchan are very separate and distinct communities. We recommend that a linked charge be created between Kilbarchan and Howwood churches, and that one Minister of Word and Sacrament (MWS) is allocated to the charge.

The full details had been modified slightly from the previous version, she noted that the amendments which we had submitted were to be included in the final document, which was.

“ The continued omission of any reference to the extension of our parish boundaries to include Lochwinnoch was felt to be a weakness in the Plan. “ This was then voted on and passed with the amendment.

After all areas were voted on the meeting closed with the Grace in unison.



## **FUND-RAISING NEWS.**

The Easter Eggstravaganza was a great success raising in excess of £620

Our next main fund-raising event is Art off the Square on Thursday and Friday 24/25<sup>th</sup> August from 2-9pm and Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> from 10am-4pm. Once again, we shall be looking for volunteers to help in the tearoom and for donations of the beautiful home-baking for which we have become well-known! We hope that you will all come along and bring family and friends to this excellent exhibition.

The fund-raising team has now been incorporated into a new Session Mission Team and we hope to organise some events to bring local people into the church and halls. Any suggestions will be much appreciated.

## **TOTS'CLUB.**

Our summer party is on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June at 9.45am. Please come along and join the fun! The club will resume on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September from 9.15am in the hall. Thanks to all the volunteers who really enjoy seeing the babies grow into toddlers and the mums meeting new friends. Most of us have been involved for about 11 years now!

*Elizabeth and Fulton Dunn, Alison and Ian Keith, Rosemary Clark, Christine Erwin, Margaret Allan, Cathy Millar, Myra Grant, Helen Miller, Rosie Picken, Jenifer Pitchers, Fiona Stewart and Malcolm MacAskill.*



## RENFREWSHIRE FOODBANK

### Feeding of the.....

When looking for inspiration for putting pen to paper for this contribution regarding the Renfrewshire Foodbank, my mind became fixed on the New Testament story (Matthew 14:13-21) of "Jesus feeding the Five Thousand" or as Jamie Stewart titles it in his book "A Glasgow Bible" ( bible stories in the Glasgow vernacular), "Jesus feeds the Five Thoosan". It struck me that there are many similarities between the New Testament story and the work of the Foodbank.

1. The large crowd that followed Jesus needed to be fed.
2. There is a wide section of our society in the 21st century that requires to be fed.
3. Jesus instructs his disciples to give the crowd something to eat.
4. The Trushell Trust instigated the initiative to request donations of food to feed those in need.
5. The small boy in the story donated his 5 loaves and 2 fishes or as Jamie Stewart remarks "there's a wee boy here who's willin tae part wi his piece. It's no a lot mind, 5 rolls and a couple of fish."
6. Society has responded to the call from the Trushell Trust to provide emergency food donations and does this through a network of 1300 foodbank centres.
7. From a small contribution, given selflessly from a generous spirit and a blessing from Jesus, "Five Thoosan" were fed.
8. From donations of all types between April 2022 and March 2023, Foodbanks provided almost 3 million food supplies to people in crisis. And this is a 37% increase on the previous year.

Society's support of the Foodbank and Kilbarchan Parish Church's support, in particular, is magnificent.

If you are able, please mirror the young lad in the story's generosity of spirit which resulted in the crowd being fed and "afterwards they gethered up near twelve baskets o the leftovers", and continue to support the work of The Trushell Trust / Renfrewshire Foodbank.

With Jesus' blessing the crowd were fed and a surplus realised. In our prayers we can ask for ample donations to ensure surplus stocks of emergency food supplies.

*The Vision of the Trushell Trust is for a future without the need for Foodbanks. Together, we can build a fairer society where everyone has enough to afford food. This should be our ultimate prayer.*

The Foodbank needs our support more than ever.

Thanks

*Graham*



## **CUPPA AT THE KIRK**

'Cuppa at the Kirk' started on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April and will run every Tuesday afternoon from 2p.m - 3.30pm. The plan is to run this social event until the end of June and re-commence late August.

Numbers are growing each week and everyone who comes along seems happy to have a cuppa and enjoy a blether with friends old and new. The event is open to all in the Village and not restricted to Church members.

Fiona Stewart has been paying the Piano for us, and it is hoped come the Autumn we may have some more entertainment now and again, perhaps even some games if folks fancy this.

Please tell all your friends and family members whom you feel would benefit from a bit of social interaction to come along. Also if anyone would like to come and perhaps has no transport, please ask them to get in touch with Arlene on 07971 917402 or simply email [arlene@travealactually.co.uk](mailto:arlene@travealactually.co.uk)

Sincere thanks to everyone who has volunteered to help, without which this event could not take place.

Best wishes to all

*Arlene McKay*

## ADAMS HOUSE MINIBUS

As most folk will know, my dad, Ian, has been a resident of Adams House Care Home in Elderslie for around 18 months. In that time, we have been aware of fundraising efforts towards a much-needed new minibus. The current minibus is getting on a bit and every year, as M.O.T. time comes around, the prayers get more and more serious that it will last another year.

There have been coffee mornings, quiz nights and ultra-marathons done in aid of this seemingly unreachable target. Minibuses with the added requirement of the equipment needed for transporting elderly people with dementia and mobility issues don't come cheap. So, this got me thinking of what I could possibly do to help get a little closer to that target. What on Earth am I good at that I could use to help? Eating!

Or for the purposes of a challenge – stopping eating. Not altogether obviously but as Lent was approaching, I decided to give up all my favourite treats like crisps, chocolate, biscuits and cakes during Lent and hopefully raise some money and lose some pounds in the process.

I set up a Crowdfunder through JustGiving and set a target of £500. It might not get us a minibus, but it would at least get us a bit closer. Little did I know that the good people of Kilbarchan Kirk would make me raise that target three times over the period of Lent. Family and friends played a big part, but it was the phenomenal support from this congregation that really blew my target sky high. After-church coffee time is a big part of the church experience, and it played a huge part in helping me collect donations. Sitting in the hall with a cup of tea, and no biscuit, I was amazed at the amount of people who wanted to hand me money. Every week I'd head down the road with pockets bulging and add it all straight into the Crowdfunder. I can't thank everyone enough for their incredible generosity. Between the Crowdfunder and personal cheques made out directly to Friends of Adams House, the total raised was £2450. Absolutely amazing!

As Lent was coming to an end Linda and I were able to attend a fundraiser organised by Adams House in Elderslie Bowling Club. A few drinks, a dance, a raffle, and no snacks, for me at least. There were a few resident's families there but mostly it was friends and family of the care home staff. Not only do they do an amazing job looking after those in their care, but they also go the extra mile to help add even more to that care. Amazing people. It was a very successful night, raising £3700. I've never seen so many raffle prizes. Adding this to my own total, plus fundraising from other resident's families, we had raised around £7000 in four weeks. A huge step towards the goal. An incredible effort.

The current minibus has just passed another M.O.T. This time it is hoped that it is the last year of M.O.T. prayers as Adams House has just been given permission to order a new bus. Waiting time on orders is around ten months so fingers crossed the new bus is in place for next summer and residents can enjoy a few away days in style.

Thanks again to everyone who contributed in such spectacular fashion, smashing my target on several occasions. A fantastic result.

*Alan Vaughan*



The poster features a central graphic of a square with a smaller square inside, tilted slightly. The corners of the outer square are labeled 'N' (North), 'E' (East), 'S' (South), and 'W' (West). A red circle is positioned to the right of the top-right corner. To the right of this graphic, the text 'ART off the SQUARE' is written in a serif font, with 'ART' in all caps and 'off the SQUARE' in a mix of caps and lowercase. Below this, the year '2023' is written in a large, bold, red serif font. At the bottom, the event schedule is listed in all caps: 'THURSDAY 24th AUGUST - 2pm until 9pm', 'FRIDAY 25th AUGUST - 2pm until 9pm', and 'SATURDAY 26th AUGUST - 10am until 4pm'.

LEAFLETS FROM CHURCHES VISITED BY OUR MEMBERS.

Now that the restrictions of the Covid Pandemic have been lifted ,it may be that our members will be visiting churches during the holiday period or other times.

Please bring a leaflet/ order of service back with you.

Hopefully many will be displayed at the Harvest Service later in the year.

*Willie Beattie.*



## 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 bible theme through a variety

of crafts, a short celebration time involving story and song followed by sharing a meal.

On 18 March our theme was Words. After the welcome and introduction where we talked about the words we use and the affect they have on others, the children enjoyed the variety of crafts on offer before Stephen involved them in squeezing toothpaste out of a tube and challenging them to get it back into the tube, reminding us all that words, once said, can't be unsaid. Jesus words were kind words, gentle and encouraging and ours should be too.

In April we were really Messy!! The children loved getting their feet into trays of paint and leaving their footprints on our frieze (its on the wall in the large hall). Jesus said "Come and follow me" and to help the children remember this they made several different foot themed crafts before Bobby entertained them with a short film and leading the singing. The meal was the favourite menu of hotdogs, pasta with pesto, cheese or sauce and fruit and vegetables

On our last session before the summer break we met on 20th May when we were outside for fun and games and I can safely say that we all had great fun!!!

There was a scavenger hunt, hoop-la, egg and spoon race, obstacle course, giant jenga, swingball, bird feeders, target darts, twister, parachute games, and messy painting pistols. The highlight of the afternoon was our special guests, the Praise Band who led us in some community singing, we are indebted to them for their time and talents enriching our time together. This was followed with a picnic and finished off with ice-cream. A great time was had by everyone





On behalf of the Messy team I would like to thank the congregation for their continued support either in donations or words of encouragement, it really is appreciated.



And on behalf of the families who are the Messy church sincere thanks to everyone who makes it possible.



# KILBARCHAN PARISH CHURCH HILLWALKING CLUB REPORT



This quarter's hillwalks have, unusually, all been sunny! The good weather started in March on Ben A'an, a famous viewpoint in the Trossachs. Nine of us tackled the short, but very steep ascent. The hill was extremely busy with many other people and dogs also enjoying the spring sunshine.

April saw another visit to the Trossachs, this time to the Corbett of Ben Ledi. Seven climbed the hill in brilliant weather, sunny and warm. However there was a lot of snow on the summit, making it rather chilly so, after a brief pause for some photos, lunch was eaten at lower altitude. The hill was a bit of a struggle for some but everyone enjoyed their day.

In May we had our first club hostelling weekend since 2019. Four stayed in Braemar and climbed the remote Munros of Monadh Mòr and Beinn Bhrotain, using mountain bikes for the long approach on landrover track. The hills themselves were steep and rugged with bog and heather to negotiate, but all four made it!

Simultaneously, ten walkers had a pleasant round walk of just over 5 miles from Neilston Station to The Craigie (Duncarnock) in warm and dry conditions. There were fine displays of wild flowers, particularly bluebells and violets.

Our upcoming walks will be:

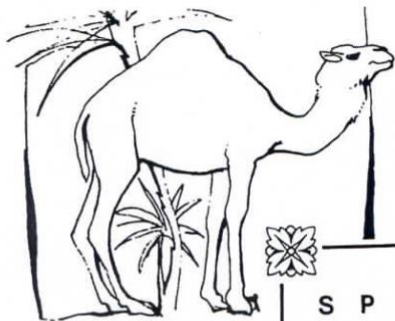
- 9th-11th June: Ratagan Youth Hostel
- 15th July: Binnein Beag, Binnein Mor & Na Gruagaichean (Munros) or Dollar Glen to Glendevon (and back)
- 5th Aug: Cam Creag, Glen Lyon (Corbett) or Tewsgill Hill, Abington

For all walks we will meet at the Steeple at 8am, except for July's Munros when we will meet at 7am. Any new members would be very welcome on these or any subsequent walks.

*Eilidh Henderson*



P. S. God always answers knee mail.



# BIBLE CREATURES

APES  
ASPS  
ASS  
BATS  
BEAR  
BEHEMOTH  
BOAR  
CAMEL  
CHAMELEON  
CATTLE  
CHAMOIS  
COLT  
CONIES  
DOG  
DRAGON  
DROMEDARY  
FALLOW DEER  
FERRET  
GOATS  
HARE  
HART  
HIND  
HORSE  
LEOPARD  
LEVIATHAN  
LION  
MOLE  
MOUSE  
MULE  
OX  
PYGARG  
ROE  
ROEBUCK  
SATYR  
SHEEP  
SNAIL  
SWINE  
TORTOISE  
UNICORN  
WEASEL  
WHALE  
WOLF

S	P	S	A	P	E	S	E	H	R	O	E	F	C	I
R	Y	T	A	S	Q	R	S	I	A	D	G	E	A	R
E	G	R	O	P	S	S	R	N	U	R	D	H	T	U
E	A	A	N	T	T	G	O	D	V	A	E	C	T	L
D	R	E	A	T	R	A	H	X	W	G	Y	B	L	S
W	G	B	E	H	E	M	O	T	H	O	Z	A	E	H
O	A	O	B	E	N	R	O	C	I	N	U	M	N	E
L	C	A	A	D	H	I	R	J	L	M	L	M	L	E
L	F	R	G	T	O	R	T	O	I	S	E	O	O	P
A	E	N	I	W	S	E	A	B	X	W	M	U	L	E
F	J	K	K	L	N	D	C	E	X	V	A	S	E	P
E	R	C	M	I	A	S	E	I	N	O	C	E	V	Q
R	S	U	N	O	I	F	G	H	U	H	H	Y	I	T
R	U	B	H	E	L	D	T	I	A	T	A	R	A	R
E	T	E	P	G	R	P	J	M	S	R	M	A	T	U
T	Q	O	D	A	K	S	E	N	P	Q	O	D	H	S
L	F	R	P	L	N	L	L	O	M	F	I	E	A	V
O	C	O	O	R	E	U	A	L	L	K	S	M	N	Z
C	E	Q	M	O	X	W	H	O	J	I	B	O	A	W
L	I	O	N	Z	V	Y	W	H	X	O	C	R	D	Y
B	A	W	E	A	S	E	L	G	X	X	F	D	E	X

“God created the world out of nothing, and as long as we are nothing,  
he can make something out of us.”

*Martin Luther*

# THOUGHTS ON PRAYER

## What is prayer?

I looked in the dictionary and found some definitions like ‘The practice of addressing God in words or through meditation, as in praise, gratitude, sorrow or intercession’.

Another was ‘A specially worded form used in addressing God’.

These don’t sound particularly user-friendly to me, and when I was given a little card with some other definitions on I thought I’d share them with you.

## Prayer is...

The key of the morning and the bolt of the evening.

Two people in love.

A wish turned God wards.

A conversation with God.

Prayer is seeing things from God’s point of view.

## And some advice....

Pray with persistence but not impatience.

Give God a moment - He will turn it into gold.

God loves to use small people to do great things.

**And for prayer to be effective and powerful, all you need is the time, the place and the Book.**

**Time** Enough to forget how much it is.

**Place:** The more alone you are so far as others are concerned, the less alone you are as far as God is concerned.

The real, rare- blessing is, not that you actually pray, though you will..., not that you actually read the Book, though you will ... it is this ... there’s Someone else there.

**Book:** Bible reading is the listening side- of prayer.

*As seen in THE LINK — the magazine of St Ninian’s Parish Church, Stonehouse.*

# Kidz Korner

## HEADS UP John 3:1

"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!"

### The Challenge

To go through the maze correctly, find the words of the verse in order. Don't skip over any heads. You will be able to get through it by going directly from head to head.

Start

The maze consists of a grid of cartoon heads. The words of the verse are placed in boxes below the heads. The path starts at the 'Start' circle and ends at the 'Finish' circle. The words along the path are: Start, How, great, of, love, the, is, great, has, lavished, on, us, that, we, should, be, called, children, of, God, Finish.

# Thank You!



I would like to thank everyone for all the cards, flowers, gifts and visits I received for my 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The amount raised for St Vincent's Hospice was £600 plus.

All this was very much appreciated,

Thank You,

*Doreen Warner*

I would like to thank everyone for the flowers, cards and kind messages I received following the death of my brother, Mark Brownrigg, in February. Thanks also to Stephen for his visit which was particularly comforting.



*Linda Forteach.*



On behalf of the family I would like to thank the members of Kilbarchan Parish Church for the flowers, cards and messages of support we received after Jim's death. Thanks also to Stephen for the lovely service, which depicted Jim to a T.

*Helen Gillan*

I would like to thank everyone for all the cards, gifts, visits, and telephone calls I received during and after my recent spell in hospital.

It was very much appreciated.

*Willie Beattie.*



# PARISH REGISTER



## NEW MEMBERS

By Certificate of Transference

Ms Patricia Telfer (Elder Isobel Arnott Dist. 10)

## BAPTISMS

23/04/2023 Maxime Andrew Plancq and Luc Hervé Plancq  
sons of Ailsa and Julien

## WEDDINGS

06/05/2023 Emily Aurea Morrison and Blair Grant Cunningham  
Glasgow University Chapel

## DEATHS

23/02/2023 Evelyn Chalk  
26/02/2023 Christine Strachan  
26/02/2023 Marion Clearie  
28/02/2023 Allan Campbell  
31/03/2023 June McLaughlin)  
02/04/2023 Evelyn Allan  
14/04/2023 Jim Gillan  
18/04/2023 Jim Jackson  
27/04/2023 Christine Gilmour  
06/05/2023 Margaret Maclean

## ROLL

The Roll of Kilbarchan Parish Church now stands at 355 and 17 Adherents.

Please remember to notify the roll keeper of any changes to address, phone number or email to maintain up to date information



# 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 -

## WORSHIP PROGRAMME

Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	11am	Morning Worship including Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> July	11am	Mornin worship
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> August	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> August	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> August	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> August	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	11am	Morning worship

