



Kilbarchan Parish Church

Your local church magazine

Dear Friends,
Saturday 16th November 2024
Time flies.

Our Remembrance services are past and were well attended. Kilbarchan Pipe Band led the parade from Church to the War Memorial. This year I marched directly behind them, with the colour party. It was the second time this year I have walked immediately behind the Pipe band, the other occasion was Lillias Day and my appearance as St Barchan. I believe as a community we can be proud of our Pipe Band. They do a grand job. Remembrance is past. Advent and Christmas are quickly approaching and then onwards into 2025.

There seems to be no end to war and rumours of war. And imagine, Donald Trump is President elect of the USA. In fact, by the time the next issue of the Newsletter comes out, he will be President of the USA.

For our congregation, we thought we would be saying Farewell to Aaron, our Probationer minister, but he has signed a 6 month part time Assistant Minister Contract working specifically in Kilbarchan linked with Howwood. This will give Aaron and his family some breathing space until they work out next steps in their ministry, it will give me some support as I adjust to working in two congregations. This is good news.

The message of Christmas is the Good News, that God came in the birth of a baby, Jesus. That God was somehow limited to a finite human life. A life that knew hardship and ease, sorrow and joy, crippling doubt and tremendous courage.

It's the message we all need to hear this Christmas. It's the message we need for a New Year. It's the message we need in a world where old certainties are shaking.

May you have a blessed Christmas and a peaceful start to the New Year.

Wishing you the blessings of Christmas and a peaceful start to 2025.

Stephen, Susie and Ally xxx



I am writing this message to you on a Sunday afternoon in mid-November. When you read this, it will be in the season of Advent. We don't have decorations up in the house yet, but the shops and TV adverts are already Christmas themed, as are songs on the radio. As Michael Bubl  would say; 'It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas'. Spare a thought though for the producers of the supermarket Christmas food catalogues which have pictures of Christmas dining tables laden with turkey, ham and sweet treats. These are often planned and photographed in the summer, so it must be a challenge to recreate the Christmas spirit when you are buying your sunscreen and inflatables for the pool!

This year though it's not been hard for me to be excited about Christmas and to feel the sense of expectation that Advent brings. Over the past couple of months, I have been able to watch many of my fellow probationers becoming ordained with more planned in the weeks ahead. I have attended a number of ordination services, and the sense of hope and expectation is palpable. It's terrific to see friends I have trained with over the past four years finally becoming ministers. I hope to add my name to that list early next year too.

Thank you all for your kindness and support during my probation period in Kilbarchan and Howwood. I have learned a lot from you all and am looking forward to the next step on my ministry journey. Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Aaron.



Well we're nearly at the end of another calendar year and no doubt wondering what 2025 will bring. Advent and the Christmas season sees lots happening in YOUR church so why not come along some time, The 2025 Spring magazine will be out in March with a cut-off date of February 16th Y

Alastair MacKinnon, Editor

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Kilbarchan Parish Church



Kilbarchankirk.org

Facebook - facebook.com/kilbarchankirk

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YouTube - search for Kilbarchan Kirk

SESSION REPORT

The most significant item this autumn has been the finalisation of the Linkage with Howwood and establishing the new times for the services. From the start of September, worship in Howwood started at 9.45am and in Kilbarchan at 11.15am. Both congregations have adapted well to the change and so far, Stephen and Aaron have managed to get to Kilbarchan without any major delays. On Tuesday 1 October, the formal service of Linkage was held in Howwood Church when Stephen was officially introduced to Howwood Church. It was well attended by members of Clyde Presbytery and both congregations who then met in the hall for a time of fellowship and refreshments.

The Kirk Session has met twice since the last magazine was published. At the September meeting, we were pleased to welcome Graham Currie who is the Youth & Community Worker at Barrhead St Andrew's Parish Church. It was interesting to hear about his work trying to reconnect the Church with young people and the community in general, and to think about any way this could be included in our own outreach and mission in Kilbarchan and the surrounding area.

We learned that Aaron's probationary period has been sustained and at the November meeting Session was pleased to agree to the proposal that Aaron remain with Howwood and Kilbarchan as part of the Assistant Minister Contract Scheme set up by the Church of Scotland to assist those recently qualified to manage their transition to full time Ministry. The options under this Scheme are to be a Pioneer Minister, to fulfil a Vacancy, or to stay in their existing place with agreement of the Minister and Kirk Session. Aaron asked if it would be possible to stay with Kilbarchan and Howwood as his base for 6 months. His contract would be 0.7 FTE. Tuesday to Thursday plus two Sundays per month. One Sunday to be with Kilbarchan and Howwood, the other Sunday at the discretion of the Presbytery Clerk. Session was delighted to agree to this proposal which will be of benefit to both Aaron and Stephen.

At the start of October, we had our harvest service when the Church was once again decorated with a lovely display of fruit and vegetables in the vestibule, and extra flowers on the downstairs window ledges. During the service we heard from a representative about the work done by Mary's Meals. The soup lunch which followed was well supported and enjoyed by about 75 members. The total raised was £1514.60 – a tremendous result. At the end of the month, the

coffee morning in support of Water Aid was also a great success and raised £582.90 We are very grateful to everyone who contributed in any way to the success of these fundraising events.

We were pleased to learn that the Eco Group has recently been assessed by Eco Congregation Scotland as having achieved a Bronze Plus Award and hearing of their plans to progress to a silver award.

Plans for Christmas services and special events were approved at our meeting in November.

Details and more information about these can be found later in the magazine.

We were sorry to learn of the death of several of our members recently and we have also been saddened to know of the deaths of some close family members of several of our Church family.

It was, however, good to have an infant welcomed into our Church family when we celebrated the Sacrament of Baptism in September.

Christine and Helen



CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS

Carols For Christmas will take place in the Church on Saturday December 14 at 6.00pm. Village Voices and The Junior Choir will perform in the Church and afterwards you can join them in the Hall for tea and coffee. Tickets are £5.00 each and there is no charge for children.

We hope you can join us.

thanks in advance .



Moir



KILBARCHAN PARISH CHURCH ECO GROUP

The Eco Group has been hard at work recently and we are delighted to announce that Moira Stark has agreed to join us as a member of the Team. In addition to her many other skills Moira will help us to strengthen the links between the Eco Group and Fair Trade which she has championed for many years.

We held a coffee morning on Saturday 26th October in aid of Wateraid, a charity that works to provide clean water for everyone everywhere. We raised an impressive sum of just under £600 and again many thanks are due to all the bakers, servers and to those of you who came along and enjoyed tea, coffee and fellowship-your generosity and support are very much appreciated

On a rather dreich Saturday afternoon, Saturday 2nd November, we were delighted that in partnership with Kilbarchan Smile, a total of 23 people, including 6 children, managed to collect a total of 14 bags of litter around the village.-well done all. Again the “pickers” were rewarded with delicious tea, coffee and home baking in the church hall courtesy of the Agricultural Society. A great example of the benefits of Partnership Working across the Village.

As you will have already heard in church, the Eco Group has recently been assessed by Eco Congregation Scotland as having achieved Bronze Plus standard with only a couple of further items to be completed in order for us to be awarded a Silver Award-A great achievement for everyone!

We are currently working hard with our “Green Champions” to achieve our Silver Award and as part of our efforts, we have drafted an ambitious Action Plan with regards to our Eco aspirations for the Congregation over the next year. We cannot do this without your continuing support and we will be asking everyone in the Congregation to get involved in a wide and varied range of events and initiatives over the next 12 months-details to follow.

Our next event will be hosting a “Green Christmas” table at the Church Christmas Fayre on the morning of Saturday 7th December. In the meantime please be “Eco Aware” when buying gifts and cards for your family and friends-try to avoid tinsel, plastic and glitter. There are plenty of “Greener” alternatives available

Eco Group

JUNIOR CHURCH

Hello everyone, I cannot actually believe it's nearly Christmas again, this year seems to have flown by in the wink of an eye.

As intimated in the last edition we now have June Burgess and Katy Thompson as part of our Junior Church team, and as expected it's lovely to have a fresh perspective with regards to our bible learning.

This session so far we have been looking at Jesus' ancestors, starting with the Creation, working through Noah, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Ruth, David and we will also include Jonah, and our children are learning how they all fit into Jesus's family tree.

As always we have activities and crafts that reinforce the story, the children have made origami boats and a rainbow craft with ribbons to remember God is Faithful for our Noah story, made a Jacob and built his ladder out of lollipop sticks. For Moses a burning bush was made and also a ten commandment mobile. One of the children's favourite activities is baking and for the story of Ruth we made some soda bread, lollipop sticks were used again to craft a star of David.

As Christmas approaches the team are working on this year's Nativity, and we hope to spin our tale from a different angle once again. The Nativity will take place on Sunday 22nd December this year, and we look forward to performing for our congregation and the children's family and friends.

Junior Church will then break for the holidays and resume on the 12th January 2025.

Wishing all our children and families a wonderful Festive Season when it comes.

Take care!

Ros, Shona, June and Katy



KILBARCHAN PARISH CHURCH HILLWALKING CLUB

REPORT NOVEMBER 2024



This quarter the hillwalking club have rearranged two of our planned walks but completed a Donald, a Marilyn and a smaller 266m hill.

August's lower level walk (which I omitted from last quarter's report) was from Bridge of Allen to Dunblane and back via Darn Road and Glen Road. Eight club members had a lovely short walk, with good weather and great company. The route was relatively easy, on a mixture of good and rocky paths, and tarmac'd roads, with a few hilly sections with good views.

The following month's torrential rain and damp forecast led September's walk to be swapped to Lowther Hill, to give a walk both shorter and drier underfoot. Eight intrepid walkers ventured out from Wanlockhead on a very atmospheric day in high winds, rain and mist, to reach the summit. The group met six school children on a Duke of Edinburgh expedition, who seemed surprisingly happy in spite of the weather.

October's planned higher altitude walk was postponed till next year, to allow for more Corbett baggers' availability. However, the smaller hill of West Lomond (confusingly in Fife, nowhere near Loch Lomond) attracted a group of nine, on a cloudy but dry day. We started to the west of the hill, on a well made gravel path by the Glen Burn, before turning north to fight our way through tussocks with a hidden ditch, which tripped up more than one of us, thankfully without injuries. The last pull up to the summit was easier underfoot, but steep, reaching the trig point of this 522m Marilyn with excellent views for the modest altitude. We descended by the same route, before a few of us stopped for coffee and cake on the homeward journey.

November's walk was Lewis Hill, by the Bannock Burn. Eleven walkers set off from near Wallstale Farm, south-west of Stirling, on an overcast morning. The route used a mixture of narrow paths (some steep) and forest track to reach an escarpment 80 metres above and bordering the North Third Reservoir. From there, a few steep but short descents and climbs brought the group to the triangulation pillar of 266m Lewis Hill. The view over the reservoir was spectacular, although distant hills were obscured by the cloudy conditions. The return walk descended to the west bank of the reservoir, then proceeded to the Dam Wall at the north end with a view of the impressive escarpment over the

water. The walk continued to a large stone cairn, then through rough woods to Old Lime Kilns before the cars reappeared at the edge of the tree line.

Our upcoming events will be:

- 11th Dec 7.30pm: AGM in the church hall, where we will plan our programme for 2025. Please bring your suggestions and requests for walks.
- 14th Dec: Cruach Tairbeirt, meeting at the steeple at 9am

Any new members would be very welcome at the AGM or walk, even if you have no previous hillwalking experience.

Eilidh Henderson, with thanks to Catherine Horn, Liz Stewart and Jim Henderson



PROPERTY REPORT

Following from the previous magazine article, the current hot air heating system for the Church has been certified in working order. However, it is over 40 years old and we cannot guarantee that it will remain so. We are therefore continuing to look for an alternative, but it is less of a priority.

At the time of writing, the stained glass panels are still in the hands of Rainbow Glass for restoration and preparation for mounting in the Church and small hall. As a prelude to that, the vestibule of the church was redecorated in September. Work to fix the surface drain at the Session House was completed in October. The repair to the exterior of the hall gable and the resurfacing of the side path at the large hall emergency exit should be completed by the end of November. The rewiring of the church and hall fire alarm systems was completed at the beginning of November.

The Property Team is grateful for the continued support of a number of unnamed people who keep the church grounds in good order.

There are a number of potential projects for 2025, which will require Session approval before we can notify you of them.

Malcolm MacAskill Property Convener

: REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR 2024

This year once again Kilbarchan Parish Church will be supporting the valuable work of the Renfrewshire Foodbank. The congregation's support of this initiative has been overwhelming in the past, so if you are able, I know the staff, volunteers and beneficiaries will be so appreciative of our support.

The format remains the same.

1. Fill a stout box or stout bag with a food item, an under the sink item and Christmas item like a selection box, chocolates, etc. each day.
2. Start to fill your box or bag from Thursday 21st November.
3. Completed boxes and bags should be returned to the Church by Sunday 15th December.
4. Arrangements for the collection of donations, can if required, be made by contacting Graham on 0787 6213781
5. The final day for the Foodbank receiving donations is Friday 20th December.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Best wishes for a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.



THE TOTS' CLUB

The club continues to be very successful and we have a long list of tots who enjoy a lot of fun. Our Christmas Party is on Monday 16th December from 9.45am, when Santa's visit will be a highlight-along with the lovely food provided by our volunteers. If you would like to join our group of volunteers, please speak to us. Please feel free to drop in for coffee and a chat any Monday morning. *Elizabeth and Fulton, Alison and Ian, Myra, Helen, Rosie, Rosemary, Christine, Margaret, Cathy, Fiona, Malcolm and Jenifer*



RENFREWSHIRE FOODBANK HUGE THANK YOU.

I'd like to say a personal thank you to everyone who contributes in any way to the support of the Renfrewshire Foodbank. This might be donating bags of food and household goods, it may be online, it may be by monetary donations, large and small. However you donate, and how much you donate is greatly appreciated by myself and the management team at Renfrew.

I'd like also to say a personal thank you all the standin drivers who deliver on my behalf at times. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



Graham

FINANCE TEAM REPORT

The Church's financial year end is fast approaching -31st. December 2024. Organisations are asked to complete their accounts for the year to 31st. December 2024 and then submit them to the Treasurer no later than 15th. January 2025.

If there are any queries, please contact any member of the Finance Team.

*Marjory Love (Treasurer), Myra Grant, Neil Chittick, Ian Trushell, Cathy Millar.
Alex Christine*



CUPPA AT THE KIRK

Many thanks to all who come along to support cuppa and a big Thank you also to all of the helpers.

Please note the last Cuppa this year will be Tuesday 10th December when we will have a little Christmas Celebration..

Anyone wishing to attend please let Arlene or any of the Pastoral Care Team know.

Cuppa will commence in the New Year on Tuesday 14th January.

Best wishes to all The Pastoral Care Team

- a) Meeting started with a short service of communion taken by retiring Moderator, Rev David Burt.
- b) Thereafter elcome was given to the Rev Lynsey Brennan, recently inducted to Baldernock l/w Milngavie St Paul's, the new representative elders, Iain Cameron, Charles Davey, Alison Fettes, Iain Jackson, Kenneth Swanson and Maureen Walker and the newly qualified Worship Leaders were presented to presbytery.
- c) Congratulations were extended to the Rev David Kay for 50 years in ordained ministry and the Rev Andrew Lees celebrating 40 years.
- d) Thanks were given to the retiring Moderator, Rev David Burt and the election and installation of new Moderator, Rev Dr Christine Goldie, was carried out.

Matters approved DECISIONS MADE UNDER POWERS (S/O 61) for noting:

1. Rev Mhairi Breingan appointed as Interim Moderator at Clydebank Kilbowie St Andrew's linked with Radnor Park from 16th September 2024 on the resignation of Robert Kinloch.
 2. Johnstone St Andrew's Trinity will join with Johnstone St Paul's to worship on a permanent basis from 1st September 2024 in St Paul's.
 3. **Presbytery Implementation/Planning** noted the results of the congregational votes on Sunday 30th June regarding the linking of Houston & Killellan with Langbank as follows: Houston & Killellan for 104 against 5 for 29 against 0; on 14th July at both Howwood and Johnstone St Paul's to vote on the basis of severance. The results were as follows: Howwood for 31 against 0 Johnstone: St Paul's for 51 against 2; on 18 th August at both Howwood and Kilbarchan to vote on a basis of linking and to elect Rev Stephen Smith as minister there: Kilbarchan for 81 against 0 Howwood for 37 against 0; Stephen Smith as minister of the linked charge: Howwood for 36 against 0.
 4. **Stewardship & Finance** approved the application from Bearsden Baljaffray to the Mission Fund in the amount of £7,500 for the purpose of upgrading their AV system, from Bearsden New Kilpatrick to the Mission Fund in the amount of £6000, initially, for the purpose of employing an outreach worker, with a further award in October.
- A. **BUSINESS COMMITTEE:** the Communications Officer, Mr Stuart Wilson, and invites him to share his aspirations for Clyde Presbytery; the new Presbytery Handbook is now available on the website www.clydepresbytery.org under the "handbook" tab; The setting up a Presbytery Staffing Group to oversee the deployment and supervision of and offer support to Ordained Local Ministers, Assistant Ministers, Readers and

Ministry Development Staff consisting of the representatives of Ministries and Presbytery Planning and Implementation Committees, two other Presbyters and the Clerk ex-officio; A working group consisting of Robbie Hamilton, Karen Harbison, Hanneke Marshall and co-opting Alistair Burrell was set up to a. review the latest guidelines and requirements in relation to GDPR and Conflict of Interest.

- B. REASURER:** the half yearly financial report was distributed; summary of income and expenditure for the 6 months to 30th June 2024 and compared this with the budget for the year; the 2023 Presbytery Accounts which had been approved by Presbyters, and lodged with OSCR; Presbytery Dues for 2024 have been received from all contributors.
- C. PRESBYTERY PLANNING/IMPLEMENTATION:** the decision of the Committee to enact the Union of the Kilmacolm churches as per Section 10.3 of the Presbytery Mission Plan Act was upheld; the decision of the Presbytery Clerk to initiate the first Annual Review of the Presbytery of Clyde's Mission Plan was approved and the Review will focus on outlining our progress as a Presbytery in regards to implementing the Plan.
- D. MISSION:** As part of the audit of the Presbytery Planning Procedures, an audit of the Mission Plans is required to be carried out; each Congregation should submit their three missional priorities, from their mission audit, and any progress on them if they are still the same as their original plan, to the Presbytery Mission Officer by 30th November 2024.
- E. PROPERTY:** subsequent to the notice of motion at the June Presbytery meeting it is proposed to amend Standing Order number 59 by revising the financial limits requiring Presbytery approval in any one calendar year, including VAT, to the following:- Sanctuaries:- £20,000 Halls:- £10,000 Manses:- £5,000; Quinquennial inspections are no longer being undertaken and our Presbytery Building Officer, Donessa Shearer, will be using an alternative survey method which will be more realistic and accurately reflect what needs to be done to ensure our sanctuaries and ancillary accommodation remains fit for purpose, not just for the present, but for the future.
- F. STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE:** Presbytery noted the list of congregations whose accounts have been attested and instructs them to send a copy to OSCR before the deadline of 30th September 2024; a small number of congregational accounts, listed in red, are still to be attested; many thanks to congregational treasurers for their diligence in preparing these accounts and for their continuing work with congregational finances in these difficult and changing times; notes the amended protocol for making application to the Mission Support Fund.

NEWS FROM PRENZLAU

They have a saying in Germany:

'Gut Ding will Weile haben' (Good things take time).

Due to massive delays, the rebuilding of the Kilbarchan West organ in the Marienkirche in Prenzlau will not now take place until 2025.

The delays are due to the planned gallery, designed to keep the organ as similar as possible in layout to what it was in Kilbarchan. Costs have also risen considerably.

Work started earlier this year (the photograph was taken in April) and is expected to be complete in February 2025. Restoration work on the organ has continued at Eberswalde, and it is expected the work to rebuild the organ in the Marienkirche will start in the late spring. This will take considerably longer than the three weeks it took to dismantle the organ in Kilbarchan, and no date can yet be set for the week of events to mark the inauguration of the organ, but it will be sometime in the summer of 2025.

Tom Ferguson.





POLAR EXPRESS

On Sunday 8th December we are holding a family film afternoon free of charge . All we ask is a donation to cover costs !

We are going to show the “feel good “family Christmas film Polar Express.

It has voices of the stars , featuring Tom Hanks .

It's a film for all ages , children must bring an adult !

Treats and snacks will be provided.

Come and join us for a fun afternoon !

Alan Fulton

For the Mission team .



As the Christmas season approaches, if you cannot find the Fair trade goods you would like to give as presents, try looking up the ethical superstore.com for a lovely selection of Fairtrade and ethically traded cards, gifts and many other ideas. Please speak to me if would like a catalogue. Seasons greetings,

Moiria Stark

HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

Since the last report, a group of volunteers has met to discuss the Security Situation as raised by the Church of Scotland General Trustees.

Although the threat of terrorist attack was seen to be significant on a national basis, our view, backed by advice from the General Trustees, was that the risk to rural and semi-rural congregations was negligible. So, no action is deemed necessary on this front.

While the risk of aggressive intruders was very low it was decided that there may be concern from the various groups using our premises and that we should consider their security more closely. A questionnaire was given to the people named as contacts for the various Halls user groups to seek their views.

Interestingly none of the groups had felt particularly vulnerable until they were asked to think about their own security. None had felt the need to bolt the doors and any who had experience of an uninvited incomer stated that any intrusion was entirely innocent. However, having been asked the question, several of the more vulnerable groups felt they would be happier if the entrance was more secure.

To this end, a proposal to modify the entrance to the Halls was put to a recent Session Meeting. This has now been approved and it is hoped that the work will be carried out before Christmas. The outside hall doors will not change and will be locked and unlocked with existing keys. The first pair of swing doors will be modified so they only open outwards and can be locked. There will be a bellpush in this new small vestibule area to attract the attention of those inside the halls and one or two of the opaque panels in these doors will be replaced with plane glass so that the person requesting entry can be identified and let in. The lock in this door will be electronically operated from the outside with a key fob, similar to a modern car key. A push pad on the inside of the doors will allow easy exit. A list of keyholders has been drawn up and a fob will be issued to those currently involved with Hall Activities and User Groups. To reinforce our security, I am asking representatives from groups which are not currently active to please return their keys to Margaret, Malcolm or myself.

But please let me reassure you. The chances of anything happening on Church premises is extremely low. There are far riskier places in the village now the evenings are dark. We are fortunate that youngsters leaving our Halls can be met in Steeple Square, but young people coming out of the Scout and Guide Halls on Barn Green are far more vulnerable. Please, please, please, if your children are involved make sure that they, and the people meeting them wear light coloured

clothing. And drivers – you do not lose very many seconds on your journey by slowing down, so just slow down.

Stay Safe

Tony Martin [H&S Administrator]

01505 352490



Nine Lessons and Carols

Sunday 15th December

6.30pm



CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Christmas Fayre 7th December from 10am-12noon, there is a selection of gift stalls, Santa, coffee mince pie and shortbread, entrance £3, children £1, come along with family and friends and support this major fund raiser

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Read the story of the birth of Jesus in Luke 2:1-20. Twenty-six words from the Christmas story are found in the letter maze found below. The words may be written horizontally, vertically or diagonally. Circle each word that you find.



multitude
swaddling
host
flock
firstborn
Savior (NIV)
shepherds
haste
peace

pondered
Bethlehem
Joseph
inn
praising
glory
manger
behold
angel

delivered
Nazareth
glorifying
Mary
heaven
shone
decree
enrollment (RSV)



CHRISTMAS CHEER

It's Christmas time, an a'm no jolly
So a didnae buy any holly
An' mistletoe, forget that
I'm no kissin' anywan, I'd feel a prat.

Christmas crackers, festive cheer
I'm no celebratin', nae fear,
Tell the weans tae mak less noise
An' go awa an' play wae their new toys.

Big fat turkey, Christmas pud
It's no daen ma cholesterol any good
Repeat films oan the telly
Weans stuffin' their faces wae ice cream an jelly.

Carol singers at the front door
Auld grandpa lets oot a loud snore,
Peace oan earth, weel there' nae peace in here
A'm awa doon tae the pub for a beer.

Walk intae the pub everywans singin'
Christmas bells fae the corner are ringin'
Roll oan Boxin' Day when everywan's oan a diet
An a git back tae work fur some peace an quiet.

Anne Logam

MISSION TEAM

It's been a busy time for the Mission Team and many thanks are due to all those who made soup, donated bread and shortbread, served lunch and supported our Harvest Soup Lunch in any way. This event was in aid of Mary's Meals and raised the fantastic sum of £1514.60. We intend to arrange another soup lunch in due course - watch this space!

Our next event is the Family Christmas Film "Polar Express" which will be shown in the church hall at 2.30pm on Sunday 8th December. Sweets, Snacks and drinks will be freely available along with tea and coffee. Everyone is warmly invited to come along to what we are sure will be a fun afternoon for all ages.



MESSY CHURCH

Messy church began this year's sessions with a look at Fairtrade and raising awareness of how, by making small informed choices in our lives, we can all make a huge difference to other peoples lives.

Our theme on 19 October was Joshua and the walls of Jericho. Joshua was one of the bible's greatest military leaders and a model for leadership. The children had great fun making posters, drums, paper trumpets and building walls on biscuits 🍪 before watching a short film and sharing a meal.

We are looking forward to our Christmas session on 30th November when we will be making Christingles and are delighted to welcome back (by popular demand) the praise band who will lead us in some festive carols.

As a team we strive to uphold the Messy Church values of 1) Christ centred, 2) All age 3) Creative 4) Celebration and 5) Hospitality in all of our sessions.

The positive and appreciative comments from the adults and to see the children so engaged and happy makes it all worthwhile and we are grateful for the continued interest and support of our church family.

COUNTRY DANCING



It is sad for the whole class to say good-bye to Anne Whyte. Anne has been teaching and leading this class for over 20 years. Each week preparing and calling the dances as well as adding her own detailed background. We have all had a lot of fun and laughter over the years, mostly at our expense as our efforts inevitably fell short of the mark.

A big date on the calendar is our annual meeting with Elderslie country dancing class. We relied heavily on Anne for direction in order that everyone could enjoy the dances. Anne has decided that it is time for her to retire from this demanding roll.

Thank you, Anne, for all your involvement over the years. We will miss you greatly and wish you well in your “retirement”.

Helen Miller



FUNDRAISING NEWS

Art Off the Square was a fantastic success raising a record sum for the church.

We hope to have a soup lunch in the near future, as the Mission Team lunch in aid of Mary’s Meals was such a success. The lunches were very popular a few years ago, so it will be good to reinstate them.

The Christmas Fayre is on Saturday 7th December, hope to see you all there to buy small gifts and enjoy a mince pie and shortbread with your coffee. Entrance remains £3 for adults £1 for children.

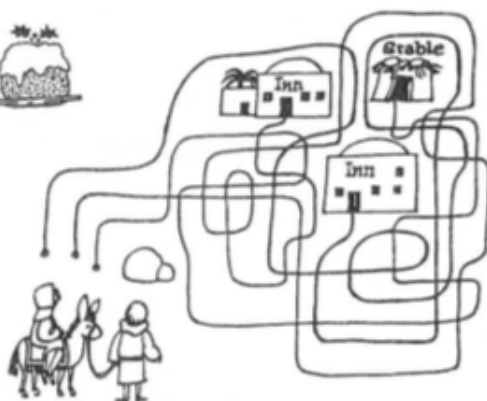
It would be good to have some new ideas for Fundraising events so please speak to anyone on the committee.

Kidz
Korner

Merry Christmas



a HAPPY
CHRISTMAS
starts
with



Lead Mary and Joseph to the stable



PARISH REGISTER

MEMBERS LEAVING THE CHURCH



By Certificate of transference

Richard Geddes to Oakshaw Trinity, Paisley
Mrs Kay Geddes to Oakshaw Trinity, Paisley

DEATHS

Alan McNeill	(Date of death – 21 st August)	member of Houston
Morag Johnston	(Date of death – 24 th August)	
Brenda Sellar	(Date of death – 8 th September)	
Alistair Sharp	(Date of death – 20 th September)	member of Elderslie
Bill Binks	(Date of death – 21 st October)	Howwood
Isabelle McSkimming	(Date of death – 24 th October)	
Morag Wilkinson	(Date of death – 29 th October)	
Jan Keir	(Date of death – 30 th October)	
Anne Sharp	(Date of death – 2 nd November)	member of Elderslie
Nan Chittick	(Date of death – 10 th November)	

ROLL

The Roll of Kilbarchan Parish Church now stands at 329 and 17 Adherents.
Please remember to notify Fulton Dunn, the roll keeper, of any changes to address, phone number or email in order to maintain up to date information. Contact details phone 01505704502 or email KPC.rollkeeper@gmail.com



Allan and I wish to say a big thank you to all at Kilbarchan Kirk for the good wishes and lovely flowers we received on our Golden Wedding Anniversary.
We had a lovely time and appreciate your thoughtfulness

Best wishes *May Henderson*

We would like to express sincere thanks for all the cards, flowers, visits and messages of sympathy and support following the death of our mother on November 10th. The Church played a big part in her life and it was a comfort to know how much she will be missed.

The *Chittick* family

USEFUL CHURCH CONTACTS

Minister - Rev Stephen Smith - 01505 702621

Session Clerk - Mrs Christine Erwin - 01505 703056

Ass. Session Clerk - Miss Helen Robertson - 01505325382

WORSHIP PROGRAMME

Sunday 1 st December	11.15am	Morning worship
	3pm	Service of Light and Hope
Sunday 8 th December	11.15am	Gift Service
Sunday 15 th December	11.15am	Morning worship
Sunday 22 nd December	11.15am	Nativity Service
	6.30pm	Service of Lessons and Carols
Tuesday Christmas eve	4.00pm	Joint service in Howewood Church (All welcome)
Wednesday Christmas Day	6.30pm	Joint service in Kilbarchan Church (All welcome)
Sunday 29 th December	11.15am	Morning worship
2025		
Sunday 5 th January	11.15am	Morning worship and celebration of Holy Communion
Sunday 12 th January	11.15am	Morning worship
Sunday 19 th January	11.15am	Morning worship
Sunday 26 th January	11.15am	Morning worship
Sunday 2 nd February	11.15am	Morning worship
Sunday 9 th February	11.15am	Morning worship
Sunday 16 th February	11.15am	Morning worship
Sunday 23 rd February	11.15am	Morning worship and celebration of Holy Communion
Sunday 2 nd March	11.15am	Morning worship

