

September - November
2018

Outreach

The quarterly newsletter from St Kentigern's



St Kentigern's Church

people together following Jesus





Dear friends

I had a few days away in August and spent a little time in Chesterfield. You cannot be there without being amazed at the crooked spire on the church in the centre of the town. The lines which should go straight up to the top are bent out of shape and the spire leans nearly nine feet in one direction and five feet in another. There are several mythical reasons for this phenomenon, but the most likely is that it was built with 'green' wood, which then warped as it dried out and so twisted the whole spire. How it stays up defies explanation!

It seemed to me that there is a lesson for living in this spire. If we create anything with poor materials, we will have a flawed final product, whether we are building a piece of furniture, making a cake, or decorating a room. The quality of the result is decided by the original materials and the preparation before it is made.

And the same is true of human beings. The adult a child becomes depends on the quality of the upbringing they have received. If they are shown violence or selfishness or greed; if they are taught to disrespect the law and other people, that is what they will become. But if they are taught the Christian principles of love and service and dependence on the Lord, then that is how they are likely to behave. So do encourage your children and young people to come to church; read them Bible stories; give them a Bible; show them your faith in practice. That way they are being made with good materials, not 'green' wood, and the world will not see them twisted and bent out of the upright position.

God bless you and your families

Your Interim Moderator and friend
Anne

Letter From the Session Clerk



Hi friends,

It has been quite a trying time for some of you over the summer and still as you read this. With people being quite poorly and some even hospitalised you all need our prayers. It is a time when we need to rally round and help each other. There is nothing better than providing a cup of tea and a shoulder to cry on (maybe not literally). In 1 Thessalonians 5 it states “encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.” If you are struggling with worry or illness, remember God is our refuge and strength and we – your church – are here for you.

It’s the start of a new session for the organisations, schools and for Session. It’s hard to believe this is my third year already beginning as your Session Clerk and although we are still hunting for our illusive new minister we know they will come just when we need them most. Jeremiah 29 writes “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” And we do have hope for the future. Without hope there is no purpose. I believe there is great strength in prayer, even though we feel at times this may not be the case. Never give up trying.

Remember I have posted the Minutes of Session meetings in the foyer – pinned to the board and have listed a few things the Session Committees are hoping to plan for the future. Please read them and help make them a success, for without your support these things won’t flourish. A lot of work gets put in to trying new things to bring us all together so have a read and see what interests you. If there’s something we are missing then let us know and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Until next time. Always in my prayers.

Tracey Hamilton

Church in the Wider World Committee

(Noreen Gray, Ian Rennie, John Tomlinson, Jon Herd , Sandy Brown)

Romania

Our highlight this year was of course the visit of our friends from Romania, who were here from 20th to 25th June. They thank everyone they met for their hospitality and friendship. They appreciated it very much and felt very welcome.

They enjoyed a trip to the Ayrshire coast and Culzean Castle with Jon on the Friday, having had an evening meal with the committee, Rev Anne and Tracey Hamilton the previous evening. On the Saturday, it was off to Stirling, Loch Lomond and the north Ayrshire coast with Sandy. Then on Sunday 24th Pastors Sandor, Erzsebet and their eldest son Daniel, joined us for the morning service. Both the Rev Anne and Pastor Sandor took the service, with the Pastor delivering the sermon. Afterwards we all enjoyed our Congregational Lunch together, with many members of the congregation staying on. After lunch we had a meeting of the Kirk Session, where there was an opportunity for all to ask and answer questions. Everyone we have spoken to has commented on how well Pastor Sandor spoke.

Our Twinning Agreement continues with the churches in Amati and Hirip until 2021, so we will be keeping the congregation abreast of any developments. One such development that has emerged is that our good friends in Blythswood Care have agreed to take 40 - 50 shoe boxes to Satu Mare, this year to be distributed to the elderly in both villages. We are hoping that everyone in the congregation will join in and collect items for these boxes. This should not take away from our usual collection in November.

Please can you help by filling a box for an elderly person. You'll find out how you can help and what you should put into the boxes on the next page of the magazine.

Blythswood Checklist 2018

The following items are acceptable to be included in your shoe box
(all items must be new).

Please do try to include the following items highlighted below.

Toothpaste and toothpaste Heart, scarf and gloves

Soap Sweets (no chocolate or other food)

'Best before' date no later than March 2018.

No loose sweets, lollies or undated bags of sweets.

Do not include used or damaged items, chocolate or food other than sweets. Chocolate eclairs and Chocolate Limes are not allowed.

Books that are mainly words should not be included.

Toiletries (NO TALCUM POWDER)

___ Shampoo

___ Household candles

___ Face cloth/Moist wipes

___ Screwdrivers/Pliers

___ Deodorant

___ Kitchen Utensils

___ Moisturising Cream

Stationery

___ Comb/brush

___ Pens/Pencils/Sharpener

___ Sanitary Products

___ Notepads

___ Shaving foam/razors

___ Rulers/Erasers

Clothes and other items

Miscellaneous

(T-shirts/Pyjamas/Jumpers/Shirts)

___ New Make up

___ Sewing Equipment

News from Barnabas Fund

It is heart rendering to see on our television the devastating scenes from the Kerala region of India because of the monsoon flooding being experienced there at present. To see houses being washed away with families inside, landslides sweeping away everything in their path, people clinging to whatever they can. So far 357 people have lost their lives with 50,000 homeless rescued.

When Bangladesh experienced similar floods Barnabas Fund stepped in. “We prayed every day for God’s provision and miraculously He answered our prayers” said Jonota Roy, a Christian convert from Hinduism, whose family received emergency aid from Barnabas. Jonota fled the floodwater with her husband and child and eventually found shelter in a school compound, but, as converts to Christianity, the family were overlooked for aid from other sources. They were among 1,284 Christian converts, of Hindu and Muslim background, helped by Barnabas after extra-severe monsoon flooding killed hundreds of people, made thousands homeless, and destroyed miles of farmland.

The converts received food parcels, containing rice, oil, flour, salt and lentils, as well as vitamins and medicines to prevent disease due to floodwaters and mosquitos. “God rescued us from the danger and at the right time He supplied our need” said Jonota.

You can read similar stories from the Barnabas Aid magazine copies of which are in the Vestibule. There is also a Prayer Diary which is enclosed within the magazine and which helps you to pray for specific situations and areas.

**Prayer for the Persecuted Church
(from Barnabus Fund)**

*Lord, why were You forsaken, abandoned
On that tree of curse and shame?
Why were You left alone,
Bereft of Your Father's love and care?*

*Today Your people seem forsaken,
Left alone in cruel hands,
Persecuted, violently abused, martyred,
Make real to them Your presence and Your love.*

*For hope is near,
Glory descends and darkness is banished,
Death's sting is no more,
Resurrection triumphs o'er the grave,
Christ lives for evermore.*

*Lord, Victim, Priest and King,
Come to Your suffering people,
Heal their brokenness,
Bind up their wounds,
Remove their distress,
And be for them a hope and a future.*

**In Your Name we ask,
Lord Jesus Christ.**

Amen

FIRST TUESDAY SERVICES

These most valued and much appreciated services resume again this month.

Here are the dates for everyone to note.

Tuesday 4th September at 2.00 pm

Harvest Theme Service conducted by Lyn Gale

Tuesday 2nd October at 2.00 pm

Communion Service conducted by Rev. Tom Logan

Tuesday 6th November at 2.00 pm

Remembrance Theme Service conducted by Lyn Gale

Tuesday 4th December at 2.00 pm

Advent theme Service conducted by Lyn Gale

After every service we sit down in the Small Hall to enjoy a lovely purvey featuring home baking and your choice of tea, coffee or soft drink and not forgetting the opportunity to build friendships and fellowship with each other.



My travels in Jordan

During 2004 Jon Herd was attached to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and served with the international police contingent in Jordan. He was part of the coalition effort to rebuild Iraq after the 2003 war, in particular to train the new Iraqi police service in the principles of democratic policing. This was done at a purpose-built training facility in the Jordanian desert. While there he wrote a series of articles for his church magazine, covering life, work, tourism and culture in Jordan. The next in the series is reproduced below.

Greetings once more from Amman, Jordan. I have resisted thus far to offer travelogues of my time here, preferring to detail the lifestyle in more or less irreverent way. Others have expressed their appreciation of this country far better than I ever could and you are directed to professional writers for a true impression of Jordan. However, the Biblical connections are both inescapable and welcome. I have not yet visited all of the prominent sites here but this article will describe the two outstanding sites I have been lucky enough to see so far.



Scattered throughout Jordan are places associated with Abraham, Moses, Lot, Aaron, Elijah, Joshua, Jesus and John the Baptist. Being close to these places turns Sunday school stories into reality! I recently visited one of the most prominent and famous sites: Petra, the “Rose Red City, Half as Old as Time”. This site was first occupied by the Nabateans, who came up from the Saudi Arabian peninsula during the fourth century BC, being chosen for its safe location among the valleys of south Jordan, and its easy access to the Red Sea. The Nabateans set about carving their city out of the cliffs and gullies around the site. The result of their labours is breathtaking. The most outstanding and well known feature is the Treasury, actually designed as a funerary temple.

To reach it you must walk over a mile through a steep sided gorge. Just when you think you are getting nowhere you round a bend and the rose-coloured columns soar before you. The facade is 130 feet high and 81 feet wide. On top of the edifice is a large vase shaped object, a Tholos, which the Bedouins thought contained gold, not unreasonably considering the surroundings. They expended a lot of gunpowder over the years trying to crack the Tholos high above them and get to the imagined prize within, pock-marking the red stone. The marks from their muskets do nothing to spoil the view which is awe-inspiring, 2000 years after it was carved. Petra is more than the Treasury; it also has a 6000 seat Theatre, countless Tombs, and the Cenotaph of King Obadas I, another construction as stunning as the Treasury.

I visited Petra with a few friends and we hired a local guide, an elderly man called Mohammed. I was intrigued by Mohammed's cut-glass English accent so I asked him where he got it. Mohammed had assisted the British excavation team in 1953 as the site was being opened up and had learned English from the archaeologists!



Needless to say his knowledge of the site was excellent – we could not have had a better guide. At one point he asked us if we were ready to go with him up the 956 steps to 'The High Place Of Sacrifice'. Well, I was frankly quite tired and didn't really relish the thought of climbing in all that heat. I looked at Mohammed and saw an elderly man in an old grey suit and unsuitable shoes. "If you can do it, I can do it" I thought, so I boldly stepped forward to follow Mohammed to the distant summit. Mohammed however hailed a passing donkey, sat on it, and made himself comfortable for the journey, while we trailed along on foot behind him!

The view from the top was worth the climb. The mountains and valleys of the Great African Rift march off down to the Red Sea, many of them unexplored and unexplorable. On an adjacent peak is the tomb of Aaron, the brother of Moses. Aaron was the first high priest

in the Bible and was commanded by God to give the people the priestly blessing “The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift his countenance on you and give you peace’. (Numbers 624-26). These words now have a special resonance for me.

That night I returned to Petra from my hotel to do the ‘candlelight tour’. The site is lit only by candles placed at intervals on the ground and the guide (Mohammed again) gives strict instructions about our conduct during the walk to the Treasury: no talking, no mobile phones, walk in single file. As we walked down the gorge to the Treasury we stopped and stood in silence and soaked in the atmosphere of 2000 years of history. On approaching the Treasury we could hear the sound of a Bedouin flute, the only noise in the place. Stepping into the plaza in front of the Treasury, lit only by candles, is a world-class, lump-in-the-throat experience and one which I will never forget. The edifice is barely visible in the half light and is felt more than seen. The flute notes swirl around the site with their ancient rhythms and melodies. We did not need to be told not to speak. I must say, having been around the world, I am quick to spot fakes: this was the real thing.

Heeding advice from the ubiquitous Mohammed rose early the next day and managed to be the first visitor to the site. I had breakfast sitting alone on the top tier of the amphitheatre, just me and 5999 empty seats as the morning sun illuminated the tombs and temples. No noise or traffic, just the Bedouins with their camels and donkeys passing by far below me. Another unforgettable experience. Thanks for the advice Mohammed!

Another site which is unmissable is the Roman ruins at Jerash, formerly Gerasa, with spectacular remains from the first century BC. Jerash, like Petra, is part of the Decapolis, ten ancient towns which formed a loose trading affiliation, and is in ‘the region of the Gerasenes’ (Mark 5:1) in the north of Jordan where Jesus taught and performed miracles. I visited Jerash with a small group of like-minded friends and walked

around the theatres, shops, temples and streets which, despite an earthquake in the eighth century, are very well preserved. Chariot wheel ruts are still visible on the roads. A little imagination easily recalls the bustle, noise and colour of a working Roman town. One can see the crowds at the Nymphaeum, a building housing what would now be called a spa, the smell of soap and flowing water still fresh. One can see the horses and chariots as they charge around the Hippodrome, smell the fresh meat at the marble lined butchers. This site has only partially been excavated with many more treasures hidden under the sand.

A notable, and rather sad feature, was the lack of visitors to this important site. We had it pretty much to ourselves, which was a great way to see it but does reveal the precarious state of the tourist industry in the Middle East. These sites and the people who look after them, depend on the income from tourists but over the last couple of years visitor numbers have crashed. Strangely, nobody pesters you for trade, as they do in Egypt and elsewhere. They will ask if you want to buy their postcards or trinkets and on being told no, will happily ask you where you are from. They will smile and say “welcome to Jordan”, a phrase I have heard a thousand times.

Jerash was outstanding. Next on my list are Madaba, closely connected with John the Baptist, and Jesus’ baptism site on the River Jordan. Also, I will be visiting Cairo in June and Jerusalem shortly after that. I reckon I must take the opportunity to travel whilst I am in this part of the world, in case history and politics make these places untenable in future.

Jon

**Come and meet Rev. David McCarthy
Church of Scotland's Coordinator for Fresh Expressions of
Church.**

David McCarthy has agreed to visit St. Kentigern's again on Wednesday 26th of September at 7 pm in the Lounge at the Church (Not First Edition this time)

Messy Church resumed activities on Tuesday 28th August, and both Community Cafe and Pie, Pint and Parable resume on Wednesday 5th of September at 10am and 7pm respectively, and it is our hope to see all currently involved with our Fresh Expressions projects come and meet David to share ideas and broaden our horizons.

Also, in the meantime, anyone in the congregation who would like to know more about the Fresh Expressions movement across the country and in St Kentigern's please contact me by phone (01563 524398) or by e-mail at : pastoral.care@stkentigern.org.uk

Contacts

Messy Church – messy.church@stkentigern.org.uk

Community Cafe - community.cafe@stkentigern.org.uk

Pie, Pint and Parable – pie.pint.parable@stkentigern.org.uk

Tom Logan



Our Church Committee

Over the coming months Our Church Committee will be putting on various events which they hope will bring folks together in times of fellowship and fun.

Some are light hearted and other more serious but there will be something for everyone!

Why not come along on one or all of these nights and join in the fun and get to know one another.

Film Night Saturday 20th October 7 pm in the Lounge

'The Case for Christ' a film that tells of an investigative journalist and self-proclaimed atheist who sets out to disprove the existence of God after his wife becomes a Christian.



This is suitable for adults and teenagers.

Big Quiz Night in aid of Tearfund Saturday 17th November 7 pm in the small hall



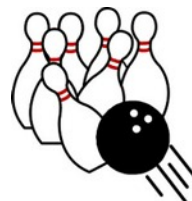
On Saturday 17 November – for one night only – churches and other groups up and down the country will be taking part in the biggest multi-venue, nationwide quiz ever. We'd love you to join in!

Why not come along and join in the fun. Tea/coffee and biscuits at the interval. All proceeds going to Tearfund.

And in the future!

Ten Pin Bowling January 2019

Why not join in the fun at the ten pin bowling and see if you can be a turkey! Details to follow.



Fresh Expressions of Church

Community Cafe

The Community Cafe re-opens on September in the Lesser Hall of New Farm Centre at the usual times of 10 am to 12

Enjoy a nice scone, pancake, biscuit or cake coffee, tea or soft drink all at very low prices available, as are great adult conversation

If possible, do bring a friend or neighbour after all that is what the Community Cafe is they live alone and would enjoy getting out company.



Thanks
Tom

A Pie, Pint and Parable



We start back on Wednesday 5th September at 7 pm in First Edition, Bank Street, Kilmarnock. Why not come along and join us for a meal and a blether about a parable that Jesus taught. It's a time of fellowship with a friendly bunch, in a relaxed atmosphere. We'd love you to join us.

We also meet on Wednesday 3rd October, 7th November and 5th December.

Future Events in St Ks

Month of September
Junior Church collecting for East Ayrshire FoodBank.

5th September
Community Café returns 10 am - 12 noon Community Centre.

Coffee and Co returns in the Lounge 2 - 3.30 pm

Saturday 29th September
10 -12 noon Litter Pick in New Farm with free lunch afterwards

30th September
Year of the Young Service Kay Park Parish Church

Saturday 20th Oct
7pm Lounge Movie Night – “The Case for Christ”

17th November 7pm Quiz in aid of Tearfund

2nd December
Christmas is Coming Howard Centre

Blythswood Square Shoebox appeal
Collecting for elderly in Romania if possible.



World War I Commemorations

You will have noticed we have had our Remembrance Banner in the church since the beginning of August. It will remain in place till 11 November as a reminder of the last hundred days of the centenary year of remembrance for the Great War (World War I). We hope that by putting this on display it will help us remember those who lost their lives or were injured during the war, their families who live on and those families still affected by hostility and war around the world. We hope that the congregation will remember in prayer those organisations who help and support our armed forces and their families throughout this time.

As you've probably guessed from the front cover we are still commemorating the 'war to end all wars.' In November this year the events of the last four years will come to an end. We will no longer, as a nation, be looking back to the terrible times between 1914 and 1918 and those terrible events. No doubt children in school will continue to be taught about the horrors of this time, which is as it should be. We have to learn from the mistakes of the past.

Just about every family in Great Britain, the Empire and Germany was affected by this terrible war. It was the first time that the world witnessed a 'mechanised industrialised' war. It was also the first war to be covered extensively by the media, as we can still witness.

Tom Logan has written a piece for the magazine about how the First World War effected his family, which is included in the magazine along with a piece from Sandy Brown. Now while these stories may bring back sad memories for some, it is important that we don't forget!



Personal Remembrance

As a Minister and private citizen I have stood solemnly and thoughtfully at Remembrance services over the years. I feel that being born during WW2 seemed to create a real connection with those men and women who died fighting in our defence during that conflict.

That real connection has been enhance over the years since 1945 by taking part in those Remembrance Services and parades, either gathering in Churches or at War Memorials.

But, it was not so many years ago that our family discovered that we had an actual connection with WWI. We discovered that our father's father had been killed in action towards the end of that conflict.

We not only came to know who our grandfather was but that he was killed in action on 13th August 1918. He was only 24 years old and my father was only 5 years old.

When our father was killed in a pit accident in 1949 at the age of 36 we were all children, so any stories about our family history kind of died with him.

When the service was held in Amiens on August 8th August attended by the Duke of Cambridge to mark the Centenary of the Battle of Amiens, I felt my young grandfather was one of those he described as "the fallen of all nations" who took part in 100 days conflict up to 11th November 1918.

May we all commemorate this Centenary "Lest we forget"

Tom Logan

Family Connections by Sandy Brown

My family, like many others, have a connection to the conflict known as the First World War. As the nation ends it's time of commemoration of this conflict, it's perhaps time to reflect on what it means to our families. One of my hobbies is genealogy and I have researched many aspects of my family history.

Both my grandfathers fought during the First World War and both were injured as a result of having been shot. My Papa Alexander Allan was shot through the achilles heel on his left foot, by a German sniper while my Grampa James Brown (yes that's right Grampa Broon) was shot in his right elbow. Both of them survived the war and lived to tell the tale, however, like so many, neither of them did actually speak an awful lot about their experiences.

My Papa Allan's brother, Robert Ross, was unfortunately killed on the 29th August 1918, aged 33, at the Battle of Scarfe, leaving behind a young widow. He is buried in the cemetery at Anzin-St. Aubin, France.

My Grandmother, Mary Irving, worked as a Red Cross nurse, at a military hospital in the village Hall in Kettleholm, Dumfries-shire. It was during her time there that she met my grandfather, who had been sent there to recuperate. They kept in touch after he left and were engaged on 1st January 1919.

Grampa Brown, was sent to Russia in 1918 as a member of the military expedition and then to Turkey, before re-enlisting in 1938, serving throughout WW2 as a Warrant Officer in the Royal Army Service Corps.

Both Ann's grandfathers also served in the army in WWI, in the Hampshire Regiment and the Machine Gun Corps. One of them fought at the Battle of Paschenndale and again both were wounded and survived. Without all their sacrifices, where would we be today.

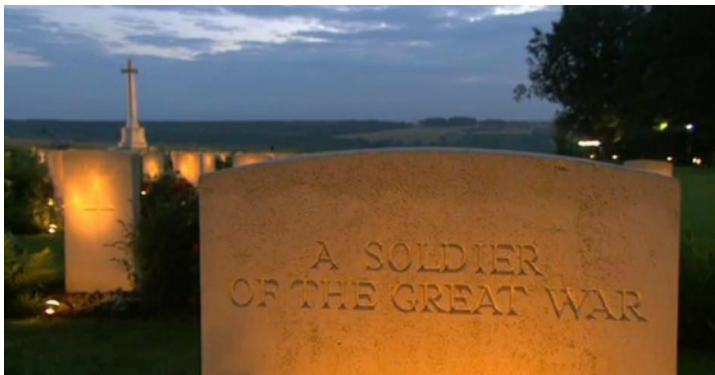
In Flanders Fields

by John McCrae, May 1915

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.





BIBLE STUDY

After a refreshing summer break our Bible Study will start up again on Thursday 4 October at 7.30pm in the Lounge. This is open to everyone and you will be made most welcome. Those who meet are willing to share their views and occasionally we can have a difference of opinion on certain matters. This is what makes Bible Study interesting and encouraging. We are not experts by any means but have a love for learning more and how God is working in all our lives.

Over the past two years we have welcomed two ladies from two different Churches and we are all friends together. We normally use Scripture Union Life Builder Bible Study books and at present those who have attended are deciding which Book we are going to be studying. So far the suggestions have been Fruit of the Spirit, Women of God, Following Jesus, Waiting for God, Distorted Images of Self. Once everyone has stated their preference it will be decided. We open each study in prayer, listen to a short piece of music, read a portion from the Bible and then answer the contemporary questions from the book.

This is all done in a relaxed way, some weeks you may not want to say anything but the next week willing to contribute. No pressure is put on anyone.

Please think about joining us and if you want to ask any questions just speak to me and I'll do my best to answer and help you.

Ian Rennie

Church in the Community Committee



At our recent Committee meeting it was proposed having a Litter Pick Up on Saturday 29 September from 10am to 12 noon with lunch provided afterwards. The areas we will be concentrating on are around the local shops.

We care about our community and this is one way we can show local people St Kentigern's cares for the environment. We had encouraging feedback from people the last time we did this and had fun at the same time.

We are hoping some of our young folk will be willing to come along and help. Protective gloves and litter pickers are supplied by the local Council.

If you are able would you be willing to help? The more people we have out gathering litter the bigger the witness to the community.

In order to cater for lunch can you please let Bill Kerr, our Convener, know you are willing to help.

Coffee and Co.

Will resume meeting in the lounge from 2 - 3.30 pm on Wed 5th September. We meet for coffee or tea and a biscuit for a small donation and have a time of fellowship. New members will be made most welcome. For further information speak to me.



Janey Burnett.

Music

Big Band

The Big Band are due to play at the morning service on Sunday 30th September (Harvest) and 23rd December (Christmas). New musicians are very welcome.

Please see Audrey.

Souled Out

Souled Out Youth Band started back again on Friday 24th August, 6pm to 7pm. We are playing at the morning service on Sunday 28th October (Enrolment) and 16th December (Christmas). There are other engagements in the pipeline out with the church, please check the band's Facebook page for up to date information. All children aged 8 and over are very welcome to play with the youth band. Junior Church singers- under 8 year olds, are very welcome to come to the band rehearsals. We will also practice the youth band songs at junior church. Please attend the junior church or youth church in St Kentigerns.

Please see Audrey.

Reachout

We played for the morning service at Crosshouse Parish Church on 8th July and will be playing for Galston Guild on 12th December at their Candlelit Tea. We always look forward to these events and others that we hope to play at during the year.

We will be recording a CD and start recording it at the end of September, with the hope that it will be ready just before Christmas - a wee stocking filler? This will be, what was called in the old days, an EP, with five favourite songs that the band love to sing and that we know are favourites of others as well.

We are doing this at a recording studio in Bishopbriggs and as the cost is fairly expensive we have applied to the Presbytery Primer Fund to help us out. We hope to find out if we have been successful by mid September.

Keep an eye out for more news from the band on their Facebook page. You can like our page and you'll get updates.

Runrig The end of an era



I was one of the 50,000 or so fans that attended one of the two final concerts of the folk/rock band Runrig, in Stirling, over the weekend of 17th and 18th August. Called the 'Last Dance,' it was part of their 'Final Mile' tour.

Now while I know they aren't everyone's cup of tea the fact that they could still attract such crowds is a testament of their longevity. They were joined on both nights by Donnie Munro (their original lead singer) and his band and by the Gaelic singer Julie Fowlis and her band.

Runrig started in 1973 as a dance band touring the western isles and the west coast of Scotland, playing to small audiences at weddings, ceilidh's, etc. By the time they finished on this weekend they had travelled the world, produced 14 studio albums, various live albums and had appeared on Top of the Pops. Their haunting rendition of 'Loch Lomond' had been in the charts in 1979 and is now a very popular way to end a wedding or a party.

I have been privileged to have seen them on three occasions at Irvine Magnum twice and at Stirling. Now this may not be as many as some of the diehard fans, who have followed them all over the world, but nevertheless I still call it a privilege and can say I was at their last concert.

You may not realise it but many of their songs have a religious or spiritual element. My favourite is a song called 'Every River, which has the following lyrics in the chorus.

*Every river I try to cross
Every hill I try to climb
Every ocean I try to swim
Every road I try to find*

*All the ways of my life
I'd rather be with you
There's no way
Without you!*

That song in particular reminds me that there is no way without the Lord. I would encourage you to listen to some of their songs to see if there is something you can take out of their lyrics.

Sandy Brown

UGANDA

Although, we as a church, completed our project in Arua, Uganda, some time ago, some of our congregation still keep in touch and support folks in St Peters and the surrounding area.

WHAT A LOAD OF RUBBISH

The Mayor of Arua in Uganda, East Africa, has a major headache – how to get rid of the rubbish that is rapidly accumulating in his town, exacerbated by the mass exodus of refugees from South Sudan of whom there are now over 1 million in the wider area around Arua.

To find a solution, he is planning to visit the Kilmarnock Recycling Centre this October as it has an exemplary record of not just of getting rid of rubbish but raising thousands of pounds from it. The trip is dependent on a visa being granted both for the Mayor and Matthew Akile who is travelling with him on account of his responsibility for waste disposal with Arua Municipal Council.

The Mayor is a Muslim and it is planned to put him in contact with the Imam of Kilmarnock mosque through John Houston.

Matthew Akile is a Christian and will attend our church. He was the link person at St Peter's Church near Arua who helped facilitate the arrangements for the building of the two houses in the church's grounds. He has also helped me over the years with the organisational arrangements of the trips to Arua.

St Peter's Church in Uganda gave us a big welcome when we went there: please give the same to Matthew.

Jim McHardy

From Team Arua

Hi folks.

An update on wee Moses.

Thank you to all the folks that still support this special wee boy. Denise Clark got a huge amount of stoma bags from Tracey the stoma nurse. We were able to send them out with the help of our lovely ladies in church. The cost of one bag in Arua is around £40 & we got the whole box posted for £98 .

He has his life back and is able to go to school without having to run home to get changed. God is always helping us.

The lovely folks in St. Peter's church pray for you all each Sunday.

Team Arua has to keep going to help our dear friends in Ochiba.

Thank you all for your help.

God bless.

Liz, Denise & Murrion



JUNIOR CHURCH

Junior Church started up again on Sunday 19th August. All children aged 3 to P7 are very welcome. Parents please collect a Leaflet and fill in a permission slip. Our adjoining crèche is for babies and children up to 3. All teachers and helpers are disclosure checked.

Please collect items of food for the Kilmarnock East Foodbank and bring to junior church every Sunday morning during September. This is our Harvest commitment. Please check the Foodbank website for more details.

Junior church Christmas party is Saturday 15th December. Details to follow on our Facebook page.

Christmas Eve Family Service- rehearsals for a JOINT Christmas nativity musical play start on 19th August after the morning service. Volunteers from Junior Church, Youth Church and adult congregation are required to participate. There are plenty acting parts - enough for everyone! Please come along to choose your part or volunteer to help with

behind the scenes jobs such as costumes, scenery, PA system etc. on 19th August. First come- first served. Rehearsals are then every Sunday morning after the morning service to 1pm approx. All very welcome! The nativity is called "God's Angels."



Youth Church

We meet on a Sunday morning at 11 am for the start of the morning service, then go through to the Lounge for a get together. There we have something to eat and drink, then discuss topics relevant to our generation and our faith.

We also have times of fun and games such as visiting Gravity Trampolining, Lazer Zone, Flip Out or getting together to bake, etc.

Why not come along and see what it's like. We'd like to have you join us!

WHAT IS MESSY CHURCH?

Messy Church reaches out to families with pre school children who don't normally attend Church on a Sunday. This is a very informal way where mums, dads, grandparents, child minders can join the children in fun, crafts, and still hear the message of Jesus' love for everyone.



We meet fortnightly in the Large Hall on a Tuesday afternoon beginning with games involving children and adults, listen to a Bible story and then engage in simple crafts pertaining to the story. We then proceed to the Lounge to watch a video of the story we have just heard followed by a short time of singing and finish off with Afternoon Tea with home baking.

Our Church is very grateful to a member of the congregation for the kind donation of a Smart television for use by everyone in the Lounge. In the past session we experienced difficulty with our technology but now we look forward to using this up to date equipment.

Many of the children and adults who attend live outwith our community and it so encouraging that they have heard about Messy Church and join us.

We have been running for 7 years and are still learning about how to present the Good News of Jesus in this modern age. Our team is enthusiastic and caring and each child and adult is made to feel special. Our new session begins on Tuesday 28 August at 1 – 2.45 pm. Our programme for the session is all planned as are the crafts so why not come along and join us and encourage folks with young children to come.

The dates when we meet are as follows:

August	28	January	8 and 22
September	11 and 25	February	19 and 26
October	9 and 23	March	12 and 26
November	13 and 27	April	16 and 30
December	11	May	14 and 28

Irene



GIRLS' BRIGADE

Welcome everyone to the start of another session at GB. When you read

this we should be back a couple of weeks and hope to have at least the same number of girls we ended the session with in May – God willing. We do welcome Katie Murdoch to our small team of leaders as she takes on the role of Auxiliary in our company.

The leaders have already met and made some plans for the coming year. As you may know we are still in our 125th Anniversary of GB Scotland and continue to use our theme of “The place to Bee” to encourage new members.

We hope to take the whole company across to the Illuminight again on 15th November as part of this 125th Celebration. We have various divisional competitions to take part in again as well as some fundraising of our own in September/October. Don't expect a Carol Service this December as our young leaders wish to organise a nativity instead which everyone will be welcome

to and we will provide more details next time.

Until then – get down to the place to Bee.

Tracey Hamilton, Captain

Pathfinders

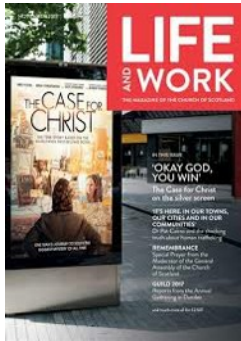
Pathfinders have started back on a Friday night at 7 pm, for boys from

P1 to P7. Callum MacNee is now the leader in charge and he and his fellow leaders would love to see more boys coming along to join in the fun and games on a Friday night.



Life and Work Magazine

Ever thought about subscribing to the Church of Scotland monthly magazine, Life and Work. Each month there are interesting articles from the Church of Scotland and beyond.



Our local coordinator is Lynn Gale, so why not have a wee word with her and she can add you to the list of subscribers from St Kentigerns.

Alternatively you can subscribe online at <http://www.lifeandwork.org/subscribe/subscribe> the choice is yours.

Golden Age

We meet on a Tuesday afternoons between 1 and 3.30 pm for a time of fun and friendship. Come along and join us and have a cuppa afterwards.

Tuesday 18.09.18

Young Carers, Kilmarnock

Tuesday 16.10.18

Poppy Scotland
Stuart Lang

Tuesday 20.11.18

St Andrews
The Unlikely Lads



Prayer times

We have the huge privilege of bringing our whole lives, our thanks and our concerns for the church and the world to God as we pray. We know life is busy but we also know a commitment to pray together is right. So we host short prayer meetings on Sunday mornings (when people are coming to church anyway) to pray, in a four-weekly cycle, for our world, other churches and agencies, our community and ourselves.

You are welcome to join us. Your presence speaks volumes - you do not need to speak. If you do speak, your words encourage us all. We meet as friends together before God and would love to see more folks join us. We're currently meeting in the Lounge at 10.30 every Sunday and the rota of subjects is:

September

- 2nd Church in the Community
- 9th Other Churches
- 16th Church in the Wider World
- 23rd Our Church
- 30th Church in the Community

October

- 7th Other Churches
- 14th Church in the Wider World
- 21st Our Church
- 28th Church in the Community

November

- 4th Other Churches
- 11th Church in the Wider World
- 18th Our Church
- 25th Church in the Community



Who's doing what in coming weeks

Welcoming people and uplifting the offering

- September** Noreen Gray, Ann Brown, Mary Niven, Ann Hogarth
October Jim and Clarinda McHardy, Willie Craig, Sadie Speirs
November Lyn Gale, Marion Craig, John Houston, Mhairi MacNee
December Tracey Grant, Shaona Wilson, Tracy Calderwood,
Joyce Simm.

The Count

- September** Irene Rennie, Margo Dreghorn, Margaret Drummond
October Ann Brown and Joyce Simm
November Willie Craig and Anne Fratson
December Bill Kerr and Nancy Chisholm

Making a welcoming cuppa

We meet after the morning service on a Sunday in the large hall for tea/coffee. Please feel to come join us and have a blether. The rota for those who help out is on the notice board in the hall between the small and large halls.



Flower List

September

2nd Sadie Speirs
9th Margaret Murray
16th Jean Hood (Barclay Dr)
23rd Jean Craig
30th Free

October

7th Sadie Speirs
14th Elizabeth Caldwell
21st Margo Dreghorn
28th Free

November

4th Sadie Speirs
11th Ann Hogarth
18th Free
25th Free

I would like thank all these ladies for putting flowers in church. Thanks also to those who donate through the box.

I would also like to thank Eniz Meikle and Janey Burnett for arranging the flowers in church, as I have been unable to due to health problems. Thanks also to Sadie for taking Janey for the flowers and for opening up.

Betty Kerr, Flower Convener.



Flower Deliveries

September Helen Tomlinson

October Nancy Chisholm

November Denise Clark

Autumn

A time of change then renewal

The leaves of yellow, brown or red
lie on the floor and decay
but not in vain
do they wither and die

The snows and rain
will soon cover those leaves
as winter finds its grip
yet what lies beneath
Is gathering for renewal

For in the Spring new life appears
and once again the cycle begins
new buds appear
soon the leaves
will be green again

And all is well in God's world.

Anon

Can you help out!

Treasurer

Shaona Wilson has served as our treasurer for many years but she would like to stand down. To do that we need someone to take over and Shaona has agreed to stay on to show our new treasurer the ropes. You don't need to be an Elder or be a church member. It is a very important aspect of church life. Please speak to Shaona or Tracey Hamilton.

Stewardship

Gillian Rooney will be stepping down as Stewardship Convener in September when she starts her time of placements for her training for the Ministry. This is another role that is very important and brings the need for good financial stewardship, the use of talents and time to the congregation and keeps it fresh in our minds. For more information contact Tracey Hamilton.

Safeguarding

Noreen who again has been our Safeguarding Convener for a wee while now has indicated that she would like to stand down. This is particularly important, as we keep our young people safe in church and during all the activities that they are involved in. Again for more information, please contact Tracey Hamilton.



Hospital and home visiting

You'll be aware that for a few years now there's no access for the Minister to the lists of hospital in-patients. If the Rev Tom Logan and the Pastoral Care team doesn't know of members who are at home or in hospital and who would value a visit, they'll not be able to do this. It's essential you tell them, and if possible pass on the mobile telephone number of the person who's in hospital. Feel free to phone details and leave a message, with Tom on (01563) 524398 or e-mail pastoral.care@stkentigern.org.uk.

Letting of Halls

We're keen to let our premises be used by others for the good of our community, but we also need time to clean them, and use them for Church work. If you wish to use a hall, could you please fill in a booking slip and place it in the box in the foyer. Please do not print up tickets or posters until you have confirmation of availability. You can contact me at booking@stkentigern.org.uk or speak to me, Sadie Speirs, at church if you have any queries regarding the use of the halls.

Give online!

You're now able to give directly to St Kentigern's online! The web address is my.give.net/supportstkentigerns and you can also get there from any page on our church website at www.stkentigern.org.uk. The online giving allows us to reclaim tax on your offering, and the admin fees are low so almost all you give online is passed on to us. It's secure, convenient and quick - so feel free to use this and pass the word around!

Give as you Live

The church has now signed up for Give as you Live, which gives members of our congregation a way to raise FREE donations for our church, when they shop online at 4000+ leading retailers - including Amazon, Ebay, John Lewis, Marks and Spencer, etc.

Sign up to Give as you Live online, then each time you shop online at supported retailers a commission is paid to Give as you Live by the retailer, which they then share with St Kentigerns. Go to <http://www.everyclick.com/st-kentigerns-church-kilmarnock>

Contacts

Anne McAllister	(01560) 483191	interim.moderator@stkentigern.org.uk
Tom Logan	524398	pastoral.care@stkentigern.org.uk
Church Hub	571693	hub@stkentigern.org.uk

Email addresses

Please contact the church administration/organisations using the email addresses below:

Session Clerk - session.clerk@stkentigern.org.uk
Chair Congregation Board – chair.board@stkentigern.org.uk
Clerk to the Congregational Board - board.clerk@stkentigern.org.uk
Treasurer - treasurer@stkentigern.org.uk
Stewardship - stewardship@stkentigern.org.uk
Gift Aid - gift.aid@stkentigern.org.uk
Free Will Offering - fwo@stkentigern.org.uk
Safeguarding - safeguarding@stkentigern.org.uk
Fabric Convener - fabric@stkentigern.org.uk
Church Hub - hub@stkentigern.org.uk
Booking halls, etc - booking@stkentigern.org.uk
Intimation Sheet - news@stkentigern.org.uk
Outreach Magazine - magazine@stkentigern.org.uk
Media Group - media@stkentigern.org.uk
Social Committee - social@stkentigern.org.uk
Church Officers - church.officer@stkentigern.org.uk

Our Church - our.church@stkentigern.org.uk
Church and Community - our.community@stkentigern.org.uk
Other Churches - other.churches@stkentigern.org.uk
Wider World - our.world@stkentigern.org.uk

Organist - organ.sunday@stkentigern.org.uk
Reachout (Praise Band) - reachout@stkentigern.org.uk
Big Band - big.band@stkentigern.org.uk
Junior Church - junior.church@stkentigern.org.uk
Youth Church - youth.church@stkentigern.org.uk

Women's Hour - womens.hour@stkentigern.org.uk
Messy Church - messy.church@stkentigern.org.uk
Golden Age - golden.age@stkentigern.org.uk
Coffee & Co - coffee.co@stkentigern.org.uk
Girls Brigade - girls.brigade@stkentigern.org.uk
Pathfinders - pathfinders@stkentigern.org.uk