

thegoodneighbour

March 2018



Living our **faith** by our **actions**



at the heart of the **community**

GreenbankParish
CHURCH

Parish Register

BAPTISM

4/2/18 Matthew Christopher McGeoch, Randolph Drive, Clarkston

Matthew was born at the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital on the 29th September 2017. He was born at 6.50am and weighed 8lb 15oz. His godparents were Alan McKay, who is Kirsty's brother as well as being Neil's best friend, and Ruth McGeoch, Neil's sister. Matthew has two cousins, Ethan McKay and Lucas McGeoch. Ethan stays nearby so Matthew sees him a lot. Lucas recently moved to Brazil so Matthew and his parents will be going to visit him later in the year. After the service the baptismal party went back to Neil's mum and dad's house. Neil and Kirsty's lasting memory of the day was how happy Matthew was when Jeanne baptised him; he had a smile on his face the whole time.

DEATHS

18/1/18 Mr Ian Hendry, 8 Craighill Drive, Clarkston
20/1/18 Mr John Lamont, 2 Nethercairn Place, Newton Mearns
26/1/18 Mrs Myra McQueen, Greenlaw Grove Care Home, Newton Mearns
28/1/18 Mrs Cathleen Black, 16 Colquhoun Square, Helensburgh
11/2/18 Mrs Nan Palmer, Greenlaw Grove Care Home, Newton Mearns

*"Dependent on your bounteous breath, we seek your grace alone,
In every stage of life and death, to keep us still your own"*

PULPIT DIARY

2 nd March	4.00pm	Messy Church
	7.30pm	Preparatory Service
4 th March	10.30am	Sacrament of Holy Communion & Sunday Club (in halls)
	6.30pm	All Age Communion
11 th March	10.30am	Worship & Sunday Club
	6.30pm	Prayers for Healing Service
18 th March	10.30am	Worship & Sunday Club (Worship led by Rev Jim Whyte]
25 th March	10.30am	Palm Sunday Worship & Sunday Club
26 th March	7.00pm	Holy Monday Service (led by the Sunday Club)
27 th March	7.00pm	Holy Tuesday Service (led by the Guild)
28 th March	7.00pm	Holy Wednesday Service at Williamwood (shared with Busby & Greenbank)
29 th March	7.00pm	Maundy Thursday Service (shared with Busby & Williamwood)
30 th March	7.00pm	Good Friday Service at Busby (shared with Greenbank & Williamwood)
30 th March	7am-3pm	Good Friday Pilgrimage (tea stop: Williamwood at 10am; Carmunnock at 3pm) see details below
1 st April	10.30am	Sacrament of Holy Baptism & Easter Day Family Celebration (with egg hunt for the children) followed by Easter Day Communion.

A WALK THROUGH GOOD FRIDAY TOGETHER

Netherlee	7am	Cartsbridge	1pm
Stamperland	8am	Busby	2pm
St. Aidan's	9am	Carmunnock	3pm (tea, coffee & hot cross buns)
Williamwood	10am (tea/coffee & hot cross buns)		
Greenbank	11am		
St Joseph's	12noon		

Dear Friends,

This year Lent began on Ash Wednesday which was also Valentine's Day and Easter Day will be the 1st April which is also April Fools' Day. This clash only happened three times last century and the last time was 1945. It happened because the date of Easter changes every year - something that was decided in 325AD at the Council of Nicaea.

The Council of Nicaea was an ecumenical meeting of bishops called together by the Roman Emperor Constantine to try to attain consensus throughout the Christian Church. It decided that Easter Day would always fall on the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after the March equinox [i.e. time or date at which the sun crosses the equator - when day and night are equal in length]. This timing was chosen because of the biblical stories that tell Jesus' death and resurrection occurring around the same time as the Jewish Passover - which is celebrated on the first full moon of the equinox.

It somehow seems appropriate for Lent to begin on Valentine's Day, on what is commonly thought of as a day of love. As we go through the 40 days of Lent we are reminded of the unwavering love that Jesus showed in choosing to go to Jerusalem and face all that awaited Him there.

April Fools' Day may seem like a strange day for Christians to celebrate the truth of Jesus' resurrection but perhaps this year it also gives significance to Paul's word from 1 Corinthians chapter 1, "We preach Christ crucified ... for the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom". The foolishness of God shows us in Jesus' life, death and resurrection how to make ourselves vulnerable; how to soften our hearts; how to put others first; how to forgive; how to be compassionate; how to lift others up as Jesus lifts us up. Jesus and all He reveals about vulnerability, self-sacrifice and above all unconditional love challenges the way many choose to live their lives today. Some dismiss those Christ like values to focus on needs and desires that often lead to unjust, intolerant and quarrelsome patterns of behaviour that pose questions about what it means to be wise and what it means to be foolish in this world.

So may we as the followers of Jesus Christ celebrate God's kind of foolishness - not only this Easter but each and every day of our lives.

Yours,



EASTER WEEK SERVICES

25 th March	10.30am	Palm Sunday Worship & Sunday Club
26 th March	7.00pm	Holy Monday Service (led by the Sunday Club)
27 th March	7.00pm	Holy Tuesday Service (led by the Guild)
28 th March	7.00pm	Holy Wednesday Service at Williamwood (shared with Busby & Greenbank)
29 th March	7.00pm	Maundy Thursday Service (shared with Busby & Williamwood)
30 th March	7.00pm	Good Friday Service at Busby (shared with Greenbank & Williamwood)
30 th March	7am-3pm	Good Friday Pilgrimage (tea stop: Williamwood at 10am; Carmunnock at 3pm) See details on page 1
1 st April	10.30am	Sacrament of Holy Baptism & Easter Day Family Celebration (<i>Children's Easter egg hunt and making Easter bonnets</i>) Followed by Easter Day Communion.

WILLIAM CHARLES THOMSON

Bill Thomson, one of our elders died on 19th November 2017.

Bill was born the 18th of September 1948 in Motherwell and unfortunately due to a difficult home birth he was born with Spastic Diplegia. His mother and father fought a decision to send him to special school and as a result Bill was educated at home for two years from the age of 5. When he did enter the school system he proved to be academically bright and attended Hamilton Academy. Throughout his life Bill was determined to show that just because you have a disability it does not mean that you will not succeed if given a chance. While at school he joined the local scout group, and gained the Queens Scout Award as well as being promoted to troop leader. He led one of the two Lanarkshire patrols to the 11th Scottish International Jamborette at Blair Atholl in 1966.

On leaving school Bill went to Paisley College of Technology to study for a sandwich degree in electrical engineering in partnership with the South of Scotland Electricity Board. His first job was as an operational district engineer with the SSEB and over the years he received many promotions and held various managerial positions. When he took early retirement in 2003 he was the Grid System manager based in Kirkintilloch and was a Fellow of the Institute of Engineering and Technology.

It was through his hobby of rifle shooting that he met the love of his life Janette and they married in 1981. They settled in Cambuslang before moving to Clarkston in 1983 with their children Laura and Jennifer. They were loving and caring parents and some of their proudest moments were when Laura graduated from Dundee University and Jennifer graduated from New College Oxford.

Bill also became a Freemason and joined the engineers' lodge becoming Master of the Lodge in 1980-81. He was ably supported in this role by Jeanette and made many enduring friendships during this time.

Bill & Janette joined Greenbank Church in 1990 and Bill was ordained an elder in 1996. He was the District elder for Riverside Court and in addition was Convenor of the Computer & Office Equipment Committee and a Duty Team Leader. He joined the Retired list of Elders in 2003.

Bill was a very competent DIY person and could turn his hand to most things from home computing, to house wiring and plumbing and decorating. He rarely threw things away. His garage is a testament to this and many neighbours have benefitted from the Beechlands Drive superstore. When Bill retired he and Janette bought a house in Fuerteventura and for 14 years spent long holidays there until ill health forced them to find a place closer to home and they bought a static caravan in the New Forest.

Bill was diagnosed with lung cancer in October 2017 but he was determined to be Father of the Bride at Jennifer's wedding later that month and he was overjoyed when he was able to fulfil that wish.

Bill Thomson was a man who overcame great physical difficulties to lead a productive fulfilling life supporting Jeanette and his daughters. Today we give thanks to God for the life and service of Bill Thomson and commend Jeanette, Laura, Jennifer and the wider family to the love and care of our Lord Jesus Christ.

What's On

KIRK SESSION COFFEE MORNING

The Kirk Session Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday 24th March, from 10am to 12noon.

Tickets are priced £2 (Children £1) and can be obtained from Elders or Associate members of the Kirk Session, or at the door.

It is hoped that the Congregation and friends of Greenbank will give their support to this event, which is again being held in aid of our Crisis Fund for emergencies at home and abroad, as well as supporting the Ekwendeni Partnership in Malawi

Thank you

Alan Veitch (639 8138)

38TH ANNUAL CHRISTIAN AID ART EXHIBITION AND SALE

The next fundraising activity is the 38th Annual Art Exhibition and Sale on Saturday, March 10th at the Carmichael Hall, at Eastwood Park Leisure Centre next to the swimming pool. This is the same venue as last year. Please note the date in your diaries/phones. Entry will be by catalogue, priced at £3 for adults and £1 for children. As I write, the artists are being invited to exhibit their work, and I hope that you will continue to support this popular annual event by coming along to view and to purchase some of the work on display; 1/3rd of the sale price is going to Christian Aid. The entry to the exhibition includes a cup of tea or coffee in the tea room which is also a popular place to meet friends and view the work on display. In addition there will be a variety of craft stalls displaying their work and home baking will also be available for purchase. We are also fortunate to have donations of work by artists for raffle prizes, so for a modest outlay you may also be able to win an original piece of work. I hope to see you at the event which runs from 10am to 4pm on 10th March 2018.

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Mark Allan

LUNCH CLUB

Lunch Club meets on Friday 23rd March. We look forward to seeing you all. If you have not been to lunch with us we would love to welcome you. We meet from 12noon to 1.15pm for soup, filled rolls, tea and coffee. Friendship and fellowship are free. Jan and Maureen. Phone the church office if you require transport (0141 644 1841)

HOLIDAY CLUB

Help! Help! Help! Help! Help! Greenbank's Easter Holiday Club will be running once again from Monday 9th till Friday 13th April and we need all the help we can get! Whether it's for one morning or five, your help would be appreciated. There will be a brief meeting after church on Sunday 25th March for anyone who wants to join us for a wet wacky week.

Contact Alison Harvey on 638 3679 or 07742282870

SNAP YOUTH CLUB

SNAP Community Youth Club 7pm-9pm every Saturday night during term time. If you're P7-S3, come along for some Saturday night action packed fun and meet new friends -all are welcome. We do a range of indoor and outdoor activities from arts and crafts, board games and sports such as dodgy ball and badminton.

Please feel free to come along and register on the night or email:

SNAP@greenbankglasgow.org.uk for more information.

MESSY CHURCH FRIDAY 2ND MARCH, 4PM – 6PM

To book a place or offer help, please phone/text Lorna Preece at 07970192541 or email: messygreenbank@gmail.com

News and Updates

ED LINES

By the time you're reading this, it will be March. Hopefully we will be marching into spring. Valentine's Day has passed and Mothers' Day is looming. I noted with much amusement that Greggs advertised a Valentine's dinner. McDonalds quickly followed suit. I fully expect them to announce that they will be doing Mothers' Day meals too. I don't think my mum would have been particularly enamoured with a Greggs' sausage roll or a Big Mac! Maybe I'm doing her an injustice. Years ago, Rolo had an advertising campaign, "Do you love someone enough to give them your last Rolo?" If you sent five labels, they would send a gift wrapped Rolo to someone of your choosing. I struggled bravely and managed to eat five packets, a real hardship, and got them to send it to my Mum. She was over the moon! You would have thought I'd given her a diamond ring! Her friend looked down her nose and said rather disdainfully that she would have preferred a Thorntons Continental! I think she missed the point. It just shows that things don't have to be expensive to be appreciated.

We all have prized possessions. A "grandma" knitted cardigan, a letter from a loved one or a homemade card from a child have no monetary value. But it has taken time and effort to make them, they have been given with love.....and that is absolutely priceless. Alison

P.S. Do you think I'll get tomato sauce on my sausage roll?

ARTICLES FOR THE APRIL ISSUE OF GOOD NEIGHBOUR SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY SUNDAY 11TH MARCH PLEASE

REFLECTIONS ON GREENBANK'S BURNS SUPPER

What a great atmosphere when we entered the hall bang on the starting time but among the last to arrive. Greenbankers are a punctual lot. Packed to the rafters and set out Bavarian beer hall style which contributed to the conviviality. The piping, the burns and the haggis all went down well. And as for the top table, who knew that the ministry were just really wannabe stand-up comics. All in all a great night for our community bringing neighbours together, particularly the elderly. We met, for the first time, a neighbour of ours who lives in the next street not a stone's throw from our house. So well done to all involved and more of that please!

Dorothy and David McDonald

Due to a fault in our printer some copies of February's Good Neighbour had a blank page 5. The Congratulations, Birthday wishes and Thank you letters printed on page 5 last month have therefore been included below:

CONGRATULATIONS KATHLEEN BAIRD! [From her proud Grandpa, Bert McCrum]

Baptised by Rev. A. T. Stewart, June 1987,

Married to Kevin McLeod by Rev. Jeanne Roddick, August 2008

Graduated from Glasgow Caledonian University with a Bachelor of Engineering in Building Services Engineering with distinction, November 2017

BELATED HAPPY BIRTHDAYS to Sharon Mitchell who celebrated her BIG 50 on 9th January.

Also to our organist the very young Peter Howard who was 30 on 21st January.

THANK YOU

I would like to say "Thank You" to everyone who included us in their prayers and thoughts in November - and are still remembering us now. So many people sent cards, flowers and letters during Bill's mercifully short illness before his very peaceful death on 19th November.

Laura, Jennifer and my new son-in-law Simon join me in appreciation of your love and care.

Janette Thomson

Dear Alison,

Please could you pass on our thanks to Jeanne for all her support to Peter and our family during his illness.

We would also like to thank everyone for cards, flowers and kind wishes following the passing of Peter.

Anne Rutherford

Dear Alison,

David and I send a huge thank you to all in Greenbank for the many, many get well cards, flowers, phone calls of concern and prayers we received. We have been overwhelmed and appreciate the kindness shown to us. David is now home and making good progress and hopefully will be able to join all of you soon.

We are very fortunate to be part of the Greenbank family.

With sincere thanks,

Anna and David Martin

A LASTING LEGACY

The October Good Neighbour included a very full account of the work the Kirk Session had been doing over the spring and summer months. It let you know that at its June meeting the Kirk Session had agreed that the imperative in our Legacy work was to create a *sustainable, worshipping congregation of God's people for generations to come*. In addition it outlined the work of two groups the Session had established to look at some of the membership and financial data that represented the background against which we are considering our future legacy and to sharpen the definition of what had emerged as the two dominant property options, the Session's preferred option of a new build on a new site and the alternative option of refurbishing the current property on the same site.

The article went on to say that the Session had set aside a day in November to consider the work of the two groups and concluded with these words, "This gives you time to contribute your own thoughts. We are at an important point in the life and witness of our Church and if we truly believe in the importance of creating a sustainable and worshipping congregation of God's people in our community for generations to come, it will take **all of us** to think deeply and prayerfully about what that means. Please let us know how best you think we can secure that lasting legacy. Your contributions will help the Session in its work."

The Session Away Afternoon was held on Sunday 12th November at the Carrick Centre, Maybole. The Carrick Centre was used as it had the advantage of letting elders see an example of what one church had done in building a new facility and responding to the needs of its community.

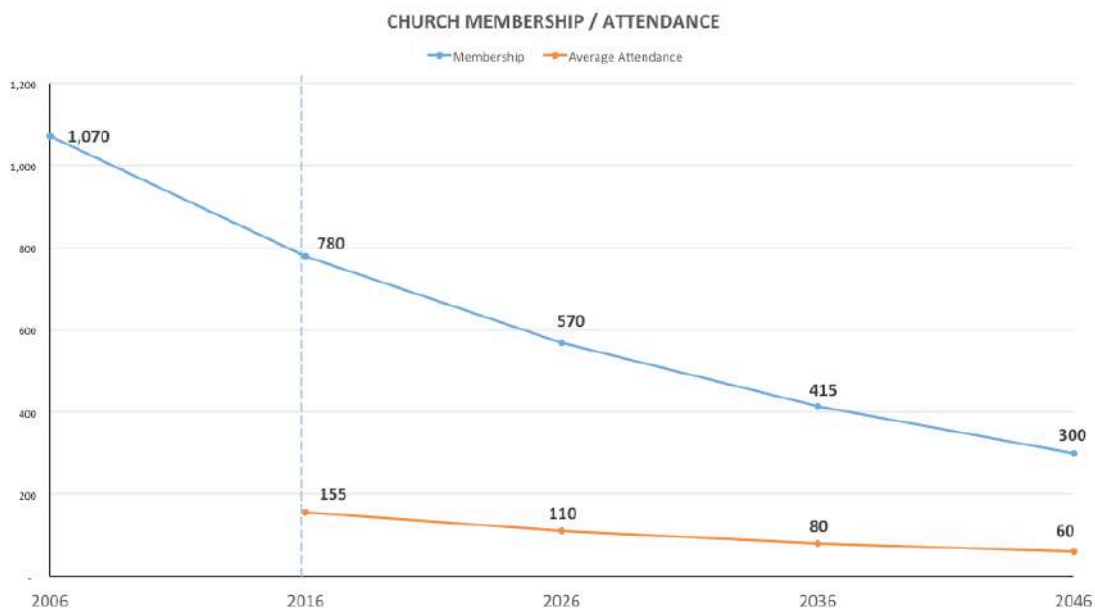
The event began with worship led by Simon Walker that set a positive, prayerful and challenging tone for the day's work. Following this, elders moved through a number of sessions. This current piece brings you right up to date with what the Session has concluded and once again invites your own thoughts.

A Context and reality

Peter Howard had been one of those working on figures and he took us through some statistics at the national and local level. Focussing on our own congregation he displayed the following graph and highlighted the steady fall in membership and the projection of future membership if the decline continued at the same rate for the next thirty years as it had done in the past.

Peter suggested that there may even be acceleration in the rate of decline due in part to the increasing age of the congregation and the increasing lack of young, new members. If this were to be the case, the numbers on the graph might be considered to be the most optimistic. The figure of possibly only 60 attending morning worship by 2046 was particularly arresting.

The gap between the number on the roll and the number actually attending was also highlighted. More people are *involved* with Greenbank through its many organisations than are on the roll of members or who attend on a Sunday and there was some discussion as to how best we can reflect this larger number when we talk about numbers. There was also discussion about how we encourage those on the roll who are no longer actively involved to become involved once again.



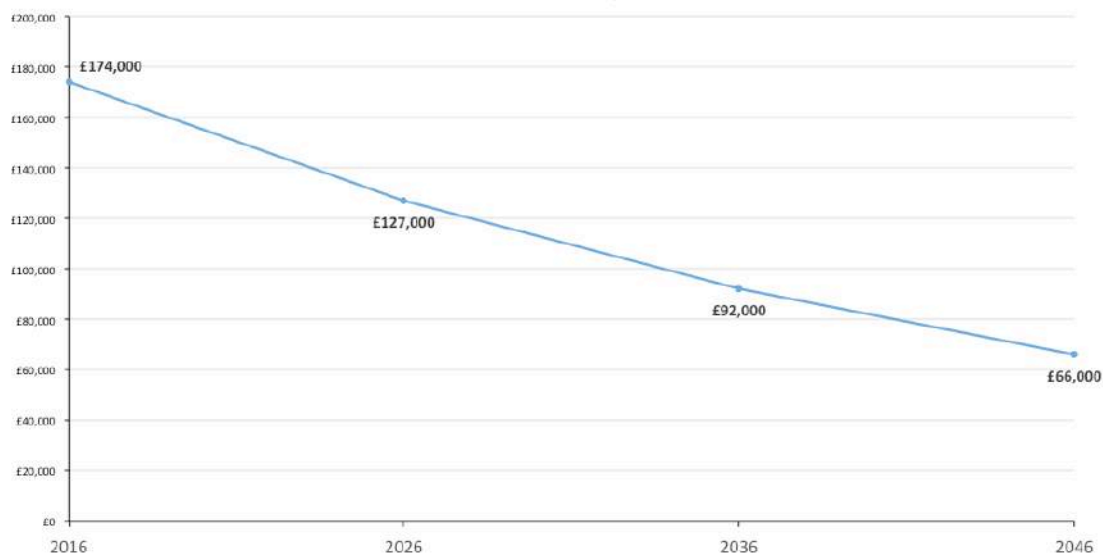
Peter then moved on to look at the possible financial impact of a falling membership roll. He emphasised that a church like ours should be able to cover costs with its offering income and not have to rely on additional sources. That is not currently the case and clearly would not be in the future. In addition to direct offering income, we recovered almost £40,000 in Gift Aid in 2016 but that income will of course decline over the years ahead in line with falling offerings generally.

Non offering income, which for 2016 stood at around £49,000, includes for example income from the rent of halls and donations from various sources. This income has risen over recent years mainly due to a sustained effort by many to increase it. There is however a limit as to how much can be generated and we may well be at or close to that limit at the moment, certainly as far as capacity for further hall rental is concerned. While very welcome, non-offering income will never be as secure as offerings. It would only take one or two of those currently renting accommodation to move elsewhere, or cease renting for any reason, for us to see a disproportionate decrease in income.

Peter also reminded the Session of the list of work, totalling a significant cost and reported at the previous Session meeting that could not be undertaken through lack of funds. This figure is certain to grow over time as the property continues to age.

The falling roll also has non-financial implications. We know already how difficult it is to find people to take up roles within the Church and with a far smaller pool of people to draw on; this will only become more and more difficult.

PROJECTED OFFERING INCOME
Based on Membership Trend



Two Sundays after the Maybole event, the minister spoke about the current reality within the broader, National Church. Over the last ten years the church as a whole has lost 160,000 members and 24,000 children from attendance at Sunday worship and lost 11,000 elders and 246 ministers. There are more than 260 vacant churches in the Church of Scotland and this figure is increasing by 17 each month as Ministers retire. Of the 750 ministers currently in post, 400 are due to retire within five years and presently there are only 38 ministers under the age of 40 and very few ministers in training. The consequence is that within the next 5 years the Church will probably have 350 ministers to serve 1032 parishes throughout Scotland and this figure will still be declining.

A Sustainable, Worshipping Congregation

This session, led by Jim Harvey challenged us to think deeply about what we meant as a Session when we talked about a *sustainable, worshipping congregation*. He spoke of the constantly evolving nature of the church and the fact that it was now our turn to think deeply about how the church should evolve to meet the challenges of the modern world. Elders were asked to depict, either in word or picture, what they regarded as the key characteristics of a sustainable, worshipping congregation.

What is really important?

The task of the next session was to distil the large number of characteristics in the previous discussion down to a core set, avoiding duplication and repetition of ideas but with a focus on non-property characteristics, recognising that the church is not the building. This was in keeping with the discussions that had taken place over the summer by the group looking at property option definitions when it decided that they would only be able to finalise their work once the precise nature of future communication with the congregation had been agreed.

An extract from a note of their final meeting included the following; *"We could use this time (up to the publication of the Local Development Plan 2) to focus on the harsh realities we face, in particular to establish a better understanding of this and an acceptance that action will be needed to avoid a crisis; to discuss new and better ways of engaging with a changing society, in particular with our community; and to discuss how we can find new and better ways to bring people to faith. During our discussion we posed the questions: how did we come to faith and what part (if any) did a building play in this – for us the building was not a major influence. Yet the building seems to be the major topic of discussion whenever we talk about the Legacy Project."*

Kate Sanderson led us through this session and encouraged discussion as we went.

The group agreed that the key characteristics included:

Being a community hub

- Being part of the community, not necessarily geographically but in spirit and living our faith through

our actions

- Encouraging members of the wider community to continue to feel that they belonged to the church in some way in the hope that in God's time that sense of belonging might lead to believing.
- Many of those present commented that on entering the Carrick Centre they knew this was a community facility but there was no doubt that it was also a church.

Welcoming

- An essential characteristic was the need to make people feel welcomed at all times of the week.
- Some spoke of the fact that many who are unfamiliar with the church or churches could be afraid to enter the building as they simply do not know what happens or how they are to dress or behave once inside.
- The positive influence of having a real and genuine welcome was emphasised.

Relevant

- Very many depictions and words on the frieze focussed on the issue of relevance.
- Our approach needs to be seen as relevant to the modern world, not a past age.
- Worship needs to be relevant and reflect the digital age in which many now live their daily life.
- The relevance of buildings and other resources required for our work in the community was also mentioned.
- Relevance was seen as helping achieve the aim of being inclusive. If we are not seen by folk to be relevant, they will exclude themselves.

A seven-day a week church

- Responses spoke about the need to not let our entire thinking be dominated or determined by what happens in one hour on a Sunday.
- Creating a sense of community will not happen if we limit ourselves to worship one hour each week at a time when we know the majority in our parish do not attend.

Burden free

- The need to ensure that whatever we do, and what we do not do, does not place a heavy financial burden on those who will come after us.
- The need to strive for financial sustainability.
- Ensuring that we are *sustainable* in terms of the people necessary to fulfil the mission of the church.

At its February meeting the Kirk Session agreed these characteristics and also that they would be used as the yardstick against which to assess future decisions concerning our legacy, including decisions relating to property.

The Session would be very interested in your own views on these characteristics. Do they seem to you to be the right ones to describe the kind of sustainable, worshipping congregation we all wish for in our community for years to come? If you use email then please email your thoughts to greenbank.office@tiscali.co.uk. Alternatively you can send written comments to the church office. All views are welcome.

Meeting challenges

A session led by Lindy Dallas looked at the possible challenges that might face us in trying to achieve the characteristics we had identified. The discussion that followed could be categorised into three areas of challenge.

The first related to how we all can move away from a focus on buildings to one that looked at the whole mission of the church in our community.

A second was to determine what else we might do to create a sense of community not only within the congregation but also between the congregation and the wider community

A third challenge was how we keep relevant in this modern, fast moving world.

Alan Veitch then concluded the session with agreement from those present that volunteers would be invited to continue the discussion on meeting challenges and bring recommendations to the Session. That work is continuing and further updates will be provided.

Closing remarks

The afternoon concluded with a thought-provoking session led by the minister that ended with the following question:

Can we, will we, hold in our hands all of our joys, anxieties, questions, plans, challenges, opportunities and carry those loads whilst still walking forward in trust with Jesus, to make God's love real and relevant to our travelling companions?

Following the meeting, a small sub group of volunteers agreed to continue the discussion looking specifically at:

- How we help us all move away from a focus on buildings to one that looked at the whole mission of the church in our community.
- What else we might do to create a sense of community not only within the congregation but also between the congregation and the wider community
- How we can keep relevant in this modern, fast moving world.

They will bring forward any recommendations to the Kirk Session.

Due to the ongoing update of ERC's Local Development Plan it will be a number of months before further progress can be made on our property options.

The latest advice we have received from ERC is that the Plan will be presented to the Council in September. In the meantime, as you will see in this update, the Session is keen to move away from a focus on buildings to reach a consensus on the characteristics of a church for the future and an understanding of what a sustainable, worshipping congregation actually means. Therefore the Session is keen to hear your own ideas on the key challenges outlined above and how they might be addressed. Do you have ideas that you would like the Session to consider? If you use email then please email your thoughts to greenbank.office@tiscali.co.uk. Alternatively you can send written comments to our Church Office. The Kirk Session would very much value your contribution.

THE GUILD

Diary

7 th March 2.15pm	<i>Christian Aid</i> Rev. Sally Foster-Fulton
14 th March 2.15pm	<i>AGM and Quiz</i> Jill Liddell
21 st March 2.15pm	<i>Hi-lites</i> Closing Meeting

The Guild has reached the end of another very successful year with around 42 ladies attending each week. It is encouraging to see the hall so full and to hear the sounds of people enjoying themselves. We have had an interesting syllabus thanks to Muriel Beaton, our Syllabus Secretary. Again we look forward to our Bridge Afternoon on Monday, 19th March. This has become an extremely popular event and our main fundraiser. Thanks to everyone in advance for their hard work. Further information from Esmae MacEwan on 638 8835.

The World Day of Prayer is being held in Netherlee Church on Friday, 2nd March at 10.30am. Everyone is welcome at this service.

Enid Dron (Secretary)

STAMPS AND POSTCARDS

First of all a big thank you for all the stamps and postcards handed in recently. We have heard from the two organisations we supply who are very appreciative of our efforts.

The stamp man makes a special plea for any non 1st and 2nd class Queen's head British stamps that come your way, as apparently they can be sold, if not too heavily postmarked, for about a third of their face value.

Elizabeth McDonald & Duncan McIntyre

THE GREENBANK COLOUR CIRCLE

The Greenbank Colour Circle wish to thank all who were able to support our annual exhibition and sale on Saturday, 10th February, which enabled us to present CHAS with a cheque for £1,400. The CHAS well stocked stall also realised £398.50. Thank you again,

Bert McCrum

LODGING HOUSE MISSION - Homelessness Sunday Service

I attended the Homelessness Sunday Service at the Lodging House Mission at 6.30pm on Sunday, 4th February, along with Elizabeth McKenzie and Mark.

On arrival, we were able to see that the downstairs hall was set out with mattresses on the floor in preparation for the Glasgow Winter Night Shelter. We were also amazed and delighted to see that the upstairs church area was packed to capacity for the service. The service was very enjoyable, as it always is, and was led by Rev Dr Roger Sturrock, who is a Board member at LHM and assisting minister at Wellington Church. The service commenced with the Lodging House Mission choir, Mission Voices, singing "Let it be". Our opening praise was "Longing for Light". This was followed by a prayer read by Stevie Creighton, a service user at LHM. The Old Testament reading was from Isaiah, chapter 40, verses 21 - 31, and the New Testament reading was from Matthew chapter 3, verses 1 - 12. The readings were read by Jamie Lee McLean, a service user at LHM.

Jacqueline Hoy, LHM volunteer, read a poem, and Right Rev Dr Derek Browning, current Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, spoke engagingly on the topic of "Touching the Light". He encouraged us to reach out and touch each other - with a look; the touch of an arm; or a friendly word, to try to make a difference in someone's life, just as the work of the LHM makes a difference in the lives of so many people.

Angela Vance, support worker at LHM, led us in a prayer of thanksgiving, and the LHM choir sang "You've got a friend". The service closed with the hymn "When I needed a Neighbour". An excellent service,

Alison Allan (638 3916)

Prayer Diary



'In the spring I have counted one hundred and thirty-six different kinds of weather inside of four and twenty hours.'
(Mark Twain)

At a first glance, there's not much sign of spring, although the snowdrops have braved the wintery blasts. But the daffodils are on their way, and the bushes tightly-wrapped tips are ready to burst forth at the first touch of a little sun and warmth. Everyone's spirits lift when the sun shines, when the days are a bit longer and, at least some of the time, a bit brighter. However, please keep in your prayers those whose spirits cannot be lifted even by the signs of renewal around them; who cannot find any hope, or see a way forward.

Please read through the article about the sessions deliberations on the legacy that we want to leave, and ask in your prayers that we find the best way forward.

Continue to pray for our government as they try to negotiate the best future for us as we leave the EU; that they be firm in agreeing to fair outcomes without antagonising our near neighbours.

Ask that people who pass through our doors but are not part of our church family find a warm welcome, and that they might feel encouraged to make a stronger commitment. And that folk who haven't come along in a while might feel like dropping back in.

When the news brings us word of the atrocities that humankind inflicts; of the greed and selfishness we exhibit; of our disregard of everything that doesn't benefit us directly. Ask that we learn to see each person as valuable; that we share the bounty that our world provides; that we believe that different is not wrong; that we create bonds based on common ground rather than build barriers based on ignorance.

'Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.' Proverbs 51:10

PRAYER REQUESTS & PRAYERS FOR HEALING

If you need prayer for yourself, a loved one or a friend please use the Greenbank Church Card [see reverse side] which can be found at the end of the church pews, and place it in the box at the front door of the church. Alternatively, prayer requests can be given to our Minister, Rev. Jeanne Roddick. Those for whom prayers have been requested will be prayed for at the monthly Prayers for Healing Service and throughout the month by members of the Prayer Group.

A Prayers for Healing service takes place on the 2nd Sunday of every month in the church at 6.30pm. (Enter by Link building). Everyone is welcome to attend.

Gillian Foy (638 6245)
Prayer Promoter

GREENBANK WALKING GROUP

The first outing of 2018 will be on Saturday 17th March to Baron's Loch and Dalziell Estate near Motherwell leaving from the Church at 9.30 am. Contact Ann Guy on 638 5570.

FLOWER LIST FOR MARCH 2018

	<u>Communion Table</u>	<u>Centenary Chapel</u>	<u>Side Windows</u>
4 th March	Communion	Mr & Mrs Meek	P. Gillespie
11 th March	Time Out	Sheila Matthews	
18 th March	Jane Brown	Moirra Innes	Susan Mowat
25 th March	Anne Stewart	Elaine Carr	

Please Note:

The Flower Lists for 2018 are on the transept windows; you are invited to put your name and telephone number on a list to donate flowers on the date of your choice. A member of the Flower Committee will contact you during the week prior to this date.

Elizabeth Cross (638 5162)

GOOD NEIGHBOUR CONTACTS

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Office Hours: Monday & Tuesday 9.15 - 12.15
Thursday & Friday 9.15 - 1.45
E-mail: greenbank.office@tiscali.co.uk
Website: <http://www.greenbankglasgow.org.uk>



Greenbank
Craft & Card Sale

Greenbank Church Halls
36 Eaglesham Road, Clarkston G76 7DJ

Saturday 14th April
2pm - 4pm

To book a table (£10 + raffle prize)
please email
greenbank.office@tiscali.co.uk

GreenbankParish
CHURCH

SWEATY CHURCH

Under pressure

Holiday Club

is here again so be prepared to be sweaty.
A wet, wacky week filled with fun and frolics, crafts and creations, stories and songs.

If you are at Primary school, come and join us every day from

Monday 9th April until Friday 13th April
from 10am to 12am.

To register contact Greenbank Church office 644 1841 or email
greenbank.office@tiscali.co.uk



Minister: Rev Jeanne Roddick. Tel: 01416441395
Session Clerk: Derek Christie. Tel: 0141 6380044.
Depute Session Clerk: Peter Liddell. Tel: 0141 6387870.
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