


# thegoodneighbour

December 2021



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

  
at the heart of the **community**  
GreenbankParish  
CHURCH

# Parish Register

## DEATH

10/11/21 Mrs Anne Patrick, Bonnyton House, Oliphant Crescent, Busby

"My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so,  
would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?" John 14:2 N.I.V.

## PULPIT DIARY

5 <sup>th</sup> December	10.30am	Gift Service & Sunday Club
	6.30pm	Time to Remember
12 <sup>th</sup> December	10.30am	Nine Lessons and Carols & Sunday Club
19 <sup>th</sup> December	10.30am	Nativity Service & Sunday Club
24 <sup>th</sup> December	6.30pm	Children's Christmas Eve Service with Christingles
	11.30pm	Watchnight Service
25 <sup>th</sup> December	10.30am	Christmas Day Family Worship
26 <sup>th</sup> December	10.30am	Favourite Christmas Carols Service
2 <sup>nd</sup> January	10.30am	New Year Family Worship
9 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup> January	10.30am	Worship & Sunday Club
23 <sup>rd</sup> January	10.30am	Clarkston Churches Together Pulpit Swap for Prayers for Christian Unity Week
30 <sup>th</sup> January	10.30am	Worship & Sunday Club

## ZOOM SUNDOWN SERVICES FOR ADVENT AND THE NEW YEAR

Zoom Sundown Services will take place every Wednesday from 1<sup>st</sup> December [6.45pm-7pm].

The zoom link will be: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85703523045> and Meeting ID: 857 0352 3045

## MESSY CHURCH

The next Messy Church, "Glitterfest" with Christmas activities and hot dogs for tea, takes place on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

The next planned dates in 2022 are 11<sup>th</sup> February and 4<sup>th</sup> March.

If anyone would like further details please text 07970192541 or email [lo.preece@btinternet.com](mailto:lo.preece@btinternet.com)

Lorna Preece

## LIVE STREAMING OF WORSHIP

The technical equipment in the Church Sanctuary has been changed to allow streaming via You Tube on Sunday Mornings in place of Zoom.

Anyone wishing to view the service should click on the link which is emailed to the congregation each week from the church office. The service can also be found by searching on You Tube. Once in 'You Tube' simply type in 'Greenbank Church Morning Service' and select the correct service.

Please note that with live streaming there is about a minutes delay before the service is transmitted from the church to people at home. Please be patient if it is a little later than 10.30am before the service starts.

Those attending worship in the Church Sanctuary on Sundays are also asked to note that services are being streamed. The camera being used to transmit images is downstairs, just in front of the balcony area. The cameras will film the pews directly in front of it, the side pews at the front and the chancel area of the church. Members of the congregation who do not wish to be 'caught on camera' are asked to select their seats appropriately.

Jeanne Roddick

## ACCESSING SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP LIVE BY TELEPHONE OR AS A RECORDING

For those who do not have a computer and are unable to attend church there is an option of using their telephone to listen to the service. Simply dial 0141 815 1166 at 10.30am if you wish to listen to the service live; alternatively you can listen to a recording of the most recent service from the Monday until the Saturday of the following week.

Dear Friends,

I will never forget trying to get our Zoom Watchnight Service to work last Christmas Eve when technology failed in the church. I ended up running back to the Manse just before midnight to lead the service from there. Last year we celebrated a Christmas unfamiliar to us, as we, mostly through the courtesy of Zoom, worshipped together and were unable to meet personally with family and friends. Thankfully this Christmas, it seems like the easing of restrictions and the successful vaccine programme are going to make it possible for us to meet together once again.

In the last few weeks, It has been wonderful to see so many of you return to worship in the church on Sunday mornings and I hope that you, and many more, will feel able to come along to the worship services that are planned for these Christmas weeks.

Beginning on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December, and on each subsequent Wednesday evening, Zoom Sundown Services, lasting about 10-15 minutes, will take us through a series of reflection on the season of Advent. The Zoom link to join Sundown services is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85703523045> or Meeting ID: 857 0352 3045

The first Sunday worship service in December will be our Christmas Gift service on the 5th of December. Afterwards the gifts that everyone brings will be given to Church House, Sacro, and to the neonatal maturity unit at the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital so they receive them in time for Christmas.

At a time of year that may take its toll on lives in ways that are difficult for many, and most particularly for those grieving the loss of loved ones, we will also set aside 'Time to Remember' on the evening of 5th December at 6.30pm. This act of worship will offer a way to bring losses and sorrows before God and offer support to one another in the days leading up to Christmas.

The following Sunday, during morning worship, the church choir will present the Lessons and Carols Service on 12<sup>th</sup> December and the young people of the Sunday Club and JAM will present the Nativity on 19<sup>th</sup> December. Staying with the Nativity theme, and restrictions permitting, characters from the Nativity story— shepherds, sheep, cows, angels, Mary and Joseph, wise men [or women!] whatever you can think of – are warmly invited to the Children's Christmas Eve Service with Christingles at 6.30pm. There will also be a Watchnight Service at 11.30pm and a Christmas Day Service at 10.30am in the church. As Christmas Day falls on a Saturday this year, our Boxing Day worship at 10.30am will take the form of a favourite Christmas Carol service. So, if there is any carol you wish to sing, or listen to, please let Peter know so that he can include it in the service!

Christmas will still feel different for many this year, but as some of the familiar ways of worshipping are reintroduced maybe the message of love, that lies at the heart of all we do and say as a church, will stand out even more clearly and remind us of the hope contained in the simple story of a baby's birth in a draughty stable 2000 years ago. The cold and the darkness endured by so many people in the last 20 months underlines the importance of knowing and sharing the hope and love of God.

However, you choose to worship this month may you gladly embrace this hope and love offered to you in the babe of Bethlehem and share it generously and faithfully with those around you this Christmas and always.

Yours,



### **SUNDAY MORNING TEA AND COFFEE**

After Sunday morning worship you are invited to bring your own cup and enjoy refreshments and some chat in the Fraser Hall.

If you would like to volunteer to serve the refreshments after the Sunday morning service please email the church office at:

[office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk](mailto:office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk)

# Prayer Diary

'Love awoke one winter's night  
And wander'd through the snowbound land,  
And calling to beasts and birds  
Bid them his message understand.

And from the forest all wild things  
That crept or flew obeyed love's call,  
And learned from him the golden words  
Of brotherhood for one and all.'

(Unknown)

The nights are drawing in and the year's drawing to a close. My neighbours, a few doors up, have their lights up for Diwali, and the Christmas lights won't be far behind, and while things aren't back to how they were, they've definitely got a bit better; may that continue to be the case.

Well, the COP has come and gone, and whether or not you feel that progress was made, ask that many people are inspired to do all that they can without waiting for world leaders to tell them what to do. Ask that businessmen and politicians forget their own agendas and really apply themselves to protecting our world in all its complex beauty so that it can be enjoyed for generations to come.

Say a prayer for everyone already adversely affected by the climate emergency: those whose water supply has dried up, those whose land has been washed away, those whose homes and businesses have been destroyed by wildfire; everyone who is already struggling with changes in the natural world.

Remember everyone forced to live on the streets through the cold and wet winter days and nights; and also everyone who has contracted Covid and has been seriously ill, or is suffering from long-term after-effects. Pray for all the families who have lost loved ones to the virus, and in any other way; and for everyone living with ill-health or a terminal diagnosis.

Keep in your hearts everyone living in a place torn apart by war, and all those who live in poverty. Pray for those who are lonely or depressed that they may find a little comfort.

Say thank you for Jeanne, for the new skills she has mastered to keep us all in touch and for all the work she does. Also give thanks for the many people who give of their time in many different ways. And give thanks for all the time and love Alison has put into editing the Good Neighbour for the last fifteen years, as she hands the baton on to somebody else.

I hope you all feel able to come out and join in with at least some of the festivities and celebrations this year. I wish you all a Christmas full of love, and all the best the new year can bring you.

"Recipe for a Happy New Year"

(Unknown)

Take twelve whole months.

Clean them thoroughly of all bitterness, hate, and jealousy.

Make them just as fresh and clean as possible.

Now cut each month into twenty-eight, thirty or thirty-one different parts, but don't make up the whole batch at once.

Prepare it one day at a time out of these ingredients:

Mix well into each day one part of faith, one part of patience, one part of courage, and one part of work.

Add to each day one part of hope, faithfulness, generosity, and kindness.

Blend with one part prayer, one part meditation, and one good deed.

Season the whole with a dash of good spirits, a sprinkle of fun, a pinch of play, and a cupful of good humour.

Pour all of this into a vessel of love.

Cook thoroughly over radiant joy, garnish with a smile, and serve with quietness, unselfishness, and cheerfulness.

You're bound to have a happy new year.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

If you need prayer for yourself, a loved one or a friend requests can be sent to our Minister, Rev. Jeanne Roddick at JRoddick@churchofscotland.org.uk or the Church Secretary at office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk Alternatively,, you can phone our Prayer Promoter, Gillian Foy. Those for whom prayers have been requested will be prayed for throughout the following month by members of the Prayer Group. Gillian Foy (0141 638 6245)

## TRIBUTE TO CHRIS ADAM

[Read in church on Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> November]

It was with a sense of deep shock that we learned of the sudden death of one of our elders, Chris Adam, on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2021 at the age of 67.

Christopher Henry Adam was born in Johnstone on the 8<sup>th</sup> September 1953, and spent his childhood years living at 8 Moray Gardens, Clarkston with his parents Nora and David, and his younger sister, Fiona.

Chris was educated at Netherlee Primary School, where he first met his lifelong friend, David Hunter. Chris continued his education at Williamwood High School, and completed it at the University of Strathclyde, where he graduated as a Civil Engineer.

After graduation, Chris joined Fugro in 1975, and spent three years there. He rejoined in 1979 and worked there until 2001. Thereafter he joined Jacobs (formerly Baptie) until his retirement in 2015. In his professional life he was author or co-author of 4 publications, and he was a Member of the Institution of Civil Engineers; a Chartered Engineer; a Member of the British Geotechnical Society; and Chairman of the Scottish Geotechnical group.

Chris's sporting passions were football, hillwalking, cycling and skiing, and it was at Bearsden Ski Club that he first met his wife, Diane, in 1980. Romance blossomed and Chris and Diane were married in Soulos Wester Church, just outside Crieff, in 1981. They were happily married for 40 years.

They set up home in Burnside, where their first son Jonathan was born and after moving to Carmunnock their family was completed with the arrival of twins, Graeme and Andrew. It is fair to say that Chris felt daunted by the arrival of twins, but he was the most wonderful Dad to his three sons, ably and happily supporting them into adulthood. The family later moved to their present home in Newton Mearns, a very loving home where many happy memories were made.

Chris's involvement with Greenbank Parish Church began when he was baptised there shortly after he was born. He attended Sunday School, and had a long history of service with the 223<sup>rd</sup> Boys' Brigade Company. He was a member of Company section staff and chairman of the Ex-members association of the 223<sup>rd</sup> BB Company until his death.

Chris was ordained as an elder in Greenbank in 2010, and faithfully visited the members in his district in Eaglesham. He actively contributed to all of the work of the Kirk Session. He was a duty team leader; a very accomplished member of the choir; a volunteer for the youth club and driver for the church transport service. He used his love of cycling to support the Lodging House Mission by participating in the sponsored cycle and he regularly read the lesson at Sunday worship. For the past few years, and since its inception, Chris was an enthusiastic member of the Legacy Group where he made invaluable contributions in applying for funding and formulating communication strategies, amongst many other things.

A sociable and hospitable man, Chris enjoyed entertaining in his home, where his love of music played a big part. The sound quality of the music was very important to Chris, and he enjoyed listening to his varied collection of vinyl through his Linn speaker system.

Chris travelled extensively for business and for pleasure, and in the workplace he was renowned for his encyclopaedic knowledge of ground conditions in Glasgow. His best travelling was done with family, and many happy holidays were spent in the sun in The Algarve, or skiing in The Rockies, Austria, the Cairngorms and the Alps. A memorable holiday for the family was to South Africa to mark the occasion of Chris and Diane's 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. They made happy memories there, with a safari and a hike or cable car ride up Table Mountain.

A keen cyclist, Chris enjoyed regular cycling outings with his 'cycling gang'. Originating in a spin class, this group had grown in number from 4 to 20, and many happy trips were made together, particularly in the last 18 months.

Chris Adam was many things to many people. He was a loving husband to Diane and devoted Dad to his three sons. He was a caring son to his parents, and a proud uncle to his niece and nephew. He was held in high esteem by those he worked with and loved and respected by those who knew him as a friend.

Chris was a quiet, unassuming, caring, humble man whose strong faith and sense of 'doing the right thing' were an inspiration to many, and as a church we are indebted to Chris for the many ways in which he served here.

We will hold Chris in our hearts forever, and he will not be forgotten. Today we give thanks for the life and service of Chris Adam, and we commend Diane, Jonathan, Graeme, Andrew, and the wider family to the love of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## News and Updates

### ED LINES

Christmas is upon us once again. It seems to come quicker and earlier every year. Selection boxes are for sale before Halloween and Christmas music is being played in November. I was at a garden centre a few weeks ago and the decorations were already being displayed! I love wandering around looking at the decorations and taking in the sights and smells. The scent of the pine trees and the aroma from the Christmas spices always makes me nostalgic and takes me back to my childhood. I remember in particular the smell coming from my Grandma's kitchen at Christmas time. My Grandma was a marvellous baker. Her pancakes and tattie scones were legendary and regularly brought to our house. However, once a year, she made clootie dumpling. I have fond memories of "helping" her in the kitchen mixing the ingredients. Flour and suet, mixed fruit and treacle and oh those spices - nutmeg, cinnamon and ginger all mingling together! My mouth is watering just thinking about it! We spent some time wrapping up sixpences in greaseproof paper which were popped into the mixture. We hoped we would be lucky enough to get one in our slice. The mixture was then put into the cloot, tied up and with a last tap on its bottom for luck was put into a pot and boiled for hours: all the necessary ingredients for the perfect dumpling. I found another recipe recently. A recipe that doesn't cost a fortune and one we don't have to keep for special occasions but can make every day of the year:

The Recipe for Happiness

2 cups of patience

1 heart, full of love

2 handfuls of generosity

Plenty of faith

1 handful of understanding  
Dash of laughter  
Generous sprinkle of kindness

Combine patience, love and generosity with understanding. Add a dash of laughter and sprinkle generously with kindness. Add plenty of faith and mix well. Spread over a period of a lifetime and serve everyone you meet.

May you all have the ingredients to make this perfect mixture; not only will you have a Happy Christmas but you will be able to spread a little happiness every other day of the year too.

Happy Christmas,

Alison

**ARTICLES FOR THE FEBRUARY ISSUE OF GOOD NEIGHBOUR SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE CHURCH OFFICE AND COPIED TO [liddell.jill@gmail.com](mailto:liddell.jill@gmail.com) BY SUNDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY PLEASE**

Have you remembered the church in your will?



## LIFE & WORK

As previously intimated, the December issue of Life & Work will be the last one delivered with your Good Neighbour. Those of you who wish to continue to receive Life & Work should subscribe directly using the form in your December issue. This will give you the choice to have the magazine in either paper or digital form.

We take this opportunity to thank all subscribers past and present and also to those who have been involved in the organisation and distribution of Life & Work in the past years.

Jan Christie

## THE GUILD

We have had very enjoyable and well attended meetings so far and hope this will continue when the second half of our session begins on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022. We hope to continue meeting in the Fraser Hall for the foreseeable future. Details of the syllabus will be published as soon as they are available. Meantime, we look forward to our Christmas lunch on 8<sup>th</sup> December at Cathcart Castle Gold Club.

Enid Dron

Secretary

## 100<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS!



Mrs Jean Strachan, One Hundred Years Young!

Jean was born in Rutherglen on 19th December 1921. She had 5 sisters and 2 brothers and she is the last surviving member of her family.

Jean attended school in Rutherglen where she won a bursary of which she was very proud.

On leaving school she trained as a Dispenser at her local Doctors' Surgery, a position she held till she was called up to serve in the army where she drove ambulances and officers cars in the ATS.

Jean met her husband Donald whilst stationed in Aberdeen and they married in 1946. Their only child, Anne, was born in 1952.

Jean moved to Clarkston when Anne was 3 years old and she has lived here ever since. She became a member of Greenbank Parish Church.

Sadly Donald passed away when Jean was 52 years old. After the sudden death of Donald, Jean took up Bridge, a hobby which she absolutely loved and she played in several clubs, winning lots of prizes and making many friends. She had to give up Bridge 5 years ago due to her eyesight problems. She misses it greatly. Jean was also a curler and a member of Giffnock Bowling Club for many years.

Jean's daughter, Anne, gave birth to James in 1978. Her Grandson is the apple of her eye and Jean walked with James for many miles around Rouken Glen and Caldersglen Parks. James is an airline Captain and she is so proud of him.

Jean was also for many years a member of the WRVS and she and her dear friend, Molly, went round the wards with the trolley at Phillipshill Hospital where they were well known and liked and known as the 'Trolley Dollies'.

Jean still lives in Fairfield Drive, Clarkston and she has retained her brilliant sense of humour and always makes visitors most welcome.

HAPPY 100th BIRTHDAY JEAN!

Dear Friends,

Thank you again to all those who continue to contribute towards our Legacy Fund.

We have received pledges totalling £254,075.

Pledges can be, and have been, made for any amount of money you can afford, and spread over a few years by standing order if that suits you better. Or a one-off payment by bank transfer or cheque can be made.

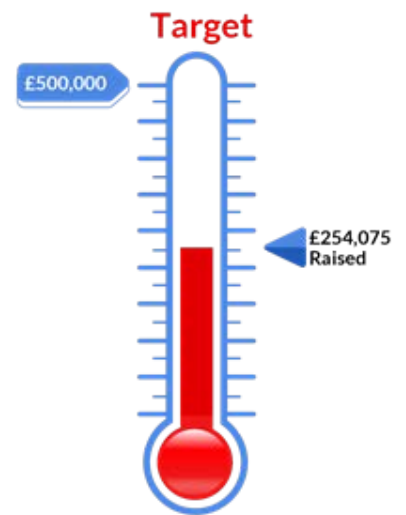
Spare pledge and bank standing order forms are available from myself or the Church Secretary, should you require any.

**Every donation**, of whatever size, is warmly welcome.

Alistair Smith, Treasurer

Tel: 0141 571 2676

Email: [alistairsmith@ntlworld.com](mailto:alistairsmith@ntlworld.com)



## OFFERINGS DURING LOCKDOWN

Dear Friends,

Since lockdown many members have continued to remit funds to the church, and I would like to thank them all for doing this. It is a great help to our church's finances.

The best way to maintain your freewill offerings to the church, if possible, is to make a direct payment into the Church's bank account, putting your freewill offering number in the payment reference box. For those wishing to do this, please email me at: [alistairsmith@ntlworld.com](mailto:alistairsmith@ntlworld.com) and I will supply you with the church's bank account details.

Alternatively, you can send a cheque made out to Greenbank Parish Church with your freewill offering number, and I will lodge it with other cheques received.

My address is 26 Stewart Drive, Clarkston G76 7EZ.

Thank you for your support. Alistair Smith, Treasurer

## GIFT SERVICE

Greenbank's Gift Service will take place this year on **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December**. As usual we will be supporting Church House and SACRO, and also the Queen Elizabeth Neo-natal Unit. Please see the list of suggested items below. Please bring your **unwrapped gift** to this service.

Your generosity in supporting the charities we donate to is exceptional, and each charity – Church House, Princess Royal Maternity Unit and SACRO – greatly appreciate your generosity – especially last year when circumstances were so difficult for so many. Thanking you all in advance for your donations and co-operation.

As before Gifts are collected for 3 groups:

1. **NEW BORN BABIES & MUMS**

The Queen Elizabeth Children's Hospital Neo-natal Unit cares for young, homeless or vulnerable mothers: **gifts of new new-born clothes** for the babies (**including hand-knitted items**) and **toiletries for Mums** are requested, no second-hand,

2. **CHILDREN ages 8 to 12**

Church House in Bridgeton – specifically **games and arts/crafts** are requested.

3. **YOUTH Ages 13 to 18**

Scottish Council for the Care and Rehabilitation of Offenders (SACRO): please donate **gift cards**. **Supermarket gift cards would be particularly welcome e.g. Asda, Tesco, Morrison's, Sainsbury's**, due to the variety of goods available, and also as sadly **some young people will need them to buy food**.

Please bring your **new, unwrapped gift (gift cards in an unsealed envelope please)** to church on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December. We thank you, once again, for your support and generosity. Your help will make a big difference to others.

Helen Howard  
Sunday Club

## SOCIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE

### Very Merry Clarkston Christmas

Greenbank's tea tent at The Very Merry Clarkston Christmas event on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November was the perfect opportunity to reach out to the Clarkston community. A huge thanks to everyone who volunteered throughout the day.

### Greenbank's Christmas Coffee Morning

Greenbank's Christmas Coffee morning will take place on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December from 10am till 12noon. Tickets, £2 for adults (children free) have been on sale after church for a few weeks now, but can be bought at the link corridor door on the morning. There will be LHM Christmas cards for sale as well as wonderful wooden items from The Olive Tree. There will also be two Christmas hampers raffled and a tombola stall. Hopefully you will be able to join us and if you do you will certainly be assured of a warm festive welcome.

Our monthly coffee and chat mornings continue to be a success and will resume on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> February from 10am till 12noon.

Lindy Dallas

## STAMP AND POSTCARDS

The charity which has been collecting/selling the postcards has decided to give up due to a variety of reasons but mainly to do with an over-supply married to lack of demand and as yet have been unable to find an organisation to take this on. It follows that I no longer want them as postcards but please note that foreign ones and British ones with unusual stamps are still usable as I will soon cut the stamps off!

They can be got to me by using the following means:

1. There is a box in the manse doorway where they can be left anytime.
2. If attending church by putting them in the wooden boxes in the foyer of the church facing you as you enter.
3. With the assistance of The Guild who, while the halls remain in use, meet in the hall on a Wednesday from 2pm till approximately 3.30pm (last meeting before Christmas in the halls is 1<sup>st</sup> December, restarting on 12<sup>th</sup> January).

As before ordinary blue second class stamps are not wanted and it looks likely that 2nd class Christmas stamps will join them so don't waste time and effort cutting them out!

If in doubt feel free to phone me.

Duncan McIntyre (01355 260068)



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Hi Guys,

Christmas time is here. It's a time we all look forward to and I for one can't wait to see your Nativity play this year. We all know the story of Jesus, Mary and Joseph but here are 24 things that you might not know, one for each day of Advent. Advent means 'coming' and it's all about preparing for Christmas Day. Advent starts on the Sunday nearest to 30 November.

1. It is about 90 miles from Nazareth to Bethlehem by road but only 70 if you were to fly!
2. What happened to the man who stole an Advent Calendar? He got 25 days!
3. If you were walking with a donkey to Bethlehem, it would take you about 31 hours.
4. What do you call a cat in the desert? Sandy Claws!
5. Donkeys don't bark or whinney, they bray.
6. What do donkeys send out near Christmas? Mule-tide greetings.
7. A donkey's bray is 80 decibels which is as loud as a train! It can be heard from 60 miles away!
8. What do you call a donkey with one leg? A wonkey donkey!
9. Jesus in Hebrew means "God saves"
10. How does Good King Wenceslas like his pizzas? Deep pan, crisp and even!
11. Astrologers think the Star of Bethlehem was a merger of Jupiter and Saturn.
12. Why did the star go on holiday? It needed some space.
13. Bethlehem means "house of bread".
14. What's green, covered in tinsel and goes ribbet ribbet? Mistle-toad!
15. A manger is a food box for animals!
16. What carol is heard in the desert? O camel ye faithful!
17. We always have a Nativity play. Nativity comes from the word "natal" which means birth.
18. Who delivers presents to baby sharks at Christmas? Santa Jaws.
19. Caspar, Balthazar and Melchior are the names mentioned as being the wise men.
20. What is the worst Christmas present in the world? A broken drum... you just can't beat it!
21. The wise men brought gold frankincense and myrrh, which would be worth about £20M today!
22. Why did the turkey join the band? Because it had the drumsticks!
23. X is a symbol for Christ in Greek, which is why people shorten the word Christmas to Xmas.
24. Why did no one bid for Rudolph and Blitzen on eBay? Because they were two deer!

Well that's it guys. I'm putting down my pen. Thanks for entering the quizzes and sending me jokes  
See you around.  
Al the Ed.

over the years. You've made me laugh!



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Wow! Lots of birthdays over the Christmas holidays. You know what that means? Double the prezzies!!! Hope you all have a great time and don't eat too much cake. Happy Birthday, Naomi Ramsay, Harry McGowan, Martin Gall, Rory Hood, James Houston, Cameron Mitchell, Jill Carswell, Allison Preece, Jaime Stewart and Euan Dunnachie.





Hi everyone,

I can't believe that it's time once again to get ready for that very special time of year – Christmas! Although December 25<sup>th</sup> is 4 weeks away from when this magazine is printed, I know that those 4 weeks are going to fly past very quickly!

I love hearing the story of the very first Christmas when baby Jesus was born, although I've heard it so many times, I never get fed up with it – I find it very comforting, and it reminds me of just how much God loves every one of us.

I'm really looking forward to seeing the Nativity which some of you are filming to be shown in the service on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November.

All the Sunday Club Leaders wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas, and that you all have a great time during your school holidays.

Helen

Sunday 5th December	Gift Service – Sunday Club meet in hall as usual, children will place gifts at Christmas tree as they enter church from the halls. Please see flyer for details of gifts
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Trailblazers & Sunday Squad Christmas Party, in church halls during morning service JAM out for breakfast
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Sunday Club & JAM meet in usual halls. Online Nativity will be shown during the service.
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> December	Family Worship in church
Sunday 2nd January	Family worship in church
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> January	Sunday Club/JAM as usual
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	Sunday Club/JAM as usual
Sunday 23rd January	Sunday Club/JAM as usual
Sunday 30th January	Sunday Club/JAM as usual

### FIND THE WORDS

Christmas, Bethlehem, Nazareth, nativity, Jupiter, advent, Joseph, donkey, Saturn, manger, Jesus, Mary,

b n r u t a s c e  
 p r t e g r t a t  
 e j f h i n t f j  
 s a e s l i a u y  
 o i t s v e p m r  
 j m n i u i h h a  
 a o t l t s c e m  
 r y y e k n o d m  
 e t r t n e v d a

### PANTO TIME

**What :** Peter Pan

**Where:** Eastwood Theatre

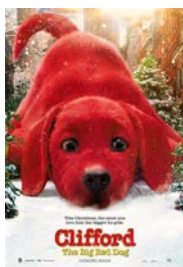
**When:** 26th November -30th December

Come sail with us on the Jolly Roger as we take you on a magical journey with Peter Pan back to Neverland, let's meet the Lost Boys and the Mermaids, let's do battle with Pirates and let's do our best to keep away from the evil Captain Hook. This modern adaptation on J.M. Barrie's classic is retold here in true pantomime style. With slapstick fun, comedy mayhem and a fabulous cast of professional actors, Peter Pan promises to be a real pantomime treat.

### CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Wear a Christmas Jumper on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December and raise money for Save the Children by donating £2. Since 2012, jazzy jumper wearing has raised over £17m to help children around the world.

Log on to [christmasjumper@savethechildren.org.uk](mailto:christmasjumper@savethechildren.org.uk)



### Clifford the Big Red Dog PG (Release date 10th Dec )

When Emily Elizabeth meets a magical animal rescuer who gifts her a little, red puppy, she never anticipated waking up to find a giant ten-foot hound in her small New York City apartment. While her mum is away for business, Emily and her fun but impulsive uncle Casey, set out on an adventure that will keep you on the edge-of-your-seat as our heroes take a bite out of the Big Apple. Based on the beloved Scholastic book character, Clifford will teach the world how to love big!

## LHM CHRISTMAS APPEAL

*Dear Supporter,*

### *Christmas Appeal*

*It has been a difficult year for many people and certainly for our valued Service Users.*

*We opened our doors again on 1<sup>st</sup> July and while we cannot provide all of our normal services, we can give a healthy breakfast and lunch to our visitors.*

*In a new partnership with Social Bite we are now providing an evening meal.*

*Although Christmas Day will again be different this year, we shall continue to share festive cheer by delivering Christmas dinner and a gift for up to 75 individuals.*

*Often, this gift is the only one which our Service User will receive on Christmas day or indeed, all year.*

*In order to make things as easy as possible in these challenging times, we are asking for a financial donation to fund the cost of our Christmas activities. Be assured that we shall provide both the meal and a gift to everyone who arrives on Christmas day.*

*With thanks to our sponsors who will donate some food items, a gift of £7 will cover the cost of a meal. We generally spend up to £10 on a Christmas gift.*

*Any contribution is gratefully received and you can donate in the usual way:*

*(a) Website: [www.lhm-glasgow.org.uk](http://www.lhm-glasgow.org.uk) (b) Direct transfer: 82-64-31 30060385 (c) Call LHM on 0141 552 0285 and donate by card.*

*Finally, as the year draws to a close it is our prayer that all our supporters, staff, volunteers and those affected by homelessness may know peace, comfort, love and the assurance of God's blessings.*

*Thank you for the great support you give throughout the year.*

**Gus**

Gus Smeaton, Project Manager, Lodging House Mission

## LODGING HOUSE MISSION

Christmas cards will be on sale on Sundays in the Fraser Hall after the church service up to 12<sup>th</sup> December. They will also be on sale at the Coffee Morning on 4<sup>th</sup> December. A pack of 10 cards costs £4. Please bring the correct change, if possible.

LHM is organising a Christmas Carol Service for the week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> December, which will be held in their church sanctuary. A new lift has been installed in the building, which will make the sanctuary accessible to all. More details about the service will be announced on Facebook.

On Christmas Day a table service lunch is planned for up to 45 people and there is a takeaway option as well so that everyone can enjoy a Christmas meal.

The upper church hall is going to be used for carpet bowls, indoor curling, badminton or basketball. Street Soccer Scotland is also working with the LHM to provide an indoor inflatable football pitch. Congregations are invited to donate equipment, expertise or individuals can volunteer to take part.

The LHM continues to be open on weekdays for table service breakfast and lunch. Their new menu has a greater emphasis on fresh fruit and vegetables and providing meals of good nutrition.

From 1<sup>st</sup> December until the end of March the LHM will be providing lunches at the Glasgow Overnight Welcome Centre. They would be very grateful for any donations of multipack crisps, individual cartons of juice and individually wrapped biscuits for this.

The LHM is very thankful for all donations of food and toiletries. UHT milk and sugar are especially requested at the moment. Anoraks and new underwear are also needed especially for men. Liz Smith [0141 571 2676]

## HELP GREENBANK TO HELP THE LODGING HOUSE MISSION

As you may know Greenbank Church has been supporting the Lodging House Mission, a Glasgow based charity dedicated to providing care and support to homeless, vulnerable and socially excluded people, for many years.

Since lockdown volunteers have been supervising a **donations trolley** at the church every Sunday and will continue to do so, however please note that the supervision time, and therefore the donation time, has now been reduced to 11.30am to 12noon.

Other volunteers **deliver the donated items to LHM** on a suitable morning during the week. We are continuing with this initiative, for which LHM is extremely grateful.

If you would be interested in helping either with the supervision of the Sunday trolley from **11.30am to 12noon** or with packing and delivering the Sunday donations to LHM on a convenient morning during the week, on a rota basis, please leave a message on the church office answering machine [0141 644 1841] or email the church office at [office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk](mailto:office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk) Thank you.

## COP 26 REPORT

I want to thank Rev. Jeanne and the church for allowing me the time away from my normal duties at the church over the two week period of the recent COP 26 events in the city in order to represent my PC (USA) Presbyterians for Earth Care group as the head of our three person delegation. This was particularly important since our denomination determined that none of the paid staff would be granted permission to travel to Glasgow for the event due to the carbon footprint entailed in such air travel as well as the issues around access of delegations from poor countries due to the Covid



pandemic. So I would like to take this opportunity to share some of my learnings, experience and reflections:

The report of the U.N. scientific panel released in August of this year was compiled by 234 authors from 65 countries. The top scientist giving the report pulled no punches as he and others laid bare the realities they have been carefully researching for many years. There is no way back from some of the changes that have been made to the biosphere since basically the 1970s but more broadly over the last 100 years. These changes are more dramatic than any in thousands of years; unprecedented in hundreds of thousands of years.

And they are unequivocal: Humans are the main cause if these changes.

In spite of this scientific consensus, my general reaction to the final pact as agreed to by the 196 gathered nations is cautiously hopeful even though it isn't the bold document we in the religious sector were hoping for. It was clear in the end, that the only holdouts were China and India (and maybe Iran and Saudi Arabia). Granted, these include two of the largest emitters of greenhouse gasses, but they still went along, (albeit with reservations and modifications) to the final wording on the commitment to "phase down, use of unabated coal and to eliminate inefficient fossil fuel subsidies" as well as so many other elements which we in the ecumenical Christian sector, as well as others, had advocated.

As the U.S. special envoy on climate change, John Kerry put it, "Mother Nature does not differentiate as to where the CO2 originates." We had over 30



named hurricanes and cyclones last year making landfall with record setting force and doing incalculable damage. This, along with increasing drought, famine, forest fires, etc., etc., etc., will, I believe, continue to bring the world's populace to an increasing willingness to accept the changes in lifestyle and energy production necessary to reduce our emissions and slow (and even reverse) climate change. Once the populations are convinced, and consumer habits begin to shift, the businesses and politicians will follow.

Perhaps the most hopeful signal about the future possibilities for progress was the pact announced by the U.S. and China during the second week of the COP 26 and the information that over 38 Trillion USD of investments have been pulled out of fossil fuels since 2009 making it more and more difficult for that industry to receive financing for new projects.

In addition, the Glasgow pact established the topic of "loss and damage" as a legitimate and separate category for funding. This is especially important for the small island nations and coastal communities where there is a proven direct link between the build-up of greenhouse gasses (from industrialised nations) and the destructiveness of storms. 50% of greenhouse gasses are produced by 1% of the wealthiest nations while the poorest and most vulnerable countries produce only 6%. The recognition of this historic debt resulted in a level of solidarity heretofore unseen amongst the wealthy and poor nations, resulting in this section of the pact. Although the religious community had hoped for more specifics around mechanisms for distributing funds to address the loss and damage cited, there will at least be a dialogue this may result in these specifics in the coming COP27 and beyond.

At the moment, there are specifics around the funding of what is called the Santiago Network that will provide these vulnerable nations with funding and expertise for documentation around all aspects of mitigation, adaptation and loss

My most memorable experience was perhaps the Climate Action march on November 7<sup>th</sup> where over 100,000 people from various segments of British society and the global representation to the COP26 from over 200 nations, joined together, despite the nastiest weather of the two week event after standing in the rain and cold for over an hour, for a three mile demonstration of our insistence that the politicians make the decisions that will save us from catastrophic climate change. Amidst this group were representatives of the various faith traditions and a quite significant ecumenical delegation numbering in the hundreds. One moment in particular stands out, as the *Laudato Si* group (the catholic contingent promoting Pope Francis' document about our call to care for "our common home") were singing chants from Taize, another group was singing the famous Holly Near protest song "Singing for our lives" with the opening line: "we are a gentle, angry people . . ." and a third group chanting "What do we want? Climate Justice! When do we want it? Now!" Then, there was the rainbow that appeared above a green field just as we were leaving the park where the march had begun.

I am aware that "climate anxiety" is a very real thing. Many in our church and community are grappling with grief, loss, guilt and a desire to take concerted action around this issue. I am hopeful that in the coming weeks we will be able to convene a "climate café" to discuss your concerns and hopes and perhaps find ways to work and serve together and to treat this climate crisis with the urgency it deserves.

Rev. Fred Milligan  
Assistant Minister

PS:

In a separate event, held in the US at the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in NYC, the Texas climate scientist and Christian, Dr Katharine Hoyhoe, addressed the gathered group and spoke about something she refers to as a "shadow" of guilt, fear and isolation that impedes effective action. Speaking to the question of what is the most important thing we can do related to this shadow she says:





"Where do we start? It's counterintuitive, she said, but it's not with plug-in cars or solar panels or plant-based diets. 'Those are good things to do,' Hayhoe said. 'But do the one thing most of us aren't doing: talking about it . . . We don't think it matters, and we don't think there is anything positive we can do to change it.'"



## CLARKSTON CHURCHES TOGETHER

Busby Parish Church | Carmunnock Parish Church | Cartsbridge Evangelical Church  
Greenbank Parish Church | Netherlee Parish Church | Stamperland Parish Church  
Williamwood Parish Church | St Aidan's Scottish Episcopal Church | St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church

### PROGRAMME OF EVENTS: WINTER 2021/22

#### **Sunday 12 December, 'Ignatian Spirituality and Yoga Advent Reflection'**

Greenbank Church Sanctuary [4pm - 5.15pm]

Come along and experience some gentle and nurturing healing through Body Prayer movements - contact Eleanor on 07931 171565 for more information - free and open to all.

#### **Sunday 23 January, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity event with guest speaker Mary Miller**

Williamwood Church at 6.30pm

Mary Miller will speak on the life of Jane Haining, a missionary captured by the Nazis during World War II. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

#### **Sunday 23 January**

##### **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

Pulpit Exchange (Sunday 23 January, provisional):

Busby	11.00am	Rev Scott Blythe
Carmunnock	11.00am	Mr Iain McCallum
Cartsbridge	11.15am	Mrs Fiona Crawford
Greenbank	10.30am	Rev Jerry Eve
St Aidan's	10.00am	Rev Jeanne Roddick
St Joseph's	10.00am	Rev Jan Mathieson
Stamperland	10.30am	Rev Canon Dr Nicholas Taylor
Williamwood	11.00am	Rev Fred Milligan

### KWENDERANA COMMITTEE REPORT

Minutes from the meeting held on 4th November 2021

#### Ekwendeni

Despite the intermittent connection, Rev Timothy Nyirenda managed to introduce Maggie, who advised that the church had been in "bad shape" but was now good. It was hoped to send us photographs of the church and the congregation who are all very excited about how life is getting better. Maggie spoke of the students and the signing of the Covenant.

Timothy then spoke about the congregation who join the services and how proud they all are of their church. Timothy also spoke about the signing of the Covenant. He requested that when the Covenant signing was arranged, perhaps on a Sunday afternoon, the congregation in Ekwendeni could join us on zoom and sign their copy at the same time. It was agreed that the Kwenderana Committee would organise a date and time and then advise Timothy.

Timothy also spoke about raising funds and Christmas when they will meet and enjoy Christian fellowship. He also advised that they had received the funds for the third school term. Timothy said they look forward to either their church members visiting our churches or our group visiting them.

#### Williamwood High School Update

Alison Rhodes reported that the Malawi trip by Williamwood High School pupils had been postponed until 2023. Alison advised that the Williamwood students would like to become ambassadors and want to set up a project for raising funds to help in building classrooms. It was suggested to Timothy that they speak together about the students here and in Malawi getting together on zoom at some point during the school day. Alison would email Timothy with dates and times. It was then decided that at least some, if not all, of the Williamwood chaplains would join this meeting.

#### Sports Equipment

George Watson updated on sports strips which have been sent out to Malawi via Dundee. George has personally taken these boxes up to Dundee to be transported.

#### Banking

There was no update on banking as Christina could not attend the meeting.

#### Sunday Services

In November it was decided that the tea/coffee money our churches receive would be donated to Malawi.

#### Blankets

Morag confirmed that we had delivered five bags and a box to the Refuweegees charity which helps refugees arriving in this country. Morag also confirmed that £150 had been raised which she would give to Christine to bank for Ekwendeni. The charity worker from Refuweegees had asked if the

knitters could knit hats and scarfs for all ages and not just little ones. Morag asked George how much it would cost to send boxes out via Dundee and George confirmed that it was £15 and he would help where possible.

#### AOCB

Timothy introduced Sangster who is the assistant Session Clerk. Timothy wished us all well and said that God was with us. He confirmed that there had been no new cases of the virus and the weather was a factor in this. They continue to gather in church. Timothy also confirmed that the vaccination programme was ongoing.

Morag said that it was really great to see people from the Ekwendeni committee.

Avril asked that Timothy forward email addresses for the people on their committee so that they can be included in the news,

#### Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting on zoom would be 3rd February 2022 at 7pm.

#### Benediction

The meeting closed with the members saying the grace together.

## GLASGOW NORTH EAST FOODBANK

G.N.E. Foodbank has been grateful over the years for Greenbank's support and to the many who continued through online giving during the pandemic close down. Now the Church is opening up and the halls are in use a box will once again be placed in the Link Building for food donations which can be put there on Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons when the Guild is on (last meeting before Christmas is 1<sup>st</sup> December and restarts on 12<sup>th</sup> January). Items particularly needed are: UHT milk and juice, diluting juice, Tinned fruit and vegetables, tinned fish, coffee and ladies and gents toiletries. Bags for life are needed also as the Foodbank is really short of those to pack food in.

Alex Howie

## LEGACY LAMPS



I have been noticing all sorts of lovely glass and ceramic bottles, which are currently available. These are often gin bottles, or they may contain soft drinks or other beverages. I thought it would be good to find a decorative purpose for these items once they are empty, and have been making some lamps. I hope you like them, and if you do, they are available to buy, with all proceeds going to our Legacy Fund.

Electric lamps are priced from £20 each.

Battery operated bottle lights are £5 each.

These will be on sale at the Christmas Coffee Morning on Saturday, 4th December, or please contact me if you would like to buy one.

Thanks

Alison Allan (638 3916)

## A BIG THANK YOU

As you will be aware, Alison Harvey, the editor of Good Neighbour, is giving up after fifteen years in the job. During those years, Alison has informed and entertained us and done so with her irrepressible energy, enthusiasm and effervescence. More than that, she has shared much of her life with us. We have watched as her children have grown up and accompanied her as she travelled the length and breadth of Britain, and thus she has become a friend to many and not just 'the editor'. However, the time has come for her to retire, not only from Good Neighbour but also from work, which will give her more time and opportunity to travel further afield in her much loved motorhome.

We would like to thank Alison most sincerely for all the years of her commitment to the editorship and wish her and her husband, Stephen, safe journeys and much fun in the future. We are sure, though, that we will not have heard the last from her!





## MEMBERS' EMAIL ADDRESSES

If you have not already done so please send your email address to our church office at:

[office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk](mailto:office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk)

Thank you,  
Alison Allan  
Session Clerk

## THE LAST WORD!

Hi Folks, or should it be "Bye folks?"

I remember, as a young adult (or a stropky teenager as my mum and dad would have called me) being told: "you always have to have the last word!" Well, here it is; the last word. I have had the honour and privilege of being the editor of Good Neighbour for the last fifteen years. Looking back to my first article I pondered how to encourage my fifteen year old daughter to read the magazine and

requested help and support be it practical support or spiritual. That fifteen year old is now thirty and I'm still not sure whether she's read the magazine or not!! But the help and support and words of encouragement that I've had from you my friends, has been amazing. For once I am lost for words!

Looking back over the past 15 years has been enlightening. On a personal level, I've seen my children going from being stropky teenagers, as I once was, to becoming well balanced adults of whom I am extremely proud. On a global level we've seen earthquakes, tsunami, volcanic eruptions and most recently the coronavirus. The devastating effect of these have been outweighed by the acts of heroism and selflessness and kindness that have shone through the dark times. On a church level, although tinged with sadness at the loss of many stalwarts of the church, we remember them with grateful thanks. We look back with gladness at the good times, the happy times, church shows, ladies nights, Burns' nights and holiday clubs which we will always remember with fondness.

So, the last word. Well, maybe not the last, because it's not the end, for me, it's a new beginning; the beginning of new hopes, new dreams and new adventures. I look forward to sharing them with you.

Thank you all for the love and support shown over the years. I wish you and yours all the best now, in the future and forever more.

To finish in the words of the famous Bugs Bunny  
"That's All Folks"

Alison xx

## GOOD NEIGHBOUR CONTACTS

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