

# NEW CONNECTIONS

The congregational Magazine of  
Strathaven: Trinity Parish Church

*October 2024*



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Dear Friends,

I was glad on Sunday, 15 September, to welcome back David McKee to the Church, as Probationer Assistant.

As time goes on and hopefully in December, David will be ordained and thereafter, will continue with us as an Ordained Assistant Minister.

There are protocols to be followed thereafter and through time, he will be free to apply for his first Charge, but in the meantime, we are delighted that he will be spending time in Strathaven and we wish him so well, known as he is amongst us.

I said in my introduction of David, that Trinity was a great Kirk and having found that out in pastoral ministry, I have cemented it as I have shared much more with you all.  
It is a real privilege to be with you and to realise that Shaw is managing the onerous task of being Moderator, knowing that the family at Strathaven are loyal as always to the things of the faith.

I find a great moving of the Spirit as I conduct worship with you and that manifests itself through the continuing fellowship in which we all share and I have to say, that the irrepressible humour expressed, is so special.

I believe that humour is a grace of God and if it is used correctly, it can produce an aspect of the faith that is quite immeasurable.

We are in the place now of the organisations starting up and I am sure the friendship and fellowship there from the youngest to the oldest always will be an outreach from Trinity to all in the parish.

We look forward in faith to all we do together and continue the strong and positive for our Lord.

With Blessings,

*Norman*

## **PREACHING ROTA**

As always, the rota may need to be altered but at least it gives an indication of who's scheduled for where. A special thank you to David, Valerie, Robin, Norman and Julie for assisting.

If anyone would like to assist by concluding a service (announcing offering, leading offering prayer and intimating closing hymn followed by blessing) or opening a service (this will be at Glassford and Strathaven involving up to and including children's address) then please volunteer to the minister who will provide appropriate resources.



### **October**

6 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<i>Harvest.</i> David at Chapelton and Strathaven; Robbie at Glassford
13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Norman at Chapelton and Strathaven; Valerie at Glassford
20 <sup>th</sup> Oct	David at Chapelton and Strathaven; Robin at Glassford
27 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Shaw (as Mod for BB Founder's Day) at Strathaven; David and Julie (on start at both) at Chapelton and Glassford

### **November**

3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	<i>Glassford Communion.</i> Norman at Glassford; David at Chapelton and Strathaven
10 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<i>Remembrance</i> Robbie at Chapelton and Strathaven; David at Glassford
17 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Norman at Glassford and Strathaven; David at Chapelton
24 <sup>th</sup> Nov	David at Chapelton and Strathaven; Valerie at Glassford

### **December**

1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	Norman at Chapelton and Strathaven; Robin at Glassford
8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<i>Chapelton and Strathaven Communion</i> - David (if Ordained, otherwise Norman with David preaching) at Chapelton and Strathaven; Robbie at Glassford
15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	David at Glassford and Strathaven; Valerie at Chapelton
22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	David at Chapelton and Strathaven; Norman at Glassford
24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<i>Watchnight Service</i> - Shaw at Strathaven; David at Chapelton

# FUNERALS

Angus Stuart 12 September



*Thank You*



The Toms family would like to thank the church for the flowers we received following a recent family bereavement, to all those who sent cards and gave us hugs and to Rev. Norman McKee for his visit. It meant a lot to us all.

transforming conflict • embracing difference

place for hope



**JOURNEYING AND LEADING THROUGH CHANGE AND TRANSITION**

This course explores the phases of transition that take place within as we re-orientate ourselves to change. Develop your understanding of these phases and equip yourself with the skills manage change and transition well.

This course will be held online and is open to everyone. The course consists of two sessions: 5th and 12th November 2024 from 09:30 to 1 pm.

More information: [Journeying and Leading through Change and Transition Course - Ascend \(churchofscotland.org.uk\)](https://churchofscotland.org.uk)

## **LECTIONARY READING**



### **October**

October 6, 2024	Job 1:1, 2:1-10; Psalm 26; Genesis 2:18-24; Psalm 8; Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12 Mark 10:2-16
October 13, 2024	Job 23:1-9, 16-17; Psalm 22:1-15; Amos 5:6-7, 10-15; Psalm 90:12-17 Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 10:17-31
October 20, 2024	Job 38:1-7, (34-41); Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c; Isaiah 53:4-12; Psalm 91:9-16; Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45
October 27, 2024	Job 42:1-6, 10-17; Psalm 34:1-8, (19-22); Jeremiah 31:7-9; Psalm 126; Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark 10:46-52

### **November**

November 3, 2024	Ruth 1:1-18; Psalm 146; Deuteronomy 6:1-9; Psalm 119:1-8; Hebrews 9:11-14; Mark 12:28-34
November 10, 2024	Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17; Psalm 127; 1 Kings 17:8-16; Psalm 146; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44
November 17, 2024	1 Samuel 1:4-20; 1 Samuel 2:1-10; Daniel 12:1-3; Psalm 16; Hebrews 10:11-14, (15-18), 19-25; Mark 13:1-8
November 24, 2024	2 Samuel 23:1-7; Psalm 132:1-12, (13-18); Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; Psalm 93; Revelation 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37

### **December**

December 1, 2024 (1 <sup>st</sup> )	Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-36
December 8, 2024 (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	<u>Malachi 3:1-4</u> ; Luke 1:68-79; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6
December 15, 2024 (3 <sup>rd</sup> )	Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18
December 22, 2024 (4 <sup>th</sup> )	Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:46b-55; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)
December 29, 2024	1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26; Psalm 148; Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52

## **STRATHAVEN FLOWER CALENDAR**

### **October**

6<sup>th</sup> Mrs I. Anderson (*Harvest*)  
13<sup>th</sup> Mrs P. Izatt and Mrs N. Nixon  
20<sup>th</sup> Mrs M. Law  
27<sup>th</sup> Mrs K. Greenock

### **November**

3<sup>rd</sup> Mrs S. Newman  
10<sup>th</sup> Mrs C. Murray and Mrs A. Arnott  
(*Remembrance*)  
17<sup>th</sup> Mrs J. Bryce  
24<sup>th</sup> Mrs C. Campbell and Mrs M. Foster



### **December**

1<sup>st</sup> Mrs M. McAuley  
8<sup>th</sup> Mrs N. Hinshalwood and Mrs C. Jack (*Communion*)  
15<sup>th</sup> Mrs K. Field  
22<sup>nd</sup> Mrs L. Wilson  
29<sup>th</sup> The Forrest Family

*Anne Grady (tel. 523285) & Lilly McConnell (tel. 520989)*

## **CHAPELTON FLOWER CALENDAR**

### **October**

6<sup>th</sup> Mrs C. Anderson (Harvest)  
13<sup>th</sup> Mrs S. McKinlay  
20<sup>th</sup> Miss N. Brownlie c/o Mrs B. Beetham  
27<sup>th</sup> Mrs M. Frew

### **November**

3<sup>rd</sup> Mrs L. Wallace  
10<sup>th</sup> Mrs M. Muircoft (Remembrance)  
17<sup>th</sup> Mrs M. Frew  
24<sup>th</sup> Mrs J. Cairns

### **December**

1<sup>st</sup> Mrs M. Crawford  
8<sup>th</sup> Mrs V. Mclean (*Communion*)  
15<sup>th</sup> Mrs M. McPherson  
22<sup>nd</sup> Mrs E. Kennedy  
29<sup>th</sup> Mrs P. Riddell



*Mary Frew (tel. 300268) & Val Allen (075 785 06102)*

## GLASSFORD FLOWER CALENDAR

### October

6<sup>th</sup> Mrs F. Meikle  
13<sup>th</sup> Mrs J. Ballantyne  
20<sup>th</sup> Mrs M. Struthers  
27<sup>th</sup> Miss I. Marshall

### November

3<sup>rd</sup> Mrs R. Millar (Communion)  
10<sup>th</sup> Mrs J. Meikle  
17<sup>th</sup> Mr W. Frame  
24<sup>th</sup> Mrs F. Smith

### December

1<sup>st</sup> Mrs L. Jamieson  
8<sup>th</sup> Mrs S. Herd  
15<sup>th</sup> Mrs R. Andrew  
22<sup>nd</sup> Mrs S. Struthers  
29<sup>th</sup> Joint service in Strathaven



*J Meikle ( tel. 520941) & R Andrew (tel. 521662)*

## PASTORAL CARE

The Pastoral Care Committee is updating the list of members who would value additional visits (to your own and those made by the Minister) or a pastoral care visitor from the church. If you know of anyone in your district, of whatever age, who would appreciate such a visit, please email the office at [strathaventrinity@gmail.com](mailto:strathaventrinity@gmail.com) and they will be put on the list.

## We are Welcoming Gary Brough *Presbytery Mission Partner in Malawi*

on **Saturday 12 October at 7.00pm** at a Social Evening  
Tea/coffee and home baking will be served.

Come along and enjoy  
hearing about Gary and  
his family's experiences  
ministering to the  
people of Malawi.





## **WELCOME TO DAVID MCKEE**

As is generally known, David Mckee is back with us, this time as a Probationer Assistant, until his Ordination sometime, it is hoped, in December.

After that, he will be working as Assistant Minister and that will continue until either Shaw returns, or David has a call to a Charge of his own.

It is so good to welcome David, as warmly as we do, since he became very well known in the Church while he was a Student Assistant with Shaw.

David already has taken part in worship, visiting organisations and Care Home visits.

Particularly, he and Julie will have primary responsibility for School Chaplaincy. That will assist me greatly and I am very grateful to both David and Julie for what they will do on that side of Ministry.

I am sure that we will value his contribution to the Church in the tasks he will do, as has already been recognised in his previous contact with us and I am very confident that David will be an asset to us, given that his stay may be shorter lived than we might have wished.

Just for the record, it should again be noted that he and I are not related, but that doesn't mean that the Clan McKee won't establish havoc, in preparation for the return of the Right Reverend, the Moderator !!

## **COMMUNION—2024**

Communion Sundays will fall on the customary Sundays for each location:

- **Chapelton & Strathaven** - Second Sundays in March, June, September and December
- **Glassford** - First Sundays in February, September and November, and second Sunday in May

It would be appreciated if you could use the hand gel which is available on entry to the church. If anyone is uncomfortable with receiving communion from the elders you may of course refrain or indeed bring your own.

**All elders are asked to meet before the service.**





**LIFE AND WORK, SEPTEMBER. SHAW'S ARTICLE: BUILDING ON CHRIST'S FOUNDATIONS.**

I'm not often lost for words. I am very seldom stunned into silence. However, sitting up front on a journey through Paris, while driving on the 'other' side of the road, gives the passenger the perspective of being in the driving seat without a steering wheel or, more importantly, a brake pedal. That was a journey that stunned me into silence and left me feeling like I had stepped off a theme park rollercoaster.

Perhaps my reaction to that journey says more about me as a passenger than anything else! The taxi driver in question got us through the city centre to the airport promptly and safely. However, in my defence, I was not the only one relieved when we arrived.

Life, as Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, can be described as being on a rollercoaster. Apart from a week in Argyll (my go-to place to switch off), my diary has been full, it has been fast-paced but, unlike that taxi journey, it has been exciting and thrilling. I have had some wonderful experiences and been part of events and occasions that will stay with me forever. However, the overwhelming privilege of my time thus far has been meeting so many wonderful people.

It has been refreshing to be out and about, visiting churches and communities all across the country. At a time when there is so much negativity around the church it is refreshing to encounter so much positivity. Individuals who give of their energies and expertise as an expression of faith, working together to serve Christ's Church, whether that be leading worship, supporting local schools, resourcing foodbanks, developing youth outreach, caring for others with memory issues – the list is endless.

It has been a joy to share in so many good news stories and to be reminded that despite the challenges that face us, the church is still reaching out in the Name of Jesus Christ. My plea is that we do not lose sight of all that we do in Christ's Name... for whenever we do this for the least important, we do it for Christ (Matthew 25).

I would like to say thank you to all those whose contribution to the life and witness of the church often goes unnoticed and yet it is at the heart of the church's mission. I would also like to acknowledge the ways you have encouraged and inspired me. It has been a real blessing to witness the strength of faith and passion for the Gospel in the individuals who, together, are the church. This is without doubt the real privilege of being the Moderator.

During General Assembly week, I used a simple prayer as a reminder of the gifts with which we have been blessed, that we might use them to continue to build the church on Christ's foundations.

Let us pray together saying...  
*Lord God. Keep us true to who we are.  
Enable us to use the gifts you have given.  
Bless us with your Spirit that we might build  
upon the foundations of Christ as we seek  
to be your church at work in the world.  
Amen*

**CHILDREN, FAMILY AND YOUTH WORKER -  
JULIE ROBERTSON**

Welcome to autumn!

All our term time activities have started back including toddlers and after school clubs. It has been lovely to see an influx of new faces to both! Please do continue to spread the word!

Messy Church moved to Chapelton in September and we saw a great response to this. Much fun, fellowship and chat was had! Our next meeting will be 11<sup>th</sup> October in Chapelton and we look forward to seeing you there!

Over the same weekend I was part of Godlyplay Scotland's team hosting the European Godlyplay conference in Mayfield Salisbury church in Edinburgh. This was a wonderful conference and an immense privilege to meet and spend so much time with those sharing Godlyplay all across the world. Many people had heard of Strathaven thanks to our Moderator and sent their warmest wishes to his home church.

In October we have some more new activities coming up including Rock Solid. More details on this will be available shortly but this group is to offer a place and space specifically for those P7+ who want to explore what Christianity is and might mean for them. It includes fun and fellowship always!

I will be completing Christmas plans so keep your eyes peeled for info on social media (we are now also on Instagram! Strathaventrinitycfy) as well as through-out magazines and weekly intimations.

*Till next time - Blessings!*

*Julie*

**MESSY CHURCH:**

Messy Church will now meet monthly in **CHAPELTON** on the second Friday of the month on a Friday evening.

We will next meet on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October from 17:30-19:30. This will include a light meal if I have sufficient volunteers. If you would like to volunteer to join our Messy Church team, please let me know or pop along to our next planning meeting which will be held in Strathaven vestry on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 6pm.

**TODDLER GROUPS:**

Toddler groups run term time as follows:

Monday – Strathaven 10-11.30.

Wednesday - Chapelton 10-11.30.

If you are able to make some toast and juice or help put out some toys then please get in touch. If you have pre-school kids and you just want to come along and eat said toast and get a coffee, please feel free as I would love to see you.

### Rock Solid

Rock Solid is a new fellowship group for those P7-S6. We will run the last Friday of the month in Strathaven upstairs meeting room from 19:30-21:00. Our first meeting will be on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October. If you would like to assist in the leading or preparation for Rock Solid please let me know.

### Light Party

Light party will run on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October – come dressed up – nothing scary or ghoulish – join us to celebrate all that is light in the world!



The boys and girls in Strathaven Trinity have been exploring different stories in the bible, particularly those depicting miracles and parables. The children have looked through children's bibles to find the stories they were most interested in exploring and have selected six. We are working our way through the stories using different crafts, games and activities to understand the special messages.

Our work will be displayed in the big hall, please come and have a look. Sunday 6th October is our Harvest service. If the boys and girls could bring anything to contribute to this service, it would be much appreciated.

Many thanks,  
The Sunday School Team

### **OFFERINGS**

The Sunday offering (collection) is now being taken during the service in all three buildings.

We are conscious that many have switched to direct giving which has proved to be invaluable particularly over the last few years. Therefore, simply let the offering bag pass you by on a Sunday. Thank you to everyone for your continuing support.

Offering: In addition to bank transfer, electronic offerings can be made using the link <https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/donate/?cong=171167> or via the QR code



## Creation Wordsearch

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

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

BEGINNING	GOD	NIGHT
CATTLE	GOOD	SEA
CREATED	GRASS	SEASONS
CREATURES	HEAVEN	SIGNS
DARKNESS	LAND	SPIRIT
DAY	LIFE	STARS
DRY	LIGHT	SUN
EARTH	MADE	TREES
EVENING	MAN	VOID
FIRMAMENT	MOON	WATERS
FRUIT	MORNING	

## **CHURCH MODERATOR MARKS THE START OF THE SEASON OF CREATION**

Published on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024

Rt. Rev. Dr. Shaw Paterson, the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, marks the start of the Season of Creation which begins today and will run until Friday 4 October.

He writes:

I am not a poet! However, it was suggested that I might write a prayer or poem for the Season of Creation, and that got me thinking. As I began to write and play with words my attempt at a poem actually made me think more deeply about Creation and my place within it. I hope my musings will do the same for you as I offer this prayer/poem to aid you to reflect. Don't be afraid to correct, to take further or develop for if you do it will fulfil my intent. I hope and pray that you (and me) may be motivated to think more deeply during this Season of Creation.

### **Lord God,**

We are part of Your Creation

We look around, we use and abuse  
We can see what we'll lose  
But now its time for us to choose

We are part of Your Creation

We moan and we complain  
We are quick to point the blame  
But everything just stays the same

We are part of Your Creation

We express our concern  
We now worry, not if but when  
But ... we never seem to learn

We are part of Your Creation

But what we do takes its toll  
We look around, what is our goal  
We are involved, we have a role

For we are part of Your Creation

The time is now to get involved  
To care for all, for we are blessed  
We can address what we have messed

For we are part of Your Creation

In seeing Your beauty all around  
The beauty and wonder may still be found  
We commit ourselves for we are bound

For we are part of Your Creation

Your creation was for all  
Help us now to hear that call  
We respond for time eternal

For we are part of Your Creation

Bless us as we seek to care  
And do everything that we might dare  
We leave a legacy for all to share

For we are part of Your Creation

Let us nurture every generation  
In every corner of every nation  
For... we are part of Your Creation.



**'A radical hope' by Dr Robin Knight, Research Officer with the Faith Action Programme of the Church of Scotland. (Life and Work, September 2024) – a summary**

'We can all see that poverty is impacting the lives of many in Scotland and that churches are responding. Congregations across the country are running food-banks, hosting practical support workshops and making a difference in a myriad of creative and compassionate ways. Community work like this has been inspired by what God tells us in the Book of Deuteronomy: 'I command you to be open handed.....there need be no poor people among you.'

The article continues that 70% of the children who live in poverty are in households where someone is in work. 'The relationships between the three main factors that influence poverty: earnings from employment, the cost of essentials such as housing and childcare, and income from social security, means that often people find themselves trapped in a cycle of poverty through no fault of their own.'

Emma Jackson, Convener of the Faith Action Programme's Public Life and Social Justice, reminds us that 'the overarching story of the bible, the fullness of the gospel and the very nature of God is flourishing and wholeness for all of us. Having enough is the foundation to build life from - it should be unconditional. Just like the radical, unconditional grace and love of Jesus poured out to us all through his death on the cross.'

The article continues: 'One solution is the Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG) which was adopted as policy by the 2024 General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. It's an approach which has at heart the concept that everyone should have enough to live on, no judgement, no conditionality.'

'A MIG approach would mean reforms to the world of work, policies and investment to ensure fair work, reduced costs for essential services and flexible and fit for purpose benefit payments, to ensure that everyone has enough to live on. For most, reforms to work will ensure that paid work or other income will be sufficient income to meet the Minimum Income Guarantee - a minimum income floor that no-one would be able to fall below, that is ours by right. For others, an additional MIG payment would be targeted and tailored to meet different needs.'

As the economic costs of poverty, such as health care, are very high, commitment to MIG would ensure that some of the harm created by poverty could be averted, saving tax payers' money spent addressing the impacts of poverty.

**Next steps:** A Scottish Parliament Cross-party Working Group will produce a road map for implementation in the Autumn; the Church of Scotland is joining with other denominations and the Poverty Alliance at a conference on October 12 to explore how we as churches can contribute to the debate and act. (For more details about the conference email [rknight@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:rknight@churchofscotland.org.uk))

**Suggestions for Congregations:**

**Raise awareness:** Find out about and spread the news about MIG

**Be Inspired:** imagine the benefits of all having enough to thrive and flourish

**Speak to your MP/MSP:** ask them to commit to making MIG a reality

**Pray:** pray for justice, fair work and fair pay; social security that responds to individuals' needs and circumstances.

## GUILD

The new Guild session started on 10 September when Loudoun Friends entertained and we all enjoyed a musical afternoon. The second meeting was held on 24 September when local author Liz Allan shared 'Beatrix Potter – More Than Peter Rabbit'.

Our next meeting is an invitation to join Drumclog Guild on Tuesday 8 October in Drumclog Church at 7.30 pm when Dr Roger Stark will give a presentation entitled 'Is Laughter the Best Medicine'. On Tuesday 22 October we look forward to hearing from local lawyer Ailidh Ballantyne who will speak to us on 'Where There's a Will, It's Your Way'. This meeting will be held in the large hall, Strathaven at 2.00 pm.

We hope to see **as many men and women** joining us at any of the meetings during the new session.

If you have wondered before what is involved in coming to a Guild meeting then please come along to 'try before you buy' – we are a friendly group and you will be made welcome. We have either a speaker or musical entertainment and then tea or coffee with home baking. We normally meet on the 2nd and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month with all meetings starting at 2.00 pm in Strathaven. The Avondale Community Bus is available to transport anyone who requires it – Marjorie Lamb organises this and you can call her on 07872 050305 to book a seat. If you would like further details please speak to Elizabeth McGowan (President), Morag McKay (Treasurer) or Ishbel Anderson (Secretary).

We are also planning to hold a concert in the church by Stonehouse Male Voice Choir on **Friday 8 November** at 7.00 pm which will include The Jolly B's and hopefully the NHS Lanarkshire Choir. Tickets costing £10 are now on sale from committee members as well as Craig's paper shop in the Common Green. There will be tea/coffee/baking following the concert.

An outing to Macarthur Glen shopping centre is planned for Tuesday 26 November.

*Ishbel Anderson*



## CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

Annabelle is available to provide Citizens Advice in the vestry on a Tuesday from 10am till 1 pm. If you have an issue you would like help with please call 07592995152, leave a message and she will get back to you.



## **MODERATOR LENDS A HAND**



The Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland swapped a clerical collar for a trowel to lend a hand with tiling in support of a Giffnock church's community project.

The Rt Rev Dr Shaw Paterson, who worked as a tiler as a student, carried out the work at Orchardhill Church installing a splashback in their Black Door Shop kitchen.

He was joined on site by church elder Steven Bennett and Mary Montague, East

Renfrewshire Council's Provost. Dr Paterson's friend, Sandy Fleming was able to assist with the grouting too.

During Dr Paterson's time as Moderator he has offered to assist where possible with tiling projects in churches – an opportunity which Orchardhill Church jumped at.

*Life and Work, September 2024*

## **AND THEN IN OCTOBER LIFE AND WORK MAGAZINE...**

**'A multi-faceted and profound relationship'**

Africa and the Church of Scotland

**Bears and daisy chains**

New Guild partner projects

**Jane's story**

A life transformed by God

**Bewilderingly varied**

New book on the gifts of ministry

**Our Presbyteries**

The Presbytery of South West Scotland

**Regulars**

The Moderator of the General Assembly on Harvest

Worship column by the Rev Roddy Hamilton

Reflection by the Rev Dr Richard Frazer

The Rev Ruth Kennedy on digital church

A new series of Bible studies by the Rev Richard Baxter

My Church: David Thompson of Christ Church, Bermuda

Youth: Corrie Douglas-Young of the Church of Scotland communications department

**Plus:** official update from the Assembly Trustees, readers' pictures, news, letters, reviews and puzzles – all for £3.50. Visit [www.lifeandwork.org/subscribe](http://www.lifeandwork.org/subscribe) or speak to your church's Life and Work co-ordinator.



## **SAFEGUARDING IN THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

Everyone who volunteers for church activities with children or vulnerable adults MUST be registered with Disclosure Scotland and have a valid PVG for these activities. Volunteers must also undertake Safeguarding Training every 5 years. If you require training please see below:

Forth Valley and Clydesdale Presbytery have organised the following trainings:

Please see below details of Safeguarding Training for Introductory courses. Booking can be made using this forms link <https://forms.office.com/e/YKNa8pJETJ>

Booking confirmation and joining details will be sent to participants one week before the training is due to take place.

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 10.30am – introductory – Brightons Parish Church

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 7pm – Introductory – Online

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 7pm – Introductory – Motherwell South

Ruby Davidson  
Safeguarding Coordinator

## **Correction from September's New Connections.**



### Scot's Kirk Paris.

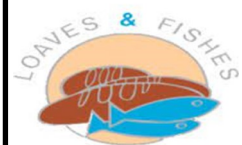
As many of you will have realised, I was not in Paris to celebrate the anniversary of Eric Liddel's epic Olympic stand for Christianity and mile run despite my name being at the end of the article! The article was written by Lesley and John Toms and I thank them for that contribution and apologise for the error.

*Maureen Geraghty*

## **LOAVES AND FISHES**

A huge thanks to all who support Loaves and Fishes weekly by bringing food and toiletries to church each week. The charity is hugely grateful for all the donations which we make.

Some of the items needed are:



- Tinned meats/ tuna
- Tinned vegetables
- Tinned soup
- Pasta
- Pasta sauce
- Rice
- Cereals
- Pot noodle

The list is endless and anything which is 'in date' will be acceptable.



## HEALTH HELP INTERNATIONAL

The team in Zambia send "Greetings to you all in the mighty and blessed name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We continue thanking you for the great support you are rendering to the vulnerable and the disabled in our communities" (quote from the September Report).

The Choongo school dormitory is progressing well. The roof is in place, the window frames have been fitted, and plastering and flooring is on-going.



As the drought continues in Zambia relief packs are still being distributed to vulnerable households. HHI also provides assistance to several individuals with medical needs.

*Kathleen Russell*



## Strathaven Fairtrade

The Fairtrade stall will be available after the service on the first Sunday of every month. We hope to offer a limited range of your favourite fairtrade sweets and groceries and thank you all once again for your support for the poorest and most vulnerable producers throughout the world.

Maureen and Nancy

### **REMINDER!** New Connections has now gone digital!

If you would like to receive the magazine via email rather than hard copy, please would you pop a message to Ruth at the office on **strathaventrinity@gmail.com** with your name, who your elder is and your preferred email address.

#### **LIVE STREAMING**

Our Strathaven services are live-streamed (and available as a recording later). It is only the chancel area and first two pews that are in sight of the camera. Parents, in particular, should be aware that if they do not wish their child to be visible 'on-line' then they should ensure that they sit a couple of pews from the front.

We are now well established with live-streaming services from the Strathaven building on Sundays and for funerals and weddings (when requested). However, we would value some additional volunteers to assist and then a rota can be established. You do not need to understand how live-streaming works. It's straightforward if you are used to working a computer. Please get in touch if you wish any further information about what is involved or speak to one of the 'team' on a Sunday.

#### **LADIES KEEP FIT**

Trinity's Keep Fit class meets on Mondays in the small (East) hall of our Strathaven buildings, from 7-8pm.

*Cillia McLeary*

#### **Autumn Time**

The wind is playing autumn games  
Through the gardens and the lanes.  
Picking up, and swirling round  
Leaves of orange, red and brown.

Gusting through each swaying tree,  
Tossing apples till they're free.  
Shaking conkers till they drop  
And open wide with prickly pop.

The wind is dancing full of fun,  
Laughing in the autumn sun.  
It tumbles acorns, fir cones, leaves,  
To make a carpet under trees.

topmarks © 2012 Brenda Williams www.brendawilliams poet.co.uk  
Downloaded from www.topmarks.co.uk/autumn



# Memory Club

The dates of the October meetings of the club are Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October when Hame Brew returns to entertain us and Wed 25<sup>th</sup> October when we shall enjoy entertainment from Simply Shed rounded off with an afternoon tea. So, do not eat a big lunch on 25<sup>th</sup>!! Both meetings at the usual time of 1.30 – 3.15 in the large hall of Trinity Church, Lethame Road.

If you or a loved one are experiencing issues with memory loss due to dementia why not come along and enjoy an activity, some musical entertainment and a chat over tea and coffee. Often, a family member accompanies the person experiencing issues and can find some support from others in the same position.

We are also a Help Point for the Playlist for Life charity so if you are interested in setting up a personal playlist and need some advice please call in during one of our meetings. Personal playlists are a great way engage with dementia sufferers and given them a sense of well being.

For more information please contact Lynda Horn on 07778579504 Can I also ask if there is anyone willing to volunteer to come and help us especially if you have a car at your disposal and are willing to help by bringing members to the meeting and then returning them home. We would really appreciate an extra few drivers in our pool of volunteers! If you are interested please contact Lynda Horn

## TRINITY MEN'S COFFEE GROUP

There is a men's group that meets in the Rankin Room (upstairs in the hall) on Wednesday mornings between 10.30 am until 12 noon for coffee/tea, biscuits and a chat. Come and go for part or all of the time, as suits you.

### WHEELIE BINS

We have been advised that the bin lorries will no longer empty our wheelie bins unless the lid is able to close.

In Strathaven - the church wheelie bin is the black bin located in the manse garden. This bin is of sufficient size for normal activities. However, if you are having a function/party/event that generates more rubbish than usual please arrange to take it to the amenity site for disposal. Please do not stack the bin with the lid open or leave on the ground adjacent as birds and foxes make quite a mess.

### **CAR PARKING**

Please be considerate of our neighbours when parking for church events! Please ensure you park responsibly and be careful not to block anyone's access.

This applies for Sunday services, funerals, weddings and weekday activities in the halls.

At busy times parking is a premium and so please only use the car park off Crawford Street when attending the church or halls - there have been several instances lately when the car park has been full prior to anyone arriving for a church/hall event! Therefore, do not be afraid to ask if others who are parking in the car park are attending something in our premises and, if not, encourage them to park elsewhere.

### **KIDS KLUB**

Kids Klub meets on those Sundays when the Sunday School is "on holiday". Children wishing to participate should go into Church as normal for the children's address then make their way to the large hall where there will be board games for them to enjoy during the remainder of the service.

It would be great if we could have a few more helpers (we need two per session) – the role is supervisory and there is no requirement to plan activities. Now is a good time to contact me so that PVG forms can be completed. There is no regular commitment for Kids Klub – just operating on a "now and again" basis. I will put together a rota, depending on who is available.

*Claire Campbell (01357 520191)*



### **BIGGER PICTURE for Academy Learners ...**

Mondays and Fridays at Lunch Time

Academy learners are welcome to come along to the large hall for a hot chocolate and biscuits (and a Toastie, if they wish) while eating their lunch, or watching cartoons on the big screen.

Please let as many as possible know about the hall being open – it's a dry and warm place to have lunch.

We still need volunteers to help make toasties and/or hot chocolate and simply 'be there'. For more information please speak to Cillia Mcleary.

# WHO?

<b>Minister:</b>	The Right Reverend Dr. Shaw J Paterson	<a href="mailto:spaterson@churchofscotland.org.uk">spaterson@churchofscotland.org.uk</a> 01357 520019
<b>Interim Moderator and Locum</b>	Rev Norman McKee	<a href="mailto:normanmckee946@btinternet.com">normanmckee946@btinternet.com</a> 01698 827358
<b>Probationer Assistant</b>	Mr. David McKee	<a href="mailto:DMcKee@churchofscotland.org.uk">DMcKee@churchofscotland.org.uk</a> 07946 671733
<b>Session Clerk:</b>	Ruby Davidson	<a href="mailto:rubydavidson96@yahoo.com">rubydavidson96@yahoo.com</a> 07809 128038
<b>Church Secretary:</b>	Ruth Ward-Cox Mon-Thurs 9:15-11:45	<a href="mailto:strathaventrinity@gmail.com">strathaventrinity@gmail.com</a> 01357 529316
<b>Sunday School:</b>	Pamela Walker	<a href="mailto:TSundaySchool@outlook.com">TSundaySchool@outlook.com</a>
<b>Youth Worker:</b>	Julie Robertson	<a href="mailto:jrobertson@churchofscotland.org.uk">jrobertson@churchofscotland.org.uk</a> 07544 249324
<b>Treasurer:</b>	David Lipowski	<a href="mailto:david.lipowski@gmail.com">david.lipowski@gmail.com</a>
<b>Ass. Treasurer:</b>	Sheila Dodds	<a href="mailto:sheiladodds24@gmail.com">sheiladodds24@gmail.com</a>
<b>Presbytery Elder:</b>	Scott Bennie	01357 521 661

## **CHURCH OFFICE**

The church office hours are term time Monday to Thursday 09:15—11:45.  
The email address is [strathaventrinity@gmail.com](mailto:strathaventrinity@gmail.com)



## Lifts to Church

If anyone requires a lift to Church, please contact  
Kath Russell  
07916 171830

# NEW CONNECTIONS

## EDITORIAL



We were in London recently and while we did have a day in the city centre – where we chanced upon St Columba's Church of Scotland – however, my favourite London activity is wandering wetlands and canals and watching wildlife.



I have been reading about Creation Time which ran between 1<sup>st</sup> September and 4<sup>th</sup> October and as you can imagine it's a time for celebrating and reconnecting with God's beautiful world ... notwithstanding the damage we have inflicted and inflict daily on that same beautiful world. I do find it strange boxing Creation into a month – but then we've done that with Advent/Christmas and Lent/Easter although we know that Christ's birth, death on the cross and resurrection are with us always in everything we do. I think I am finding Creation difficult because I've realised that I align myself with Thomas Aquinas who saw God in all Creation, not a separate reality, not a separate person but in everything. God just as being. Which gives me a problem with 'Our Father, who art in Heaven!' So, having tied myself in knots, let me just say that I find it hard not to believe in God when simply looking around....gardens, fields, grasses waving in the breeze, a robin, sheep grazing ... while it's good to celebrate Creation, I simply cannot confine that celebration to a month but rather every time I step out of doors.

It is a beautiful world we have inherited and which we are charged with safeguarding for future generations. Let us never forget to thank God for his Creation and to do our utmost to limit any further damage to it, to repair damages already inflicted, to remember that those who suffer most from climate change are not those responsible for the damage.

*Take care  
Maureen*

PS Check inside the magazine for Shaw's Creation Time contribution!

**Final date for inclusion in our  
November edition of New  
Connections is :-  
Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2024**