

*Govan and Linthouse
Parish Church
Magazine*



December

2016

15th November 2016

It seems strange to be putting together a magazine without Moyna's article being the first one you read. She had a magical way with words and was always able to give you all an overview of what was happening. I am not so good with words but I will do my best. We are all still grieving for Moyna and miss her terribly, I keep expecting her to walk into the office and have a cuppa and a chat, obviously that's not going to happen and it is getting a little easier as the time passes. My thoughts and prayers are with Brian and all the family, although they are holding up well it must be extremely difficult to deal with all the normal things in life without her, as it is for all who lose someone so close. You will find in this magazine a copy of a tribute to Moyna from the Govan Workspace annual review which shows her telling a group of children all about the Hogback stones, something that was very very dear to her. I feel a great loss for all the children who will never work with her on puppets and staging or scripts and costumes, she came alive when she was sorting out puppet shows and teaching the children some 'tricks of the trade'.

We are having a 'Vision Building Meeting' on Tuesday 22nd which will have already have happened by the time you read this and I really do hope it went well and that we get a good turnout. It's really important, that as much as we all miss Moyna, we keep up the good work and don't let things go stagnant and all her hard work to fall by the way side. We are also losing our dear friend Paul to Castlemilk, a move in which I do wish him all the best but will be sad to see him go. He has become a dear friend as well as a colleague and it will be strange to be part of the Ministry Team without him or Moyna but Andrew and I will do our best and please feel free to call the office anytime, we will help if we can.

I hope you enjoy this magazine and as always if you have anything you would like to be included then send it in and I will do my best.

I wish you all a very peaceful and blessed Christmas season.

Gillian

Dear friends

This is possibly the most difficult article I have had to write in the seven years I have been with you. It will be the last one I write as an employee in Govan as I will begin at Castlemilk on January 1st. This means my last Sunday with you will be Christmas Day which seems to be a good day to think about new birth! Although it is right to look forward to a new challenge, it has come at the end of a long and emotional process for us all. I first began feeling that perhaps God was calling me somewhere else way back at the turn of the year and there have been signs throughout that period seeming to confirm my thinking, culminating in where we are now. As you can imagine it has not been an easy journey to

make as this has been an extraordinary year for us all, one we would rather not have had to face but one we have got through together as a congregation and I have been humbled with the way you have carried yourselves with dignity and great strength. I know that I speak for all the team when I say thank you for the wonderful support you have given us in these past few months in so many ways. There is a great sense of people coming together to be the church in Govan and attendance at Sunday worship has held up well showing that there is great faithfulness among the people of God here.

As I reflect on the last seven years it would be easy for me to dwell on what hasn't been done. There are things I had hoped to be able to do but haven't been able to, and it would be all too easy to be negative about that. Instead I want to focus on what we have been able to achieve in the time I have had with you. Messy Mondays, Fastworks, Engagement with all of our schools, partnerships with both community groups and other churches, a variety of worship, opportunities to engage with young people. None of this work existed seven years ago as we faced a very uncertain future post union, but as we have travelled together and tried out some new ideas we have been able to find a path for the church that will help grow both church and community well into the future. We have laid a foundation for other people to build on and I am confident that this work will take on a new purpose and direction going forward. In fact I think it needs to and that is one reason I feel I have been called to a new place, so that someone with different gifts can come in and shepherd that work as it blooms. It is not that I have been unhappy in Govan, or that I just fancy a change! My only concern is that the church grows in number and that relationships grow deeper among people. I hope that the work I have been doing helps that but I suppose time will tell!

For now, I believe with my heart that God has a bigger plan for Govan and that it is a plan full of excitement and growth. We are beginning to see something of that plan worked out in our time but it is a plan that goes way beyond us and into the future. History will record that we had a part to play in the Govan journey. This part of the journey began with Moyna and her place in history is secure. I will always be indebted to her for the gentle way she led us all, for the quiet strength she had, for her encouraging ways, and for the way she was able to use language so eloquently. A new minister will have big boots to fill but he or she will not have to face a task as daunting as the one which faced Moyna. She never complained, indeed she saw it as a blessing and honour to be able to lead the congregation. There may have been times she felt like throwing me out of the office window - in fact I'm pretty sure there were times! But together with Gillian and Andrew, and with Susan at the beginning of the team ministry here, we have formed a strong unit and for all of us it has been a privilege to be able to say we have been part of a growing church. Not only were we ably led by Moyna but we have been blessed with support from all quarters of the church. It hasn't been an easy shift at times! But it has been a wonderful journey.

I came from Govan and wherever I go Govan will go with me so in a sense I am not leaving completely. I will try and work with whoever replaces me so that they have an idea of where the work might be going, and I am sure there will be times I turn up at events. I am already booked to come to the school leavers assembly in June! So I'm no awa tae bide awa, and I'm no awa tae leave ye, I'll aye come back and see ye! Thank you for your friendship, fellowship, support and encouragement, and a huge thank you for practical support over the last seven years. The biggest achievement of this time is the friendships I take with me

and these will sustain me in the future as they have in the past. I feel like a very lucky man. I have a new challenge to look ahead to, a much loved grandchild to come in March, and memories of a wonderful part of my life. Not everyone can say they are so blessed. I wish you well and I wish you all of God's richest blessings on the journey ahead. I won't be far away - you don't get rid of me that easy!

Every blessing

Paul

Hi Folks,

I've attached a poem below for your amusement...I'm very glad I've never had a visit like that one! I wouldn't be back either!

We now are in the run into Christmas (inevitably – whatever happened to the summer and the autumn for that matter?) these weeks in November and December are times of preparation for Christmas but it is important that we do not forget, in all the blitz, to prepare our hearts for the Birth of Jesus in our lives. He is still the inspiration for daily Christian living and in his strength we can face anything! We can say with the Psalmist 'The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want'. There is another wee poem I came across, also below, not funny as the first but a testimony of Faith, without which, where would we be?

When the time comes, I hope you have a blessed time this Christmas and may the Peace of the Prince of Peace be yours with your families and loved ones.

Your Pastoral Assistant and Friend

Andrew

When the Minister came to call by John Boyd

The Minister called the other day
The rain was lashing down
I couldn't let the children out
For fear that they might drown
They were running about and shouting
And driving me up the wall
I was yelling at them to make less noise
When the Minister came to call

He was standing on the doorstep
He looked like a drookit hen
I was up to the elbows in soap suds

It was only five to ten
I invited him to step inside
And he squelched into the hall
My brand new carpet was sopping wet
When the Minister came to call

Young Tom slid down the banister
And landed on his head
The twins then rattled down the stairs
On a tin tray for a sled
They bashed into the Reverend
Which he didn't like at all
And nearly knocked him flying
The day he came to call

He gave an unconvincing smile
His hands were clasped in prayer
Then the bairn thumped him with her trike
As he stood at the foot of the stair
He patted her head and kissed her
And she began to bawl
And nearly deafened the Minister
The day he came to call

We went into the living room
Where he stepped on Fido's tail
The dog leapt four feet in the air
And let out a banshee wail
Then he nipped the Rev in the ankle
And I can well recall
The jig the Minister danced for us
The day he came to call

And then he quickly turned about
And rushed out through the door
The twins had left a roller skate
Upon the lobby floor
The Reverend put his foot on it
And skited through the hall
He sped away, and since that day
He's never been back to call!

Poem by Wendy Patrick

I testify that God is good – He was all through the year
During the times of great success, and moments of despair.

He's kept me on the road of right – He'd gently give a prod
If anything should make a try to shake my faith in God.

You know the times I stopped the car for one minute or so;
And laughingly would ask the Lord 'But why you love me so?'

For day by day you're shielding me along these torturous roads;
From drivers who just cannot wait, and trucks with heavy loads.'

Financially, God has been there – I am no millionaire;
But God provided day by day – I did not have to fear.

The strangest thing is – as I gave to church and charity:
I found the more I gave for God, the more came back to me.

Some days my body was not well, some days I felt so low.
That's when I would repeat the promises of God I know.

His words are reassuring – whether spoken or in song;
It's always gratifying when the right words come along.

So, I can testify today that God is good to me:
As long as I keep the faith in Him, my Rock He'll always be.

They say next year will not be bright that it will start out dim
Don't let that shake your Faith in God – just put your trust in him.

And as we press on day by day let's motivate a friend
To join this wondrous race, and then, to hold on to the end.

The Guild

Our last magazine would under normal circumstances have been out in September but things in this world change dramatically and in September the issue had to be postponed due to the unfortunate death of Moyna. I've just had a look at the June edition to frequent myself of where I was in sharing with you some of our exploits. Our last session ended in May in a high note with our A.G.M and cream tea and our annual outing. We had our outing to Oban stopping at Inverary for morning coffee. What a wonderful day we enjoyed and it was great to be able to have some of our not so able members enjoying the pleasure of a wheel chair. I think we all enjoyed our visit and our High Tea.

At the beginning of September four of us went to the Annual Gathering in Dundee and it was just as good as usual. We had our address from the Moderator the Rev. Russell Barr who was addressing our theme 'Go in Joy' he gave us wonderful examples of life as a parish minister and his telling of stories had us all laughing. We had news of our Projects and the main speaker of the day was Sally Magnusson, who told us of her book and charity 'Playlist for life'. The book was an account of her mother's Dementia and how it had affected the family.

The Guild resumed on 10th October and we have so far had a good opening night with 'Happy Days' from John Philips, a wonderful bring and buy sale and our usual Halloween Party which was good fun and it was good to see so many getting dressed up.

By the time you read this we will also have had a night with Rev Lynne Peden, minister of St Nicholas and St Andrews to do some Godly Play with us which was something our previous Associate Minister Judith was very interest in, a different way of telling bible stories. And the Guild service will have taken place on the 20th November with our theme 'Go in Joy'.

We have a few things to come before Christmas which will end with us joining together on the 13th December for our Christmas Dinner which I am sure will be a great night.

Once more my thanks to all the committee and members for their help and for the children of Messy Mondays for their help in laying out the tables for the tea.

Every joy to you all

Elspeth

President

God's Gang

Since our last magazine, in June, the children have been busy. We had our prize giving, our thanks go to Hetty McGlashan for presenting the prizes and for her continued support of God's Gang. We had our trip to Wellsfield Activity Centre and the puppet weekend. We also had to say goodbye to Laura Kate.

Our trip to Wellsfield Activity Centre was a fantastic day out. The sun shone and the children had a great time playing and running around. Some even had a ride on the ponies. We were truly blessed with the weather. I think the children would be happy if we could go there every Sunday.

It was a sad day when Laura Kate returned to America. Laura Kate was a joy to work with. Always happy to help, always smiling and always willing to share her knowledge and love of God. We wish Laura Kate well in her next adventure.

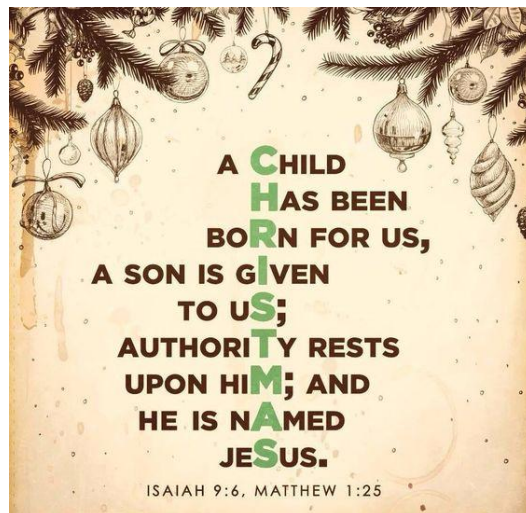
The puppet show, performed by Moyna, told the story of friends helping their paralyzed friend meet Jesus by lowering him through the roof. It was, as always, an enjoyable performance.

It's hard to believe we will never see Moyna perform a puppet show again, it was one of her great loves. This went hand in hand with her other love of getting children involved in making and performing with the puppets. Moyna will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

During the last few months some of our topics have been Autumn, Harvest, The Old Testament and several Prophets.

We are now working towards the Nativity service on Sunday 18th December. We do hope you can come along and enjoy our service.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas & Peaceful 2017 x





34th Glasgow Girls' Brigade

Our new session started on Wednesday 7th September in the church hall at Govan Cross. We welcomed back many of the girls from last session and some new members too.

We were sad to lose our Chaplain, Rev Dr Moyna McGlynn, in the summer and will greatly miss her support and encouragement. We remember Brian and the family in our thoughts and prayers.

We also miss my husband, Iain, who has been a great support to me and the Girls' Brigade for many years. Iain always attended our annual weekend away and thoroughly enjoyed his last trip to Glenshee at the end of April this year, with the company.

On Wednesday 26th October we enjoyed a fancy dress party in the church hall. We played games, enjoyed party food and danced. The girls made a great effort with some brilliant costumes including an iPhone, Snapchat filter, scary Cinderella, Minnie Mouse and various princesses and witches. The children all seemed to enjoy this event.

By the time this magazine is printed, we will have had our Annual Christmas Fayre and tearoom in the church hall, on Saturday 26th November between 11am and 3pm. We would like to thank everyone who supported this event and hope that it will have been its usual success. This event is our main fundraiser for the year and helps us pay the capitation fees for each child due to Girls' Brigade National and GB Glasgow. Currently this is £27.50 per head per session. As always we appreciate the support of the congregation at this event and throughout the year.

Thank you to Karen Stevely for organising our contributions for the Blythwood Care Shoebox Appeal. This year we completed 197 boxes. We are sure that these will be gratefully received and would like to thank all those who contributed to this cause.

We are looking forward to taking the girls out for Christmas Dinner on Wednesday 7th December to Harvester restaurant in Hillington and hopefully meeting a special guest in a red suit there!

Our company will be sad to see Paul Cathcart go to his new post. Paul has worked closely with us over the years and also attends our annual Activity Weekend. Paul will be greatly missed by all the children and leaders. We would like to wish Paul well in his new position and thank him for all he has done for Govan and Linthouse in his time with us.

The leaders and girls of the 34th Girls' Brigade would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a happy, healthy 2017.

Sandra MacDonald

THE BOYS' BRIGADE GLASGOW BATTALION

Partick District Sports

4th October 2016

Of the Boys of the 119th who took part, the following medals were gained by our entry of one Company Section Boy and seven Junior Section Boys.

Lewis McIntyre, our Company Section entrant was asked to run in the Company Section relay with the 44th, as they were short of a boy in that age group. Lewis ran a good anchor and they gained silver.

The Junior Section were magnificent as you can see from the following:

Stephen Neary	Won 5 medals	2 Gold, 1 Silver, 2 Bronze
Thomas McAlpine	Won 4 medals	2 Gold, 1 Silver, 1 Bronze
Riley McIntyre	Won 3 medals	1 Gold, 1 Silver, 1 Bronze
Lauchlan Short	Won 1 medal	1 Bronze
Kenzie Mylrea	Won 1 medal	1 Bronze

Kenzie was a bit upset when we didn't pick him for the tug-of-war, however, the 44th needed a boy so Kenzie joined their team. They were third, so he got a Bronze medal with them.

Delighted with the result. Very well done to all our boys!

Bill McGinn

Building Works Update

I thought I would try to put together a wee buildings update for you so here is a brief update on my understanding of it all...

The work in the sanctuary at Govan Cross continues with the men treating the main beams and joists at the roof section. The caretakers flat has been stripped of a large section of walls, floors and ceiling to assess what needs done structurally and to see how bad the dry/wet rot is for funding applications. There has also been exploratory work completed in the hall way and in the office, again to assess what needs to be done to make sure we are structurally sound.

We have been exceptionally lucky and blessed with regards to the work Tony Ireland has done for us in taking up the baton from Moyna and running with it. He has secured funding for us and we have been granted a first pass at a second round of funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and Historic Environment Scotland, which I've been told is a first, since they never normally give a second grant so soon after the first grant, which remember was £250,000. Also General Trustees have invested a substantial amount of funding and are continuing to do so to ensure we have a safe and sound building. Susan Hanlon from Govan THI has also been a fairy Godmother for us and it looks like most of the work (approximately 80%) needing done in the ancillary buildings i.e. flat, office and hallway will be covered.

We are still a long way off and have a hard road to travel but by the end of the work we will be rot free, wind and water tight and structurally sound, we won't be looking pretty but having a secure and safe building is a great place to be. After that it is up to us to carry on with the hard work and figure out how we get the rest completed. No one said it was going to be

easy or that it was going to happen quickly but we are getting there and it will be worth it. In the mean time we have a great church to worship in with our congregation and friends.

Again we give our sincere thanks to Tony for all his hard work; we would be lost without him.

Gillian



Christmas Hamper

Tickets for the Christmas Hamper draw are available from Sandra MacDonald at a cost of £1 each. Monies raised will go towards our church renovation fund. We are hoping to sell even more tickets than last year so if you can take tickets to sell to friends and family it would be appreciated. The draw will take place after the church service on Sunday 18th December 2016.

First Foot Packs

First Foot Gift packs will be on sale throughout December to raise funds for our Church Renovation.

Each pack contains a can of Irn Bru, bar of tablet, shortbread, coal and Auld Lang Syne message all packaged up with a tartan bow. These make an ideal gift to take first footing this New Year!

The Brigaders in our Girls' Brigade company have made up the packs to sell.

Gift packs are £4 each or 3 for £10

Please see Linda McAlpine or Karen Stevely for more details or to buy your pack.



Renovation Fund

By the time you get this magazine our church renovation fund will be approaching £25,000. Many thanks to everyone who generously donates to this on a regular basis. Every little counts towards this total and with your support through our various fundraising efforts we are hopeful to reach £30,000 soon.

Thank you to Frank Brown who works so hard to get Gift Aid back on our donations as this really helps the total.

If you would like to donate to the Renovation Fund please see Sandra MacDonald or Frank Brown.

Blythswood Care Shoebox Appeal

I would like to thank everyone very much for their very generous donations towards the Shoebox Appeal. We delivered an amazing 197 boxes to this worthwhile charity. These boxes can only be filled with your help and generosity.

Thank you, Karen Stevely x

Baptisms

Harley Karen Wingate – 29th May 2016

Nora Moyna Campbell – 26th June 2016

Charlotte Grant – 7th August 2016

Deaths & Tributes

Since our last magazine back in June we have sadly lost the following people:

Mrs Lilly Buchanan
Mrs Effie Shaw
Mr Robert Watterson
Rev Moyna McGlynn
Mr Iain MacDonald
Mrs Joy Rutherford

Our condolences go out to all the family and friends of those we have lost. Below you will find a letter of thanks from Jean MacFarlane and Charlotte McNeil and from from the MacDonald family you will also see the tribute about Moyna from the Govan Workspace Annual review.



Thank you

Thank you to everyone who sent cards, flowers and kind words on our recent loss of Iain.

Iain was a man of great faith and even when his health was deteriorating quite rapidly he never complained. Iain was not afraid of death and will always be remembered for his service to the church, his family and the community.

Thank you also to the many people in the church who visited Iain over his long hospital stay, he really loved all the visits.

We would also like to acknowledge the staff in Ward 5 of the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Paisley, who cared for Iain in his 110 day stay.

The collection at Iain's Funeral raised £600 which was split equally between the Lodging House Mission and Parkinson's UK.

Sandra, Elizabeth Anne, Fiona and Gary

Thank You

My sister Charlotte, our families and I would like to thank our wonderful church family and friends at Govan and Linthouse for the many, many cards, phone calls and flowers we received on the recent devastating loss of our sister Joy Rutherford on 10th October. Your prayers and support at a very difficult time for us is so very much appreciated and has been an immense help and comfort.

God Bless you all

Charlotte McNeil & Jean McFarlane



Moyna McGlynn

an inspirational community leader

GOVAN HAS lost a truly inspirational community leader. On 5 August 2016 Moyna McGlynn, minister of Govan & Linthouse congregation, lost her battle against cancer, aged 66. In her eight years as minister in Govan, Moyna had worked tirelessly not just for her parishioners but for the community as a whole and was hugely respected as a result. She will be missed by people of all faiths and none.

Her loss has been felt keenly at Govan Workspace where she was a member and friend and had worked with the board on her plans to establish a trust to take ownership of Govan Old which had been declared surplus to Church requirements. Irrespective of the formal Church of Scotland decision, there was no doubt Moyna felt a deep personal responsibility to safeguard the future of the Govan Old site as a place of worship, the oldest Christian settlement on the River Clyde and, as she would remind people, one of the holiest sites in the British Isles.

She achieved her goal before she died. Said Pat Cassidy: "Moyna was the leading member of the new Govan Heritage trust which came into being in January 2015, and it is one of her greatest achievements that, despite all the challenges and difficulties, she kept Govan Old open for so long, so that it can now embrace a new life and continue as a place of worship for Govan & Linthouse congregation. But what a cruel irony Moyna lost her life on the very day the trust took ownership of the building."

First Minister Nicola Sturgeon was among many public figures who paid tribute, commenting: "It's so sad. Moyna was a real force for good in Govan and she will be sorely missed. My condolences to her family." Ms Sturgeon was among the mourners at the funeral service at Govan Old Church, conducted by Dr Peter McEnhill, a friend of the McGlynn family, who said: "Moyna's untimely death has deprived the church of one of its most talented and inspirational ministers of this generation. She was passionate about her work and the people she led and achieved great things in difficult circumstances."

The Rev Dr Moyna McGlynn trained for the ministry at Glasgow University where she gained a double first in Theology and Religious Studies,

winning the faculty prize and later earning a PhD. She was inducted into Eastwood Parish Church in Glasgow in 1999 and embarked on a ministry which reached out beyond her own congregation to embrace asylum seekers and refugees. In 2008 she accepted a call to Govan & Linthouse Parish Church and threw herself into her new ministry with typical energy.

Among her unusual achievements there, was her work as a gifted puppeteer and her creation of the Govan Puppet Festival which captured the imaginations of many Govan children whom she involved in every aspect of production.

Moyna is survived by her husband Brian, their sons Aidan and Ciaran, daughter Frankie (Frances) and four grandchildren.



Moyna explains the story of the Govan hogbacks to a young archaeology club



Frank Brown
Govan & Linthouse Parish Church
796 Govan Road
Glasgow
G51 2YL

31 October 2016

Dear WaterAid Supporter,

Your congregation's support has helped bring about unimaginable changes for people like 42 year old Jacqueline from the Ankazobe district, Madagascar.

Thanks to support from congregations like yours, taps and toilets were recently installed in Jacqueline's village. Jacqueline was put forward by her community to become the President of the Water User Association and she has the important role of making sure the water points are maintained so they provide water for generations to come.

Jacqueline takes this role very seriously and knows just how precious taps and toilets are for the community. She says "Now fetching water is no longer a problem. We have clean running water nearby and at any time. Every household has a latrine. It was unimaginable a few years ago".

Your congregation's gift of £258.97 means many more communities like Jacqueline's have the unimaginable; access to life changing clean water and a safe place to go to the toilet. Thank you so much for your kind gift, and for helping to change people's lives.

Best wishes,

Imogen Hardman
Community Team
faith@wateraid.org 020 7793 4594

PS. If you have any questions, want to find out about other ways to support WaterAid, or wish to stop receiving communications from WaterAid, please don't hesitate to get in touch with our Supporter Care team on 020 7793 4594 or via email at supportercare@wateraid.org.



WaterAid transforms the lives of the poorest and most marginalised people by improving access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene.



WaterAid, 47-49 Durham Street, London SE11 5JD Tel: 020 7793 4500 Fax: 020 7793 4545 Email: wateraid@wateraid.org www.wateraid.org

Charity registration numbers: 288701 (England and Wales) and SC039479 (Scotland) President: HRH The Prince of Wales Registered office: as above Company registration number: 1787329 VAT registration number: 736 1798 05
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POVERTY

Mr Frank Brown
C/O Govan and Linthouse Parish Church
796 Govan Road
Govan
G51 2YL

15 September 2016

Re: OR491655 Govan & Linthouse Parish Church - Christian Aid Week 2016

Dear Frank

I am delighted to confirm receipt of **£335.12p** arising from fundraising by Govan & Linthouse Parish Church this Christian Aid Week.

Once again, our vital network of supporting churches and groups has carried out the single biggest act of Christian witness in Scotland, and in doing so has raised awareness of poverty, and the churches' concern for it, amongst hundreds of thousands of people across Scotland.

As the new Head of Christian Aid in Scotland, I was inspired and humbled by the outpouring of commitment, creativity, concern in action and love shown by our supporters. True partnerships can be transformational – thank you for helping us change the world! We are one global neighbourhood, and with your help, we reach out to all who share our planet home.

This year our *'love every neighbour'* theme ran across all our resources. We encouraged supporters to help our global neighbours like Morsheda by joining with their local neighbours – whether that was by going door-to-door or by inviting the community in for a Big Brekkie or a church service. The stories of Morsheda and the other people from Bangladesh demonstrate the impact that the money raised in Christian Aid Week has. By supporting Christian Aid Week this year you help to ensure the continuing transformation of the lives of more of our neighbours in the 40 countries around the world in which Christian Aid works.

I anticipate that Christian Aid Week this year will once again raise over £1.5m in Scotland through the many fundraising activities and sponsored events in homes, workplaces, schools, churches and communities across the country.

On behalf of the Christian Aid team here in Scotland, our partners and the communities in the developing world that we seek to support, thank you, and all who joined with you, for helping make Christian Aid Week such a success once more.

With best wishes

The Rev Sally Foster-Fulton
Head of Christian Aid Scotland



Sycamore House, 290 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 4JR • Tel: 0141 221 7475 • glasgow@christian-aid.org

Poverty is an outrage against humanity. It robs people of dignity, freedom and hope, of power over their own lives. Christian Aid has a vision – an end to poverty – and we believe that vision can become a reality. We urge you to join us.

Christian Aid is a member of the
actalliance



Dear Friends

I just want to take the opportunity to thank everyone who sponsored me in The Race for Life, Pretty Muddy. When I entered, I had no idea that the level of support and encouragement from the congregation would be as much as it was. I am so grateful to everyone, for your kind words and donations. The race day was great fun. Despite a sore shoulder, I laughed my way round, with Gillian and some of her friends and got absolutely filthy in the process. As a result, £774 was raised for Cancer Research UK. Thank you once again for your friendship and support. I hope you all have a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year when it comes.

Joanne x



MARY'S MEALS AND ACTION AID

It seems so long since I have wrote about our charities and as we know so much has happened since then....we have had so much sadness around us and lost so many dear friends...now we seem to be getting ready to go forward again and carry on with all the good works we did before . I have been away so much but have been heartened by the fact you have all continued to support me and our charities. The charities have both been going through a hard time as so much is going on in this world so have had to adjust to several crisis but I was pleased to hear that in Mary's meals they are not only covering their commitments they have started new support to other areas. Action Aid seems to be everywhere and is heavily involved in helping the ongoing refugee crisis as well as trying to be there in every disaster...two brilliant charities so Thank you all for your support and I pray you all have a peaceful Christmas. Thanks Rose.



Happy Christmas

We would like to wish you and your families a lovely Christmas and a very happy 2017.

Donation, in lieu of cards, to refurbishment fund.

Happy Christmas.

Karen and Billy Stevely xxx



Brave the Shave

A thank you from me to all who sponsored me for my Brave the Shave! I considered doing this last year but my hair wasn't long enough to donate it (it has to be minimum 7 inches long for them to use in the wigs they make for children with cancer) so I'd been kind of subconsciously growing my hair but wasn't sure if I would actually be brave enough to do the deed when the time came. When I did decide to do 'Brave the Shave' Moyna had just gone off sick and I was thinking 'Why?' I feel so truly blessed in my life, I have 2 amazing children and fabulous husband, great family and friends but everywhere I turn people are affected by cancer and here it was on my doorstep. Who the hell does Cancer think it is?

People do fund raising all the time and there is no charity more important than another. We are living in times where people are still starving or living on the bread line and having to rely on foodbanks and I am fully aware of the fact that our congregation supports many many charities, which was why I was even more grateful for the support I received. So in my head I was hoping to raise about £2000 however in the end my final figure was £3715!!!! I could not believe the generosity of the people I knew and in some cases people I didn't, I received sponsor money from people I've never met who are friends of friends, money from people from outside the UK, money from my kids selling book marks they made and money from the night when I actually did it!! It was THE most liberating thing I have ever done and I am very proud of myself for being 'Brave' enough to do it. So thank you again for all your support, for all my regular 'head rubbers' and 'huggers' you guys are amazing and I love having you as my extended family although I won't be doing anything as mental as this again.

Lots of Love

Gillian



Sunday Canteen

Many thanks to all the 'volunteers' who joined our teams last year. Any more willing volunteers will be made most welcome. I am now making up the rota for 2017 so please let me know if you are interested in joining us.

Thank you

Flower Calendar

My sincere thanks to all who contribute to our Church flower fund, your support is very much appreciated. The diary for 2017 will be available at the beginning of December and once again a huge thank you for your generosity and support.

Jean

Thank You's

Thank you to Carol for her help collecting and arranging the church flowers every week.

To May, Angus and Marion MacKinnon for setting up the hall for our tea and coffee after our church service every Sunday.

To Jean Templeton for sorting the church flowers each week after the service and to all the people who deliver the church flowers after the service every week to the designated receivers, this for most is a delight to receive.

Jean

Saturday Tearoom

Just wanted to say thank you to all who donate to the Saturday tearoom, your donations of eggs, flour, sugar, tea etc all help to increase the profits made during the hours opened and all helps with the church funds. Also a massive thank you to all who help out and volunteer on the day and to all the customers who faithfully attend we couldn't do it without you all.

Our last tearoom before the Christmas break will be Saturday the 17th December.

On behalf of the tearoom ladies and gents we wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Get Well Soon

Get well soon to all our housebound, hospitalized and ill members: Annie Allison, Betty Taylor, Sadie Millsop, Jean Findlay, Hetty McGlashan, Kitty Stewart, Margaret Grieve, Netta Carruthers, Alistair MacDonald and to anyone else we have missed, we remember them all in our thoughts and prayers. Also please remember to let us know if someone is unwell or in hospital, we'd rather know 6 times than not at all.

Upcoming Events

Girls Brigade Christmas Fayer

Will take place on Saturday 26th November in Govan Cross hall from 11am - 3pm, this is the annual fund raiser and all support is very welcome.

Flute Phonics Concert

Flute Phonics will be playing for us on Sunday 27th November in Linthouse at 7.30pm. Tickets are available at a cost of £5 which includes entry to the concert and tea and coffee with some fantastic home baking and there will also be a raffle. The monies raised will be split between the Flute Phonics and the church funds. These shows have always been great in the past and I'm sure you are looking forward to this one. (Any donations for the home baking or raffle prizes will be greatly appreciated. See Jean MacFarlane.)

School Assembly

Pirie Parks Christmas Assembly will be on Tuesday 20th December at 1.30pm in Linthouse.

Communion Services

Sunday 27th November at Govan Old at 9.45am

Sunday 4th December at Linthouse 11am - the second collection for the communion service will be for The Coming Home Centre based in the Pearce Institute.

Hogmanay Ceilidh

The Hogmanay Ceilidh tickets will be on sale in December from Sandra MacDonald and Karen Stevely. This will be an evening of dancing, singing, quizzes, food and friendship.

Numbers are limited so please get your tickets early to avoid disappointment.

The event starts from 7.30pm in the church hall at Govan Cross.

Tickets Adult £5 and Child £3

The Sermon attached in this edition comes from the one Paul delivered the first Sunday after Moyna's funeral. Many of you asked me to get a copy and print it out which I did but thought this one was fitting for this magazine. And we thank you for all your support over the last few months, our ministry team has changed dramatically without Moyna and will continue to change when Paul moves on and we will continue to do our very best for you but we really do value your support so thank you once again.

Gillian

Sunday August 14th 2016 Isaiah 65:17 – 25

When I arrived in Govan almost seven years ago now I heard a lot of people talk about what they had lost. It's true that something had been lost and that people were feeling sore. I suggest that today we are mourning the loss of something, or someone, much more precious and important than at that time. Time, they say, is a healer. We shall see because we are at a crossroads, a time not of our choosing but one which we will need to face with

all its challenges and that will not be easy. To begin with today I want to say that the ministry team of this congregation will support you and face this time with you. In the short term we need to mourn, and then we will need to think about what kind of future the congregation has. These last years have been a time of great transition for the church in Govan and yesterday in my prayer I referred to Govan as being the cradle of Christianity in Glasgow. Govan is not one of the most important heritage centres in the city, it is the most important. Christian faith was first witnessed here and 1500 years later is still being lived out. That is not about to change, but change will be inevitable in the coming months and years. For now we grieve and as we grieve we give thanks for all that has been achieved through Moyna's leadership and we give thanks for her. There are different kinds of time, notably our time and God's time. Our time and God's time are different and one of the frustrations we have is that we can only understand things in the limited way we use language. God's time isn't measured in the same way as ours but in order to understand it we think of hours, days, months and so on. It's all we can do. What Isaiah is talking about is a time when God brings about a new way of being, a way that is more akin to what he always planned for us where the lion lies with the lamb and the lamb is safe from the predator. How can that be so?

The whole book of Isaiah was written over a long time and by at least three different people. It is the story of the people of Israel who departed from God's way and found themselves in exile. They had abandoned God and tried to do things on their own steam. This left them open to attack and defenceless and they were taken from their home into a strange land. When the time was right God brought them back out of the wilderness and restored them to the place he had always wanted them to take. They were in the wilderness for many years before the restoration though and in that time a generation had passed. It's a fascinating account of a whole nation being affected and we can read it now in the light of history. For them at that period though time would have passed very slowly, and for some there would be no return to their own land. We pick up the story as Isaiah is outlining God's ultimate plan and as the process of restoration was being birthed. This is a promise and it is a vision of the future of what God has planned for his people because he loves them and it is his greatest desire that he brings people back to him. We see clearly a picture of a place and a state when people are blessed. If you live to be 100 you will be considered a child and if you die at that age you will be considered to be cursed. It is a picture of something so far removed from what we know that our minds can't even begin to imagine what that place might be. No pain, no suffering, the world as it should be, forgetting what is past and moving on to something much more wonderful. A picture of a time when Christ reigns in glory and the faithful are taken to be with him. When illness doesn't have a hold on us because it cannot live in this world. It's a wonderful world where we don't go to funerals because illness is no more, where worship is the absolute cornerstone of existence and closeness to God is a given. And it is promised to us simply because in God's time that is what he wants for us. We are not told when that time will come, only that it will one day. In that day we will see clearly who God is, what he is like, and we will have no option but to bow down in gratitude because we will know surely what he has done for us.

Moyna is with God in his glory and the promise to us is that we will see her again one day in that same glory. We have no concept of how much time will elapse between now and then and neither should we concern ourselves with it. Our task is to ensure that what has been building here continues and that is what we shall do in the years afforded to us. Because otherwise would simply be wrong. The promise in Isaiah warns that not all will see this glory. They separate themselves from God by their own actions. The bible is clear that following the ways of God give life, but as the people of Isaiah's time discovered to do their own thing is folly. This we must not do. Through Moyna God began a work in Govan and

that work will go on because he has ordained it. She secured a future for our buildings with literally every breath in her body and personally speaking, as long as I have breath I will not let anyone destroy that work. Nobody has that right. She gave her life to the people of Govan and could have walked away when it got tough, and believe me it got tough! But she didn't because she said her calling was to this place and its people. Change will come in the months ahead but change that builds not destroys. The Church of Scotland, the church of Christ worldwide that we here represent will go on and generations to come will testify to the work and witness of Moyna because when they look back, just as the people of Israel did, they will remember us in our time and what we did.

People will come and go in the future, but the work of Jesus in this place will continue. To those who say the church will not survive I say 'No'. To those who want to narrow the work of the church of Jesus Christ and confine him somehow to bricks and mortar I say 'Folly to you and beware the wrath of your own actions.' To those who work for the future of Christian witness in this place I say 'Be encouraged today, you work with God as a co worker and he rewards faithfulness. The promise of Isaiah and the new heavens and earth are yours. It is to you that this gift is given because it is you who understand the ways of God.' So don't be disheartened and don't let doubters and haters spoil your enjoyment of the riches of God promised to you. God loves you too much for that. Instead, come and see that God is good and faithful to his promise. Live in that promise, keep this text close to your heart because this new thing God is doing is for you and you are part of it. Take hold of it and don't let it go, never let anyone prise it from your grasp – as if they could anyway! In Christ alone your hope is found, come just as you are and be amazed at what God is doing within you. Stay strong in these days in the knowledge that God hears your cries of pain and grief.

In the next wee while we might feel a bit unsettled. That is to be expected, but we will be unsettled together and we will bear one another's burden. It is a shared one. Someone asked me yesterday if I was okay, I'm sure you have had the same question. I said I was, although I'm not sure how true that is. That person asked me, 'what would Moyna tell you to do?' You know what, I think she would say 'Stay strong.' And to us collectively she would say 'stay strong and stay together.' The presbytery will soon appoint someone to accompany us on the next part of our journey. That person will come as interim moderator and will take us through the legal process of eventually looking for a new minister. But first we grieve. Grief will continue for some time and in that time we will consider where we have come from, the journey that Govan and Linthouse Parish Church has been on, and through our reflecting we will decide together on the way ahead. But there is a way ahead. 'See', says God. 'I am doing a new thing.' Trust in the God of Isaiah, the God of Govan and Linthouse. The God who has promised you wonderful things. Don't let yourself be distracted. Stay strong, and stay together. The lamb feels safe, the lion is happy to lie with it. Heaven opens up and invites us in. 'See' says the Lord, 'I am doing a new thing.'

Fun Corner

Did the Baby Jesus Cry?

The second verse of "Away in a Manger" confuses some people: "*Away in a manger the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.*"

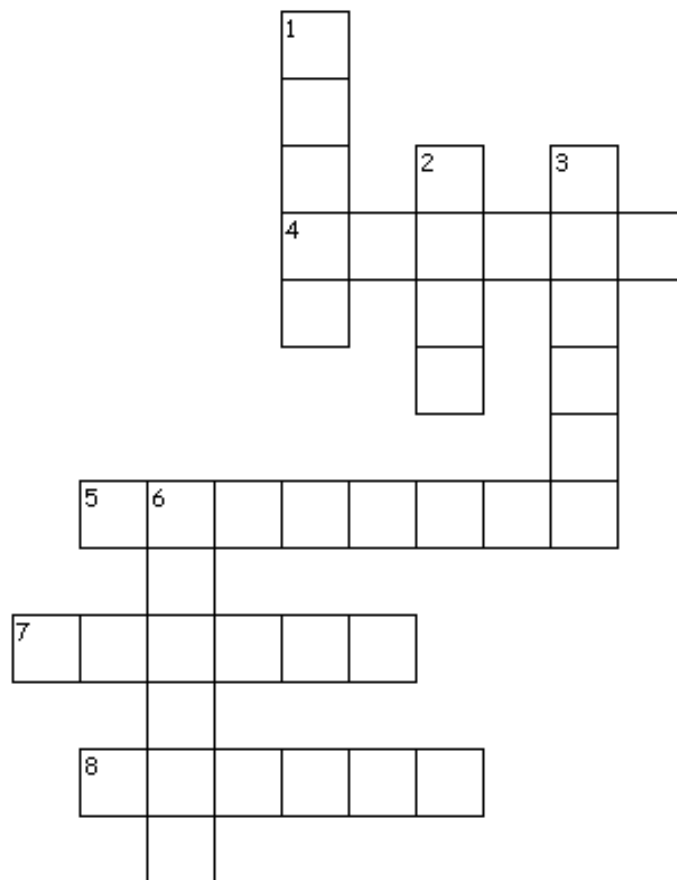
Although this is one of the most famous Christmas carols, there is nothing in the Bible about whether Jesus cried as a baby or not. Most likely: *he did!* Jesus was born all-God and all-human. Baby humans make known their hunger by crying. We know from other Scriptures that Jesus hungered and thirsted, and it follows that he did normal baby things as a baby.

Across

4. The baby in the song does this
5. Jesus hungered and...
7. Away in a
8. According to the song, Jesus doesn't make this

Down

1. Jesus was all-God, all this
2. Jesus was probably a normal...
3. Which verse of "Away in a Manger" is this about?
6. Babies cry when they are...



What Happened with the Wise Men?

When the wise men followed the star, they found Jesus. Decode the cryptogram to find out what they did next:

Instructions:

Unscramble each of the clue words. Copy the letters in the numbered cells to other cells with the same number.

HETY	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
	10 17
POENED	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
	7 13 15
HERTI	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
	5
ESARTESRU	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
	19 14 18 12
DNA	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
	6 9
SEETDNERP	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
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HTWI	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
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1 2 3 ,	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	14 7 15	16 17 18 19 20 .

Hint: Look up Matthew 2:11 (NIV) on a phone or notepad if you can't get the whole thing!

(NIV=New International Version of the Bible)

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