

*Govan and Linthouse
Parish Church
Magazine*



December 2018

Dear Friends

I know they say that as you get older, time disappears even more quickly. How true it is for us at this time in Govan and Linthouse Parish Church.

In just under 3 weeks' time we will be returning to our Govan Cross building. Over the years it has gone by many names.... St Mary's, St Mary's Fairfield, and more recently New Govan. We now refer to it as the Govan Cross building, one of the two buildings for which we have responsibility.

Our return completes several years of work by you as a congregation. You could not have imagined your journey of the last four years, when you left Govan Cross, and I know that some of you felt that we would never get there. Well, we have!

Over that time, we as a congregation are grateful to those who have helped us on our way. Moyna, your first minister at G&L, held the hope with grace and love, of bringing you through the complexities of decisions needed early on, and the Kirk Session has borne the weight of responsibility of ensuring that funds have been raised, and works commissioned. It is a remarkable achievement for you as a congregation...well done, and I trust that you will be able to join us on **Sunday 2nd December at 11.00am** as we re-enter together into this "new" space.

I personally must express my thanks to Tony Ireland, who has worked hard with us and for us in project managing the building works. Tony is an elder of another congregation and has been a good friend to us. We could not have managed without him, and we will be forever grateful for the time, energy, and commitment he has given us. His clear thinking, and his ability never to flap in the face of bad news, has been a great strength and helped in every way. We will share our thanksgiving with Tony and with others who have helped us in our journey at a special service of Thanksgiving on **Tuesday 26th March 2019**.

As we leave Linthouse as a place of worship, we are grateful for our times spent there. For some within the congregation, it will be particularly hard as it is a place in which they grew up and have had a long association. We are pleased that we have been able to share that in these recent years in Linthouse, and while we have voted as a congregation to sell the building, we will continue to use it meantime.

Over the next few weeks we will also say farewell to Carol and George Mills who have worked with us for some 22 years as Church Officers. We wish them well in retirement and trust that they will have time to do all the things that they wish to do, and share with the family, times together and holidays.

We also say farewell to Jamie, our Research and Development Facilitator. He has been with us since November 2017 and brought a unique contribution to our development. It has been a joy to work with Jamie and we wish him well as finds new pathways to travel.

Our "new" building though allows us to think about who we are and how we function as a congregation. We will need to settle in, and work through new ways of doing things. The space is a little different to what it was...not dramatically so...but enough to allow us to try some different things.

One of these things will be Narnia – The Experience! This is the walk-through drama that tells the Narnia story written by C S Lewis. It allows us to co-operate with other community groups and will coincide with Govan loves Christmas on Wednesday 5th December...come along...but remember to book on Eventbrite...Jamie will keep us updated on the details at Church on a Sunday.

All of this means that it will be a particularly exciting Christmas season for us this year. There is a full list of all our Christmas services, with lots of activities for young and old alike. The Christmas story is about God meeting his people through the birth of his Son Jesus. It is about relationships. It is about people. People who travel. People who are rich, poor, old and young. Like life really...

So, I wish every blessing this Christmas season. No matter how you spend it, may the joy and the love of Christmas be with you, and please, do come and celebrate with us.

With every blessing

Eleanor



Hi Folks,

I continue to visit members of the congregation who are unwell and recently paid a call on Willie Brown (or should I say 'The invincible Mr Brown!'). He sounds very well despite being housebound – he has a care package in place but would welcome your calls on 883 9424. To Willie and all our members who are under the weather we wish you God's blessing and his healing for the coming days.

The Meeting Place continues to do well – the numbers keep steady, though there is always a place for new members. You may remember we had an outing in the summer to Helensburgh – we are hoping to have another outing this month (indoor of course).

Lastly have a wonderful Christmas, we remember in particular those for whom this season of happiness is tinged with sadness and loss, we remember them with God's love and may we all know his joy this Christmas.

Look after one another as you do so well and may God bless one and all.

Your Pastoral Assistant and Your Friend

Andrew

A LOT CAN HAPPEN IN A YEAR...

Who would have thought a year ago that we would be talking Lions, Witches and Wardrobes (oh my!)? Arriving in Govan & Linthouse Parish I was inspired by your history, the friendly welcoming people and the potential of what was to come in my role in Research & Development. What a journey it has become.

Last year, as a Church, we experimented with a small Christmas Takeover at cafe 13. Looking at new ways that we could connect with those locally. A great evening which saw over fourteen new connections made. We joined forces with Thriving Places, a local initiative, looking at developing a ten year plan of what residents wanted Govan to look like. We saw them visit our Saturday Tea Room with crafts, face-painting and

questionnaires, sharing with us how we might fit in to the future of Govan and the wants of local people.

Then came An Untold Story, an exceptional pilot project which culminated in an exhibition with almost 500 attendees, each sharing their story with us as we shared ours. This will soon see our completed Glass panels take pride of place within our Govan Cross building and soon to be new home.

And now we are nearing completion on The Narnia Experience which will see hundreds of people visiting our new place of worship. Looking back I may have lead with some good ideas, but it is you the congregation that have made them a reality: embracing local people and the potential of what you can accomplish alongside one another.

FINAL PREPARATIONS

With less than a month before The Narnia Experience there's still a lot to be done! If you are available to help in person either on our event days or in preparation please speak to Jamie Goodwin.

We are still also looking to borrow or have the following items donated:

- Green, Grey, White Wool
- Knitted Items
- Artificial Natural Christmas Trees
- Newspapers
- Unwanted Umbrellas
- Fur Coats
- Lion Bars or Turkish Delight



THE Narnia EXPERIENCE

Wednesday 5 December, 2018 3-6pm
ticketed free event - book at:
www.narniaexperience.eventbrite.co.uk

Info: 0141 445 2010, @govanlinthousep

Govan & Linthouse Parish, 796 Govan Road, G51 2YL

WWW.GOVANLINTHOUSEPARISH.ORG | GLPCGLASGOW@GMAIL.COM

GLASGOW GOVAN & LINTHOUSE PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND REGISTERED CHARITY SC004153



GOD'S GANG

It's hard to believe that it is almost Christmas. The months have just flown by. Since the last magazine our main topic has been a verse by Paul –

*And now these three remain:
FAITH, HOPE, LOVE
But the greatest of these is Love*
-1 Corinthians 13:13

Over the weeks we looked at each part of the verse with a craft for each week. Have you seen the lovely pictures painted by Gemma?

As we return to Govan Cross I think the verse is most apt. Over the year's faith, hope and love have certainly kept us going.

The children are very excited about having our first nativity at Govan on Sunday 16th December. We do hope you can join us on that day.

We would all like to wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas.



Blythwood Care Shoebox Appeal

I am delighted to tell you that this year we delivered 216 shoeboxes to this appeal. A huge thank you goes out to everyone who made this possible. To everyone who gave donations, the knitters, the shoebox collectors and Elizabeth Anne our star shoebox wrapper. We also donated bags of goodies to help fill up other boxes and we made a monetary donation to help with the travel cost of delivering the boxes.

216 extra smiles this Christmas thanks to you.

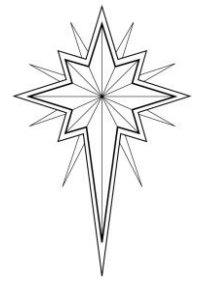
Thank you all once again, Karen Stevely x





We would like to wish everyone and their families
a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful 2019

love Karen, Billy and Skye xxx



Get Well Soon

A wee note to all our church family who are feeling under the weather and haven't been able to make church. We are thinking of you and you are in our prayers.

If you know if someone is unwell and in need of a visit then please let us know.

The Guild

As the Guild restarted only in October, we haven't enjoyed many evenings together but what we have had so far is just a taste of what seems to be a very good session.

Our first night in October was the usual getting to know the syllabus but we were so very pleased to welcome Eleanor to explain to us the new church and how things will happen. We certainly enjoyed the update and are now looking forward to our new home in December.

We had a great night with Jamie as he explained his function and all about Narnia.

We celebrated our Halloween night with loads making the effort to dress up and get involved, coupled with our Bring and Buy sale on the same night. We had so many articles to sell that we looked like a high-class high-street shop, it was a great night and we raised in excess of £230 as well as dooking for apples and chaos...it was a brilliant night!

Next Monday we have the Organist Nairn Young, known to us at the morning services. Nairn is going to take us back to Victorian Sunday Schools with hymns to match. We have a return visit from Alastair Biggar and Helen Adams. Our Scottish night will be with The Charitones and sounds like it will be a great night. Our Annual service will be on Sunday 18th November and I do hope you enjoy this service. Our Christmas dinner will be on Monday 3rd December and our Carol service will be on the 10th December, I think after that we will need a well-deserved rest!

Please come along and join us any evening you can, you will be made to feel very welcome.

I again thank our Vice President Betty, the Treasurer May and the Secretary Marion. I must also thank everyone who helps with the running of our Guild be it driving cars, setting up tables, washing dishes, making invitations and everything else that goes on in the background, I really couldn't do it without you all and your faithful attendance.

With every blessing

Elspeth

Every minute someone leaves this world
We are all in "the line" without knowing it.
We never know how many people are before us.
We cannot move to the back of the line.
We cannot step out of the line.
We cannot avoid the line.

So while we wait in line -

Make moments count.
Make priorities.
Make the time.
Make your gifts known.
Make a nobody feel like a somebody.
Make your voice heard.
Make the small things big.
Make someone smile.
Make the change.
Make up.
Make peace.
Make sure to tell your people they are loved.
Make sure to have no regrets.



Members Deaths

Mrs Madge Serrels – September

Mary's meals

I AM TYPING THIS IN NOVEMBER FOR THE CHRISTMAS MAGAZINE, AND WE ARE CLOSING IN FAST ON REACHING THE BRILLIANT TOTAL OF £7,000.00 COLLECTED FOR THIS CHARITY...THIS IS UNBELIEVABLE, ESPECIALLY AS WE HAVE ALSO BEEN RAISING FUNDS FOR THE RENOVATION WORK IN THE CHURCH THIS YEAR...I CAN'T THANK YOU ALL ENOUGH. EVEN FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF THE CONGREGATION HAVE BEEN SUPPORTING US TOO.

I KNOW A FEW OF YOU MANAGED TO GO TO THE ROYAL CONCERT HALL TO SEE THE WORK OF THE CHARITY. THEY REALLY DO SUCH GOOD WORK, AND ARE SO THANKFUL FOR ALL YOUR HELP...I HOPE YOU ENJOYED YOUR DAY.

ANOTHER NEW YEAR IS COMING UP FAST, PLUS WE WILL BE BACK INTO THE NEWLY RENOVATED CHURCH...SO MANY THINGS HAPPENING, BUT I AM SURE I WILL HAVE YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AS YOU ARE ALL BRILLIANT.

WISHING YOU ALL A VERY BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR...GOD BLESS.

ROSE



ACTION AID

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS IS FOR THE CHRISTMAS MAGAZINE, TIME IS FLYING BY SO FAST...I HOPE YOU ALL ENJOY A PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS.

ONCE AGAIN A BIG THANK YOU FOR EVERYONE WHO HAS SUPPORTED THIS BRILLIANT CHARITY...THEY DON'T GET AS MUCH PUBLICITY AS THE BIG CHARITY'S DO..BUT YEAR AFTER YEAR THEY CARRY ON SUCH DEDICATED WORK...FIRST ON THE GROUND, AT MAJOR DISASTERS, BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY THERE FOR THE NORMAL DAYS, HELPING FAMILIES THROUGH WHATEVER HARDSHIPS THEY ARE FACING, HELPING PEOPLE TO TRAIN FOR NEW JOBS, HELPING THEM IF THE HARVEST HAS FAILED, TRAINING PEOPLE TO WORK AS MIDWIVES, TEACHERS, AND HUMAN RIGHTS LAWYERS, AND THEIR MAJOR ACHIEVEMENT THIS YEAR, WAS THEY WERE AT THE HEART OF WORKING TO RELEASE THE GIRLS WHO HAD BEEN KIDNAPPED FROM THEIR SCHOOL, WHICH WE SAW IN OUR NEWS, THEY WERE ABLE TO CONTACT LOCAL CHEIFS, WHO THEN TALKED TO THE KIDNAPPERS, AND GOT SOME OF THE GIRLS BACK TO THEIR GRATEFUL FAMILIES.

2019 WILL FIND ME ONCE AGAIN COLLECTING FOR THIS CHARITY, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO TALK TO ME..MY SUPPORTERS PAY £6 A YEAR, IN ONE PAYMENT, OR IN INSTALLMENTS. THANK YOU ALL ONCE AGAIN FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT...GOD BLESS.

ROSE

34th Glasgow Girls' Brigade



The session restarted on Wednesday 5th September in our temporary meeting place in the Pearce Institute. We have welcomed several new girls which we are very pleased about.

We held our annual Fancy Dress Party on Wednesday 31st October. The girls played games, decorated Halloween cookies and enjoyed the party food. The costumes were great and our winners for the fancy dress competition included a vending machine, Thing 1 & 2, a unicorn, a cat, #Mason and a bag of jellybeans.

As usual we contributed to the Shoebox Appeal for Blythwood Care and a total of 216 boxes were filled with donations from both church and GB. Thank you to Karen who once again coordinated our donations.

We are looking forward to attending the Govan Remembrance service at the Cenotaph.

Our Annual Christmas Fayre and Santa's Grotto is on Saturday 1st December from 11am until 3pm in the former Royal Bank at Govan Cross. We hope that you will support this event. If you have any unwanted items/gifts that we can sell, please bring them along any Sunday.

We are looking forward to attending the Narnia Experience on Wednesday 5th December.

If you know any school age girls who would like to join us, please send them along any Wednesday at 6.30pm. Our new session will begin on Wednesday 9th January 2019 back at Govan Cross.

We would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

Sandra MacDonald

Thank you



Thank you to all who sent good wishes, cards and gifts to me for receiving my MBE.

I was humbled to receive this award on behalf of all those who work within the church and youth organisations.

Sandra MacDonald

Christmas Draw

This year we are selling tickets for a Christmas Draw. All money raised will go to the Renovation Fund. This year there will be numerous prizes including a Christmas Hamper and vouchers.

If you are able to sell tickets to friends and family please speak to me, tickets will be £1 each and will be available from mid November.

A Fond Farewell...

Just a wee note from me to say a fond farewell to 3 people...Jamie will be leaving us mid-December after a year and I must say I will truly miss him. It's been great working with Jamie. He's been my technical support, my sounding board, a calming influence when I got a bit worked up or stressed, he's made me realise that I don't need to be chained to my desk to be doing my job, and he's been a very creative and fun person to have around. I wish Jamie all the very best with the next chapter of his life and hope he will not be a stranger. The other 2 people I want to say a special farewell to are Carol and George. Lots of you will have known them longer than me given the length of service they have but for me coming back to Govan Cross and not having them around will be very strange...I'll miss George being around and pottering away at something or another, or coming in to the office to tell me he's going under the floor or up into the loft space or up the bell tower and 'to give him a shout' if I didn't hear from him for a while lol. He's roasted my heart on more than one occasion when I couldn't find him. He knows every nook and cranny of this place and was always the go to person when you needed to know something. I hope they will both continue to be part of our church family and wish them both well on their retirement.

Gillian

Messy Mondays

Our wee group has been running well and we have been having Messy Mondays on the first Monday of each month. We have simplified things with having soup and sand sandwiches for the dinner as opposed to trying to cook a big meal, this seems to work well and frees up more time for all the fun stuff. A huge thanks to Eleanor for running it, to Catherine and Cathy for helping us, to Christy Little for supplying us with a Christmas Craft (I can't tell you how much glitter was on the floor!) and to the families who faithfully turn up and take part in the fun. As the first Monday in December will be very close to Narnia we have decided to finish early this year and have invited the Messy Monday families to come along to visit us at Narnia and to our Christmas services.

I hope you all have a Very Merry Christmas and I will apologise now if I get a bit stressed on the lead up to Narnia and Christmas, as you can imagine this will be a very hectic time for us and there's never enough hours in the day. I would also like to thank everyone who has followed Eleanor's request of not talking 'work stuff' with me on a Sunday. Sundays are not part of my working hours, I'm just attending like the rest of you 😊

Gillian



Singing Group

Can you sing? Are you interested in joining a singing group? If so then please speak to Catherine and practising will start after the services on Sundays.

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.

Ronald McDonald House Glasgow

Ronald McDonald House Glasgow will be out and about this December raising funds for the House. A peaceful 'home away from home', the House provides free accommodation for families when they have a seriously sick child in hospital. We are delighted to be joined by hundreds of school children for Christmas carols at various shopping centres and are looking for volunteers to help – might you be interested?

We will be at Rutherglen Shopping Centre on Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th December from 9.30am to 3.30pm.

We will be at East Kilbride Shopping Centre on Monday 3rd, Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th December from 9.30am to 3.30pm.

We will be at St. Enoch's Shopping Centre on Monday 17th, Tuesday 18th, Wednesday 19th, Thursday 20th and Friday 21st December from 9.30am to 3.30pm.

Any help during these times would be most welcome. If you are interested in helping the Ronald McDonald House Glasgow staff at these events please call us on 0141 201 1900 or email fundraising@ronaldmcdonaldhouse.co.uk

Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas from everyone here at the House.

Throwback Thursday & Name That Child

Please keep your photo's coming in! This has been great to get some interest on our Social Media pages and I hope you are all enjoying the photo's and trying to guess who the child is...

If you have any belter photos that will embarrass some of our members then send them over!

glpcglasgow@googlemail.com or give them to me on a Sunday but please remember to put as much info on the envelope as possible and if you want it back your name because I'll forget.

Thank you, Gillian

Upcoming Events in Glasgow

There will be a screening in the Mitchell Library on 15 November at 4.30-6 of the Resilience film, which highlights the toxic stress that many children and young people in our communities face every day, and the effect this can have on them. Presbytery has urged as many people as possible to attend one of the screenings of this film.

Wednesday 5 December, Blessing of the Crib, 6pm Glasgow City Chambers.

Sunday 16 December, Carols for Peace, 3pm Glasgow City Chambers. At which we will remember that it's the 30th anniversary of the Lockerbie Disaster this December, the 100th anniversary of the Armistice of 1918, and the current plight of refugees.

Flower Arranging

Are you good at flower arranging? Do you fancy having a go at doing the church flowers? This has been a job that Carol has been doing but as she is due to retire, we need someone to take this job once we move back to Govan Cross. We would need you to collect the flowers and then arrange them in the church vases. If you think this is something you could do or would like a go at then please call the office: 445 2010

World Mission Stamp Appeal 2018-19

As you know, Glasgow Presbytery collects used stamps to help fund projects of the World Mission Committee. This year we will be supporting day care centres for children and young people with disabilities run by the Reformed Church in Transcarpathia, Ukraine. The Ukraine has had a hard time of it recently, plus this the Year of Young People, so it seems like a good thing to support.

As always, you can give the stamps to me in church. Or if you are unable to come, give them to a friend or your Elder (who might also be your friend) to bring. Christmas is coming – best time of the year for stamps.

Thanks as always

Elsie Donald

Opening Doors to a brighter future for Glasgow's Homeless



Lodging House Mission

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

35 East Campbell Street,
Glasgow G1 5DT
t: 0141 552 0285
e: enquiries@lhm-glasgow.org.uk
www.lhmglasgow.org.uk

20 September 2018

Dear Friends,

HEARTFELT THANKS FROM THE LODGING HOUSE MISSION

I am writing to acknowledge and thank your congregation at Govan & Linthouse for their generous Harvest donations to assist us in our work with the homeless and underprivileged in Glasgow. Be assured that these will help replenish our food store and enable us to continue feeding our service users throughout the coming winter.

At LHM, we seek to make a positive difference in the lives of our service users. The provision of vital sustenance 7 days a week, by way of healthy breakfasts and lunches, is often the gateway to supporting our service users in other ways too through the myriad of problems they face and our Day Centre offers them safe shelter where they know they will not be judged and can always find a friendly word.

We are very aware that we can only carry out the work we do at LHM thanks to the generosity of supporting churches such as Govan & Linthouse. On behalf of everyone at LHM, especially our service users, please accept our heartfelt thanks for your kindness and generosity. May God bless you as you have blessed us.

Yours sincerely,

E Ashmole
Director & Trustee

DECEMBER SERVICES 2018



Govan and
Linthouse Parish
Church



2nd 11am - Return to
Govan Cross

5th 3-6pm - The Narnia
Experience

16th 11am - The
Nativity Service

23rd 11am - Christingle
Service

24th 6-7pm - Christmas
Eve Family Service

24th 11.15-Midnight -
Watchnight Service

25th 9.45-10.15am -
Christmas Communion
- Govan Old

25th 11-11.30am -
Family Christmas
Service



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For more information on our church and activities please visit our website at:
www.govanlinthouseparish.org or our social media @govanlinthousep