

*Govan and Linthouse
Parish Church
Magazine*



September
2017

Dear Friends

We now enter the season of change. For many this has been a bit of a damp summer, but I hope that you have enjoyed the warmth of the sun when it came, and found it a time of rest and recuperation. Whilst enjoying such days, I also appreciate the change of the seasons, and as summer fades and the vibrancy of the autumn colours emerge, we see once more within our created world, the wonderful work of God.

For the church at large, this is also a season of change. Nationally, the Church struggles with the implications of increased secularism. Regionally Presbyteries are outworking the realities of their decisions with regard to the planning process, and locally each congregation faces its own challenges be it the number and age profile of its membership, fabric or finance.

For Govan and Linthouse, we are in the midst of our own season of change. To the outward eye it may seem that nothing very much has happened in recent times, but behind the scenes a lot has been happening.

If you happen to be in the Govan Cross building, then you will see that we have done our own "Changing Rooms". The Vestry and Session Room have both been totally revamped, and modernised, and now ready for use for both our own organisations and for letting to other community groups. The cost of this has been met by some of our congregational funds, and by the generous time given by our volunteers, who have scraped, painted and plumbed through the summer. We will formally open these two rooms on the 16th September, and dedicate them for use.

Funding applications have been submitted to help fund the works at Govan Cross. To date, we have received £32,500 in grant funding, and are awaiting feedback from other applications. We are still short of around £118,000, and we are launching a Gift Day on Saturday 16th September. Further details can be found in the magazine.

We have been advertising for a Research and Development Worker. This will be a temporary post for 9 months, and the person employed will help identify further sources of funding, and help initiate and direct some of the next steps. At the time of writing, we are preparing for interviews, and so will keep you updated.

Our groups and organisations are restarting. Our Saturday Tearoom is now open, and full details can be found on our monthly intimations sheet which is published on the last Sunday of the month. So all in all we are feeling quite positive, but we still have a bit to go. Remember us in your prayers...please do remember your office-bearers and elders. They do a terrific job in keeping everything going.

Change we find becomes a natural part of our life. Be it the seasons of the year, or the changes in church life. We celebrate the goodness of God and trust in His goodness as we travel forward.

With all good wishes

Eleanor McMahon Interim Minister

Down memory lane

AS THE future of Auchinlee care home hangs in the balance, its former matron, Eva MacDonald MBE, has given the *Courier* some archive photos.

The Church of Scotland's charitable op-

erator CrossReach has given the High Askomil home a year's reprieve until March 2018.

Mrs MacDonald's photos recall a happier era.



In this picture, from the 1970s, Margaret Mitchell, at the front, was celebrating, possibly her 100th birthday. Behind are George McMillan, Reverend Andrew Thomson, tourist officer Lachlan McKinnon, Jim Allan, Eva MacDonald, convener of the Auchinlee local committee Archie Clark, Chris MacDonald, Eva's late husband and superintendent of Auchinlee, an unknown minister and John McCorkindale.

A blast from the past right enough!! This Article, taken by the Campbeltown Courier in recent times was relayed to me by June and Rose so thanks to them.

It is the sometimes a strange experience looking back to old photographs, like this one. I'm sure you'll have collections as well. When I first saw this one, I had a giggle to myself...look at that hair! Look at their formal dress! And I remember Mrs Mitchell's 100th birthday very well. Many visitors from near and far presented flowers and gifts and gave her a kiss. I said to her at one point, 'are you okay Mrs Mitchell?' and with a broad smile she replied, 'I've never been kissed as much in years!'

My abiding thought is how serious everyone is (including myself!) in those days the dress code was much more formal – ministers fulfilled public expectation that a clerical collar would be worn at all times. That's the way things were in those days and I for one wouldn't like to go back, today things are less formal, more relaxed and more natural which in my opinion is the way it should be.

There's a little phrase from one of the Psalms 'God has put laughter on my lips' and we live everyday in his goodness and humour for in him the past never has the last word. Laugh with him throughout your sorrows and problems, worries and fears and receive his strength.

Take good care of yourselves and your loved ones and may God's Blessings now and always be upon you. Look out for one another in our church family.

A' ra best

Andrew

Congregational Gift Day

Saturday 16th August 2017

We are now entering what we hope will be our final phase of fundraising. Efforts are being directed to getting the sanctuary at Govan Cross back into working order to allow us to return to fully use the building once more.

We are very aware of the generosity of the congregation in recent times, but we are appealing again for further funds. Please know that we are also putting time and effort into asking the wider Govan community, as well as tapping into several grant funders. Through all of this we are aiming to raise £150,000, and already we have in the region of £32,500. This has delighted us, and shows a certain confidence in our efforts by external funders.

The Kirk Session decided the most straight forward way of fundraising from the congregation is simply to make a congregational appeal. We are therefore holding a GIFT DAY on SATURDAY 16th September between 11.00 am and 2.00pm.

Place: Govan Cross building

Date: Saturday 16th September

Time: 11.00 – 2.00pm

Dedication of Rooms – 10.45 am

If you can give, then please come along that day, and make your donation. I will be in the church office, and happy to receive your donations.

On that day, we will also be dedicating the refurbished vestry and session room. This will happen at 10.45 am, and the rooms will be open all day to allow people to visit and see the work that has been done.

We know also that some people are not able to give money. We ask that you give of your time through prayer, and encourage others who have been at the forefront of activity. Enthusiasm and thanks go a long way, and your support is very much appreciated.

DIY Project

Thanks to everyone who helped with the DIY project at Govan Cross over the Summer. We have now completed works in the Session House, Vestry and downstairs accessible toilet.

Whether it was scraping walls, filling holes, painting or cleaning we are thankful to the team of volunteers who have spent so many hours on the project.

We also received a lot of help from people out-with the church and we really appreciate everyone who donated materials, money or time to the project.

We hope that these rooms will be well used by both church and community groups for many years to come.

If you would like to see the rooms please come along on Saturday 16th September when they will be officially opened.



Hi Folks,

We are now in the middle of August and it's time to put pen to paper or in my case typewriter. This is a quiet time for the Guild as we finished in May and don't start up again until 9th October. The next item to keep me busy is sorting out the syllabus. This is a combination of finding suitable topics and a good variety of them which not only interest our members but keep them enthusiastic. It's also thinking about Christmas, Easter, the Guild Service and looking at our projects. We are very fortunate that some of our guests like to make an annual visit and it's always good to have them back. We try very hard to invite new visitors which we can really get to know and as many aspects of life and the church as possible.

We divide the year into two sessions: October to Christmas and February to May. Betty and myself are busy at the moment making phone calls to find a new venture. Once we have our syllabus ready Marion will put it onto cards for all. Bill McGinn makes the lovely invitations and then we are set for a new time together. When we start the process it's difficult to see the end product but it always comes together.

Some of us will be attending the Annual Gathering of the Guild in Dundee. This year the topic is 'Go together with love' it's always a good time to see others, to listen to the Moderator and to see the new material. We still have a large membership and we in Govan and Linthouse maintain our numbers.

I'm looking forward to October but I give you all this invitation; if you have nothing to do on a Monday evening then please come along and join us in the Linthouse Building at 7.30pm. You will be made very welcome.

May God Bless you all

Elsbeth



God's Gang

At the start of this new academic year our thoughts, and prayers, are with all our children as they begin another school year. Gemma and Kyle have started High School. Holly has moved to a new school. All the others have moved up a year at school or nursery. We wish them every success in their studies.

During June we had our day trip to Wellsfield Park and our prize giving service. The children had lots of fun at the park and, once again, the weather was kind to us. The adults could all sit outside, having cups of tea and chatting, as the children played on slides, trampolines or went on pony rides. Everyone had a really enjoyable day.

Thanks go to Betty McGinn for presenting the prizes to the children.

We now look forward to the year ahead. Learning more about the bible and God's love for us.

Thank you

Karen Stevely



Happy Home Fairy

Justgiving

As you will see from our front cover we have set up an online appeal on www.justgiving.com to raise funds for our Govan Cross Renovation Fund. This is running in conjunction with the Giving Day and outside funding applications.

Please visit www.justgiving.com/campaigns/charity/govan-linthouseparishchurch/govancross and share with your friends and family.



34th Glasgow Girls' Brigade

Since the last magazine we were proud to see Abby Lauder receive her Brigader's Brooch at the Girls' Brigade Glasgow AGM in the City Chambers. Unfortunately Jennifer Rankine was unable to attend on the night due to attending a golf competition in Aberdeen. We are very proud of Jennifer's success on the golf course over the summer. Jennifer won the 2017 Faldo Series – Scotland Girls' Championship in July.

We were delighted that one of our Juniors, Kayla Logan, was crowned as the Govan Fair Queen this year. Kayla had 100% attendance last session at Girls' Brigade.

Some of the leaders will be attending the GB Glasgow Specialised Training on Saturday 2nd September where we hope to get some new ideas for our new session.

The leaders have been busy planning an exciting programme for the girls for this session. It starts on Wednesday 6th September at 6.30pm in the Govan Cross halls. Any school age girls are welcome to join us. This session our theme will be "Caring".

Karen is collecting items for this year's Blythwood Care Shoe Box Appeal. Please see Karen if you are able to donate any items which could fill a shoe box.

We are already planning for our Annual Christmas Fayre which will be on Saturday 2nd December 11am-3pm at Govan Cross. This is our main fundraiser for the year and we would appreciate your support at this event. If you have any unwanted items which we could sell at the fayre, please bring them along any Sunday and give them to one of our officers. Thank you!

Sandra MacDonald

Kayla Logan
Govan Fair Queen



Shoebox Appeal

It's that time again when we start thinking about shoeboxes! Can't believe it is a year since we last filled our shoeboxes.



As usual the Girls' Brigade are relying on the generosity of the congregation to fill the boxes.

We are looking for – toiletries, stationery, hats, gloves, scarves, underwear, small toys etc.

All items must be new and no talcum powder or chocolate.

We will accept any items, and empty shoeboxes, from now until Sunday 22nd October.

Let's see if we can beat last year's total of 197!

Many thanks in advance.

Karen Stevely

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I would like to thank the members of the church for all the visits and the flowers I received and the cards and gifts sent to me during my time of illness.

I would also like to thank my husband George for carrying on with my church duties, to all the Elders on door duty and to Gillian for stepping in to do the church flowers.

Your help and support during this time has been very much appreciated.

Carol Mills

Church Officer

Thank You EVERYONE For Your
Support.

mary's
meals

a simple solution
to world hunger

Mrs Rose McLoughlin
Govan And Linthouse Parish Church
796 Govan Road
Govan
GLASGOW
Lanarkshire
G51 2YL

04 April 2017

Dear Friends

Thank you for your kind gift of £200.00, which will soon be helping hungry children in East Africa. The situation is truly devastating, and your donation will help us to reach more children as quickly as possible.

We have been supporting thousands of children with Mary's Meals in the Lakes state in South Sudan and in the remote villages of Turkana in northern Kenya for several years now. Owing to the current crisis, we are seeing more and more hungry, desperate children each day. They are searching for food and safety, and have found their way to us.

We will continue to strive to feed them, and the many more we expect to arrive during the coming months. We are only able to make this promise because, to put it simply, people like you respond so generously.

Thank you for helping the children in East Africa and for trusting us to reach them.

Yours sincerely,



Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow
Founder and Chief Executive of Mary's Meals

If you would like us to send updates by email rather than post to help us keep our costs down, please contact us on 01838 200605 or email info@marysmeals.org

Mary's Meals

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**ACTIONAID
DEC MEMBER
TOGETHER
WE'RE
STRONGER**

5th April 2017

Mrs R McLoughlin
1/2 95 Garmouth Street
Glasgow
Lanarkshire G51 3PS

Support Reference: 1839430

Dear Mrs McLoughlin

Thank you so much for your kind donation of £100 to the East Africa Crisis Appeal.

With back-to-back droughts and conflict leaving millions of people facing a catastrophic food crisis, your desire to help those most vulnerable in a crisis is so vital. As you know we are working as part of the DEC East Africa Crisis Appeal – 13 aid agencies working together to respond to disasters and emergencies.

My colleague Helen has just returned from Kenya. She told me "many women and children have walked for miles in search of food and water. They're exhausted. You feel the pain of the mums who so desperately want to give their hungry children something to eat."

But, thanks to your generosity, local ActionAid staff are on the ground in Somaliland and Kenya, working with women's groups to lead our emergency response; by making sure women are in leadership positions we know that their needs are included and not side-lined.

Together we're distributing food, including dates, sugar, flour and rice, and water to communities where there is nothing left to eat or drink. We're prioritising pregnant women, children and elderly people because they are both the hardest hit and most at risk.

We'll be keeping our supporters up to date with how we're responding to devastating crisis, via Facebook and our website - www.actionaid.org.uk. So please do visit us online and follow us on Facebook for up-to-date information.

Thank you once more for choosing to support people affected by the East Africa Crisis and for all you do for ActionAid.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Noyes
Head of Humanitarian Response and Resilience

DECEAATY

We would love to continue to tell you about ActionAid's work and how you can help us. If you no longer wish to hear from us, you can opt out by sending an email to dataprotection@actionaid.org or calling us on **0800 012 2083**

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Saturday Tearoom

Please remember that the Tea room is on and that the ladies put so much effort into the running of it. If you can spare a wee hour or two to pop in and support them it is always very much appreciated. Thank you also to everyone who runs, bakes, contributes to and volunteers their time and talents to the tearoom! Govan wouldn't be the same without it ☺

Thank you

Our thanks go out to all who help with the running of the church, be it clearing things away, helping with teas, the count, the setting up, the clubs, the drop offs and pickups, the fixing of things, the painting, the weeding, the rubbish collecting, and everything else I can't think of. Without all the help and support many of the things we run would not be possible. Your help does not go unnoticed.

Magazine – Do you need a hard copy?

As you know we are always looking to save money and cut costs, therefore please ask yourself if you need a hard copy of the magazine. If you do that's fine, but have a look on the church website and see if maybe in future you would be happy reading it electronically as this will reduce our printing costs. Thanks

Communion Service

Our next Communion Service at Govan and Linthouse will take place a week later than normal on Sunday 10th September and the second collection will be for the Church Renovation Fund.

The monthly Communion service at Govan Old will take place on the last Sunday of the month as usual at 9.45am.

Members Deaths

Lily Ferguson – July 2017 – Member

Messy Mondays

Unfortunately we haven't been able to start back up yet but we have a meeting organised with the helpers to discuss how we see Messy Mondays moving forward. We think it needs a bit of a change so watch this space for more information.

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.

Fun Corner

Is this something you enjoy? I have been trying to make the magazine a bit more child/user friendly but I really don't know if you want it or use it. If you would like to see it back then please let me know. If you are happy without or would like something different then please let me know. If I hear nothing then I will presume you don't want it and will save the paper.

I hope you have enjoyed the read. Best wishes Gillian ☺

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For more information on our church and activities please visit our website at:
www.govanlinthouseparish.org or our facebook page at: Govanlinthouse Parish