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## DATES FOR OUR DIARIES

**3RD JUNE 10:30AM** House group with Jennifer Menzies. See page 21

**3RD JUNE 7:00PM** Induction service for Rev Neil Watson. See page 4

**WEDNESDAYS 2:00-2:30PM** Our mid-week 30-minute services continue until 2nd June. We can now accommodate up to 50 people (including office bearers). If you would like to attend, please book your place by contacting Thérèse.

**07508 213099** [therese.stonelawchurch@gmail.com](mailto:therese.stonelawchurch@gmail.com)

**TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS 12:30-2:30PM** Spring Hub in the Meeting Place. Please contact Thérèse to book a table. See page 8 for details.

**SEE PAGE 21** for how to access our weekly Zoom events - the Sunday Morning Service, Wednesday Prayer Meeting, Grace and Truth Bible Study - and the Monthly House Groups. For Coffee and Crafts, see page 8.

**PLEASE EMAIL ITEMS FOR THE SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER MAGAZINE  
TO [MAGAZINE@STONELAWCHURCH.ORG](mailto:MAGAZINE@STONELAWCHURCH.ORG) BY SUNDAY 15TH AUGUST**

## LETTER FROM OUR LOCUM MINISTER

Dear Friends

It is said that time flies when you are enjoying yourself and I've certainly felt that during my time as Locum in Stonelaw. It seems no time since I joined you in January, when I was faced with the prospect of being a "virtual" worship leader and pastoral assistant. However, I can genuinely say that I've been made to feel most welcome in your fellowship. I have thoroughly enjoyed leading worship and joining in the conversations on "Zoom". In normal times, I would have been able to get to know more of you at church or through visits, and I am sorry that this has not been possible. It has, however, been a real blessing to be able to re-start the short Wednesday afternoon services in the church building, which will also help us see our way forward to more opening up of worship in the weeks to come.

Now, with the imminent arrival of your new minister, the Rev Neil Watson, my task is almost done.

As I hand over the baton to him and, with it, the delightful prospect of a full-time minister to lead you on into the next chapter of congregational life for Stonelaw Parish Church, I pray that God will richly bless you all as you move forward in faith.

Thank you all for your kindness, warmth of welcome and, of course, good humour which has endeared me to your fellowship. A special thanks to the technical team, the readers, those who led prayers and the musicians for making my task of leading worship so much easier. To your Session clerk, the Kirk Session and other office bearers, I convey my sincere thanks.

Lastly, I must thank you all for your ministry to me over these past months. I have every confidence that the Rev Neil Watson will be in good hands.

God bless you and your loved ones,

*Rev Tom Nelson*, Locum Minister



## WHAT IS PENTECOST?

*As we went to press, Tom was about to lead our special Church Family Service, on Sunday 23rd May, in celebration of Pentecost\*. Just two days beforehand, Moira Shaw shared this thought-provoking message from Fairmilehead Church in Edinburgh.*

**At Christmas, God is with us.**

**At Calvary, God is for us.**

**At Pentecost, God is in us.**

*\*Pentecost is the festival when Christians celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. Pentecost is regarded as the birthday of the Christian church, and the start of the church's mission to the world. You can read about what happened in Acts 2.*

## OUR MINISTER TO BE: REV NEIL H WATSON



Neil has spent the best part of a decade ministering in the Lothians. Neil is married to Elizabeth, and they share the manse with their Jack Russell Terrier, Rudi.

Coming to the realisation himself that this life is not the only thing on offer but that there is hope, comfort and meaning to be had in an everlasting relationship with God, through Jesus, Neil loves sharing that with people.

As well as being passionate about Jesus, Neil enjoys reading books and listening to music. He spends most of his free time playing and writing his own songs as a great way to unwind and relax, while being creative. Equally, he likes to watch most sports, especially American Football and Basketball.

As we enter a new world, post COVID-19, Neil believes the church is being called now more than ever to spend time in prayer, seeking God's comfort and direction, and reaching out to those who find themselves in need of God's loving hand.

If you would like someone to pray with or for you, or even if you would just like to speak to someone, Neil is always available. He can be contacted on 07871615840 or [minister@stonelawchurch.org](mailto:minister@stonelawchurch.org)

## INDUCTION SERVICE FOR REV NEIL H. WATSON 3RD JUNE 7PM

The service to induct Rev Neil H. Watson as our minister will take place in the Sanctuary at 7.00pm on Thursday 3rd June. The intention is that the service will be accessible on Zoom and a recording will be available later on the church website.

In addition to members of Presbytery, there will be capacity for a small number of Stonelaw members to be present. Priority will be given to those who cannot access the service on Zoom. To apply to attend in person please register with Therese Reid on **07508 213 099**.

Zoom codes and service recording access details will be sent by email on Sat. 29th May.

## LETTER FROM OUR INTERIM MODERATOR

Dear Friends,

I am immensely grateful to God for all that he has enabled us to do through the vacancy period, which draws to a close with the Induction of Rev Neil Watson as your new minister.

As Interim Moderator, working mainly through the 'virtual' world of Zoom, it has been my privilege to serve with you during the past twelve months of the vacancy, following on from the good work of my predecessor, Rev Dr Scott Kirkland.

Though my work has largely been focussed on the business of the Kirk Session and Nominating Committee, I have seen a wonderful demonstration of the use of people's gifts working together to serve the body of Christ – from the work of the various committees and teams to the provision of worship and pastoral care – through what can only be described as very challenging circumstances.

Due to the coronavirus restrictions, it has been difficult at times to work out how to do things that we would otherwise have taken for granted. But whenever we have faced an obstacle, by God's grace and enabling, we have been able to overcome and move forward.

I would like to say a big 'thank you' to you all for your hard work and service in Christ's name, including members of the Kirk Session and other office bearers. I would especially like to thank David, your Session Clerk, for all his help, assistance, and wise counsel.

As you welcome Neil and Elizabeth, I know God will give you all you need to serve together and support one another in love, according to all his good promises. Philippians 4:19 says: 'And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.'

With every blessing in Christ,

*Rev Gavin McFadyen*, Interim Moderator

## NEW MINISTER - NEW MANSE!

71 years as the home of our successive ministers ended on 26 March, when we handed over the keys of the manse in Blairbeth Road to its new owners. We prayed that they would be blessed in their new home.

When 80 Blairbeth Road was purchased in 1950 it was viewed as 'more compact, modern and easily run than the former manse in Crosshill Drive' (although it was then 45 years old). The Manse Committee believed that we needed to have the same foresight as our predecessors and looked for a new manse that would fit that description in 2021. We are grateful that God has affirmed that decision and enabled us to acquire such a property.

Since obtaining the new manse keys on 16 April we have been very busy. We described the new manse in the April magazine and Neil and Elizabeth have indicated that they are very pleased with it. It is only 16 years old and in good order generally but inevitably some minor repairs, alterations and redecoration are necessary. Members of the committee have been organising these and Walter Smyth has set about the task of giving the main rooms a fresh coat of paint with inspirational enthusiasm.

All essential works should be completed before Neil and Elizabeth move in, but given the short timescale, they have agreed that some redecoration will take place after they are resident. We are keen to hand over the property to the Managers in the best possible condition, to minimise future maintenance.



The proceeds from the sale of the old manse exceeds the cost of the new and a substantial amount remains after the costs of all planned works have been met. We trust that God will enable the church to make good use of the balance in the work of His kingdom.

Our prayer now is that Neil and Elizabeth will be able to make a comfortable and functional home in Hawthorn Way and that it will be a base from which God will bless our fellowship and our community for many years to come. Perhaps some of our current youngest members will join a committee in 2022 to acquire a "more modern and more easily run" replacement - but we hope it would not need to be more compact.

*Manse Vacancy Committee* : Stuart Menzies, Arlene Allen, Lois Boyle, John Cuthbert, Helen McKechnie, Jane Paulsen, David Russell, Walter Smyth, Isobel Wilson.



## CHURCH REGISTER

**Mrs Evelyn Payne** died on 25th October 2020. Our thoughts and prayers are with her son, daughter and all the family.

## STONELAW CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

### ELIZABETH (ELSIE) MITCHELL

We would like to thank Rev Tom Nelson and the church family for their acts of kindness following the death of Nancy's sister, Elsie. Your caring thoughts were much appreciated.

*Nancy and Margaret Borland*

*As a congregation, we are sad that in these difficult times we can rarely attend the funerals of our church family friends. For this reason, we include here extracts from the tribute to Jean McIntosh who died on 28th March, 2021.*

*Many thanks to Rev Tom Nelson for allowing us to share it here.*

### JEAN MCINTOSH 1925-2021

Born on 3rd April 1925 in Maryhill, Jean was the first daughter of Lewis Smith Jeffrey and Barbara Kay. Two years later, Jean was joined by her beloved sister, Barbara (Babs).

Jean attended Garrioch School and at the age of 12 moved on to Kelvinside Senior Secondary School. Jean was in the Sunday School, the Girls' Guildry, and Band of Hope in Miller Memorial United Free Church of Scotland, giving her a solid grounding for faith and life. One notable memory dated back to 1938 when King George VI and Queen Mary came to open the Empire Exhibition and Jean and Barbara were in the Guard of Honour.

Jean was 14 when the war started and, as her mother would not allow the girls to be evacuated, their schooling stopped. Her mother decided that the job of Office Junior in Barr & Stroud's was a good option for Jean. Within days, she was promoted to 3rd Senior, followed by an attachment to the Despatch Department. Jean's boss and mentor was Mary White, who later encouraged her to be a nurse. Jean started training at Ruchill Hospital and three years later she was a Registered Fever Nurse. Then she went to the Western Infirmary, where another three years of training in General Nursing resulted in Jean being the first Sister in Glasgow Western Infirmary to be appointed after the establishment of the NHS in 1948.

In 1950, Jean went to London for a year to train in midwifery, but having determined this was not for her, came back to Glasgow and worked as a Ward Sister. Around this time, in 1951, Jean met Ian – and they played 'Hide and Seek' with each other for the next 13 years! During this time, Jean went off to London University, where she completed training as a Nurse Teacher. Back in Glasgow, Jean became a Principal Nursing Tutor at the Western Infirmary.

Ian and Jean were married in 1964 and settled in Dryburgh Avenue, joining Stonelaw Church where they worshipped faithfully throughout their 53-year marriage. Jean stopped work to nurse her father until his death in 1973, after which Jean and Ian moved to their much-loved bungalow in Coldstream Drive, joined by Jean's mother, who lived with them until her death.

It was then that Jean went back to work at the Victoria Infirmary College of Nursing as a Sister Tutor, before moving to the Education Department at Langside College where she worked for five years, teaching health care to Nursery Nurses (including our own Janice Colgan, who was in her class from 1982-84) before retiring in 1985.

Following retirement, Jean worked in the Citizen's Advice Bureau and spent time regularly visiting two of Ian's relatives who were disabled. For many years she also volunteered for the WRVS at Rutherglen Maternity Hospital, alongside Marion Borland (John Borland's sister). In Stonelaw Church, Jean was very involved in the Guild, including a long period as Secretary, attending district and national meetings too. Jean also loved to visit her sister Babs in Troon and enjoyed the company of Babs' daughter Louise and her two children John and Sharon.

Jean and Ian's third home, from 2002, was in a retirement flat in Johnstone Drive, where she and Ian participated faithfully in Greta Doig's Bible Study group. In March 2016 increasing frailty meant that Ian and Jean had to move to Lindsayfield Lodge Care Home in East Kilbride. Ian received excellent care there – woe betide a nurse or carer who didn't do things Jean's way! Following Ian's death in March 2017, Jean struggled, longing to be with him again. In August 2018, she moved to the Executive Suites at 3 Bridges, a sister care home to Lindsayfield. In October 2019, she had a bad chest infection but adamantly refused to go to hospital. She said goodbye to her nearest and dearest and decided that she was going to die. When she woke up the next morning, she was positively disgusted to still be alive!

Jean was often difficult to care for, but her wicked sense of humour kept everyone on their toes, including her faithful visitors: Janis Neil, ex-colleague and good friend Jessie Herd, Ina Leslie and Sheila Forsyth. Finally, on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 6 days before her 96th birthday, Jean slipped away peacefully.

We give thanks for the long life and distinguished career of Jean McIntosh, who was a devoted wife, caring and supportive daughter, sister, aunt, great-aunt, great-great-aunt and a loyal and dear friend to many.

*Rev Tom Nelson*

## OTHER CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

### **Good news of Max and Arlo Martin**

In the last magazine, Thérèse shared the wonderful news that her daughter Rachel and husband Iain's babies (twin brothers for Niamh and Callie) were born on 9th March, ten weeks early, weighing about 3lbs each, after coming through life-saving surgery in the womb.

In answer to many prayers, Max and Arlo have thrived and were allowed home on 12th April at only five weeks old, instead of at ten weeks as was expected.

Max and Arlo now weigh well over 5lbs and are contented babies who slept peacefully throughout Callie's 8th birthday party on 11th May!



## NEWS FROM THÉRÈSE AND THE NEXT STEPS GROUP



The Next Steps Group members are: Joyce Allan, Fiona Benson, Shona Forsyth, Marlene Galt, Susanne McCabe, Dorothy McTaggart, Jennifer Menzies and Thérèse Reid.

### THE SPRING HUB IN THE MEETING PLACE: TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS AT 12.30-2.30

The Meeting Place is now open as The Spring Hub on Tuesdays and Thursdays until Thursday 24th June, from 12.30 - 2.30pm.



It is advisable to book in advance, so if you'd like to come for a coffee with a friend, please contact Thérèse Reid.

**07508 213099** [therese.stonelawchurch@gmail.com](mailto:therese.stonelawchurch@gmail.com).

Unlike our regular mornings in The Meeting Place Café, the Spring Hub, which is our church's way of opening our doors once more to our community, will simply be a place where people can meet for a coffee. We will be serving tea, instant coffee and wrapped biscuits only. There will be no charge set, to avoid any cash handling, but instead, we'll have a donations box by the exit for those who wish to contribute.

**Spring Hub Team Members:** Linda Alison, Joyce Allan (*Thurs only*), Pauline Cuthbert, Mary McDougall, Adele Molloy and Thérèse Reid



### COFFEE, CRAFTS AND COMPANY ON ZOOM MONDAY 7-9PM AND THURSDAY 2-4PM

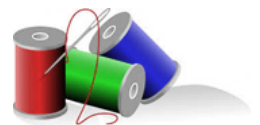


The Coffee and Crafts groups are going well and will continue till the end of June. Dorothy McTaggart, who hosts on Mondays 7-9pm and Fiona Benson, who hosts on Thursdays 2-4pm, have found that people are simply enjoying one another's company, not necessarily knitting or crafting.

So please join us, at either meeting or both; for half an hour or for two hours. Bring some craft to work on - or just come for a blether! Codes for all Zoom events are available every Saturday in the Congregational Email, or contact Dorothy or Fiona.

Dorothy McTaggart  
Fiona Benson

**07815 949 648** Email [dotmctag@msn.com](mailto:dotmctag@msn.com)  
**07980 734 182** Email [fiona.benson@sky.com](mailto:fiona.benson@sky.com)



### CHURCH RAILINGS

Next time you pass, look out for our new summer bunting on the church railings!



Thirty-one years ago, I sang in a Praise Gathering concert at the City Halls, at which an American singer/songwriter, Don Moen, was our guest. Don told us the story behind a song that he had composed: 'God Will Make a Way', which he was going to sing.



This song was written after a tragic road accident which involved his sister-in-law, her husband and their four children. Sadly, his young nephew was killed instantly, and the boy's three younger brothers were injured. Don Moen was on an aircraft travelling to the boy's funeral, reading Isaiah 43, when verse 19 seemed to jump out at him:

*'See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland'.* Isaiah 43:19 NIV

Don asked God for words to say to the family which would bring some hope. God gave him that phrase and, although the song was written during a desperate situation, it is a song of declaration. Here are some of the words of his well-known gospel song:

*God will make a way  
Where there seems to be no way  
He works in ways we cannot see  
He will make a way for me*

*He will be my guide  
Hold me closely to his side  
With love and strength for each new day  
He will make a way, he will make a way*

*By a roadway in the wilderness he'll lead me  
And rivers in the desert will I see  
Heaven and Earth will fade but his Word will still remain  
And he will do something new today*

Fast forward thirty-one years. Due to various circumstances, I thought my Praise Gathering days were over. However, God had plans and he has made a way for me to take part! We had online rehearsals last year for these two recordings:

'No Other Name': <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nf0nKpCwbv0>

'It is Well/I Exalt Thee' <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GGTjTrzPrs8> - and there are online rehearsals again this year for a virtual concert. (I will let you know when the recording is available.) It is wonderful to be able to take part again, from the comfort of my own home.

One of the songs we are now rehearsing is called, 'Way Maker', which has a similar theme to Don Moen's song. 'Way Maker' was written by Nigerian gospel star, Sinach. It is a song which reminds us that God does miracles. He will be with us in our most troubling times, supporting us and giving us the strength to face difficulties.

Here are the words of the chorus in Way Maker:

*Way maker, miracle worker, promise keeper  
Light in the darkness, my God  
That is who you are.*

*Way maker, miracle worker, promise keeper  
Light in the darkness, my God  
That is who you are.*

As we continue to come out of restrictions, let's remember those words of Isaiah:

*'I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.'*

Let us pray that, with God's help, we will find a way through the unknown future.

Many blessings to you all,

*Margaret A. Borland*

## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2021

We had a great start to Christian Aid Week on Sunday 9th May! Our morning service on Zoom focussed on Christian Aid's work in Kenya, where the lives of villagers like Florence and Rose are being transformed thanks to training and materials which allow communities to build and maintain a reliable, sustainable water source.



Christian Aid Week has now finished, but until the end of May, the 19 members of the **150k in May Challenge** team will still be going out daily to achieve their aim of walking, jogging or running 150k each - or 2,850k between us. So far, the dog-walkers among us seem to be streets ahead, but this is a shared challenge, not a competition as those of us who have school or work to go to have less time to fit in the exercise! You'll spot many familiar names among the team members: Anne and Walter Smyth, Jane, Sandy and Helen Paulsen, Julie Olekah, Janis Neil, Denise Paul, the entire Menzies family, Dorothy McTaggart, Susanne and Kiera McCabe, Jean MacKenzie, John Gordon and Cathy Doyle. By 19th May we had already raised more than in 2020 and we are enormously grateful to our generous sponsors. [www.justgiving.com/150kinMayca2021](http://www.justgiving.com/150kinMayca2021)

It's not too late to give to our Christian Aid Week appeal if you'd like to do so. You can give in any of the following ways:

- Put your donation in a Christian Aid envelope - or any envelope. One of us will pick it up from you if you give us a ring.
- Give online, to the Rutherglen Churches Christian Aid Week page: [www.justgiving.com/rutherglencaweek2021](http://www.justgiving.com/rutherglencaweek2021)
- Call Christian Aid on **020 7523 2269** to give by telephone.

Thank you, Stonelaw for all your support this year and over very many years.

*Jean MacKenzie* 647 4913 and *Jill Rennie* 569 9340  
[hjmackenzie27@btinternet.com](mailto:hjmackenzie27@btinternet.com) [jillrennie@hotmail.com](mailto:jillrennie@hotmail.com)

*The editorial team would like to thank Moira and John Shaw for suggesting this item, and Moira's sister Margaret, who lives in Canada, for sharing it with them.*

- There was a gracious lady who was mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country.  
"Is there anything breakable in here?" asked the postal clerk.  
"Only the Ten Commandments." answered the lady.
- A minister parked his car in a no-parking zone in a large city because he was short of time and couldn't find a space with a meter.  
He left a note under the windshield wiper that read: "I have circled the block 10 times. If I don't park here, I'll miss my appointment. Forgive us our trespasses."  
When he returned, he found a citation from a police officer along with this note: "I've circled this block for 10 years. If I don't give you a ticket I'll lose my job. Lead us not into temptation."
- There is the story of a pastor (*or treasurer?!*) who got up one Sunday and announced to his congregation: "I have good news and bad news. The good news is, we have enough money to pay for our new building program. The bad news is, it's still out there in your pockets."
- A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, "I know what the Bible means!"  
His father smiled and replied, "What do you mean, you 'know' what the Bible means?  
The son replied, "I do know!"  
"Okay," said his father. "What does the Bible mean?"  
"That's easy, Daddy," the young boy replied excitedly, "It stands for 'Basic Information Before Leaving Earth.' "
- A minister waited in line to have his car filled with petrol just before a long holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him.  
Finally, the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump.  
"Reverend," said the young man, "I'm so sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip."  
The minister chuckled, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business."
- One Sunday after church, a Mom asked her very young daughter what the lesson was about.  
The daughter answered, "Don't be scared, you'll get your quilt."  
Needless to say, the Mom was perplexed. Later in the day the pastor stopped by for tea and the Mom asked him what that morning's Sunday school lesson was about.  
He said "Be not afraid, thy comforter is coming."
- Most people want to be in the front of the bus, the back of the church, and the centre of attention.



During my first year as Presbytery Elder, I elected not to join one of the 14 committees until I understood a little more about what was involved. In September 2020, I attended my first Community Responsibility Committee meeting. I chose this committee as its focus is on challenging inequality and social injustice, providing a Christian perspective on social issues, establishing links with organisations like the Lodging House Mission, Church House, The Well, CrossReach, Food banks and with the social justice movement. This committee also takes an interest in interfaith and ecumenical issues.

The Committee's activities during 2020/21 have, of course, been severely affected by the pandemic. However, we have been looking forward to getting involved with the UN Climate Change Conference UK 2021 (COP26, postponed from November 2020) which is due to take place from 1 - 12 November in Glasgow. The COP26 summit will bring parties together to accelerate progress towards the goals of the Paris Agreement and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The format of COP26 is still uncertain – again because of the pandemic. Will delegates be able to travel from all over the world as had originally been planned? Or will many events be virtual, reducing the opportunities for bonds to be formed and friendships established with like-minded people from other countries?

But perhaps you are asking a different question. How is this Glasgow Presbytery committee going to be involved in COP26? Here are a few possibilities:

- Street Pastors are keen to work with us to provide support for delegates throughout the COP26 period. Volunteers will be recruited nearer the time and training will be provided.
- Various worship events for the visiting delegates are planned, mostly on or around Sunday 7 November. Some will be 'official'; others more informal. There will be a strong emphasis on youth events.
- Discussions are already taking place around the development of legacy and transformation plans, such as tree planting, facilitated by Woodlands Trust Scotland.

So, what does this mean for us in Stonelaw?

I think that, because God gave us this wonderful world, it is our duty to take care of it. Climate change affects us all – and will affect future generations even more.

In the coming months I aim to keep you up to date with developments relating to the Church of Scotland's involvement with COP26. If you have a heart to be involved on behalf of Stonelaw, please get in touch with me.

*Janis Neil*

[Jneil1@virginmedia.com](mailto:Jneil1@virginmedia.com), 0141 634 1901

The Well Multi-Cultural Resource Centre's fantastic team of volunteers has reduced significantly in the last year, for reasons such as health concerns and new employment. As a result, they are appealing to churches like Stonelaw to ask if anyone is interested in becoming a volunteer Advice Worker. Could this be you?  
Please get in touch with The Well if you would like to find out more. **0141 424 4523**.

# THE WELL MULTI-CULTURAL RESOURCE CENTRE



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you want to use your skills to make a difference to disadvantaged ethnic minority communities in Glasgow?

Do you have a free morning or afternoon you could commit to voluntary work each week?

We are looking for volunteer Advice Workers. Training will be provided.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Essentials: good communication skills, confident in completing online processes, compassion, patience!

Desirables: customer-facing experience, some knowledge of the welfare system, cross-cultural experience, able to 'hit the ground running'.

Interested? Email: [info@thewell.org.uk](mailto:info@thewell.org.uk)  
The Well, 42-44 Albert Road, Glasgow, G42 8DN  
[www.thewell.org.uk](http://www.thewell.org.uk)  
Registered as a Scottish Charity Number: SC042300



## LETTER FROM THE TREASURER

Dear Friends

Those familiar with recent Treasurer's Reports will notice the reappearance of a table. There is always a tension between pleasing those who want to see a full picture and those who would rather not look at a table full of numbers.

My aim here is to include a bit of both, to try and keep as many people as possible happy.

The table below shows that over the four months to 30 April 2021, income into the General Fund exceeded expenditure by £3,528. This is, however, £1,649 behind budget. The two key things creating this variance are costs incurred in 2020 which were invoiced in 2021 (which you can see in the Staffing Costs line) and expenditure to prepare the former Manse for sale (which you can see in the Repairs and Maintenance line). These are offset by lower-than-expected costs in other areas and by donations being ahead of budget.

As a result, we appear in general to be on track to achieve a surplus which cancels out last year's deficit. This is very encouraging news. However, there are two words of caution I would like to urge. Firstly, we can do this mainly because our Ministry and Mission Allocation from the Church of Scotland has been significantly reduced this year, with no guarantee that it will remain so low in following years. Secondly, this is obviously only April. We are on track, but have not yet reached our destination. We will need to continue to monitor our finances closely.

I would, however, like to pass on my thanks (and those of the Kirk Session) to everyone in the congregation who has contributed towards the General Fund in the last fifteen months - especially those who have embraced new ways of giving their offering. I am always amazed and humbled at the collective response of the congregation.

I would also like to thank, and make the congregation aware of, those who donated to the Church in memory of Jean McIntosh, a long-standing member who passed away in March. At the suggestion of a good friend of hers, several people donated funds towards a new dishwasher in Jean's memory. By the end of April £400 had been received.

Finally, as you will no doubt be aware, the former Manse at 80 Blairbeth Road was sold recently and replaced by a more manageable property. While this has resulted in the Church having increased reserves to address Fabric matters, the unfortunate news is that there are several Fabric matters to be addressed. It is tempting to treat any good news as an opportunity to monitor our finances a bit less closely, but the utmost care will still need to be taken to ensure that the General and Fabric funds are used wisely.

Best wishes,

*Euan Campbell*, Church Treasurer 07413 580 103 [treasurer@stonelawchurch.org](mailto:treasurer@stonelawchurch.org)

## NEWS FROM STONELAW'S YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

### 131ST COMPANY BOYS' BRIGADE

We are, hopefully, coming out of the worry and chaos of Covid-19. My association with our BB has been relatively recent, but others within the organisation who have been members for decades, regard the virus as the greatest challenge the BB has faced since WW2. That challenge has been met with robust effort and determination not to become disconnected from our young people.



Before the BB HQ set up their support scheme "BB at Home", the 131 leaders prepared home programs on a three-week cycle. Each week consisted of two and a half hour activities for the boys and their families.

Later, we made use of "BB at Home" to augment our own efforts and the boys learned astronomy, simple physics, word meanings, geography and basic practical science. They did not realise they were learning - to them it was all fun. We also suggested active games with balls, buckets and balloons for the children to play at home with their families. The support and feedback provided by our 131st BBs WhatsApp group chat was encouraging both for our leaders and the families.

Our term is now finished, and we haven't met face to face since March 2020. However, I have seen some of our lads when out and about, and they are growing taller! If possible, we will arrange to meet outdoors during the summer break and possibly have a game of 5-a-side football.

The new term may bring challenges in encouraging the boys who came previously to return and in enlisting new recruits, but our enthusiasm and spirit will prevail.

The adventure begins here!

*Walter Smyth* Lt. 131 Company Boys Brigade Rutherglen

### 2ND RUTHERGLEN BROWNIES

2nd Rutherglen Brownies met for the first time on 6th May after 6 months apart. We had a great evening, with the girls making pictures from items they found in the garden and creating bird feeders from Cheerios and pipe cleaners. Next week we look forward to welcoming four new Brownies from our waiting list.

In line with current Girlguiding advice, we are meeting outdoors until we finish for the term in June. We are once again in a temporary location at the Guide Hall in Clincarthill and have moved to a Thursday evening to accommodate other groups who have now restarted.



We hope that when we start the new year in September, we will be allowed to meet indoors and that Stonelaw Church will be able to accommodate us once again, at our usual time, on a Friday evening from 6.15 to 7.30pm.

*Diane Wilson*, 2nd Rutherglen Brownie Leader

## LODGING HOUSE MISSION UPDATE



*Deacon Claire Herbert*

Dear Friends

We are delighted to announce that we have a newly appointed Day Centre Manager, June McLeod, who will start next month. We ask for prayers for June and all of the team at LHM as we begin this new chapter together.

Angela, our support worker, has recovered from Covid-19 and is able to resume her one-to-one appointments with clients. Meanwhile we continue to offer our Chaplaincy phone line (07864 705 668) for wellbeing, prayer, and bereavement conversations.

We give thanks to the small team of volunteers and staff who continue to offer support to those most in need, through emergency food parcels, toiletries and second chance clothing. The team have also been busy giving the main hall a lick of paint for the season ahead.

If your congregation would like advice, support or emergency assistance for someone in your parish, please do get in touch with the team at Lodging House Mission.

[Enquiries@lhm-glasgow.org.uk](mailto:Enquiries@lhm-glasgow.org.uk) or call the Chaplain 07864 705 668.

We ask for prayer as we go forward,

- for all of our clients, in limbo, currently housed in temporary accommodation awaiting their forever home
- for our partner agencies, as services resume and staff return to the front lines
- for congregations and businesses whose ongoing support makes possible the many services we provide
- for our new manager, June, the staff team, volunteers and board as we learn to work together

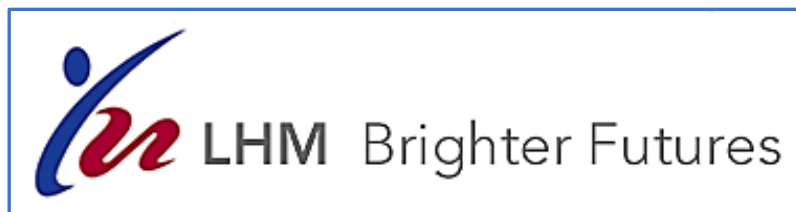
*'May God bless you as you have blessed the least of these brothers and sisters of Christ.'*

Matthew 25:40

*Deacon Claire Herbert* Chaplain, Lodging House Mission

*If you would like to support LHM's work, you can send a cheque to*

**Lodging House Mission, 35 East Campbell St Glasgow G1 5GT**, or to give online, go to [www.lhm-glasgow.org.uk](http://www.lhm-glasgow.org.uk).



## THANK YOU FROM CAMBUSLANG AND RUTHERGLEN REACHOUT TRUST

Please see below an extract from a letter sent to the Church Treasurer from the Reachout Trust, which arrived just too late for the April & May magazine, having been delayed by Covid-19 issues.



**“Slightly belatedly, I am writing to thank Stonelaw Church for the generous donation of £1500 towards the work of Reachout, which was credited to our account on 30th December 2020. It was a very generous gift, and I would ask you to convey our gratitude to the Kirk Session and to the congregation for their support.”**

*Yours sincerely,*

*Alan S. Thomson*, Chair of Management Committee

*Some news, an appeal for prayer and an invitation from Ross and Alison:*

Now that we are back at work after months on furlough, we are busy trying to see what Reachout can and can't do with regard to school projects. Please pray that we can get into local schools and have face-to-face contact with children and young people.

Reachout will shortly be issuing a prayer letter as well as an invitation to supporters to our Prayer Breakfast, which is to be held on Saturday June 19th 2021, at 08:30 am via Zoom.

Best wishes,

*Ross Murray, Alison Kennedy and Greg Senior*

### **Contacting Cambuslang and Rutherglen Reachout Trust:**

Cambuslang Parish Church, 1 Arnott Way, Cambuslang G72 7JQ Tel 07837 193028

Email [greg.crrt@outlook.com](mailto:greg.crrt@outlook.com) Website: <https://crrt.org.uk/>

## RUTHERGLEN AND CAMBUSLANG FOODBANK

### **What is the Foodbank short of just now?**

Tins of fish, fruit, rice pudding and custard; sugar, coffee, diluting juice and jam; washing up liquid, toilet rolls, men's deodorant, toothpaste and soap.

**We do not need:** pasta, tins of baked beans, soup or tomatoes.

Our local foodbanks are open as follows:

**St Columbkille's Church, Rutherglen** Mondays & Thursdays, 12.30pm - 2.30pm

**The Baptist Church, Cambuslang** Fridays, 12.30pm - 2.30pm.



If you need food, please come along to either Centre. If you can bring a Red Voucher please do, but if you cannot bring one, please come anyway; we will help you.

Donations are always welcome and can be handed in at our permanent collection points at **Morrison's** in Cambuslang, or on Rutherglen Main Street, at **The Co-operative**, **Nationwide Building Society** and **Laurie Ross Insurance**. **Boots** on Rutherglen Main Street collects toiletries for the Foodbank. During the months of July and September, there will also be a permanent collection point at **Tesco** in Dalmarnock.

Thanking you for all your support,

*Katharina Nimmo*, Manager, Cambuslang and Rutherglen Foodbank

Mobile: **07393737030**

Email: [info@rutherglencambuslang.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@rutherglencambuslang.foodbank.org.uk)

## CARING FOR CREATION: RECYCLING TIPS FOR RUGLONIANS



*Not everyone has the chance, or even the time, to check the South Lanarkshire Council website for what to put in which bin, so here's a reminder about what is arguably the trickiest one: the grey bin!*



*It will not be news that our light grey bins are for recycling glass, metals and plastics, but do you know which types South Lanarkshire Council can and cannot deal with?*

### WHICH TYPES OF GLASS?

**ACCEPTED:** Rinsed bottles and jars from food and drink packaging (including plastic and metal tops, but please keep the lids off)

**NOT ACCEPTED:** Ceramic items such as plates and plant pots, plate glass (from windows), drinking glasses, light bulbs, Pyrex dishes, mirrors

### WHICH TYPES OF METALS?

**ACCEPTED:** Tins and cans from food and drink packaging, aerosols for personal use (e.g. deodorant, hairspray), all clean aluminium foil (But to simplify the processing of small things, like sweet wrappers, please wait till there's enough to be scrunched up into a ball.)

**NOT ACCEPTED:** Metal furniture, cutlery, small electrical appliances, electrical cables, batteries, food or drink pouches, paint tins, gas bottles and canisters, coat hangers

### WHICH TYPES OF PLASTICS?

**ACCEPTED:** Bottles and caps (please remove from bottle) from food and drink products, shampoo, conditioner, shower gel and soap bottles, cleaning products, beauty products, food and drink pots, tubs and trays (including black trays – but please wash, to ensure no food waste remains).

**NOT ACCEPTED:** Plastic bags and films (shopping bags\*, bread bags\*, cling films), bubble wrap, cartridges (ink for example), polystyrene, wrappers such as crisp wrappers or biscuit wrappers, plastic nettings, toothpaste tubes, drinks and food cartons (Tetrapak type) synthetic corks, hard plastics such as CD cases, plastic coat hangers and plant pots, garden furniture, children's toys. \*These can usually be recycled at larger supermarkets.

To find this information on the South Lanarkshire Council website, go to <https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/>, **Bin Collections**, then **Bins and Recycling**.



*Do you have suggestions for what we should cover in **Recycling for Ruglonians**? Please email us at [magazine@stonelawchurch.org](mailto:magazine@stonelawchurch.org) or phone Jean on 0141 647 4913.*



## INFORMATION FROM PREVIOUS ISSUES OF THE MAGAZINE

### STONELAW CHURCH PRAYER CHAIN

Do you have a prayer request, **or** would you like to pray for others in the congregation, in our local community and beyond? Why not sign up for our Prayer Chain?

Please contact John Shaw on 07885 508130, or email [prayerchain@stonelawchurch.org](mailto:prayerchain@stonelawchurch.org)

### HAVE YOU MISSED A SUNDAY SERVICE?

You can catch up with any service, on Zoom or once we are back in church, by listening to the audio recording on our website, at [www.stonelawchurch.org/service-recordings](http://www.stonelawchurch.org/service-recordings). Recordings are normally available at any time after 2.30pm on the day of the service.

If you think there are any inaccuracies or omissions on the website, please get in touch by emailing: [info@stonelawchurch.org](mailto:info@stonelawchurch.org)

### HOW TO GIVE TO STONELAW CHURCH

You can contact the Church Treasurer, Euan Campbell, on **07413 580 103** or by email at [treasurer@stonelawchurch.org](mailto:treasurer@stonelawchurch.org)

#### STANDING ORDER/ ONLINE BANKING

Either a one-off payment or a standing order can be set up using online banking.

Our bank details are as follows:

**Account:** Stonelaw Parish Church, **Account Number:** 00465105, **Sort Code:** 80-12-75.

If you wish to set up a standing order but do not have access to internet banking, a Standing Order Form (to send to your bank) can be found on our website at:

<http://stonelawchurch.org/giving> or contact Euan Campbell (see page 26) to ask for one. If you are thinking of setting up a standing order, then please remember you are free to cancel this at any time.

#### POSTING A CHEQUE

We are also able to accept donations by cheque. These should be made out to Stonelaw Parish Church and posted to our **Free Will Offering Treasurer:** Iain Morrison, Flat G/L, 5 Parkhill Drive, Rutherglen, G73 2PJ

#### TEXT DONATION SERVICE

We have set up a text donation service to allow donations by text for those who are not able to use online banking or cheques. To use this service, text **STONELAWCH** followed by the number of pounds you wish to donate to **70085**. E.g. **STONELAWCH 5** to donate £5. If you are thinking of using this service, then please remember that we will not keep a record of your phone number or use it to contact you for any reason.

#### GIFT AID

If you are a UK taxpayer, donating to the church through the Gift Aid scheme means that we are able to claim back 25 pence for every £1 that you give – at no extra cost to you. If you would like to give using the Gift Aid scheme, you will need to complete a declaration form (also available on <http://stonelawchurch.org/giving>) which should be completed and returned to Iain Morrison, as Freewill Offering Treasurer, at the above address.

## HOW TO JOIN ZOOM LIVE BY PHONE, AT THE LOCAL RATE



If you would like to join our Zoom Sunday Service at 10.30am, or the Wednesday Prayer Meeting at 7.30pm, **live by phone**, please ask anyone who sees the Saturday emails for the specific Zoom Meeting ID and Passcode. *(See page 26 for Contact Information.)*

Five minutes before the start time, dial 0131 460 1196. You will be asked to enter the specific Meeting ID and then the Passcode for that Zoom meeting.

## LISTEN TO A RECORDING OF OUR ZOOM SUNDAY SERVICE BY PHONE

Alternatively, you can listen to the **audio recording** of the Sunday Service from 2.30pm onwards each Sunday, or during the week, on 0141 465 4368. Before the recording is played, you will hear the Stonelaw news that was sent out in the previous Saturday's congregational email. *(For more details, see page 24)*

## JOIN A HOUSE GROUP LIVE BY PHONE ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

Call Jennifer Menzies for the 10.30am group and Dorothy McTaggart for the 7.30pm group. See the foot of this page for their phone numbers.

## WORSHIP ONLINE ON ZOOM

To use Zoom, you need a computer, iPad/tablet or smartphone. Download the app and choose Join Meeting. You need a specific Meeting ID and Passcode to log in. These are shared each week in the Saturday Congregational Email. To sign up, please email [info@stonelawchurch.org](mailto:info@stonelawchurch.org)

It's always easier if you try to log into Zoom about ten minutes early. If you have trouble accessing a Stonelaw event on Zoom, please call Janis Neil on **0141 634 1901**.

## SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE ON ZOOM AT 10.30AM

During the sermon there are Breakout Rooms for Discoverers (children up to P7 and their leaders) and for Connect2 (young people from S1 upwards). In addition, after the service, everyone is invited to join Breakout Rooms for a time of fellowship.

## PRAYER MEETINGS ON ZOOM 7.30PM

Every Wednesday 7.30-8pm, with a short time for fellowship afterwards.

## GRACE AND TRUTH BIBLE STUDY ON ZOOM EVERY FRIDAY AT 5.30-7PM

Are you young, or young at heart? Let us study the Bible together!  
Led by Mada and Mirriam Chikumbanje. Contact Mada on [madalitsochikumbanje@gmail.com](mailto:madalitsochikumbanje@gmail.com) **07789 619 349**

## HOUSE GROUPS ON ZOOM ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

For House Group meetings over the summer, please contact Jennifer or Dorothy.

To find out the Meeting ID and Passcode, call  
Jennifer Menzies on **07974 793 235** to join the **10.30am** group  
Dorothy McTaggart on **07815 949 648**, to join the **7.30pm** group.

## CATCH UP HERE ON THE SATURDAY CONGREGATIONAL EMAILS

We include here, **in reverse date order**, content from the Saturday Congregational Emails which has not already been mentioned elsewhere in this magazine.

If you would like to receive the emails directly, please contact [info@stonelawchurch.org](mailto:info@stonelawchurch.org)

### WEEKLY NEWS CONTENT NOW AVAILABLE BY TELEPHONE

Instead of waiting several weeks to catch up on Stonelaw news in the magazine, you can now listen each week on **0141 465 4368** to Saturday's news from the email. Just call the number any time from 2.30 pm on a Sunday afternoon or during the week. These calls are charged at the local rate.



You will hear a familiar voice welcoming you and reading out the previous day's news, and then you can listen to the recording of that Sunday's morning service.

## CONGREGATIONAL EMAIL 8TH MAY 2021

Dear Friends

On Tuesday our Session made further preparations for the arrival of our new minister, Rev Neil Watson. The new manse is being decorated, the Induction service arranged for Thursday 3rd June but unfortunately there can be no Social afterwards. We also considered opening the church on Sunday mornings and concluded that this needs the involvement of our new minister so we will not decide this until after Rev Watson joins us. I'm sorry that will disappoint some, but we are going to continue the Wednesday 2pm services until June 2nd.

As part of this discussion we again realised the importance of our Worship Team and again thanked them for all they have been doing to bring us weekly worship on Zoom for so many months. Such dedication comes at a cost to them in terms of time, effort and spiritual wellbeing, as there are only a few involved.

I've recently been drawn to 1st Corinthians chapter 12 which closes with a list of the roles God appointed for the early church. At a time when there was no New Testament or large church buildings the emphasis was on communicating the Good News by word and deed, and these remain our priorities. Yet in these Covid 19 days we've learned how to do this digitally, via Zoom on Sundays. We've been blessed by having a few who were willing and able to take on this task and I'm sure the congregation would want me to publicly thank them for all their efforts. But they are few in number, and the Kirk Session decided we needed to appeal to the congregation for help in this area. It is right that the congregation can expect both elders and managers to work harder during a vacancy, and they certainly have, but it is also right that the whole "body of Christ" is asked to help.

So could I please ask all the congregation to consider "doing your bit" for the church on Sunday mornings? This would involve being part of a larger rota, who would first of all be trained to do what Joanne usually does in managing our Zoom services. After we open the sanctuary on Sundays, perhaps in June, you would need to be there for 10am when it was your turn. Alan would be nearby to look after the musical and technical side of things and you would look after Zoom for those not able to be in church.

Ideally you will have good basic computer skills and a calm temperament for the odd moment when things might not go strictly according to plan. Your church needs you!

Please contact Alan [alanjenkins248@gmail.com](mailto:alanjenkins248@gmail.com), 07970 642377, Janis [jneil1@virginmedia.com](mailto:jneil1@virginmedia.com) 0141 634 1901 or me for more information.

*David McTaggart*, Session Clerk [sessionclerk@stonelawchurch.org](mailto:sessionclerk@stonelawchurch.org) or call 07825 137 168

## CONGREGATIONAL EMAIL 1ST MAY 2021

Dear Friends

So, we have a new minister designate! The Rev Neil Watson will be coming to Stonelaw in a few weeks, ending our vacancy which began on the 25th February 2020. During our vacancy we've coped with Covid, moved worship online, sold our former manse and bought a replacement. As I said a few weeks ago, a great team effort. The passage I referred to then was 1st Corinthians chapter 12 which has more to say about the church as the body of Christ v27.

Firstly, every member of the church shares the same identity, as children of God, born of the same Spirit v12 & 13. Yet we are not identical, just as the foot is different from the hand or eye v14 - 20. There are two mistakes Christians can make here. The first is to think of ourselves as not good or important enough to be part of the local church, and withdraw from active fellowship and service with fellow Christians. Yet this would impair the local church, just as losing the use of one of our hands or eyes would affect us. The second mistake is almost the opposite, when one part of the body of Christ thinks too much of itself and declares that it doesn't need others. As v21 says "The head cannot say to the feet 'I don't need you!' The Bible teaches that who we are, children of God, is always more important than what we are, by the Spirit's gifting. This doctrine lifts up the head of the meek while humbling the more gifted.

"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it" v27. So we look forward to the arrival of our new minister whom God has gifted and called to take his place and part in the body of Christ here at Stonelaw Church.

*David McTaggart*, Session Clerk  
([sessionclerk@stonelawchurch.org](mailto:sessionclerk@stonelawchurch.org) or call 07825 137 168)

## MAGAZINE CALENDAR 2021

Month(s)	Deadline for submissions	Issue Date
September & October 2021	<b>15th August 2021</b>	5th September
November 2021	<b>17th October 2021</b>	7th November
December 2021 & January 2022	<b>14th November 2021</b>	5th December

### CHURCH MAGAZINE EDITORIAL TEAM

Jean MacKenzie **647 4913**, Margaret Borland **647 5280**, Vetinia Gorman **07799 645 114**, and Derek Westwood **01292 286 923**.

Many thanks to Sandy and Jane Paulsen for printing this issue of the magazine, and to Isobel Wilson and other volunteers for distributing it.

Contributions and suggestions for the magazine are always welcome, by email to [magazine@stonelawchurch.org](mailto:magazine@stonelawchurch.org), by phone or by post to 21 Park Drive, G73 2QG.

**PLEASE EMAIL ITEMS FOR THE SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER MAGAZINE  
TO [MAGAZINE@STONELAWCHURCH.ORG](mailto:MAGAZINE@STONELAWCHURCH.ORG) BY SUNDAY 15TH AUGUST**