



UDDINGSTON OLD PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Charity Number SC016893



MAGAZINE

December 2018



Pastoral Letter

And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn (Luke 2 v7)

Dear Friends,

I don't know about you but it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas everywhere you go. Retail shops have been window dressing for Christmas since the end of October. Some homes have been putting up their Christmas trees since November, and then the chaos of Christmas shopping takes place in December. Are we losing sight of what this festive season is about? Are we in danger of losing the Christian message amongst the hustle and bustle of this season: to share the message that God was born amongst us to proclaim a new way of living, of freedom, of liberation and justice for all..

There are many of us who feel that we are caught up in this world of commercialism, secularisation, of loneliness and depression. The pressure to create the perfect Christmas, where families come and sit around the table, sharing stories, eating together, where disappointments, arguments and resentment are left at the front door. Where the table is set, the feast is bountiful and everyone is filled with gladness and joy. For others it is the complete opposite. There is a sense of sadness, isolation, fearfulness and loneliness. Empty chairs, familiar faces no longer around ... the rising cost of gift giving, or whether a gift will be under the tree for your child rising in the morning. The fear of the tension that rises, followed by the punch of a fist or verbal attacks..

Yet the real Christmas story is much closer to family life than the commercials: real people struggling with enormous challenges, supporting each other through enormous difficulties. It's not an easy time for people and it wasn't an easy time for the Holy Family either. Joseph and Mary made the arduous journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Their son was born in less than perfect circumstances. No midwife, no home, no cradle, only a dusty stable in a foreign town. Yet even amongst all of that chaos Mary was filled with Joy. To them and to us their perfect Christmas came in the shape of the Christ child a fact which is sometimes lost in our world of turkey and tinsel.

So maybe now is the time to change, to stand up for the Christ child and reclaim the Christmas season from the hands of commercialism. Let's figure out what puts pressure on us and change that situation for our own well-being and the well-being of others. Let's take the pressure away from us all and maybe we can find a way to maintain the surprise and delight of Christmas and embrace a less than perfect Christmas just like Mary and Joseph did on that first Christmas night.

May I on behalf of the Manse family take this opportunity to wish you all a blessed Christmas and a peaceful New Year

Rev Fiona, Eddie and Adam xx

Reverend Fiona McKibbin

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Next Issue

Articles to the editors by
**Thursday 24th January
2019**

Available

Sunday 3rd February 2019

We are always happy to receive articles for inclusion in your magazine.

Submissions can be sent direct to the editors or placed in the "dookit" in the church

or

by e-mail to

magazine@uddingstonold.org

or

on paper.

Church Roll Intimations

Baptisms



Sunday 4th November 2018

**Michaela Farquar
and
Darren Murphy
and
Michael John James Murphy**
Son of Darren & Michaela

Deaths

At this sad time our prayers and condolences
are with the family of

Mrs Marianne Boyd

Date of Death: 21st November 2018

Membership Changes

We welcome
**Mr Stephen Mitchell
and
Mrs Elizabeth Montgomery**
who have been admitted by
Resolution of the Kirk Session

Duty Roster

Morning Service at 11am
Evening Services at 6.30pm
Front Door teams for the next month:

December	9th	Pamela Aitken
	16th	Janette Moore
	23rd	Margaret Abercrombie
	30th	Margaret Ballantyne
January	6th	Billy Ballantyne
	13th	Carol Frame
	20th	Margaret Clark
	27th	James Caskie
February	3rd	Mary Fox

If you are in one of the above teams, please bear in
mind that you should try to arrange for a
substitute if you can't make it.

Tea & Coffee is served every week in the Large Hall
after the Morning Service

The Social Committee will serve on
Sunday December 9th

The Session will serve on
Sunday December 23rd

The Guides will serve on
Sunday January 27th

Parish Funerals conducted by Rev. Fiona McKibbin

At this sad time our prayers and condolences
are with the families

of
Mr Ian McRoberts
Date of Death: 9th November 2018

and
Mr Stewart Donald
Date of Death: 12th November 2018

After Service Teas

The total raised to the end of November for
'St Andrew's Hospice Capital Fund' is
£ 1745.62

Thanks to everyone who attends and contributes and
enjoys the fellowship after the Morning & Evening
Services.

Harvest Appeal and Retiring Offering

Many thanks to all who contributed to our Harvest
Appeal and to the retiring collection after
communion on 7th October. The total amount raised
was £1323.85 and this has been forwarded to
Christian Aid specifically for their appeal to supply
aid following the tsunami in Indonesia.

Thank You

Bob and Isobel Read and family wish to thank all
who attended the services, sent cards, letters and
flowers following the recent loss of Abigail. The
support of so many friends is of great comfort
to us all.

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who supported The Scottish
Poppy Appeal 2018 the amount raised by Uddingston
Old Parish this year was £115.60,
our highest total to date

Christmas Brunch

Saturday 8th December
11am - 2pm
Come and view the
Christmas Windows



Uddingston Pride Update

At the station, the new Memorial window has been installed and a service of dedication held, led by Rev Bruce McDowall. This window commemorates some of the men from the Uddingston area who were killed in combat during the First World War, and gives a brief and poignant description of their lives, and where and when they fell. Bobby Keys played a lament on his bagpipes, which added greatly to the occasion. The Masonic Lodge largely funded the window, and prepared the text, and the members of Uddingston Pride were pleased to arrange its production and installation. The finished window is an attractive and appropriate addition to the station building, and we encourage you all to visit the station and view the new window.

At the Community Centre in Bellshill Road, the Council Community Payback Team have removed the ugly old brick planters and replaced them with attractive wooden ones, and Uddingston Pride were happy to plant them out with Spring bulbs, which were funded by the Management of the Centre. Hopefully there will be an attractive display next Spring to welcome visitors to the Centre.

At time of writing, we don't know how the Christmas Open Day will go, so we are presently keeping our fingers crossed for fair weather, and hoping the day will be its usual success, and enjoyed by all.

Sandy Robertson

YEAR OF YOUNG PEOPLE 2018

Results of YOYP Art Competition

'ME' - (7 and under)
Zach McDermott

'SCOTLAND' - (8 to 12years)
Lucy McKinnon

'2018' - (13 years and over)
Robyn Coleman

Thanks to all who took the time to visit our Exhibition and vote for their favourites.



A Totem celebrating YOYP will be on display in church with the Christmas Trees this year.

Styles of Totem Poles are as varied as all the cultures that create them, ours is of heraldic design, this type would have been placed outside the clan house to protect the village. The most important representations are placed low down on the pole, bearing the weight of all the other figures and iconography. The totem would also be used as a storytelling device for children and open to interpretation by all ages.

Hopefully our Totem will mimic the traditional, with names and images and events our young people have been involved in, during 2018, in the Village and beyond.

There will an opportunity for some interaction or alternatively just come and see.

Liz Lyttle

The Three Candles

When the Christmas-tide drew nigh,
On a shelf three candles bright,
Two were red and one was white,
Waited for who came to buy.

Said the first one, "I shall be
Chosen for a Christmas-tree!"
Said the second, "I shall light
Christ Jesus on His way to-night!"
Then the third one sighed, "Ah me,
I know not what my lot will be!"

When the dark fell, bright and gay
The first candle burned away,
Red as all the berries red
On the holly overhead,
While the children in their glee
Danced around the Christmas-tree.

And the second, twinkling bright,
Poured forth all its golden light
Through a window decked with
green
Garlands and red ribbons' sheen,
So the Christ-child when He came
Might be guided by its flame.

But the third one in the gloom
Of a bare and cheerless room
Softly burned where long had lain
A poor little child in pain,
And the baby in its bed
By the light was comforted.

When the Christ-child passed that
night
All three candles gave Him light,
But the brightest was the spark
By the baby in the dark.

By Evaleen Stein



All Things Scottish Quiz

How well do you know Scotland - it's History, Culture and People? Test your Knowledge with this Quiz which is based on Scottish Place Names Famous People, History, Food, Inventions, Words & Phrases.



1. William Shakespeare was guilty of destroying the reputation of this Scottish King who in reality was a wise and generous king who ruled over Scotland for 17 years. Who was the King?

Answer:

2. Who was the English Knight who rode against Robert the Bruce on the eve of the Battle of Bannockburn?

Answer:

3. What is the English meaning of these Scots words?

a) gowpin b) inkling c) hirple d) wheest

b) Answer:

4. He was born in 1671 and farmed at Balquidder. He was declared bankrupt after unwise financial speculation and became an outlaw to gain revenge. Who was he?

Answer:

5. In the 1870's the Stewart Fountain was erected in Kelvingrove Park. What did it commemorate?

Answer:

6. When was Holyrood Abbey built and by whom?

Answer:

7. What are the Five Sisters of Kintail?

Answer:



8. What are the main ingredients that are used in the cooking of the dish known as 'Rob Roy's Pleasure'?

Answer:

9. Who was the famous Scottish writer whose birthplace and burial place was Ecclefechan?

Answer:

10. When and in what church did John Knox preach his famous sermon which began the Reformation in Scotland and caused 2 days of rioting?

Answer:

11. Which famous monument stands at Spean Bridge?

Answer:

12. What was set up in 1965 under the Chairmanship of Professor Sir Robert Grieve, in an effort to create work north of the Highland Line?

Answer:

(Answers in February magazine)
(Thanks to MK for this)



Christmas Time

Yes, Christmas is the time,
Where little boys and girls.
Will finally receive,
Long sought for special toys.

A time when mums,
Bake cakes and pies.
When folks will gather,
Of renewing family ties.

And ones who rarely smile,
Have grins upon their face.
Those who always hurry by,
Have greetings in their place,

They don't even comprehend,
They say, "tis the season,"
Go on their merry way,
And never know the reason.

I wonder why that is,
Why all that "peace on earth"
It started in a stable,
With a virgin giving birth.

It's a love I can't explain,
I will not even try.
That God would send his son,
Born - just to die.

But isn't it ironical,
though Him no honour pay,
The world spends its millions
To celebrate His day!

Larry D Crawford

Christmas Appeal

The Teen Zone in conjunction with the Girls' Brigade are collecting the following items which they will wrap into presents and take them to the Glasgow Lodging House Mission so that homeless and vulnerable people can have a present to open at Christmas. Your donations will be very welcome.

They require the following items:

Male & Female - Shower Gel, Shampoo,
Deodorant, Hand/Body Lotion,
Toothpaste & Toothbrush, Soap

Bars of Chocolate / Bags of sweets

Hats, Gloves, scarves and underwear for
both/either sexes

Please put your donations in the buckets at the
front of the church.

Any questions please contact Liz Vasey



United Men's Fellowship

Monday 29th October

President John Caldwell welcomed members introduced Helen Morrison our speaker for the evening.

Helen's topic was the Battles & Dramas of "The Covenant." As a general introduction Helen outlined the principles of the Scottish Covenanters "Freedom of Conscience, Religious Liberty, For the Word of God and the Crown of Jesus Christ."

The Covenanters were stoned, tortured, left destitute, or hung among many other evil treatments. The first blow leading to the Scottish Reformation was struck by Jenny Geddes in 1637. Charles 2nd introduced Episcopacy at St Giles Church in Edinburgh leading to the Great National Covenant of 1658, signed by Nobles, Lords, Citizens and Peasants throughout Scotland. In the years following many outdoor Conventicles were held particularly in Lanarkshire and Ayrshire. In an effort to combat these, many battles took place including the Battles of Pentlands (Nov 1666), Drumclog (June 1679) and later in the same month Bothwell Bridge. The Covenanters were soundly beaten at Bothwell by a much superior army and some 1200 prisoners were taken and imprisoned at Greyfriars Church, Edinburgh. Eventually only 260 were left for deportation to American plantations. Unfortunately most of these men perished when their ship foundered near the Orkney Islands. Helen gave a fascinating and well researched insight into this period of Scottish History.

The vote of thanks was given by Jim Rhind.

Monday 5th November

President John Caldwell welcomed members and introduced Robin Easton from Glasgow Street Pastors, tonight's speaker.

Robin gave a general insight into the Street Pastors work and explained that the Street Pastors operate throughout Scotland and not just in Glasgow. Currently there are 23 active groups (all volunteers) working in Scotland from Stornoway to the Borders and many places in between. Members can range in age from early twenties through to late eighties and come from many different church backgrounds.

Robin was keen to emphasise that they do not "preach" religion but provide a "caring" environment for those they encounter. The Glasgow group to which Robin belongs has approximately 150 members and operates on Friday and Saturday evenings from 10 pm to 4 am mainly in the city centre around Sauchiehall Street, the Merchant City and the West End. They deal with rough sleepers, drug users, homeless people and drunks among others and in close co-operation with the police and other emergency services.

Operating from their base at St George's Tron they provide a range of care including clothing, food, hot drinks and basic first aid to a wide range of people. There is also a "Safe Place" based at St George's Tron where people can be cared for. Robin also showed a short film of the Street Pastors in action on a typical evening around Sauchiehall Street.

Craig Mains gave the vote of thanks.

Monday 12th November

President John Caldwell welcomed members and our guest speaker David Atkins.

David's topic was "Moscow to St Petersburg." He explained this was a river cruise he had undertaken aboard the cruise ship "Viking Ingvar," along the "Waterways of the Tsars." Starting in Moscow David had paid visits to Red Square, the Kremlin including the famous Changing of the Guard. Other visits included the State University, Cosmonauts Museum and the Ballet. The cruise went along the Moscow Canal, the River Volga and the Sver River, stopping off at various places en route. Among these was the town of Uglich and the "Cathedral of Transfiguration" with its beautiful icons and frescos. Accompanied by an excellent slide show David illustrated the many beautiful sights and sounds of Russia. In St Petersburg there are many attractive buildings not least the Winter Palace and Hermitage which is a treasury of international significance and houses the collections of the Tsarina Catherine II. Also to be seen is St Isaac's one of the largest domed buildings in the world. Its domed gold cupola can be seen all over St Petersburg. The main street is over 2 miles long and features many "expensive" well known shops and restaurants. David had attended a production of Swan Lake and paid a visit to the Peter & Paul Fortress founded by Peter the Great in 1707 and not completed until 1740. On the final evening of the cruise the entertainment was provided by a Cossack Song and Dance Group.

The vote of thanks was given by Bobby Keys.

Monday 26th November

President John Caldwell welcomed members and Heather Kerr our guest for the evening whose topic tonight was "The Arctic & Polar Bears."

Heather explained this was a special trip undertaken by her husband and self to celebrate their Silver Wedding in July 2013. Just getting there was major undertaking involving flights from Edinburgh to London then Oslo and finally Svalbard Island which is situated in the Arctic Ocean halfway between Oslo and the North Pole. The trip was not the usual "tourist" cruise but was aimed at keen wildlife photographers and was more of an expedition. They set sail onboard the "Basilov" a former Russian scientific research vessel carrying up to 1000 passengers. The ship set sail northwards looking for pack ice, a favourite haunt of polar bears. Heather's accompanying slide show vividly illustrated the dramatic and beautiful scenery in the area. Within a short time polar bears were encountered and several days were spent following a pair (male and female) and watching their interactions. This was amply demonstrated in some amazing still and video photos taken by Heather. Later in the cruise Heather and her husband were able to spot walrus, skuas, Arctic tern, Barnacle geese, fulmars and many other rare species of wild life. In addition Heather had also taken some photos of the colourful plants that can bloom during the summer months. This was a well crafted and interesting presentation of life in the far north.

Bobby Keys gave the vote of thanks.

January

7th Glasgow Snapshots
- Heritage Group DVD
14th 'Rinnin Roon in Circles'
- Craig Mains

January

21st The Canary Islands
- Heather Willimot
28th Music & Colour Photography
- Bill Barr



Tuesday 23rd October

Leader Margaret Faith introduced Lorna McCafferty from St Andrew's Hospice, who gave a very illuminating presentation of the Hospice, its role in Lanarkshire Society and its future plans. She gave us a quick synopsis of how the Hospice was founded in Airdrie by the Religious Sisters of Charity. Their mission was to provide much needed care of the elderly for those of any faith and those of no faith at all.

Over the years the demand for beds grew and a new building was required at an estimated cost of £1.2 million. An appeals committee was formed and after donations from the public and all walks of life, businesses large and small, churches of all faiths, Local Government and other Statutory Bodies the target sum of money was raised. In 1986 a new building was opened at Henderson Street, Airdrie and the name changed to St Andrew's Hospice. Lorna told us that the Hospice offers care and support to patients and their families tailored to meet individual needs. It provides individual care to people 18 years and over and also provides outpatient services to people with advanced progressive life-limiting illnesses who have associated complex specialist palliative care needs. The Hospice also provides grief and bereavement support and counselling to families, carers and the wider community, and accepts patients from areas in North and South Lanarkshire. By 2008 the number of palliative beds had increased to 30 but because of increasing demand for beds the Hospice had to once again require to update its and improve its facilities. It is now well on its way towards completing an ambitious £9 million project which will completely transform the accommodation to make it fit to serve those who need it for the next 30 years.

Edna Hume gave the vote of thanks.

Tuesday 30th October

Leader Marjory Kirkwood welcomed Mrs Viv Dickenson, from CROSSREACH which is being supported by the Guild over the next three years in the project 'Join Up The Dots'.

In this project Viv explained that CROSSREACH is offering loving care to people of all ages who are in need of a helping hand; and supports them to live life to the full whatever their circumstances, be it Post Natal Depression, Loneliness, Addiction or a Learning Disability. Many people find life difficult and faced with various physical, emotional and social challenges they aren't always equipped to cope on their own. CROSSREACH believes, however, that with the right support at the right time, every person can flourish and every life can be fulfilling.

Viv ended her talk by thanking the Guild for their support and said that although CROSSREACH has been at the forefront of high quality social care for almost 150 years, and has been an innovator of many pioneering services which have literally changed thousands of lives for the better; it is one of Scotland's greatest secrets as it gets very little publicity so we can all help by telling our friends about it. Elspeth Carss gave the vote of thanks.

Guild Programme

January	
15th	'A Tour of Scotland in Song' - Anne Robertson
22nd	Film Night
29th	Life & Times of General George Wilkie - Craig Mains
February	
5th	Guest / Open Night - Saffronhall Singers



Tuesday 6th November

Leader Margaret Faith welcomed everyone and introduced Trevor Gregory head of Carishea Skincare products which is based in Greenock. Trevor told us how he became involved in Carishea after visiting Ghana to evaluate how money given by Christian Charities was being spent overseas. Unfortunately he found that many of these Charity Projects stopped when the funding ran out and this meant education for children also stopped. He felt it was essential that a more sustainable way of funding projects was found.

Trevor had noticed that within some of the tribes in Ghana women were gathering Shea nuts and selling them on to make Shea Butter 90% of which is used in the food industry, especially in the manufacture of chocolate. Trevor told us that the Shea trees only grow in a specific area of Africa and in no other place in the world. It takes 18 years to flower and 30 years to fruit and can live for 200 years. It is a protected species owned by all the tribe members and cannot be cut down. The Shea nuts contain a rich supply of minerals and vitamins which can also act as a super food for nourishing your skin.

Trevor and the women of some of the tribes agreed to set up a co-operative to collect the nuts, but instead of selling them on they agreed to make the Shea butter themselves and sell it. To date Trevor is working with 5 co-operative groups involving 3500 women. The co-operatives trade ethically and pay a living wage and return surplus profits into valuable education and community development projects. The Shea butter that Trevor transports to his base in Greenock is handcrafted into luxury skincare products by recovering addicts as well as long term prisoners from Greenock prison who are being trained for release back into the community. Carishea became involved with this scheme in an effort to give these long term prisoners the employment and social skills they will need when they are released and so that hopefully they may find permanent employment and not re-offend.

Anne Stewart gave the vote of thanks.

THANK YOU

The Guild would like to thank everyone who bought tickets, contributed goods and baking and came along to support our Coffee Morning on Saturday 17th November. We were delighted with the attendance on the day.

We really appreciate your support and are delighted to say £1300 was raised for the Guild Funds and will be distributed between our own Church and the two Guild projects we are supporting this year, which are CROSSREACH 'Join Up The Dots' and the Free To Live Trust's 'Seema's Project'.



Dates for your Diary

Sunday Services
Pram & Praise 10am
Morning Service 11am
New format Evening Services 6.30pm



Tea & Coffee after morning & evening service each week

Sunday 2nd December
Morning Communion 11am
Evening Advent Meal 6.30pm

Saturday 8th December
Christmas Brunch/View Church Windows 11am - 2pm

Sunday 9th December
Advent Morning Worship 11am
Nine Lessons & Carols at St Andrew's Episcopal Church
6.30pm

Sunday 16th December
Choir Led Service 11am
Graceful Nurture Advent Service 6.30pm

Tuesday 18th December
Uddingston Grammar School Concert 7pm

Wednesday 19th December
Blue Christmas Bereavement Service 7.30pm

Sunday 23rd December
Christmas Nativity & Gift Service 11am
Pram & Praise Christmas Party 2.30 - 4.30pm
Christmas Christingle Service 6.30pm

Monday 24th December
Christmas Eve All Age Service 6.30pm
Christmas Eve Watchnight Service 11.30pm

Tuesday 25th December
Christmas Day Service 11am

Friday 28th December
Twixmas Lunch

Wednesday 16th January
Book Club - The Children Act by Ian McEwan 7.30pm

Wednesday 20th February
Book Club - Kicking the Bucket List by Cathy Hopkin 7.30pm



Monday Club

We will be holding a Twixmas Lunch on Friday 28th December 12pm to 2pm. If you are on your own over Christmas why not come and join us. Transport is available please contact Mary Fox or Anne McIntyre for more information.

The Monday Club will stop for Christmas on the 17th December we will have a Christmas Singalong that day. We will start again on 7th January with a Bite and Blether

The coming programme is:

December

- 10th - Film
- 17th - Singalong (Christmas Song)
- 19th - Wednesday - Blue Christmas
- 28th - Twixmas Lunch - 12.00 to 14.00



January

- 7th - Bite and Blether
- 14th - Film
- 21st - Guest Speaker
- 26th - Singalong



CHRISTMAS GIFT SERVICE

This year we are supporting the new Kilbryde Hospice by helping the children of patients.

The Hospice has asked that we support the children, boys and girls of all ages, by buying gifts that will make up comfort boxes for them such as hot water bottles, cosy slippers, mugs and sweets. Your gift could also be for the children's room in the form of books, toys and craft materials. If you chose a monetary gift the hospice would decide themselves how to best support the children.



The service will take place on Sunday 23rd December when a visitor from the hospice will attend our service and accept the gifts.

Every year this has been very well supported and the charity surprised and delighted with all our gifts. I know this is a busy, and, expensive time of year but please support this charity and the children any way you can.



Thank you all in advance for your gifts.

Grace McKirdy

