



UDDINGSTON OLD PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Charity Number SC016893



MAGAZINE

March 2022



Dear Friends,

The season of Lent is upon us and so the journey begins. Lent - forty days spent in the wilderness where Jesus was tempted by Satan to betray all that he believed in. It was a time of prayer, fasting, torment, isolation, hunger. It was a journey of preparation and transformation. A journey that would eventually lead him to the cross and then to glory.

Lent is a season that should challenge our faith. We should face this season with honesty and humility, opening our eyes to all that is around us, not only the beauty in people, in creation but also as to what is wrong in our society, our churches and respond to those issues of which we are aware. Lent is an opportunity to enable all of us to be the voice for the voiceless, to challenge authorities, the oppressors, those who hinder the sharing of God's word to all who will listen.

Lent is an opportunity to reflect upon what has been, what is now and what is yet to come, However, if you are anything like me, we can see so many situations to which we have to react, which distracts us even more. When you think about it this is year three of a global pandemic. Many of our young people are struggling with their mental health. We are all facing the rise in the cost of living and energy increases. There are the long-awaited hospital appointments and postponed surgeries. Unemployment is on the rise; the Church of Scotland is having to make brutal cuts which will affect all churches across our land. If that wasn't enough to deal with, we are now watching Russia invade a neighbouring democracy along with the nuclear threat which President Putin is declaring. So, it's only understandable that we may feel our faith being challenged, our doubts and fears clouding our very being, our patience being tested. When faced with these doubts I remind myself that, when the burdens of life weigh heavily upon us, what we need is to have the courage to step back and look to the hills as the Psalmist did

*I lift up my eyes to the hills-from where will my help come
my help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth*

In that moment the Psalmist knew, despite all that he was enduring, that he was not alone that the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth was with him. Friends, when we are in those moments let's find a way to create some space in our lives where we can just breathe in and out slowly allowing the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth, fill our hearts with the truth that God is with us, remembering that whatever we have to face we are not alone. God is always with us.

So, my friends, stay safe, stay well and stay connected with God no matter what!!

Blessings to you

Rev Fiona

Reverend Fiona McKibbin

Inside This Issue

Church Roll & Information
Transport Service
The Guild
Stay Connected
Door Duty Roster
Lent Discussion
Quiet Reflection
Calling all Knitters
Christian Aid Conference
Community Cafe
Sponsorship Appeal
Monday Club
Garden Blog
'In Times Like These'
'I Was A Tree'

Next Issue

Articles for the April
Magazine to the editor by
Thursday 24th March 2022

Available

Sunday 3rd April 2022

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

Submissions can be sent
direct to the editors or

by e-mail to

magazine@uddingston.org

or on paper

Church Roll Intimations

Baptisms



Sunday 20th February 2022

Lewis Herdman

Son of Colin & Karen (nee Loudon)

Sunday 27th February 2022

Zoe Faulds

Daughter of Chris & Carol (nee McIntyre)

Deaths

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

Mrs Elizabeth Greenshields (Betty)

Date of Death: 20th February 2022

Stay connected with the
Uddingston Old Parish Church
and

Rev Fiona McKibbin

01698 814757

fmckibbin@churchofscotland.org.uk

Church Website: www.uddingstonold.org

Facebook: [uddingston old parish church](https://www.facebook.com/uddingstonoldparishchurch)

Door Duty Roster

Morning Service at 11am
Front Door teams for the next month:

March	13th	Team 3	Helen Cuthbert
	20th	Team 4	Andrew McCandlish
	27th	Team 5	Muriel McCandlish

April	3rd	Team 6	Colin Pettigrew
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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.

Pastoral Care

Transport Service

We are looking for help with transporting members of the congregation to church on a Sunday.

If you travel to church by car and have room to spare would you perhaps consider giving an older member of the congregation a lift.

If this is something you feel able to help with, even on a part time basis could you please contact Mary Fox on 822275

Lent Discussion

Life in the Wilderness

Is an opportunity to discuss faith during the season of Lent.

Everyone is welcome no matter what stage of faith you are on.

We will meet in the Godly Play Space on Thursday evenings from 3rd March until the 7th April from 7.30 - 9pm

Come along on any of these nights.

We look forward to seeing you all.

Tea and coffee will be provided.

Blessings Rev Fiona

The Guild Programme

The meetings are fortnightly on Tuesday afternoons from 2pm - 3.30pm

15th March

Elspeth Carss 'Before It Gets Dark'

29th March

Vine Trust Project

"Kazunzu - Village of Hope in Tanzania"

All are welcome.

Please come along and join us on any of these dates

Quiet Reflection and Time of Prayer

Every Wednesday until Easter the church sanctuary will be open from 10am - 12noon for prayer and quiet reflection should you wish to come and sit and stay as long as you wish

At 11:30am in our Side Sanctuary there will be a short time of prayer which will be led by the minister. All are welcome to come along.

Blessings Rev Fiona

Calling All Knitters

The Pastoral Care team are looking for help to knit some chickens for Easter, we would like to be able to give them out as gifts to members in care homes and the house bound. If you can help, even with only the knitting and sewing up the pattern is below

Chicken Pattern

Size 4mm Needles Knit all stitches

1. Cast on 24 and knit 1 row
2. Increase 1 stitch at beginning of next 12 rows, to 36 stitches
3. Cast off 12 stitches at the beginning of next 2 rows, to 12 stitches
4. Knit 8 rows. Cast off
5. Sew head and back
6. Stuff head but leave base open to allow cream egg to fit in
7. Tie ribbon around neck
8. Add felt eyes and beak

Christian Aid Conference

Along with over two hundred participants from all over Scotland, I spent two hours online at the Christian Aid Conference. A wealth of information, and challenge was expertly presented by enthusiastic members of staff and workers in the field.

We had updates from South Sudan, where churches are peace-building, and the vaccine situation is improving.

In Afghanistan 22 million people are in the highest level of need where climate change has hit agriculture with drought and the harvest fields are bare. Money in banks is frozen, though there are a few exceptions eg to pay water bills and to enable aid workers to stay. Families even part with their children in the hope they may have a better life.

The DC Emergency appeal has so far raised £28m.

In Zimbabwe Christian Aid works to alleviate poverty and to improve health and education.

A young Christian Aid member of Climate Justice Youth shared her enthusiasm with us with words and photos after attending COP. Hopeful but also realistic, she told of the many activities they participated in.

UDDINGSTON OLD PARISH COMMUNITY CAFÉ

The Café is open on Fridays

from 12noon until 2pm in the large hall.

We will be adhering to current Government and Church of Scotland guidelines to ensure everyone's safety.

All appropriate measures will be in place.

We look forward to seeing you there.

If you are able to volunteer,
please contact Liz on 07432 729508.

Sponsorship Appeal

I have signed up to do the KiltWalk 2022 on 24th April (the Wee Wander, in deference to my dodgy knees) as part of a group of Freemasons from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Lanarkshire Middle Ward who are raising money for CHAS (Childrens' Hospices Across Scotland.)

Please help me to raise money for this worthy cause. You can donate using the link below:

www.justgiving.com/glasgowkiltwalk2022-jimvasey

Jim Vasey.



The remaining time was given to reps. from different places in Scotland telling their stories and coming up with ideas suited to their Churches and the ages and abilities of their people.

The emphasis was on 'involve all ages' & invite schools to participate by making it enjoyable.

The Gathering was recorded and will be available. Contact Val Brown for advice and for posters, tabards, t-shirts etc on:

vbrown@christian-aid.org
+44 141 241 6134

Lorna Cammock

Monday Club

The Monday Club meets
2pm - 3.30pm
Any queries contact Mary on 07742 888623

Programme

March

7th Who? What? Where?



14th Christen McMurdie entertains

21st Film



28th Easter Songs of Praise

April

4th Team Quiz & Games



Garden Blog March 2022

The places that we call home are also home to many other creatures. The root of the word 'ecology' is the Greek word 'oikos', meaning home - so thinking about our shared home is the very essence of ecology. We are all responsible for making sure that animals and plants of all kinds can flourish, in our local areas and on our planetary home. 'Home' is one of the most evocative words in the English language. It represents security, belonging and acceptance. It's the place we can kick off our shoes and relax. It's a safe place, a refuge from the world, and the place we are most ourselves.

Churches offer people a spiritual home, and many of the same connotations are true from that spiritual perspective too. We should feel safe and supported by our church and feel a sense of belonging and acceptance. A variety of other creatures have their homes (or habitat) in and around our church buildings. After all, God knows the whereabouts of every sparrow, as Jesus says in Matthew 10:29.

RSPB Scotland talks about 'giving nature a home', creating more room in our shared spaces for birds and wildlife. This Spring look around our church grounds and see what else calls our church home. What lives in our gardens? How can we roll out the church's generous welcome to all God's creatures?

In Times Like These

We read the headlines daily and listen to the news,
We shake our heads despairingly and glumly sing the blues,
We are restless and dissatisfied and we do not feel secure,
We are vaguely discontented with the things we must endure ...
This violent age we live in is filled with nameless fears
As we listen the newscasts that come daily to our ears,
And we view the threatening future with sad sobriety
As we're surrounded daily by increased anxiety...
How can we find security or stand on solid ground
When there's violence and dissension and confusion all around;
Where can we go for refuge from the rising tides of hate,
Where can we find a haven to escape this shameful fate ...
Instead of reading headlines that disturb the heart and mind,
Let us open up the **Bible** and in doing so we'll find
That this age is no different from the millions gone before,
But in every hour of crisis God has opened up a door
For all who seek His guidance and trust His all-wise plan,
For God provides protection beyond that devised by man ...
And we learn that each **tomorrow** is not ours to understand,
But lies safely in the keeping of the great Creator's Hand,
And to have the steadfast knowledge that **we never walk alone**
And to rest in the assurance that our every need is known
Will help dispel our worries, our anxieties and care,
For doubts and fears are vanquished in **the peacefulness of prayer.**

Helen Steiner Rice

I Was A Tree

I was a tree in Galilee,
My green leaves grew abundantly,
There birds did sing as they flew free,
And children laughed as they climbed on me.

Men cut me down and stripped me bare,
No sound of birdsong filled the air,
They made a rugged cross of me,
Carted me to a hill called Calvary.

Day by day men died on me,
They cursed the air, they even cursed me,
It was a dreadful place to be,
That evil hill called Calvary.

Men took me down from Calvary
There a blood-stained man awaited me,
With his touch I remembered I was a tree,
Together we stumbled towards Calvary.

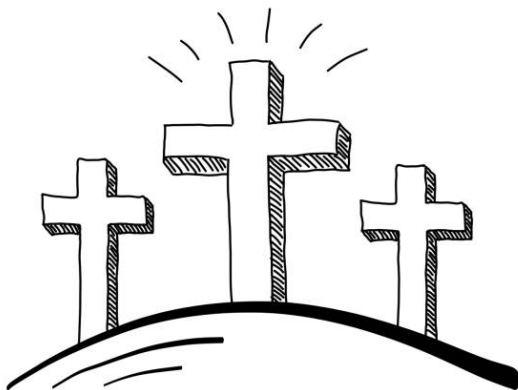
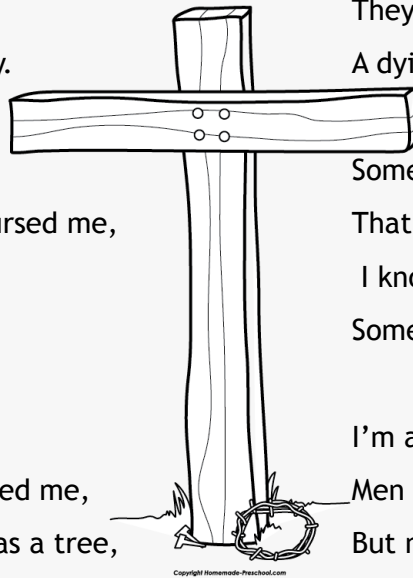
They nailed that broken man to me,
A false Messiah they claimed was he,
A crown of thorns adorned his head.
'Father forgive them.' were the words he said.

All day he hung there nailed to me,
A dying man for all to see
He bowed his head as he died,
A spear was thrust into his side.

They took us down, this man and me,
Friends bore him away from Calvary,
They left me there, as his blood dried,
A dying thief on either side.

Some three days on, the word was spread,
That he had risen from the dead,
I know it's true, it's plain to see,
Someone Divine was nailed to me.

I'm ashes now, no more a tree,
Men made a cruel cross of me,
But my Spirit cries to the heavens above,
'I'm now the sign of the Saviour's love'.



Written from his heart by Hamish G Smith, Letham,
Angus a retired Church of Scotland minister aged 92.

Originally he had tried to make this a song to the tune of 'O Waly Waly' but it ended up as nine verses and so can only be regarded as a poem. He sang it in two churches and was surprised by the demand for words.

Printed in Life and Work.

*The
Season
of
Lent*

