

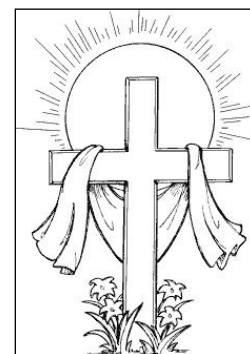
UDDINGSTON OLD PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Charity Number SC016893



MAGAZINE

Pastoral Letter



Dear Friends, **A blessed Easter to you all**

We have made it, so far so good ... we have reached the empty tomb. What a journey it has been though, celebrating the birth of the Christ child, walking with Jesus as we travelled through the Season of Lent. We then faced the emotional roller-coaster of Holy Week where we journeyed with Christ towards the humiliation of the Cross of Sacrifice. It hasn't been an easy journey for many of us. It's been a struggle, placing one foot in front of the other. There may have been times when we wish that we could turn around and return to our comfortable, non-challenging lives. For some, our companions on our journey are no longer with us. For others the challenge of ill health has made this journey more cumbersome. Throughout that period, our faith may have been put to the test, stretched to breaking point. The one thing many of us forget is that once we reach the empty tomb our work is just beginning, it is not the end. As we celebrate Resurrection Sunday, it is an opportunity for us to catch our breath, to see the hope that lies in the risen Christ and to continue to walk this road bearing his name. If I may I would like to share with you the poem that has given me hope during this journey even though my own faith has been tested in many ways and yet still I know that I am called by him to share the message of the risen Christ:

The Promise of the Empty Tomb

Rips the rug from under your feet,
And says hold on tight
We're going for a ride
Into the deep unknown
The promise of the empty tomb
Says the story doesn't end the way
You think it will.
Yes, your future is set in stone,
But I carved it and it's beautiful
The promise of the empty tomb
Says you are worth so much more
Than you think you are
You are to die for
And I did
The promise of the empty tomb
Drives nails through darkness
And says trust me
I have a plan
And it is good
The promise of the empty tomb
Rolls back the stone
Dances on death
And says why are you crying,
Don't you know me?
(Chloe Axford / engage worship.org)

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Next Issue

Articles for the **May**
Magazine to the editor by
Thursday 27th April
2023
Available
Sunday 7th May 2023
We are always happy to
receive articles for
inclusion in your
magazine.
Submissions can be sent
direct to the editors or
by e-mail
magazine@uddingston.org
or on paper

Happy Easter Rev Fiona, Eddie and Adam (Manse family)

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)

Church Roll Intimation Death

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

Date of Death: 19th March 2023

Church Garden Blog

Three years on from the start of lockdown we've been on Perthshire Spring breaks, Connie to Grantully in the snow and Liz to Kinloch Rannoch where the weather was really mild with new born lambs and midges in evidence. Photos of a visitor to the window of Connie's cottage and some grass croppers viewed from the balcony at Kinloch Rannoch are on the Church Garden Blog.

Looking forward with anticipation to Holy Week and the evening services on Thursday and Friday, the Sunday all age services and Ordination of new Elders.

The notice board in the Wildlife Garden has been recently updated and shows Easter story eggs, an acrostic bible verse and a fun Scavenger Hunt. See photo as before. Good to see bulbs in pots placed amongst the daffodils recently. The Bonsai Man is also donating tree seedlings to the garden so look out for them too.

And most of all - To Easter Sunday when we say -

He is not here: He has risen! Luke 24:6

Community Cafe Knitting Bee



Every Friday 11am - 1pm
in Small Hall



Come along and join the Busy Bees
Contact Agnes McLaughlin on 07938 579246
or



Liz Vasey on 07432 729508

Door Duty Roster

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

April

9th	Team 3	Helen Cuthbert
16th	Team 4	Muriel McCandlish
23rd	Team 5	Andrew McCandlish
30th	Team 6	Walker Lyttle

May

2nd	Team 7	Ken Storrier
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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.

The Guild

The Guild Session has finished until we resume in October. We held a very successful and enjoyable Fashion Sale with Brian Taylor on the evening of Tuesday March 7th when we raised £550 for Guild Funds.

Thanks to everyone who supported us.

Our session finished with our Business Meeting and a rather frantic game of Holy Beetle followed by Tea & Cake.



Easter Services

2nd April	Palm Sunday
	All age service at 11am
3rd April	Easter Hymns of Praise
	at 2pm
6th April	Maundy Thursday
	Communion service at 7pm
7th April	Church Open 12-3pm
	for quiet reflection
7th April	Good Friday service at 7pm
9th April	Easter Sunday -
	All age service 11am
	All are welcome

PROPOSED SWITCH TO UNITARY CONSTITUTION

The Kirk Session and Congregational Board have recently voted in favour of Uddingston Old switching from the current Model Deed to the Unitary model of constitution. At the Stated Annual Meeting (date to be confirmed) the congregation will also be asked to vote in favour. Why change? The Church of Scotland website explains...

“The Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, placed upon members of Kirk Sessions, Congregational Boards, Deacons’ Courts, and Committees of Management the additional responsibility of Charity Trusteeship. With this comes a far greater need for transparency and simplicity in governance. In that context, the provision of a written constitution for the congregation and a single agency responsible for governance is greatly to be desired. In order to comply fully with this burden of charity trusteeship, there has been a healthy trend towards the adoption of the Unitary Constitution. This arrangement provides the necessary written constitution, but at the same time, eliminates the possibility of Charity Trustees being constituted in separate meetings and coming to different views on matters of common interest. The General Assembly of 2016, while not compelling every congregation to adopt the Unitary Constitution, decided that from 1 January 2017 the Delegation of Assembly would, in cases where a new constitution was requested, only issue constitutions in the Unitary form.”

Here in Uddingston Old, we have kept a ‘watching brief’, but in light of the inevitable changes that will result from Mission Planning, we consider now to be the appropriate time for us to make the change. Under the Unitary Constitution, the affairs of the Congregation, both spiritual and temporal, are vested in a single body, the Kirk Session. Therefore, the Congregational Board would cease to exist. In other congregations who have made the change, a number of teams were established, each with specific responsibilities, reporting via a ‘business’ or co-ordinating team to the Kirk Session. In Uddingston Old we have effectively been doing this for some time, with our Worship, Pastoral Care, Finance, Property and Social Committees, and Planning and Strategy Group, so this would be largely formalising what we already do. Membership of these Teams would not be restricted to Elders, so existing Board members (and indeed any member of the congregation with the relevant skills) can take part in their work. Day-to-day responsibility for their areas would lie with each team. In summary, the benefits of the change are:

- Conforms with Church of Scotland ‘best practice’
- Eradicates duplication between meetings
- Reduces the number of meetings
- Streamlines decision making
- Ensures that Elders are fully informed when making decisions
- Provides opportunities, through empowerment, for innovation
- Encourages collaborative working
- Enables the congregation to become more actively involved in the life of our church family (we see this as particularly beneficial!)

We ask that you support this change.

Jim Vasey, Session Clerk.

Uddingston Pride (now Grow Uddingston) Update

Our Christmas Fayre was again very successful in raising money for our funds and our thanks go to all of the people, bands, organisations and businesses who helped make the Fayre such a success. It was great to see so many people from the local community come out and enjoy the festivities.

In conjunction with the Christmas Fayre, we also launched our new name -- **Grow Uddingston**. This change has been very well received and hopefully the change of name will make what we do clearer and will encourage more people to join us. Our aim is:

growing our reach, our impact and our community, with our commitment to making Uddingston a beautiful place to live and work in as strong as ever!

Our new email address is:- growuddingston@gmail.com

Uddingston Gateway Sign

The cleaning, renovation and re-pointing of the sandstone structure has recently been completed. This work was funded by grants from The Landtrust, Patersons of Greenoakhill and North Lanarkshire Council. The work was done by Cornerstone Traditional Masonry and everyone is most impressed with the visual improvement this has made to the western approach to the Village.

Litter

Our Litter Picker Group has also been continuing its sterling work. Since it started in October 2021, 931 bags of litter have been collected, and even in just the last two months, 248 bags of litter from 14 different locations have been picked up. We hope that many of you will come out to help in our efforts to keep our Village looking clean and tidy. Contact the Group through the email address to find more information on future litter picks.

At the Old Parish

The barrels at the front door of the Church have had to be replanted as the original plants didn't last through the winter weather. The new plants have brightened up the entrance, but unfortunately a passing squirrel decided to have a dig around in one of the barrels, and once again new plants had to be planted to make the barrels look bright again, and hopefully the squirrel will find somewhere else the dig.

Sandy Robertson






JOURNEY TO EASTER






Monday Club

The Monday Club is going strong and here is the programme arranged for 2023. All are welcome.
(Please note some activities may change)

April

- 3rd Easter Songs of Praise  
- 10th Holiday
- 17th Price is Right 
- 24th Singalong

May

- 1st Sports Day  
- 8th Celebration of King's Coronation
- 15th Christeen MacMurdie 
- 22nd What is This?
- 29th Scottish Bus Trip Singalong

Pastoral Care

Thank you to everyone at the Coffee, Cake and Colouring Group, for the beautiful decoration of wooden crosses. These will be distributed to our members in Care Homes, hospital and some of our housebound members.

(View photo online on the Church Website:-)

<http://uddingstonold.org>

Easter Services

- 2nd April Palm Sunday
All age service at 11am
- 3rd April Easter Hymns of Praise
at 2pm
- 6th April Maundy Thursday
Communion service at 7pm
- 7th April Church Open 12-3pm
for quiet reflection
- 7th April Good Friday service at 7pm
- 9th April Easter Sunday -
All age service 11am
All are welcome

Knowing

You can't know light without knowing dark.
You can't know day without knowing night.
You can't know love without knowing hate.
You can't know peace without knowing war.
You can't know music without knowing noise.
You can't know feelings without knowing emotions.

You can't know friends without knowing enemies.

You can't know wealth without knowing poor.
You can't know sleep without knowing waking.

You can't know life without knowing death.

You can't listen without talking.

You can't talk without listening.

You need to make time to talk.

And others need to take time to listen.

But you also need to make time to listen.

And others need to make time to talk.

What we really need, is love and understanding.

You can't know love, without knowing heartache.

You know the cross is our heartache, and our salvation.

B B J February 2023



Uddingston Old Parish Community Cafe



are hosting

A Pre - Coronation Afternoon Tea
on
Friday 5th May 2023

in the large hall
12noon - 2pm
(This is instead of the Soup Cafe)
All are welcome.

Blessings