UDDINGSTON OLD PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Charity Number SC016893

MAGAZINE

October 2023

Pastoral Letter

Dear Friends.

One of the delights of being on holiday is the opportunity to pause and relax, and certainly the Isle of Uist provided us with that chance. Most of the time it was sunny with a slight breeze which kept the midges away on most days. There was no rush, no panic, we could take all the time in the world to just be normal people who were on holiday. To be honest for most of the time I switched off but not always. Despite having a sneaky look at emails or sending texts the Isle of Uist provided that breathing space to be still and be with God. Which truth be told has been a challenge of late.

Despite all of that, this unexpected trip to Uist enabled me an opportunity to reflect, to embrace God's creation as well as taste some of God's creation, which I must confess was delicious. It gave me an opportunity to sit while listening to the sound of the waves crashing over the rocks to notice the machair, the sea birds, the wild ponies and even the stretches of white beaches with very few people around.

For me that was my extended Sabbath. It was my time to shut out the world and be with God, for truth be told I am tired, I am weary and unsure of the direction I'm being called to walk. I still have my doubts and frustratingly I still have no idea where God is calling me, all I know is that the path God wants me to walk will be revealed in God's time. For now, I must prepare to be still, to wait, to pray, to read, to listen, to overcome my struggles and frustrations as I search for patience. This is my Sabbath

This is a gentle reminder of what the Sabbath is all about and why it is vital for all of us to create those moments of space within our own busy lives. The Sabbath enables all of us to be still, to create space to be with God. We are not designed to rush around at full speed despite what society portrays. If we are able to find pockets of Sabbath within our week, snippets of time that will allow us to rest, recharge and restore then let us claim them back. Let all of us have some downtime without the feeling of guilt or being deemed as idle. Let's spend those moments pottering around in the garden, walking the dogs, and snuggling up with a cup of coffee and a good book. Let's find some quiet time in our busy world and pause as the world rushes by

As Jesus says:

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. (Matthew 11:28-29)

Blessings

Rev Fiona *Reverend Fiona McKibbin*

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Next Issue

Articles for the **October** Magazine to the editor no later than **Tuesday 24th Oct. 2023 as Editor going on holiday 28th**

Available Sunday 5th Nov. 2023

We are alway 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

Death

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

Mr John Sime Shields

Date of Death: 17th August 2023

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

Pastoral Care

Transport

If you travel to church by car or have some time during the week to help transport members to Church, appointments, the Monday Club or Community Cafe, we desperately need people to join the transport volunteers list.

Thank you

Mary

Door Duty Roster

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

Oct.	8th	Team	5	Andrew McCandlish
	15th	Team	6	Walker Lyttle
	22nd	Team	7	Ken Storrier
	29th	Team	8	Mary Fox
Nov.	5th	Team	1	Jillian Ballantyne

If you are in one of the above teams, please bear in mind that you should try to arrange

AFTER SERVICE TEA AND COFFEE

Gathering in the large hall after service to share a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit has become part of Sunday worship for a lot of people. We are always looking for folk to help serve this. It is not an arduous task, if you haven't done it before why not give it a go. There is a list on the small hall door please add your name to it on a Sunday that suits.

If you need any information, please contact Liz on 07432729508.

CHRISTMAS GIFT SERVICE 2023

Yes, it's that time of year again when I ask you all to take time to think of others and support a children's charity.

This year we have selected the 'Young Carers in South Lanarkshire'.

As yet, I am waiting on word from them as to what gifts would be most suitable for their age group of up to 18.

The date has also to be confirmed as the last Sunday before Christmas Day is Christmas Eve.

So please look out for more information in the next magazine. Thank you in advance.

Grace McKirdy

GuildProgramme

2023

October	3rd	'Jeely Piece Tea' - Welcome Back & Chat
	17th	On the Guild Theme 'New Wine, New Wineskins' - Rev. Fiona McKibbin
	31st	'Antarctica Trip" - David Lang
November	14th	Elsie Inglis-'Go Home & Sit Still' - Liz McIntyre Allan
	18th	SATURDAY COFFEE MORNING - Fund Raiser 10am - 12noon
	19th	Guild Dedication
	28th	Starchild Project - Michaela Foster Marsh
December	5th	Christmas with Elspeth

Guild News

The Guild resumes meeting for the new session on Tuesday 3rd October at 2pm in the church hall.

We would be delighted to welcome new folks as well as faithful attendees from previous years **to any or all** of our meetings.

A warm welcome awaits you and as always a nice cup of tea and biscuit to round of the meeting.

FRIDAY KNITTERS

Every Friday from 11am - 1pm a group of friendly multi-talented people meet in the small hall.

They have a good chat and work on personal and shared projects.

If you would like to see what they are about either pop in on a Friday

(no pressure)

or call Agnes on 07565352657.

DRU YOGA

Every Thursday in the large hall at 10.30am – 11.30am.

Come along and try a DRU Yoga class. This can help with flexibility .

You can also experience deep relaxation.

For further information please contact Joe on 07817167770

"Life And Work Magazine 2024 "

Can I ask for the names of anyone wishing to be added to the list of those receiving a monthly copy of the Life and Work magazine next year starting in January 2024 through to December 2024? Alternatively, if you wish to be removed from the existing list of the present recipients, then can you let me know? In either case this should be as soon as possible, and certainly no later than **Friday 10th November 2023.**

If you do not contact me then, it will be assumed that you will want to continue your delivery of the magazine as normal, and payment will become due as I cannot return the magazines once ordered. The cost for next year's L&W has been retained at **£3.50**, which equates to **£42** per annum. The money for the next year will be collected in January 2024, and there will be a small brown envelope attached to the magazine that month, and this will confirm the amount for payment.

If you put your payment into the envelope, then put the envelope into the collection on a Sunday, I will receive these each week and record those who have paid. I would like to thank everyone for their prompt payment this year as it does make things easier from my perspective.

If you have any queries whatsoever, please do not hesitate to contact me

Ken Storrier Tele: 01698 816355

(and leave a message if I do not pick up, but remember to leave your name and contact number), or speak to me at the church, or leave a note in my pigeonhole in the vestry corridor.

Thank You for your help with this.

United Men's Fellowship

The Fellowship commences for the new session on Monday 2nd October at 7.30pm and all are welcome to attend.

We have an informal meeting, a presentation by an invited speaker and close with a cup of tea and biscuits/cakes. The meeting usually finishes by 9pm.

NEW MEMBERS WILL BE WARMLY WELCOMED

Coming Programme

October	2nd	BBC war correspondent - Sina Graham
	16th	Charles Rennie McIntosh - Lesley McIlhagger
	30th	Words, a fascinating study - Ian Davidson
November	13th	Paisley Shawl - Valerie Reilly

Garden blog Sept/ October 2023

Signs of a season change are well upon us now. The trees appear to be changing even though it's not been cold enough and the garden tidy up shows the plants are trying hard to keep going.

A trip to Ayr and a beach walk became a bit more interesting as there were well over a 100 common jellyfish up beyond the strand line. Sadly they are not strong swimmers and with the high tides a result of an approaching Supermoon they are left stranded with no chance of survival. There have been reports of piles of jellyfish over the past few months. If you do venture down the beach and discover any you can submit your findings to the MCS site as they are trying to collate numbers for their research. www.mcsuk.org report jellyfish.

Just after that I was on another Orca survey to Coll/Tiree. It proved to be a super highway for common dolphins. We had loads of sightings and they put on a spectacular display for us jumping high out of the water performing gymnastics.

Our team leader Jane works for Nature Scot studying and trying to save critically endangered skate in Scotland. She was lucky enough to meet Hamza recently when she appeared in an interview for Countryfile on BBC 1. She says he really is as nice as he appears.

This leads me on to another important citizen science project which is ongoing and that is to find and log skate egg cases on beaches. Commonly known as mermaid purses. It is easy and fun to do if anyone is interested and provides vital information for conservationists.

All the info required is on this website. www.sharktrust.org/greateggcasehunt. My only word of warning would be to check there are no bird carcasses in that area. Sadly bird flu is still widely active and does prove a threat to mammals. Wearing gloves may be advisable.

So lots of projects for you all to get busy with. I'm sure a trip to the beach with your children and grandchildren can start them off in a career in science and it's great fun too.

Connie

The Queen's Tree

Our Sorbus aucuparia has produced beautiful foliage this year and we are really hopeful that in May or June next year we will have cream-white five petal flowers and then beautiful red berries in autumn. Rowan trees which are grown from seed typically take around 10 years to begin displaying flowers, though some may take a lot longer – 15 or even 20 years has been reported. However ours should have a head start with the upper part (called a scion) having been grafted onto the rootstock of a more mature rowan tree. The mature rowans are hanging with berries this year and are a great food source for birds and humans alike.

The 18th century poet Lady Nairne (1766-1845) wrote an affectionate tribute – Oh Rowan Tree

You will find it on the church website

Liz

Extract from Oh Rowan Tree

Oh rowan tree, oh rowan tree,
Thou'll aye be dear to me
Entwined thou art wi Mony ties,
O' hame and infancy.
Thy leaves were aye the first o' spring,
Thy flow'rs the simmer pride;
There was nae sic a bonny tree
In a' the countrieside
Oh rowan tree!

How fair wert thou in simmer time,
Wi' a' thy clusters white
How rich and gay thy autumn dress,
Wi' berries red and bright!
On thy fair stem were many names,
Which now nae mair I see,
But they're engraved on my heart.
Forgot they ne'er can be!
Oh rowan tree!

COMMUNITY CAFÉ

The Café continues on a Friday 12-2pm. Offering a choice of freshly made soups and home baking as well as much tea and coffee as you want.

On **F**riday 8th September the fundraising event for Marie Curie Nurses was well supported and the magnificent sum of £1000 was raised. A big thank you to all who supported this event.

Café/Church or call Liz on 07432729508

Please note there will be no cafe on Friday 6th October due to a holiday break.

Normal service resumes Friday 13th October.

Other proposed events are:

A Craft Fair on **Saturday 21st October** in aid of Brain Tumour Trust.

Varied selection of craft stalls as well as tea & coffee and home baking

Friday 10th November all proceeds from the Café that day will go to Poppy Scotland.

Monday Club

All are welcome on
Mondays 2pm till approximately 3.30pm

Mary and the committee have organised the coming programme:

October

2nd Memories Quiz
9th Christine McMurdie sing
16th Games
23rd Line Dancing
30th Hallowe'en Tea Dance (Fancy Dress)

November

6th Singalong - Colours
13th Arts & Crafts - Church Window Tree
20th Games (Sports)
27th Singalong - St Andrew's Day

December

4th Church Concert Party
11th Grammar School Concert
18th Christmas Lunch - Bothwell Deli
25th & 1st January On Holiday

I have a Dream!

I have a dream, a man once said.
And not just as he slept in his bed.
Or maybe a prayer was his vision instead.
Be it a vision or prayer, he did end up dead.

He dreamt that we could all live as one.
That loving each other could make life more fun.
He prayed that each colour and creed would see.
Just how peaceful and caring his vision could be.

He was a Christian minister, he had faith.
He was oppressed, but he still kept faith.
He believed in the goodness of mankind.
He believed In the goodness we all could find.

So why don't we humans want to live together.
And why do we still complain about the weather.
We all have dreams of how life should be.
Some of us dream of living by the sea.

Understand that we are not that different.
Those in a mansion and those in a tent.
Though life is easier for those that have.
And those that haven't do sometimes starve.

Don't pray for yourselves, pray for others.
Pray for all, your sisters, and brothers.
Governments pray before going to war.
But that's not what praying and dreaming is for.

Pray for goodness, kindness and caring.
Pray for everyone, pray for sharing.
So that one day, Dr Martin Luther KIng.
Will see what his vision and dream could bring.

B B J September 2023