



# UDDINGSTON OLD PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Charity Number SC016893



## MAGAZINE

November 2023



### Pastoral Letter

***“I shall break the bow and the sword and warfare, and banish them from the country, and I will let them sleep secure” Hosea 2:20***

Dear Friends,

As we approach the Annual Act of Remembrance on the 11th of November, we are reminded that the world is a volatile place and with one action its outlook can change. Sadly, we are watching the unfolding crisis between Israel and Palestine. We could take sides. We could condemn the terrorist atrocities perpetrated by Hamas. We could rail against long-standing illegal oppression by Israel in the West Bank and in Gaza. What I didn't realise is the size of the Gaza strip that is occupied by the Palestinians. As my colleague Rev Stephen Ogston highlighted, if we compare the size of the Gaza Strip which is 365 km<sup>2</sup> to part of Scotland, the Isle of Jura is a good match which is roughly 367 km<sup>2</sup>. It really brings it home how small the Gaza Strip is, especially when you consider that about 2 million people live there (twice the population of Greater Glasgow). It is hard to imagine and yet all that is left for us at this time is to pray.

As a Christian community we are called to be peacemakers. In a world filled with conflict we are called to be agents of peace in the midst of a world at war. We are called to pray for peace and reconciliation. Yes, we can weep at the atrocities both sides are causing. We can cry in despair with those who have lost their homes and their loved ones. We can be consumed with anger because of the hopelessness we feel, and the hellishness of the effects of the destruction we see, recognising that **THIS** is the reality of war. A war that can escalate. A war that can seep into our neighbourhoods, can turn one against the other. Can turn communities against one another. Where at one time they would stand together in solidarity they now turn love into hatred. We need to find hope in the desperation of this situation that faces all of humanity. Recognising, that this hope of peace is not just for us, but it's a hope that we're called to share with others. As ambassadors of Christ, we're called to proclaim this hope to a world in desperate need of peace. We're called to share the good news of Jesus, the Prince of Peace, who has come to bring peace to all who trust in Him, in the hope that one day there will be a lasting peace

So, what can we do at this time, we can all pray, pray continually for peace and let words of hope and love be found to challenge the nightmare of war and destruction, so that our children, and their children, and their children's children, can live in peace. Amen.

Blessings

Rev Fiona

Reverend Fiona McKibbin

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### Next Issue

Articles for the  
December Magazine  
to the editor no later than  
**Thursday 23rd Nov. 2023**  
Available

**Sunday 5th Nov. 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 to

[magazine@uddingston.org](mailto:magazine@uddingston.org)

or on paper

### 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

Stay connected with the  
Uddingston Old Parish Church  
and

Rev Fiona McKibbin

01698 814757

[fmckibbin@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:fmckibbin@churchofscotland.org.uk)

Church Website: [www.uddingstonold.org](http://www.uddingstonold.org)

Facebook: uddingston old parish church

### 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.

### Door Duty Roster

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

|             |      |        |                   |
|-------------|------|--------|-------------------|
| <b>Nov.</b> | 12th | Team 2 | Colin Pettigrew   |
|             | 19th | Team 3 | Helen Cuthbert    |
|             | 26th | Team 4 | Muriel McCandlish |

|             |     |        |                                  |
|-------------|-----|--------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Dec.</b> | 3rd | Team 5 | Andrew McCandlish<br>(Communion) |
|-------------|-----|--------|----------------------------------|

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.

### Parish Funerals

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

**Mr James McArthur (Jim)**

Date of Death: 29th September 2023

### Guild Programme

2023

|                 |             |  |
|-----------------|-------------|--|
| <b>November</b> | 14th        | Elsie Inglis-'Go Home & Sit Still'<br>- Liz McIntyre Allan           |
|                 | <b>18th</b> | <b>SATURDAY COFFEE MORNING</b><br><b>- Fund Raiser 10am - 12noon</b> |
|                 | 19th        | Guild Dedication   |
|                 | 28th        | Starchild Project<br>- Michaela Foster Marsh                         |
| <b>December</b> | 5th         | Christmas with Elspeth   |

### Guild News

The Guild resumed its meetings for the new session on Tuesday 3rd October.

Grace Hislop led the first meeting and we all enjoyed a relaxed Get Together with a short Quiz and a tasty 'Jeely Piece' Tea with time to catch up with one another after our break.

On 17th October we had Fiona our Minister speaking on the Guild Theme for the coming year:

'New Wine, New Wineskins'

She gave us a very interesting talk on this subject by having us think about pictures of old things from the past which our generation might or *might not* remember. Then we were challenged to think up the solutions of emoji messages which the younger generation use to communicate with each other. A lot of head scratching was involved but it did make the point that life experiences are never static but constantly change and that we need to adapt our outlook as we face the future if we really want to move forward successfully.

Please come and support



THE GUILD

COFFEE MORNING

GIFTS & CAKE & CANDY STALLS

10AM -12NOON

Saturday 18th November Tea Ticket—£4



### CHRISTMAS GIFT SERVICE 2023

Here is the big date...it has been agreed that Sunday 17th December will be our Gift and Nativity service and we will have a visitor from Young Carers to accept your gifts.



Due to the children being up to 18 years old the charity have asked that gift vouchers from supermarkets or other shops would be most appreciated as this would allow the young carers themselves the fun of shopping, or for families to buy food for Christmas. As for parcels, the greatest request is for selection boxes.

Any gifts of money would be put towards a Christmas party which the young people have asked for.

I know we are fewer in number but any gift we can give will be very gratefully received. My heartfelt thanks to all of you for taking the time to buy for these children who give so much.

Grace McKirdy

#### **Inspiration for "In Flanders Fields"**

During the early days of the Second Battle of Ypres a young Canadian artillery officer, Lieutenant Alexis Helmer of the 1st Brigade Canadian Field Artillery was killed on 2nd May, 1915 in the gun positions near Ypres. An exploding German artillery shell landed near him. He was serving in the same Canadian artillery unit as a friend of his, the Canadian military doctor and artillery commander Major John McCrae.

As the brigade doctor, John McCrae was asked to conduct the burial service for Alexis because the chaplain had been called away somewhere else on duty that evening. It is believed that later that evening, after the burial, John began the draft for his now famous poem "In Flanders Fields".

#### **The Great War 1914-1918**

In Flanders Fields.  
by John McCrae, May 1915

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.

#### **Remembrance Day**



**Lest We Forget**

The 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month



### "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 Phone: 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.

### **A Letter From God - An Inspirational Christian Story**

#### **I Am With You Always**

Good morning, As you got up I watched and hoped you would talk to me. Just a few words, such as thanking me for something good in your life yesterday or last week would do.

But I noticed you were busy selecting the right clothes for work. I waited again to hear from you. When you ran around the house collecting papers, I knew there would be a few minutes to stop and say hello, but you never slowed down.

I wanted to tell you that I could help you accomplish more than you ever dreamed possible if you would just spend some of each day with me. At one point, you waited fifteen minutes in a chair with nothing to do. I waited to hear from you.

Then I saw you spring to your feet; I thought you wanted to talk to me, but you ran to the phone and called a friend. I watched as off to work you went and waited patiently all day long to hear from you. With all your activities you were too busy to talk with me.

I noticed at lunch you looked around; maybe you just felt embarrassed to talk to me. You glanced three tables over and noticed some of your friends talking to me before they ate, but you wouldn't.

There was still more time left, and I hoped that we would talk. You went home and had many things to do. After they were done, you turned on the TV; just about anything goes there and you spend many hours watching. I waited as you continued watching TV and ate your meal but again you wouldn't talk to me.

At bedtime you were totally tired. After you said good night to your family you plopped into bed and fell asleep. I had so much wanted to be part of your day. We could have had so much fun and accomplished so much together.

I love you so much that I wait every day for a thought, prayer or thanks. Well, maybe tomorrow!

I'll be waiting.

Your Friend,                      God

### COMMUNITY CAFÉ

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

On **Saturday 21st October** the fundraising event in aid of the **Brain Tumour Trust** was well supported and the excellent sum of £800 was raised.

A big thank you to all who supported this event.

On **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:

#### 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 - Bothwe
- 25th & 1st January On Holiday 

## Are you listening?

Idle chatter, doesn't matter.  
Talking heads, not doing deeds.  
People talk, no one listens.  
Good to talk, better to listen.  
In my world, all alone.  
Have to do, what needs done.  
Communicate, please don't hate.  
Do people care, or just stare.  
People pay, to stay away.  
All alone, on their phone.  
Life goes on, Some do listen.  
I try to talk, it doesn't work.  
Sitting all day, with nothing to say.  
My world is mine, I'm doing fine.  
In my dreams, Silence screams.  
No-one dares, or no-one cares.  
Eyes stare, no-one is there.  
Some look, but never see.  
Some hear, but never listen.

John Jardine - October 2023

### United Men's Fellowship Programme

The Men's Fellowship meets fortnightly at 7.30pm in the Side Sanctuary. All are welcome to come along to the meetings.

#### November

- 13th Paisley Shawl  
- Valerie Reilly
- 27th The Clyde Port (DVD)  
- Bill Alleyn

#### December

- 11th Fellowship Christmas Dinner



"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

- John F. Kennedy