



# UDDINGSTON OLD PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Charity Number SC016893

## MAGAZINE

September 2025

### Pastoral Letter

Dear Friends, During our last Pot Worship Evening Service I introduced a piece of music called "You're Gonna be ok ..(Bethel music) it was a quiet reflective piece.

*I know it's all you've got to just be strong  
And it's a fight just to keep it together, together  
I know you think that you are too far gone  
But hope is never lost, Hold on, don't let go  
Just take one step closer, Put one foot in front of the other  
You'll get through this just follow the light in the darkness  
You're gonna be ok*

We all face storms. Some are physical --. Some are personal -- e.g. death, job problems, health issues, broken relationships. Storms are a part of life which cannot be avoided.

As people of faith who take comfort from the scriptures, we are aware that life is far from easy and the Bible, serves as profound metaphors for the trials we endure, revealing that even the most faithful are not immune to hardship. These narratives remind us that storms are not just obstacles; they are opportunities for growth and renewal. They challenge us to confront our fears and uncertainties, pushing us toward a deeper understanding of God's promises. Embracing the storms of life can lead us to discover hidden strengths and insights, fostering resilience in the face of adversity.

When Jesus calmed the storm on the Sea of Galilee, (Luke 8:22) he demonstrated His authority over chaos and invited us to trust Him in our own turbulent times. Amidst the chaos, the disciples found themselves grappling with a storm that threatened to engulf their very existence. The disciples' panic mirrors our own reactions when confronted with adversity; we often forget that Jesus, even in silence, is present beside us. His peaceful slumber amidst the storms serves as a profound reminder that divine calmness can exist within turmoil. When the disciples finally woke Him, their fear transformed into an encounter with power — Jesus simply spoke, and the winds obeyed. This pivotal moment teaches us that faith is not merely the absence of fear but an active trust in God's sovereignty over our circumstances. The storm did not just serve to test their faith; it was an invitation to deepen their understanding of who Jesus truly is.

As we navigate our own storms, whether they be personal struggles or societal upheavals, we are called to remember that no storm can withstand His authority. In doing so, we learn to embrace peace even when the waters around us rage. Whatever storms you are facing take comfort in the scriptures for the Bible is full of stories that mirror our real-life struggles. We can come through stronger when we choose faith over fear, hope over despair. Remember, even when the skies are dark and the waves high, God is still in control. The storm may shake you, but it won't break you if your foundation is in Him.

Blessings

Rev Fiona

Reverend Fiona McKibbin



### Inside This Issue

Church Roll Intimations

Door Duty Rota

Stay Connected

Congratulations

Christian Aid Update

Summer Nature Notes

Bible in 52 Weeks

The Chosen - Season 2

Craft Club

Guild News

Monday Club

Recipe for Peace

Upcoming Dates for

Citizen's Advice

Older Person's

Outreach Clinic

### Next Issue

Articles for the  
October Magazine  
to the editor no later  
than

**Thursday 25th  
September 2025**

Available

**Sunday 5th Oct. 2025**

We are always happy to  
receive articles for  
inclusion in **your**  
magazine  
by email

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

or on paper

## Church Roll Intimations

### Baptisms



Sunday 29th June 2025

**Harrison Robert Loader**  
and  
**Leo Edwin Loader**  
Sons of Simon & Morgan (nee Kelly)

and

Sunday 24th August 2025

**Clay Kilby**  
Son of Sean & Morgyn (nee Smith)

### Deaths

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

**Mr Walter Sinclair**  
Date of Death: 16th June 2025  
and

**Mr Jim Graham**  
Date of Death: 25th June 2025  
and

**Mrs Helen Butler**  
Date of Death: 9th July 2025  
and

**Mrs Jean Kerr**  
Date of Death: 21st August 2025  
and

**Mr Tony Houghton**  
Date of Death: 23rd August  
and

**Mrs Jean Wardrop**  
Date of Death: August 2025

We welcome  
to our congregation  
**Mr William & Mrs Lesley Watson**  
Transferred from Viewpark Parish Church

### Change of Address

**Sandy & Robina Robertson**  
have moved to Bothwell

## Door Duty Rota

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

### September

|      |        |                   |
|------|--------|-------------------|
| 7th  | Team 1 | Louise Kerr       |
| 14th | Team 2 | Colin Pettigrew   |
| 21st | Team 3 | Helen Cuthbert    |
| 28th | Team 4 | Muriel McCandlish |

### October

|      |        |                                  |
|------|--------|----------------------------------|
| 5th  | Team 5 | Andrew McCandlish<br>(Communion) |
| 12th | Team 6 | Walker Lyttle                    |
| 19th | Team 7 | Liz Lyttle                       |
| 26th | Team 8 | 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.

Stay connected with the  
Uddingston Old Parish Church  
and

Rev Fiona McKibbin

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

## Congratulations

Best wishes from the congregation are sent to  
**Laurence & Marion Keogh**  
and  
**Janice & Jack McDermott**  
Both couples celebrated their  
**Golden Weddings** in July  
also  
to  
**Roger & Marion Scott**  
who celebrated their **Diamond Wedding**  
in August



### Christian Aid Update

Christian Aid week was a great success not only in our own church but UK as a whole. The generosity of people helps Christian Aid to support communities abroad in the worst hit countries of the World.

The result of this aid is helping farmers adapt to climate crisis by growing resilient crops and helping their communities escape poverty.

Aurelia in Guatemala has a banana farm. The trees that once stood tall and heavy with fruit now have dry curled leaves with no fruit.

Bananas are the 4<sup>th</sup> most important crop globally. Two thirds of suitable land could be lost by 2080. It was once thought that what we are experiencing now would happen in our future but sadly things have accelerated to what we see today.

One other way apart from contributing to funds is to choose Fairtrade and organic bananas when you shop. Such a simple thing goes a long way to protecting people and our planet.

### Summer Nature Notes

It's been a few months since our last magazine and lots has happened.

I did 'No Mow May' as usual and reaped the benefits. The birds adored it hopping through eating seed heads along with pollinators all shapes and colours.

The other lovely thing was to watch the buttercups and daisies, to name a couple, growing beautifully amongst the grass. It's always puzzled me why so called gardeners strive to rid their grass of these then grow and plant ox eye daisies, poppies etc. Why would you use harsh chemicals or even so called eco friendly ones to kill off lovely flowers. I can't understand the need for a square / oblong of just green.

Fiona preached to us using daisies then everyone got one to keep. They are beautiful flowers as are buttercups. Anyway I'm sure there will be plenty answers to that one 🤔.

The birds nested and chicks fledged, renewal of life everlasting. We did have some dramatic moments at the reserve, I think our warden had many sleepless nights. An otter had a fresh tasty breakfast when it managed to access one of the platforms that the black headed gulls were nesting on 🦉 but that's nature. Then we had another predator in the form of a moorhen. I have to admit I didn't think they would do that.

Visitors comment on the amount of black headed gulls we encourage but we explain that they are a deterrent to predators and in turn protect our rarer species, a bit like companion planting in your garden. It has been very successful.

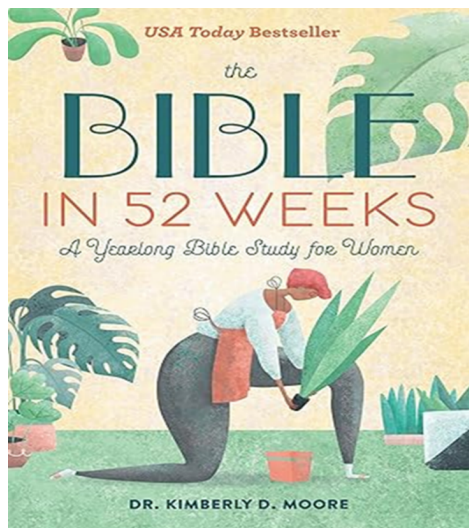
Another first for Lanarkshire was a visit from a pair of avocets. They landed in Barons Haugh. I visited on the Sunday to see them which was such a pleasure. I met some of the Haugh's volunteers some of whom also volunteer at our reserve. Unbelievably the same pair of avocets then turned up at our reserve early the next morning. Well you would know who got the blame for that 😂. However they soon returned to the Haugh.

The eco garden is doing well left to its own devices. Our visiting bird species has increased which is lovely to see. I would however remind folk not to put food on the bird table as we are trying to prevent the spread of diseases amongst birds. Nature Scot, RSPB etc are trialling this to see if they can reduce disease spread.

The different areas such as the long grass for mini beasts are now well established. This is good as it provides food sources and shelter which is the main aim of the garden. Provide a home and they will come.

It is also still a nice peaceful area to sit even if only for 5 minutes so sit back and relax, it is good for body and soul.

Connie



**Re - starting on Tuesday 9th September in our Session House.**

**This is open to all ages and stages of faith.**

**We will meet weekly at 12.30 -2pm over tea & coffee.**

**Bring your lunch with you if you wish.**

**If you need a copy of the book you can purchase it on Amazon.**

### **The Chosen Season 2**

**Resumes Thursday 4th September  
at 7pm with discussion taking place around 8pm**

### **CRAFT CLUB**

Do you want to learn a new craft?  
From Tuesday 14th October between 2 and 4pm we are starting a new club which will meet every two weeks.

[14th & 28th Oct 11th & 21st Nov].

Come along and share your skills, learn something new or even complete a project.

Sewing, knitting, crochet, paper craft etc.  
There will also be tea, & coffee available and time to chat.

Grace McKirdy

### **Prayer**

*O Christ Jesus, When all is darkness  
And we feel our weakness and helplessness,  
Give us the sense of Your presence,  
Your love and your strength.  
Help us to have perfect trust  
In your protecting love  
And strengthening power,  
So that nothing may frighten or worry us,  
For, living close to You,  
We shall see Your hand.  
Your purpose, Your will through all things.  
St. Ignatius of Loyola*



### **The Guild**



### **Guild News**

The Guild resumes meeting  
for the new session on Tuesday 7th 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**  
2pm - 3.30pm

Our Theme for the coming Session -

**‘Lets Build A House - Living Stones’**

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

Our upcoming programme is:

### **October**

7th ‘Jeely Piece Tea’  
- Welcome Back & Chat

21st On the Guild Theme  
“Living Stones”  
- Rev. Fiona McKibbin

### **November**

4th **Project - Bibles For Bairns**  
- Jen Robertson  
(Scottish Bible Society)

18th Deputy Lord Lieutenant Of Lanarkshire  
- Alison Plummer

### **December**

2nd Christmas Celebration

### Monday Club

All are welcome on  
Mondays 2pm till approximately 3.30pm

Mary and the committee have organised the coming programme:

#### September

8th Christine McMurdie



15th Chair Yoga



22nd Singalong

29th Games

#### October

6th Falls Awareness



13th The Price Is Right

20th Denise Entertains



27th Singalong

#### November

3rd Table Talk



### *Recipe for Peace*

**Ingredients** – Positive actions, trust, consideration, gentleness, forgiveness, understanding, compassion, kindness, gratitude, faith in humanity, and truth.

All ingredients should be mixed together with care for others and distributed openly by people with high integrity and proper morals.

Recipe only works if negativity, greed, jealousy, self-interest, and lies are left on the shelf.

This recipe has been tried many times before but never fully succeeded, because it was contaminated by people with too much insincerity and self-interest.

This recipe can succeed, but only if more people use the proper ingredients and serve it up with compassion, gentleness, large amounts of love and caring, and true sincerity.

John Jardine August 2025



### Citizen's Advice Older Persons Out Reach Clinic

The next Citizen's Advice Outreach Clinic will take place in the side sanctuary on

**Friday 26th September 11am to 2pm**

**Future dates:**

**Friday 24th October 11am to 2pm**

**Friday 21st November 11am to 2pm**

**Friday 19th December 11am to 2pm**

The clinic will be run by Linda Smith  
**CAB Out Reach Community Adviser.**

Linda's focus as a community adviser is the over 65's group but she will see anyone who is looking for help.

Citizens Advice Hamilton has several teams that she can signpost folk to including:

**HWA - Health and Wellbeing team**

**Layrep** - Representation at Hamilton Sheriff Court and predominantly housing issues.

**Older Persons Project** - Income maximisation and other enquiries for over 65's

**PASS** - Patient Advice and Support Service

**Energy Service** - all matters electricity/gas

**General service** - all enquiries including emergency fuel & food vouchers.

**Community Links** - local NHS and community group referrals

**Money Advice** - Financial Services

**Veterans Services** - Referral available to veteran's associations UK wide.

### **A PRAYER FOR CHANGE**

Lord of all seasons

Everything changes, nothing stays the same,  
Teach me to accept this, and learn from it.

As the year changes, so, too our lives must change.

Let me keep in my heart, the hope of Spring,  
And the glory Autumn.

In this ever-changing world.

Lord, let me always be aware of Your love,  
For this alone is everlasting, unfailing,  
And unchangeable — Amen.