



UDDINGSTON OLD PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Charity Number SC016893

MAGAZINE October 2025



Pastoral Letter

Dear Friends,

As a child you always believed that your parents were invincible and for most of their lives that is true. True in the sense that they can hide a lot of what is going on until circumstances change. All of a sudden, their needs change, their dependence upon their child is reversed. The child in many ways becomes the parent per se. and that is a new experience for many. That one person who throughout your life, was the cheerleader, the get up and roll up your sleeves inspiration, who now looks at you with such vulnerability and on occasions with fear and trepidation especially if they are in an environment in which they have no experience.

What must it be like for them to ask their child to become the carer? How do they live with their guilt, how do they maintain their independence, their dignity and be open with their tears? What about the child, who has to take over that role? It doesn't matter the age of the child, at the end of the day it is their parent, their inspiration who would stand up to Goliath if needs must, who is now in a position of vulnerability, relying on others to help with their daily needs in order to maintain their independence.

What about the child? ... In many ways it is an honour to demonstrate love, care and compassion to the one person who was always there picking them up when they fell, being the loudest cheerleader as they meandered through this complicated life.

What about the child? ... It is our opportunity to be their voice ... to reciprocate the care they demonstrated throughout the years.

What about the child? ... when the journey is hard, is challenging ... when the responsibility of decision-making lands upon your shoulders ... what then?

You dig deep, you breathe, if you are a person of faith you look to the scriptures, you turn to prayer, you find a way to recharge your batteries for we have no idea the length of the journey, you laugh with friends and you cry with friends.

You do the things that make you feel alive and you continue to create memories with those you love.

Life is hard. Caring for loved ones is hard, as they will no doubt push us to our limits as parents do, but it is also a privilege and a blessing to be able to return the love and care that they have given to us in their own way.

So, to all who are in similar situations, know that God is always with us even if it feels at times that God is silent. God will be our strength and shield in whom we can trust for it is written: (Isaiah 40: 29, 31)

He gives power to the faint and strengthens the powerless.

Those who wait for the lord shall renew their strength;

they shall mount up with wings like eagles.

They shall run and not be weary.

They shall walk and not faint.

Blessings

Fiona

Reverend Fiona McKibbin

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Next Issue

Articles for the
November Magazine
to the editor no later
than

**Thursday 23rd
Oct. 2025**

Available

Sunday 2nd Nov. 2025

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

magazine@uddingstonold.org

or on paper

Church Roll Intimations

Marriage



Friday 5th September 2025
at Glasgow University Chapel

Alexander Green & Kimberly Tochel

We welcome
to our congregation

Madge Balfour

&

John Farrell

Transferred from Bothwell Parish Church

Door Duty Rota

Morning Service at 11am

Front Door teams for the next months:

October

5th	Team 5	Andrew McCandlish (Communion)
12th	Team 6	Walker Lyttle
19th	Team 7	Liz Lyttle
26th	Team 8	Mary Fox

November

2nd	Team 1	Louise Kerr
9th	Team 2	Colin Pettigrew
16th	Team 3	Helen Cuthbert
23rd	Team 4	Muriel McCandlish
30th	Team 5	Andrew McCandlish

December

7th	Team 6	Walker Lyttle (Communion)
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Children's Offerings

As part of the Sunday School / Pram & Praise worship
an offering is collected. Last year we raised £837.

This money was shared thus:

Mary's Meals - £279

CHAS - £279

Church of Scotland Moderators's Appeal to buy solar
powered lights for schools £279.

We appreciate this generosity which is an amazing
amount to donate to good causes.

Janice

Stay connected with the

Uddingston Old Parish Church

and

Rev Fiona McKibbin

01698 814757

fmckibbin@churchofscotland.org.uk

Church Website: www.uddingstonold.org

COMMUNITY CAFE NEWS

During September we had a Bake Sale for MACMILLAN.
The final sum raised still to come.

October is **Breast Cancer Awareness** month so the
helpers at the Cafe will be wearing PINK and all
donations on Friday 24th October plus all monies raised
at the CRAFT FAYRE on Saturday 18th October
11am - 3pm will go to this excellent cause.

The CRAFT FAYRE

on

SATURDAY 18TH OCTOBER

11am - 3pm

LOTS OF DIFFERENT CRAFTS AVAILABLE

Tea tickets £4 available from the Cafe or on the day.

FRIDAY 7TH NOVEMBER

Donations at the Cafe on this date will go to

POPPY SCOTLAND & SAFFA

At the end of the **REMEMBRANCE SERVICE**

on **SUNDAY 9TH NOVEMBER**

Teas & Coffees will be available in the Church Hall and
donations from that on the day will also go to
POPPY SCOTLAND & SAFFA

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



GIFT SERVICE 2025

How time flies! Yes, it is time to start planning for our Gift Service which will take place on Sunday 21st December. This year we are supporting **Fir Park School** for children who need supported education. Some of you may remember we also helped them several years ago.

All the teachers are delighted by our offer of support and have supplied the following list of items that would help and be enjoyed by the children.

If you choose to give a financial gift this would be used to go towards outdoor play equipment and other classroom extras.

A big thank you from me for your time and gifts to encourage and help the **Fir Park Children**.

Books + “feely” books + hard board books.

Sensory toys Musical toys Bubbles Building blocks Lego Duplo
Dinosaur toys Shaving Foam Dried Rice and Pasta Ziplock bags

Grace McKirdy

Christian Aid

Looking back 80 years to when it all began. Responding to the devastation of the Second World War in Europe in 1945, Churches across the UK started to use the National Day of Thanksgiving for Victory, 9th May, to show solidarity with Europe. They raised £80k so that partner churches in mainland Europe could support war-stricken communities.

The then newly named Inter-church Aid and Refugee Service went on in the 1950s to expand their work to Korea, Hong Kong, occupied Palestine and Europe. In 1957 we saw the first Christian Aid week as we know it today. It was the largest public act of Christian witness.

They also helped to found the Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) which went on to support 85 million people. From such humble beginnings Christian Aid has succeeded in supporting millions worldwide and continues

Nature Notes October 2025

As we approach Autumn I think we can definitely say it's been quite the year for sunny weather. With this however has come challenges for gardeners. Not only was it too hot to be out in the garden for long periods but watering became a daily chore.

I suppose in a small way it has given us a taste of what people in areas of drought have to deal with, remembering that they can't just turn on a tap and get water as we can do. A few days away and an unattended garden could be reduced to a wilderness with plants lost and grass struggling.

As our world heats up these challenges will become more prominent so please give a thought to those less fortunate, living in temperatures of 45°C and higher. These countries are trying hard to come up with solutions to deal with climate change such as building keyhole gardens with water aid helping them by providing much needed water. Our problems are so tiny and most of our gardens are for pleasure and not for existence.

Our wildlife is on the move with our summer residents heading off to warmer climes and our winter visitors are starting to arrive. It's lovely to hear the sound of pink footed geese flying over head.

The fledglings are now independent and starting to get their adult plumage which is lovely to watch. It's amazing to watch them go from small featherless beings to fully fledged birds.

I've been on a few bat walks recently, one of which was in Glasgows Botanic Garden. It was lovely to get the gardens to ourselves with the greenhouses lit up. It was a great evening with lots of enthusiastic visitors.

This is the mating time for the bats and preparation for hibernation (torpor). Like lots of other mammals they breed now but can delay fertilisation until spring. Animals never fail to amaze me. These tiny pipistrelle bats heart rates can range from 4 - 1000+beats/min which just blows my mind, to think something so small can survive with that range.

Many congratulations and thanks to Grow Uddingston for winning another Gold Award and for keeping the village and church grounds looking so beautiful.

Connie

We Think

We think, that what we need, is more stuff
 We think, that what we have, is not enough
 We think, what we have, is not good enough
 We think, that what we want, is what we need
 We think, that with more stuff, we'll be freed
 We think, that what we want, is not greed

We think, we need lots more money
 We think, we should all be funny
 We think, all days should be sunny
 We think, in our life, there should be no rain
 We think, in our life, there should be no pain
 We think, things go wrong, be put right again

We think, we're taught all the answers
 We think, we are not a load of chancers
 We think, when we're drunk, that we are dancers
 We think, that when we're sick, help comes quick
 We think, we're bright, that we're not thick
 We think, that we should know every trick

We think, that we are in control
 We think, that we don't need a soul
 We think, that we don't spoil it all
 We think, that we are always right
 We think, that we have the right
 We think, that we don't talk sh...

We think, that we know best
 We think, but ignore the rest
 We think, life is just a jest
 We think, we can ignore the rules
 We think, we are not the fools
 We think, there's fish, in all the pools

We think, we ignore what we cannot see
 We think, we ignore what we think cannot be
 We think, we'll ignore a passionate plea
 We think, we ignore what other people say
 We think, every day to be our day
 We think, that life is just a play

We think, I am right and you are wrong
 We think, that life's a sort of song
 We think, food comes when we hear a gong
 We think, life is better for a dog
 We think, we'd be better even as a frog
 We think, we'd see clear in a fog

We think, we live life from a box
 We think, we're as smart as any fox
 We think, we live life behind too many locks
 We think, we live life from a jail
 We think, life is seas to sail
 We think, are we all doomed to fail?

We think we think, I think, we think too much

B B J May 2021

'THE BIBLE IN 52 WEEKS' Meet in in our Session House.

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

Thursdays at 7pm with discussion taking place around 8pm



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:

October

6th Falls Awareness Talk



13th The Price Is Right



20th Denise Entertains

27th Singalong

November

3rd Table Talk



10th War Memory Quiz

17th Crafts



24th Concert

December

1st Crafts



8th Singalong

15th Lunch



22nd Holiday

29th Twixmas Lunch

LIFE'S CROSSROADS

*This life is a series of crossroads,
The meeting and parting of ways,
The places we look for a signpost
To guide us through life's tangled maze.
The path may be sunlit and cheerful,
Wild flowers bloom bright in the hedge,
The distant horizon be hopeful
And offer a promise and pledge.*



*But then as the crossroads draw nearer,
Dark shadows obscure all the views,
And which way to turn is the problem,
The words on the signpost are few.
Each time you arrive at a junction
And you have decisions to make,
Be true to yourself and have courage,
And you'll know which pathway to take.*

Iris Hesselden

Citizen's Advice Older Persons Out Reach Clinic

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

Friday 24th October 11am to 2pm

Future dates:

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.**

This prayer, which was often recited in air-raid
shelters during the days and nights of the Blitz
during the Second World War, is no less
relevant today.

*Increase, O God, the spirit of neighbourliness
among us,*

That in peril we may uphold one another,

In calamity serve one another,

In suffering tend one another

And in homeliness and loneliness

In exile befriend one another.

Grant us brave and enduring hearts

That we may strengthen one another,

*Till the disciplines and testing of these days be
ended.*