

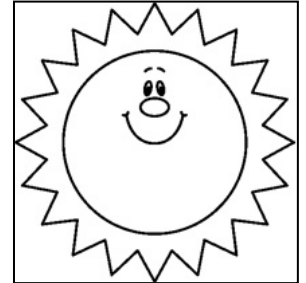
UDDINGSTON OLD PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Charity Number SC016893



MAGAZINE

June 2026



Pastoral Letter

“I will be with you always, to the end of the age.”

Matthew 28 verse 20

Dear Friends

In November 2006, Larry Smith, founder of what was then called SMITH Magazine began an interesting story telling about a project called ‘Six-Word Memoirs’. Larry Smith gave the Six-word Novel a personal twist by asking his community to describe their lives in exactly six words. Legend has it that Ernest Hemingway was once challenged to write a story in only six words. His response? **“For sale: baby shoes, never worn.”** People who subscribed to the magazine accepted the challenge and sent in short life stories in droves: From the bittersweet (**“Cursed with cancer, blessed with friends”**) and poignant (**“I still make coffee for two”**) to the inspirational (**“From migrant worker to NASA astronaut”**). and hilarious (**“Married by Elvis, divorced by Friday”**). And from these responses that Six-Word Memoir project was born. More than 1.5 million people have shared Six-Word Memoirs on SixWordMemoirs.com as well as in classrooms, churches, and at live Six-Word “slams” across the world.

If you could tell your story in six words, I wonder what it would be?

What about our story of faith, could we sum it up in only six words?

If we look at Jesus’s Great Commission that could be consolidated into a wonderful six word command **‘Go, make disciples, baptise and teach’**. By doing so we would get the high points of Jesus message that - we are called to go out into the world to make disciples. However there are another six words of Jesus that tells us another important story. They are the words that follow the Great Commission They are the words that provide strength and comfort, call and challenge. One could say that this is the six word memoir of Jesus: **‘Remember I am with you always’**.

Remember, Jesus says: Never forget when times get hard, when the world feels dark, when it feels like no one is there, **‘Remember I am with you always’**.

When life is going well and it feels like everything is falling into place **‘Remember I am with you always’**.

In good times and times of darkness, in moments of hope and moments of hopelessness, **‘Remember I am with you always’**. In the light of day and the darkness of night **‘Remember I am with you always’**. For there is nowhere we can go where God is not, even death cannot separate God from God’s people so:

‘Remember I am with you always’!

One could say that this is the greatest story ever to be told in 6 words ... but what about your story ... Are we willing to tell others the greatest story even in only 6 words? Maybe that’s the challenge for us! ... What is your story in six words and are you ready and willing to tell? ... Answers on a postcard!

Blessings

Rev Fiona

Reverend Fiona McKibbin

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Next Issue

Articles for the
September Magazine
to the editor no later
than
Thursday 27th August
2026
Available
Sunday 6th Sept. 2026
We are always happy to
receive articles for
inclusion in your
magazine
by email to
magazine@uddingstonold.org
or on paper

Church Roll Intimations

Deaths

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

Mr John Murray Ritchie (Jack)

Date of Death: 2nd May 2026

Stay connected with the
Uddingston Old Parish Church
and

Rev Fiona McKibbin

01698 814757

fmckibbin@churchofscotland.org.uk

CHRISTMAS GIFT SERVICE 2026

Every year we support a children's charity with practical and financial gifts at our Gift Service in December.

This year I am asking for your help.

Do you know of any group who are reasonably local and would be grateful for our support? We try to aim our help towards children but do not exclude anyone.

If you know of such a group could you please let me know and I will make contact to see if we can help. The decision as to whom we help will be made by the Minister and Kirk Session.

Please speak to me of any suggestions or put a note in my pigeonhole.

Thank you always for your support.
Grace McKirdy



Door Duty Rota

Morning Service at 11am
Front Door teams for the next 3 months

June

14th	Team 1	Jillian Ballantyne
21st	Team 2	Colin Pettigrew
28th	Team 3	Helen Cuthbert

July

5th	Team 4	Muriel McCandlish
12th	Team 5	Andrew McCandlish
19th	Team 6	Walker Lyttle
26th	Team 7	Liz Lyttle

August

2nd	Team 8	Mary Fox
9th	Team 1	Jillian Ballantyne
16th	Team 2	Colin Pettigrew
23rd	Team 3	Helen Cuthbert
30th	Team 4	Muriel McCandlish

September

6th	Team 5	Andrew McCandlish
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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.

Thank You

Thank you very much for the beautiful flowers I received on Sunday 31st May. It was a lovely surprise to receive them .
Margaret Sutherland

Shake hands with a garden millionaire,
Uncanny wealth awaits me there.

A seam of beauty to behold
Is a bank of roses filled with gold.

Senecio in silver shades;

The emeralds of leafy glades.

Adorning horticulture's crown

Are other jewels of renown --

Lilies blossom to proclaim

Each one's a gem, and such a name

Can also be afforded to

Delphiniums in sapphire blue.

A fuchsia's ruby-coloured glow

Puts on a pendant-conscious show

With begonias eager to recall

The topaz nature of them all.

Unusual and unsurpassed

Is such a fortune I've amassed.

With all the assets I espy

The soil is rich ... and so am I

J.M. Robertson

Calling all Knitters

Pastoral Care needs your help. We are hoping to knit some Christmas trees to give to our members who are in Care Homes.

The pattern is below.

It is important that the triangles are knitted, by the same person in batches of 18, the trees then look better.

Thank you. Mary

Knitted Christmas Tree Pattern

TREE - D.K. Green Wool

No 10 needles Knit 18 triangles

Cast on 17 stitches

Knit 3 rows

4th row & every alternate row:

K2, purl to last 2sts, Knit 2

5th row Knit

7th row K2, slip1, K1 pssso,

knit to last 4 sts, K2tog, K2 (15 sts)

9th row Knit

11th row Repeat row 7 (13 sts)

13th row Knit

15th row Repeat row 7 (11 sts)

17th row Repeat row 7 (9 sts)

19th row Repeat row 7 (7 sts)

21st row K2,slip1,K2tog,pssso,K2 (5sts)

23rd row K1,slip1,K2tog,pssso,K1 (3sts)

25th row K3tog & fasten off.

TRUNK - Brown DK Wool

Knit 2 pieces

Cast on 13sts & garter stitch 22rows.

Cast off

POT - Red DK

Knit 2 pieces

Cast on 30 stitches

[Worked in Garter stitch for total of 28rows]

[decrease on rows 7, 11, 15, 19, 23, 25]

Decrease rows:

k1, K2tog through the back, knit to last 3sts,

K2tog, k1

STAR - Yellow DK

Knit 10 pieces

Cast on 1 st. increase twice into st. (3sts)

2nd row & every alternate row:

k1, purl to last st K1

3rd row k1, m1, k1,m1 k1 (5sts)

5th row k1, m1, k3, m1, k1 (7sts)

7th row k1, m1, k5, m1, k1 (9sts)

9th row Knit

11th row Decrease row: K1,K2tog through the back, K to last 3sts, K2tog, K1 (7sts)

13th row Knit

15th Row Repeat row 11 (5sts)

17th row Knit

19th row K1,slip next 2sts,k1,pssso,K1 (3sts)

21st row K3tog. & fasten off.



Church Financial Information

I have now been working with the Church Finance Group and doing the bookkeeping for Church Accounts since summer 2025. The role of bookkeeper has at times proved testing, at other times enjoyable and rewarding, but always interesting. My thanks go to David Lang and the finance group for their ongoing support.

Below is a summary of the financial transactions on the General Fund since the start of 2026. If you have any questions regarding this information, please do not hesitate to speak to me.

Louise K

Charity Giving

The 2025 income from the Wm Simmons bequest was donated to the following charities:

Mary's Meals	£1500	Maggie's Monklands	£625
Kilbryde Hospice	£1000	PHEW	£625
St Andrew's Hospice	£1000	Sunshine Centre	£1500

In addition, a £140 retiring offering was donated to the Scottish Bible Society as the West of Scotland Bible Society is no longer in operation.

The Twixmas Lunch, Family Ceilidh and our March retiring offering supported the Lodging House Mission (Glasgow) to the tune of £658.10

Letters of thanks have been received from these charities with the request that their thanks be passed to you, so once again, many thanks to all who have donated and to those who helped organise, staff and attend the events, fund collections and counts in order to support these worthy charities over the last few months.

WaterAid and Christian Aid

In addition, the generous donations that you have given to our Lent Collection for WaterAid and our envelope, retiring offerings and Souper Sunday Event for Christian Aid have been gathered and as a result


£1076 has been donated to **WaterAid** and **£934** to **Christian Aid**.

Special thanks to our Girls Brigade for collecting their coins for WaterAid - the sum of almost £140 they generously raised pushed the Church total over the £1000 - well done girls and thank you!

UOPC General Fund Income and Expenditure

As far as our own church income and expenditure goes, here is a glimpse of our **January to April 2026** figures:

<u>INCOME</u>	£
Open Plate, Standing Orders and WFO	39,914
Tax Recovered	10,073
Other Income	<u>1,960</u>
Total Income	51,947
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Giving to Grow (Allocation to COS)	26,118
Presbytery Dues	2,780
Utilities (Gas, Elec., Water)	12,190
Local Expenditure*	<u>15,455</u>
Total Expenditure	56,543



QRCode

We now have an Uddingston Old QR Code for electronic donations.

Many people no longer carry cash and it is hoped that the QR Code will be useful for visitors to both the Church and our website. This is in addition to the established forms of giving by Standing Order, WFO and cash.

*Local Expenditure includes items such as stationery, photocopying, maintenance costs (church, manse and grounds), salaries (excluding minister), Council Tax and Insurance.

Monday Club

All are welcome on
Mondays 2pm till approximately 3.30pm
Coming programme:

June

9th Summer Serenade



16th Kristine Donnan Entertains



23rd Summer Picnic

August

17th Bite & Blether



24th Price is Right



31st Singalong

September

7th Table Talk



Christian Aid

After a very successful fundraiser in the church for Christian Aid which totalled just over £930 it would be good to see how that money could be used.

£5 - could buy the seeds to kick-start a family's vegetable garden.

£15 - could help buy hand tools that mean an urban farmer can tend their crops

£30- could help fund the solar dryer that turns fresh produce into valuable long-life products.

£250 - could help purchase three tablets that a training group share to access farming news, weather forecasts, market prices and mobile banking.

£400 - could help fund the 50 seater tent that hosts meetings, training sessions and covered markets; and generates income through hire.

£1000 - could establish a soil free hydroponic farm, complete with 2000l water tank and solar powered irrigation for an urban farming group who are transforming their lives.

It's good to transform your donations into how they will actually be used and how that could improve lives in countries struggling to cope with starvation, lack of water and lack of a safe place to stay. So when you fill that envelope it's not just money it's saving lives across the world.

Thank you all for supporting Christian Aid.

Citizen's Advice Older Persons Out Reach Clinic

The next Citizen's Advice Outreach Clinic will take place in the side sanctuary on
Friday 12th June 11am to 2pm

Future dates:

Friday 10th July

Friday 14th August

Friday 11th September

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

Money Advice - Financial Services

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

A Teller of tales and a dreamer of dreams,
A builder of bridges, and a planner of schemes,
Could this be one person? You think it untrue?
But just look again, for that person is you!
Look back on your life and take stock of the years,
And all you accomplished through laughter and tears.

Remember the children, how they took your hand?
Remember the stories, adventures you planned?
And how you nursed someone in sickness and pain,
No thought of reward and no question of gain?

You may not feel clever, stand out in a crowd,
But count your achievements, be thankful and proud,

And look to the future, there's much to be done,
There's joy to be earned and love to be won.
Keep building your bridges and planning your schemes.

Remember that you are the weaver of dreams

Iris Hesselden.