

UDDINGSTON OLD PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Charity Number SC016893



MAGAZINE

September 2026

Pastoral Letter



Dear Friends

A few weeks ago, I was in Tesco's doing mum's shopping when I walked past the aisle which was stocking Christmas selection boxes. My heart sank as it was only August. When did our life become so hectic. When did we lose the ability to enjoy the seasons without being rushed into another. If truth be told I would like to enjoy the autumn season.

The colours, the unpredictable weather and the changing landscape. Time for me at this moment is precious. Family at this moment is precious and I don't want to be rushed. I want to embrace conversations, time together without constantly looking at the clock or my diary dictating where I should be although I need that to allow me to focus on the tasks ahead. I just don't want to be ruled by it.

In many ways I would like to regain my Sabbath whatever shape or form that will look like. I would like to spend time in the hills with God, however due to some injuries that has been placed on the back burner until the body recovers.

I also want Sundays especially Worship to be a place where people come to be renewed, refreshed as well as challenged. I don't want Sundays to become a chore for those who walk through our doors especially those in leadership roles. It should be a time for worship and praise to God, an opportunity to strengthen our faith, a time of fellowship. There is something about those days gone by when a Sunday was a time for church and family. There were very few shops open, the transport into town was few and far between. It was a day of rest, snuggled up on the couch watching television or playing board games around the table. Depending on the weather it was a day for walking to the park and playing on the swings. It was a time of bliss. No hustle and bustle as it is today. No one felt lazy, no one felt like they should be doing anything else. Sadly, for many now this is not the case.

We are challenged more, people are demanding more, and if we don't seem to be busy then we are deemed as lazy.

Remind me where it says that all of us must live our lives at a constant 24-7 pace. Where has our Sabbath gone. Let's reclaim our 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 find some quiet time in our busy world and pause as the world rushes by. As Jesus says:

Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me, watch how I do it.

Learn the unforced rhythms of grace.

Matthew 11:28-30 (The message)

Blessings, Rev Fiona

Reverend Fiona McKibbin



Inside This Issue

Church Roll Intimations
Stay Connected
Thank You
Church QR Code
Door Duty Rota
I Don't
Church QR Code
Monday Club
Citizen's Advice
Outreach Clinic
Community Cafe
Nature Notes

Next Issue

Articles for the
October Magazine
to the editor no later
than
**Thursday 24th Sept.
2026**
Available
Sunday 4th Oct. 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

Baptisms



Sunday 19th July 2026

Andrew Richard Iain Charlton

Son of Gavin & Carolyn (nee Butler)

Deaths

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

Mr John Smith Mackie

Date of Death: 5th July 2026
and

Mrs Elizabeth Fox

Date of Death: 18th July 2026

Stay connected with the
Uddingston Old Parish Church
and

Rev Fiona McKibbin

01698 814757

fmckibbin@churchofscotland.org.uk

Thank you from the Fox Family

David, his sisters and the wider family, would like to
thank everyone for their cards and messages of
support, following the death of their Mother
Elizabeth, everyone has been so kind.
The amount raised for the Beatson Cancer Charity
was £900

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.

Door Duty Rota

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

September

6th	Team 5	Andrew McCandlish
13th	Team 6	Walker Lyttle
20th	Team 7	Liz Lyttle
27th	Team 8	Mary Fox

October

4th	Team 1	Jillian Ballantyne
	(Communion)	
11th	Team 2	Colin Pettigrew
18th	Team 3	Helen Cuthbert
25th	Team 4	Muriel Mccandlish

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.

I Don't!

I don't want to be part of this world no more.
A world that's divided by bigotry and hate.
A world where governments lie and cheat
Then tell us all, that they're just so great.
A world where people don't help each other.
Only care about themselves and no other.
A world where being happy means being rich.
And getting there by being a bitch.
Shying away from helping others
Not caring for sister and brothers.
A world full of control and manipulation.
Controlling the people in every nation.
Each population just wants to get on with their
lives.
We're all sick of political lies.
The media is supposed to give factual news.
But is now filled with corrupt political views.
Hatred should not be part of daily life
Hatred just causes fear and strife
We all know life can't always be easy
So much stress and uncertainty
So much pressure to deal with.
So much anger and disappointment
Things changing so quickly
Prices growing daily
Life passes by so fast.
If you are not first, you feel like you're last.
Just how long can this stupidity last.
When we were younger life was such a blast.
I shouldn't have to say this twice.
Why can't people just be nice.

Jean du Jardin - July 2026

Monday Club

All are welcome on

Mondays 2pm till approximately 3.30pm

Coming programme:

September

7th Table Talk

14th LEAP Project

21st Christine McMurdy Entertains

28th Singalong

**October**

5th Bite & Blether

12th Linda Smith CAB

19th Singalong

26th Mask Decorating, Dooking for Apples

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

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

Community Cafe

There will be a Bake Sale from Friday 4th September till Friday 18th September in aid of
The British Heart Foundation.

Orders can be made on a Friday at the Cafe or on Sundays at the Morning Service

Nature Notes September

Hope everyone's had a great summer and managed to enjoy the good weather we had. It was a bit too hot at some points but nice to see the sun. The plants have loved it and the church gardens look amazing. Thanks to all the gardeners that contribute to that. It has been a challenge to keep them watered but that just shows the commitment.

At the Reserve we have had a bumper year for new migrant visitors and successful breeding. Our little ringed plovers were very successful, they are such sweet wee birds. They look like one of the wee toys you used to get that when wound up would shoot across the floor. They provide great viewing for everyone.

There have been lots of birds of prey onsite with regular visits from ospreys, peregrine falcons, marsh harriers to name a few. They excel in flying displays, very skilled. Some of the hawks fight by locking their talons and spinning around mid-air sometimes hanging upside down. Its spectacular to watch.

I continue to survey with ORCA up the West coast and was on the Skye triangle in August. This route leaves From Uig on Skye and goes to both North Uist and Harris.

We had just started our survey and within minutes the shout went out for two orcas ahead. To say we were excited was an understatement. The two orcas were the legendary John- Coe and Aquarius the last two in the resident west coast pod. They are both roughly 60 years old which is amazing for orcas.

I have waited over forty years to see these boys and still can't quite believe I've now seen them, they are like two celebrities. I have spoken about them before so just had to share my good fortune.

There was a buzz on the bridge as the crew love to see them although the Captain missed them and told us if they appeared again to give him a shout. I can certainly say it made my day, that's a lifer for me. I don't think any other survey is going to top that one unless I see them again. Sadly they probably won't be around for much longer although I hope they are. It was a blessed day.

The solar eclipse proved a bit disappointing for a lot of people. I went down the Clyde coast but it was too cloudy. We did feel the drop in temperature and saw the gravitational pull on the tide but that was it. Never one to miss an opportunity I did a land survey and saw two pods of porpoises, 15 in one pod so it wasn't a wasted evening.

Connie