

Williamwood Parish Church

Newsletter 2

February 2021



Message from the Manse

It's often said that *patience is a virtue*. It's certainly one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit identified in the New Testament book of Galatians (Gal. 5:22). In these difficult times it can be difficult to cultivate and display the patience we know we should find part of our nature. There is so much for which we are longing and for which we are impatient: longer, lighter days and warmer weather; Covid vaccinations; the end to this pandemic; our return to our church building and the removal of limitations on the number of people who can worship together.

We must be patient – but in our patient waiting, we can help one another by keeping in touch and keeping our spirits up.

Remember if you need help – or if you just want a chat – call your elder or the Minister whether or not you are a member of our congregation. We're here for everyone.

Most of all, let us try to wait patiently on God, open to God's presence with us which brings peace and provides hope that, through Christ, things will be different; things will be better - for he shows us that God's love conquers all; never fails; brings light out of darkness; and is ours for ever. May God's blessing be upon you throughout these days.

Worship in February 2021

We know that, in line with the COVID restrictions which have been extended till mid-February, that our church building will be closed up until then and there will then be a little time needed for cleaning and other preparations before we open again. At the time of writing it is likely the church building will remain closed throughout February at least.

During this time our church services will be online via *Zoom*.

We'll gather for worship each Sunday at 11am and following the service there will be time to chat together in smaller groups.

The *Zoom link* will be sent out each week. Feel free to pass it on to anyone who wishes to join our worship.

If you do not currently receive a *Zoom* invitation to worship and would like one, please contact Evelyn Wallace.

If you need help with *Zoom*, please contact your elder in the first instance.

Please remember – and let others know – you can join in simply by using your telephone. You dial a number which you will be given and the call is charged at local rates.

Church Access

There is strictly ***no access*** to our church buildings during February. Only our Security Team Leader and one of our Property Conveners will enter the buildings to carry out the regular checks we are required to have in place. Please contact the Session Clerk if you think you have an urgent reason to need access to the buildings.

A Tartan Tipple

Our Events Committee has arranged an online social evening with a Scottish flavour which will take place from 7.00pm on Sunday 31st January.

Bring your own tipple or cup of tea to your screen and join us for something a little different! There will be music and song by guest performers and some other things to enjoy. A link will be sent to those for whom we have email addresses. If you'd like a link but are not on our mailing list, please get in touch. Further details on our website and Facebook pages.



Transport to Vaccination Appointments

To assist anyone who has a **COVID-19 VACCINATION** appointment and who may struggle to get there, Cosgrove is co-ordinating volunteer support to provide lifts where possible.

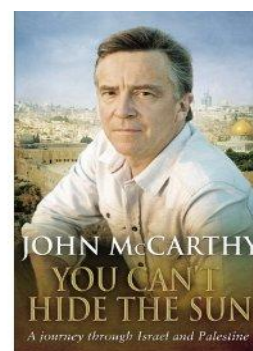


All the volunteers will be wearing the requisite PPE equipment and will be compliant with the guidelines regarding no unnecessary contact. We know that it can be particularly daunting to elderly members of the community to take a trip outside at the moment, and so we would just like to offer a friendly face that can assist if required. Cosgrove will be providing petrol expenses for the drivers, and so this will be a completely free service for anyone that needs it.

People can get in touch either by emailing care@cosgrovecare.org.uk or by phoning 01416202500, by doing either, someone will get back to them asap to assist.

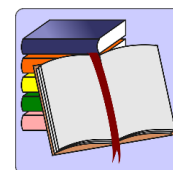
Embrace the Middle East (formerly Biblelands Society)

Embrace the Middle East is a charity whose work we have supported in the past and whose materials we have used at Christmas; for Lent studies and with school children. This year their Annual Lecture is given by John McCarthy, the journalist and broadcaster who was held captive in Beirut for a number of years in the late eighties/early nineties. It is being offered online and free on the afternoon of 30th January; the afternoon of 1st February; morning of 3rd February; evening of 4th February. If you'd like to hear this, register at www.embraceme.org/annual-lecture-2021.



Williamwood Church Book Group

There has been a suggestion that we might start a Book Group for those interested in sharing their thoughts on books they are currently reading or have previously read. The idea is that, for now, those interested might meet via Zoom and thereafter might meet in person in our church building at a time which suits and with tea and coffee. The first online session might simply be to share recommendations of books you think others would enjoy reading.



If you'd be interested in taking part in this, please contact Mary Montgomery on 0141 258 8447 or aileen5@hotmail.com

Fairtrade Fortnight 2021



Fairtrade Fortnight 2021 takes place from 22nd February – 7th March

We remind you that our local Scotmid and other local stores carry a considerable range of *fairtrade* goods from fruit to flowers; wine and chocolate etc. You might wish to consider consciously choosing *fairtrade* products during this fortnight and beyond.



Climate Conference: Glasgow November 2021

COP26 the international climate conference takes place in Glasgow in November of this year. Volunteers are now being sought to assist visitors to the city in a variety of ways from their arrivals at the airport or other transport hubs to getting around the city and other general enquiries (This is much the same as at the Commonwealth Games in 2014). Training and uniforms are provided. If you'd like to help and are free from the end of October through into the early part of November 2021 go on to the website, find out more and sign up. (www.Ukcop26.org.uk/volunteer).

Meetings

The Events Committee meets, via *Zoom*, on Tuesday 2nd February

The Presbytery of Glasgow meets, via *Zoom*, 9th February

The Kirk Session and Congregational Board meet jointly (via *Zoom*) on 10th February to consider the Financial Statement 2020 the Budget 2021.

Pass it on

We'd be grateful if elders would print out and post a copy of this Newsletter to anyone in their district who does not have online access. If you are unable to do this please pass the names of those requiring print copy to Evelyn Wallace or Margaret Robertson. Postage costs will be refunded.

CHURCH CONTACTS & INFORMATION

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