

# Williamwood Parish Church

## August/September 2023

### Newsletter



#### **Summer Time....**

and we hope everyone enjoyed some time to relax and maybe even go away for a day or longer. We hope everyone is feeling refreshed and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to services, groups, activities and the various things taking place as part of our Events programme.



**Thank you**.....to everyone who took part in our services over the summer helping us to *Focus On*....some aspects of our Christian service and contributing to *This is my Story* ; *this is my Song* sharing such interesting stories of what their chosen hymn meant to them.

#### **Thank you....**

to members of the Property Committee who have undertaken a considerable number of often messy and complex jobs both inside and outside over the summer weeks to ensure our sanctuary and halls are ready for use by the large numbers of groups and individuals who come into them on a weekly basis.

#### **Rev Alastair Cherry**

We are grateful to the Rev Alastair Cherry who is regularly taking part in leading worship and other aspects of our congregational life.

#### **Rev Beckie Bartocho**

We have received a card from Beckie thanking Williamwood for time with us. She is now serving as an Assistant Minister in St Andrew's East Parish Church and St Rollox Parish Church and hoping that vacancies become available within the Church in order that she may get settled permanently in a parish or position before too long.

#### **Congregational Roll**

##### **Deaths:**

Helen Clunas; Sunnyside Drive, (funeral 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023)

Anna Mackenzie; 1/1, 1 Seres Court, (funeral 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023)

#### **Sunday School...**

resumes for a new session on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August. Please do encourage any Nursery or Primary School age children you know to come along and join in the fun.

The Minister would like to have some pictures of places visited by our girls and boys and Sunday School leaders during the summer to show on the screens at our service on 27<sup>th</sup> August. Please send any pictures you have to [blacksabode@gooqlemail.com](mailto:blacksabode@gooqlemail.com)

## **Youth Leaders' Evening**

All of those who act as leaders in our Youth Groups (Brownies; Scouts; all Boys' Brigade sections); our Sunday School Leaders and the visiting/liaison elders for these groups are invited to meet on 14<sup>th</sup> August at 7pm so that, along with the Minister, we can think about plans for the new session. Could leaders in charge of groups please let Margaret Robertson know the numbers attending from your group for catering purposes?

## **Summer Sunday Evening Concert Series**

The fourth and final concert in our Summer Sunday evening series takes place in the sanctuary on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August at 7pm with refreshments served in the Hall afterwards. Entry by donation

Thanks you to Diego, our Director of Music and those from the Events Team who have organised this concert series which has been thoroughly enjoyable.



**The choir** is looking forward to starting up practices again on Thursday evenings at 7.30 in the session house. Anyone who enjoys singing is welcome to come along on the evening. Further information to follow.

## **The Guild**

It is hard to believe that the summer is nearly over and we are thinking about our winter syllabus. We are changing our Guild afternoon to a Monday from 2pm to 4pm which enables us to meet in the Session Room. We hope that by changing our meeting day that we will be able to attract some new faces. Please remember the Guild is open to everyone, not just ladies of a certain age!



Our syllabus from October to December is as follows:

Oct 2 Guild Theme – New Wine, New Wineskins & Communion  
Oct 16 Street Pastors  
Oct 30 Optical Confusion  
Nov 13 Open Doors UK  
Nov 27 Guild Project – Home for Good  
Dec 11 Christmas Lunch

Rev Jan Mathieson  
Rev Calum Macdonald  
John Martindale  
Chris Greenhough

We do hope that you will give considerable thought to coming to join us at any of our meetings that interest you. We will be very pleased to see you and you will be made most welcome.

## **Goalies**

*Goalies*, our gentleman's lunch group, meets for lunch at Williamwood Golf Club at 1pm on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September.

See Rev Alastair Cherry for further information and to request transport.

## **TEA SETT at Rouken Glen Garden Centre**



Following the success of Beckie's Coffee Time we're going to continue the monthly get-togethers for morning tea/coffee at Rouken Glen Garden Centre. All are welcome to come along. The first gathering will take place on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September at 10.30am. Contact person for further information should you require it - Anne Reid - 0141 638 5267. Please do just come along - no need to book a space!

## **Used Stamps**

We collect used stamps in support of World Mission projects.

This year the project is located in Malawi and provides seeds, plants and training to women in order to increase food sustainability for their families.

See Jim Purvis for further information

## **Lodging House Mission and Carnwadric Food Bank**

Thank you to those who have supported these groups during the summer by making donations of foods or money. Thank you to the team of volunteers who deliver to both Carnwadric and Lodging House Mission on a regular basis.

We continue to collect items for both centres which cater for individuals and families in need. Collection boxes are in the front vestibule of the church.

## **Presbytery Planning**

There is little new to report about Presbytery Planning within Glasgow Presbytery save that the Presbytery Mission Plan has been approved but with some points highlighted for further detail or discussion. Within our Cluster we are asked to consider buildings designations and we will begin to do this after the summer period. Our building at Williamwood is used extensively during the week and has been maintained well. The sanctuary is busy on a Sunday. It would be reasonable to make a strong case for designating our building as 'A' which means it is a necessary building in the life of the Presbytery Mission Plan.



### **Church Gardening Update**

We have had a pleasant and productive year in the church garden over the summer months. The weather has been kind to us every alternative Tuesday evening and at the time of writing this we have not had to cancel yet.

The pots have been successful again this year and given us some colour at the entrances. It is hoped that we will have some winter colour when the time comes for winter bedding.

In memory of Norah Gray, Douglas has had a Camellia planted in front of the large notice board which we hope will flower in future spring times. Thanks to Jean Little for help with this.



Some of you will have noticed that the last large tree on the Seres Road side fell down this summer, probably due to the great lean it had and an extremely soggy early July. It is hoped that we will be planting at least one new small tree at that side, and to this end we will be doing coffee after church a couple of Sundays to help pay for these, so keep an eye out for this after church. Having now done a little research we may want to plant in October / November or March / April.

Jan has donated lots of bulbs she got free, unfortunately they are too late for this season but we should be planting them out in the early spring of next year, in the beds and in pots, for some more summer colour in 2024.

The large hedges on the Vardar Avenue are still quite a struggle and I think special thanks should go to Wally for cutting them this year over two days, with a second cut hopefully being carried out in October. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the gardening team for their work over the summer. We couldn't do all that is needed and the gardens would quickly overgrow without your help and continued support and enthusiasm. Our last gardening Tuesday is 29<sup>th</sup> August, but we will probably arrange a separate day time date for tree planting and pot refreshing in early October at a suitable date. **Thanks again everyone, Joan Black.**



## ***The Brownies***

finished off for the summer in the middle of May with a 'Girl-guiding Friendship Day' at Rouken Glen Park where we joined Rainbows, Brownies and Guides from all over the County for an afternoon of fresh-air, friendship and fun. We then met in the church halls the following Wednesday for an indoor beach party to put us all in the mood for the summer ahead. We finished the evening by saying goodbye to our three oldest Brownies who would be turning 10 over the summer. We are now well rested and looking forward to our new session which starts on Wednesday the 6th of September. The leaders are delighted to say that, as it stands, we are now full for the year ahead and are looking forward to welcoming the new recruits to our unit in September! We hope everyone has had a great summer. Lorna, Fiona, Karen, Lindsay & Kirsty (the leaders).



## **Becoming a Communicant member of Williamwood Parish Church**

If you – or anyone you know – is not a communicant member of our congregation at Williamwood you or they might want to consider becoming so.

If you have been a member of another denomination or congregation, you simply need to contact the Session Clerk and ask about transferring your membership to Williamwood.

If you have not been a communicant member here or elsewhere, you may wish to speak to the minister. Usually people are 'admitted' during the service where they are asked to profess faith in Jesus Christ by answering a simple question followed by a prayer said by the minister. Sometimes it is possible to become a member by asking the Kirk Session to allow your name to be added to our Roll.

The Minister is happy to discuss these options with anyone who would like to explore communicant membership.



It was a few months ago but thank you to everyone who supported the fundraising events during Christian Aid Week back in May.

The Coffee Day at Anne's house, as well as being a very nice social occasion, raised £806 – a magnificent sum. Many thanks to all those who gave so generously of their time, talents and money to make this possible. A number of people who could not be there also donated bringing the total amount raised to £989.

The "Coffee after Church" on the two Sundays of Christian Aid Week raised £73 and £40. Donations were also made via the offering plate on these two Sundays and some members may also have donated online via Christian Aid's website.

Overall an amazing total and our heartfelt thanks to everyone for their generosity.

We really do appreciate all the support. This money, as well as the amounts raised by the other Churches on the Clarkston Committee, will be well used by Christian Aid wherever in the world it is needed most through the projects they support as well as responding to emergency situations which arise.

Anne & Ross

Anne Clark 644 4776 Ross McGhee 638 4883, Christian Aid Representatives.

### ***Minister on Holiday***

The Minister hopes to be on holiday for some of September. Details to follow.

### ***Fairtrade***

There will be Fairtrade Stall in the hall after church on Sunday 20th August.

## Flower calendar

A big **thank you** to those listed below who are providing the flowers in the Church over the next few months. They are greatly appreciated by those in the Church and those who receive them after the service on Sunday.



AUGUST		SEPTEMBER	
6 <sup>th</sup>	Sheena Skelton	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ann Bruce
13 <sup>th</sup>	Evelyn Wallace	10 <sup>th</sup>	Irene Russell
20 <sup>th</sup>	Margo King	17 <sup>th</sup>	Margaret Mathieson
27 <sup>th</sup>	Catherine Carson	24 <sup>th</sup>	Irene Nimmo
OCTOBER		NOVEMBER	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Ann Reid	5 <sup>th</sup>	Margaret Petrie
8 <sup>th</sup>	Evelyn Graham	12 <sup>th</sup>	Carole Fergusson
15 <sup>th</sup>	Murdoch Hodge	19 <sup>th</sup>	Irene Russell
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Scott Ratcliffe (Wedding)	26 <sup>th</sup>	Liz Taylor
9 <sup>th</sup>	Tony Drysdale		

**Articles for the September Newsletter should be with Evelyn Wallace by September 27th**



16 August	Events Committee meets
30 August	Kirk Session meets for ordinary business
3 September at 11.00am	Service with the celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion
11 September	FASHION NIGHT presented by Taylor's Fashions. Tickets available soon
Sunday 8th October at 1100am	Service of Thanksgiving for Harvest. Further information to follow.

## CHURCH CONTACTS & INFORMATION

**Minister - Rev Jan Mathieson** Telephone: 0141 579 9997  
**E-mail:** JMathieson@churchofscotland.org.uk  
**Session Clerk - Margaret Robertson** Telephone: 07778148181  
**E-mail:** margarectrobertson@gmail.com  
**Deputy Session Clerk: Stuart Young** 0141 577 5707  
**Website:** www.new.williamwoodparish.church  
**Clerk:** Forbes Barron 0141 638 7408  
**Treasurer:** Grant Keyes 01355 220033

<b>Safeguarding Contact:</b> Minister / Neil Little	<b>News Bulletin:</b> Evelyn Wallace
<b>Web Page:</b> Editor: Joan Black	<b>Facebook:</b> Lorna Barsanti
<b>Sunday School:</b> Maureen McCulloch	<b>Media Team:</b> David Liddell <b>Data Protection Roll Keeper</b>
<b>Hall Lets:</b> Fiona Gunning	<b>Director of Music:</b> Diego Rodriguez
<b>Guild Contact Person:</b> Evelyn Graham	<b>Flower Convener:</b> Jean Little

### **McCarthy School of Dance**

Our new term commences on Tuesday 15th August for senior classes, and Saturday 19th August for junior classes.

**Clarkston Nursery** will be starting back in a few weeks and we still have some spaces to fill. Spaces are available, children can attend from 2 years 3 months, and anyone interested should contact Eleni on [info@clarkstonnursery.co.uk](mailto:info@clarkstonnursery.co.uk).



## **Re-Engage Clarkston**

My name is Sarah and I work for Re-engage as their engagement officer for Scotland.

You may have heard of Re-engage, or you may know nothing about what we do, we are a charity committed to reducing loneliness and isolation amongst the UK's oldest old – 75 and over. With 100,000 older people in Scotland stating that they feel lonely all or most of the time and 200,000 going half a week or more without a visit or call from anyone, we are needed now more than ever.

We are an independent organisation that gives older people something to look forward to. We currently have a telephone befriending service ([call companions](#)) and we also offer a telephone befriending service specifically for older people from the LGBT+ community (rainbow call companions) offering weekly calls from volunteers who also identify from the community. We have in person social groups ([monthly tea party gatherings](#)) where older people can interact and socialise with volunteers and other older people. All of our services are free of charge.

Our volunteers work together to create better communities and help to enrich the lives of our members by giving them something to look forward to. Older people who may have felt very alone, now feel valued as individuals, continue to form friendships, and have groups that give support. We make sure that people know they are important well into old age. Our Clarkston group is at risk of closure if we cannot get a new volunteer group coordinator in post. All of our roles only require a few hours of commitment each month, 4 hours for a group coordinator, 2 hours for a driver and 2 hours (once or twice a year) for a host. If you know of anyone who may be interested in volunteering for our group please pass on this email, my details or they can apply [here](#).

You can refer an older person to us by using the '[refer an older person now](#)' link on our website.

If you would like any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me. I would be happy to talk about Re-engage in greater detail.

Kind regards,

**Sarah McKean**, *engagement officer – Scotland*

Telephone: 020 7420 5812

[www.reengage.org.uk](http://www.reengage.org.uk)