

Williamwood Parish Church

December 2023 Newsletter



A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS...

to everyone. As we begin the season of Advent and prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus, our Saviour, may you know God's presence amidst all the busyness and in the quiet times too. When Christmas comes may you know the peace and the joy of Him who is Prince of Peace; Light for all the world : God with us, Emmanuel.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AND EVENTS

We hope you will be able to come and celebrate this special, sacred season with us at some (or all!) of the services and events listed below.

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

During Advent and Christmas-tide there will be an opportunity to make a gift towards the work on Christian Aid and Church House, Bridgeton.

CRECHES FOR CHRISTMAS

We look forward to our display of *Creches for Christmas* : the nativity scenes devised and made by our Organisations and Groups. These can be brought to the church after the service on Sunday 3rd December and they will be displayed in the sanctuary throughout Advent and Christmas-tide.



SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper during our service on Sunday 3rd December and again at our short service on Christmas morning (which begins at 10am). All who love the Lord are welcome at his Table.

THANK YOU.....

- to all who contributed to the success of our Christmas Fair by planning, organising, helping on the day, donating and attending
- to all who are about to be involved in decorating our sanctuary and grounds for Christmas
- to all who helped, in any way with our Remembrance services and to those who attended and took part

CONGREGATIONAL ROLL

Deaths

2 nd October	May Oates, late of Seres Road
30 th October	Ann Ross, late of Morven Drive
7 th November	Christine Andrew, late of Castle Court, NM

HARVEST GIFTS

We have received a thank you from FarmAfrica for the generous donation of £444 from the congregation at Williamwood. Through the Urban Agricultural Project, residents are being trained how to build vertical gardens which allow them to grow food in little space with limited resources. Many families have benefitted from the program which provides hope and opportunity for their future. Your donation was much appreciated.

GOALIES

Goalies, our gentleman's lunch group, meets for lunch at Williamwood Golf Club at 1pm on Friday 1st December

See Rev Alastair Cherry and Alastair Graham for further information – and give their contact info

TEA SETT at Rouken Glen Garden Centre

Our monthly get-together for morning tea/coffee at Rouken Glen Garden Centre is on Tuesday 5th December at 10.30am.

All are welcome to come along.

See Anne Reid for more info – and give her contact info



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.

READERS

Would you like to join the readers rota for Sunday services? We would like to add to the rota and can assure you it's not an onerous task.

If you can help or would like more information please get in touch with Carole Ferguson at caroledorothea@me.com or on 07814041557

LIFE AND WORK

We have a dedicated team of readers currently, but would invite members of the congregation to subscribe to this valuable periodical which gives us an insight into the daily workings of the Church of Scotland. For information please speak to Jim Purvis.

LODGING HOUSE MISSION

The staff were most appreciative of the quantity of supplies delivered from Williamwood Church.

I have a few more contributions to deliver, but will wait until I have a full load. Christmas gifts would also be most welcome.

GUILD

We only have one Guild meeting in December and it is our Christmas lunch at the Eglinton Arms Hotel at Eaglesham on Monday 11th December. We are very pleased that several members of the congregation are joining us.

We had two very interesting meetings in November. The first was a talk by Chris Greenhough about the work of Open Doors UK, a charity which supports Christians worldwide who are being persecuted. Secondly, we had a speaker from Home for Good, a charity which tries to find homes for vulnerable young people either by fostering, adoption or assisted living.

Home for Good is one of the six current Church of Scotland Guild Projects.

Our programme for January to March 2024 is as follows:

Jan 8 In house activity, Fun and Fellowship

Jan 22 Mission Aviation Fellowship

Feb 5 Holy Beetle Drive

Feb 19 Guild Project The Vine Trust

Mar 4 Holiday in Costa Rica Philip Moseley

Mar 18 AGM & Flower Arranging

If anyone, ladies or gentlemen, would like to join us in the Session House at 2pm for any of our meetings we would be very pleased to see you.

All the members of Williamwood Guild wish you all a very merry Christmas and send our very best wishes for a happy New Year.



PRESBYTERY PLANNING /CLUSTER NEWS

Minister members of our Cluster Group continue to meet weekly.

2 representatives from each congregation in our Cluster will meet for a third time on 24th January.

In all of this, we continue to try to discern the future shape of ministry and mission in a large geographical area with a reducing number of Ministers of Word and Sacrament. Currently, there is a delay in the process of the Union between Eastwood and Thornliebank due to some concerns (about buildings!) raised by the General Trustees and the national committee dealing with presbytery planning.

DOORS OPEN has had a two month trial period. The view of members hosting is that it has been successful and as a result we are continuing with Doors Open on Thursday from 10 till 12 noon.



MESSAGE FROM MURDOCH HODGE

“WISHING YOU ALL THE COMPIMENTS OF THE SEASON I am not sending Christmas Cards now- I am making a donation to the Lodging House Mission at the amount I spent on cards and postage last year.”

CLARKSTON NURSERY

On Friday 23rd December Clarkston Nursery are having a few pop-up stalls in the small hall. We would love it if you could come along and support local businesses from 12midday until 2pm. My daughter Mollie runs a small cupcake business and will be there that day. Pre-orders would be appreciated if you would like some of our lovely treats (Ross McGhee can confirm they are amazing!). A box of four is £10; box of six £15;box of twelve £28 and a box of 24 is £50. You can order a six item treat box for £18 - this will contain two cupcakes, two brownies and two biscuits. Lots of more amazing treats will be available on the day or you can pre-order on Facebook at Mollie's cupcakes or you can e-mail Mollie at Mollie.long06@iCloud.com. You can also e-mail myself at caz.long1973@gmail.com.Thank you. Caroline Long (Nursery cook).



FLOWER CALENDAR

The flower committee would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and Healthy New Year.

The flower calendar for 2024 is now up in the Church vestibule for those wishing to add their names against a date.

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



DECEMBER		JANUARY 2024	
3 rd	Ross Johnston	7 th	The Guild
10 th	Sandra Fraser	14 th	Margo King
17 th	Lorna Goudie	21 st	Margaret Robertson
24 th		28 th	Ruth Adams
31 st			

PLEA :A very nice, wooden chair with leather upholstery which has been in the building since the church first opened in 1939, seems to be missing from the Session House corridor. If anyone knows of its whereabouts, can you please contact Margaret Robertson.

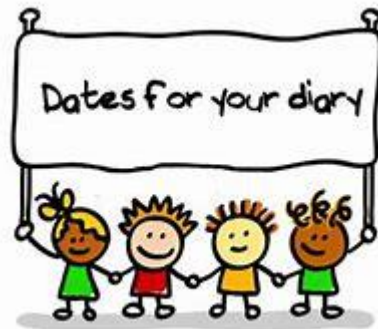
BECOMING A COMMUNICANT MEMBER OF WILLIAMWOOD PARISH CHURCH

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.

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Next Newsletter will be February. All articles to Evelyn Wallace by 28th January.



AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.....

To one and all. May you know health and happiness in 2024.

Some January dates for your new diary:

22nd January – Events Committee meets

24th January – Meeting of Cluster Representatives

31st January – Joint meeting of Kirk Session and Congregational Board

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

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