



Williamwood Parish Church News Bulletin 5: 27th May 2020

We hope everyone is staying well and coping with all the restrictions on our lives at this difficult and troubling time. We are all looking forward to restrictions easing a little so friends can visit us in our gardens, one household at a time and appropriately social distanced.

Elders are keeping in touch with people in their districts by telephone and we're grateful to all of them for the time and care they are giving to this. If you need help, please let them know. If you need help more urgently, don't wait for a call. Please feel free to call your elder or the Minister.

We are conscious that a number of people do not have access online. Could elders pass on e-mail address where possible? If not, Would the elders pass on a printed copy of the Newsbulletin.



Our Sunday services remain cancelled and our buildings remain closed in line with instructions from the Scottish and UK Governments and from the Church of Scotland.

The latest guidelines from the Scottish Government suggest places of worship may be opened for private prayer in the first instance. This will not be until towards the end of June at the earliest.

Services will not resume until some time after that (well into August at least, we think) and even then social distance and hygiene measures will be in place.

It is almost five years ago that the Presbytery of Glasgow allowed the congregation of Williamwood to call a Minister. This was for a period of five years after which there would be a review of the congregation and its ministry and decisions made about the future. That review was due to take place at or after the end of October this year. We have now heard from Presbytery's Strategic Planning Committee that, due to the current situation, the review will not take place until the end of October 2021 or after.

Thank you to everyone who is working hard to keep our congregational life going at this time.



The Choir is having a weekly get-together by *Zoom*. Please contact Sarah if you need details or help in joining this.

The Guild continues with a fortnightly Telephone Coffee Morning which is being much enjoyed by all. Elizabeth Purvis can give further details to anyone who needs them.



We were sorry to hear of the death of one of our members, Dorothy Burns, on 24th May. We remember, Gavin, her husband of 60 years, and their family at this time. It is not yet known when the funeral service, to be attended by close family, will take place.



CONGRATULATIONS!



To everyone who took part in the Great Williamwood Web Bake-Off and submitted photos of scrumptious looking goodies. It was decided every single one was a prize winner and they will all receive a prize soon if they have not already done so. You can see the entries on the church Website or on Facebook soon.



THANK YOU!



- To Loretta, Sarah's Gran who has donated £150 to Church funds from the sale of facemasks she has been sewing.
If you'd like to order a facemask (please specify female or male) then please contact Sarah. They cost £3.50 each.
- To Elena, our Choral Scholar, who finishes her placement with us at the end of May. We have very much enjoyed her contributions to our worship. We hope she may return for another year with us after the summer. Elena has generously donated the second instalment of her scholarship to NHS charities.

DONATIONS

Christian Aid Week took place from 10-16th May. If you would like to donate to the work of Christian Aid, please have a look on their website for information about how to do this.

We were delighted to be joined in our time of worship on Sunday 17th May by Joel Hafvenstein, a Church of Scotland Mission partner and the Executive Director of the United Mission to Nepal. Joel spoke to us from Kathmandu and was really interesting to listen to and to talk to. Some folks have asked about making donations to the work of UMN. If you'd like to do this, you can

search for the UMN website, umn.org.np and from the home page, go to 'Save our Hospitals' box and it will take you to a page with UK flag. This gives details of how to donate.

Bank Transfers can be made to: UMN Support Trust, Sort Code - 77-50-14, Account Number – 20399368.

Cheques can be sent to: Mr A Penn Trustee, UMN Support Trust, 97 Eastern Avenue, Chippenham, Wiltshire SN15 3SF

The webpage gives details of a PayPal option.

It also gives a Gift Aid form which can be printed or scanned

While the Church is closed, we are continuing to send flowers to people to let them know we are thinking of them, be it to mark a special anniversary or in memory of a loved one or someone going through difficult times. If you would like to donate at this time or in the future, please contact Jean Little. Please be aware that cheques may not be cashed for some time.

Lots of folks are continuing to make regular contributions to our Church by donating through a standing order. Others who use weekly givings envelopes are putting donations aside to bring to Church when we can return to our buildings.

If you would like to, you can donate by sending a cheque or contacting Grant Keyes.

We're so grateful to everyone who contributes what they can to the work of the Church, the upkeep of our buildings and our continuing ministry. In common with many other congregations at this time, our income has been significantly reduced because our hall rental income has ceased for now.

FACEMASKS: Many of you ordered and have received one of Sarah's Granny's lovely face masks. If you still would like to order one, please contact Sarah directly (e-mail sarah1995alexander@gmail.com or phone her on 07969 916325) and she will send an order down from Buckie. The cost is £3.50. The mask will be delivered to your door. You can pay by writing a cheque to Williamwood Parish Church (Facemasks) or contact Grant Keyes.



WORSHIP

Our Church web page has worship each Sunday for personal or household use .It also contains links to our Facebook page where you'll find hymns played by Sarah and others.

We are now having a Sunday Screen short service via Zoom at 10.30am each Sunday morning. It lasts half an hour and includes a time of worship and a time for chat. It's always good to see kent faces – and newcomers too! If you are able to join in and would like to do so, make sure Evelyn Wallace has your email address so she can send you an invitation with the link and/or password.

Each Sunday you'll find a service on BBC1 followed by *Reflections at the Quay* on BBC Scotland.



Don't forget that Sarah has a hymn on our Facebook page on Sunday and at least one other day in the week. If you'd like to request a particular hymn or piece just get in touch with Sarah.



To access our Facebook page you don't need to open an account or anything like that. Type Williamwood Parish Church into a search engine and you should be able to click on our church website. When you get on to the site, click on the F for Facebook and you're there!

On Friday, you will receive another e-mail with the link for Zoom.

Please also pass on information to those who do not have access to digital forms of communication.

<p>Minister - Rev Jan Mathieson Telephone: 0141 579 9997 E-mail: JMathieson@churchofscotland.org.uk Session Clerk - Margaret Robertson Telephone: 07778148181 E-mail: margaretcrobertson@gmail.com Website: www.williamwoodparishchurch.org.uk</p>

CHURCH CONTACTS & INFORMATION

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