



Williamwood Parish Church News Bulletin 7: 13th July 2020

We hope everyone is staying well. Now that we are in Phase 3 of the Scottish Government's process for coming out of 'lockdown' and getting back to normal, we can all do more things outside our homes – maybe even get an appointment at the hairdresser! We're also able to see more people in our gardens and homes and for many it has been a real joy to be in the company of loved ones and not simply communicating by means of a screen or telephone.

Elders are still 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.



Things are changing in terms of what we are allowed to do in our church buildings. In fact, there are ever changing guidelines and regulations – and lots of them!



The Kirk Session met online recently and decided that we would aim to open our church building in August. We're hoping the building might be open for private prayer and reflection for a short while on Sunday 2nd August and that **on Sunday 9th August** we might be able to be open for some form of service. Keep an eye on our web and Facebook pages for further updates.

- Numbers will be restricted – even for services – and other measures will also be in place such as physical distancing with some pews being roped off and hand sanitizing requirements.
- There won't be a Welcome Team but only one or two nominated people to direct you to the seat you should use and advise on the entry and exit system. The gallery will not be in use.
- We won't be able to have any singing but we do hope to have some music.
- We won't take an offering in the usual way though we may be able to have somewhere to put any offering envelopes you would like to bring.
- The service will be considerably shorter than usual – maybe just as well since the pew cushions will have been removed!
- Hymn books and pew Bibles will also have been removed.
- We are still thinking about whether we will need to devise a rota so everyone has an opportunity to be at the service, if they wish, once every month.

- Our church transport service will be suspended for now as will our coffee time after the service.
- We will continue our Short Screen Worship Time on *Zoom* up to and including Sunday 2nd August. After that we hope to find a way to enable those who are not in the church building to join in the service either by *Zoom* or by broadcasting the service on our web page. Remember, also, there are worship materials on our web page, each week, for you to use at home.

Except for Sunday worship, **please do not go into our church buildings unless you have the express agreement of the Property Convener; Session Clerk or Minister**

This will continue to be the case even when some of our users are able to get back into the halls and is important in order for us to observe the cleaning and other regulations that are in place.



Our Home Delivery Holiday Club for the children of our congregation (and others if they want to join in) takes place from 13th-17th July. *Bags of Power!* Have been delivered and there are Bible based craft activities and other things to do. Each morning from 10.30-11am we'll meet on *Zoom* for a song, a story, something to think about and something to talk about.

Thank you to everyone who is helping with this and especially to Sarah, our Organist, for dealing with registrations and providing music and to Margaret Robertson for helping to deliver some of the *Bags of Power!* and to the *Sunday School* leaders who are taking part in the *Zoom* sessions.

The *Bags of Power!* material has been produced by the Scottish Bible Society



The Kwenderana Partnership Group had a meeting recently via *Zoom* and it was agreed we would send some funds to enable our partners in Ekwendeni, Malawi to provide food for children during the school holidays.



We were sorry to hear that our Guide Company will not re-open after the summer. No new leaders have come forward and so the Company is to close. We thank Guide Leaders, Lorna and Yvonne, who have served for 16 years each and done so much good work with the girls. We thank all those other people who shared in leadership with Lorna and Yvonne for shorter periods of time.

We thank Sharon and Ian Proctor who have now stepped down from their roles in Sunday School after many years of service Sunday by Sunday. As well as Sunday activities they were

much involved with the special events and services that are also part of the life of the Sunday School. We thank them for their careful, prayerful and caring work amongst our youngsters.

HOLIDAYS!

The Minister will be on holiday from 20th- 28th July. If you need the services of a minister urgently during this period please contact our Session Clerk, Margaret Robertson (details below) who will be able to help you.



REMEMBER!



Our Boys Brigade Company is still encouraging you to save empty crisp packets which they will collect as soon as it is possible for them to do so. This is part of a fund-raising effort for the BB.



DOORS OPEN BECOMES OUT DOORS!



We are still not allowed to have any kind of gathering, even in our outdoor spaces but it is possible for groups of people to get together in groups of up to 15 when observing appropriate physical distancing. It may be that some folk would like to use the grass space in front of the church. You would be welcome to bring your own chair or rug and your own hot or cold (soft) drinks and maybe there would be others there you'd be able to spend some time with. If the weather is dry in the week of 13th-17th July, the Minister might bring her coffee in the late morning when the Holiday Club *Zoom* meeting is over. Please adhere to regulations on group size and physical distancing at all times.



Freya Young (Lesley's daughter and Mary Montgomery's grand-daughter) is offering a **BOOK EXCHANGE**. Books (which are all donated and second hand) are sanitised before being put into freezer -type sealed bag. Freya will deliver book/s to anyone who wants one if you simply contact her and tell her the kind of thing you like to read. You can return or donate books, in a freezer bag by leaving them for her to pick up when she calls. These will also be sanitised before being passed on.



Reflections at the Quay, the series of worship programmes broadcast on BBC1 has now ended

There will now be a service of worship broadcast on Sundays at noon on the BBC Scotland channel (Channel 9). On 2nd August the service comes from Giffnock South Parish Church

DONATIONS and OFFERINGS

Lots of folks are continuing to make regular contributions to our church by donating through a standing order. If you'd like to change to this form of giving please call our Treasurer, Grant Keyes.

If you use weekly givings envelopes please feel free to continue to use them and set them aside until we are back in our buildings or, if you can put a cheque rather than cash inside, you can post them to Grant Keyes.

The Church of Scotland now has a new facility on its website to allow people to make a donation to the work of the national church or to their own local congregation. Have a look on the website and follow the instructions if you'd like to donate in this way. We've checked to make sure Williamwood is on the drop down list – and it is!

We're 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.



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!

HELP!

If you need help accessing *Zoom* please call your elder or Joan Black; Jean Little; Evelyn Wallace or Sarah Alexander who will be pleased to try to assist you.

If you have something you'd like posted on the web site or on Facebook please contact Joan Black or Sarah Alexander

We'd be grateful if you'd pass on this News Bulletin or even just the information within it to anyone you know who does not have access to digital forms of communication.

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

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