

Williamwood Parish Church Newsletter 3 March 2021



OUR CHURCH BUILDINGS

We're pleased that Clarkston Nursery has been able to meet in our Halls since February 22nd and we wish all the staff, children and families as well as they get back to learning and enjoying each other's company once more.



Margaret and members of her family worked hard to clear the steps of leaves so there would be no slip ups! Thank you to the three of you and to Fraser Hodge for the photo.

Please note that there remains strictly no access to our church buildings except for our security Team and Property Conveners. If you think you have an urgent reason to need access please contact our Session Clerk, Margaret Robertson

SUNDAY WORSHIP

We are not able to meet for worship in our buildings for the rest of February or throughout March. We will continue our worship services *via Zoom*. You can also access these by telephone. Contact Evelyn Wallace if you want to have the link/telephone number sent to you.

It may be possible to have worship in our building on Easter Day with numbers restricted to 20 including the Minister, Organist and others. It does not seem as if we will be able to have our early morning outdoor service or any other outdoor worship at Easter. Keep up to date with changing circumstances and changing arrangements on our website of Facebook page.

SKIP INTO SPRING

Our next online Social Evening with music and other entertainment takes place via *Zoom* from 7pm on Sunday 7th March. It will last about an hour. Zoom links will be issued soon.

If you don't normally receive a *Zoom* link to services but would like to join us for this event please let Evelyn Wallace know. Please have coloured pencils and paper at the ready.



LENT

HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

The Moderator of the General Assembly is inviting everyone to participate in his Lenten Challenge. When on your daily walk, see if you can find a cross *hidden in plain sight*. It may be a cross on a railing; a formation on a tree or in the sky; a shadow or anything else. If you wish you can take a photograph and enter it in a competition (details on the Church of Scotland website) or send it to Joan Black for our own website.



CHRISTIAN AID DEVOTIONS DURING LENT

You might like to use the daily devotions from Christian Aid during the season of Lent. Go to the Christian Aid website; click on the *pray* tab and you'll be taken to daily devotions which include a reading; reflection; prayer and activity each day.

Another Lenten challenge: why not try to read the whole of the New Testament during Lent? It amounts to about 8,000 verses. That's 235 verses a day if you start on 1st March!

GOOD FRIDAY

On Good Friday (2nd April) each of the congregations which make up Clarkston Churches Together will post, on the outside of their buildings, a laminated sheet with a scripture reading and a QR Code for you to access a piece of music. You might like to walk the route visiting each of the buildings in whichever order you wish, pausing for a short time of personal devotion. You'll find the cards on the following buildings: Netherlee; Stamperland; St Aidan's; Williamwood; Greenbank, St Joseph's; Cartsbridge; Busby; Carmunock.

WONDER WALKS

The children in our Sunday School and any others who are interested are doing a *Wonder Walk* during each week of Lent and on Good Friday and Easter Day. You can walk anywhere in your locality but a 'route map' gives a Bible reading and some activities from things to collect to jumping in puddles! This material is produced by the Scottish Bible Society. If you know anyone who would like a set of the maps/activity sheets, please contact Maureen McCulloch.

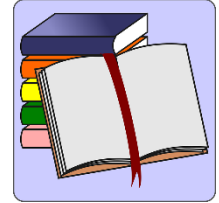


POST-EASTER BIBLE STUDY

After Easter, Clarkston Churches Together hope to offer a short Bible Study series with a creation/ecological theme. The meetings will be online and a variety of times will be offered. It is hoped that groups will contain people from a mix of congregations. Further details to follow.

WILLIAMWOOD BOOK CLUB

A number of people have indicated an interest in a Book Club which would meet online to begin with and then, we hope to be able to meet in person over a coffee. The idea, at the moment, is folks would meet to share book recommendations and thoughts about what they are reading (rather than everyone reading and discussing the same book). If you are interested please contact Mary Montgomery on 0141 258 8447 or aileen5@hotmail.com. It is hoped to have the first, online meeting after Easter.



Invitation to Meeting of Glasgow Presbytery

Everyone is invited to join Glasgow Presbytery for part of its meeting on Tuesday 9th March. From 7.30pm to around 8.15pm the Chief Officer of the Church of Scotland, Dave Kendall, will give a presentation, take questions and join in discussion. This will focus on the situation of the Church of Scotland as we recover from COVID restrictions and reshape for the future (including reducing expenditure and numbers of ministers and other staff). You can listen in by going to the Presbytery of Glasgow website and following the instructions. Only members of Presbytery will be able to ask questions or to speak

COP26

Preparations are underway for the major climate conference taking place in Glasgow at the beginning of November though it is not yet known whether this will be an in-person; online or blended conference. You can keep in touch with plans and offer help in a variety of forms (such as providing hospitality) by looking at the Climate Fringe website.



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FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

Fairtrade fortnight runs from 22nd February - 7th March

We won't be able to have a Fairtrade Breakfast in our church building this year but you might like to "*build your own Fairtrade breakfast*".

Our local shops, including Scotmid which usually supports our Breakfast, all have Fairtrade good you might like to buy : from bananas and cereal to tea and coffee. If you're looking for something for a little later in the day they also have Fairtrade chocolate and Fairtrade wine - and Fairtrade flowers too.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Margo and all the family would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have sent beautiful cards with lovely words of sympathy and consolation, who sent flowers and who delivered 'food parcels'. All of these have been a great comfort to us. We would also like to express our thanks and admiration to all those who were gathered outside Williamwood Parish Church to show their respects and support to the family on Friday 12th February. We were totally overwhelmed and uplifted that so many of you braved the awful icy conditions to say goodbye to Christine and to Gordon. Thank you. We would also like to say thank you to our minister, Rev. Jan Mathieson for her kindness and guidance throughout this whole sad episode and for the two lovely Services she conducted at the Linn Crematorium.

We would like to thank members of our Church family for your kindness and sympathy following our recent sad loss. The phone calls, letters, cards and flowers have been a great comfort. We were touched that so many of you paid your respects when the cortege passed the Church and we'd like to thank everyone who attended or watched the funeral service online. We are grateful to Rev Jan Mathieson for her comforting visit and to Mr Derek Munn, lifelong family friend and trainee Church of Scotland Minister (and former member of Williamwood) for conducting Renee's funeral service.
Hugh, Ross and Lynn McGhee.

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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