

Williamwood Parish Church

Newsletter 12

December 2021



Thanks to everyone for supporting our Christmas Sale. We hope everyone enjoyed it in spite of the fact it was scaled back a bit from previous years and that additional mitigations were in place. We hope you got lots of Christmas shopping done! Thank you to members of the Events Committee and to Aileen Montgomery and Lesley Young for all their work in providing and organising this for us. Proceeds go to church funds.

Throughout Advent and Christmas-tide we invite you to give a gift of money to support the work of Christian Aid and Lodging House Mission. The Christian Aid Appeal this year is *No More Impossible Choices*.

We also are encouraging folk to donate to local Foodbanks directly or via supermarkets. We would ask you to consider taking tins etc directly to the local foodbank or in local supermarkets.

You can donate money by putting it in an envelope and writing Christian Aid or Lodging House Mission on the front and then putting it into the collection plate in the vestibule of the church or give electronically. You can also donate online at caid.org.uk/Christmas.

LHM is providing a Christmas Day meal (£7) and gift (£10) for each user.

Christian Aid is focusing on clean water.

Thank you to everyone who has been – and continues to be - involved in decorating our sanctuary and our church grounds for Christmas.

We're grateful to Evelyn and Bill Farior who join our congregation and worship each week via Zoom from Mississippi, USA for their help in getting shepherds to the manger!

Thank you to our Sunday School leaders who have arranged to have Advent bags containing activity packs from the Scottish Bible Society given to our Sunday School children, families associated with the congregation, children in the Toddler Group and families who attend Clarkston Nursery.

We're grateful to the Presbytery of Glasgow which will cover the cost of this outreach initiative through a grant from their Mission & Evangelism Fund.

A big thank you to Fiona Ross who has washed and ironed the Communion cloths for many years. She has now retired from that duty and if anyone would like to serve the church in taking over this duty, please contact Margaret Robertson. *Thank you in anticipation, Margaret*

We have received heartfelt thanks from the Lodging House Mission for our Harvest 2021 donations which assisted in their work with people who have lived experience of homelessness, vulnerability and social exclusion. They are very aware that they can only carry out their work at LHM thanks to the generosity of supporters.

Christmas Greetings: We invite you again this year to contact Joan Black (0141 638 5433 / blacksabode@gmail.com) with Christmas greetings which will be put on the website. We invite you to consider making a donation to charity for using this service.

We ask folk not to stand in the vestibule or aisles giving out Christmas cards over the next few weeks.

Presbytery of Glasgow Mission Plan Resource Group: Please find as an attachment to this Newsletter a Review Update from the Presbytery.

Rev Rebecca Botocho

We are looking forward to welcoming Rev Beckie from Kenya, where she serves as an ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament, to Williamwood for a familiarisation placement with the Church of Scotland. This is a full-time, twelve-month placement.

We expect that she will join us at our service on Sunday 9th January 2022 for the first time. Please keep her in your prayers as she travels to Scotland in late December and as she settles in at the start of the New Year and a new adventure in ministry

Coffee after church

Thank you to everyone who has come along and supported the return of coffee after church. We are all getting used to the new way of doing things and although it felt quite different to start off with, table service is always nice. 😊 Entry to the hall can be made down the stairs from the church (following the one way system) and into the hall by way of the middle door, or you can leave the church through the main door and walk around the side to enter at the Seres Rd door, to avoid the steps. It is really important that everyone is seated with no more than 6 at each table. Everyone should remain seated until they leave and everyone should exit through the Seres Rd door only.



Money raised in the month of November will help provide Christmas celebrations for Kwenderana. There are plans to support other charities in December. Keep an eye on the blackboard in the hall to see where the money is going each week.

In order to continue, we really need teams of 3 or 4 people to make, serve and wash up each week. We are fortunate in that the duty teams will now put the tables and chairs out for us. Hopefully that will encourage other groups to volunteer because it can only run if we have enough volunteers each week. If you are interested and would like to know what is required, please feel free to call me on 07946013629.

Thank you so much for all those who have helped so far. Your help has been very much appreciated. *Aileen Montgomery*



Well done and Congratulations to those who will receive long-service certificates, signed by the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Lord Wallace. Recipients are Anne Clark; Doreen Lynas, Jim Purvis, Margaret Robertson, Jean Simms.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper during our service on 5th December. At that service, we will leave every second pew empty. Elders, wearing gloves, will move along these pews and serve bread to folks seated in front of them. They will then serve wine in the same way asking people to lift their own individual glass from the tray. As usual, we will use gluten free bread and non-alcoholic wine.



Rainbows

Due to the lack of leaders for both rainbow groups that run at Williamwood Parish Church the groups will formally close by the end of the year.

Kirstin, Jean, Margaret, Eilidh and Jo, plus our young helpers, Maisie, Gemma, Emily and Lisa made up a fabulous team and made the running of the groups very smooth. My thanks to them all.

If you, or someone you know, might like to give a bit of time to girl guiding by volunteering then please get in touch. It's so rewarding spending time with youngsters. *Carole Ferguson 07814041557*

3rd Williamwood Brownies

We have an enthusiastic Unit of 28 very regular attenders. We have been working on Unit Meeting Activities and towards the Charity Badge which involved us holding a 'Dance-a-thon' on 17th November for Children In Need and raising £815!!! (see photos)

We were delighted when over half the Unit turned out on Sunday 14th November for the outside Act of Remembrance - they were all so well behaved and respectful! *Lorna Goudie*



Oberammergau 2022 A group made up from folks from our congregation and some others are planning to visit Oberammergau in September 2022 for a holiday which will include a visit to the Passion Play (postponed from 2020). The holiday is organised by McCabe Travel. The hotel in Austria is looking to finalise numbers during the first part of December. If you're considering making a booking please let the Minister - or McCabe Travel - know by Sunday 12th December.

Greetings from Ekwendeni.

On behalf of Kwenderana Partnership committee and Ekwendeni Kirk Session, I want to sincerely thank you for your donation of £250 towards our Christmas party. All of us are aware of the economic hardships we are passing through. Despite this, you, our partners, have been committing your resources towards our Christmas get together. We will commit ourselves to organise the best Christmas party this year and take pictures for you to cherish.

Once again thank you and the team for such a blessed gesture.

Rev Timothy TK Nyirenda

*Head of Station and Presbytery Clerk
Ekwendeni Mission Station.*



CHRISTMAS CAKES



As we are not able to safely have our traditional Christmas Fayre with its usual baking table, I am more than happy to make as many Christmas Cakes as are required. The price will be the same as last year, £7, and all monies collected will go directly to our Church Treasurer.

If you are interested see me at church or give me a ring on 571 8836 - *Morag Young*

Meetings - Presbytery of Glasgow Tuesday 14th December at 7pm online

Christmas Programme -

Sunday 28th November at 11am	Service for the First Sunday in Advent
Sunday 5th December at 11am	Service for the Second Sunday in Advent with a celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Thursday 9th December from 10.30am	Toddlers' Service
Sunday 12th December at 11am	Service for the Third Sunday in Advent
Sunday 19th December at 11am	Service for the Sunday before Christmas with a presentation of the nativity by the Sunday School
Tue 21st Dec at 11.00am	Service for Clarkston Nursery
Wed 22nd Dec at 11.00am	Service for Clarkston Nursery
	Christmas visits to the church by P2, 3, 4 Carolside Primary School tbc
Friday 24th December at 6.00pm	Outdoor service and carol-singing for Christmas Eve
Sunday 26th December at 11.00am	service for the Sunday after Christmas (Boxing Day)
Sunday 2 January at 11.00am	First service of 2022

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

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: new.williamwoodparish.church

Safeguarding Contact: Minister /Neil Little	News Bulletin : Evelyn Wallace
Web Page: Editor: Joan Black	FaceBook : Sarah Alexander
SundaySchool: Maureen McCulloch	Media Team David Liddell

**Please note that the Website address has changed to
new.williamwoodparish.church**

Lodging house Mission News

Dear Supporter,

Christmas Appeal

It has been a difficult year for many people and certainly for our valued Service Users.

We opened our doors again on 1st July and while we cannot provide all of our normal services, we can give a healthy breakfast and lunch to our visitors.

In a new partnership with Social Bite we are now providing an evening meal.

Although **Christmas Day** will again be different this year, we shall continue to share festive cheer by delivering Christmas dinner and a gift for up to 75 individuals.

Often, this gift is the only one which our Service User will receive on Christmas day or indeed, all year.

In order to make things as easy as possible in these challenging times, we are asking for a financial donation to fund the cost of our Christmas activities. Be assured that we shall provide both the meal and a gift to everyone who arrives on Christmas day.

With thanks to our sponsors who will donate some food items, a gift of £7 will cover the cost of a meal. We generally spend up to £10 on a Christmas gift.

Any contribution is gratefully received and you can donate in the usual way:

- a. Website: www.lhm-glasgow.org.uk
- b. Direct transfer: 82-64-31 30060385
- c. Call LHM on 0141 552 0285 and donate by card.

Finally, as the year draws to a close it is our prayer that all our supporters, staff, volunteers and those affected by homelessness may know peace, comfort, love and the assurance of God's blessings.

Thank you for the great support you give throughout the year.

Gus Smeaton



NEWS
from the Presbytery of Glasgow
November 2021

CATHEDRAL HOSTS SPECIAL COP26 SERVICE



Many churches across the city held special events and services to mark Glasgow's hosting of the COP26 UN Climate Change Conference.

Glasgow Churches Together organised a special inter denominational service which was held at Glasgow Cathedral. Guests from across the world attended the service, with visitors from as far away as Zimbabwe and Fiji.

The congregation also included members of the Young Christian Climate Network who had taken part in a 1,2000 mile relay to raise awareness of climate change issues.

GLASGOW CHURCHES WELCOME COP VISITORS

Churches across Glasgow welcomed delegates, visitors and pilgrims to COP in a variety of ways.

* The Presbytery operated a telephone hotline which offered pastoral support and advice to visitors.

* The Presbytery also took part in the cross denominational Spiritual Hub at the Salvation Army Centre in Anderston which provided fellowship and support to visitors.



* As you can see from this photo, Sandyford Henderson Church, just next door to the COP venue, opened its doors to young people from Youth With A Mission who were doing prayer and mission across the city and also acted as a base for Christian Aid.

* Broomhill Hyndland Parish Church marked COP26 by hosting A Day of Environmental Reflection. The all-day event included a performance by Belle and Sebastian and contributions from a wide range of national and international speakers.