

Williamwood Parish Church Newsletter 2 February 2022



Welcome to Rev Rebecca (Beckie) Bartocho

Rev Beckie began her 12month placement with us at Williamwood on 3rd January 2022. Rev Beckie is a Minister of the Reformed Church of East Africa in Kenya and is on what is known as a Familiarisation Placement, getting to know the Church of Scotland.



Settling in is quite a challenge as Rev Beckie tries to open a bank account and find suitable accommodation. Thanks to Margaret Robertson and Grant & Elaine Keyes for help with these things. Beckie is currently living (with friends) in the north of Glasgow, quite a distance away – so you're

not going to see her much at evening events or meetings. She's looking for affordable accommodation nearer to Williamwood so if you know of anything available, please get in touch.

Rev Beckie's email address to contact her about this – or about other matters – is RBartocho@churchofscotland.org.uk
(We hope it will be working properly soon!)

Lent Bible Studies

Rev Beckie intends to run a short series of Bible studies during Lent, beginning in early March. Further details to follow – but do think about taking part.



Covid Restrictions

We are all pleased that some restrictions put in place to limit the spread of Covid are being eased. Church groups such as the Guild and the Book Group will be able to meet in person in February and we may also have in person meetings. For the time being some – but not all - meetings will continue to take place via Zoom.



However, mask wearing at services, collecting Test&Protect information and hygiene measures (sanitising and cleaning after use of halls) remain in place.

Please make sure you wear a mask to services and please make sure you are wearing it correctly, covering your mouth and nose.

We will also keep our one-way system in the sanctuary and some of our pews taped off until after the March service of Holy Communion.

Updates will be given as things progress. We are grateful to the folks from our Property Committee and others who are keeping up to date with regulations and making sure everything is safe and as it should be throughout our church building.

The Guild.

After a long absence during Covid when we kept in touch mostly by phone, the Guild was able to get back together in October 2021.

Our meetings took place on alternate Tuesday afternoons in the Sanctuary. We had a good variety of talks and activities and enjoyed the company and fellowship.

Due to the reintroduction of some restrictions however, our first meeting in January had to be on zoom. This was very successful and enjoyable.

We decided to cancel the second meeting in January, but now look forward to the rest of our Spring syllabus.



The World Day of Prayer will be hosted by Williamwood Guild this year on Friday 4th March.

Church Membership

If you – or someone 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 anywhere else, you may wish to speak to the Minister. Usually people are ‘admitted’ during a 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.

New Year : New Opportunities

As we get into a new year in our congregation's life you are invited to think about whether you could take on a role or task to contribute to our mission and ministry here.

We are looking for -

- A Co-ordinator for the Sunday School to work with existing Sunday School Leaders
- A Convener/Joint Conveners of our Events Committee.
- Members_for our Events Committee.
- Folks to join our Tech Team.
- Folks to help in identifying and applying to grant awarding bodies
- People to serve as Members of the Congregational Board.
- An elder or elders to serve on Glasgow Presbytery as additional elders.

Fairtrade Fortnight

Fairtrade Fortnight takes place from 21st February to 6th March. Further details about what we might do as a congregation to mark and support this will be made known later.

Meantime you are invited to make a conscious effort during this fortnight to buy Fairtrade goods –flowers, wine, coffee, chocolate, bananas and other items. You are also encouraged to support retailers (such as our local Scotmid) who are committed to providing a range of Fairtrade goods.



Two Messages of Thanks

"Thanks have been received from Embrace The Middle East and the Lodging House Mission for donations from Williamwood Parish Church for their Winter Appeals." Thank you to all who donated.

Morag Young would like to thank everyone one who helped to raise £155 through the sale of cakes. The monies have been forwarded to the church treasurer.



Coffee Fellowship

We are happy to say that coffee after church will return on **Sunday 6th February.**

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 **important** that everyone is seated with **no more than 6** at each table. Once you are seated you can remove your mask, but please remember to put it back on before you leave the table.

Everyone should remain seated until leaving and everyone should exit through the Seres Rd door only.

Money raised in the first few weeks will be for our church, The Salvation Army and The Bible Society. If you have a suggestion for the future, please see Jan.

Unless lots more people volunteer to help, tea and coffee after the service will not be available weekly.

Can you help?

Here's what is required;

- The duty teams will put out the tables and chairs and clear them away again.
- That means a team of 3 or 4 people is required to make the drinks, set the tables, serve, and wash up. **Full instructions are in the kitchen.**
- During the service, the team must sit in the front pew on the Seres Rd side of the church, so they can exit the door in front of them. Unfortunately, they cannot leave via the door on the Vardar side.

If you are interested and would like to know what is required, please feel free to call me on **0794 601 3629**, or Mary Montgomery on **0141 258 8447**. Even if you don't have a full team, please get in touch as it may be that another partial team has also contacted us.

Thank you so much for all those who have helped so far.

Aileen Montgomery

[A Message from the Boys Brigade](#)



The BB are looking to send off the empty crisp packets they've been collecting for recycling at the end of the month.

They want to say a BIG thank you for all those who have been saving them up! If anyone has anymore, please can you drop them into the BB on a Friday night at the Seres Road door – social distance being practised – or get in touch at 128.bb@ntlworld if you have too many to carry!

We'll let you know if this recycling project is financially worthwhile and if we will be starting all over again (basically Mrs Gordon wants them out of her front room!). Best wishes to everyone and thank you all for your support.

Regards Mark Gordon,
Company Captain



You're invited! 'The Gathering'

Christian Aid Scotland's flagship supporter event takes place on **Tuesday 22 February (10am-12pm)**. For the second year in a row 'The Gathering' will be an online event open to supporters across the length and breadth of Scotland. Guest speakers this year include two members of Christian Aid's South Sudan team: **Yitna Tekaligne and Mbaraka Fazal**. South Sudan is a country hit hard by climate change conflict and Covid-19. Extreme flooding has resulted in crops and livestock being destroyed. Seven million people do not have enough to eat.

The Gathering will look ahead to Christian Aid Week 2022 (15-21 May) which focuses on our partners' work in Zimbabwe. You'll hear plenty of inspiring

fundraising ideas and have a chance to ask questions. We'll also bring you an update on the work we're doing in Afghanistan.

To register to take part in The Gathering please email: edinburgh@christian-aid.org.

February Dates

1st – Finance Committee meets

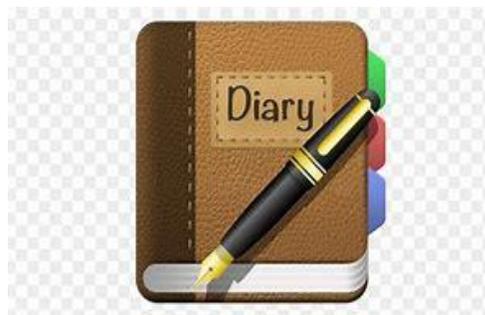
2nd at 7pm – Events Committee meets in Session Room

7th at 2.30pm – Book Group meets (in person in the Session Room/Sanctuary)

8th at 2pm – Guild meets in the sanctuary (in person)

16th/23rd – Joint Meeting of Kirk Session and Congregational Board: probably on Zoom ; **7.30-8.30pm**

22nd at 2pm – Guild meets in the sanctuary (in person)



Coming in March

Service for the World Day of Prayer – **Friday 4th March**

Elders' Conference organised by the Presbytery of Glasgow – **Saturday 5th March**

Service with the celebration of Holy Communion – **Sunday 6th March**

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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