

CHRISTMAS FAIR

This years Christmas Fair will be held on Saturday 18th November from 11am until 2pm. On sale will be the usual delicious refreshments including home made soups and crusty bread as well as the wonderful home baking which always goes down well. It's hoped that there will be all the usual stalls including books, fancy goods and toys, there will be a raffle too. Donations for all stalls will be gratefully received and can be handed into the Church hall on Friday, 17th November between 1.00-4.00pm and 7.00-8.00pm. Please support in whatever way you can and if anyone can help in any way on the day please contact me on 841711. Admission by ticket or at the door is Adult £1.00/Children 50p. We look forward to seeing you and your friends on the day, your support will be greatly appreciated.

Janet McNeil
Convenor Fair Committee

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Cardross Parish Church magazine

September 2017



Sunday 2nd July 2017 was a very special day in the life of our congregation when we admitted and ordained nine new Elders to serve on the Kirk Session.

At a moving and meaningful service Alison Campbell and Elizabeth McKee who had previously served as Elders in Glasgow and Garelochhead were admitted and Meriel Bryson, Anthony Davey, Chris Fisher, Julie Fisher, Anne Lee, William

MacLachlan and Gordon Stevenson were ordained to serve as Elders in this congregation. As you can see from this photo they all look happy to have survived their first Kirk Session meeting.

We wish them all God's blessings as they begin their Eldership here in Cardross.

Maureen Walker
Session Clerk

Long Service Awards



Sandra McLatchie

Everyone knows Sandra and Sandra knows everyone. Most days of the week she is to be found in the church office and is the first point of call for most people contacting the church. Many of the church and non church organisations rely on Sandra for their photocopying and paper work.

Maggie presented Sandra with flowers and a certificate to mark her long and dedicated service to our congregation.

John & Anne Russell

Nowadays it is quite normal for both husband and wife to take on the role of Elder, however that wasn't always the case.

So while marking the wonderful achievement of being our longest serving Elder, with more than fifty years service, John Russell was very pleased to see his wife Anne being recognised for more than thirty years service.

Many congratulations to you both



Church Diary

SEPTEMBER

24 11.00am Morning Worship

OCTOBER

1 11.00am Morning Worship

Celebration of Holy Communion.

8 11.00am Morning Worship

Including a short presentation by Helen Buchanan of Contraflow.

15 11.00am Morning Worship

22 11.00am Morning Worship

29 11.00am Morning Worship

NOVEMBER

5 11.00am Morning Worship

Followed by Round Table Holy Communion.

Proposed dates below - subject to confirmation by the Kirk Session

NOVEMBER

12 10.50am Remembrance Sunday

Meet at the village Cenotaph.

19 11.00am Morning Worship

19 6.30pm God With Us Choir

Performance for Christian Aid.

26 11.00am Morning Worship

DECEMBER

3 11.00am 1st Sunday in Advent

Followed by Round Table Holy Communion.

10 11.00am 2nd Sunday in Advent

Family Gift Service

17 11.00am 3rd Sunday in Advent

Choir Christmas Music

24 11.00am Christmas Eve Service

24 6.30pm Christmas Eve Family Service

25 10.30am Christmas Morning Service

31 11.00am Morning Worship

Congregational Register

DEATHS

- April 24th Miss Jasmine Russell, 54 Church Court, Church Street, Dumbarton.
- April 29th Mr Duncan McArthur, 12/8 Robert Burns Drive, Liberton, Edinburgh.
- May 26th Mrs Rachel Ball, Argyle Lodge Care Home, Helensburgh.
- June 25th Mr Sandy Houston, The Loft, Auchenfroee, Cardross.
- July 4th Mr James Clow, 3 Kildonan Drive, Helensburgh.
- Aug 2nd Miss Jean Howison, Northwood House Care Home, Helensburgh.
- Aug 7th Mr David Cameron, 128 East Princes Street, Helensburgh.
- Aug 17th Mr Finlay Allan, 70 Kinevar Drive, Glasgow.
- Sept 5th Mrs Irene Sofio, 6 Kirkton Road, Cardross.

BAPTISM

- May 17th Cecily Elizabeth Stalin, daughter of Catherine and Frederic and sister to Theo, Jacob and Iris.

BABY BLESSING

- May 28th Zoe Marie McCulloch, daughter of Malcolm and Andrea and sister to Cheryl, Kaylene and Annelize.



Dear Friends,

I write this as I prepare to have a break for a few weeks and give thanks that we have had a busy time in the Church. It is good to be busy because this means that things are happening and in order for things to happen we need people to make them happen. Thank you to all of you who work so hard.

In May it was a privilege to share in St. Mahew's 550th anniversary service and to host an afternoon tea for members of the congregation. We wish them every blessing for the future.

In June we prepared new elders and were overjoyed to admit 9 to the Kirk Session on July 2nd. As we welcomed the new we also had the opportunity to acknowledge the dedication of those who have served for 30 years or more. Long service certificates were presented and thanks given. That was a truly memorable day and we were able to thank Sandy Walker for his many years as Property Convenor. Hopefully he can now have a well earned rest. Also in July we hosted nearly 50 children at the holiday club.



A wonderful week was had by all and ended with the family service on the Sunday.

August saw us follow the story of Jonah and welcome visitors who came to worship with us and at the Board/Kirk Session meeting on the 24th a long service certificate was presented to Sandra McLatchie to mark her 30th year as church secretary.

Now that we are into September we start to get busier with all the groups starting up again. Harvest Festival takes place on the 17th and there will be an opportunity to donate some bulbs for the church garden. There will be a planting of the bulbs during the Open Doors Weekend 23rd and 24th so please come along at some point on the Saturday and have fun.

Before I mention Christmas I had better sign off! Hoping you have had a wonderful summer and feeling refreshed for all that lies ahead. "Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving...for the Lord is a great God, a great King above all gods." (Ps 95)

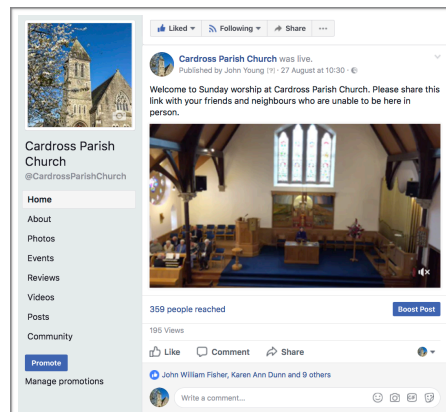
With God's richest blessings.

Maggie.



We tried an experiment last month when we broadcast our Sunday morning service LIVE on Facebook for the first time.

Using only an iPhone and the church wifi we were able to share our worship with the world. That is potentially of course - in the end we had 6 people who watched the service from their home live. However since then other people have shared the post and nearly 700 people have now watched the service from the 27th August.



It's early days but it seems clear that there might be a demand for broadcasting the services, especially for those who are unable to attend for whatever reason. So we are going to look at how feasible it would be to do this on a regular basis.

Silver Tea Dance

We're hosting a Fundraising Tea Dance in the Church Halls on the 7th October. An afternoon of music and dancing, with an afternoon tea and refreshments is promised as well as a Prize Raffle.

Come along and enjoy some great company and wonderful music. Tea and Jive like the summer of '45, '55 and '65!

All are welcome - transport can be arranged. Contact the church office on 01389 841322 or Stella Kinloch on 07962 158976.

Tickets are £5 with all proceeds going to church funds.



DOORS OPEN DAYS - Get into buildings!

At the time this magazine was going to press Cardross Parish Church along with St Mahew's are taking part in the Doors Open weekend which is on Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th September. The Church will be open on the Saturday from 10am till 5pm and on Sunday from 1pm to 5pm. On Saturday there will also be live music. You can also take part in our Church Trail (a kind of informative treasure hunt involving

the various items of interest within the church), which was organised by NADFAS (National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts of Scotland) who have been cataloging the works of art in our beautiful place of worship. Tea and coffee will also be available. Visitors will also be given bulbs that were donated at the Harvest Service to be planted in appropriate places within the grounds.

Welcoming you to church will be:

September

24 Mrs M Craven, Mrs E Cormack, Mrs M Walker

October

1 Mrs M Brown, T Davey, B Watson

8 Mrs J Wilson, A Macpherson, Mrs M Bryson

15 Mrs J McNeil, N Glen, Mrs M MacNeill

22 G Stevenson, Miss N Gray, Mrs A Lee

29 D Still, Mrs C Scholarios, Mrs A Wood

November

5 Mrs M Ferguson, D Paterson, Mrs L McKee

12 Mrs M McGhee, Mrs K Watson, Mrs D Colquhoun

19 H Hosie, Mrs R MacLachlan, G Stevenson

26 J Young, Mrs A Campbell, G Kenny

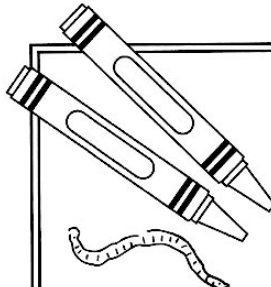
December

3 Mrs C Craig, P Foster, Mrs A Foster

10 Mrs M Craven, Mrs J Fisher, Mrs E Cormack


17 Mrs M Walker, Mrs D Colquhoun, Mrs M Brown

Quiz Time - for adults too!



Just for KIDS



Bugs in the Bible



Whether at a picnic, on the beach or playing outdoors, it seems like we're always joined by uninvited guests – bugs! Bugs and other little creatures are mentioned in the Bible.

Fill in the blanks with the little creatures mentioned in each verse. Circle them in the puzzle below.

Proverbs 6:6 _____ Exodus 16:20 _____
 Psalms 78:45 _____ 1 Sam. 24:14 _____
 Matt. 23:24 _____ Isaiah 50:9 _____
 Judges 14:8 _____ Isaiah 59:5 _____
 Acts 12:23 _____ Leviticus 11:22 _____
 Leviticus 11:22 _____ Leviticus 11:22 _____
 Leviticus 11:22 _____
 Deuteronomy 7:20 _____

M	O	T	H	S	G	N	A	T	B	H
A	N	T	A	L	L	C	H	P	E	O
G	R	A	S	S	H	O	P	P	E	R
G	F	C	R	I	C	K	E	T	S	N
O	L	S	P	I	D	E	R	S	B	E
T	E	C	L	O	C	U	S	T	D	T
S	A	E	F	K	A	T	Y	D	I	D
G	F	L	I	E	S	W	O	R	M	S

Answer: ant, flies, gnat, bees, worms, locust, grasshopper, hornet, maggots, flea, moths, spider, katydid, cricket



Let Us Build A House



Peter Foster has passed on the wonderful news that our fund raising for the 'Let us Build a House' project for rebuilding houses in Nepal damaged by the 2015 earthquake has reached a fantastic £1000. This sum has been sent to Stephanie Walker, Outreach Worker with Church of Scotland World Mission. The support from our Congregation and others has been magnificent in enabling this

super total to be reached. The fundraising included an all night vigil sleeping rough under the stars in the church grounds.

You can find more about the project here: www.churchofscotland.org.uk/serve/world_mission/get_involved/let_us_build_a_house

On Sunday 3 September a supervised crèche commenced within the vestry during the morning service. All children 3 years and under can be left prior to the service commencing or can attend the first part of the service and leave the Church after the children's address which ever suits the parents/guardians.



Christmas Tree Festival

It is hard to think that in September we are mentioning the "C" word, but that's exactly what's happening – the 2017 Christmas Tree Festival.

We held our first meeting recently to start the bauble (ball) rolling. Our festival is on from Friday 15th to Sunday 17th December, 2017, so pop the dates into your diary. The exact times will be announced later.

This year, our festival will be in three parts. On Friday we will be joined by the Helensburgh and District Fiddlers and the Peaton Pealers for community carol singing in the church. On Saturday, a very special guest will be arriving, especially for the children. For a small charge, the children will be able to meet him, and receive a gift from him too.

On Sunday, following our Service and lunch, there will be a short service in Church, conducted by our Minister Maggie to close our festival.

There is lots to look forward to over the weekend, with something for everybody. Our two charities will continue to be

CHAS Robin House and the Glasgow City Mission.

Please look out for further information in the church intimations, on our website and Facebook page, and in the local paper.

Lastly, if you know of a local group / business who would like to take part, please contact me on 07825 505840.

Katrina Watson



St Mahew's Celebration



We hosted a lovely ecumenical afternoon during the summer as we joined with our friends and fellow Christians of St Mahew's to celebrate the 550th anniversary of the founding of their chapel in the village.

After a special mass at St Mahew's the congregations of both churches joined together to have a celebration afternoon tea in church hall which was very well attended.

To mark the anniversary the Rev Maggie McArthur presented Father Dominic Dougan and Arch Bishop of Glasgow, Philip Tartaglia, with a beautiful painting of St Mahew's Chapel done by local artist Irene Taylor.

Father Dominic who has not been in the best of health recently sadly announced his retirement on the day of the celebration. We will miss him coming to join in our worship as he has done so many times in the past. We wish him good health and best wishes in his retirement as we do also to his successor Father Michael Maloney.

Following the event we received a lovely letter of thanks from Mavourneen Watkins on behalf of Father Dominic in which she says "*We (the congregation of St Mahew's) are indeed blessed to find ourselves alongside you (the congregation of Cardross Parish Church) as part of the community.*"



Our Messy Church resumed on Saturday 19th August. A good number of families turned up for the first Messy Church of the new session.

As always all children, regardless of age are welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult.

Messy Church is a way of being church for families involving fun and mess and is led by Rev Maggie McArthur.

Enjoy games, activities, songs and share in a meal together in Christian fellowship. The rest of the dates for this year are:

Sat 16th September

Sat 21th October

Sat 11th November

Sat 9th December

Our Halloween party is on Monday 30th October from 6pm to 8pm and our Christmas party on Monday 11 December from 6pm to 8pm.



Harvest Thanksgiving



Our Harvest Thanksgiving Service on Sunday 17th September was a huge success with buckets full of fresh flowers being donated to decorate the church for the service. Members also kindly donated hundreds of bulbs which will be planted in the church grounds and should provide a beautiful carpet of colour come the

Spring. As always after the service the flowers were distributed within the community.

A big thank you to all who donated flowers and bulbs, to the team of ladies who decorated the church so beautifully and to all those who helped distribute the flowers.

Summer Holiday Club

The Summer Club ran from Monday 3 to Friday 7 July and concluded with an all age family service on Sunday 9 July. We were delighted to have 47 children take part during the week which included a bear hunt to discover a lost artefact that related to a bible story for the day, craft activities, singing, quiz and games. At the all age service a personalised gift was presented to all who took part. Audrey and Peter Foster who have been heavily involved in the Summer Club since its inception intimated they were going to step down and they were presented with a gift as a token of our appreciation. Looking forward to next year it is intended to hold the Summer Club with the theme being the Guardians of Ancora Treasure Seekers. Provisional dates are Monday 2 July to Friday 6 July 2018 with an all age family service on Sunday 8 July but these will be confirmed nearer the time.

TRAPPED IN HURRICANE IRMA

Congregation members survive massive Hurricane whilst on holiday

Neil and Margaret Calder have been regular visitors to Florida for many years and love the weather out in the Sunshine State. Here they tell their story of when the weather turned and how they survived being caught up in one of the largest Hurricanes in recorded history.

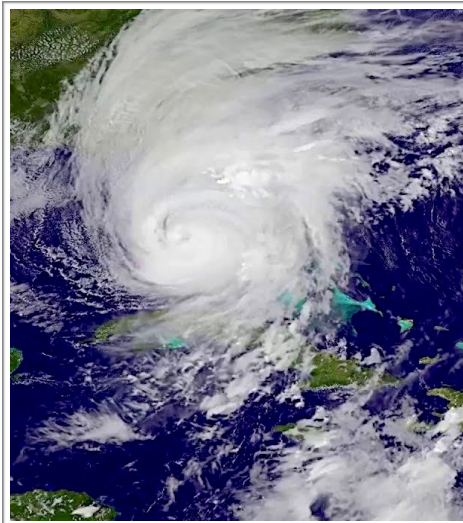
We survived, THANK GOD, we feel truly blessed. When we arrived last weekend it was to the news that Hurricane Irma was definitely going to hit Florida.

Now us being hardened Scots and used to wind and rain thought 50 mile winds, even 80 miles winds....we have seen this before.....what a mistake!! The eye of the storm was 40 miles wide and the hurricane over all was over 300 miles wide. The noise was like a couple of freight trains coming towards us at once from all directions gusting, they say, to 110 miles but it felt like it was much more.

The height of the storm passing over us lasted for 18 long hours. Our friends Jill, Doug, Bob, 'Lucky' the dog (who slept through the worst of it) together with Neil and I took refuge in a 'safe room' 6' x 8'. Mostly without any power and a little wind up radio (thank you Trevor Baylis)

which kept us in touch with what was happening.

We opted for Jill's condo, because of the expected 15 foot water surges for our area, as it is on the second floor. While we had power and TV we saw, to our horror, that the water at Fort Myers beach, the Caloosahatchee River and all the canals were being sucked out at an incredible rate and knew that we truly were in trouble. By some miracle the hurricane instead of passing on the west of us moved and passed on the east dumping more rain on us than forecasted and lessened the surge, savings thousands of lives and homes.



Satellite view of Irma over Florida



Returning to Bob's home to check it out and finally Neil and I checking out the community we are staying at. Sadly that community did not fair as well and we have been unable to gain access because of the height of the flood water. Hopefully we can get access in the next couple of days.

There are some upsetting and sad sights but neighbours, friends and complete strangers are all out helping each other. Thankfully we are safe and amazingly the power was restored early this morning and the sun is shining. Neil has been out with Bob, in the community, helping where they can and I have been left in charge of food! Thank you to all our family, friends and neighbours for all

their messages of love and prayers. We love and appreciate you all. xx

Margaret & Neil

