columba News



Autumn 2019

CHURCH PERSONNEL

"COLUMBA NEWS" - OCTOBER 2019 - Issue No. 230

Interim Moderator

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Beadle & Church Officer

JOHN STEWART, 6A Ronaldshaw Park, Ayr Tel: 261272

Church Office

Carrick Park, Ayr. Tel:- 269524 Office Hours: 9.00am - 12.00 noon Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

Church Charity Number: SC014338

Church Services (Midton Road):

9.30am - Family Service; 10.00am - Sunday School and Bible Class 11.15am - Morning Worship; 6.30pm - Evening Services (Last Sunday of the Month)

Church Services (Lochside)

10.00am Morning Worship

Webmaster:

Iain Bartholomew Email: website@ayrstcolumba.co.uk www.ayrstcolumba.co.uk

From the Interim Moderator

October 2019

Last time from me! You have your new Minister Elect in Scott McKenna and he will be inducted by the Presbytery of Ayr on Thursday, October 24.

I will leave him to introduce himself to you on these pages at the next edition; I will simply say that I believe absolutely that he is the Minister for Ayr: St. Columba.

Why? I have never before seen a Nomination Committee and a Sole Nominee come together so quickly and so smoothly. Once all the Committee had seen and heard him, they immediately agreed that he was their choice.



Revd Dr Scott McKenna

You were served, let me also say, by a great Nomination Committee! Here they are celebrating their decision to invite Scott and having received his acceptance.



They were thorough, faithful and the meetings were fruitful and fun. The rapid unanimity reached and the ready acceptance of their invitation makes me conclude and report to you that Scott is the Minister that God had in mind for you. Praise be!

Now, for him and his wife, Shelagh, is the busy time - arranging to move from Edinburgh, fixing up the Manse, settling their son and bidding farewell to their church family in Mayfield Salisbury. Now, for Ayr: St. Columba, preparations for that removal, the Induction and the subsequent Welcome Social. Again, you have great teams working for you.

It has been my privilege to observe this great church-family in action and to play a small part in its ongoing life. Your life with your new Minister, your work, worship, and witness will now always be in my prayers.

SUNDAY DOOR DUTY

MORNING SERVICES

EVENING SERVICES

(9.30am and 11.15am)

(6.30pm)

OCTOBER

6th Team 10 13th Team 11 20th Team 12

27th 9.30am Team 1

11.15am Team 2 6.30pm Evening Service

NOVEMBER

 3rd
 Team 4

 10th
 Team 5

 17th
 Team 6

 24th
 Team 7

6.30pm Evening Service

DECEMBER

 1st
 Team 8

 8th
 Team 9

 15th
 Team 10

WEDNESDAY COMMUNION will be held at 2pm on the fourth Wednesday of each month (except June, July, August, December), the forthcoming occasions being October 23 and November 27.

MINISTER ELECT

On Sunday 15th September the Revd Dr Scott S McKenna conducted public worship at a special Service at Ayr St Columba Church. The Service included a Children's Address and a Sermon, both of which were very warmly appreciated by the Congregation.

The vote which followed the Service was overwhelmingly in his favour and, accordingly, Dr McKenna has been elected as the new Minister at Ayr St Columba Church. The Service of Induction for Dr McKenna will be held on Thursday 24th October.

We are delighted to offer Dr McKenna the congratulations of the Kirk Session and of all our members on this highly satisfactory outcome and we look forward to a long and inspiring ministry.

Bob Bartholomew, Session Clerk



C hristmas L unch KYLESTROME HOTEL Millar Rd Ayr



2 Course (Main & Dessert) Tea/Coffee Glass of bubbly on arrival Glass of House Wine with lunch Tea/Coffee



Sunday, 8th December Time: 1.00 for 1.30pm Cost £22.00 (PAY ON THE DAY)

List for names will be placed in Carrick Park Vestibule from MONDAY 28th OCTOBER

St Columba's Big Family Breakfast

An invitation went out to all families at Ayr St Columba to come along and join us for a Big Family Breakfast together after St Columba's Kids on the second week back. Parents and other family came in for the final 10 minutes to do a couple of songs with St Columba's Kids and say the grace. After this we had a wonderful time together chatting and playing, with teas and coffees for the adults, giant games for the kids, and rolls with bacon, sausage, or a veggie option for everyone!

What started as a suggestion at the St Columba's Kids planning meeting by one of our leaders for a way to encourage parents to stay and chat with each other for a while became a great success. It is planned that we will have a Big Family Breakfast at the start of every new term (after summer, Christmas, and Easter).

This wonderful opportunity for families to gather together would not have been possible without the hard work in organising and preparing the 62 filled rolls by: Keith, Angie, Jane, Larraine, Anne, Norman, Katie, and all the St Columba's Kids team for serving and our Junior leaders for setting up the games.



COLUMBA NEWS COPY DEADLINE

Please note the deadline for the Christmas edition will be SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD

Norman Reid, Editor

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

Induction to Ayr St Columba of the

Revd Dr Scott McKenna

By Ayr Presbytery will take place in the Church on Thursday, October 24, 2019, at 7pm A social will be held after the service in the church hall

~0~

The minister will be preached into his new charge on Sunday, October 27 by the

Revd Dr George Whyte

Please note: there will be no communion services on Sunday, October 27

LIGHT DARTY

For the past two years on the Tuesday nearest Halloween our church halls have been transformed into a wonderland of lights. An idea created by Scripture Union a few years ago, which they have encouraged churches to offer to their communities, the Light Party is an opportunity to offer a safe environment for children to come to at Halloween that focusses on light as opposed to darkness.

Plans are already in place to decorate the halls (in a very tight timeframe) so that as children and their parents walk through our doors they will be greeted with a haven of lights in the dark night. The Struthers room will become our craft room with lots of exciting crafts and pumpkin carving, in the main hall there will be some traditional games like bobbing for apples, trying to eat donuts off of a string, jump the river, Malteser and straw races, and the Midton Room will be turned into our own light disco, with laser show on the ceiling and smiley balloons everywhere!

Half way through the night there will be a 'God Slot' as we look at Jesus being the light of the world, before awarding prizes for best costumes, and then we will close the night off with hot chocolate and crisps. We are always looking for more volunteers to help out in many different ways at all of the different opportunities for making our church the centre of the community, so please if you feel able get in touch with Irene in the office or Stuart on stuartmckinlay@icloud.com

If you have any children or know anyone who does, then please encourage them to come along the the Light Party on Tuesday 29th October from 6pm-8pm.

Notes from Session ...

A meeting of the Kirk Session, chaired by the Interim Moderator, The Very Revd Dr David Lacy, was held on 11th June 2019. A summary of issues discussed at this meeting is given below:

- Presbytery had appointed Mrs Lorna Paterson, Elder at Ayr St Columba, as an Additional Elder.
- Presbytery made an appeal for individuals to volunteer to become Street Pastors in the Ayr and Prestwick Areas.
- Presbytery, in light of increased awareness of environmental issues, encourage individuals and congregations to take time to reflect on ways in which they can care for creation.
- During the Vacancy it was a requirement that the Manse be formally inspected. Mr J Stewart would arrange this with Presbytery.
- Mr J Ferguson proposed that the camping equipment currently being stored at Lochside be donated to the Kyle and Carrick Scouts and any residual items be donated to the 1010 Trust. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Mr A Muirhead reminded members that the Independence from Drugs and Alcohol (Scotland) charity at Auchincruive had been highlighted at Christmas by Mr P T MacDonald and had received £2,000 from the Christmas Eve offerings in the Church. He had joined a group on a visit to Auchincruive. He had been highly impressed by what he saw and he felt it was important that members were fully aware of the wonderful work being done. The charity's work was excellent in many ways and was making a difference in an area identified by the Scottish Government as one of great concern as it involved drugs, alcohol and suicide.
- The Clerk reported that the transactions regarding the former manse in Chalmers Road and the Cathcart St Hall were complete. New tenants were living in the Chalmers Road House and the sale of the Hall had been finalised. The Clerk thanked everyone who had been involved in preparing the properties for sale or rent, especially the Fabric Convenor, John Stewart, who had gone far beyond the call of duty in dealing with both properties. Mr W Muir commended the excellent work done by our solicitors, the McKinstry Company, and commended Mr G McKinstry for arranging this and for providing the services without charging legal fees.
- The Clerk informed members that four individuals had accepted the invitation to put their names forward for the Eldership. They were Mrs Wendy Campbell, Mr David Inglis, Mr Stuart Reid and Miss Muriel Wilson. Arrangements would be made for the reading of edicts and for the Ordinations to take place in the coming weeks.

- The Clerk reminded members that Bryce Hartshorn was stepping down as Convenor of the Education Committee. He was pleased to say that Mr Keith Fullerton had agreed to take on the role of Convenor of the Education Committee. Mr Fullerton was well known to members and he had been involved in the Education Committee and in many other aspects of Church life for many years. Mr Fullerton's appointment was warmly approved by members of Session.
- Mrs Hunter informed members of the forthcoming Senior's outing to Rosslyn Chapel on 12th June. The Senior Christmas Party had been arranged for 14th December and it was proposed to hold a Burns Supper in the Church on 7th February 2020. The caterers for this event had been booked.
- Mrs Sharp said that the number of home visits being requested was dwindling. She asked elders to let her know of anyone they knew who would benefit from a home visit.
- The Treasurer gave a detailed report on the finance position five months into the financial year. Both Open Plate offerings and offerings donated through Gift Aid were down by 4%, with Free Will offerings down by 9%.
- Mrs H Greig said that a group from Ayr St Columba had met with Michael Hall and Jennifer Lennon to discuss the upcoming Fun Day at Lochside on Saturday 13th July from 12.00 noon to 2.00pm.
- The new Convenor, Mr Keith Fullerton, thanked Mr Hartshorn for all the work he had done for the Committee. He informed members that 29 people had attended successful the Heartstart event on 7th May and only one Duty Team had not been represented.
- Consideration was being given to future Elder Training events and 'Dementia Awareness' had been suggested as a suitable topic.
- Mrs Bartholomew reported that the Holiday Club would take place in the Church from 15th to 19th July from 10.00am to 12.00 noon each day. The theme was 'Showstoppers' and would involve stories from the Old Testament. Volunteer helpers were welcome.

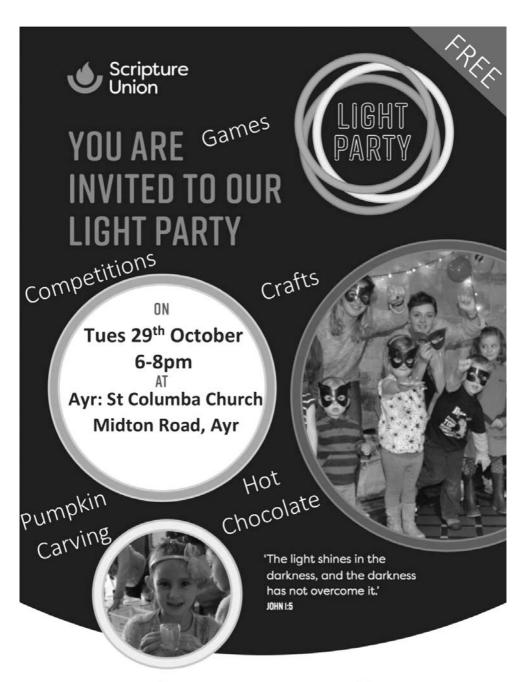
R A Bartholomew, Session Clerk

Bible Exploration Group

It's not always easy in our busy lives to make time to study the Bible. Why not join us for an hour or so as we explore issues in Christian living from the Letter of James? This is a letter which emphasises the importance of actions along with faith. We'll consider: riches and poverty, temptation, wisdom, pride and humility, prejudice and prayer.

We meet fortnightly in the Struthers Room at 7.30 on the following dates: October 16 and 30, November 13 and 27, and December 11. We look forward to seeing you!

Bryce Hartshorn



FOR CHILDREN UP TO P.7

Ayr St Columba Church of Scotland is a Scottish Charity SC014338

THE GUILD . . . Date for your diary

As I write this our meetings have not yet commenced, but by the time you read this we will have started our winter session and The Guild members will have chosen the projects and charities which they wish to support during the next Session.

We, as Guild members, have had a good rest over the summer period, but our Secretary has not and I take this opportunity of thanking her for her hard work in compiling the syllabus for next year. She has had all the phone calls, letters and readjustment of dates etc and, Maureen, we do appreciate your hard work on our behalf.



Our major fund-raising event is as follows:

coffee morning

with produce and baking, Christmas gifts and handicrafts, books, and bric-a-brac stalls.

SATURDAY, 23rd NOVEMBER 10am – NOON

Tickets price £2.50 available from Guild members.

My apologies for the mis-quoted date in the Late Summer Magazine issued last month
– a slip of the finger!

All donations of unwanted gifts, books, baking etc will be gratefully received in the Church Hall on the Friday, November 22. If you wish anything uplifted prior to that date, please telephone me on 01292 441651, or our Secretary, Maureen Fullerton, on 01292 261944 or ask any Guild committee member. We will be only too pleased to collect any items you wish to donate.

I take this opportunity of thanking you for your support of our work in The Guild.

Dorothy Bone, Convener

WORSHIP, MISSION AND OUTREACH

An All Age Worship service will be held at 9.30 on the Sunday, November 3.

Please note the title - it's a service for Everyone. We would value your support and look forward to seeing you there.

There will also be a breakfast in the Hall after the service

Helen Greig, Convenor WMO

St Columba's Kids

St Columba's Kids returned the Sunday after the schools went back and it was wonderful to see everyone back again! We had a small number of new faces joining us this year, which was great to see and we hopefully look forward to welcoming more new faces as the year progresses.

So far we have looked at friendship and the faith of the friends of the paralysed man, God is Love, and Seeking God in everyday life. We have got messy with our hands in paint, tried to get balloons into the right order and stay in place to work out our memory verse for one week, had team mat relay races as well as making bracelets, keyrings, and paintings. Each week as well as our games and crafts we have challenges, a memory verse, our story and snack.

A great addition to St Columba's Kids this year has been our team of Junior Leaders: Sophie, Campbell, Lois, and Lucas. Each of our Junior leaders help with crafts, take turns at leading the games and challenges and in the year ahead will drive forward the fundraising for our charity of the year – the Scottish Bible Society.

The children enjoyed their time in church engaging with Scott's children's address and look forward to seeing him in the church again once he joins us permanently. We







would also like to thank George, Fiona, Valerie, and Lois for agreeing to run a craft session during the rest of the service where our sole nominee preached in order to allow the rest of the Sunday School teachers to remain in and vote.





CROSSREACH NEWS



Get crafty and raise funds with a CrossReach Craftathon!

Bursting with yummy recipes (including melt in your mouth truffles) and exciting craft ideas from knitting to henna, Craftathon is a brilliant way to bring people together. Hold a Craftathon in your church, house or hall and help build friendships and community. CrossReach's Craftathon pack will get you started and their crafty team are on hand with tips and advice!

For your free pack email: events@crossreach.org.uk or call: 0131 454 4391

Social Care Forum

Looking to share ideas on local social care and outreach projects? The Social Care Forum is your one-stop-shop for social care resources.

To register, visit: www.socialcareforum.scot



▼ SENIOR CHRISTMAS PARTY

BOOKING FORM

.....

PLEASE RESERVE.....

a place at the Seniors' Christmas Party on Saturday, December 14



THE THEME THIS SESSION IS GREAT ESCAPES!

In **SEPTEMBER** we looked at how **NOAH** ESCAPED from the Flood.

In **OCTOBER** 26th we will look at how **JOSEPH** ESCAPES – but from what or whom?

In NOVEMBER 30th it will be MOSES turn to ESCAPE!

DECEMBER (date to be decided) – will be a CHRISTMAS SURPRISE!

Messy Church is a new "all age" way of giving a Church experience to Church families and families who may not engage with traditional worship.

As you can read above we explore biblical themes which include stories, songs, hands-on creative experiences, a celebration and a meal.

Everyone is welcome – children from pre-school age – P7, but don't forget kids bring family members!

We look forward to meeting you - please come along and join us.

Generally, the last Saturday of the month – but do watch intimations for confirmation.

Note of Ayr Presbytery Meeting

3 September 2019 within the Carrick Centre, Maybole

Ayr : Castlehill: Presbytery noted that the Rev Paul Russell preached as Nominee at Ayr: Castlehill on Sunday 23 June 2019. For 117 Against 7. Presbytery noted the Call to the Rev Paul Russell has been sustained.

Annbank linked with Tarbolton: Presbytery noted that the Rev Mandy Ralph preached as Nominee at Annbank linked with Tarbolton on Sunday 11 August 2019. For 151 Against 0. Presbytery noted that the Call to the Rev Mandy Ralph has been sustained.

Mauchline linked with Sorn: Presbytery noted the Call from Dalry St Margarets to the Rev David Albon, Minister at Mauchline linked with Sorn has been sustained and the translation agreed.

Troon: St Meddan's: Presbytery noted that the Derek Peat, Minister at Troon: St Meddan's will shortly take up an appointment with the Presbytery of Glasgow as a Mission Review Coordinator.

Letter of Demission: Presbytery noted that the Rev Ian McLachlan, on grounds of ill-health, demitted his Charge of Barr linked with Dailly linked with Girvan South on 15 August 2019.

Ayr St Quivox: Presbytery agreed that Ayr: St Quivox may be listed for Ministers from Non-EEA Countries excluding Switzerland. Ayr: St Quivox has a long term vacancy.

Safeguarding: Presbytery noted the Safeguarding Committee report to the General Assembly 2019 included the deliverance to instruct Kirk Sessions to conduct Basic Disclosure checks on all individuals in their congregations in leadership roles and/or positions of trust, including but not limited to organists, church officers/caretakers and cafe workers, where their duties may involve contact with vulnerable groups as referred to in the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007. While retrospective Basic Disclosure checking is not being carried out, Kirk Sessions can ask workers in post to undertake a Basic Disclosure check. The cost is currently £25, reimbursement is subject to the decisions of the Kirk Sessions.

Manse Inspections: Presbytery noted the recent inspections of the manses of Ayr: St Columba Parish Church and Ayr: Newton Wallacetown Parish Church. Both manses are fit for habitation but further inspections will be carried out on completion of the defects identified in the inspection reports.

Church Repairs and Alterations: Presbytery agreed to the applications to carry out repairs and alterations projects to the following churches:

Patna Waterside Parish Church - £7,904 to meet the cost of a replacement central heating boiler and associated costs.

Kingcase Parish Church - £24,180 to renew the heating system within the Church.

Discretionary Allowance Committee: Presbytery noted that all applications to the Discretionary Allowance Committee for mission and other issues should be sent to the Convenor, the Rev Gerald Jones by 10 October 2019. Emergency applications should be submitted by the Presbytery February Committee meetings in 2020.

Presbytery noted that in all cases the reserves of the Churches will be taken into consideration. Many congregations have substantial fabric reserves and the Committee would expect such funds to be used first where possible, prior to an application for an allowance against Ministries and Mission contributions.

Presbytery note while applications for fabric purposes will be considered, mission-related projects will receive priority.

Vacancies: Presbytery agreed that Charges which become vacant will be visited within one month or as reasonably possible by a representative from Ayr Presbytery.

There will then be a joint follow-up visit to the vacant Charge by the Presbytery Vacancy Procedure Committee and the local Mission Focus Group Convenor and Rapporteur to discuss the current state of local MFG planning and the next step in the procedure.

The Mission Committee will receive a report of this discussion and either make a recommendation to Presbytery or refer the matter back to the local MFG for further consideration as appropriate. The Presbytery makes the final decision about the future of the vacant Charge.

Pioneer Farming Minister: Presbytery agreed in principal to continue the work of the ministry to the farming community after the completion of the pioneer project in 2021. The post will be funded through various funding streams.

Refugees: Presbytery gave thanks for the Christian witness of the National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon through its accompaniment of Christians and Muslims alike, supporting the internally displaced in Syria and the externally displaced in Lebanon and encourage congregations to support "A Place at the Table" in order to support NESSL's witness. Further information and resources on "A Place at the Table" is available to download from the Church of Scotland website.

Presbytery encourage individuals and congregations to engage with and support the work of Scottish Faith Action for Refugees, by calling for change, promoting sanctuary, giving money or meeting refugees.

Ministries and Mission Contributions: Presbytery noted that the 2020 Ministries and Mission Contributions have been forwarded to all congregations. Our M and M contributions for 2019 are £158,927 and are proposed to be increased to £159,826 for 2020.

George Park, Presbytery Elder

A Time to Remember

November is the season of memory, and on Sunday November 3rd at 4.00pm in the Centenary Aisle, there will be a short act of worship, remembering loved ones who have died.

The service will be designed specifically for reflection and prayer, with short readings, music and time for quiet meditation.

You will have the opportunity to light a candle to remembering someone dear.

Tea will be served after the service in the Struthers Room.

Linda Sharp

ANNUAL ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

Our Annual Act of Remembrance is on Sunday 13th November at the second service which will begin at the slightly earlier time of 10.50a.m. that we might incorporate the two minute silence.

As daily we hear of the dangers which our Armed Forces face in the theatre of war in various parts of the world, it is only right that we recall the sacrifice made by those who fought in past conflicts and dedicate ourselves to continue to strive to work for peace and reconciliation.

A Big Thank You

A very big THANK YOU for all who attended and supported our fundraising Charity Coffee morning.

Thanks also to everyone who helped out both before and on the actual date.

We have raised £2062.30 which will be split between Macmillan and South Ayrshire Clothing Bank.

Nan Mackie

New Chief Officer appointed to Church of Scotland

The Assembly Trustees have appointed their first Chief Officer who will have overall executive responsibility for the Trustees' employees and budgets, and will take forward the organisational implementation of the vision and strategy of the General Assembly for a leaner and fitter Church.

David Kendall, the new Chief Officer of the Church of Scotland, will take up his new role on November 1st.

Dave Kendall BSc, FRSC, an elder at West Kirk East Kilbride, is currently Director of Programmes at the Advanced Nuclear Research Centre of the University of Strathclyde following an extensive career in management in the Nuclear Power industry, most recently with EDF Energy.

The Appointment Panel were especially impressed with his demonstration of experience and skill in change management as well as his clear commitment to participation in the local church and its worship.

John Chalmers, Convener of the Assembly Trustees, said:

The appointment of a Chief Officer is a landmark moment for the Church of Scotland and, personally, I am looking forward to working with Dave Kendall whose blend of experience, enthusiasm and energy will be a vital component in the re-purposing of our Central Administration.

Dave Kendall, who will also remain in his voluntary role as the Chairman of Skills Exchange SCIO, commented:

- I am delighted to be joining the leadership team of the Church of Scotland as Chief Officer.
- I have been an active member of the Church of Scotland for 30 years and feel a real calling to help take us forward at national level.
- I am very much looking forward to working with the central and local teams on the change agenda that the Trustees have laid down. Whilst it will certainly be a great challenge I feel extremely positive about the future direction of our church.

It is expected that Mr Kendall will take up his new role on 1st November.

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

OCTOBER 2019

DEATHS

15th July Mrs. Mary Martin, 22 Carrick Road, Ayr

BAPTISMS

Benan 1st September 2019, Ollie James Benan, infant son of, Kenneth and

Stephanie, 45 Belmont Avenue, Ayr

WEDDINGS

17th August by Revd. John Bell, Miss Kirsty Watson, 22 George Morland House,

Abingdon and Iain McLarty, 81 Hyndland Road, Glasgow

14th September by Revd. Eddie Simpson, Miss Cara Mackay and Mr. Christopher Vest,

12 Mochrum Way, Ayr KA7 4TZ

CLOSING THOUGHT

THE GOSPEL IS LESS ABOUT HOW TO GET INTO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN AFTER YOU DIE, AND MORE ABOUT HOW TO LIVE IN THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN BEFORE YOU DIE

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REGULAR ACTIVITIES MIDTON ROAD HALL

MONDAY			
5.30 pm	Rainbow Brownies	Aynsley Bell	07914 842 118
7.30 pm	The Guild (fortnightly)	Mrs. D. Bone	441651
7.30 pm	Men's Association (fortnightly)	Mr. T. R. Swinn	441896
7.30 pm	Ladies Fellowship (fortnightly)	Linda Sharp	286951
WEDNESDAY			
2.00 pm	Holy Communion (4th Wed)	Church Office	269524
2.00 pm	Fitness with Friends	Mrs. Margaret Doncaster	477381
5.45 pm	9th Ayr Brownies	Mrs. E. MacDonald	445529
7.30 pm	Girl Guides	Susan Christie	442374
	9th Ayr Ranger Guides (every second Wednesday)	Susan Christie	442374
THURSDAY			
10.30 am	Oasis Café	Mrs. Rene Kidd	
10.20 am	Ladies' Badminton	Mrs. Elizabeth MacDona	ld 445529
2.00 pm	Men's Association Games	Mr. R. Park	268788
6.30 pm	Cub Scouts	Mr. D. Hope	263376
7.30 pm	Senior Choir	Church Office	269524
FRIDAY			
10.00 am	Parent & Toddlers	Church Office	269524
6.00 pm	Beaver Scouts	Fiona Wilson	290414
7.30 pm	Scouts	Jereon Bolte	07511 489 755
SATURDAY			
4.00 pm	Messy Church	Irene Bartholomew	269524

(last Saturday of the month)