

Columba News



Late Summer  *2019*

CHURCH PERSONNEL

"COLUMBA NEWS" - SEPTEMBER 2019 - Issue No. 229

Interim Moderator

The Very Revd. Dr. DAVID W. LACY D.L., 4 Cairns Terrace, Kilmarnock KA1 2JG. Tel:- 01563 624034

Associate Minister

Revd. DAVID T. NESS, LTH., 17 Winston Avenue, Prestwick. Tel:- 471625

Session Clerk

ROBERT A. BARTHOLOMEW, 30 St. Leonard's Road, Ayr. Tel:- 265794

Treasurer

TOM CAIRNS, 15 Longhill Avenue, Ayr KA7 4DY. Tel:- 443271

Director of Music

MATTHEW HYNES, 20A Academy Street, Ayr KA7 1HS. Tel:- 870449

Gift Aid Convener

PETER G. MACDONALD, 23 Dongola Road, Ayr. Tel:- 264059

Free Will Offering Convener

ALAN HAWTHORN, 15 Forest Way, Ayr. Tel:- 267688

"Columba News" Editor

NORMAN REID, 4 Hawthorn Drive, Ayr. Tel:- 262144

Email: editor.columbanews@gmail.com

Church Secretary

IRENE E. BARTHOLOMEW, 30 St. Leonard's Road, Ayr. Office Tel:- 269524

Email: irene@ayrstcolumba.co.uk

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

September 2019

Have you ever woken up on a Sunday morning, thought about coming to church – then rolled over, saying to yourself, “They’ll get on fine without me”?

Have you ever thought to sit down with your children and tell them about your faith, and then said to yourself, “I don’t need to: they’ll get that in school”?

Do you sometimes listen to the news and views of our secular world and think, “The Church should be speaking out on that issue; surely we pay someone to say these kinds of thing!”

If you can tick any of the above, or similar situations, then this story is for you:

It is the old legend of the encounter between Jesus and the angel Gabriel at the gates of Heaven after Jesus had ascended.

“What great saving work you have done!” said Gabriel. “But what plans have you made for carrying on the work and telling the world of the Good News?” Jesus replied, “I left Peter and Martha, James and Mary to tell friends, and their friends to tell their friends, till all the world should know.” “But,” said Gabriel, “suppose Peter is too busy fishing, Martha too busy with housework, or the friends they tell too occupied that they forget to tell their friends - what then?” Jesus did not answer at once; then He said with quiet confidence, “I have not made any other plans. I am counting on them.”

It comes down to Hymn 204, “I am the Church! You are the Church! We are the Church together! All who follow Jesus all around the world, yes, we’re the church together.”

If present church members don’t come together as the church – there will be no church.

If our children do not hear of the Faith from their Christian parents, they’ll hear it from no-one - and there will be no church.

If individual church members don’t speak out in the everyday situations of this world – there is no church.

The Lord is counting on us. Let us be numbered among the faithful!

May the Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with us all.

David L

STOP PRESS!

SOLE NOMINEE FOR AYR ST COLUMBA CHURCH

The Convenor of the Nominating Committee, which was elected by the Congregation to find a successor to the Revd Fraser Aitken, has announced that a Sole Nominee for the position has been chosen. After many visits and much serious discussion, this is the person the Committee members unanimously recommend should be our next Minister.

The Revd Dr Scott McKenna will preach in the Church at **10.30am** on **Sunday 15th September**. This will be the only Service on that day. Following the Service all members of the Congregation who are on the Electoral Register will be invited to vote to confirm Dr McKenna as the new Minister at Ayr St Columba Church.

Bob Bartholomew, Session Clerk

SUNDAY DOOR DUTY

MORNING SERVICES

(9.30am and 11.15am)

EVENING SERVICES

(6.30pm)

SEPTEMBER

8th Team 6
15th Team 7
22nd Team 8
29th Team 9

6.30pm Evening Service

OCTOBER

6th Team 10
13th Team 11
20th Team 12
27th 9.30am Team 1
11.15am Team 2

6.30pm Team 3

NOVEMBER

3rd Team 4
10th Team 5
17th Team 6
24th Team 7

6.30pm Evening Service

WEDNESDAY COMMUNION will be held at 2pm on the fourth Wednesday of each month (except June, July, August, December), the forthcoming occasions being September 25 and October 23.

Congratulations

One of our youngsters, **Sophie Hart**, is pictured after receiving the Lewis McCartney Trophy for outstanding service to the church



Note of Ayr Presbytery Meeting

18 June 2019 held within Ayr: St Leonard's Parish Church

Presbytery Plan: Presbytery confirmed that it is working towards the agreed Presbytery Plan of 26 Ministers plus 5 FTE Mission Development Staff by 2022. Area allocation being Central 6, East 9, North 6 and South 5.

Presbytery instructs that all new and unadvertised vacancies that are given permission to call will only be allowed a 5 year reviewable charge until such time as the Mission Focus Groups plan has been agreed.

Presbytery note that all vacancies that have reached their 2 year limit of a call will be reviewed based on consideration of a 5 year reviewable charge.

Coylton linked with Drongan Parish Churches: Presbytery noted that the Rev Dr Alwyn Landman preached as Nominee at Coylton linked with Drongan on Sunday 26 May 2019. For 106 Against 4. Presbytery noted that a Call to the Rev Dr Alwyn Landman has been sustained with the Call being signed by 151.

Ballantrae linked with St Colmon Parish Churches: Presbytery noted that the Rev Theo Corney preached as Nominee at Ballantrae linked with St Colmon on Sunday 26 May 2019. For 110 Against 1. Presbytery noted that the Call to the Rev Theo Corney has been sustained with the Call being signed by 133.

Attestation of Accounts Interim Report: Presbytery noted that all congregations with the exception of Auchinleck Parish Church and Troon: Old Parish Church may submit their accounts and Trustees Reports to OSCR along with their Annual Return on the basis that these Accounts shall be properly signed and dated.

Church Repairs and Alterations: Presbytery approved the application from Girvan North Parish Church to carry out various works at a cost of £1,500 if approval is received from the Committee on Church Art and Architecture for the alterations.

Pioneer Ministry Post for Farming: Presbytery agreed in principle that the Pioneer Minister post for farming should be continued beyond its current term. To this end, an application for “Go for It” / “Growth Fund” support and other funding opportunities will be explored.

Three Presbyteries: Presbytery noted that a joint meeting of the Presbytery of Ayr, Presbytery of Ardrossan and the Presbytery of Irvine and Kilmarnock will take place on Tuesday 10 September 2019 at 7pm within Kay Park Church, Kilmarnock.

George Park, Presbytery Elder

The Guild

"Whose we are and Whom we serve"

We hope you have enjoyed a good summer even although the weather has not been so kind to us this year. By the time you read this in the September Columba News the new session of The Guild will soon be starting and Dorothy and the Committee look forward to welcoming everyone back to enjoy what we hope will be another successful year.

The Guild meets every fortnight and this year our first meeting will be on –

Monday, 30 September at 7.30 p.m. we are delighted that Revd Ian Paterson will be our guest and dedicate The Guild and give us inspiration to carry on our good work in the year ahead.

Dedication Service – Companions on the Road

Monday, 14 October at 7.30 p.m. Ian Thomson, VIP and Royal Security

Monday, 28 October at 2.00 p.m. Barbara Graham. Gladys Aylward

We also hope that this year we will welcome some new members and you can be assured of a warm welcome so please do come along and join us.

As I mentioned in the June Columba News, our outing to the Gaiety Theatre to see this year's production of Oliver by Ayrshire Philharmonic Opera Society has been booked so if you would definitely like to go please let Dorothy (441615) or any member of the Committee know with payment to follow.

Also, a reminder that our Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday, 24 November from 10 a.m. to noon. As always, we ask you to remember us if you have any unwanted gifts, books, bric-a-brac, etc – it is always so much appreciated.

In the meantime, please do enjoy the rest of the Summer as we look forward to Autumn and all the church activities beginning and, of course, seeing everyone again on Monday, 30 September at 7.30 p.m.

Maureen Fullerton, Secretary

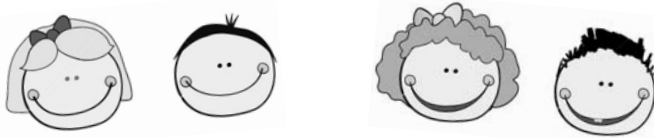
COLUMBA NEWS COPY DEADLINE

Please note the deadline for the September edition will be

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22nd

Norman Reid, Editor

SHOWSTOPPERS HOLIDAY CLUB



For a week in July the church holidays were transported into a theatrical wonderland, complete with lights, curtains and a miniature stage and boxes!

This was the setting for Showstoppers Holiday Club where over 30 children explored the story of God's big plan for us all. It was wonderful to see so many children and have the opportunity to celebrate Christmas and Easter in the middle of July!

Every day those attending enjoyed a programme of songs, challenges (including messy challenges that saw leaders get covered in shaving foam and alphabet spaghetti), games, snacks, while looking at the story that was the focus for each day. By the end of the week a large number of our children could tell us the memory verse from each day.

This year we had an excellent team of various skills, talents and experience that meant that the kids were totally engaged and enthusiastic throughout the week. On the final day of the holiday club we celebrated together as we invited parents and younger and older siblings to join us for a BBQ and some Renaldo's ice cream!

We cannot wait to see everyone again between 13-17 April for our Easter holiday club Mega Makers, looking at the gospel of Matthew.

St Columba's Kids also restarts on Sunday, August 25 for all children from pre-school to p.7 for a mixture of songs, games, challenges.

Snack, stories and more every Sunday between 10-11am!





Notes from Session ...

A meeting of the Kirk Session, chaired by the Interim Moderator, The Very Revd Dr David Lacy, was held on 9th April 2019. A summary of issues discussed at this meeting is given below:

- The Moderator read out a tribute to the late Mr Duncan Anderson, Assistant Session Clerk, which had been written by Revd Fraser Aitken. Mr Anderson had been a devoted family man, an outstanding Assistant Session Clerk and a true friend to many in the Church.
- Mr George Park, reported on the Presbytery meeting held on 5th March 2019 within the Carrick Centre, Maybole. Robert Bartholomew, Session Clerk, on behalf of the congregation of Ayr St Columba, gave a very warm and moving oration on the wonderful work that the Revd Fraser Aitken's style of ministry, preaching and pastoral assistance had given during his 27 years at Ayr St Columba and the love and respect in which he is held within the congregation.
- The Moderator said that the Nominations Committee had made a positive start and indicated that interest had been shown in the vacant post.
- Upon her taking the appropriate vows, the Moderator admitted Mrs Lorna Paterson to the office of Elder in the congregation.
- Mr Mike Whiteford delivered the report of the Committee set up to consider a memorial for the late Revd Dr Bill Christman. The recommendation for framed photographs of Dr Christman and of Revd Aitken in the Carrick Park Vestibule was approved. The recommendation for a plaque for each of the former Ministers in the Sanctuary was approved. The Moderator expressed gratitude on behalf of the Kirk Session for the work done by Mr Whiteford and the members of his Committee.
- The Clerk read out a letter from Mr Ralph Porciani, General Manager of the Turnberry Hotel, in which he spoke of the success of the Lunch to celebrate Revd Fraser Aitken's retirement and expressed his thanks to the members of the Church who had attended.
- Upon taking the 'Oath de Fideli', Mr Walter Muir was sworn in as a Depute Session Clerk by the Moderator.
- The appointment of Mr Norman Reid, editor of the 'Columba News', to the Review and Planning Committee was approved.
- The appointment of Mrs Helen Greig as Convenor of the Worship, Mission and Outreach Committee was approved.
- An offer from Indigo Nails for the Cathcart Street Hall had been accepted. Final legal and financial details were currently being processed.
- The letting of the former manse at 82 Chalmers Road had been placed in the hands of the

Letting Agency, Key Lets. A tenant had been found and the tenancy would commence on 17th May.

- In his final report before retiring, Mr Bryce Hartshorn thanked the Clerk for his kind words and said that it had been a privilege to convene the Education Committee. He thanked Elders for their support and encouragement.
- Mrs Jane Hunter expressed her thanks for all the kind letters she had received regarding her organisation of Revd Aitken's retirement Lunch. She gave details of the Seniors' outing to Rosslyn Chapel on 12th June.

R A Bartholomew
Session Clerk

WORSHIP, MISSION AND OUTREACH

"But where's Jesus?" asked a young boy in the midst of an Old Testament story at this summer's holiday club. What a profound question. Where IS Jesus in the lives of our church family and especially those with children?

31 children attended all or part of the Showstoppers holiday club in July, ably led by Stuart, Kerrie and Sara.

Over 100 children attend or have attended St Columba Kids, messy church, holiday clubs or the Light Party at Hallowe'en.

But where are the majority of them on Sunday mornings? Or more pertinently where are their parents?

Because unless the parents bring them, the children won't be there.

We all know that the answer is complex and many- stranded, and it may be that child-centred events like messy church or holiday clubs is the best way to reach out.

But the Worship Mission and Outreach committee believe that it is important to build on these events and demonstrate that Everyone is welcome in church.

And so we propose to hold an All Age Worship service at 9.30 on the 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

Lunch Club

As probably most of you will know, that after 32 years we have had to disband our much loved Lunch Club/Café.

Thank you to all our loyal customers who have supported us through hail, rain and shine. Unfortunately the hall eventually became not fit for purpose so it was decided to sell it rather than spend the vast amount of money needed to bring it up to modern standards.

Wishing to maintain the continued support of our chosen charities - Hospice - CHAS - Children's Hospice and Whiteley the recently established retreat for seriously sick children and their family.

WE HAVE A PLAN to hold a soup lunch once a month in the Church Hall after the 11.15am service. It would take the form of us serving our fine home made soups with crusty bread, great home baking and tea or coffee.

The proposed dates to start with are September 8th, October 13th and November 17th.

We really hope to welcome customers old and new, all donations received on the day will go to the chosen charity for that month.

The Lunch Club/Café, has raised during its 32 years and donated to the Childrens Hospice - £7,800.70, Clic Sargent £7,390 and also money was given in the early years to Christian Aid etc but we have no record off how much.

Our own Ayrshire Hospice got the bulk of the money which came to £86,300.

Hope to see you there

Ann Vance

Bible Exploration Group

The group will begin the new session on Wednesday 16 October at 7.30 pm in the Struthers Room, and meet fortnightly thereafter.

Friends old and new can be assured of a warm and friendly welcome. Our focus will be 'Christian Living in the Letter of James'. Prior knowledge is not required.

The meeting lasts just over an hour and is followed by a cup of tea. Watch out for further dates and details in the pew leaflet.

Bryce Hartshorn

Tribute to Mr John Morrison, Ordained Elder

DIED 22ND JULY, 2019

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the death of one of our faithful elders, John Morrison on 22nd July. John was a great character and sportsman. He was a native of Harris - one of eight. His early education was in Harris but for his 5th and 6th Secondary years moved to Inverness. He studied for three years to become a Chartered Accountant, but his love of sport took over and he made the move to Jordanhill in Glasgow where he began his journey as a teacher of Physical Education. During this time, his football career began to flourish and he journeyed back to Inverness every weekend to play for Inverness Thistle. One of his boasts was that he never missed a penalty. He also continued to make a star appearance for Harris FC. Indeed just recently Harris FC held a minutes silence for him before one of their matches, which incidentally, they won.

After qualifying from Jordanhill, John moved to Aberdeen and taught in a Primary school before moving to Ellon Academy. In 1983 he became Principal Teacher of PE at Fraserburgh Academy. He was very popular with both pupils and teachers and when Fiona joined the Department in 1984, he proved to be exceedingly popular with her - so much so, they fell in love and were married on 4th April 1986 in Alloway Parish Church. It would be true to say that they were utterly devoted to one another and in the fullness of time Sarah, Stuart and Rachel arrived on the scene. He was a great husband and father. He was immensely proud of them and took a great interest in all their achievements. The family meant everything to him, not only his immediate family but also his extended one. He remained close to his brothers and sisters and their families all his life.

In 2006 the family moved to Ayr and John taught PE at the Gaelic School in Glasgow as well as doing Sports Commentary for the Gaelic Radio Station. Sadly his health deteriorated and he had to give up these jobs. He really was a medical marvel. No other person in this country has had the three rare bloods disorders that afflicted John. He battled through, surprising many in the Medical Profession. He went back to teaching doing supply in Kyle and Wellington when sadly health problems meant he had to relinquish these posts. He recovered and worked in North Lanarkshire with the Better Movers and Thinkers Team in Primary Schools. Then in 2017, he was diagnosed with Leukemia and had to give up work. He was an exceedingly popular teacher and was loved by all who came into contact with him.

He had a strong faith and joined our Kirk Session in 2006. He was an enthusiastic elder who took his duties extremely seriously. He organized and ran many of our activities in Cathcart Street Hall. He was our Hall Convener .

Wherever John went he made friends. He had a great sense of humour and fun and was not above the odd practical joke. He was generous, almost to a fault and would have done anything for you. He enjoyed nothing more than sitting down with his family or friends, with a dram of Glendronnach in his hand, talking sport or putting the world to rights. People loved him - his personality, his warmth and friendship, his ability to put folk at ease, and enjoy his stories and company. He always saw the best in people and almost always found it. He was proud of being a native of Harris and being a Scot. He was a one off, a unique individual, a loving, funny, friendly and caring man who will be sorely missed by all who were lucky enough to know him. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Fiona his wife and to Sarah, Stuart and Rachel.

We have been giving you an insight into Messy Church @ Ayr St Columba for a couple of years – but perhaps we have not fully explained what Messy Church is all about!



Firstly – it is not necessarily messy in the untidy or chaotic sense – our Messy is about “letting go” of formality, about not being “perfect”, it is about welcoming families and believing the best space for God to deal with us in our messiness and disorder, is within our extended church.

Messy Church values are about being Christ-centred, for all ages and based on creativity, hospitality and celebration.

It is FUN! Why not pop in during the new Session and see for yourself!

Messy June brought last session to a close and our songs, craft and story focussed on St Columba, the children enjoyed hearing from Stuart how Columba arrived at Iona and took God’s word all over Scotland. Our St Columba window was a great feature at story time! We rounded off the afternoon with a superb tea provided by Pamela and her team.

Next meeting Saturday 28th September 4-6pm





Come and visit an historic-listed landscape walled garden and its social enterprise café that helps people to recover from drug and alcohol addiction: River Garden, Auchincruive



In January 2013, a group of concerned citizens troubled about the rising drug deaths in Scotland gathered together to decide if they would embark on something never achieved in Britain, to set up a community to help people in the early stages of recovery from drug and alcohol problems to get into long-term recovery. They founded the charity Independence from Drugs & Alcohol Scotland (IFDAS). Four years later, River Garden Auchincruive opened in March 2018, on a beautiful 48.5 acre site on the banks of the River Ayr in South Ayrshire, including land, buildings and an historic listed landscape Walled Garden. When fully developed it will house 40 men and women in recovery.

River Garden Auchincruive is a residential training and social enterprise development centre offering a 3 year residential programme for people in the early stages of recovery from drug and/or alcohol addiction, modelled on the three most successful and transformative self-help organisations for people in recovery across the globe: San Patrignano (Italy), Basta (Sweden) and Delancey Street (USA), which have been producing successful results helping people into long-term recovery, reintegrating into employment and mainstream society (70%-80%). River Garden is based on the same principles of abstinence, trust, firm boundaries, mutual support, social enterprise, respect for life, and responsibility. It is radical and different from any other type of service currently available to this group of people in the UK. Participants receive training and social support in a range of social enterprise activities to create a visitor destination using the existing refurbished gardens, and establishing a café, bakery, garden nursery, and fresh food for sale and processing, alongside other craft industries on site, and eventually expanding our business activities to the wider community.

We have opened the Walled Garden, with its fine collection of specimen trees, as a public amenity. For the first time in its 250 year history, the gardens are open to the public 7 days a week.

Our first social enterprise is now open, a pop-up café in one of the Victorian glasshouses and on the east terrace, where refreshments and tremendous home-baking are available on Friday to Sunday 10am to 4pm (see: www.facebook.com/rivergardenayr). The dog-friendly pop-up café provides training and work experience in hospitality and will help us prepare for the opening of the full-time purpose built Magnolia Tree Café later in late 2019.

It is the first project of this type in the UK and we hope to use the learning to inspire others to replicate this pioneering approach. With our research partner, the Medical Research Council at the University of Glasgow, our aim is that River Garden will serve as a prototype which will be a transformational model for improved outcomes for people with drug and/or alcohol addictions.

River Garden can be found at the Nellie's Gate entrance to the Auchincruive estate off the B743, approximately 1.5 miles from the Whitletts roundabout (KA6 5AE).

AYR FILM SOCIETY

Ayr Film Society start their 47th Season at Ayr Town Hall on Thursday, September 12, with an exciting mix of English language and Foreign language titles which will appeal to a wide audience of film lovers.

There will be 24 screenings this season which are every Thursday evening from September to March starting at 19:30hrs.

With annual membership at just £65 and a reduced rate of £35 for students and under 25's where else you get such a bargain.

Of course if you don't wish to take out an annual membership you are more than welcome to come along as a guest to any of the screenings and pay £6 (or £3 if under 25) at the door. Poster and leaflets in the Carrick Park vestibule or check out our website www.ayrfilmsociety.co.uk.

Prior to the start of the season, on Thursday, September 5, we will be screening the silent film - Charlie Chaplin's 'City Lights' - with live organ accompaniment provided by Iain McGlinchey under the banner The Organist Entertains. Entry to this screening will be £5 per person.

Ron Currie, Secretary, Ayr Film Society

USED STAMPS

The World Mission Stamp Appeal is celebrating its 50th anniversary.

In its early days the Stamp Appeal helped raise funds for the general work of the World Mission Council but since 2003 money raised has gone to a specific project each year.

This year the Stamp Appeal is supporting the Chigodi Women Centre in Blantyre, Malawi, They are also celebrating their 50th anniversary.

The centre is delivering a broad range of skills training to help with the challenges faced by women in Malawi. By training the women in a broad range of skills namely tailoring, fashion design and chicken farming the women's skills will be improved in marketing and business.

The aim is to improve the chances of the women getting employment and by selling the produce made at the centre the plan is that when the funding ceases the project will be self sustainable and continue to improve the lives of the women of Malawi.

At St Columba continue to help with this by handing in your used stamps.

Jean Johnston

Find us on
Facebook [ayrstcolumba](#)

Church Office: 01292 269524



ST COLUMBA'S KIDS

RESTARTS SUNDAY 25TH AUGUST

CRAFTS
CHALLENGES
SONGS
BIBLE STORIES
GAMES
AND MUCH MORE



EVERY SUNDAY 10-11AM
ALL CHILDREN AGED 3-P.7 WELCOME!



Ayr St Columba Church of Scotland is a Scottish Charity SC014338

St Columba's Kids

Since the last Columba News lots has taken place with our kids at St Columba. The final few weeks at St Columba's Kids saw us looking at the early church and we celebrated Pentecost complete with a birthday cake to celebrate the birthday of the church as the apostle were filled with the Holy Spirit. Our prizegiving took place in June where we celebrated the end of the year together and collected our prizes as well as teaching the congregation the actions to the song "I'm Inright, Outright, Upright, Downright Happy all the Time."

In the afternoon following our prizegiving we all headed to the Heads of Ayr Farm Park where we had a wonderful, energy-packed, fun-filled afternoon! In between dodging the showers we mixed with the meerkats, went tyre sliding, had fun in the frontier fort, enjoyed the bouncy pillows and trampolines, as well as getting to try lots more fun attractions and animals in the petting zoo (including a tiny lamb and a massive snake!)

During the school holidays we have had our usual break, with some of our kids going along to the summer Holiday Club (see elsewhere for photos and info!)

The St Columba's Kids leaders have had their planning meeting for the new year and everything is set for a year ahead with a few new events and activities which you will hear about in due course. This year we are delighted to welcome two new leaders Jennifer McCaig and Lynsey Cameron as well as a strong team of new Junior Leaders who are keen to help out and continue on their own journey by helping to witness to our St Columba's Kids.

We restart on Sunday, August 25 and would love to see as many new faces as possible as well as all our regulars. St Columba's Kids is open to all children from 3 years old to P7 whether they attend church or not. Every Sunday in term-time we meet from 10am-11am for a time of songs, a Bible story, crafts, games, challenges, a snack and more. If you have a child of age to attend or know someone who does then please encourage them to come along and join us!





LIFE AND WORK

September 2019

God and Taxes

The morality of taxation

'I Really Love My Church Community'

Former MEP Catherine Stihler talks about faith

Removing Barriers

An innovative partnership between CrossReach and the Prince's Trust, helping young people access careers in care

Web Worship

Iain McLarty describes the background to the web project capturing hymns from CH4

Celebrating the Guild

A look ahead to the annual Gathering in Dundee and Guild Week

The Disinvestment Debate

Second in a two-part series exploring the argument for disinvestment from fossil fuels



This Church Family Is Unique

Buwanika Weerasinha, a member of the Scots Kirk in Colombo tells her faith story

Building Strong Communities

The work of the Council for Christian and Jews

Plus all the regular columnists, news, reviews, letters, registers and crosswords

Subscribe online from £12, or download a digital copy for £1.99; or speak to your church's Life and Work co-ordinator.

MEN'S ASSOCIATION

As Autumn approaches, I would like to remind members that the new Session is not far away. We meet every second Monday in the Struthers Room at 7.30pm. Our Meetings are held in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere, and we warmly welcome any new members.

We hope you find our new Syllabus varied and interesting.

| | | |
|----------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| October 7th | <i>The Very Revd Dr. David W Lacey</i> | |
| October 21st | "Life of Andrew Carnegie" | <i>Barbara Graham</i> |
| November 4th | "Window on the World" | <i>Alistair Swan</i> |
| November 18th | "My Working Background" | <i>Harry Peters</i> |
| November 25th | Guests of the Guild: | |
| | "Malawi Fruit-(Growing the Future)" | <i>Russell Crawford</i> |
| December 2nd | "A Wee Dram History" | <i>John Rattenbury</i> |
| December 16th | "Whiteleys Retreat" | <i>Speaker to be confirmed</i> |

THURSDAY AFTERNOON GAMES

Thursday Games Group starts on Thursday, September 5 at 2pm. Come along and enjoy a friendly afternoon of bowls, snooker and a cup of tea. New Members will find an afternoon of fun and companionship.

Should anyone require transport or further information please contact Robbie Park on 268788.

George Rae, Secretary

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

Harvest Thanksgiving

You couldn't help but notice our local farmers taking advantage of all the good weather we have been having recently, and often working well into the evening as they brought in this year's yield from their fields. We are so blessed in having such a rich variety of foods on our supermarket shelves; our choice for meals each day is so extensive and we only need to go to the tap in the kitchen for a constant supply of cool, clear, refreshing water.

There are millions in other parts of our world for whom it is a very different tale; those who live in areas ravaged by natural disaster and war; those for whom there will be no harvest this year because the crop has failed; those of all ages who walk for miles each day to fill a container with dirty, polluted water which is used for drinking and for household chores.

For several years now, we have used our Harvest Festival Services to remember the hungry and thirsty in other lands . . . and again this year, with this issue of our Magazine, comes an envelope for your Harvest Thanksgiving Offering. What you give will be dedicated and sent in Christ's Name to be used by those relief agencies who strive to alleviate starvation and disease and help communities build a better life.

Our Congregation these past years has been overwhelmingly generous in donations for the local Food Bank . . . here is a chance to show our concern to others who live in dire poverty in appalling conditions. Please return your envelope via the Offering Plate on Sunday morning or hand it in to the Office. Our Harvest Festival Services are on Sunday 22nd, September at 9.30a.m. and 11.15a.m.

Jesus said, "Whatever you do for the least of these My brothers and sisters, you do for Me."

Thank you! God bless you!

YOUTH GROUP

A new and exciting 'Youth Group' for all young people in the S1-S3 age range starts on Sunday, September 1 (running fortnightly). Meeting from 11.30am-1pm.

The group will prepare and eat lunch together and during the course of the session, we will explore different aspects of the Bible. We will begin using new and interesting material entitled 'Basic Understanding of the Bible'. All young people are most warmly invited to attend.

In addition we are looking for volunteers (all ages) to assist and support the leaders – if you are able to help please contact Kerrie, Stuart or Irene via the office.

Ladies Fellowship

Hello, from the Committee of the Ladies Fellowship (Linda, Margaret W, Ann, Margaret S, Dorothy and Liz) and we hope the summer months have gone pleasantly for you. We have been busy planning the syllabus for the 2019/20 session which begins on Monday, October 4, at 7.30 in the Midton Road hall.

Last winter we shared enjoyable Monday get-togethers, a varied programme and very successful fundraising for Abba's Rest and the Huntingtons Association, and the plan is to continue getting together, enjoying the fellowship, and fundraising for good causes. Our chosen charities this year will be the Epilepsy Association and Cancer Care Transport and we thought it would be fun to have an audience participation film-show in the Church on Monday, 10 February, 2020. We have chosen 'Oklahoma' - plenty of scope there for dressing up!

We look forward to welcoming members back and hope new members will come along, from within or outwith Ayr St Columba.

We make a good cup of tea with a biscuit and are away home by nine o'clock, feeling the better for sharing fellowship and a prayer. God bless meantime.

Liz Challis
Secretary



COFFEE MORNING &
CRAFTS
St. Columba Church, Ayr.
KA7 2SL

Friday 27th September
2019

10am until 2pm

ENTRY FEE: £3.00

**Donations will be split
between Macmillan and South
Ayrshire School Clothing
Bank.**



WORLD'S BIGGEST
COFFEE
MORNING

Fundraising for

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT
RIGHT THERE WITH YOU

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

SEPTEMBER 2019

DEATHS

18th May 2019 Mr Walter Patterson, 53 Pemberton Valley, Ayr
30th May 2019 Mr. Alex Walton, 35 Ewenfield Avenue, Ayr
16th June 2019 Mrs. Helen Ramsay, Glenfairn Care Home, Ayr
21st June 2019 Mr. John Clark, 31 Wilson Street, Ayr
24th June 2019 Ms Frances A. Atkinson, Flat 8, 3 South Lodge Court
24th June 2019 Mr Tom Thomson, 4 Monument Road, Ayr
28th June 2019 Mrs. May Speirs, 37A Charlotte Street, Ayr
17th July 2019 Mrs. Sarah (Sally) Neil, Cumnor Hall Care Home
20th July 2019 Mrs. Muriel Morton, 180 Hillfoot Road, Ayr
22nd July 2019 Mr. John Morrison, 14 St. Leonard's Road, Ayr
25th July 2019 Mrs. Nan Conway, 29 Overmills Road, Ayr
29th July 2019 Mr. David Scott, 10 Portmark Avenue, Ayr

WEDDINGS

CLOSING THOUGHT

YOU CANNOT ESCAPE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF
TOMORROW BY EVADING IT TODAY

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

MarchmontPodiatry

Anne Kidd Bsc.Pod., M.Ch.S.
Claire McTrusty Bsc.Pod., M.Ch.S

PODIATRIST / CHIROPODIST

Registered with the Health Professionals Council

Services include:

Biomechanical evaluation, Orthoses, Nail Surgery,
Acupuncture & Routine Chiropody

12 Barns Street, Ayr KA7 1XA
Tel: 01292-282201



Davidson Gas Services

Installation, Maintenance and Repair

Full Heating Installations and Boiler Replacement
Heating Upgrades - Radiators, Thermostatic Valves, etc.
Appliance Installation - Cookers, etc.
Service & Repairs - All appliances
System Powerflush
Free Quotes

Mobile: 07815 140402
Ex Scottish Gas Engineer

ALLOWAY CHIROPODY CENTRE

Hilary Donaghey
HCPC Registered Chiropodist/Podiatrist

21 Alloway, Ayr KA7 4PY
Telephone 01292 440275
Above Alloway Pharmacy

Need A Good Electrician?

BRIAN STRATHERN

Professional & Friendly Service
40 years' experience

Tel: 07906604957/01292 268659

All your electrical work considered
Formerly of Mossie & Strathern

A. PICKEN & SONS BUTCHERS

ESTABLISHED 1870

**Supreme Quality Beef, Lamb
and Pork always in stock**

*"Try our Famed Sausages -
Nourishing as the Finest Steak"*



BRANCHES

67-71 MAIN STREET, AYR Tel 01292 263970
27/29 ALLOWAY STREET, AYR Tel 01292 263308

YVONNE POTTS D.O.

OSTEOPATH

Registered with the General Osteopathic Council

32 ASHGROVE STREET
AYR KA7 3BG

Telephone: 01292 611808

(Established 33 years)

JOHN P. TELFER



11 HOLMSTON ROAD
AYR KA7 3BE

**PLUMBING, SLATING
HEATING ENGINEER**

Tel. 01292 268582

JAMIE McINNES JOINERY

For all your joinery needs

Double glazing * kitchens * Doors*
Wooden floors *
Attic conversions * Renovations*
Stairs* Fascias & more

FREE ESTIMATES
07732 738238 - 01292 442672

We create every funeral
individually, just for you.



M L Williams are here to support
and guide you, offering a friendly
and professional service.

Call us for immediate support,
advice or to arrange a home visit.

We are here to help 24 hours a day.

Ayr

01292 262 277

1b Falkland Park Road,
KA8 8LL

www.mlwilliams.co.uk



Martin & Co Ayr & Kilmarnock

Your local Letting and Estate Agent covering Ayrshire

Reliable and competitive fees | Friendly and Personal service | Established in 2005

If you are considering letting or selling your home contact us for a free market appraisal

01292 619 539

24 Parkhouse Street, Ayr KA7 2HH | ayrandkilmarnock@martinco.com

RHA CONSTRUCTION & BRICKLAYING SERVICES

* NEW BUILDS | * EXTENSIONS | * STRUCTURAL SLAP OUTS
* FREE ESTIMATES | * SMALL / LARGE WORK UNDERTAKEN

ROGER THOMPSON *Bricklayer*

11 Hollow Park, Ayr KA7 4SR

T: **07790 666 673**

RHACONSTRUCTION@outlook.com

PEBBLES SPA & BISTRO

SPA DAYS | GIFT VOUCHERS | SPA BREAKS

BREAKFASTS | LUNCHES | DINNERS

AFTERNOON TEA | HOMEBAKING

FRESHLY GROUND COFFEE

OPEN TO NON-MEMBERS



PEBBLES SPA & LEISURE
01465 891233

• LENDALFOOT • AYRSHIRE
• WWW.PEBBLESPA.COM

**CLACHAN WOOD
BESPOKE FURNITURE**



FREESTANDING OR FITTED

PROJECTS LARGE OR SMALL

PLEASE CONTACT US TO DISCUSS ANY
REQUIREMENTS THAT YOU HAVE

WWW.CLACHANWOOD.COM INFO@CLACHANWOOD.COM

BURNSIDE FARM, GIRVAN, KA26 9JH

07723477839

WEIR ROAD TRADING ESTATE

(off Waggon Road) AYR

AYRSHIRE GARAGE DOORS <> T: 263030

Suppliers/Fitters of Quality Garage Doors

Repair Service Available

CARPET OUTLET <> T: 284900

Suppliers/Fitters of Quality Floorings

Carpet Binding Service Available

PERFORMANCE TYRES <> T: 266666

Suppliers/Fitters of Tyres, Brakes & Exhausts

Also Wheel Alignment

**- BARRY WHALEN -
FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

Genuine, Caring & Professional Service



(01292) 611 148

RIVER TERRACE, AYR



**PIANO
LESSONS**

MATTHEW HYNES

B.A. (Hons), Cert. P.G.S. (RSAMD)

Telephone (home): **0141 334 2853**

Telephone (mobile): **07789 841422**

Email: **matthewhynes71@gmail.com**

Private tuition in Ayr

Home visits available

Children and Adults welcome

25 years teaching experience

Preparation for ABRSM

Practical and Theory exams



Contact Stephen on
07900 693435

CARPETS, VINYL & FLOORING

ACCESSORIES SUPPLIED AND FITTED
7 DAY SERVICE • FREE ESTIMATES

info@hendersoncarpets.co.uk



**DECORATORS
& PLASTERERS**

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

AYR

Contact Justin **01292 261329** or **07756498450**

ALL ASPECTS OF PAINTING & DECORATING & PLASTERING

EXCELLENT RATES | INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR PAINTING

WALL COVERINGS | PLASTERING | FLOORING

FREE ESTIMATES | ALL INSURANCE WORK

www.decoratorsayrshire.com

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 MacDonald | 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 (last Saturday of the month) | Irene Bartholomew | 269524 |
|---------|--|-------------------|--------|