

Columba News



Aug-
Sept
2020
No .235





THE flower team always appreciated the many letters of thanks and appreciation we received about the lovely arrangements in church and we have missed the friendship we shared as our services stopped. One thing that certainly did not stop during lockdown was the wonder of Mother Nature and I know that many of you would spend many happy hours in your garden, just as Roy and I did so I thought I'd give you a flower "fix" by sharing some photos taken in our garden over the past few months. I have also used some of the blooms to enhance the arrangement in the christening font over the past few weeks and I hope that they have given pleasure to those attending for reflection and prayer. I would also like to say that, at the start of lockdown, the Flower Fund made a donation to the food bank, with the permission of all those who had donated to the fund so far this year.

*Anne Drennan
Flower
Convenor*



Waiting to welcome you

SUNDAY

Team No

August 23	Team 6
August 30	Team 7
September 6	Team 8
September 13	Team 9
September 20	Team 10
September 27	Team 11
October 4	Team 12
October 11	Team 1
October 18	Team 2
October 25	Team 3

WEDNESDAY

Team No

August 19	Team 9
August 26	Teams 10/11/12
September 2	Team 1
September 9	Team 2
September 16	Team 3/4
September 23	Team 5
September 30	Team 6
October 7	Team 7
October 14	Team 8
October 21	Team 9



From the manse

August/Sept 2020

Dear Friends,

Moving Forward

By the beginning of September, I shall have been Minister at St Columba Church for ten months, five of which have been in lockdown. With services of worship and other events cancelled, we have missed out on the social support and joy of being together as a warm and welcoming community. I was greatly looking forward to celebrating the Feast Day of St Columba (9 June) on Sunday,

June 7 with a special service followed by a lunch; it was not to be. Of course, for many, over these past months the greatest hardship has been illness or the loss of a loved one: an agony made all the worse because of the lockdown restrictions. Be assured of my prayers, love and affection.

During the lockdown, I have enjoyed working with senior office-bearers as we plan our way forward in these difficult times. We desire very much to open the sanctuary for services as soon as we can do so safely. We hope to do that soon, though government and church advice changes, sometimes with little notice. The Session Clerk provides an update in this magazine on our current plans, so be sure to take a look.

In addition to the text of my sermon, you can now *listen* to the sermon on the church website as well as hear it on Facebook. If you would prefer, you can listen to the sermon using your telephone (Dial A Sermon). Please see the advertisement later in this magazine. My Wednesday Reflection is also available on the website and Facebook. Soon, we will have a short weekly service of worship on video available on our website.

As restrictions begin to be eased, if you would like a visit from me or our Associate Minister, David Ness, please don't hesitate to be in touch. We can have a socially-distanced visit in your garden or in your home. I shall be very pleased to see you. Simply call the manse (01292 226075) or email me (scottsmckenna@aol.com). David's telephone number is 01292 471625 or you can leave a message with Irene in the virtual office (01292 269524). The purpose of the visit may be a pastoral matter or simply an opportunity for a chat.



It is going to be a slow road back to 'normal' church life, but I hope and pray that we will get there soon. It will be terrific to see you and welcome you back. It is truly a strength to lean back in trust knowing that we are held by God, by Christ, by the Holy Spirit: we are embraced by the Sacred. Our community is a very good place to be.

Every blessing,

Scott

Revd Dr Scott S McKenna

18th Ayrshire (St Columba) Scouts

Just prior to the Scout Association announcing that face to face meetings were to come to a halt the Beaver and Cub Sections held a very successful camp at Dumfries House where they took part in a number of activities provided by Dumfries House. The Beavers and Cubs greatly enjoyed the climbing wall and archery, which was provided by the staff at Dumfries House. The Leaders ran a self programme around the activities provided by Dumfries House. The activities run by leaders included tracking, walks, games and challenges, the weekend was focussed on doing and acknowledging random acts of kindness. I can advise that you are well fed by the catering staff at Dumfries House and the children don't go hungry during their stay.

Following Lockdown taking place all three sections have continued with their Scouting activities in a new form with the facility of a zoom call. The children have enjoyed undertaking games, quizzes and puzzles during these calls as well as completing some badge work, which counts towards the Chief Scouts Award. During the Lockdown period the children have also been busy completing badge work from activity badges to a number of staged badges. The Scout Association has created an activity badge called the Great Indoors badge which some of the children have also been completing the requirement of this badge too.

Kyle and Carrick District arranged a virtual camp at virtual Loch Down Lodge which took place at the beginning of July where the children could either sleep in a tent or build a shelter or a den in their homes. There were a number of zoom calls where the children all joined together to take part in a number of activities. The camp ran as a normal camp would do with an opening ceremony as well as a closing ceremony. All those who took part greatly enjoyed the camp.



As we approach the end of the school holidays the Leaders are looking to the new session of Scouting within the three sections, which we run here in the Church Hall. We will welcome a number of children off our waiting list into the Beaver Section. There will be a number of children moving from the Beavers (age 6 to 8) to the Cubs (8 to 10 ½) and likewise a number of Cubs moving to the Scouts (10 ½ to 14).

The Scout Group could always do with more Leaders / Helpers at our meetings. If you could spare some time to help out at our meetings then please feel free to contact the Group Scout Leader Jeroen Bolte on 07511 489755.

The Guild

“Whose we are and Whom we serve”

Well, what do I say? As a Guild we have not met since March when the bombshell of Covid was delivered. We are not due to meet again until September 28 and, quite honestly, and may I say, sadly, I don't think that will happen.

During the last few months, we have shared in folks' sorrows and remembered all those who had cause to celebrate. Congratulations go to **Mrs Daisy Milne** and **Mrs Betty Davidson** on their 94th and 90th Birthdays, respectively, and to **Mrs Mary and Mr Bill Wilson** on celebrating their Diamond Wedding. Best wishes from us all in the Guild are sent to them. Meantime we have all kept in touch by telephone and the committee has set up a process to continue to do so until we can all safely meet again in the future. Each committee member has been allocated five or six members to phone on a regular basis. We therefore hope to keep in contact in that way until such time as we can celebrate the return to normality. Although the Annual Gathering of the Guild in the Caird Hall at Dundee has been cancelled, there will be a **Virtual Gathering on Saturday 5th September at 11 am** lasting for 80 minutes. This can be accessed on line via the Church of Scotland website on that day.

At present, let us enjoy the rest of the summer, into Autumn, and who knows what might happen? Whenever we can, we are ready to meet up again in the fellowship and presence of Whose we are and Whom we serve. God bless.

*Dorothy Bone,
Convener*

The way ahead with services

Those members who have taken advantage of the opportunity to be in the Church on a Sunday morning have spoken warmly of the quiet atmosphere, the familiarity and beauty of the sanctuary and of the deep sense of belonging they have whilst sitting there. These are feelings which we have missed and which we all hope to experience once more in the not too distant future. Let us hope that our scientists will play their vital role well in an eventual return to normality.

We are aware that many people are choosing to avoid indoor public spaces at the moment and, for some, this includes the Church. However, we have taken steps to make the sanctuary as safe a place as possible and we are very much looking forward to making services available once more. This will involve services in Church and also services which are recorded and made available on the internet.

It will be good to see and hear our Minister once more and to fully appreciate the sermons, the readings and the prayers. It will be good to hear Matthew playing the organ once more and, whilst communal singing is not yet permitted, it will be good to hear Rachel singing once more.

Here are the details of our plans:

- o **Services will be held in the Church at 10.00am on Sunday mornings, starting on Sunday 6th September.**

Please note that, because the capacity of the Church has been reduced due to social distancing, members and friends are asked to phone in (01292 265794) on the Thursday morning or the Friday morning to book a place at the Sunday Service.

- o **Services will be held in the Church at 2.00pm on Wednesday afternoons, starting on Wednesday 19th August.**

Members and friends are asked to phone in (01292 265794) on the Monday morning or the Tuesday morning to book a place at the Wednesday Service.

- o The Services on Sundays and on Wednesdays will last for approximately 30 minutes.
- o Sermons and reflections will continue to be available on the Church website - www.ayrstcolumba.co.uk
- o The Church will be open for private prayer on Sunday mornings in August from 10.00am to 11.00am.
- o The Minister's sermons and reflections can be heard on your phone by dialling 01292 851074

- Recorded Services from Ayr St Columba Church, including sermons, readings, prayers, organ music and solo hymns, will be available online. This will start in mid to late August.
- Once the Sunday Services have become established, it is our intention to discontinue the Wednesday Services.

Please contact the Church Office on 01292 265794 if you have any questions.

Bob Bartholomew

Session Clerk

Chat from the Satellite Office

The Office in the dining room has become quite a busy place. Not least with the many lovely phone calls that I am regularly receiving from members.

I would like to thank everyone for their continued support, for the calls, letters and messages of encouragement and lovely gifts I have received. Thank you to all the folks who are regularly visiting the Facebook pages and the website where we have daily posts and updates. It is lovely to read all your comments.

In addition to the audio reflections on the website and Facebook you are now able to access them through the Dial A Sermon facility on 01292 851074. The most recent development is the audio Sermon on the website and both the St Columba and Lochside Facebook pages – we hope that you enjoy listening to them.

It has been lovely to meet with those who have attended the Private Prayer times on Sunday mornings, although small in number it is good to see people back in the Sanctuary.

Particular thanks to our Elders who are regularly in touch with their district – keeping the Ministerial Team up to date with members who are doing well and those of you who might be finding lockdown quite difficult.

The florist has reopened and members on our over 80 flowers list are receiving their birthday flowers. If you have achieved this superb status since lockdown and are not on our list please let me know and I will make sure birthday flowers are soon on their way!

Holidays might be a little thin on the ground this year, but I hope that you are able to make the most of the summer months. Our gardens, balconies, terraces and windowsills are all in pristine conditions filled with colourful summer blooms, the wildlife seems to be more confident with such a variety of birds anxious to be first to the feeders, some of you, I know have

hedgehogs, squirrels and tiny field mice scuttling around in the undergrowth in search of a bite to eat! Lots of you have caught up with all the household jobs that are often left until “tomorrow” and everyone has learned to take life at a slower pace. Some cannot wait to dash back to the shops while more are quite content and in no hurry to be part of any crowd.

However you are spending your time I hope you are well – always remember that you are thought of often.

Irene

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TREASURER’S REPORT

Further to the Options for Offerings information contained within the June edition of the Columba News, I feel that a short update on the Church’s financial position may be of interest.

I would firstly like to thank those members of the congregation who have been in touch with Peter Macdonald to arrange to have offerings remitted through the tax efficient Gift Aid scheme, or through a Standing Order arrangement.

The period from the end of March when the Government first ordered a national lockdown with Church services being cancelled, has been a very financially difficult one for Ayr St Columba. Our cash reserves over the three month period to June 30 fell by just over £20,000, and I estimate that in the current three month period to end September, the outflow in our cash reserves will increase by another £25,000 or so.

Although every effort has been made to keep our ongoing expenditure to an absolute minimum, the cash drain has resulted from three main reasons:

Firstly, income from FWO offerings has substantially declined, with only a very small number of envelopes having been handed in during the recent private prayer sessions in July.

Secondly, income normally received through Open Plate donations has totally disappeared.

Finally, in allowing the much needed work of the Church of Scotland to continue, it has urged congregations to continue remitting their monthly Ministries and Mission contributions to George Street, using Church reserves if necessary. Ayr St Columba Church has continued to remit our monthly contribution since lockdown. For information, Ministries and Mission contributions are currently utilised to cover the budget costs of the Parish Ministries Fund through which the stipends of Church of Scotland ministers are paid, and also to cover the costs associated with the operation of the four current Church of Scotland Councils.

As advised by the Session Clerk, communal services at Ayr St Columba, with much restricted numbers will re-commence on Wednesday, August 19, and I do hope that members will hand in their accumulated FWO envelopes on those occasions.

I would also like to remind members, that in addition to FWO envelopes, there are various other methods of giving to your Church, as follows:-

GIFT AID SYSTEM

Many members, who are tax payers, already make monthly standing order payments through the Gift Aid system operated by our Gift Aid Convenor Peter Macdonald. Some members may now wish to start making such payments and also register for Gift Aid. Members who wish to commence payments through Gift Aid can do so by requesting a Standing Order Mandate from the Treasurer or Church Secretary. A Gift Aid Declaration Form should also be requested from Tom or Irene and once both documents are completed as required, they should be posted to Mr P G Macdonald, 23 Dongola Road, Ayr, KA7 3BJ who will deal with them as necessary and forward the Standing Order to the member's bank.

NORMAL STANDING ORDER MANDATE

Should members of the congregation wish to start making a regular standing order payment, but do not wish to register for Gift Aid, then please email the Church Secretary Irene at : irene@ayrstcolumba.co.uk, or the Church Treasurer Tom at : cairns.tom23@gmail.com and a blank Standing Order mandate will be sent to you. This can be completed and sent to your own bank.

THE BACS SYSTEM

Members who use online banking can make payments directly into the Church bank account through the BACS system. Any members wishing to use this method should contact the Treasurer or Church Secretary for details of the Church bank account.

Tom Cairns, Treasurer

The copy deadline for the October issue will be
Sunday, October 4
Copy should be emailed to editor.columbanews@gmail.com
New advertisers should also send their copy to the editor Norman Reid

MEN'S ASSOCIATION

Due to the present, uncertain time, we will be following advice from our Leadership Team as to when and how we are able to proceed with our meetings.

The following syllabus should therefore be viewed with an eye to changes as and when they have to be made.

We hope and pray that we can all get together in our usual spirit of friendship and enjoy as many of the speakers as we are 'allowed' to!
 Stay safe.

John Ferguson
Secretary

Date 2020/2021	Speaker	Subject
2020		
Oct 5th	Minister	East v West
Oct 19	Bob McMillan	Ayrshire at War
Nov 2	Doug McLean	Scottish Airshow
Nov 16	Roger Stringer	Helicopter SAR
Nov 23 <i>Guild</i>	Guild	
Nov 30	Muriel Wilson	Abbas Rest - Charity
Dec 14	Ron Ireland	Ayrshire Cycle Path
2021		
Jan 18 <i>Ladies Fellowship</i>	Vicky Jack	Climbing
Feb 1	George Ballinger	The Millenium Link & Forth & Clyde Canal
Feb 15	Ayrshire Housing Aid	Charity (TBC)
Mar 1	Margaret Morrell	Turnberry Airstrips (TBC)
Mar 15	Committee	
Mar 22	AGM	
Mar 24	Lunch	

CRADLE ROLL - we will not be able to hold our annual Cradle Roll Service this year but assure all our little ones who have been baptised in St Columba, that you are in our thoughts and we hope that you are all well. We will have extra ice cream when we are able to hold the Service next year!

KEEP FIT – despite a desperate need for exercise we will not be able to restart just yet. Social distancing makes it impossible to have very many in the Hall – so keep up the good work at home. One day we will meet and hear what everyone has been doing to keep yourselves fit and well. You are all missed very much.

Irene



It is not possible to restart Messy Church just yet – but we are working on a BIG party when it is safe to meet!

We will see you soon!

We miss you all!

We've had to cancel

The Hospitality Committee hopes everyone is well and coping with the many challenges of Covid 19. We had hoped to host "The Supper Club" as a one-off event in September with speaker Revd Eddie Simpson and Alastair Hope the caterer. Unfortunately due to Covid 19 this event has been cancelled. Until we can all meet up again please look after yourself and stay safe .

Jane

Hospitality Convenor



New look at

At our sister church in Lochside there is a requirement to provide hot food to the local community. Some 40 people take advantage of this service where during the week there is a breakfast and on a different day a lunch is provided. While there, these people can also take advantage of the provision of advice for local services, and there is a great feeling of community and wellbeing within the church. There is a large room within the church called “The Hub”, and there was a small kitchen with a single sink, a fridge and an electric hob. This was proving to be inadequate for the volunteers to provide the necessary service required and the Kirk Session gave the approval to investigate the design and costing of a new kitchen.

One of the volunteers, Sheena Stewart whose architect husband Matt, kindly provided a suitable design. This was for a galley type design with three working stations for food preparation and storage, food serving, and finally a dishwashing and storage station. Each station is self contained with all the equipment necessary to support each function including fridges, freezers, hobs, oven, a microwave and dishwashers. The project was then handed to the Fabric Committee whose task was to take the requirements and go out to the marketplace to source the cabinets,

equipment and a suitable contractor. All of this was done during 2019 and a costing was submitted to the finance committee and approved at the annual business meeting in 2020.

While looking for suitable cabinets from local and UK suppliers an opportunity came to buy a high quality second hand kitchen from a family in Edinburgh. When they were told that their kitchen was going to a charitable cause they immediately offered it free of charge, where we only paid for the





transportation to Lochside. This was a great boost to the project and the cabinets were all stored in the Lochside container to await installation. Following a competitive tendering process a local joiner, was selected to install the units and although the cabinets were designed for a different layout the joiner managed to reconfigure a variety of base and corner units and build a very satisfactory solution with all electrical and plumbing services incorporated, and out of site.

Great assistance was provided by the Lochside caretaker, Michael Hall who did a lot of heavy lifting, cleaning up during the installation and very importantly making tea for the contractors on site. Once the joiner work was completed, Michael assisted John Stewart to do all of the tiling above the countertops. Greggs the bakers have donated two food storage units, one for hot foods and the other cold. Greggs have agreed to also stock, on a weekly basis, both of these cabinets with sandwiches, sausage rolls and other bakery products as part of their charitable works. Many other local shops including Tesco, and Marks and Spencers also provide foodstuffs to assist the volunteers to help the local community at The Hub and the church foodbank in this vital work. Due to the restriction of the current pandemic, the new facility has not yet been used, but the volunteers and the community are looking forward to using the new kitchen as soon as possible

John M. Stewart
(Fabric Convenor)

More pictures of the new look Lochside kitchen



Ladies' Fellowship group on hold

Due to the Coronavirus we were unable to have our AGM in March. The present committee was due to stand down at that time and no new committee has been formed. With no committee or syllabus, we have no other option but to cancel all Ladies Fellowship meetings for next session. I realise that this will be a disappointment to our

members but when things get back to normal in the life of the Church, we can arrange to have our AGM and decide how we go forward as a Fellowship. I would like to thank all the members for their support and the great memories they have formed that will hopefully sustain us until we meet up again.
Linda Sharp ,President

The Silence of God

'In the beginning God.....'

What do we mean when we use the word 'God'? Different people have different understandings of God. Different world faiths offer different perspectives on the Holy. In the Christian tradition, our first thought might be to speak of the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. However, can any human concept ever be adequate to encapsulate God in God's essence? How can we speak of the Being who is not a being at all? If by 'existence' we mean what we usually mean, that is, something which is born, grows, ages and dies, then we must say that God does not 'exist'. The God who creates the universe or universes, through randomness, chance and necessity will not easily be defined by human thought. All doctrine is provisional. Like the peace of God, God's Self is beyond human understanding.



Every metaphor, image or philosophical theology is a representation of God, not God itself. God is not light, Jesus is not a lamb and the Holy Spirit is not a dove, though these terms may enrich our spiritual journey. God is always in the darkness, invisible, hidden behind our words, elusive. In his work, *Four Quartets*, the prophetic poet, T S Eliot, writes, 'I said to my soul, be still, and let the dark come upon you / Which shall be the darkness of God.' Later, he adds, 'The darkness shall be the light, and the stillness the dancing.' Perhaps darkness is the best image we could ever have of God.

The fourth century saint, Gregory of Nyssa, said the human intellect could not know the essence of God. He wrote of the 'darkness of incomprehensibility'. Saint Symeon of the eleventh century said of God, 'I have no words to name it, for that One transcends all words.' In public worship, the master of mystics, Meister Eckhart, declared 'God is light' and the people replied, 'God is not light'. In other words, God is always beyond our best definitions and most colourful dreams.

In speaking of the Sacred, it is best to do so with humility, avoiding claims of absolute truth and knowledge. The mystical insights of Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Taoism and Buddhism draw us very close together. The Dalai Lama spoke of the Trappist monk, Thomas Merton, as a spiritual brother

and knelt at his grave. The eleventh century Sufi mystic, Baba Kubi of Shiraz, wrote of seeing God in everything: in the market, the cloister, the valley and the mountain, in tribulation, favour, prayer, fasting, contemplation and the religion of the Prophet. The more we open ourselves to the mountain top experiences in other world faiths the more we discover the One Jesus called 'Father'.

For me, the common language stretching across theologies, denominations and other faiths is silence. In mission for the twenty-first century, spiritual encounter matters more than doctrinal purity. There is no eloquence greater than the silence of God. At its best, prayer moves beyond words into stillness. Imperceptibly, silence fills the soul with a peace and intimacy in a way which words will never do. The Welsh poet, R S Thomas, wrote, 'The silence in the mind is when we live best, within listening distance of the silence we call God. This is the deep calling to deep of the psalm-writer.'

Scott

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Support in a Time of Need

On the March 19 this year Ayr St Columba Church closed its doors and, along with many, many others, we stepped into an uncertain future. Five months later there is, of course, still a great deal of uncertainty ahead, but the outlook carries promise and a considerable amount of scientific work has been done to take us closer to a safe future.

We have a strong and faithful Church community and many people will have been missing the weekly Services along with the opportunity to meet with friends, to hear of their experiences and to discuss the matters of the day with them. Please be assured that we thinking of you and that, whenever you feel able to return, we will be delighted to see you and to welcome you into our beautiful sanctuary once more.

Of course, many of our members have already taken the opportunity to sit in the Church during the private prayer sessions and the re-introduction of Services will provide further opportunities for this. These members have come in to find the Church in good condition and in good spirit and this is due in great measure to the people who have given us their support in this unprecedented time of need.

I would like to record my grateful thanks to those who have come forward in different ways in recent weeks. Ever since lockdown began I have been supported fully by my colleagues in the Review and Planning Committee. We have not been able to hold meetings of the Kirk Session, so their wise

counsel at times when difficult decisions have been required has been invaluable. The Committee was enlarged by the addition of John Stewart and Irene Bartholomew. Both these individuals have been working tirelessly throughout the closure. Many of you will be aware of Irene's immense contribution from her 'satellite office'. Her work in speaking to callers, organising the website and Facebook pages and in generally helping and encouraging members and Elders, not to mention the Minister, in whatever way she can, has been worthy of the greatest praise. John has kept the Church in excellent order and he prepares it carefully for each private prayer session. John has been a good man to have with us at such a difficult time.

Many people coming into the Church have commented positively on the wonderful displays of flowers which are on show each week. They have graced the sanctuary and they have certainly added to our member's experiences and wellbeing in recent weeks. I am happy to acknowledge and to thank Anne Drennan for these stunning displays.

I am also pleased to give a word of thanks to our Elders who, despite having to endure complicated correspondence via email or letter, have done their best to keep in touch with members in their Districts and to keep the Minister and the office informed of anyone in need of our support. It is difficult to keep everyone up to date when the situation is evolving and changing and I am genuinely humbled by the efforts Elders have made to communicate with and to care for their people.

Many thanks to all those members who have continued to play their part in their duty team. We always depend on members giving of their time and the fact that so many are prepared to do this in the current circumstances is very gratifying. A special thank you to all the team leaders for their particular work in organising matters so well.

I will say more about our Minister on another occasion, but his work has been truly excellent. To have had the situation we are now in occur so soon into a new ministry must be profoundly frustrating, but Scott has kept his good humour and he has remained calm in a crisis. He has developed his relationship with people in the Church and he has produced sermons, reflections and prayers of the highest order. There is so much more to come here as Scott gets to know his people and their needs and as they get to know him.

May I wish everyone good health and happy days.

Bob Bartholomew

Session Clerk

Ayr Presbytery update

Ayr Presbytery has been updating congregations on the relevant updates and information relating to Church reopening as they become available. An online induction service took place to induct the Revd Stanley Okeke to the charge of Ayr: St Andrews.

The business of the General Assembly is now being carried out by the Commission of Assembly and the Principal Clerk has suggested that Presbyteries should follow a similar procedure.

In accordance with this guidance, Ayr Presbytery has agreed to allow the Business and Nomination Committee to deal with any business for the foreseeable future.

In this connection, the Business and Nomination Committee met online by zoom on 16 June 2020 and agreed the following:

New Moderator: Presbytery installed the Revd David Prentice-Hyers, Minister of Troon: Old Parish Church as Moderator of Ayr Presbytery until 15 June 2021.

New Cumnock Parish Church: In response to the Coronavirus pandemic, the Revd Helen Cuthbert has agreed to postpone her retirement and remain as Minister at New Cumnock during this challenging time.

Prestwick: St Nicholas Parish Church: Presbytery noted that the Revd Fraser Aitken, Minister emeritus Ayr: St Columba has been appointed as Locum Minister at Prestwick: St Nicholas.

Demission of the Rev Elizabeth Crumlish: Presbytery noted that the Revd Elizabeth Crumlish, Path of Renewal and Pioneer Coordinator will demit her status as a Church of Scotland Minister on 1 July 2020 and subsequent transfer to the Scottish Episcopal Church.

Presbytery Protocol: Presbytery noted that the Presbytery Protocol was not used during the past year. The Protocol is used when complaints and matters of concern involving Ministers, Readers, Ordained Local Ministers, Auxiliary Ministers and Deacons are received.

Presbytery Plan: Due to the Coronavirus lockdown, Mission Focus Groups have not been able to meet and all work on the Presbytery Plan is effectively suspended. The Mission Committee will meet over the summer period to consider how to move forward with the Presbytery Planning process.

Ochiltree and Stair Parish Churches: Presbytery noted that the Revd Morag Garrett is currently on sick leave and have appointed the Rev Scott McKenna, Minister at Ayr St Columba as Interim Moderator at Ochiltree and Stair in the absence of the Revd Morag Garrett.

Attestation of Accounts Interim Report: Presbytery noted that a number of congregations including Ayr St Columba may submit their Ac-

counts and Trustee Reports to OSCR along with their Annual Returns on the

basis that these Accounts are properly signed and dated.

Presbytery also noted that a small number of congregations have still to submit their Accounts and Trustee Reports.

Ministries and Mission Contributions Update: Presbytery noted that Congregations that are struggling with monthly Ministries and Mission contributions should contact Mr Archie McDowall, Deputy Treasurer at 121 George Street without delay and appraise him of their situation.

Presbytery noted that Kirk Sessions should, where possible, encourage members to contribute by Standing Order, cheque, Online Donations or other means to maintain a healthy cash flow.

Dalmellington and Patna Update: Presbytery noted the much anticipated report into the parishes of Dalmellington linked with Patna Water-side has now been received from representatives of the Presbytery of Irvine and Kilmarnock. This will be considered by the Mission Committee and relevant parties at the earliest opportunity.

George Park
Presbytery Elder

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Congregation and Parish Register

June - July

*And with the morn those angel faces smile, which I have loved long
since, and lost awhile!*

Mr John "Ian" Jack	South Lodge Care Home, Ayr
Mrs. Evelyn (Eve) Smail	Arrol Drive, Ayr
Mr. Ian McBride	South Lodge Court, Ayr
Miss Margo Milne	Boreham, London
Mrs Elizabeth (Betty) Thorburn	Newton Park Court, Ayr
Mr Les O'Grady	Lochside Road, Ayr
Mr James Wilson	Leslie Crescent, Ayr
Miss Isabelle Tait	Windyhall Care Home, Ayr
Mr Bob Wills	Malin Court, Maidens

Who to contact

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Revd. Dr. SCOTT S. McKENNA.

scottsmckenna@aol.com

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Tel:- 471625

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

Depute Session Clerk:

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15 Longhill Avenue, Ayr KA7 4DY

Tel:- 443271

Director of Music:

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20A Academy Street, Ayr KA7 1HS

Tel:- 870449

Gift Aid Convener:

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Free Will Offering Convener:

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JOHN STEWART,

6A Ronaldshaw Park, Ayr.

Tel:- 07847639528

Church Office: Carrick Park, Ayr.

Tel:- 269524 Office hours: 9am-noon,

Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri

Church Services (Midton Road): 9.30am

- Family Service;

10am Sunday School,

11.15 - Morning Worship;

6.30pm - Evening Services

(Last Sunday of the month)

Church Services (Lochside):

10am Morning Worship

Webmaster: Iain Bartholomew,

email: website@ayrstcolumba.co.uk

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What's on in the halls

MONDAY

5.30pm **RAINBOW BROWNIES**

Aynsley Bell, 07914 842118

7.30pm: **THE GUILD** (fortnightly):

Mrs D. Bone, 441651

7.30pm: **MEN'S ASSOCIATION** (fortnightly):

Mr T. R. Swinn, 441896

7.30pm: **LADIES FELLOWSHIP** (fortnightly):

Linda Sharp, 286951

WEDNESDAY

2pm: **HOLY COMMUNION** (4th Wed):

Church Office, 269524

2pm: **FITNESS with FRIENDS:**

Mrs Margaret Doncaster, 477381

5.45pm: **9th AYR BROWNIES**,

Mrs E. MacDonald, 445529

7.30pm: **GIRL GUIDES:**

Susan Christie, 442374

7.30pm: **9th AYR RANGER GUIDES**

(every second Wednesday):

Susan Christie, 442374

THURSDAY

10.30am: **OASIS CAFE:** Mrs Rene Kidd

10.20am: **LADIES BADMINTON:**

Mrs Elizabeth MacDonald 445529

2pm: **MEN'S ASSOCIATION GAMES:**

Mr R. Park, 268788

6.30pm: **CUB SCOUTS:**

Mr D. Hope, 263376

7.30pm: **SENIOR CHOIR:**

Church Office 269524

FRIDAY

6pm: **BEAVER SCOUTS:**

Fiona Wilson, 290414

7.30pm: **SCOUTS:**

Jereon Bolte, 07511489755

SATURDAY

4pm: **MESSY CHURCH**

(last Saturday of the month):

Irene Bartholomew, 269524

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