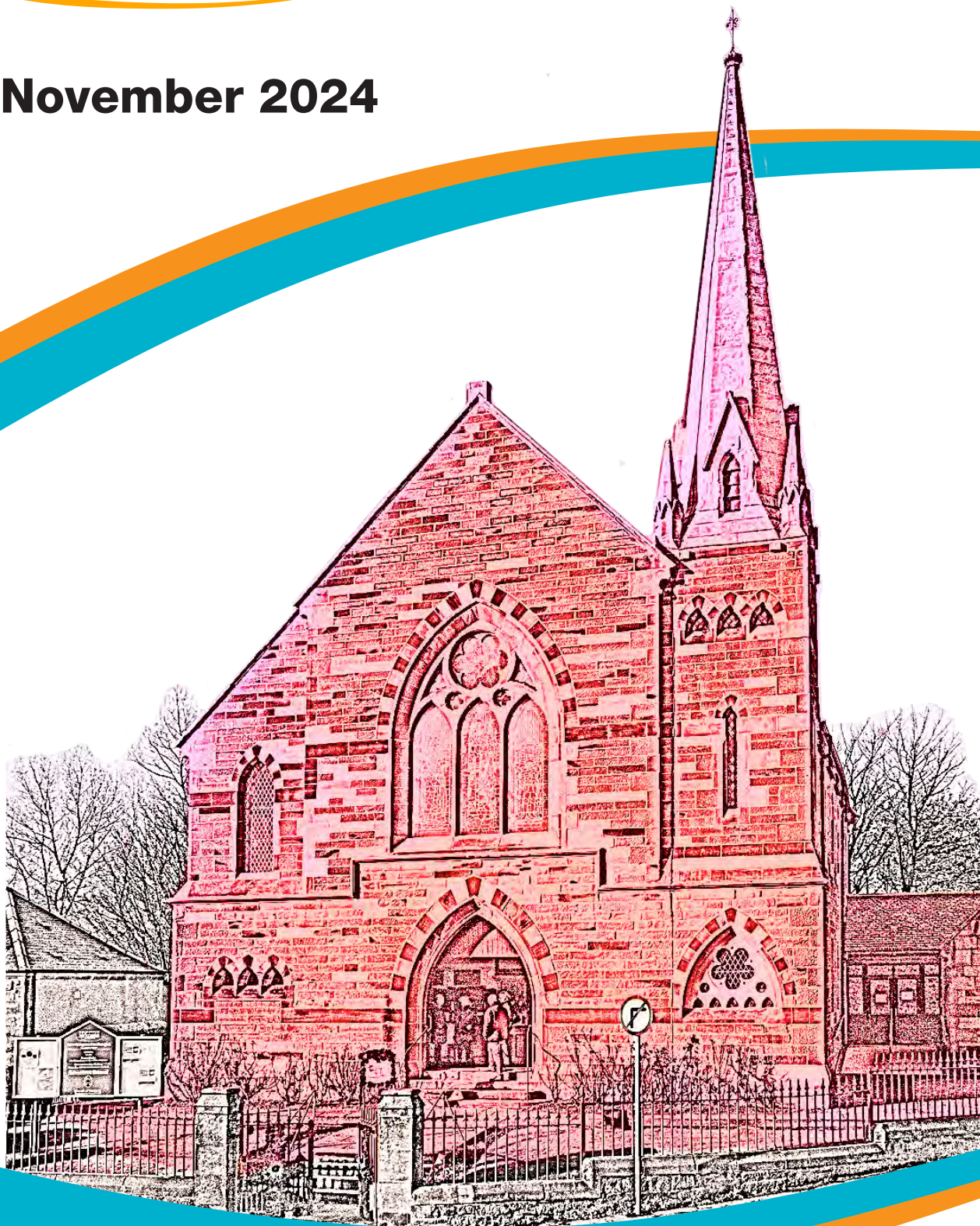


Ardrossan & Saltcoats

KirkgateMessenger

PARISH CHURCH

November 2024



www.kirkgatechurch.org.uk

Chapelwell Street
Saltcoats
KA21 5EB

Registered Scottish Charity: SC023003

Message from our Minister

Dear Kirkgate Family,

"Keep in memory what I have preached unto you." (1 Corinthians 15:2)

As November arrives, we take time to honour our heroes and reflect on those who have made significant sacrifices for our freedom and our country. This month inevitably brings forth bittersweet memories. As I sit down to write this letter, I am reminded of my friend and colleague, Dave Smit, whose memorial service will be this coming Saturday. I cherish the many miles we walked together in ministry, encouraging one another along the way. Rest in peace, Dave Smit.

J. Sidlow Baxter once wrote about memory, stating, *"there is not a more wonderful faculty in the human mind... without it, thought would be incoherent and chaotic. It is the most amazing cupboard ever devised; and oh, how important a matter is what we store away in it!"*

For some, memory is a divine gift, allowing us to keep the beauty of summer roses alive even through the winter months. Yet for others, memories can feel like sharp thorns, tormenting us and depleting the heart of its joy, leaving it feeling barren and unfruitful.

To the Christian, memory serves as a close friend, encouraging us on our journey to the Celestial City. The psalmist David often drew strength from past memories of God's mercies and blessings, reminding us that our memories can add a sweet fragrance to the garden of our souls. The apostle Paul, in his letter to the Philippians, urges us: ***"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things."***

"Memory! What a ministry it can have, if we use it wisely! That is why the Scriptures repeatedly exhort us to 'remember,'" writes Sidlow Baxter. Paul reminds the Corinthians, ***"Keep in memory what I have preached unto you."*** So, what did Paul preach? He preached Christ! He proclaimed that salvation can only be found in Christ Jesus and that He is the answer to the deepest needs of the human heart.

If your mind is filled with thorny memories, begin to replace them with God's Word and meditate on His promises. Invite Jesus to remove the weeds and thorns that may have taken root over the years.

Ask Him to fill your memory with His love, mercy, joy, peace, forgiveness, and goodness.

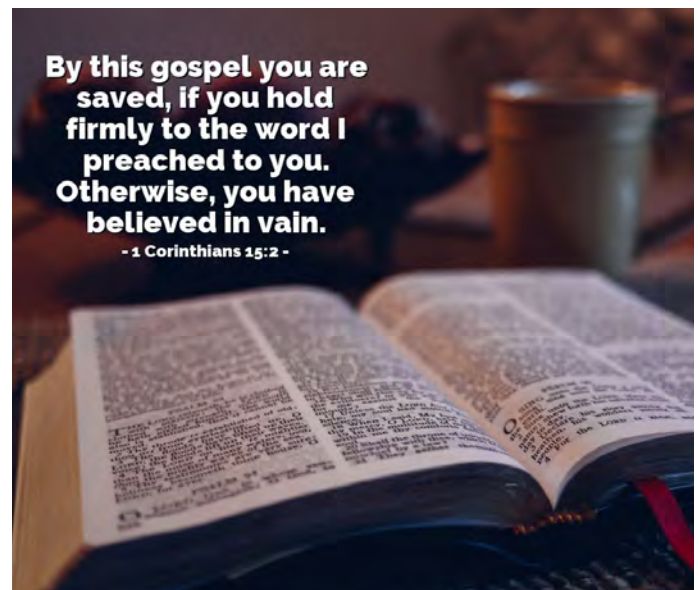
This month, we honour the memories of those who died in the great wars - those who fought to bring freedom to our nation. On Remembrance Day, may we never forget that Jesus gave His life as a ransom to liberate us from the chains of sin and darkness.

Your friend and minister
Nigel

Rev Tichaona Nigel Chikanya

Tel: 01294 683379 Mobile: 07566 278132

Email: NChikanya@churchofscotland.org.uk



From our Probationer: Katrona Templeton

"BLESSED ARE THE WEARY: REFLECTIONS"

Once a year, St. Martins in the Field, London and Inclusive Church get together and host a Disability Church conference. It is a conference run for Christians with Disabilities by Christians with Disabilities, featuring a range of activities, for such as creative worship and discussions on why we need to rest and the theological evidence on what rest does for us.

Some may wonder why a space is needed for Christians with Disabilities to worship and discuss Christianity together.

Discussing things with people who don't understand what you're going through can be difficult. Having a safe space where you feel understood can be a relief. For example, you might not have to explain how frustrating it is when the church's sound system isn't working and people start talking loudly or shouting, assuming that will help you hear what is being said. It can also be tiring and time-consuming to type everything, colour-code, and format it into a font for reading instead of just picking up a book. How hard it is to put on a thankful face when, unlike everyone else, you are forced to go around the back of the church and then through a maze of halls and doorways to enter the sanctuary. You are grateful that you can enter the church, but part of you feels awkward and left out by being unable to have the same access as everyone else.

The conference also gives space to reflect on times your body failed you, like when a stoma bag leaks mid-sermon, to be able to process it and begin to see the funny side of things. Or when your Tourette's kicks in during the middle of reading a Bible passage and through the encouraging smiles, you see some tuts and head shakes at the back of the church.

This year, the conference took on a new, fully online format. The conference was designed to be flexible and accommodating with five different talks/reflections, each between 20-40 minutes long, all pre-recorded with subtitles and British Sign Language interpretation available. The accompanying Facebook page and live events for discussions further allowed participants to connect at their own pace, ensuring everyone felt at ease and included.

The theme of blessed are the weary reflected on how some people with disabilities need time to rest, process or reflect on what is said or any activity they take part in. Unfortunately, rest can be seen as a weakness; constant activity and productivity are strengths. It is said time is money. The ability to step back and say, 'No, I need a rest,' can be hard for anyone. However, rest is not just a luxury but a necessity for our physical and mental well-being. It allows us to recharge, process our experiences, and be more present in our daily lives.

When we look at the Bible, Jesus, the son of God whose task was to save all humanity, frequently takes a timeout.

To grieve the loss of John the Baptist - *"When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place."* Matthew 14:13

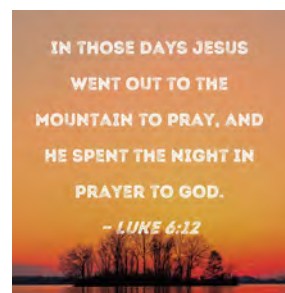
To get time away after talking to various crowds - *"Leaving the crowd behind, [the disciples] took him along, just as he was, in the boat."* Mark 4:36

To recharge and rest - *"Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon."* John 4:6

To take time to make essential discussions - *"One of those days, Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray and spent the night praying to God."* Luke 6:12

As we follow Jesus and the life He lead, we must remember it is okay, even essential for us to take a step back from life and rest. This could mean setting aside a specific time each day for quiet reflection or learning to say 'no' to additional commitments when we're feeling overwhelmed. By prioritizing rest, we can better serve God and others in our daily lives.

The conference gave me the space to reflect and worship in different ways. It reminded me that I sometimes need to listen to my body, heed what it says, step back, and rest. I hope you will also find time to take five minutes out of your day to spend time with God and rest.



Church Register

FUNERALS:

"In my Father's house are many mansions"

Apologies for wrong address last month

9/10/24 Mrs Evelyn Porter, Laighdykes Road,
Saltcoats

21/10/24 Mrs Senga Fisher, Martin Square,
Saltcoats



BAPTISMS:

"Many of them believed his message and were baptised"

27/10/24 Catherine Louise Trew
Michael David Trew
both of Mayfield Road, Saltcoats

"Suffer the little children to come unto me"

27/10/24 Theo Bear Kenneth Trew,
Mayfield Road, Saltcoats

Every Blessing to Catherine, Michael and baby Theo as we welcome them into our church family after their baptisms on Sunday 27th October.



From the Editor

Articles for the next magazine should be ready for **Sunday 24th November** at the very latest please, and should include dates through to 2nd February 2025 since we don't print in January.

This is also the time to remind you that we shall be putting Christmas Greetings in the December magazine, so for a donation, maybe the cost of your postage/cards, should you wish to make use of this service I would be pleased to have your messages as soon as possible so that I can allocate a space for you.

Please keep us informed of any special birthdays, anniversaries or any other events that you hear about, they all add to the varied content of your church magazine.



Please feel free to email me at elizabeth.mcmahon@talktalk.net or send a written copy if you don't use a computer.

Elizabeth McMahon, Editor

Christmas Messages

As is our custom now for a few years, for a donation towards the printing costs, we are offering you the service of sending your Christmas Message to all your friends in the December edition of 'Kirkgate Messenger'!

Not only does the church gain from this but we can all gain in saved time and money. If you would like to take up this offer please let me have your message as soon as possible as the pages take some time to design and it also helps to know how much space to allocate.

Elizabeth McMahon



Prayer Page

Contributed by Alison Buick



BROKEN DREAMS

Loving God

We pray for those whose dreams have been destroyed, those who no longer have the heart to look forward, who have lost their vision for the future. So many people known and unknown.

Whose happiness and hopes have been dashed by tragedy, whose faith in loved ones has been betrayed, who face poverty, unemployment, homelessness, disease, starvation, even death – whose trust in you has been tested beyond the limit.

God of hope

Light a new flame in their hearts

We pray for those who plod wearily through life with no sense of purpose – those who feel the future is empty, bereft of promise, and those who live only for today, fearful of tomorrow.

God of hope

Light a new flame in their hearts

Touch their hearts we pray, stir their imagination, rekindle their faith, renew their faith, renew their hope. And so may new dreams and new visions be born in the most broken of lives.

God of hope

Light a new flame in their hearts, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

AMEN

FRIENDSHIP IS THE WINE OF LIFE

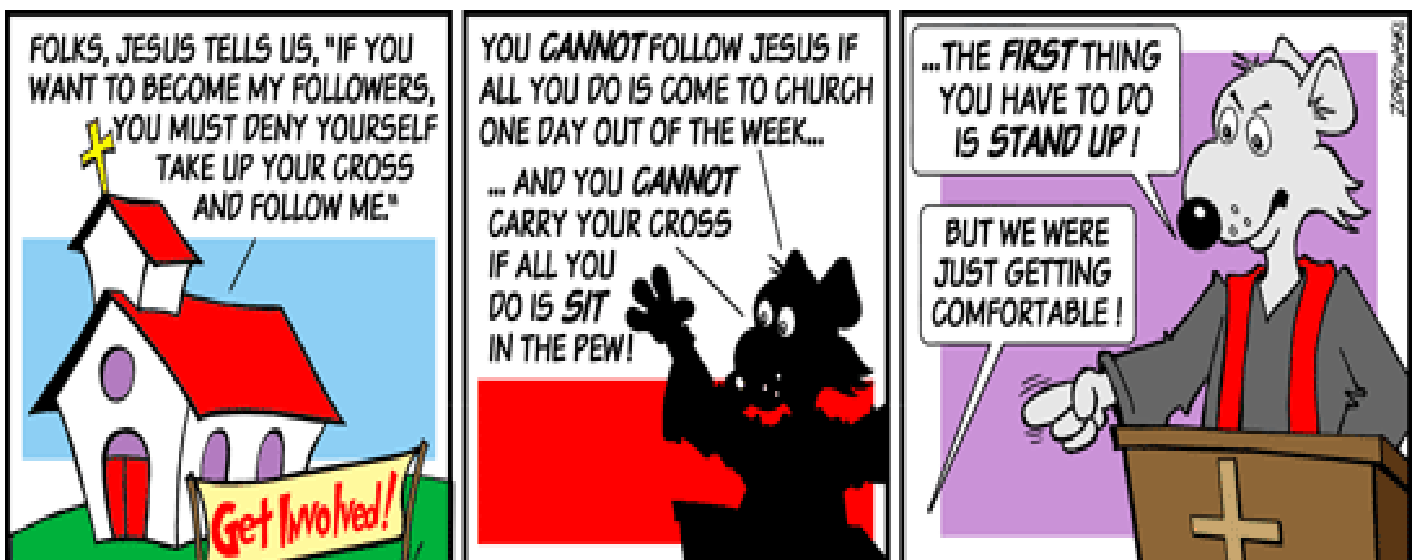
Friendship serves a host of different purposes all at the same time.

In whatever direction you turn, it still remains yours and you cannot shut it out.

It can never be untimely and never be in the way.

We need friendship all the time, just as much as we need the necessities of life.

Cicero



Congratulations

There have been a few folk celebrating birthdays and anniversaries during October including Jean Hay, Nina Fleming, Solveig McCulloch, David Robb and Doris Kirkhope.

Every Blessing to each and everyone of you including those whose birthdays and anniversaries we are unaware of.

If you know of someone celebrating a birthday or anniversary please let us know.

Letters of Appreciation

I would like to say thank you for the lovely church flowers and to my friends in the church for cards and messages I received at the passing of Tom Reid. Tom was a friend and work colleague for almost 60 years and the love and support from the church is much appreciated at this time.

Alison Buick

Thank you so much for the lovely flowers I received from the church the other week they were delivered by Evelyn Green and we had a lovely chat thank you so much they were very much appreciated.

Betty McCracken

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers received while in hospital, also for Nigel and Katrona's visit.



It was welcoming and uplifting; and a pleasure to be accepted into their company as a non member of your church.

Margaret Fraser (Gordon's Mum)

Kirk Session

The Kirk Session has not met since my report in the October magazine.



We are delighted that our congregation continues to grow, and it really is great to see so many people gathering for worship each Sunday, as well as those who follow the services online. It is also heartening to see an increase in the number of young people attending each week.

We have recently started wearing name badges. This is partly to help Katrona to get to know people, but it is also useful for the rest of us at a time when there are lots of new faces. If you don't have a badge, please speak to me or to Mima and we will get you one. The next challenge is remembering to wear it each Sunday! There has been a lot going on in the church over the past month, and I hope that you have managed to take part in some of the activities. Once again the generosity of the congregation was evident in our Harvest offering, which is now standing at £350 – a great amount which will be appreciated by those who run the Argyle shop. We also received lots of donations for our shoebox appeal, and our thanks go to all who helped to pack the boxes ready for sending away. The Fashion Show was sold out and was a great evening, and the Craft Fair was busy too. Coming up in November we have Communion on Sunday 3rd and Thursday 7th, and our Armistice service on Sunday 10th when there will be a retiring offering for Poppy Scotland. There will also be Communion on Sunday 1st and Thursday 5th December.

Our Christmas Fair takes place on Saturday 30th November, and we hope that lots of people will come and support this popular event. We are hosting Santa's grotto for the Saltcoats Carnival committee on the afternoon of Sunday 24th November, and are looking for volunteers to come along and help out on that day. If you are able to help please speak to John or Mary Stewart. Due to this event we have decided to have tea and coffee after the service on Sunday 17th November.

We propose to have a Christmas Gift Service on Sunday 1st December, details will be discussed at the next meeting of the Kirk Session which takes place at 7pm on Thursday 7th November.

Vivien Bruce, Session Clerk

What's on in Kirkgate: October & November

REGULAR WEEKLY MEETINGS

Sunday, 10.45 am:	Morning Worship Sunday School
Tuesday, 1.00-4.00pm:	Craft Team
Wednesday, 7.00-8.00pm:	Bible Study
Thursday, 10.30am:	Midweek Service
Thursday, 2.30 & 7.30pm:	Country Dance Club (alternate weeks)
Friday, 12.30-2.00pm:	Care & Share Lunch



MONTHLY MEETINGS

Prayer Meeting	Second Sunday of month after morning worship
Musical Memories	Last Wednesday of month, 2.00pm
Tea & Coffee Fellowship	Last Sunday of month after morning worship

NOVEMBER 2024

Sunday 3rd: 10.45am
Morning Worship - Sacrament of Holy Communion

Monday 4th: 2.00pm
Guild - Daniel McNeil on Scouting

Thursday 7th 10.30am
Midweek Service - Sacrament of Holy Communion
7.00pm
Kirk Session
7.30pm
Country Dancing

Sunday 10th: 10.45am
Morning Worship - Remembrance Sunday
Retiring Offering for Poppy Scotland
Prayer Group after service

Sunday 17th: 10.45am
Morning Worship - Sacrament of Baptism
Tea/Coffee fellowship after morning service

Monday 18th: 2.00pm
Guild - OLM Katrona Templeton

Tuesday 19th: 7.00-9.00pm
Safeguarding Training

Sunday 24th: 10.45am
Morning Worship
'Messenger' Material required
1.00pm
Saltcoats Christmas Carnival & Santa Grotto

Wednesday 27th: 2.00pm
Musical Memories

Friday 29th: 4.00 - 6.00pm
Hall open for setting up and donations

Saturday 30th: 11.00am - 2.00pm
Christmas Fair

DECEMBER 2024

Sunday 1st: 10.45am
Morning Worship - Sacrament of Holy Communion
Christmas Gift Service

Monday 2nd: 2.00pm
Guild - Money Matters

Thursday 5th 10.30am
Midweek Service - Sacrament of Holy Communion
7.30pm
Country Dancing

Sunday 8th: 10.45am
Morning Worship
Prayer Group after service

Sunday 15th: 10.45am
Morning Worship

Monday 16th: 2.00pm
Guild - Carols & Readings

Sunday 22nd: 10.45am
Morning Worship

Tuesday 24th - TBC
Wednesday 25th - TBC
Thursday 26th - No Midweek Service
Sunday 29th: 10.45am
Morning Worship

JANUARY 2025

Thursday 2nd - TBC

Sunday 5th: 10.45am
Morning Worship

Thursday Service

We have continued to see a rise in numbers over these past few weeks which is lovely and very good especially for the singing.

So again please feel free to come along at 10.30 on a Thursday morning to join us for the service and then some ongoing fellowship over tea etc.

The Thursday Team

Prayer Group

We continue to meet once a month for extra prayers on the second Sunday of the month after the morning service.



Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like a prayer said for someone special or your self especially in these trying times.

PRAYER FOR STRENGTH AND PEACE

God give us the strength to face challenges with courage and the faith to overcome them through your guidance.

Prince of peace bring tranquility to our hearts and to the troubled places in your lovely world so that your peace will reign throughout Amen

Margaret Cassidy, Prayer Leader

Property Report



The Manse

Gary has been and completed the painting of the boys' bedroom and also the repairs to the corrugated roof on the garage. We have the pat testing still to be undertaken by the electrician soon and then the alarm service followed by the boiler service so Nigel will be busy with a few workmen.

Church

As you have heard in the intimations, Gary will commence painting at the front vestibule on Monday 28th October. We are not sure if the front entrance will be closed on Sunday 3rd November as the work will be on going, but we will let you know as you approach the church which door is being used. Sorry for any inconvenience but once the work is completed that whole area will be finished and much brighter.

Church boilers - if you boost the boiler to come on if it is cold where you are meeting/working can you please remember to change it back before you leave otherwise the heating remains on unnecessarily, thank you.

A new side door will be fitted hopefully before the end of the year, this is a two day job but should not interfere with too much activity within the church halls.

A few annual services are due before the end of the year and these are in hand.

Margaret Cassidy, Property Convenor

Sponsorship

Alison McCulloch is taking part in an exciting and challenging trek across the Sahara Desert in March next year, in support of the charity CHAS - Children's Hospices Across Scotland. She'll be trekking with an old school friend Lesley Campbell from Saltcoats, who has worked with families who have been supported by this charity along with a local friend in Ealing.

Solveig her mum, has a sponsor sheet or you can give direct any donations you decide to make to:- (www.justgiving.com & type in Alison McCulloch)

I hope that you feel you can give some support to this demanding challenge and a very worthwhile charity.



**Children's
Hospice
Association
Scotland**

Treasurer's Report

Balances - as at 30 September 2024 were as follows:

General Account: £20,518

Fabric Account: £1,987



The amount collected by standing order, cheques and plate collection for the summer period was as follows:

Standing Orders – September - £3,313

Plate – September - £2,227 – Average - £445

Our recent Harvest collection for the Argyle Community Centre raised £370. This is a small increase on last year and is, once again, a marvellous total. Many thanks to all who contributed.

The very successful Fashion Show raised £600 for church funds – with a possibility of some more commission on sales from the shop to come. This is a terrific effort and thanks are due to all concerned. Apart from the financial benefits the efforts of the Fund Raising Committee enhance the social life of our church enormously.

Believe it or not, Christmas is round the corner! But, more importantly, before Christmas itself we have our Christmas Fair on 30th November. Please come along and support this occasion in any way you can. If any stallholders have need of particular types or amounts of change for their stall please let me know. The card machine will be available for anyone who needs it!

I will conclude with my usual appeal for those in the congregation who are not currently on the Gift Aid scheme to consider this option. The financial benefits to the congregation are very significant at no extra cost to the giver. If you would like details of giving via envelopes or Standing Order please let me know.

I would also like to thank those who have increased their givings recently and those who have requested envelopes or taken out Standing Orders.

Thank you - John Stewart, Treasurer

Saltcoats Christmas Carnival



Sunday 24th November will see Santa arrive in Saltcoats and the lights switched on. Many of the local shops will be open and many fun events are planned.

Here at Kirkgate we are hosting Santa and his elves. As in previous years this will be a very busy event and we are looking for volunteers to help supervise on the day. (1.30pm – 4.00 pm)

If you can help please let us know.

John and Mary Stewart, Tel: 01294 464526

The Guild

We commenced our meetings on Monday 7th October at 2.00pm with a Communion and Dedication service led by Nigel and Katrona.



We had a few new faces which was nice and the singing was good accompanied by Stuart on the piano. We would like to encourage any new visitors to the church to come along, men are also welcome, or husbands and wives, the Guild is for everyone.

Next, on Monday 21st October at 2.00pm we had a lovely concert/afternoon tea which was well supported and we enjoy a varied selection of music and fun provided by the Midgies as you can see from the photographs below. They sent a message of thanks to us for the generous £70 collected in the tins for CHAS. Thanks to everyone who helped in any way.

Dates for your Dairy: All meetings 2.00pm

November:

Monday 4th - Scouting - Daniel McNeil

Monday 18th - OLM Katrona Templeton

Friday 29th - Guilds Together North Ayrshire, Advent Gathering, Stevenston Parish Church (Livingstone)

December:

Monday 2nd - Money Matters

Saturday 7th - Christmas Tree Festival

Monday 16th - Carols & Readings, Mince Pies and £5 Charity Donation instead of a gift.

We pray that you will come along and enjoy the fellowship that the Guild has to offer.



Even
Flat
Jesus
was
there!!



Kirkgate Family

Keeping Connected



*The Church is wherever God's people are seeking
to reach out and touch folk wherever they are.....*

Hi to everyone

**A meeting of the full
Pastoral Team took
place in the large
hall on Monday 30th
September.**



The meeting was opened with prayer, attendance was excellent and we were delighted to announce and welcome Ruth and Susan to the Team. That takes our Team numbers up to 17.

Ruth and Susan's skills and experience will be a great asset in our expanding Kirkgate family. Once their safeguarding paperwork is in place, they will join us in our work.

This is a new start; new folk of all ages in Church on Sundays, new challenges and new opportunities in our Church life and in Pastoral Care. The Team is committed and enthusiastic.

A full agenda on a range of pastoral issues was presented, ideas, suggestions and solutions were contributed on these issues by team members.

Thanks to tea/biscuits providers and to Mima for making the hall so warm and welcoming.

We are encouraged by the growing numbers in Kirkgate.

In order to identify, record and meet the new Pastoral needs, we are in the process of creating a voluntary, confidential questionnaire to achieve this.

Please see the names/contact numbers opposite this article if you need to speak with us.

Every blessing, the Pastoral Team

PASTORAL CARE CONTACTS

The Pastoral Team are working very hard behind the scenes. Please keep the team up-to-date with information about people who need pastoral care or support at this difficult time for everyone. Please don't assume they already know - they would rather hear several times over than not at all.

The main contacts for Pastoral Care are:

***Mrs Moira Cooper, (01294 468851)
Mrs Jean Hay, (01294 469986)
Mrs Evelyn Green (01294 469706), and
Mrs Jennifer Fox (01294 465947).***

***For flower recipients co-ordinator please contact
Mrs Morag Forsyth (01294 463762)***

Prayer Shawl Ministry



If anybody is interested in starting a Prayer Shawl Ministry, or would like a shawl to give to somebody, please speak to me on a Sunday morning or phone 01294421144 or email smayg@talktalk.net.

Susan Gill

Recycling Old Spectacles

There's been a great response to the recycling of your old specs.

Many thanks, keep looking them out, although there can't be too many still lurking in the drawers.

However it is still ongoing, the box is still in the hallway and we thank the ladies who uplift them for Blythswood.

**RECYCLE
YOUR OLD SPECS/CASES HERE**



Fundraising 2024-25

The Fashion Show by 'The Dressing Room' on Friday 18th October was a huge success and on the night raised £600 with more to come from commission on sales at the shop. Thanks to Jennifer who owns the shop who also donated a gift voucher for the great raffle. Many thanks to everyone who helped in any way and especially our models, Savior, Nikki, Sandra, Allison and Eunice.



The Craft Fair held on 26th October was also well attended and the crafters were pleased with their sales. £426.63 was raised for the church. Again many thanks to all who helped in any way.

Our biggest fundraiser of the year is the popular Christmas Fair and it won't be long until we're setting up for this busy day. We know you'll all be busy with the knitting, baking and sourcing of other items for sale. Volunteers are always required to help on Saturday 30th November. Make it a lunch date and for £5 you can enjoy a roll/sausage and to follow cakes/tea/coffee. More information on the poster on the page opposite. If you require anything uplifted please contact anyone on the Fundraising Committee. Please note that we can no longer take China or Glass for the Bric-a-Brac stall.

The following Saturday 7th December there will be the Christmas Tree Festival - this is a free event with only a donation if you decide to have a cup of tea/mince pie. This will be followed by the popular Shoppers' Carol Service at 3.00pm which we hope you will all stay for and enjoy.

Once again we look forward to your support, without you we wouldn't be able to raise the much needed funds for the Church.

Phyllis Armstrong

2024

Friday November 29th: Setting up of hall and donations welcome

Saturday November 30th: Christmas Fair

Saturday December 7th: Christmas Tree Festival



2025

February: Burns Supper (date to be arranged)



What's On - November & December



Ardrossan & Saltcoats
kirkgate
PARISH CHURCH

**Chapelwell Street,
Saltcoats**

**CHRISTMAS
FAIR**

**Saturday
30th November
11.00am - 2.00pm**

All the usual stalls:
Home Bakery • Sweets
Jewellery / Accessories
Toys / Jigsaws • Soft Goods
Books • Bottle Stall •
Bric-a-Brac • Hand Made Cards
TEAROOM

FREE ADMISSION TO CHRISTMAS FAIR
Tearoom Tickets: Adults: £3, Children: £1
(Roll & Sausage extra £2)

Registered Scottish Charity: SC023003



CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

KIRKGATE
PARISH CHURCH

Chapelwell Street
Saltcoats

2024 THEME:
Christmas favourites
from film, stage
and books











Saturday 7th December

from 10am and finishing with a
Shoppers' Carol Service at 3pm

Admission: **FREE**

Tea & Coffee: **Donation welcomed**

Children's
Activities

Anderson & Saltcoats Kirkgate Parish Church. Registered Scottish Charity: SC022003

Musical Memories

It has been great to see such a good turn out at our Musical Memory afternoons. Here are a few of the songs we enjoyed singing in October.

*You were always on my mind
Sound of silence
Hello Mary lou
Top of the world.
As time goes by
And many more.....
Any requests welcomed.*

We are on as normal on 27th November but not in December.
We start back on Wednesday January 31st.

I'm still doing wee sing-a-longs at South Beach House if anyone feels able to come and help with the singing.

Dates are November 6th and 13th, December 4th and 18th
(Thanks to Barbara for her input.)

Look forward to seeing you all soon.

Mary

Kirkgate Parish Church
Chapelwell Street, Saltcoats



MUSICAL MEMORIES

Christians Against Poverty

As readers will know, the UICS Christians Against Poverty centre provides free face to face personal debt advice for those struggling with the devastation of personal debt.

We also visit community groups where we deliver Money Coaching from CAP which is aimed at anyone who uses money. The course teaches how to Budget, Save and Spend well in a light hearted manner. Both these superb services are free for clients and participants but providing them comes at a cost. Our centre pays affiliation fees to CAP nationally and Money Coaches have expenses that require to be paid for each course delivered.

We remain very grateful to many of you who are reading this and contribute on a monthly basis towards making our centre viable. Thank you. In our four years we have been able to foster excellent relationships with local businesses and their support has also freed us up to spend our time helping people and not applying for grant funding. Once more Ardagh Glass have kindly made a generous donation of two thousand pounds to fund our work and Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce raised £2,500 half of which will be shared with our partners in the CAP Ayr Debt Centre. We also receive regular monthly support from James Frew (Gas Sure) and we are so grateful for these partnerships.



Money Coach
Nathan Payne
leading a
course
at James Frew

Please pray for Nathan Payne and our Money Coaches as they deliver courses in the period ahead at PRA Group, James Frew and even a one to one session for someone who prefers to learn about budgeting skills on their own.

In the last four months at least four people working with us have become debt free lifting a tremendous burden off their shoulders. The clients we are reaching are now more keen to engage than we have seen in the past and we are busier now than ever before as our reputation for going the extra mile becomes more widely known in our community.

Do you know someone who might want to join us?

With the increased demand we are searching and praying for an additional volunteer Debt Coach to join in what God is doing through our CAP team. A Debt Coach has to be good with the numbers, enjoy dealing with people, be organised and able to persevere despite the many disappointments and frustrations that are part of this ministry. So why would anyone do this?

Sandy Dickson who has been a debt coach for four years answers that question as follows. *"I know that I can do the numbers and being able to help people and pray with them is an immense privilege. I feel that I am making a real difference to their lives"*

Alan McLaren who has been a debt coach for a similar time said the following. *"There are hidden rewards in doing this work which money cannot buy. One mum approached me after we had dealt with her and thanked me for all I had done. She felt she could be a mum again. Another client contacted me to say their mental health was so much better now thanks to me. Looking at them I could see this was the case."*

Being a debt coach also provides a chance to meet some of our befrienders and money coaches who are amazing people and join in our local team gatherings as well as receive outstanding training from CAP.

If you feel you would like to find out more about being a debt coach or know someone who may be interested please contact Alan McLaren who would be happy to have an informal chat with you.

Alan McLaren

Christians Against Poverty
Debt Coach & Community Links Coordinator
Email: alanmclaren@capuk.org
Mobile: 07717 645804
Working Days Monday to Wednesday

For a confidential chat about your personal debt situation please call our freephone number

0800 328 0006



Befrienders
Denham
and Julia
at Ayrshire
College Freshers
week for CAP

Blythwood Shoebox Appeal 2024

An enormous thank you to everyone who has supported the Blythwood Shoebox Appeal again this year.



Early donations have made it possible to start packing since mid September and so we are now fully packed for collection first week in November.

We have the wonderful total of 203 boxes and some extra goods and finance to donate, which were dedicated on Sunday 27th October

Once again thanks to all who helped in any way.

The Shoebox Co-ordination Team



Stamp Appeal

Please remember to continue to save your used stamps.

If you can leave a small border round them that would be great. You can leave them on the table in the hallway and someone will pick them up.

They are a valuable source of income at no extra cost to yourself.



The Craft Team

It seems no time at all since the last Messenger and we were busy making Christmas cards to stock the group stall at the Craft Fair. The Fair is now passed and it turned out to be a very successful day.



We were so lucky with the weather as the crafters had lots to bring in, some even had trolley loads!! There was a great variety of handmade items, showing how much talent is around our area. It was a very sociable day with people catching up with others they hadn't seen for a while.



We are indebted to all our extra helpers on the day who worked in the kitchen, tea room, and our stall. Special thanks to John Stewart who put all the tables out for us and put them all away again at the end of the day and to Mary who hoovered the Church before the chairs were put back out for the Sunday Service.

With everyone's help £426.63 was raised for Church funds and £197 for the Craft Group which will be included in our final donation to the Church for this year.

We can now take orders if you would like special individual Christmas cards, just give the details to any member of the group.

The list for Christmas trees to be decorated is now filling up but there's still time if you are thinking of joining in. Please have a look at the list of topics in the hallway and choose one you'd like. If you don't have a tree we can supply one.



The Planning Morning

Saturday 28th September

It was a time for the congregation to take part in contributing to what church could look like, and brainstorm around missional outreach. This exercise was kick started by Nigel sharing few points on why we had gathered in this fashion. The three points were:

- **To listen, participate in defining what excites us as a church.**
- **To help plan for the most engaging, lively and ongoing church life.**
- **Identify opportunities for growth of our church.**



We read and explored together on what this passage mean to us, Jeremiah 1: 5-10: *“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”* *“Alas, Sovereign Lord,” I said, “I do not know how to speak; I am too young.”* *“But the Lord said to me, ‘Do not say, ‘I am too young.’ You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. ‘Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,’ declares the Lord. ‘Then the Lord reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, ‘I have put my words in your mouth. ‘See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.”*

There was no sermon on this passage but all congregants were invited to think of what it means to be part of the church and reflect on their own call to follow Christ.

It was noted that there are so many weaknesses we have as a church, and a lot more threats we could list. **However the planning morning was about what God can do with what we have and what we can do.**

The possible action was triggered by the testimony from Nigel who came as a stranger 4 years ago initially from Zimbabwe, South Africa and Eastwood. The following statement on the congregation's parish profile left him thinking, there should be something about this church. **“Our door is always open - may we welcome you inside?”**

People shared in small groups of 3 and 4 what this statement meant to them.

The first question asked was what attracted you to the church? One thing that stood out was the warm welcome people felt when entering the church. This was evident in the statement **“May We Welcome You Inside”** which was both inviting and

asking politely, the smiles, and the act of holding out a hand was so encouraging. Even strangers to the congregation felt comfortable, without any fear of sitting in the wrong seat or needing communion cards.

The caring and friendly atmosphere of the church was evident in the thoughtful cards, flowers, and the tea and coffee served after some services, all contributing to a feeling of fellowship.

It was noted that the front door of the church was physically open, and the presence of multiple generations, along with the beautiful music of the organ before and after the service, created a welcoming atmosphere.

As part of Nigel's own experience, he shared the aims of the congregation.

Our church aims to be a congregation

- Where everyone feels accepted
- Everyone experiences a friendly atmosphere
- Sense of belonging
- Where the Gospel is spread with joy
- Where witnessing of Christianity is done
- Where the Love of God is reflected.

Further to the aims of the congregation, the Vision could be summed up like this:

- Build a proactive and caring community
- Be confident that we are the Christian Community where the Love of God is reflected.

After sharing these heart-warming aspects we had a group discussion around, **What is church and who is in church?**

The motivating factor was, if we are to be the church we desired we need to know who is in it and who could easily be left out. Secondly knowing who is church would drive us towards possible needs of the church.

Who makes the church?

"Here is the church, here's the steeple; open it up and here's all the people. "This old rhyme reminds us that it's the people who make up the church. But who are the people that make up the church, and are there any groups that we are missing?

We listed the kinds of people who attend church: from the young to the old, and the different economic backgrounds. From the homeless, bereaved, lonely, and those looking for comfort. It was felt that the church had a large number of people over 50, but the number of people in the younger generations is starting to grow, with younger married couples also starting to attend.

A conversation around how a beggar should be able to feel part of a communal warmth of 'church' and how **CHURCH** means that **UR** in the middle. The church has a large variety of people from all walks of life attending, but more are always welcome.

The last section of our time together was aimed at suggesting opportunities that could lead us to be a lively and ongoing church life and we engaged on discussions around the opportunities for us

1. Think back on your entire experience at this church and name a time when you felt the most engaged, alive and motivated.



- First visit here was amazing with many people.
- The prayers offered to me and others.
- It was felt that Nigel speaks from the heart, and the services provide a good mix of traditional, modern, and gospel hymns.
- The prayers are heartfelt, and the sermons were engaging, especially during church celebrations like Easter and Christmas.
- The beauty of the building and sanctuary brought peace to some.
- Prayer time after the service and a time for prayer.
- The Christmas tree festival also provided an opportunity for people to engage, and the church felt alive as it welcomed people off the streets.
- All these aspects help the congregations to feel engaged, alive and motivated by church life.

2. When you consider all of your experiences at this church, what has contributed the most to your spiritual life?

- My wedding day and how God was present in it
- Chana as we serve others
- 1st Easter service as Dee was giving the story of the life of Jesus with confidence
- Being able to read from the bible at the Sunday services and becoming part of the Pastoral Care team
- The modern hymns and old hymns especially when accompanied by pictures and videos
- Bible study night
- Prayer time and praying together
- Preparation of Thursday service
- Preparing for Sunday prayer in church
- Prayers and Communion
- Years of teaching Sunday school
- Church family and caring
- When I was ill, I knew I was being prayed for
- When I was bereaved, I knew I was cared for
- When I was invited to Sunday school I had to read the bible more.



3. What do you think is the single, most important, life-giving characteristic of this church? When we are at our best, what are we doing?

- Caring for one another
- Many different things happen in the church
- Friday Lunch Club
- Prayer time and spending time in prayer
- Pastoral Care giving it to others and receiving it
- The freedom to worship is more enjoyable
- Service to community
- Musical memories
- Thursday service
- Sunday service and the Hymns
- Children's address
- Sunday school
- School assembly when they were part of the church.



4. What motivates you to come to worship at this church?

- Fellowship
- Love
- Prayer time with others
- Comfort through others
- Guild
- The habit to be around others
- The Minister
- Sincere warmth around others.

5. What are the ministry opportunities begging for your attention in this area?

- Youth Group
- Evening services and contemporary services and music
- Church Fair
- Primary school outreach
- More young people programs
- Partnership with football clubs.
- Summer activities
- Toddler groups
- Messy Church
- Community outreach
- Youth Fellowship
- Holiday Clubs
- Joint services with other churches.



6. If this church were to close, what would be the one thing people in the community would miss most?

- Nativity play
- Lovely sermons and teachings
- Boys Brigade and Guides
- Sunday School
- Time of prayer with others
- Care home and Sunday services
- Doing things with the community and for the community
- Living out our Christian faith
- The lovely hymns of praise and sermon teachings.

Colour me in



World War 1

Word Search

DIRECTIONS: Find and circle the vocabulary words in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.

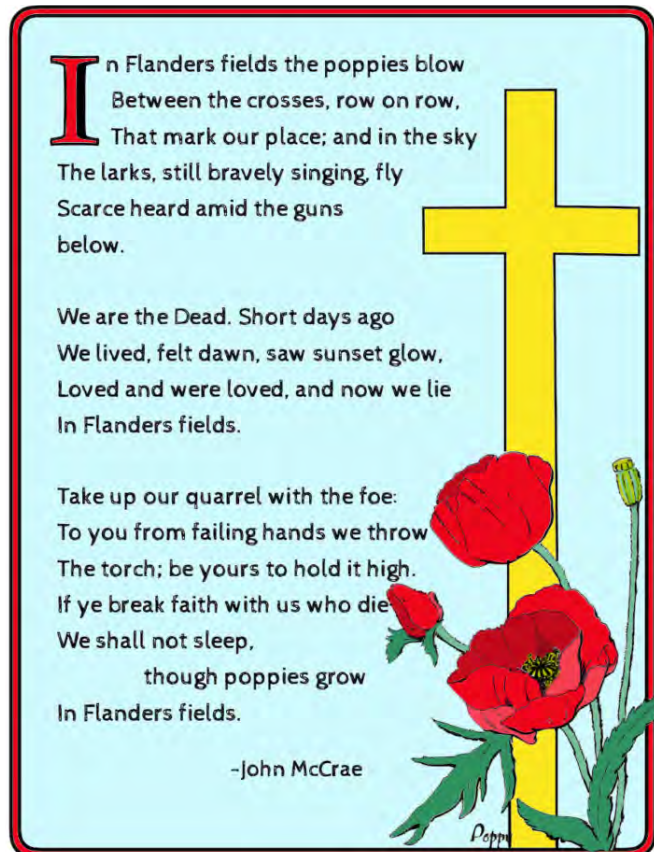
Z	Q	E	R	A	F	R	A	W	H	C	N	E	R	T	M	V	V	R	B	Z
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H	K	N	T	S	E	C	B	O	A	U	S	T	R	I	A	E	Q	L	Y	

AIR FORCE
ALLIES
ARCHDUKE
ARMISTICE
AUSTRIA
BIG FOUR
BULGARIA
CENTRAL POWERS
FOURTEEN POINTS
FRANCE
FRONT

GALLIPOLI
GERMANY
GREAT BRITAIN
KAISER WILHELM
LENIN
LUSITANIA
MARNE
RED BARON
RUSSIA
SCHLIEFFEN PLAN
SOMME

TANKS
TANNENBERG
TREATY
TRENCH WARFARE
TRIPLE ENTENTE
TURKEY
USA
VERDUN
VERSAILLES
WOODROW WILSON
ZEPPELIN

IN FLANDERS FIELDS



THE ANSWER

In Flanders Field the cannon boom
And fitful flashes light the gloom;
While up above, like Eagles, fly
The fierce destroyers of the sky;
With stains the earth wherein you lie
Is redder than the poppy bloom
In Flanders Field.

Sleep on ye brave! The shrieking shell,
The quaking trench, the startling yell,
The fury of the battle hell
Shall wake you not; for all is well.

Sleep peacefully, for all is well.
Your flaming torch aloft we bear,
With burning heart an oath we swear
To keep the faith to fight it through
To crush the foe, or sleep with you
In Flanders Field

Popular World War I poems,

"In Flanders Fields" was composed by Canadian surgeon Lt. Col. John D. McCrae, on May 3, 1915, during the Second Battle of Ypres, Belgium and "The Answer," composed by Lt. J. A. Armstrong of Wisconsin also written in 1915 - it is one of many poems written in response to "In Flanders Fields"

Light Up Red

Kirkgate is once again supporting the national Light Up Red campaign, in support of the Scottish Poppy Appeal.

Each year the Light Up Red campaign invites landmarks large and small to 'Light Up Red' which in turn raises awareness of the Scottish Poppy Appeal up and down the country, and feedback from the Armed Forces community is that it means a lot to them to see such a visible show of support and togetherness in this season of Remembrance.

In 2023, around 200 locations lit up across the length and breadth of Scotland

Lighting up can also provide a message of hope and togetherness.



Youth in Malawi Stand Strong Against Climate Change and Unemployment



Malawi, a nation known for its reliance on agriculture, is facing a growing unemployment crisis, worsened by the devastating effects of climate change. With nearly 80% of the population dependent on farming, shifting weather patterns, prolonged droughts, and extreme weather events are leaving many Malawians, especially the youth, without work. The damage caused by climate change isn't just seen in the fields; it's felt in the job market, where unemployment is rapidly rising.

But the young people of Malawi, especially those from the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP), are refusing to let this be their fate. With the support of the Centre for Green Economy in Developing countries (CEGED), they are standing up to the challenge, determined to create a brighter future for themselves and their communities. Through innovation and collective action, they are proving that hope can thrive even in the face of adversity.

One of the main ways these young people are responding to the crisis is through tree planting and natural resource conservation. This approach not only tackles environmental degradation but also creates vital job opportunities. By reforesting areas that have been ravaged by droughts and deforestation, they are protecting the soil, improving water retention, and restoring ecosystems. These efforts include setting up tree nurseries and launching forestry projects, which provide much-needed employment while also strengthening Malawi's resilience to climate change.

As part of their efforts, the young people of CCAP are leading community mobilisation and awareness campaigns, educating people about the dangers of climate change and the importance of sustainable practices. Through radio, social media, and community gatherings, they are spreading essential information on how local communities can reduce the effects of climate change. They are also engaging schools, local chiefs, and health workers, ensuring their message reaches as many people as possible. This widespread engagement is building a shared commitment to protecting the environment.

Another key part of their work is promoting the use of sustainable energy resources to reduce

deforestation. By encouraging the use of energy-efficient stoves that need less firewood, the youth are helping to ease the strain on Malawi's forests. This not only preserves the natural environment but also introduces sustainable technologies that can be used in daily life.

Samson Kachulu, a young leader who is training to become a Reverend, explains: "Before large-scale projects like tree planting can be rolled out, it's important to educate and train the community. By developing a comprehensive manual on sustainable resource management, we are helping villagers understand how to manage their resources wisely. This knowledge will guide them in making smart decisions about farming, tree planting, and conservation."



In addition to this education, the youth are launching training programmes to empower young people to lead awareness campaigns across the country. Through creative channels like music, drama, poetry, and public speaking, they are spreading powerful messages about protecting the environment in ways that resonate with their peers and the wider community. These campaigns are inspiring a new generation of climate activists—young people who are not only passionate but also informed and ready to take action.

On top of that, the youth are organising community cleaning initiatives, encouraging people to come together to clean up marketplaces, hospitals, and other public spaces. By working alongside local leaders and government officials, they are fostering a sense of collective responsibility for both the environment and public health.

Malawi's young people are not sitting idly by as climate change and unemployment threaten their future. With the backing of CEGEd and a clear action plan, they are determined to protect their

Youth in Malawi Stand Strong Cont'd

environment and create new opportunities for themselves and their communities. Through tree planting, awareness campaigns, and grassroots initiatives, they are proving that they are a force for positive change.

But they cannot do this alone. The youth in Malawi need your support to make their dreams a reality. If you want to be part of this journey and make a meaningful difference, please consider donating to CEGEd today. Your contribution will provide these young people with the resources they need to build a sustainable, brighter future for Malawi.



Important Heating Instructions

The Boilers are timed to suit every group/meeting every week and unfortunately we were caught out on Sunday 27th. The boiler in the kitchen which also controls the heating in the large hall had been switched off on the Saturday and, this resulted in the big hall being cold for the time of Fellowship/Tea after morning worship.

To avoid this happening again, if any person/group need to adjust the heating could they please follow the instructions given above the control panel on the boilers.

If they are in doubt please contact me on 07907 686229. It's very unfair if one group is left with a cold building.

Thanks, Mary



Apology

A huge sorry to anyone who felt chilly in church, and more so in the hall on Sunday 27th. I'm the culprit who switched off the heating on Saturday at the Craft Fair and forgot to put it back on. Hope you all warmed up once you got home.

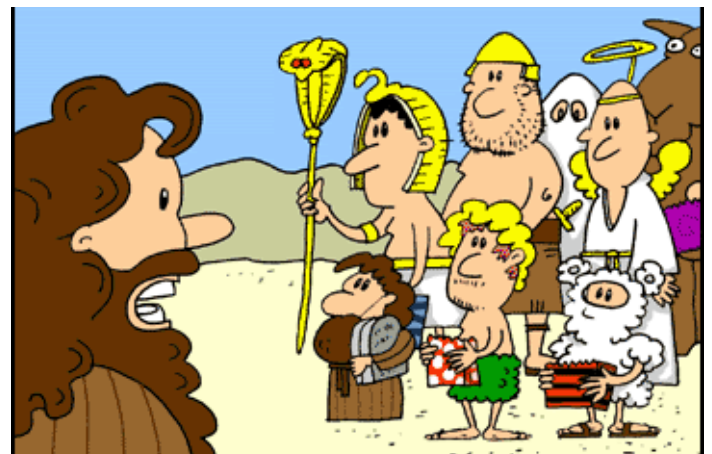
Pam xx



We're sure everyone would agree that there was enough warmth in the church and hall from the Fellowship to keep us warm.



CARAMEL APPLES seemed at first to be a great treat, BUT many in the Senior Bible Study would beg to differ.



Thanks to Tim Crain

10-27-2000

EVEN IF I DID WANT TO TAKE YOU ALL TRICK-OR-TREATING I COULDN'T, AS THERE ARE NO HOUSES IN THE WILDERNESS

Care & Share



The clocks have changed and so has the weather! Nice hot soup on Friday is now an essential.



We have had quite a few new friends joining us in the past few weeks. We hope they feel welcome. Some of the support services have restarted too.

Housing and Money Matters will be attending regularly.

We have also been blessed to find a new hairdresser who will be starting soon.

So if you fancy a nice lunch, a haircut and need help with finances we would love to see you any Friday.

Keep warm and safe.

Pam x

Argyle Community Shop

The shop remains very busy on Wednesdays and we have been signing up new members.



Membership is now almost 300. We have started a couple of new systems which seem to be working well and have streamlined the shopping experience.

Many thanks to Tony who has kept us well supplied with some fresh fruit and vegetables.

Last Christmas Angela's raffle raised over £1000 for our funds. She has started gathering donations again for this year. Watch out for tickets!

As always, we are very grateful for your continued prayers and support.

All at The Argyle Community Shop

Hymns of Praise

Thank you to everyone who submitted their favourite hymns for our 'Hymns of Praise' service on Sunday 27th October.

The addition of a baptism and the blessing of the Blythwood Shoeboxes on the same day meant that the service was somewhat longer than normal. But sitting up-front at the organ the sound of singing from the packed church was great to hear.

In total, we had no fewer than 73 hymns submitted from 36 slips that were returned. The Top 30 is shown opposite. We'll include many of the hymns not in the Top 10 in future services. We're also looking at holding a similar service probably around Easter-time next year.

In the meantime you can also use requests@kirkgatechurch.org.uk to email some additional requests on an ongoing basis for hymns or voluntaries that I'll try to include in future services.

Stuart McMahon

7 Votes

Be thou my vision

6 votes

Great is thy faithfulness

5 votes

As the deer pants

Be still for the presence

Thine be the glory

What a friend

4 votes

And can it be

I the Lord of sea and sky

O Lord my God

3 votes

Amazing grace

Dear Lord and Father

Make me a channel of
your peace

The Lord's my Shepherd
(Townend)

Will your anchor hold

2 votes

Be still my soul

Blessed assurance

Eternal Father strong to
save

Father I place into your
hands

How deep the fathers love
I serve a risen saviour

In christ alone

Longing for light

Lord the light of your love
Love divine

O love that wilt not let
me go

Tell out my soul

The king of love my
shepherd is

To God be the Glory
When I survey the
wondrous cross



HELPING LOCAL PEOPLE IN CRISIS

John Stewart has been involved as a volunteer with the local foodbank for a number of years, collecting donations at Tesco in Irvine and Saltcoats. For some reason or perhaps a number of reasons, donations in general have fallen off dramatically in the last year. This is at a time when demand for foodbank parcels has increased significantly.

If you would like to contribute some items for the foodbank please just bring them to the church – there is a collection box in the hallway or just pass them onto me – I would also be happy to collect any donations (phone me please, **John Stewart 07561 340886**) - I will deliver any donations to the Foodbank HQ in Ardrossan.

Many thanks to all who have contributed to the foodbank box at the church. We would be delighted to receive any further donations of non-perishable food or toiletries. There is always a big demand for long-life milk. All donations welcome – even just one item from this list when you do your shopping will make a difference – once again very many thanks.

Food

UHT milk
Tinned meat (Hotdogs, Meatballs etc.)
Tinned fish
Tinned fruit
Sponge/Rice puddings
Coffee (small jars)
Long-life juice
Pasta sauce
Tinned veg (potatoes, carrots, green beans, tomatoes)
Tinned meals (Spaghetti, Chilli, Chicken or Veg curries)
Tinned soup
Jam and Spreads

Non-food items

Shower gel
Shampoo/conditioner
Deodorant
Toilet rolls
Washing up liquid
Laundry detergent pods

Life & Work:

In the November Edition...

Remembrance

Islands Under Occupation: the wartime experience of a Channel Islands church
Remembrance Prayer from the Moderator of the General Assembly

'Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things'

The Guild's Annual Gathering



Presbytery Focus

Clèir Eilean Ì, the Presbytery of the Highlands and Hebrides

Care for Buildings

The Rev Scott Rennie of the General Trustees offers some tips on care for buildings in winter.

Walking the Camino

Anne Edwards describes the experience and lessons of a Santiago de Compostela pilgrimage.

'No Room for Comfort and Joy'

The Christian Aid Christmas Appeal

Regulars

The Moderator of the General Assembly on Remembrance

Worship column by the Rev Roddy Hamilton

Reflection by the Rev Dr Richard Frazer

The Rev Ruth Kennedy on digital church

Bible study by the Rev Richard Baxter

My Church: Gillian McLean of Corby, Northamptonshire

Youth: Joe Liddall looks back on his experience as a summer intern at an Edinburgh church

Plus: official update from the Assembly Trustees, readers' pictures, news, letters, reviews and puzzles – all for £3.50.

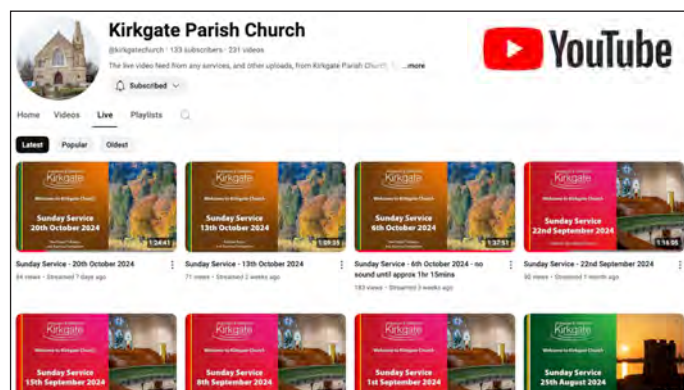
Visit www.lifeandwork.org/subscribe

Online with Kirkgate

Our **Sunday Service** is held at 10.45am and is also available online live via YouTube at: www.youtube.com/@kirkgatechurch with a recording available shortly afterwards on our website at www.kirkgatechurch.org.uk, Facebook, Twilio phone service and podcasting channels. Other services such as weddings or funerals can be live-streamed on request.

You can subscribe for free to our YouTube channel to get alerts on any new content - we now have 133 subscribers which is great. All past live-streams are online and can be viewed at any time - over 220 videos at present! Our livestreams currently attract between 80-100 views each week on average. We've had a couple of technical issues in recent weeks affecting the livestreams, but a recording of the service is usually available by mid-afternoon on the Sunday if there are any issues.

Please remind anyone who maybe doesn't have access to the internet that our free Twilio phone service (**01294 444201**) is available to them where you can listen to the weekly church service on the phone by dialling the local number above.



Usage of the phone service is still very low so please share that it is available. Every week the church service is split into two parts of approx 30-40 minutes each, which you can select by choosing either Option 1 or 2 on your phone's keypad.

Online Fundraising

Please remember to use easyfundraising.org.uk when you do your Christmas shopping. Over 8,000 retailers will donate to Ardrossan and Saltcoats Kirkgate Parish Church at no extra cost to you - so you can raise donations when you buy gifts, decorations, your festive food shopping or anything else! Please sign up and help us raise more.

With Christmas looming, then please consider signing up at www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ardrossanandsaltcoatskirkgate

We currently have 15 supporters who have raised a total of £122.75 to date for Kirkgate at no extra cost to themselves.

easyfundraising

Help us to raise free funds as you shop this Christmas

Every Christmas present you buy is a present for us!

Scan the QR code to make a difference every time you shop online
Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Download on the App Store GET IT ON Google Play

- 1 Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk
- 2 Sign up and search for Ardrossan & Saltcoats Kirkgate Parish Church
- 3 Your favourite retailers donate to us whenever you shop with them

Get free donations from thousands of retailers including:

Boots, eBay, M&S, Groupon, Argos, Etsy, John Lewis, Currys, H&M, ASOS, Apple, Very

Rota Page

SUNDAY DOOR DUTY AND COUNTING ROTA NOVEMBER/DECEMBER			
3rd November	J. Stewart	E. Green	S. Gill
10th November	M. Cooper	P. Martin	L. McDougall
17th November	E. McInnes	P. Armstrong	G. Armstrong
24th November	J. Rainey	F. Liddell	J. Hay
1st December	J. Stewart	D. MacLeod	E. Howie
8th December	M. Cooper	B. McWilliam	M. Hunter
15th December	E. McInnes	P. Martin	S. Gill
22nd December	J. Rainey	E. Green	L. McDougall
29th December	J. Stewart	P. Armstrong	G. Armstrong
2025			
5th January	M. Cooper	F. Liddell	J. Hay



Pastoral Team member Morag Forsyth 01294 463762
has volunteered to co-ordinate the names of recipients for flowers
and will keep Agnes Wilkie, Kathleen McIlreavy and Rebecca McLay,
informed of those in need as they are now the team
responsible for wrapping flowers for delivery.

VACANT DATES: 13th April & 11th May 2025

Should you wish to contribute flowers for the sanctuary.

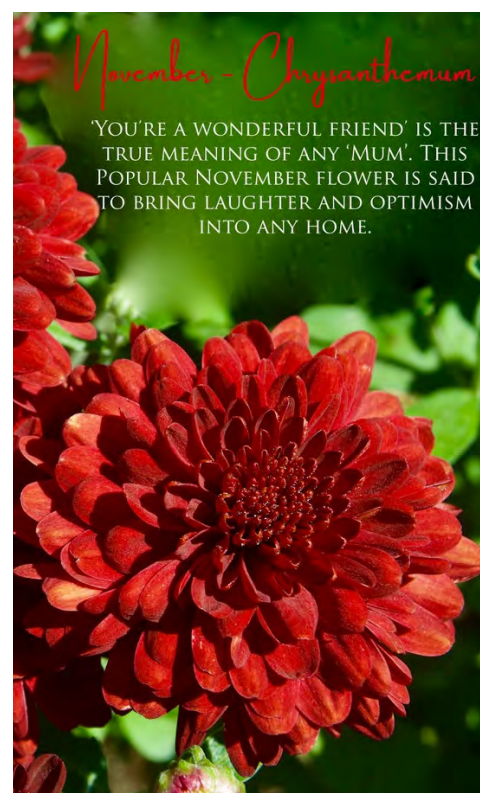
Please speak to Chrissie Baillie – Tel: 01294 463903

More volunteers are also required to distribute the flowers each Sunday.

Please speak to Elizabeth McMahon who does the delivery rota – Tel: 01294 464428



CHURCH FLOWERS NOVEMBER/DECEMBER		
	DONATED BY	DELIVERY
3 November	A. Buick	J. Hay
10 November	C. Meney	C. Ewing
17 November	S. McCulloch	E. McInnes
24 November	C. Gilmour	J. Rainey
1st December	J. Fox	D. MacLeod
8th December	E. Frew	M. Hunter
15th December	Anne Aitken	E. Green
22nd December	POINSETTIAS	No Delivery
29th December	POINSETTIAS	No Delivery
2025		
5th January	C. Baillie	M. Cooper



Who's Who in Kirkgate

Church Address: Chapelwell Street, Saltcoats KA21 5EB. Tel: 01294 472001

POSITION	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	EMAIL
Minister	Rev Nigel Chikanya	10 Seafeld Drive, Ardrossan KA22 8NU	Tel: 01294 683379 Mob: 07566 278132	NChikanya@churchofscotland.org.uk
Session Clerk	Vivien Bruce	57 Dockers Gardens, Ardrossan KA22 8GB	01294 605113	sessionclerk@kirkgatechurch.org.uk
Deputy Session Clerk	Mima McSwan	23 Springvale Court Saltcoats KA21 5LY	01294 602410	

POSITION	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Pastoral Care	See magazine article for various contact details		
Organist, Rollkeeper, Data Protection, Website	Stuart McMahon	93 Montfode Drive, Ardrossan KA22 7PH	07588 665191
Treasurer	John Stewart	5 High Road, Saltcoats	01294 464526
Gift Aid Convenor	George Armstrong	46 Whitlees Court, Ardrossan KA22 7PD	01294 466867
Freewill Offering Envelopes	Moira Cooper	1A Bridgepark, Ardrossan KA22 8BQ	01294 468851
Property Convenor	Margaret Cassidy	3 Eglinton Street, Saltcoats KA21 5DE	01294 605535
Safeguarding Convenors	Christine Ewing	210 Glasgow Street, Ardrossan KA22 8JS	01294 601700
	Elizabeth Howie	93 Argyle Road, Saltcoats KA21 5NE	01294 467881
Magazine Editor	Elizabeth McMahon	8 Kennedy Road, Saltcoats KA21 5NJ	01294 464428
Flower Convenor	Chrissie Baillie	40 Gladstone Road, Saltcoats KA21 5LD	01294 463903
The Guild	Secretary: Vacant		
Prayer Group	Margaret Cassidy	3 Eglinton Street, Saltcoats KA21 5DE	01294 605535
Craft Team	Jean Hay	18 West Doura Avenue, Saltcoats KA21 5NS	01294 469986
Country Dancing	Elizabeth Howie	93 Argyle Road, Saltcoats KA21 5NE	01294 467881

Kirk Session Committees

PASTORAL CARE:

Co-ordinators*: Mrs Evelyn Green

Miss Alison Buick	Mrs Jean Rainey
Mrs Moira Cooper*	Mrs Morag Forsyth
Mrs Jennifer Fox*	(telephone contact elder)
Mrs Maureen Hunter	Co-opted:
Mrs Fiona Liddell	Jean Hay*
Mrs Solveig McCulloch	Anne Aitken
Mrs Elizabeth McCracken	Phyllis Armstrong
Mrs Eunice McInnes	Christine Ewing
Mrs Barbara McWilliam	

PROPERTY:

Convener: Margaret Cassidy

Mrs Vivien Bruce	Mrs Pamela Martin
Mrs Jennifer Fox	Mrs Maureen Hunter
Mrs Annabelle O'Hanlon	

COMMUNICATION:

Co-ordinator: Mr Stuart McMahon

Vivien Bruce. Co-opted: Mrs Elizabeth McMahon

CHURCH & COMMUNITY:

Convener: Mr Andrew Bruce

Mrs Margaret Cassidy	Co-opted:
Mrs Pamela Martin	Mr David Macleod
Mrs Mary Stewart	Ms Fiona Wright

FUNDRAISING & SOCIAL:

Mrs Eunice McInnes	Co-opted:
Mrs Evelyn Green	Mrs Phyllis Armstrong
Mrs Jean Rainey	Mrs Jean Hay
Mrs Fiona Liddell	Mrs Carol Gilmour
	Mrs Allison O'Neill

FINANCE:

Convener: Mr John Stewart

Mrs Moira Cooper
Mrs Jean Rainey
Co-opted: Mr George Armstrong

Church Website: www.kirkgatechurch.org.uk



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