

## A message from our Minister

**Dear Friends**

How lovely it is to look out of the window at blue skies and beautiful autumn colours, to walk along footpaths kicking through leaves and feeling the crunch of beech masts underfoot. For me this season reminds me that all things must change, it also reminds me that I am getting older! At the end of September my Bible reading notes pointed me to psalm 71 and the words, "Even when I am old and grey, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your mighty acts to all who are to come." What a reminder to those of us who are, shall we say, a little older - a reminder that no matter our age we can still proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ.

This psalm echoes something of the realism that comes with ageing. The psalmist is anxious that God may overlook him in his old age and reminds God that he has been a disciple since he was young. Perhaps there are people of mature years who feel overlooked and forgotten. Their prayer is this psalm. Maybe it's your prayer too. And, like the psalmist, we need to capture the audacity of faith. "I will come and proclaim your mighty acts... I will proclaim." As I look around Stow Brae I see people of many different generations actively serving our Lord, from the youngsters and their enthusiasm brightening us all up just like spring flowers, through to those who may feel that winter is approaching.

During the school October week my little grandson had to collect things like acorns and conkers for school and as I looked at these I was reminded of all the promise that is held within an acorn, a conker, a beech mast - the promise of new life.

As we approach our autumn and winter (whether that be a long way off or just around the corner) the psalmist tells us, 'Though you have made me see troubles, many and bitter, you will restore my life again' Jesus Christ has promised new life to each and every one of us. So as we enjoy this season let us not forget just what Jesus promises and may we pray 'Father, I have lived through different seasons, but today I turn to you for a fresh encounter and ask that you would bless the generations after me. Amen.'

May we all know God's blessings as we travel through this life.

**Mhairi**

Please, if you know of anyone who is ill or in hospital, could you let me know?  
(Tel 0141 812 1425; email: [MBreingan@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:MBreingan@churchofscotland.org.uk))



## For the Fallen

**They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.**

Robert Laurence Binyon (1869-1943)

# Church Family

Bereavements since June 2019

Mr George Hill

Mrs Jean McCorkindale

Mrs Isobel Campbell

Mrs Mary Anderson

Miss Betty Sinclair



*Jesus said, 'I am the resurrection and the Life'  
Please remember, in our prayers, the families  
and friends of our faithful members now  
departed.*

## Messages of Thanks

Cards and messages have been received from members of our congregation who have been recipients of flowers, visits and good wishes over the last few months.

Mary McLanachan  
Dorothy Graham  
Jean Brunton  
Marge Donald  
Eleanor Curr  
Margo Miller  
M MacLeod  
Anne and Ian Russell  
June Peacock  
Janette Duncan  
Janet Beaton



## ICE CREAM SUNDAY

Ice Cream Sunday has been running for over a year now and our format is very simple. We have fun. Once a month, on the last Sunday of every month (excluding July, August and December) children of all ages meet in the large hall at 11 am. We have a theme each month which is followed up in the crafts, with table top games, run around games and ice cream at half time. We then go into the Church to show the Minister and Congregation what we have made. November will be focussing very much on all things Christmas which is bound to be a lot of fun, and probably glittery!

Our aim is to create a safe and fun environment for children of all ages in this ever changing world. Ice Cream Sunday has now become an established part of our Young Church activities and runs in tandem with the Sunday School.

Children and Grandchildren of all ages are warmly invited to come along whether they usually come to Church or not.



For this October's Harvest and Thanksgiving Service, the congregation were invited to provide donations of long life food items for Women's Aid. As can be seen below the response was amazing and was very gratefully received.





# The Guild

The Guild resumed from the summer break at the beginning of October. George Paul was our Speaker that evening. Most of our ladies recognised him as he has taken our services frequently over the past two years to cover holidays and illness. He talked about his previous career and his progression into Ministry and we all agreed it was so nice to see him again. The next evening Ewan McIntyre from Crossreach came to enlighten us about his day to day work dealing with those who have mental health problems and loneliness. Following on from there, Jodie McFarlane came to talk about the BB Shoebox Appeal and the tremendous work she and her organisation do for the poor and the homeless and so we, as a Guild intend to contribute to this worthwhile cause prior to Christmas.

We had a very successful "Autumn Leaves" afternoon mid-October where many folks attended and enjoyed tea, coffee and cakes. This is always a good time for meeting up and chat. It was nice to see our Interim Minister, the Rev. Mhairi Breingan, coming along too to enjoy the day.

We are looking forward to the remainder of our syllabus leading up to Christmas and are planning to have the Carol Service (The Paisley Guilds Together) in our own Church on Monday 2nd December at 2pm. to which all are welcome. Finally, our Christmas Dinner is again being held in Canal Station Restaurant to which we are all looking forward.

When we recommence in January please come along and join us on Monday evenings. We look forward to seeing you.

Pat Colgan (Convener)

## Friendly Hour

Tuesdays at 2pm in the large hall - All are welcome!

05/11	Christmas Craft Demo (I Woods)	07/01	Compass
12/11	Erskine—Colin McPhail	14/01	Memories of Scotland—Alan Downes
19/11	Rowanberries	21/01	Beetle Drive
26/11	Danny Harty	28/01	Burns afternoon—Danny Harty
03/12	Carol Service	04/02	Bell Ringers
10/12	Christmas Dinner	11/02	Street Wise





# 15th Paisley Boys' Brigade

We've had a very busy and successful start to our session and as I write this all sections are busy with preparations for their part in the service we're leading on 3 November. It's lovely, once again, to be able to share our take on God's message with you. With our coffee morning the day before it's sure to be a hectic weekend.

Our Anchors have grown in number since the start of the session having promoted a good number to Juniors at the end of last session. Both Anchors and Juniors have a new programme pack and Anchors have already enjoyed lots of new activities including a secret agent night decoding messages and a healthy choices evening when they were all able to correctly identify healthy options from unhealthy ones when blindfolded. They're full of energy and watching them put that energy into singing for the service is just a joy!

Juniors too have had new challenges but I think the one they had most fun with was the healthy heart night. I don't know which activity came out tops - the creation of fruit kebabs and even better the eating of them or using a water challenge to understand how hard their hearts work. They've also taken part in the Battalion's Ten Pin Bowling competition and although no prizes were won they had a great time. We entered a team in the football competition and with lots of effort and even a penalty shoot-out secured third place. Boys were thrilled to get medals and our thanks to parents for their support and especially to Graeme McKechnie who coached the team on the day.

In Company our boys have done exceptionally well in the competitions already winning both the Junior Quiz and the volleyball. That allows us to retain one trophy and add another to our collection underneath the stained glass windows in the church. Together with our service preparation we've also been studying for the Christian Faith competition with 2 chapters of Daniel and a New Testament reading too - lots to be thinking about! As well as all of that a few of our senior boys and two staff answered the call for help in painting the manse - with most never having painted before it was indeed a challenge but they did well and I know Hamish was very grateful for their help.

Last time I told you how we had lost two of our leaders. I'm delighted then to tell you that two of our boys, Craig and Matthew, offered their services as leaders and with Youth Leader training completed over the first weekend in October they're now fully fledged officers. It's wonderful when this happens and we wish them all God's blessing in their service to the Brigade. In addition Ian, with very little persuasion, agreed to be retained as a helper meaning we can call on him to help out when needed.

We've just booked up for our weekend camp next March. It's to a new venue and we're looking forward to different surroundings and new challenges. As mentioned earlier we have our coffee morning coming up and also we're again organising participation in the Jungle Bell run on 1 December both of which will help raise funds for our activities. Talking of funds, we were delighted when Ina and I went along to the Guild to support the speaker who was sharing information about 'The Night Before Christmas' boxes which we've helped with for a few years. At this meeting the Guild presented us with a very generous cheque to support our work. We were overwhelmed at their generosity and are so grateful for all the support they give us.

If you'd like to find out about more of our activities please visit our Facebook page - 15<sup>th</sup> Paisley Boys' Brigade. Thank you as always for your on-going support which really is very much appreciated.

Jan Phillips

Captain

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**All items for inclusion in the next edition to be received by Irene Gemmell no later than Sunday 26th January.**