



KILBARCHAN WEST

PARISH CHURCH

Newsletter

Autumn 2014

Dear Friends,

I am sure that the two questions which will be uppermost in the minds of many church members in Kilbarchan are these: when will the union take place? and which church building will be the place of worship for the united congregation? I am still not in a position to answer either of these questions, although I can explain what is holding things up.

The Basis of Union stipulated that an architect should be appointed to examine both buildings and come forward with a recommendation. The architect's report became available in late May. It recommended the West building. However, there does not appear to have been a great deal between the two and the East trustees are challenging it. Five office-bearers from each congregation have been appointed to meet together and try to resolve the difficulty. They have been meeting over the summer, but to date little progress has been made. I think we still need more time for both sides to listen to each other and perhaps gather more information.

The matter will not be allowed to drift on indefinitely. The office-bearers who are currently engaged in discussions have been given a deadline of mid-October, although they could conclude earlier if they wish. Thereafter their recommendation will need to be discussed and voted upon by the West Kirk Session and the East Session and Congregational Board. Subsequently, there will need to be congregational meetings in each church to consider their recommendation. At this stage you will have a say in the matter. If both congregations vote the same way, that is the situation resolved. Otherwise, it will need to go to arbitration which could take a while.

What arbitration involves is a panel of five people appointed from the Central Properties Department of the Church of Scotland. Their decision would be final and binding on both sides. I remain hopeful that this can be avoided. I consider it best if a decision can be made locally and both sides take ownership of that decision. For that reason I believe it is worth spending time in the present in the hope of getting it right.

However, even if we have to end up going to arbitration, the Presbytery will be able to set a date for the service of union as soon as the congregational meetings have taken place. We do not need to wait until we know the arbiters' decision.

I appeal for your patience as we continue with this process. I also ask for your prayers for those currently involved in negotiations. Both congregations cherish their current building. What we need is a vision for the church which will best serve the needs of the new Kilbarchan Parish Church in the future.

With best wishes to you all,

Yours sincerely,

Rev. Alistair N. Shaw,

Interim Moderator.

Dear Friends

What a great summer it has been.

The sun shone, Glasgow was buzzing and the Commonwealth Games have come and gone. I hope you have managed to have some time to relax and be refreshed.

The Commonwealth Games were a revelation. I managed at very short notice to see three events, each exciting in their own way. I will never forget 45000 people chanting U-GAN-DA at the rugby 7's in Ibrox stadium. In so many ways the Games lifted the spirits of so many people. The combination of the sun, the Games, the friendliness of Scottish people and the influx of so many visitors from other parts of the world made for a spectacular two weeks.

Elsewhere on the world stage there have been terrible tragedies, conflicts and atrocities. Iraq, Syria, Gaza, Israel, Russia, Ukraine. Nations featuring in the headline news day after day after day. We live in an unstable and insecure world. A world where at times some people find it easier to attach labels to others because of difference, some people always demonise the other failing to see a shared common humanity and some people allow the mistakes of the past to destroy the present and jeopardise the future.

We live in a beautiful world. We live in a crazy mixed up world. But this is God's world and we are called to be good citizens and live out our faith.

In a few weeks time we the people of Scotland have the opportunity to exercise our vote to determine our future. I'm not for one minute going to tell you how to vote, I'm not that silly. But you should exercise your vote. It is important.

Summer is almost over. Much work lies ahead.

May God grant us the grace and the courage to play our part in our church, community, nation and world.

Your friend

Stephen

PASTORAL CARE

On Saturday 13th September we will be joining the East Church on the Kilbarchan Church elderly outing to New Lanark. This is a new venture for us, being a lot further afield than our usual pastoral summer outing and we hope the sun shines for us. Thank you to the volunteer drivers for making this possible.

The Pastoral Team continues to try to keep our housebound members in touch with the church. We are always looking for church members willing to visit a housebound person on a fairly regular basis to keep them in touch with what is happening in our church family. If you can help please let me know.

Aileen Hardern tel 702855.



COUNTRY DANCING

For country dancers in Kilbarchan our Tuesday evening class resumes on the 9th September at 7.45pm. A refreshing cuppa is served at the interval when, as well as catching up on news, plans for our annual night out and our evening with Elderslie Kirk dancers is planned. As always we look forward to meeting again and would welcome anyone wanting to 'have a go', no experience necessary!

KILBARCHAN GUILD

As we work towards a union of East and West the two Guilds this year are meeting as one. After much discussion it was decided to have afternoon meetings instead of evening ones as previously and these will be on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 2.30pm. The first meeting will be in the East Church Hall on Tuesday 30th September when the Rev Stephen Smith will talk to us on the Guild theme 'A World to Serve.'



The meetings will be in both church halls alternately. Among the topics on offer for the next few months are 'Tales of the Central Hotel,' Beekeeping, 'Brownings the Bakers' and 'The Haven,' a drug rehabilitation charity. We look forward to welcoming back all our previous members and hope to see some new ones joining us as we start a new chapter in the life of the Guild in Kilbarchan.

Church of Scotland Safeguarding Service

Processing of application forms for The Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme is almost complete in Kilbarchan West, with the last remaining few being issued this month. Those who have already been issued with their PVG membership certificate from Edinburgh please note that *I require to know the date on your certificate.* Please pass this on to me if you haven't already.

Safe Recruitment

Any organisation considering recruiting new volunteers (or paid staff) must contact me before doing so as The Church of Scotland Safeguarding Service has set procedures that must be complied with. This also applies to anyone already having a PVG certificate.

Do not appoint anyone until the recruitment process has been completed.

Recognising and Reporting Abuse

Harm or abuse of children or vulnerable adults can happen anywhere – even in our Church communities. We all have a responsibility to ensure the Church is safe for everyone.

If you *suspect* harm, witness harm, or it is reported to you, you must immediately report it to your Safeguarding Coordinator or line manager.

As always do not hesitate to ask me or your group leader about any aspect of Safeguarding no matter how trivial it may seem. It's better to be safe than sorry.

Anne Whyte, Safeguarding Coordinator

KILBARCHAN JUNIOR CHURCH

Hello everyone we hope you have had a good summer holiday. Now we are back to our normal routines and we hope you will come and join us for crafts, quizzes and fun. If you have just started nursery or are in school up to Primary 6 please come and join us in the church halls on Sunday mornings from 10.45am to 12.00pm. We are in which ever church hall the church service is taking place and swap each week with Sunday 24th August in the East Church and then Sunday 31st August in the West and so on. Please check with the grown up who brings you to church.

We had great fun last session as we joined together and this year we go forward as a unified church youth organisation. This session we will all work together to celebrate Harvest and Christmas with lots of other activities along the way. Don't worry if you can't come along every week we know that you may have sports and other stuff on on a Sunday too. Just come along when you can and you will always be welcome.

We hope to see you soon.

Linda, Moira and Ros
Junior Church Team



1st Kilbarchan Boys' Brigade

The Company enrolled at the West Church at 7pm on Friday 8th August.

The Anchor Boys will run on a Friday night 6.00pm – 7.15pm in the East Church Halls, and is open to any young boy from the P1- P3.

The Junior Section will run on a Friday night 7.30pm – 9.00pm in the East Church Halls, and is open to boys of P4-P6 age.

The Company Section will run on a Friday night 7.30pm – 10.15pm in the West Church Hall, and is open to boys of P7-S6 age.

Three of our young men will be working towards the highest award in the Boys' Brigade the Queens Badge, Stuart Brown, Scott Simpson and Jack Miller. Best wishes to all three in their endeavours in trying to attain the Queens Badge.

James Murphy, Colin Robertson and Lewis Guthrie will receive their Queens Badge certificates at a Civic Reception held by the Provost in September.

There are many activities planned over the session for the boys from an overnight camp at Barnbrock to indoor rock climbing to our annual weekend camp.

W.C.Speirs

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RENFREWSHIRE FOODBANK



Renfrewshire Foodbank would like to thank everyone on behalf of Foodbank for your continuing support, this is much appreciated by the organisers. They are greatly impressed by the generosity of the people of Kilbarchan. At present the distributing store are running low on the following items. tinned vegetables, tinned potatoes. tinned soups, jams, marmalade, other spreads and pasta sauces.

Your continued support will enable more families to benefit through Foodbank.

Jack Miller



WORK PARTIES

The Work Parties continue to carry out repairs/enhancements on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. If you can help on either of these days, come along. Failing that, contact either Sandy Graham (346744) or Helen Robertson (325282) who will help you to help your church.

PRODUCE STALL

It has been quite a while since there was a Produce Stall and this is being rectified with occasional ones. The next one is on Sunday 14th September after worship. If you have surplus garden produce, preserves or perhaps you would like to do some home baking for it, please bring it on that morning.

PARISH REGISTER.

The Congregational Roll currently stands at 407.

Baptism:- 20th April, 2014 - Kade Gethin, infant son of Gareth and Gina Kynaston.
31st August, 2014 – Abbie Alexandra, infant daughter of Mark and Gillian Arbon

Death:- 13th May, 2014 – Margaret McKenzie.
7th July, 2014 - Ruth McBain.

New Member:- By certificate – Alice Brown from Paisley, St. Mark's, Oldhall.
(Now in District 1, Elder, John Lyle)

Members changing address:- June Barratt from District 7 to District 11 (Elder, John Fleming)



Sept. 7 th	East Church	Oct. 5 th	East Church - <i>Communion at 11am and 6.30pm</i>	Nov. 2 nd	West Church - <i>Communion at 11am and 2.00pm</i>
14 th	West Church	12 th	West Church	9 th	East Church <i>Remembrance Service at 10.45am</i>
21 st	East Church	19 th	East Church	16 th	West Church
28 th	West Church <i>Harvest Thanksgiving Service</i>	26 th	West Church <i>BB Enrolment</i>	23 rd	East Church
				30 th	West Church <i>Fair Trade Service</i>

LISTS when in WEST CHURCH

	CRECHE	COFFEE	FLOWER DELIVERY
31 st Aug.	May Whyte Ann McMurray	Yvonne Kane Irene Collinson	Mrs C Crabbe Miss H Robertson
14 th Sept	Jane Coventry Lesley Dickie	Jean Meikle Ethel Hamilton Catherine Connell	Mrs A Hardern Mrs E Gilchrist
28 th Sept	Christine McLeod Anne Arthur	Margaret Jamieson Mairi McLean	Mrs M Jamieson Mrs K Dale
12 th Oct	Irene McMaster Evelyn Connell	June Barratt Angela Murray	Mrs W Osborne Mrs A MacKinnon
26 th Oct	Anne McLeod Fiona Payne	Margaret Lamb Anne McCallum	Mrs E Kennedy Mrs R Borland
2 nd Nov	Janice Douglas Lisa Moore	COMMUNION NO COFFEE	Mrs M Morning Mrs C Florence
16 th Nov	Betty Cameron Joan MacKinnon	Rona Borland Anne Syme	Mrs C Crabbe Miss H Robertson
30 th Nov	Julie Johnston Mairi McLean	Margaret McIntyre Aileen Hardern	Mrs A Hardern Mrs E Gilchrist
14 th Dec	Ellen Osborne Tracey O'Hare	Yvonne Kane Irene Collinson	Mrs M Jamieson Mrs K Dale

Welcome and Offering Teams as shown on Noticeboard