

*Stamperland Parish Church Magazine*

# *Focus*



***March 2016***

<http://www.stamperlandchurch.btck.co.uk/home>

***Registered Charity No SC003155***

# **The Church of Scotland Stamperland Parish Church; Clarkston**

Registered Charity SC003155

Stamperland Gardens, Clarkston, Glasgow, G76 8LJ  
Church Telephone 0141 637 4999 (Answering Service)

(Interim Moderator) Gray Fletcher Telephone 0141 644 1578  
[grayfletcher@virgin.net](mailto:grayfletcher@virgin.net)

Locum Minister Jack Drummond 0141 571 6002

Session Clerk: Norman Bolton  
3 Paidmyre Crescent, Newton Mearns, G77 5AQ  
Telephone 0141 638 3502

Treasurer: Kay Bolton  
3 Paidmyre Crescent, Newton Mearns, G77 5AQ  
Telephone 0141 638 3502

Roll Keeper: William Paterson  
1 Orchy Avenue, Clarkston, G76 8LS  
Telephone 0141 571 8652

Life & Work & Focus Editing & Distribution: Fraser Neilson  
56 Stamperland Drive, Clarkston G76 8HF  
Telephone 0141 586 0955

Gift Aid Convenor: Norman Walker  
66 The Oval, Clarkston, G76

Weekly Freewill Offering Convenor: Anne MacKenzie  
76 Randolph Drive, Clarkston, G76 8AP  
Telephone 0141 637 5576

Halls Lets and Usage; Connell Cranston  
64 Riverside Park, Netherlee G44 3PG  
Telephone 07847588702

**Dear Friends,**



I read recently about an unusual gravestone which was erected in a cemetery in Hanover, in Germany. A lady who did not believe in Jesus' Resurrection decreed in her will that her burial place be made so secure that just in case there was resurrection it couldn't touch her. Enormous slabs of granite were fastened together with heavy steel clamps and placed over her grave. Inscribed on the granite were these words;

"This burial place must never be opened".

Time passed and gradually a small seed germinated just under the edge of the stone. It began to grow into a small tree and its trunk got bigger. At the same time the heavy slabs were shifted inch by inch, and the steel clamps were wrenched from their sockets. Even those enormous pieces of granite could not withstand the powerful life-force within that tiny seed.

This true story is a modern parable about Easter which we celebrate early this year, at the end of March. The wonderful message of Easter is that men and women, no matter what schemes are devised, cannot thwart the creative power of God

In first century Palestine, the Roman authorities and the leaders of the Jewish Church disagreed about many things. However, they co-operated with each other to hatch a plan to have Jesus put to death. They secured the assistance of Judas, one of Jesus' disciples, and arrested Jesus whilst he was in Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover Festival. The Romans and the Jews thought that they had devised a fool proof scheme to ensure that Jesus would be destroyed forever. They were powerful and influential, whereas Jesus was only a wandering preacher from Galilee. Or so they thought.

After Jesus' arrest, he went through a mockery of a trial during the night. The evil deed of execution by crucifixion had to be carried out as quickly as possible. So Jesus died on the cross on the day that we now call Good Friday. The enormous stone that was used to seal up Jesus' tomb would keep the grave as secure as the granite slabs used to secure that grave in Hanover. Or so they thought.

Today we know differently. The central message of the Christian faith is that God raised Jesus from death. God's power is infinitely greater than the power of political or religious authorities. It was because his disciples knew and saw for themselves that Jesus was alive again, that they left Palestine and travelled eastwards and westwards to share the good news that God had conquered death and that Jesus is alive for evermore. Most of the disciples even died as martyrs for their faith. No one dies for something that they know to be a lie.

The arrangements for our Holy Week Services and Easter Day Services are listed in the magazine and on leaflets prepared by Clarkston Churches Together. Please give your support and take time to reflect on the final days of Jesus' earthly life, and celebrate on Easter Day, 27th March, the Good News Bible that Jesus has risen. He is risen indeed!


Yours in Christ's service,

Jack Drummond

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Communion Roll Changes


**Change of Address:** *We hope you are happy in your new abode.*

		From:	To:
	Mr Connell Cranston Mrs Jean Cranston Mr Peter Searil Mrs Fiona Khan Mrs Heather Dempster	93 Nethercliffe Ave 93 Nethercliffe Ave 13 Ailsa Drive 18 Stamperland Dr 27 Bunberry Ter.E/K	63 Riverside Park 63 Riverside Park 36 Legatston Drive 142 The Oval 7 Guthrie Ter. Kilmarnock

**New Members:** "Welcome !" to:-

		
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**Members Leaving:** *Sorry you have gone, but you take our best wishes with you.*

	Mr Cameron Maclean Mr Robert Walker Mrs Catherine McCorkell Ms.Lynne Caldwell Mrs Gillian Kirkwood	204 Randolph Avenue 82 Moray Gardens 23 Eaglesham Road. 25 The Oval 102 Stamperland Dr.
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March Mirth!

The best way to remember your wife's birthday is to forget it once!

In a democracy it's your vote that counts. In feudalism it's your count that votes.

Two hydrogen atoms meet. One says, 'I've lost my electron.' The other says 'Are you sure?' The first replies, 'Yes, I'm positive.'

## Flower Calendar



<b>28th</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>Miss J Stewart &amp; Mrs E McPherson</b>
<b>6th</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>Mrs B Richmond</b>
<b>13th</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>Mrs M Neilson &amp; Mrs M Paterson</b>
<b>20th</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>Mrs W Paterson</b>
<b>27th</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>Mr G Fraser</b>
<b>3rd April</b>		<b>Mr G Robertson</b>

### A Date for Your Diary

I am holding a Coffee Afternoon in Stamperland Church on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2016 from 1.30 to 3.30pm, in aid of the Tribute Fund in the name of Margaret Taylor, with The Prince & Princess of Wales Hospice. As my Dad passed away last year this will be in memory of my Mum and Dad, a very devoted couple.



The Prince & Princess  
of Wales Hospice

Please put this date in your diary and come along to support a very good cause. We have made a lot of money in the past and hope this year's event will be as successful.

**Evelyn Graham**



### More March Mirth!

**Three boys** are in the school yard bragging about their fathers. The first boy says, "My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem, and they give him \$25."

The second boy says, "That's nothing. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a song, and they give him \$200."

The third boy says, "I got you both beat. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon, and it takes eight men to collect all the money!"



## Guild.



Mar 1 Visit to Dobbie's Garden Centre, Stirling

Mar 4 (Friday) World Day of Prayer

Mar 8 Cookery Demonstration,  
meals suitable for one person

Margot Young

Mar 15 AGM

Mar 22 HOLY WEEK

The World Day of Prayer Service is being held this year at Greenbank Parish Church on Friday the 4th March at 10.30am to which all are invited.

Although this is the end of our winter programme our Friendship evenings begin on the 26<sup>th</sup> April in the Session Room at 7.30pm. We meet on the last Tuesday of each month over the summer until August. Further details of the programme will be in the April Focus.

We wish everyone an enjoyable summer break in what we hope will be a summer of good warm sunny weather.

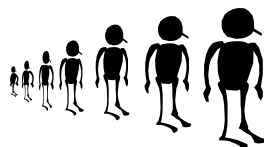
**Evelyn Graham, Guild Secretary**

### **Pastoral Care**

**Your Pastoral Care Team are here for you. If you need ;**

- **Transport to Church**
- **Hospital**
- **Doctors Appointment**
- **Shopping**
- **Could do with a chat**
- **Have a prayer request**
- 

**Please contact Grace Scott, 0141 637 2226**



## DUTY TEAMS FOR THE COMING MONTHS

### **Feb 7<sup>th</sup> – TEAM 2**

Mr G Fairweather (Con)  
Mr G Robertson  
Mr R Russell  
Mrs J Silcock  
Mr S Owens

### **Feb 14<sup>th</sup> – TEAM 3**

Mrs A MacFarlane(Con)  
Mr A Henderson  
Mrs S Skelton  
Mrs R McNiven  
Miss J Stewart

### **Feb 21<sup>st</sup> – TEAM 4**

Mrs N Fisher (Con)  
Miss J Barr  
Mrs J Cranston  
Mr G Finlayson  
Mrs K Bolton

### **Feb 28<sup>th</sup> - TEAM 5**

Mr R Allan (Con)  
Mrs J Herriot  
Mr J Curror  
Mr J Curror  
Mr S Russell

### **Mar 6<sup>th</sup> COMMUNION**

Mrs A MacFarlane (Con)  
Mr N Walker  
Mrs M Young  
Mrs J Silcock

### **Mar 13<sup>th</sup> – TEAM 6**

Mr A Graham (Con)  
Mrs E Graham  
Mr N Walker  
Mrs M Neilson  
Mrs K Baird

### **Mar 20<sup>th</sup> - TEAM 1**

Mr W Paterson (Con)  
Mrs M Young  
Miss L Robb  
Miss G Scott  
Mr D McKee

### **Mar 27<sup>th</sup> – TEAM 2**

Mr G Fairweather (Con)  
Mr G Robertson  
Mr R Russell  
Mrs J Silcock  
Mr S Owens

### **Apr 3<sup>rd</sup> – TEAM 3**

Mrs A MacFarlane(C)  
Mr A Henderson  
Mrs S Skelton  
Mrs R McNiven  
Miss J Stewart

### **Apr 10<sup>th</sup> – TEAM 4**

Mrs N Fisher (Con)  
Miss J Barr  
Mrs J Cranston  
Mr G Finlayson  
Mrs K Bolton

### **Apr 17<sup>th</sup> – TEAM 5**

Mr R Allan (Con)  
Mrs J Herriot  
Mrs J Curror  
Mr J Curror  
Mr S Russell

### **Apr 24<sup>th</sup> - TEAM 6**

Mr A Graham (Con)  
Mrs E Graham  
Mr N Walker  
Mrs M Neilson  
Mrs K Baird

Any duty member who cannot attend on any date allocated should arrange a substitute for that date and inform the Duty Convener.

## Church Diary for March



The diary is compiled from information submitted by Organisations and individuals advising of regular and one off events that could be of interest to all. As this is the first edition it is taken from the Sunday Worship Order of Service and Organisations who advise details in advance. If you wish to add anything to it at any time please e mail it forward to the editor at [cumbrae14@ntlworld.com](mailto:cumbrae14@ntlworld.com) giving meeting the same deadlines for the magazine as shown elsewhere. The success of this item will depend on support for it.

### Mar

Tue	1st	Guild Meeting - Visit to Dobbie's Garden Centre Stirling	11.00am
Tue	1st	Sounds International Concert	7.30pm
Wed	2nd	House Group Meets at 20 The Oval	7.30pm
Fri	4th	Guild - World Day of Prayer Greenbank. All welcome	10.30am
Sun	6th	Morning Worship - Communion	11.00am
Tue	8th	Guild Meeting	7.30pm
Sun	13th	Morning Worship	11.00am
Tue	15th	Guild Meeting- AGM	7.30pm
Wed	16th	House Group Meets at 7 Orchy Ave. All welcome.	7.30pm
Wed	23rd	Netherlee Men's Assoc. Visit to Glasgow Gurdwara, P/Shields	7.00pm

Wed      Weekly, Open Door Stamperland and Netherlee Churches



The Christian Aid Art Exhibition and Sale will be held in the Carmichael Hall , Eastwood Park, on Saturday 12th March from 10.00am to 4.00pm. Entry, including catalogue, tea/coffee and biscuits will be £2 for adults and 50p for children.

For those unfamiliar with the location of the Carmichael Hall , telephone Sandra Cowie as shown below or consult [www.cultureandleisure.org](http://www.cultureandleisure.org)

Donations of baking for the baking Stall will be much appreciated. If you would like this to be collected, again phone Sandra Cowie, or bring it to the Carmichael Hall on Friday 11th March between 10am and 4pm, or on the Saturday when we hope to see you there.

**Sandra Cowie 0141 585 7188**

## **Holy Week 2016**

Believe it or not, but Holy Week has been in the back of our minds since... well Easter Sunday finished in 2015! We were also heartened to hear the question being asked:

"I take it you will be leading Holy Week as normal this year? We hope so!"

And so by popular demand, listed below are the Holy Week Services for 2016. Please let us know if you wish to take part – the more the merrier! We look forward to sharing this joyous time of year with everyone at the following times. You can be assured of a warm welcome!

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March @4.30pm – Children's Palm Sunday Worship**

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March @7pm led by Scott Russell**

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March @7pm led by David McKee**

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March @7pm led by Steven Owens**

**Maundy Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March @7pm led by Rev. Jack Drummond and joined by Netherlee**

**Good Friday walk round Clarkston on the hour from 7am – 3pm  
(Stamperland service at 2pm)**

**Good Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March @6.30pm led by Rev. Jack Drummond**

**Good Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March @7.30pm in Netherlee Church**

**Easter Sunday Dawn – meet at the Church at 6.55am to travel to Linn Park followed by breakfast at Netherlee**

**Easter Sunday @11am led by Rev. Jack Drummond**

Happy Easter when it comes!

**David, Scott and Steven**

## Resurrection

It's quiet now in this still dead wood.  
 Sprouting from the cassocked grass  
 Tangled thickets of gnarled branches  
 Rest from the eternal struggle for growth and light.  
 On muddied pathways lie last year's fallen leaves,  
 Now trodden into mulch.

But soon the yellow headed heralds, revelling in their transient glory  
 will trumpet the arrival of spring.

The warmer air will thrum with the agitation of tiny insects.  
 Timorous voles will scurry out on perilous expeditions, wary of the  
 sloe-eyed fox.

Owls will twit and lovers woo, and  
 Raucous in the high nests, insatiable chicks will caw and cajole.

And this dead wood will be gloriously transformed,  
 Garbed in verdant splendour, the merry boughs garlanded with  
 frivolous blossom,  
 Soft as gossamer.

And humble man can only gawp and wonder at this ---  
 This truly miraculous resurrection.



**Donald Montgomery Winter 2015**

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**More March Mirth!**

**The Sunday School teacher** was describing that when Lot's wife looked back at Sodom she turned into a pillar of salt, when Bobby interrupted. "My mommy looked back once while she was driving," he announced, "and she turned into a telephone pole."

## 231st Glasgow Company Boys' Brigade – Junior Section and Sparks



Junior Section Boys Brigade activities have continued throughout February with the boys taking part in their usual weekly achievements, games and fellowship.

Recently we had a "Games and Challenges Night" where all the boys took part in different challenges to win points for their Group. Activities ranged from throwing balls into baskets, crawling through tunnels and building Jenga towers. They all enjoyed the evenings activities and the points gathered will be added to weekly Group totals and be put towards the "Best Group Award" at the end of BB year in May.

Friday evenings for our Junior Section usually ends with a short quiz, testing the boys' general knowledge, however on Friday the 5th February we decided to change things a little and had three rounds of 'ten pin bowling' to end the night. The boys really enjoyed the end to the night as tension built to see which Group would be crowned 'champion'. Liam Preston took a leading role for his Group and scored lots of points in round two and three to win the competition.

March is a busy month for the Junior Section with Swimming, Bible Knowledge and Figure Marching Competitions being held at Battalion level.

We hope that our boys enjoy the competitions that they enter and have as much success as possible. Look out for the results in the coming months in Focus articles.

Finally, we are planning a joint fundraiser for the Company and Junior sections on the 27th of March. Details are still to be confirmed however, so look out for advertising around the church regarding tickets sales.

**Scott Russell, 07917801622**

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### Errors in Church Bulletins!



Coming Up—Theological Open House. We discuss thought-provoking topics. Your opinions are hardly welcome.

All singles are invited to join us Friday at 7 p.m. for the annual Christmas Sing-alone."

Thursday night – potluck supper. Prayer and medication to follow.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and the community



# 79<sup>th</sup> Glasgow (Stamperland) Scout Group



## Beaver Colony

### Scout Challenger Badge

With the end of this session there are 3 Beavers moving up to Cubs. Cameron, Finn and Jamie, who have been with us for two and a half years, will be missed. Before they move to Cubs they have been helping the new beavers with their badge work.

The Beavers are working on their sports activity and cyclist activity badges. We are also working on the Communication and Safety activity badges, so busy times!

With Easter being early this year I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Happy Easter.

**Alison Macfarlane – Assistant Beaver Leader**  
**Tel: 0141 644 2712**

## Cub Pack

**New Members** - As indicated last month the Cub Pack has now officially welcomed Ethan, Finn, Jamie and Cameron into the Pack at Promise Ceremony in February.

**Activities** – to link in with the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Cub section the Cubs will be taking part in a number of activities to celebrate. The first of these is an outing to Snow Factor at Braehead for an evening of sledging & tubing.

During March/April the Cubs will be carry out small fun raising session to raise funds for a local community project (more details later) and to put towards their surprise sleep over in June.

**Badges** – All of the Cubs have been working towards their Disability Awareness badges and most are very close to completing this as I write. The Cubs have been working out how physical impairment would affect a persons daily life, looking at the church and other buildings to see how well they work or don't for those who could struggling to walk, hard of hearing or have limited sight. The leaders have been very impressed by their levels of engagement and very astute observations.

**Philip Moseley - Cub Scout Leader**  
**Tel: 0141 620 3146**

## **Troop & Explorers**

**Burns Night - January** - Leaders arranged a night for the scouts to take part in celebrating Robert Burns night, poet and lyricist. He is widely regarded as the national poet of Scotland. The boys had prepared poems and songs with various sketches for the night and were served with Haggis, neeps and tatties with our national drink, Irn Bru, by the leaders.

**Group's Annual General Meeting** – By the time you are reading this the Group's A G M will have taken place. This gives an opportunity for Leaders to meet with the parents and discuss the programme of events over the last year that their boys have been actively involved in. On the night a good turn out from parents and an interest of parents wishing to assist with the Beavers section, I will update you in the next issue of the Focus.

**First Response** - On Saturday 13<sup>TH</sup> February Leaders from all sections, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts took part in their ongoing training by completing the First Response course in First Aid which remains valid for a three year period: **Well done.**

**Lapwing Lodge** - As the Group celebrates its 75<sup>th</sup> year plans are in place for various activities to take place over the coming months. The first will be a weekend in April at Lapwing lodge when all sections will take part in the indoor /outdoor weekend with many fun activities and challenges programmed.

**Adventure Challenge Award** - Over the coming months the Scouts will be working towards the Adventure Challenge, taking part in four different adventurous activities. At least two of these activities should be new to them and they should try to do them on at least two separate occasions. Examples are; Abseiling /canoeing /climbing /cycling / hill walking /hiking /orienteering / snowboarding.

**North West Ghana** – John Bradley has been with the Scout Group for many years through the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and now Explorer Scouts. John has been selected by St. Ninians secondary school to assist in helping renovate classrooms and pupils living quarters with 35 other students from the school. In June/July of this year he will be away for 16 days and will have to raise £1500 to participate in this once in a life time experience. I'm sure he will enjoy improving the conditions for the pupils and teachers that he is going to help.

In September of this year John will start the first stages of his adult training within the group and I'm sure his venture to Ghana will be an experience that he will treasure all of his days. Watch this space.

**Joe Mailley – Scouter-in-Charge, Tel: 0141 571 0887**

## Potatoes, Eggs, and Coffee Beans

Once upon a time a daughter complained to her father that her life was miserable and that she didn't know how she was going to make it. She was tired of fighting and struggling all the time. It seemed just as one problem was solved, another one soon followed.

Her father, a chef, took her to the kitchen. He filled three pots with water and placed each on a high fire. Once the three pots began to boil, he placed potatoes in one pot, eggs in the second pot, and ground coffee beans in the third pot.

He then let them sit and boil, without saying a word to his daughter. The daughter, moaned and impatiently waited, wondering what he was doing. After twenty minutes he turned off the burners. He took the potatoes out of the pot and placed them in a bowl. He pulled the eggs out and placed them in a bowl.

He then ladled the coffee out and placed it in a cup. Turning to her he asked.

"Daughter, what do you see?"

"Potatoes, eggs, and coffee," she hastily replied.

"Look closer," he said, "and touch the potatoes." She did and noted that they were soft. He then asked her to take an egg and break it. After pulling off the shell, she observed the hard-boiled egg. Finally, he asked her to sip the coffee. Its rich aroma brought a smile to her face.

"Father, what does this mean?" she asked.

He then explained that the potatoes, the eggs and coffee beans had each faced the same adversity— the boiling water.

However, each one reacted differently. The potato went in strong, hard, and unrelenting, but in boiling water, it became soft and weak. The egg was fragile, with the thin outer shell protecting its liquid interior until it was put in the boiling water. Then the inside of the egg became hard. However, the ground coffee beans were unique. After they were exposed to the boiling water, they changed the water and created something new.

"Which are you," he asked his daughter. "When adversity knocks on your door, how do you respond? Are you a potato, an egg, or a coffee bean? "

Moral: In life, things happen around us, things happen to us, but the only thing that truly matters is what happens within us.

Which one are you?

To the Congregation of Stamperland Church,

We would like to introduce ourselves as the new Brownie leaders in Stamperland. We say new, however, both Alison and myself started out as young leaders in Stamperland before taking over a pack in Greenbank Church.

Having both taken some time out with our young families we decided now is as good a time as any to get back into Brownies and we are delighted to be able to come back to where we started. We took over at the start of January and since then, 7 girls have moved up to Guides and we are hopeful that we will have an influx of new girls by the time you read this article.

Alison and I have many plans for the girls, combining some traditional Brownie activities with some of their own ideas and adventures. We will keep you informed of our activities and the badges the girls will be taking part in as a Pack.

**Kirsty Stewart and Alison Gill**

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**The Chinese Farmer**

There is a Chinese story of an old farmer who had an old horse for tilling his fields. One day the horse escaped into the hills and, when all the farmer's neighbours sympathised with the old man over his bad luck, the farmer replied, 'Bad luck? Good luck? Who knows?'

A week later the horse returned with a herd of wild horses from the hills and this time the neighbours congratulated the farmer on his good luck. His reply was, 'Good luck? Bad luck? Who knows?'

Then, when the farmer's son was attempted to tame one of the wild horses, he fell off its back and broke his leg. Everyone thought this very bad luck. Not the farmer, whose only reaction was, 'Bad luck? Good luck? Who knows?'

Some weeks later the army marched into the village and conscripted every able-bodied youth they found there. When they saw the farmer's son with his broken leg they let him off. Now was that good luck? Bad luck? Who knows?



## 75th Anniversary Service

To mark the 75th anniversary of the first ever Sunday service in Stamperland Church our morning service on Sunday, 14th February 2016, was held



in the Large Hall. The service was well-attended and it was good to see quite a few “visitors” amongst the congregation. Holding the service in the hall brought back memories to quite a number of our members who could recall the early days of our Church when Sunday services were held in what is now the Large Hall.

I would like to extend my thanks to everyone who worked hard to prepare the hall for the service, especially the BB boys, on their return from football, and then return everything “to normal” at the end. Thanks too, to the ladies who donated baking, served tea and coffee and then washed and dried dishes. The 75th Birthday Cake, donated by Margot Young, was ceremoniously cut by Mr and Mrs Muncie who were the last couple to be married in the hall church. After the service the cake was taken to Clarkston Care Home as a gift to the residents.

And a special “thank you” to Jack Drummond for leading worship and for his very appropriate selection of hymns from CH2. I could see that many in the congregation didn’t need to look at the words in the order of service - the words were easily recalled from the distant parts of the memory, and Duncan’s piano playing caught the spirit of these days.

**Norrie Bolton, Session Clerk**



## SHARING IN PRAYER - March 2016



The story behind the painting of the Last Supper is extremely interesting and instructive.

Two incidents connected with this painting afford a most convincing lesson on the effects of thought in the life of a boy or girl, or of a man or woman.

The Last Supper was painted by Leonardo Da Vinci, a noted Italian artist. The time engaged for its completion was seven years. The figures representing the twelve apostles and Christ himself were painted from living persons. The live model for the painting of the figure of Jesus was chosen first. When it was decided that Da Vinci would paint this great picture, hundreds and hundreds of young men were carefully viewed in an endeavour to find a face and personality completely devoid of dissipation caused by sin.

Finally, after weeks of laborious searching, a young man, nineteen years of age, was selected as the model for the portrayal of Christ. For six months Da Vinci worked on the production of this leading character of the famous painting.

During the next six years Da Vinci continued his labours on his sublime work of art. One by one, fitting persons were chosen to represent each of the eleven apostles, space being left for the painting of the figure representing Judas Iscariot as the final task of this masterpiece. This was the apostle, you remember, who betrayed his Lord for thirty pieces of silver.

For weeks Da Vinci searched for a man with a hard callous face, with a countenance marked by scars of avarice and deceit, who would betray his best friend. After many discouraging experiences in searching for the type of person required to represent Judas, word came to Da Vinci that a man whose appearance fully met the requirements had been found. He was in a dungeon in Rome, sentenced to die for a life of crime and murder. Da Vinci made the trip to Rome at once, and this man was brought out from his imprisonment in the dungeon and led out into the light of the sun. There Da Vinci saw before him a dark, swarthy man, his long shaggy and unkempt hair sprawled over his face. A face which portrayed a character of viciousness and complete ruin. At last the painter had found the person he wanted to represent the character of Judas in his painting.

By special permission from the king, this prisoner was carried to Milan where the fresco was being painted. For six months the prisoner sat before Da Vinci, at appointed hours each day, as the gifted artist diligently continued his task of transmitting to his painting this base character in the picture representing the traitor and betrayer of the Saviour.

As he finished his last stroke, he turned to the guards and said,

"I have finished, you may take the prisoner away" he suddenly broke loose from their control and rushed up to Da Vinci, crying as he did so.

"Oh, Da Vinci, look at me! Do you not know who I am?"

Da Vinci, with the trained eyes of a great character student, carefully scrutinised the man upon whose face he had constantly gazed for six months and replied;

"No, I have never seen you in my life until you were brought before me out of the dungeon in Rome."

Then lifting his eyes toward heaven, the prisoner said, "O God, have I fallen so low?"

## SHARING IN PRAYER - March 2016

Then, turning his face to the painter, he said,

"Leonardo Da Vinci, look at me again, for I am the same man you painted just seven years ago as the figure of Christ!"

This is the true story of the painting of the Last Supper that teaches us so strongly the lesson of the effects of right and wrong thinking of an individual. He was a young man whose character was so pure and unspoiled by the sins of the world that he represented a countenance and innocence and beauty fit to be used for the painting of a representation of Christ. But during the seven years following a life of sin and crime, he was changed into a perfect picture of the most notorious character ever known in the history of the world. (Anon)

### ***The Empty Tomb***

*On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightening stood beside them. In their fright, the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them,*

***"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.'***

*Then they remembered his words. When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. Peter however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.*

*(Luke 24:1-12)*

UCB Radio Presenter Jess Cook says:

'Growing up, Easter was always about the chocolate hunts my parents used to do. I wasn't a Christian so I totally didn't get the significance of the celebration and it was just a nice time of year where we'd eat chocolate and have a few fun crafts. I remember, however, the first time I felt like I properly 'got it' .... in my mid-twenties, a simple Easter Sunday morning service in my small local church, and for some reason the joy in the run up of lent and on the day itself was infectious.

From then on, Easter has been a significant thankful time of year and I try and make it as important in our house as our Christmas celebrations. Where would I be without Easter?...it doesn't bear thinking about, Thank you God that I'm forgiven and You're full of grace; I'd be lost without it!

**God's Blessing** If you are finding it difficult to see how God has blessed you, ask Him to make it even more obvious to you. Pray that He would protect you from doubt.

**Gratitude** Ask God to give you a renewed awareness of His blessings, especially where they may not be obvious. Thank Him for all the wonderful things He provides.

**God's Blessing** If you are finding it difficult to see how God has blessed you, ask Him to make it even more obvious to you. Pray that He would protect you from doubt.

**Sing .....** *He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today.*

*He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.*

## Church Membership Statistics

At the meeting of the Kirk Session on 10<sup>th</sup> January, Bill Paterson, our Church Roll Keeper, presented the following summary of changes to the membership roll.

<b>Number on Communion Roll at 31/12/2014</b>	<b>347</b>
---	------------

Number removed by death	16	
Number added by profession		6
Number added by transfer from another church		1
Number added by "otherwise"		4

<b>Number on Communion Roll at 31/12/2015</b>	<b>342</b>
---	------------

The number on the membership roll continues to decline and, over the period since 1992, we have lost an average of nine members per year. Adding six new members by Profession of faith in 2015 was a significant positive event.

Reducing numbers mean that the financial costs of maintaining the church fall on fewer shoulders (including yours) and that the job of proclaiming the Christian message in Stamperland and district increasingly falls to you.

**Norrie Bolton Session Clerk**

+++++

## Stated Annual Meeting

The Stated Annual Meeting will be held in the church on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2016 starting at 7.30 pm. The Annual Report and Accounts for the year 2015 will be presented at the meeting and there will be reports on some of last year's activities and achievements as well as information regarding those which are planned for the current year.

The meeting gives the opportunity for members to learn of the financial position of the church, to hear about the work involved in maintaining the buildings, in keeping the premises safe and secure, in trying to reach out to our local community. It provides you with the opportunity to ask questions about what our church is doing, suggest new and different ways of doing things and to assist in developing the church and its role in Stamperland.

The meeting is open to all members of the church. Please do come along and show your support for your church and your interest in its future!

**Norrie Bolton, Session Clerk**

# COFFEE BREAK

## More Church Bulletin Mistakes!



### Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 240

Matt. 5:31-42

L	O	R	D	H	B	E	Y	O	N	D	E	F	I	W
C	F	T	I	C	T	E	A	S	Y	L	P	M	I	S
I	O	A	V	H	H	P	T	R	A	E	W	S	R	O
N	R	E	O	E	G	R	K	E	T	P	E	C	X	E
U	C	R	R	E	I	D	C	N	K	H	M	I	L	E
T	E	G	C	K	R	S	A	O	P	A	E	P	N	M
R	S	S	E	A	M	I	L	E	S	E	O	O	P	A
E	E	S	E	Y	E	A	B	M	T	E	R	L	C	D
H	B	H	S	N	R	C	E	O	P	H	C	S	C	E
T	K	O	O	E	H	E	O	S	T	N	A	M	O	W
I	I	Y	R	E	S	T	T	M	T	O	N	O	K	N
E	N	H	A	R	H	U	G	L	M	I	N	A	A	K
A	G	V	S	P	O	E	A	N	U	I	O	T	E	E
R	E	S	I	S	T	W	O	C	O	D	T	H	R	E
N	P	L	E	M	A	R	I	T	A	L	A	S	B	P

### Sermons of Jesus

ADULTERY	BLACK
ANYONE	BREAK
BEYOND	CHEEK
BORROW	CLOAK
CANNOT	EARTH
CAUSES	GREAT
COMMITTS	HEARD
DIVORCE	KEEP
EITHER	KING
EXCEPT	LONG
FORCES	LORD
HEAVEN	MADE
MARITAL	MILES
PEOPLE	OATHS
PERSON	RESIST
SOMEONE	RIGHT
STRIKES	SIMPLY
SWEAR	TOOTH
THRONE	TUNIC
WOMAN	WIFE

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a  
Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

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MORE PUZZLES AT:  
<http://biblewordgames.com>

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The service will close with "Little Drops Of Water." One of the ladies will start quietly, and the rest of the congregation will join in.

Miss Charlene Mason sang, "I will not pass this way again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

## Stamperland Congregation's own Page for Messages

This is the page for your Good Wishes, Get Well, Happy Birthdays, Wedding Anniversaries, A Thank You, or any other message you wish to make.

*I would like to thank the Rev Jack Drummond for the hospital visits, and recently the visits since coming home. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank members of the congregation for their cards, phone calls and best wishes, during my recent illness, and to Anne Mackenzie for bringing me the Church flowers.*

*Yours,*

*George Fairweather*

*What a nice time I had at the Anniversary Service on Sunday 14th February. The flowers I was given just made my day and Brenda was delighted too. Thanks to all involved,*

## Settling Accounts

To pay for his education, a poor boy used to sell goods from door to door. One day, the young boy found he was really hungry but had no money to buy any food. He decided to ask for something to eat when he knocked on the front door of the next house.

A beautiful young woman opened the door, and the boy lost his nerve. He simply asked for a drink of water, too embarrassed to ask for food. The young woman brought him a glass of milk, which the boy greedily drank.

The boy asked her how much he owed, but she simply smiled and said her mother had taught her to be kind to others and never expect anything in return. The young boy left the woman's home with a full tummy and a heart full of renewed strength to push on with his education and continue working hard. Just when he was ready to quit, the woman had instilled in him newfound faith and fortitude.

Years later, in a big city, renowned surgeon Dr. Howard Kelly was called to consult on a woman who was suffering from a rare disease. When the woman told him the name of the small town where she lived, Dr. Kelly felt a faint memory arise in his mind, and then suddenly recognition dawned on him. She was the woman who had given him the glass of milk many years ago.

The doctor went on to provide the woman with the very best care and made sure she received special attention. In fact, it was his skills as a doctor that saved her life. After a long and difficult hospitalisation, the woman was finally ready for discharge home.

The woman was worried it would take her years to settle her account with the hospital. Her serious illness and long hospital stay had produced a substantial bill. However, when she received the bill, she found that Dr. Kelly had paid the entire bill himself and written a small note for her.

The note simply stated: Paid in full with a glass of milk.

+++++

### Much More March Mirth!

**After explaining the commandment** to honour your father and mother, a Sunday School teacher asked her class if there was a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters. One boy, the oldest in his family, immediately answered, "Thou shall not kill"



St Andrew's Church  
146 Main Street  
BARRHEAD  
G78 1SG

www.eastrenfrewshirefoodbank.org.uk  
www.eastrenfrewshirefoodbank.org.uk

Tel: 0181-5250

Monday 25 January 2016

Dear Evelyn,

Once again it is my pleasure to write on behalf of East Renfrewshire Foodbank to thank those of you in Stamperland Parish Church for the donation of food uplifted on Friday 22 January.

The total weight amounted to 24.4 Kg. This will feed days.

As we discussed previously, the updated list of food although we ran out of UHT milk and creamed rice n



For some time the majority of clients were single people but of late there have been more large family requests. The allocation of food for large families is considerable so the support from everyone is still very much appreciated.

I enjoy our exchange of news about church life. Hope your joint Session meeting went well.

On behalf of the ER Foodbank Management Team, Steering Group and Volunteers please convey our thanks to the congregation/members and friends of Stamperland for their generosity in giving continued support to this Christian based project.

Sincerely,

Ag Law  
Ag Law

PS. Thank you for the lovely spray carnations - beautiful colour.

East Renfrewshire Foodbank is run in partnership with local churches facilitated by St Andrew's Church  
Registered charity number: SC036700 Registered in Scotland

## Distribution of Focus



Issue	Copy Input on or before	Electronic Input on or before	Collection Date for Distribution
April	13th March	17th March	27th March
May	17th April	21st April	1st May
June	15th May	19th May	29th May



It is several years since, as a congregation, we collected for Starter Packs, so this year we have decided to support them again, by making a collection as detailed in their poster on page 27 where the items required are shown.

Stamperland has been very generous in the past with donations and we hope that we will be as successful with our collection this time.

All donations can be brought to the Church on Sunday mornings 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> March or on Wednesday mornings 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> March between 10.00am and 12.00 noon when Open Door is on.

Why not call in with your donation on a Wednesday morning and have a cup of tea or coffee and join the fellowship.

By whatever means you choose, you will enable Stamperland Church to help those not as fortunate as ourselves.

Thank you, in anticipation,

**Parish & Beyond Committee**





## East Renfrewshire Food Bank

We have received another thank you letter from East Renfrewshire Foodbank thanking the congregation for the donation of food uplifted in January 2016. Please see the copy of the letter separately in Focus. As you will see from the letter the weight was considerably down from the previous month but this was due to there being more boxes of cereals. The letter also states that the **Foodbank ran out of UHT milk and creamed rice. We would be happy to receive either of these items at any time.**

For the month of March we are requesting:

**Instant Mash Potato**  
**Sponge Pudding (Tinned)**  
**Toiletries for men and women.**

If you would prefer to donate any of the other items from the East Renfrewshire Shopping List please refer to the list as shown.



### SHOPPING LIST

Thank you for your support!

- \* Milk (UHT or powdered)
- \* Sugar (500g)
- \* Fruit Juice (carton)
- \* Pasta Sauces
- \* Tomatoes (Tinned)
- \* Tinned Veg
- \* Cereals
- \* Dried/ Boil in bag Rice
- \* Tinned Meat/Fish
- \* Instant Mash Potato
- \* Sponge Pudding (Tinned)
- \* Rice Pudding or Custard (Tinned)
- \* Tea Bags/inst coffee
- \* Tinned Fruit
- \* Jam/Spreads
- \* Biscuits or snack bars

### ALSO COLLECTING

- \* Toiletries men and women
- \* Nappies & Baby Food
- \* Treats

East Renfrewshire Foodbank is a project of churches and community working together under charity no: SC029653

## **More March Mirth!**

**Going over our church finances** I found a receipt from a local paint store signed by someone named Christian. I wasn't aware of anyone buying paint, so I called the store to point out its mistake.

"I'm sorry," I told the manager, "but there are no Christians here at First Baptist Church."



**STARTER PACKS GLASGOW**

**HELP!**

**BY DONATING YOUR UNWANTED HOUSEHOLD GOODS  
YOU CAN HELP SOMEONE TO REBUILD THEIR LIFE.**

**HELP YOUR COMMUNITY AND YOUR PLANET!**

### **WHAT DO WE DO?**

Starter Packs Glasgow sources household items on a predominantly re-use basis and redistributes these goods in the form of starter packs to households making the transition from homelessness to the taking up of new permanent tenancies.

### **WHAT CAN YOU DONATE?**

**CROCKERY** - Plates, bowls, tumblers, mugs, storage containers. **KITCHEN UTENSILS** - pots and pans. **BED LINEN** - duvet covers, blankets, towels and curtains. **CLOTHES**. Small **ELECTRICAL ITEMS** in good working condition such as kettles, toasters, dvd players, radios, irons etc. Any other **GENERAL HOUSEHOLD GOODS** such as washing up liquid, cream cleaner, toilet rolls, soap etc.

### **WHERE ARE WE?**

 Burleigh Street, Govan, Glasgow G51 3LA.

**CONTACT:** Tel: 0141 440 1008 • Email: [administrator@starterpacks.org.uk](mailto:administrator@starterpacks.org.uk)

**[www.starterpacks.org.uk](http://www.starterpacks.org.uk)**

**Life & Work**  
**March 2016 Edition**



**Easter 2016**

The Rev Professor David Fergusson considers the place of Holy Saturday in the journey to Easter

Easter prayer from the Moderator of the General Assembly

Ron Ferguson ponders the place of Easter in Scotland today

The Very Rev Dr James Simpson considers the message of hope on the road to Emmaus

**‘Life is Not About Making Money’**

Jackie Macadam meets Iona Bain, a young Christian and writer on ethical finance

**Friends, Sticking Together and Bolivia**

The final three projects chosen by the Guild for their latest partnership programme

**Tales of Iona**

Dr David R Smith highlights the development of a new game designed to share the treasures of Iona with a new generation

**A Medieval Parish**

John R Hume traces the rich history of Currie Parish Church

**An Enduring Legacy**

During a Moderatorial visit to Egypt, the Rt Rev Dr Angus Morrison discovers that a ‘forgotten’ Scottish missionary is still revered by the country’s Christians

**The Uncharted Waters**

Hannah Mary Goodlad draws parallels between fishing and faith

**Plus** news, reviews, letters, registers and crosswords – all for just £2.20

**Online** Journey through Holy Week with the Life and Work contributors at [www.lifeandwork.org](http://www.lifeandwork.org)

***Reproducing Life and Work articles:*** Parish newsletters are welcome to reproduce articles by Thomas Baldwin, Jackie Macadam, Ron Ferguson and James Simpson, provided you acknowledge Life and Work. For other authors, please contact us first on [\*magazine@lifeandwork.org\*](mailto:magazine@lifeandwork.org)



# Kids Bible Wordsearch

## Plants of the Bible Puzzle #5

Fit the words in the list into the diagram below reading forward, backward, up, down, diagonally, always in a straight line.

ALMOND  
ALOES  
APPLE  
ASH  
BALM  
BARLEY  
BEANS  
CINNAMON  
CUCUMBERS  
DATE  
FIG  
FLAX



GARLIC  
HYSSOP  
JACINTH  
LEEK  
MELONS  
MILLET  
MINT  
MULBERRY  
MUSTARD  
MYRTLE  
RYE  
SAFFRON  
THISTLE

March 2016

## Pastoral Care.

A few months ago we introduced a Library service to you, and this month would like to commend this to you again. Kay is able and willing to exchange your library book, assist you with future choices of your favourite authors, or like authors. Additionally she can provide listening books and large print books. If you are not already a member of the library Kay will happily see to this for you. With winter coming in, why not make use of this great service? We hope you will.



Remember that we are only a phone call away to help you with shopping, getting to Church, hospital and doctor's appointments and any other assistance that we can help you with.

# **Pest-Master**

Environmental Services  
**[www.pest-master.com](http://www.pest-master.com)**

Pest Control • Deep Cleaning • Washroom Services

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Glen Burrett  
Area Manager

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Telephone: 0141 586 0239  
Mobile: 07949 020598  
Email: [pest-master@bigfoot.com](mailto:pest-master@bigfoot.com)

Unit E  
Duchess Place  
Glasgow G73 1DR

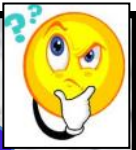


**Our local one stop shop for DIY and hardware items, with the attraction of advice when needed. Save a drive elsewhere.**





32.



# David Milligan Quiz 2016

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at 7pm  
in the Church Hall

Adults £5

Children £2

Family Ticket, 2 adults and 2 children £10

Ticket price this year includes a buffet  
instead of paying extra for a fish supper

Come along for this always amazing night!

For more details, please speak to David McKee