

FAIRLIE PARISH CHURCH NEWS



www.fairlieparish.co.uk

fairliechurchnews@gmail.com

Reg. Charity SC 017304

MINISTER: Rev.Dr. Graham McWilliams

Tel: 07853 774 383

E-Mail: gmewilliams@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk

Mrs ALISON McKELLAR
4 Sempie Crescent Tel: 560069
sessionclerk@fairlieparish.co.uk

Church Secretary

LINDA BEVERIDGE
St Columba's Parish Church
Largs, KA308LX
Tel: 01475 686212

Hall Convener:

Mr JOHN WHITTAKER
3 Southannan Road, Tel:568005

Treasurer:

Mr TOM McLAUCHLAN
18 Kelvin Street
LARGS KA30 9BA
Tel: 07944 705681

Music Director:

Mr CHRIS KELLY
Tel: 07813 343440
c kelly1812@hotmail.co.uk

Gift Aid Convener:

CHRISTINE THOMAS
18 Brisbane St, LARGS, KA30 8QN
Tel: 338564

Editor:

Mr CHRIS COWPE
Rockhaven, Main Rd.
Tel: 568215
fairliechurchnews@gmail.com

Distributor:

Mrs CAROL McDOWELL
3 Montgomerie Cr.
Tel: 07929878517

Flower Convener:

Mrs JOAN MILES
Tel: 568141

FAIRLIE:PARISH CHURCH is a LINKED CHARGE with LARGS:St.COLUMBA's PARISH CHURCH

DECEMBER 2019 / JANUARY 2020



— Celebrate JESUS —



Dear All,

When it comes to the season of Christmas many of us are filled with mixed emotions. We naturally look back to how life was before; when our parents were alive; when our children were young; when snow fell on Christmas Day; and when people seemed to be happier. These are natural emotions.

Today, we are constantly being told that Christmas is a time of celebration. But the world has changed so much that, sometimes, it is actually quite difficult to celebrate. And what exactly are we meant to be celebrating? With all the recent political uneasiness and increasing levels of poverty, there seems to be less and less *to* celebrate. So, why should Christmas Day be any different from the rest?

Well, Christmas Day should be a special day, different to all the others in the year, because on Christmas Day we remember the birth of a baby whose life would change the world: Jesus.

Like today, the birth of Jesus took place at a time of great uncertainty. The political rulers of the area were in turmoil and called for people to travel great distances to be registered. It was a bit like being involved in a general election; which always seems to happen at an inconvenient time. And, so, Joseph and Mary had to travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem, in Judea. Their journey was long. Their arrival was unnoticed. And the town was busy; so busy that there was nowhere for them to stay.

No doubt exhausted, numb from the travel, and with their own mixed emotions, in the midst of the mayhem, Mary was about to give birth. Thankfully, someone saw sense and offered the homeless couple a place to rest: a stable, where, not too long afterwards the baby was born.

In circumstances reminiscent of today, a new life came. A new life which would shape the world. A new life born into difficult times. Yet, with all the problems that existed 'hope' emerged. And it is the cause of that 'hope' whose birth we remember and celebrate on Christmas Day. For, in that hope, we can know the joy of God through Jesus, God's son.

It's natural to reminisce at this time of year and think that life was better yesterday, compared to today. Every generation before us has said the same. But, just as the hope of Christ sustained the lives of our parents and grandparents, I pray that this same hope found in Jesus will sustain us all through the years to come: until we see our children and grandchildren grow up. And, surely, that is something worth celebrating.

I hope that this Christmas you will find time to reflect on the past but also to give God thanks for the present time. His gift of Jesus has brought hope to the world. I pray you can share in that hope and celebrate.

With every blessing, *Graham McWilliams*

CRIB SERVICE at FAIRLIE

On Christmas Eve at 6.30pm there will be a simple Family Crib Service. Through readings, prayer, and carols the characters of the nativity will be put in place to remind us of how the special events of the birth of Jesus happened

DIARY

November

Fri 29 th	2.30pm	Set-up for Christmas Market
Sat 30 th	2pm - 4pm	CHRISTMAS MARKET in Church

December

Sun 1st	9.45am	Morning Worship
	10.45am	Fairtrade Stall in Session House
	6.30pm	Bible Discussion (Millennium Room)
Tue 3 rd	2.30pm	GUILD 'Postman to Pulpit' Andy Black
Wed 4 th	2pm	Guilds Together St Cuthberts, Saltcoats
Thu 5 th	10.15am	Short Prayer Time in Church
	10.30 - Noon	Kirk Café
	6.15pm-7.30pm	Brownies
Sat 7 th	4.00 - 6.00pm	Messy Church
Sun 8th	9.45am	Morning Worship
Tue 10 th	12.30pm	Guild Christmas Lunch, Village Inn
Wed 11 th	2pm	Guilds Together, Stevenston, Ardeer
	6.30pm	Carols by Candlelight, St Columba's
Thu 12 th	10.15am	Short Prayer Time in Church
	10.30 - Noon	Kirk Café
	6.15pm-7.30pm	Brownies
Sun 15th	9.45am	Morning Worship
	6.00pm	Christingle at Fairlie
Tue 17 th	7pm	An Evening of Christmas Celebration
Thu 19 th	10.15am	Short Prayer Time in Church
	10.30 - Noon	Kirk Café Mince Pie Special
Sun 22nd	11am	Morning Worship at St Columba's (No Service at Fairlie)
Tue 24th	6.30pm	Crib Service
Wed 25th	9.45am	Christmas Day Worship
Sun 29th	11.00am	Morning Worship at Fairlie (Note the TIME)

January

Sun 5th	9.45am	Morning Worship
	10.45am	Fairtrade Stall in Session House
Tue 7 th	2.30pm	GUILD 'Rev Dr Graham McWilliams'
Thu 9 th	10.15am	Short Prayer Time in Church
	10.30 - Noon	Kirk Café
	6.15pm-7.30pm	Brownies
Sat 11 th	7pm	Charity Concert in Church
Sun 12th	9.45am	Morning Praise
	6.30pm	Bible Discussion (Millennium Room)
Thu 16 th	10.15am	Short Prayer Time in Church
	10.30 - Noon	Kirk Café
	6.15pm-7.30pm	Brownies
Sat 18th	4.00 - 6.00pm	Messy Church
Sun 19th	9.45am	Morning Worship
Thu 23 rd	10.15am	Short Prayer Time in Church
	10.30 - Noon	Kirk Café
	6.15pm-7.30pm	Brownies
Sun 26th	9.45am	Morning Praise
Thu 30 th	10.15am	Short Prayer Time in Church
	10.30 - Noon	Kirk Café
	6.15pm-7.30pm	Brownies

February

Sun 2nd	9.45am	Morning Worship
	10.45am	Fairtrade Stall in Session House
	6.30pm	Bible Discussion (Millennium Room)
Tue 4 th	2.30pm	GUILD Zoe McLean 'Canine Partners'
Thu 6 th	10.15am	Short Prayer Time in Church
	10.30 - Noon	Kirk Café
	6.15pm-7.30pm	Brownies
Sun 9th	9.45am	Morning Praise
Thu 13 th	10.15am	Short Prayer Time in Church
	10.30 - Noon	Kirk Café
	6.15pm-7.30pm	Brownies
Sat 15th	4.00 - 6.00pm	Messy Church

WELCOME TEAMS



24 th Nov	Mrs A Tyler, Mrs E Rhodes, Mr F Donnachie
	Mrs A Gregory, Mrs J Miles, Mrs S Kirkwood
1 st Dec	Mr J Whittaker, Mrs A Ellor, Mr I Hunter
	Mrs P Wilson, Mrs J Busby
8 th Dec	Mrs E Clark, Mr J Cowan, Mrs L Cowpe
	Ms Anna McDonald, Mr A Holden
15 th Dec	Mrs C Brown, Mrs F Grant, Mrs M Gilchrist
	Mr R Wilkinson, Miss C Gardner
25 th Dec	W Hastie, Miss Helen Mitchell, Mrs D Stewart
	Mr J Stewart, Mrs P Black, Mr J Black
29 th Dec	Mrs M Rankine, Miss M Keir, Mr J Riddell
	Mr J Henderson, Mrs C Thomas
5 th Jan	Mrs A Tyler, Mrs E Rhodes, Mr F Donnachie
	Mrs A Gregory, Mrs J Miles, Mrs S Kirkwood
12 th Jan	Mr J Whittaker, Mrs A Ellor, Mr I Hunter
	Mrs P Wilson, Mrs J Busby
19 th Jan	Mrs C Brown, Mrs F Grant, Mrs M Gilchrist,
	Mr R Wilkinson, Miss C Gardner
26 th Jan	Mrs E Clark, Mr J Cowan, Mrs L Cowpe
	Ms Anna McDonald, Mr A Holden
2 nd Feb	W Hastie, Miss Helen Mitchell, Mrs D Stewart
	Mr J Stewart, Mrs P Black, Mr J Black
9 th Feb	Mrs M Rankine, Miss M Keir, Mr J Riddell
	Mr J Henderson, Mrs C Thomas
16 th Feb	Mrs A Tyler, Mrs E Rhodes, Mr F Donnachie
	Mrs A Gregory, Mrs J Miles, Mrs S Kirkwood

COFFEE ROTA



24 th Nov	Ann Gregory	Marion Gilchrist
1 st Dec	Pat Johnston	Jennifer More
8 th Dec	Elsie Rhodes	Lynn Whittaker
15 th Dec	Christine Thomas	Shona Kirkwood
25 th Dec	Ann Gregory	Marion Gilchrist
29 th Dec	Pat Johnston	Jennifer More
5 th Jan	Elsie Rhodes	Lynn Whittaker
12 th Jan	Christine Thomas	Shona Kirkwood
19 th Jan	May Cowan	Maureen Rankin
26 th Jan	Ann Gregory	Marion Gilchrist
2 nd Feb	Pat Johnston	Jennifer More
9 th Feb	Elsie Rhodes	Lynn Whittaker
16 th Feb	Christine Thomas	Shona Kirkwood

FLOWERS

Please contact me if fresh flowers are required during December and first 2 weeks of January. *Joan Miles*



19 th January	Pam Wilson
26 th January	Pat Johnson
2 nd February	Helen Newton
9 th February	Elsie Rhodes

THE GUILD



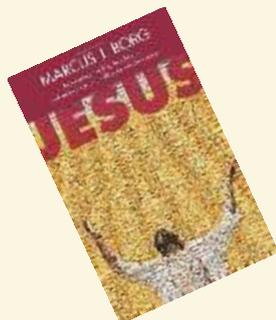
There was a full church for our November meeting when we entertained the Largs Guilds. Crossreach were unable to provide a speaker, but the Reverend Jim Whyte ably came to our rescue and gave us a most interesting talk about Glasgow Cathedral.

Our next meeting will be on 3rd December when we welcome another previous minister, the Reverend Andy Black, whose subject will be "Postman to Pulpit". On that afternoon Catherine will be collecting £13 from you to pay for the Christmas lunch the following week on 10th December. You will also have to choose 2 courses from the menu.

We start the New Year on January 7th when we are delighted to welcome Graham, our minister, who will speak on the Guild theme. This will be followed on February 4th by a visit from Zoe McLean about Canine Partners. We hope that she will bring her dog!

BIBLE DISCUSSION

Bible Discussions 6.30pm on the first Sunday of each month **



Come and join us in the Millennium Room
6.30pm
Just for an hour

Next meetings are on
1st Dec.
**12th Jan. and 2nd Feb.

Prilla Thorburn 01294 822956

READERS



24 th Nov	Marion Gilchrist	568645
1 st Dec	Catherine Brown	568200
8 th Dec	Fiona Grant	568270
15 th Dec	Ann Ellor	568583
25 th Dec	May Cowan	568793
29 th Dec	Ann Tyler	568421
5 th Jan	Judith Howieson	568314
12 th Jan	Pam Wilson	568653
19 th Jan	Pat Johnston	568424
26 th Jan	Elsie Rhodes	568393
2 nd Feb	Marion Gilchrist	568645
9 th Feb	Catherine Brown	568200
16 th Feb	Fiona Grant	568270

An Evening of CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Fairlie Seasonal Singers
BEC Brass Band

Tuesday 17th December 7pm



CHOIR - MUSIC
SONGS - CAROLS

In Fairlie Parish Church
Donations at the Door

Fairlie Parish Church

CHARITY CONCERT

Saturday 11th January
7pm in the Church

Mixed Choir
+ Soloist's



In aid of 'RISE' &
Glasgow Childrens Hospital
Neo Natal Clinic

SEMPLE CENTRE / HAYLIE HOUSE

Coffee Morning

Saturday 1st February

In the Church - 10am to 11.30am



RAFFLE - BOTTLE STALL - GIFTS
TEA - BAKING - COFFEE

Donations please on Friday 31st Jan. from 2pm onwards

SHOEBOXING - Blythwood Shoebox Appeal 2019



Wow! What a great effort by all who supported the appeal this year! Sincere thanks to all who donated items, shoe boxes, paper, filled boxes, knitting, everything which is needed to complete a box and to all who donated money for items and to transport the boxes. Thanks to all who came along to sort and fill boxes, especially the children from Fairlie Primary who joined us in the church. The total number this year was 197 boxes (33 from Fairlie Primary) and £591 for transport. These went with our love and good wishes for Christmas to the people of Kosovo, via the depot in Irvine. A great effort by all



KNIT and NATTER



All the hats, scarves and gloves which were knitted by the group were included in the shoe boxes. Many baby hats have been knitted and received by the group and we are ready to send them off to the baby units in our local hospitals. Blankets have been sewn up from the squares received, into baby blankets. We have welcomed some new members and the sharing of patterns is a bonus. We are knitting for family until we find more projects.

My challenge is to knit socks, something I have not attempted since school days. The other knitters have lots of advice to give and help is always on hand. Beginners are welcome!

Our Christmas Knit and Natter will be on Wednesday, 11th December from 1pm to 3pm in the Millennium Room, for cuppa, chat and Christmas goodies.



Fairlie Church continues to donate generously to the foodbank. Thank you !
The church is generally open on MON, WED, THU, & SUNDAY mornings for food to be left in the baskets at the rear of the church.

Ferry Row B&B

A quiet and relaxing B&B right down by the sea !

Visit us online - www.ferryrow.co.uk

10 Ferry Row, Fairlie Tel: 01475 568 687

Technonerd

Desktop, laptop or tablet computer not doing what you bought it for?

Get a computer technician to help solve the issue

Contact Adam on:
07769 819 723
technonerd@gmx.com

Local and mobile
Quick response

WREATH LAYING at the WAR MEMORIAL 2019



Beautiful clear skies greeted the congregation as they came out of church for the short wreath laying this year at the War Memorial. Poppy wreaths were laid by local authority representatives as well as those by the Brownie Pack.

SCOTTISH BIBLE SOCIETY



'Transform' is the new look magazine from the Scottish Bible Society this Autumn. It is full of encouraging stories from Scotland and around the world of how God, through the Bible, is transforming people's lives.

'Everyone. Everywhere.' It is estimated that by 2020, up to 80% of the world's population will be using a smartphone. A ground-breaking project is being launched with other bible societies and organisations worldwide to harness the power of technology to build an app which will deliver inspirational, specially selected, daily Bible verses in the user's chosen language wherever they are in the world. In Scotland, it is planned that a wide variety of resources and ideas will help local churches grasp this opportunity.

'Children have their say' is another article about an independent, academic researcher's visits to children to hear their opinions on the Bible. 'Journey towards healing' is an update of those working with Trauma Healing in Scotland. 'Digital Millennials and the Bible' looks at newly published research which shows that 1 in 5 UK Millennials (18-35 yr olds) read, listen or engage with the Bible at least weekly, shattering a prevailing media narrative that young people are not interested in or engaged in Christianity.

'Bake for Bibles' It seems the country has gone cupcake crazy so this project gives the opportunity to combine talents to raise prayer and financial support for SBS.

'Hope Amidst Hostility' Andy Wallace reports on his recent visit to Southeast Asia

and the challenges Christians face in Laos and Cambodia. This magazine is available for free from the vestibule of church. Please help yourself and enjoy a good read.



01475 560133 **No. 75** Hair & Beauty
Ladies & Mens Hair Stylist
75 Main Road, Fairlie
Appointments or Call-in
01475 560133
Have that New Year Cut & Style
CHRISTMAS GIFTS CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE

HUTTON JOINERY
Quality as Standard
Joinery - Carpentry
Repairs - Decking
Double Glazing
For a free estimate call or e-mail Rob
01475 568 378
07986 770 755
huttonjoinery@outlook.com

Rambling ROSE

Every time I pass the old Fairlie School I think it is so sad that such a lovely building has been left empty for so long. I don't even know to whom it belongs. Could Fairlie not take charge of it again, maybe for a new library? - mind you it is up a high hill and no lift so perhaps not for us oldies!

I wonder how we could persuade Clydeport to stop not working at weekends. Mind you, I think I said in my last newsletter that I never work on Sundays, but they stop on Saturdays as well.

Another moan before I cheer up. If you are in Morrisons and leave there to walk down to Largs you pass on over the Gogo Burn, with beautiful decorations on the side of the bridge. It seems such a shame they have not been repainted. I don't know whose job that is, but if you do know, please ask them to do it.

It is amazing that a seemingly ordinary man who lived in Fairlie could ever think of stealing the "Stone of Destiny". There used to be a shore path with a way into the Fairlieburne Hotel and Ian Hamilton came in a lot and went in to the Hotel (there was no license then) so he was obviously just being chatty, I think he lived in Allanton Park, so he perhaps enjoyed the walk. I hope he has written it all down in his memoirs. A while after, I definitely remember seeing the "stone" tucked into the burn at the south side, but can't remember for how long. That wee or big burn is amazing as it now has "wee dippers dashing up, down, and across. They are not always there, but some days you can be lucky.

If you go to the first house on the left after the burn, I remember calling at the first house on the left after the burn where I got water for the chickens that we kept nearby. Once when I called at the wee cottage the radio was on and I heard them announce Prince Charles was born! - A long time ago, as I believe he is now over 70.

Fairlieburne House was built on the shore at Burnfoot. It then changed into a hotel which we owned. It is so very sad what happened to the building. We decided we had to sell it and we did. It was run very successfully as a fine restaurant by Billy and Diane Kerr. Subsequently it was resold and it was demolished in 1990. I remember trying to contact the council but it was a holiday weekend so I couldn't do anything. No longer tennis courts, vegetable garden with beautiful greenhouses against the wall. No longer the wee cottage, or the wee house at the Southend.

I know there are many local people enjoying the flats and houses that now stand there, but sadly for me that's what it was. Of course I enjoy meeting many of the occupants and I am not blaming them. Just so sad to see what happened.

*You make grass grow for the cattle and plants for us to use, so that we can grow our crops and produce wine to make us happy, olive oil to make us cheerful and bread to give us strength.
Psalm 104: --14-15.*

Rosemary Jarvie

RETIRING KIRK SESSION MEMBERS

Some of our elders have decided that the time has come to retire from an active roll. They are Judith Howieson, Helen Mitchell, Margaret Keir, Rosemary Jarvie, Douglas Hamilton, John Stewart and John Henderson. The Kirk session would like to thank them all for many years of work for Fairlie Parish Church. They will be missed from the Kirk Session but will still be members of the church.

Alison McKellar

Please Note
On SUNDAY 22nd December
There will be a JOINT NATIVITY SERVICE at
St Columba's at 11am

There is NO Fairlie Service that day

On SUNDAY 29th December
There will be a JOINT SERVICE
at Fairlie Church at 11am
and no service at 9.45



LILYBANK

Self catering, two bedroom,
HOLIDAY FLAT
in Bay Street, Fairlie

Sleeps four - Linen & towels provided



FreeWi-fi

 Find us on
facebook.

TELEPHONE

01475 568439

www.facebook.com/Lilybank-833125933426824/?fref=ts



Walk This Way

Passionate and reliable
dog walking and sitting

by experienced professional

Alistair Beveridge



Tel: 07832 245618

eMail: alistairbv85@gmail.com



DOG WALKING - DAYCARE - BOARDING

**Get
Messy!**

**It all happens
at Messy !**

**Messy
CHURCH**



In October, our theme was loyalty, love, family and refugees, all explored in the story of Ruth and Naomi. A huge display of painted handprints 'Hi 5'd God to show our love and loyalty; dolly peg characters were produced for the story; woven mats reminded us of our friends, family and God weaving our lives together; decorating a plate to resemble an apple; and best of all making popcorn in a pot and hearing it 'pop' then adding butter, salt or maple syrup before eating it. Yummy! This reminded us of Ruth working in the harvest fields.

Roads and Journeys was the theme for November, when we found out the routes the Blythswood Shoe boxes would take to reach the children and adults for Christmas. Keeping us safe on the road and the journeys we take, made us think not only of the routes we take but the people who help us on our life journeys. Thanks to Avril, Fairlie's lollipop lady for lending us her lollipop for the afternoon. Our activities included a game of Traffic Lights; making road signs for life's

journey; lollipop lady biscuits; drawing our journey from home to church; making sandals; and the challenge of the month - using old shoe boxes and other junk to make a car with 4 wheels which moved. Some really great vehicles were designed and all were able to travel.

After all our activities, we gather together for a time of celebration - story, songs and prayer. We had a visit in November from a great traveller from Bible times, Paul, who told us of a dream he had and his long journey to set up churches in Macedonia, which is modern day Turkey. Celebration time is followed by a tasty meal when we can sit round a table with our families and friends and enjoy being together

Messy church is for everyone, no matter what age, and all are welcome to our

**Messy Christmas, on
Saturday, 7th December
from 4 to 6 pm**

So come along and join us for our Messy Christmas celebrations.

SANTA'S SLEIGH VISIT



Santa's Sleigh will visit Fairlie on 9th and 10th December, when Santa, Mrs Claus and the elves will have presents and sweets for all youngsters who come out to see them.

On Monday, the sleigh will be in Keppenburn Avenue, Craig Hill Way and Montgomerie Drive, and on Tuesday, you'll find it at the school gates, Castlepark Drive, Bay Street and Marine Court. The sleigh will start out at 5.30pm each night

– listen for the bells and come out to see Santa!

VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

The Christmas Tree Lighting at Fairlie Village Hall will be held on

Wednesday, 4th December at 7pm.

Musical entertainment will be provided by

Fairlie Primary School, and the Margaret Currie Award will be presented to the Fairlie Young Citizen Of The Year.

All welcome.



VILLAGE HALL CINEMA presents



Tuesday, 17th December - Christmas Double Bill

2pm (doors open 1.30pm) - the ultimate feel-good film about George Bailey (James Stewart) and his guardian angel!

5.30pm - comedy about Buddy (Will Ferrell), a human being who thinks he's an elf!



Tuesday, 21st January at 2pm (doors open 1.30pm)

Classic Rogers and Hammerstein musical about Laurey and Curly and the surrey with a fringe on top!



Friday, 24th January at 6.30pm (doors open 6pm)

Live remake of the 1994 cartoon featuring Simba, Pumbaa and Timon!



Tuesday, 18th February at 2pm (doors open 1.30pm)

Sequel to the TV series about the Crawley family and staff!

Friday, 28th February at 6.30pm (doors open 6pm)

Comedy based on the horribly historic books and TV series!

The terms of our licence mean we can't advertise the names of the films,

but get in touch if you can't work them out (Tel. 07958 048908)!

Entry is free (donations welcome) and snacks and refreshments will be on sale for funds.

All welcome (under 8s must be accompanied by an adult).

Greenock Philharmonic Choir
Conducted by Andrew McTaggart

Invites you to celebrate Christmas
with them and special guests
The Riverside Youth Band.

Saturday 14th of December at 7.30pm
in Lyle Kirk, Figgart St Pauls,
Newark Street, Greenock
Tickets £10 (under 18s free)
Phone 07847230529 or at the door
www.gpcphm.co.uk

Used Stamps Reminder.

Thanks to everyone who has been putting used stamps in the vestibule. Our collection is growing.

Christmas cards will soon be arriving for us all, lots with stamps attached. Please save your used stamps if you can, for our contribution towards World Mission 2019 stamp appeal. They can be left on the vestibule shelf any time you're passing.

Liz Clark

NEXT ISSUE

The Next edition of the Newsletter will cover FEBRUARY.

Last date for copy is 21st January and sorting will be on 29th January

Newsletter on the WEB

The Church Newsletter is on the Web in the first week of the month on the Church Website - www.fairlieparish.co.uk

Views expressed in articles in the newsletter are those of the contributor, and do not necessarily represent those of the editor, minister, or the church generally.
Other editors are welcome to use dates & events for publicity purposes but articles remain the intellectual property of the writer and may not be distributed without consent