



NEWARTHILL AND CARFIN PARISH
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
(SCOTTISH CHARITY NUMBER: SC005427)

THE HERALD

Hello Again

As I write this letter, summer has come. It is a lovely day. Of course, knowing our weather by the time, you read this it might be pouring rain. But I am going to look on the bright side and hope that this nice weather will stay around for a bit longer.

Now I want to tell you a joke.

It goes like this -

"God created man first then he made woman, which only goes to prove everybody deserves a second chance".

I believe God has a sense of humour. Jesus certainly did, as most of his parables depend on humour to work.

So, I am sure he does not mind me making a joke like that, which reminds me of another joke; one person says to another, "God must have a sense of humour he made you."

That is OK. It is fun but sometimes we seriously accuse God of making a mistake.

That is what we do every time we question his will or his ways.

But I want to think about one very serious way we accuse God of being wrong. It is pointed to in the jokes I just told. It is when we put people down, when we humiliate someone or when we treat them as second rate, when we do not listen to their opinions, when we assume they don't know what they are talking about, when we think, "It's just so and so. How could he/she know anything about that?"

We have all been victims of people like that and it is not a nice feeling.

But we should remember that when we put someone down like that and do not give them due respect we also insult God because God made them. And God does not do second rate

Maybe we can't like everybody, but let's respect everybody and treat them courteously and kindly.

I am going to end with my favourite Bible Verse.

1 John 4:11 Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

May I wish you all a happy and warm sunny summer. Enjoy your holidays and comeback renewed and refreshed; ready to serve our Lord

Best wishes

Elaine



Personal Invitation

On Sunday 4th June, the Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated in the Church at 11:15 a.m. A cordial invitation is extended to everyone to join us in the celebration of this, the greatest of all mysteries.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is available to all who love the Lord and are in full communion with any branch of the Christian Church.

Session Clerk Report

By the time you read this, I will have been Session Clerk for over three months. Time really does fly past. I am very privileged to be chosen to work in Newarthill and Carfin Parish Church.

I am very thankful for the support shown by Session, as this is a very steep learning curve. I have to thank Ann Pickering for over twelve years of service, given to our church as Session Clerk. I owe Ann a great deal for the help she continues to give me as I learn the duties of a Session Clerk. She has carried out her duties faithfully and with great integrity. She will be a very hard act to follow. It was with sadness that Session accepted Ann's resignation but we recognise her need to be with Laura as she faces her illness, treatment and future surgery. It is to be hoped that her surgery will be very soon and her recovery good. We will continue to pray for both Ann and Laura and the wider family at this time.

Although Ann has resigned from Session Clerk, she will continue to work in our church in other roles. I don't think she believed me when I said that when you give up one work for the Lord, He promptly finds you another.

We also, at this time, thank Isabelle Brownlie who has acted as treasurer for the past four years. Isabelle has worked quietly and diligently through a lot of difficult times and is to be commended that the church ended 2016 with a healthy bank balance. We are very grateful for her work.

We also thank Joyce Lightbody for her many years as Presbytery Elder, where she was our church representative at Presbytery. Joyce carried out this duty faithfully and only gave up due to being unable to attend meetings.

Matthew 25:21

21 "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

We will have had our spring fayre on 20th May bringing in much needed funds, but bringing the workers together, building up our congregation. We need to show our thanks to all who contribute to make our fayres a success. It would be good to have more people involved in these activities. You will be surprised how much fun is to be had in hard work.

Coming into the hopefully warmer weather, if anyone has spare time to give, we now have a group of gardeners who come together mainly on a Wednesday morning to do some gardening at the church. 5 or 10 minutes gardening each, a bit of a blether and our church gardens are looking very good indeed. Weeds have been removed and new plants put in and all who have taken part in this venture have enjoyed the work.

If everyone gives or does a little, a lot will be achieved, either in money or in effort. A bit like the widow's mite, look after the pennies and the pounds will look after themselves. We should all join together to build each other up, to grow the church and spread God's word into our community.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing

Sheena Torrance—Session Clerk

14 May 2017



May 2017

Mission, Education and Discipleship

Hi.

It's me again wearing a different hat. I just want to say a few words about the committee, to tell you what we do.

God calls on his church to first educate themselves, to study our bible find out what God wants, and to learn about the world so we can best serve the world and bring people into our fellowship, bring people to know Jesus. We need to understand what is going on around us so the Church can be relevant. That explains the Education part of our title.

We also need to educate each other i.e. advise and counsel, warn and occasionally even admonish (in a kindly way). That is the discipleship part of our title.

Finally, once we have made ourselves the best we can be, we have to go out and bring people into the church, not for its own sake but so we can teach them about Jesus and his love. That is the Mission part of our title.

The MED Committee is the part of session that takes the practical lead in doing all this. It is a huge task and we are few. So today I am appealing for more members. Can I just point out that what I am about to say is true for all our committees?

- ◆ You don't need to be an elder to be on a committee
- ◆ You don't need any special skills
- ◆ All you need is a desire to serve Jesus and your Church.

If you would like to be part of our team and really do something worthwhile speak to me and we will be delighted to have **You** join us. I should also point out that I am sure all the other committees would also welcome your help too.

I look forward to hearing from you very soon

Best wishes

Elaine

Thursday Coffee Morning

The Coffee Morning continues to provide a happy welcoming venue every week from 10 a.m. till 12 noon. Our menu offers a wide selection of rolls and toasties plus a variety of home baking, all at very reasonable prices.

We have many regulars who come to meet with friends. Some come to get out of the house in order to have someone to talk to, have a blether and "put the world to rights". Children are very welcome. We have the use of the minibus so you can be picked up at your door and taken back home again. Phone 833723 between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. if you wish the minibus to pick you up.

Each week the money raised is used for the benefit of the church or for a specific charity about which our customers have advanced notice. A cheque for £461 was sent to the Oxford Young Adult Clinic which is where Ann Pickering's daughter, Laura is receiving her dialysis treatment. We received a letter of thanks which told us also about the remarkable work they are doing there and we look forward to hearing good news about Laura as she undergoes her transplant operation on the 8th of June. Please continue to keep Laura and the family in your thoughts and prayers.

Our next fundraiser for others is on Thursday 25th May when the proceeds will be donated to Christian Aid. We look forward to having everyone's support for this occasion.

Rev Elaine (our minister) is at the Coffee Morning from 11a.m. onwards every week and if you wish to speak with her about anything at all this is an excellent time to do that.

As always we would welcome anyone willing to join our team of "workers". If you could spare even one hour once a month your help would be appreciated. You don't have to be a baker - there is plenty to be done to keep the service going smoothly. We are a happy bunch who aim to please!! If you are interested speak to Grace Murray or Isabelle Brownlie.

Choir

Choir practices take place on Friday evenings at 7.30pm. We would welcome any new members to join the choir. All you need is a love of singing and a sense of humour. We practise the hymn list, introits and anthems for Sunday services and also hope to put on our annual Choir concert in February. So come along on Friday evenings to join in fun, fellowship and singing, we would love to see you.

Sheena

Word of Life

Congregations across Scotland and beyond were asked to show their support for this year's General Assembly by taking part in a photo-sharing campaign.

The 'Word of Life' campaign celebrated the chosen theme for the annual gathering of the Kirk in Edinburgh that was held between 20 May and 27 May 2017 by urging members to gather a group of people to each hold up a specially designed letter spelling out the phrase. Our Publicity and Communications committee chose to do this for our congregation on Sunday 14 May immediately following worship and to use our lovely stained glass window as the backdrop. You can see below the photograph that was taken, posted to our own Facebook page and shared with that of the Church of Scotland.

The Moderator Designate, Rev Dr Derek Browning, who chose one significant word as a theme for each of his days at the Assembly said: "Word of Life" is the broad theme of the 2017 General Assembly and the Heart and Soul Festival, being held on May 21.



Dedication



On Sunday 12 March 2017 the new front doors were officially dedicated. These doors were so kindly and generously donated by the Newarthill Coffee Morning.

This Sunday was also the annual Dedication of the Guild, during which we gave thanks for the dedicated service of 8 ladies, who were presented with Long Service Certificates for membership ranging from 18 to 60 years.



Carfin Coffee Morning

The coffee morning is held every Tuesday in Carfin Church Hall from 10.00am to 12 noon and continues to be very successful with a regular group of people coming along. The money raised each week is for the benefit of the Church and we would like to express our sincere thanks to everyone who comes along in helping this to be so successful. A warm welcome to come and join us is extended to all.

The Carfin Coffee Morning will be on holiday on Tuesday 13, 20, 27 June and 4 July and they would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and to wish you God's Blessing during the summer months.

Sponsored Hymn

If anyone would like to sponsor a hymn during the weekly worship or have a voluntary on the organ then please speak to Jessie Love or Eileen Murphy. You can have a hymn or voluntary of your choice and also a dedication noted in the order of service if you wish.

CH4 Hymnary

Money raised from Carfin Coffee Morning purchased CH4 Hymnary books for the church and we would like to thank everyone who helped to make this possible.

Talent Scheme

Based on the Parable of the talent we are asking if perhaps over the next few months you could use your talent and help raise funds for the church. Over the past few years this idea has been very successful and as this is a fun way of raising funds we do hope you will get involved. If you would like to give a donation please return the envelope to a member of the Project Committee or place it in the offering plate. Thank you.

Pastoral Care Group

We continue our work throughout the Parish visiting members in their own homes, in hospital and Nursing Homes. Thanks to all in the congregation who help us with this work.

Thanks also to the members who donate the flowers for the Chancel each week and for those who deliver them. There is a Flower List in the Hall of Fellowship and if you are interested in donating to this list please speak to Janette Bryce or any Elder. Please let us know of anyone you would like us to visit.

Baptisms

19.03.17 Marley Iris Workman

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these". Matthew 19:14

Deaths

February 2017	May Cleland
March 2017	Elizabeth Lafferty
March 2017	Margaret McCrae
March 2017	Maureen Cowan
March 2017	Andrea Blackley
March 2017	Margaret Mitchell
April 2017	Annie McMaster

In my Father's house are many rooms ... I am going there to prepare a place for you. John 14:2

World Mission Stamp 2017 Appeal

Support the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan through collecting your used stamps which can be sold to make money for much needed resources.

Post your stamps to:

World Mission Stamp Project, PO Box 9191, Wishaw ML2 0YB or

Hand deliver to Keith Scott, 143, Netherton Road, Wishaw ML20AR.

Dates for your diary

Friday 2nd June	Joint Pentecost service with St. Teresa's
Sunday 4th June	Sacrament of Holy Communion

Flower List —Summer Rota June - August 2017

We are grateful to all those who donate the flowers which beautify our sanctuary each week . There are a few spaces on the rota now and if you wish to donate flowers please contact Janette Bryce - Flower Convener (01698 732252) .

4 June	Mrs B. Muirhead	11 June	Mrs B. Graham
18 June	Mrs L. Forsyth	25 June	Mrs M. Burns
2 July	Mr G. Sandilands	9 July	Mrs M. Pow
16 July	Mrs M. Burton	23 July	Mrs I. Wotherspoon
30 July	Mrs L. Geddes	6 August	Mrs J. Devoy
13 August	Mrs May Brown	20 August	Mrs C. Mitchell
27 August	Mrs L. McAllister		

Useful Telephone Numbers & email addresses

Minister	Rev. Elaine McKinnon	(e-mail - emckinnon@churchofscotland.org.uk)
Session Clerk	Sheena Torrance	(e-mail - sessionclerk@nc-church.org)
Treasurer		(e-mail - treasurer@nc-church.org)
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The Herald—your magazine...

Our next edition of The Herald will be produced at the end of August 2017 so please contact Andy Affleck with your contributions. We want to hear about all that is going on in the life of our Church and Organisations.

If you or if anyone you know of would benefit from a large print copy of the weekly Order of Service and/or The Herald please speak to your Elder or indeed any duty office bearer.