

Kilsyth Anderson Parish Church News October/November 2022



Dear Friends

Major changes have taken place within our nation over the last number of weeks, both within government and the monarchy. We have a new Prime Minister, and, following the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, we have a new King; Charles, Prince of Wales. We continue to uphold both in prayer, seeking that the God of all the earth would provide them, along with their advisers the wisdom and discernment leaders need if they are to execute their duties with integrity and grace.

We also note that the daylight is diminishing and the nights are getting longer, and we shall soon be turning our clocks back. And with a noticeable drop in temperature, I'll be seeking out granny's special arran jumpers to keep me warm in the study and when I'm taking the dog out for a walk.

Autumn colours are also a powerful reminder to us of change. The different shades of green are being replaced by a multitude of dazzling copper, wine and golds. Also, farmers are doing their level best to bring in the harvest before wind and rain spoil the fruits of the earth, on which we are so dependant.

Jesus uses the image of a crop ready to be harvested to symbolise the 'spiritual' state of the nation of Israel in his own day (Scotland in our own day is no different)... "When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.'" .. Matt. 9:36-38.

With intense clarity and power, Jesus presents to His hearers, and that includes, you and I, the seriousness of the situation; there are sheep, but no one to care for them. There is a harvest ready to be brought in, but there are no workers. However, Jesus is present, and he reaches out

with His deep, compassion and challenges the few, His disciples, not to lose heart, but to petition the Lord of the harvest to supply the obvious need.

We too are challenged to consider the state of our world, nation and church and if that does not bring us to our knees in humble and persevering prayer, nothing will.

Be encouraged, listen to Jeremiah's assessment of God's faithfulness and His changeless Nature, "I remember my affliction and my wandering, the bitterness and the gall. I well remember them, and my soul is downcast within me. Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, 'The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him.'" Lamentations 3:19-24.

Your pastor and friend,

Kenneth.

Holiday Club Event

Together with Burns & Old, we are planning a mini holiday club with the theme Jonah Go Overboard for primary aged children on Thursday 20th & Friday 21st October from 10am until 12:30pm.

We already have lots of craft materials & games equipment, but for this to be a success, approx. 12 adult leaders are required – to help with registration, snacks, crafts, games, small group activities etc. Valerie will be in attendance to co-ordinate on the day & guide us through the preparations.

Please pray that volunteers will come forward to help with this first joint venture. Those who have an existing PVG are especially welcome. No experience necessary!

Please contact Jean Ewen or Hazel Gordon if you are able to come along.



The Guild

Come along and join us as the Guild starts its new session on Monday, 3rd October at 7pm. The Rev Kenneth McLeod will be our speaker as he introduces our new theme - Wee Seeds, Big Trees.

Ladies and gentlemen, all will be made most welcome.

Margaret Brown, Convener.



Harvest

This year we are following the same pattern as we have followed for a number of years now. Donations for Harvest can either be in non perishable foods or they can be monetary gifts.

The non perishable foods, I expect, will be donated to the food bank and so we are helping local families who are struggling at this time.

The Kirk Session has not made a decision, as yet, as to where monetary donations will go. The charity to receive our monetary donations will be intimated on a Sunday before the Harvest Service which is on **Sunday 9th October.**

Donations can be brought to the Drop In on the Friday morning between 10am and 12 noon, to the Church which will be open on the Saturday morning between 10am and 12 noon or to the Church on Harvest Sunday.

I'm sure we will have our usual excellent display - many thanks to all who give so generously.

Christine Johnston



Remembrance Day

Remembrance day will be Sunday 13th November this year and we will return to marking the occasion with a full parade. Details will be given nearer the time through the intimations.



Christmas Fayre

The Christmas Fayre will be held on **Saturday 26th November**.

Items for sale can be handed in to the Drop-In or to the church hall between 7 and 8.00pm on Friday 25th November.

Donations of home baking would be gratefully appreciated.

This is an ideal time to buy Christmas presents and we encourage everyone to tell friends and neighbours about the event and encourage them to come along.

Elizabeth Strang.

Boys' Brigade

It has been great to return to normal face to face meetings this session and to see so many Boys return as well as welcoming many new Boys along to the company. It has been a busy start with the first few weeks spent in the Manse gardens having fun as we were lucky enough to have lovely weather but now down to the hard work as the Boys start to work towards their badges.



This is the 70th year of the Company, and we have plenty planned for throughout the session ahead with more details to come in future newsletters. The first event we have planned is a quiz night in the Church hall on the 28th of October. As with every quiz night we have had, this is sure to be a fun filled evening and will double up as a fundraiser for our work in Malawi.

We were due to head out to Malawi in the summer of 2020, which was cancelled due to Covid. We are planning on rescheduling the visit to the summer of 2023. Again, more to follow in future newsletters.

We are all very much looking forward to the first parade in October with full Colours since February 2020 and the colour party Boys are practising hard.

We have 6 Boys finalising their Queen's badge over the next couple of months, and very much look forward to presenting them with these in the near future and have a further 3 starting out on their Queen's Man journey this year.

It is shaping up to be an exciting session for 3rd Kilsyth Boys Brigade and look forward to sharing the journey with you all.

Scott Anderson, Captain

I would like to thank the church for your kindness in giving me the lovely flowers delivered by Margaret Martin on the passing of my dear friend Ann.

Dear Friends
Thank you for the lovely flowers donated by Elizabeth Strang and Jean Weir. They were very much appreciated.
Blessings to you all.

Thank you to everyone in the congregation for their kind wishes, cards and sympathy following the death of my mum recently, to Kenneth for visiting and for the lovely yellow roses we received.

I wish to express my thanks for the beautiful flowers I received. They were much appreciated.

A heartfelt thank you to our church family for the lovely cards sent to us as well as for your prayers and the concern shown to us on the sudden passing of John's sister, Kathleen. The church flowers that we received were beautiful and much appreciated. May God bless you all.

Funerals	
<i>I am the resurrection and the life</i>	
17th August	Caoimhe Carberry
25 th August	Anne McCallum

Pastoral Care Groups

Because of Covid our Pastoral Care has rather slipped a bit and now we would like to get our Pastoral Care teams up and running again. With the passing of more than two years, some of those who were visitors are now not able to fulfil this important part of our mission.

Would YOU consider visiting someone from time to time – perhaps elderly, housebound, frail etc. – in your part of the town? This is an important part of our work as a Church and it will be very important if we want to keep Anderson Church open.

Please contact an elder, or add your name to the sheet of paper in the vestibule on a Sunday morning if you are willing to help.

Kilsyth Community Food Bank

A huge thanks from all at the Kilsyth Food Bank for recent donations, please keep them coming!

Many households are struggling, many are in need with the cost-of-living crisis and Kilsyth Community Food Bank are certainly reaching out to those in need.

This vital work is needed more than ever with the current cost-of-living crisis, many require assistance, many are living from week to week. If you know anyone who is struggling, please direct them to the Kilsyth Food Bank, they are there to help.

Donations can come in all sorts : Toiletries, Food Stuff, Financial Donations. Current needs are as follows: Sugar, Diluting Juice, Tins of Meat, Tins of Fish, Long Life Milk, Butter (Spread) - remember to check sell by dates - and toiletries.

Financial Donations can also be made, just drop an envelope marked 'Kilsyth Community Food Bank' into the Donation Box in the vestibule, every £1 donated could be the next meal for someone.

Contact details for donations :

Monday and Wednesdays 12 noon – 2pm (you can drop off donations)
Unit 1, Parkfoot St, Kilsyth, Glasgow G65 0SW. Tel: 01236 829872



Tips on Saving on your Energy Bills

- 1) Boiling a kettle – the kettle doesn't need to be full—only boil enough for what you need. Put the excess into a flask meaning you don't need to boil it up for the next 'cuppa'.
- 2) Swap your bath for a shower and limit the shower to 4 minutes – could save £95 year for typical household.
- 3) Washing machine – save around £34 year by washing at 30 degrees and reduce your washes to once a week. It's OK to wear the same clothes more than once!
- 4) Avoid using tumble dryers – saving around £70 year
- 5) Turn off lights in rooms not in use – save around £25 year. Make sure you're replacing traditional lightbulbs with energy saving ones as required.
- 6) Dishwashers – cutting use by 1 cycle a week saves around £17 a year.
- 7) Don't leave devices on standby—they still use 1/3 of the energy (TVs, computers etc)

Rebates / Assistance on their way :

- Reduction for Council Tax Payers in Scotland in Band A – D of £150 a year
- Every Household connected to the National Grid will receive £400 from the UK Government towards their Energy Costs
- Those receiving a State Pension will receive a 'Winter Fuel Allowance'
- There are other payments for those on certain benefits i.e. Pension Credits, Scottish Disability Benefit

Help is available :

Get in touch with your energy supplier if you are struggling.

Visit Citizen's Advice Scotland who have experts on hand – free to use

Contact your Council who have Benefit Advisers - free to use
Assistance with food supplies at Kilsyth Food Bank—for details see the article on page 4 of this magazine.

Taking this action could not only save on your fuel bills, it will go a long way to help our planet's fight against climate change. Please don't sit home alone and cold this winter and let's watch out for our friends and neighbours.

Thanks to Catriona Clark for these suggestions

Six Little Stories

1. Once all the villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer, all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. That is faith.
2. When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. That is trust.
3. Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but we still set the alarm to wake up. That is hope.
4. We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. That is confidence.
5. We see the world suffering but still, we get married and have children. That is love.
6. On an old man's shirt was written a sentence: "I am not 80 years old; I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience." That is attitude.

Have a happy day and live your life like these six stories. Remember, good friends are the rare jewels of life: difficult to find and impossible to replace!

Thanks to Christine for providing these.

COME GENTLE SPIRIT

Like til the souch o the sea on the sand,
Like til the whusperan breeze ower the land,
Come, Halie Spirit, come!

Like til the dew on the wobbie whun,
Like whan the gowan's gart smile bi the sun,
Come, Halie Spirit, come!

Like til the fire at warms the hame,
Like til the licht o a steadie flame,
Come, Halie Spirit, come!

Come frae the Faither, an come frae the Son,
Come thou, third o the Halie Yin,
Come, gentle Spirit, come!

Future Service Dates

9 th October	Harvest Thanksgiving
16 th October	Possible Baptism
23 rd October	Baptism
13 th November	Remembrance Sunday

Other dates

12th October	Praise Group Practice
28th October	BB Quiz Night
26th November	Christmas Fayre

Praise Group

It was good to have the Praise Group restart after a long absence.

We would be happy to welcome any new members who just enjoy singing. We meet every 4 weeks when we practise the introits for the next month.

If you enjoy singing please come along and join us. Our next practice evening is on **Wednesday 12th October at 7pm** in the church.

Jan Bateman, organist.



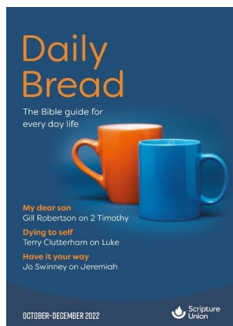
Church Diary

Sunday	11am	Morning worship (fellowship in the hall after)
Monday	7.00pm	The Guild
Tuesday		Girls' Brigade
	6pm	Explorers (P1-3)
	7pm	Juniors and Brigaders (P4+)
Wednesday		Boys' Brigade
	5.45pm	Anchor Boys (P1-3)
	6.30pm	Junior Section (P4-6)
	7.30pm	Company Section (P7 & Secondary)
Thursday	1.30pm	Tea and Tunes (every 2nd Thurs)
	7.30pm	Midweek fellowship via zoom
Friday	10am	Drop in Café - Wyper Hall

How do you read your Bible?

Do you set yourself a daily reading goal working your way through a book from beginning to end, or dip in and out almost at random? Or do you find it hard to get started at all?

Many people find that it helps to use Bible reading notes which follow a theme or series. Here we suggest a few options



Daily Bread is a Scripture Union publication. The current edition October—December covers readings from old and new testaments by a variety of authors. They help you to understand your reading and relate it to modern life

Buy online at <https://www.eden.co.uk/christian-books> for £4.97



Every Day With Jesus

Formerly written by Rev Selwyn Hughes, now a Waverley Abbey Ministries publication who also offer Inspiring Women Every Day. Can be obtained as a free download (although a donation is respectfully requested) at <https://www.waverleyabbeytrust.org/every-day-with-jesus> or paper copy at £3.48



The Upper Room

Is an international resource written by Christians from all around the world. The meditations are stories written by real people seeking to live faithfully.

It is offered in digital and printed formats from

<https://www.upperroom.org/devotionals>

From the archives

The editor would like to acknowledge a debt of gratitude to previous editors of the magazine, particularly Margaret Waddell, who has lent her entire stock of back issues along with programmes/notes from other occasions. We were looking through this valuable resource and thought members might appreciate a wee trip down memory lane...

2002

3rd Kilsyth BB celebrated its 50th birthday with a parade accompanied by the Pipe Band. Church teams took part in national table tennis, chess and Badminton competitions. We had a missionary partner, Helen Scott, based at Ekwendeni in Malawi. The minister, Charles MacKinnon, in a football themed letter, complaining about low attendance said, "Like Kilsyth Rangers which once claimed a large and loyal following, so did Christ within the town of Kilsyth...No it's not the done thing to support a losing team or an apparent Loser. Like Jesus. But Christ's day will come – and that's a promise! His, not mine."

2007

It was noted that the work party had raised money for the church from a Fiddlers' Night, Summer and Christmas Fayres amounting to over £10,000. There were 23 children in the Sunday school (which was a drop) 23 Sparklers (remember them?) and 50 boys in the BB with one Scott Anderson being commissioned at the parade in August. 3000 Christmas cards were delivered, raising nearly £1000 and the ladies' bowling group had bought a new set of carpet bowls for use by themselves and the men's group.

2013

Alan Vint became our minister on 5th March and there was an induction social hosted by Rev Graham Atkinson, the interim moderator, and featuring Rev Alex Fleming, the praise group and Gordon McNally who had been the locum minister for the previous 4 years.

2017

An afternoon of prayer became a "tradition" to start the new year with the Lord. One poetical prayer went as follows
Dear God, we give you thanks for all those volunteers
who, in this world of ours,
give up – sometimes for many years –
their precious leisure hours.
Their time is freely given
and often with a smile.
They are, by their good nature driven,
to go that extra mile. Amen



Christmas Shoe Boxes

The Girls' Brigade usually pack shoeboxes for Blythwood Care during October each year. These boxes are then sent to children abroad where this shoebox might be their only Christmas gift they receive. We mostly pack shoeboxes for girls of all ages.

If anyone would like to donate an item to our appeal, below are some of the items we would appreciate. They can be left at the church:

A hat, gloves, tights, socks, small toy, pen /pencils/crayons, notebook or small colouring book, (no story books), soap, toothbrush toothpaste. We also normally add in a t-shirt or leggings to each shoebox. Empty adult shoeboxes are also needed.

Thanks, **Jean Ewen**

Shoeboxes will be delivered to vulnerable people in Ukraine, Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Romania and Serbia.

You can find out more about Blythwood Care online at <https://blythwood.org/shoeboxappeal> and follow the links to find a checklist of suggested items for your box. Remember: don't seal the box because Customs regulations mean Blythwood have to check the contents. Use a rubber band instead.

Tea & Tunes :

This is a new group, aimed at older adults, those living with dementia & their carers.

We enjoyed a few sessions last year – lots of chat, tea & biscuits and a sing-a-long to a wide variety of different styles of music.



Our next sessions will be from 1.30 until 3pm in the Wyper Hall on Thursdays 13th October, 27th October, 10th November, 24th November and 15th December.

Please come along & invite friends and neighbours who may enjoy some company.

Hello there,

When you awakened this morning, I thought perhaps you'd talk to me and involve me in your day, but you were preoccupied finding something to wear for work. When you'd time to spare, I thought we'd have a few moments together but you were on the phone and started talking to someone else. I noticed that before you ate lunch at work you looked around and seemed embarrassed to talk to me. Maybe that's why you didn't bow your head and give thanks—even though some of your friends did?

Later at home I guess you were just too tired, because you dropped into bed and fell fast asleep. Do you know I'm always here for you? I love you so much that I wait every day for a prayer, a thought or just a chance to speak with you.

The problem as I see it is—it's hard to have a one sided conversation.

Signed, Your Friend, Jesus.

Pray for Ukraine

The Church of Scotland has joined other denominations in calling for peace following the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

As the conflict continues, many are looking for ways to offer support, be it through humanitarian aid or prayer and acts of worship.

Find out more at <https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/>
The Scottish Church Leaders Forum produced this prayer in response to the invasion

Living God,
Creator and giver of life to all people:
We ask that you would hear our prayer for peace amongst the nations
And for ending of conflict in Ukraine.
Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Living God,
Who shall judge between the nations:
We ask that that you would lead the nations in the paths of peace
And that the dividing wall of hostility would be broken down.
Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Living God,
Who has inspired faith across the ages:
Grant peace in the midst of war
And bring harmony to the commonwealth of nations.
Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Living God,
Who gave his only Son that we might have life:
We ask that you would pour out your Holy Spirit
And inspire in us hope that peace will be renewed.
Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Presbytery Plan

After some further discussions with Presbytery, the group working on the plan has accepted our proposals that Anderson and Burns and Old will work together, forming links, having joint services etc for the next few years.

It WILL come that there will be only one minister for Kilsyth, but at the moment Burns and Old will keep the Rev. Bob Johnston and we will keep Rev. K.D. MacLeod with whom we have a very good relationship. By the end of September, we should know exactly what the plan for the whole of Glasgow Presbytery is. Unfortunately that will be too late for this magazine!

Finance

Once again, many thanks to all members of the congregations who give so generously. We are able to pay our way and even have some left over for improvements to the buildings.

Thanks to the generosity of those who 'Drop In' for tea, coffee and a chat on Friday mornings we are able to organise the replacing of the exterior doors to the Church hall.

Thanks to the generosity of the Guild members we are able to organise the replacing of the exterior door from the kitchen.

Although Presbytery have stated that no improvements have to be made to premises until the plan is complete, I was able to swing these alterations to make sure that we are 'wind and watertight'! I chanced my arm and got away with it!

The Manse

As there will be no minister occupying the Manse for the foreseeable future, it has been decided to try to rent it and therefore have an income from it.

Some work has been completed – rooms painted, the utility room re-fitted, the study upgraded, old fireplaces removed – but there is still some work to be done.

We are trying to get this completed as quickly as possible so that a tenant can begin occupancy before the winter.

I'm hoping, that once it is completely ready, people may be given the opportunity to see inside the Manse.

Your continuing contributions to the Church mean that we can carry out repairs and upgrades to the buildings for the comfort of those using them.

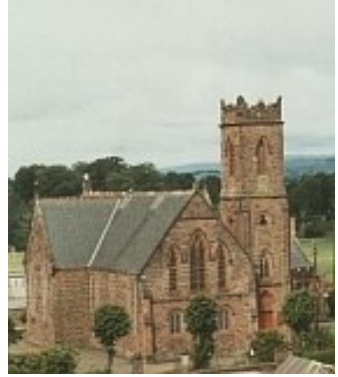
Christine Johnston

Session Clerk

Twechar Church

It was with heavy hearts that we came to the recognition that we were no longer able to keep our church in Twechar open.

Our congregation had been dwindling over the years and that, combined with its age and the effects of covid, led to the situation that we didn't have anyone able to take on the roles needed for the church to function.



Many of our congregation had travelled into the village on a Sunday morning and they now felt that they would like to take the opportunity to attend a church nearer to their homes.

A few of our number decided that we would like to join your congregation here at Anderson. It has been a wise decision as we have been made very welcome and we feel that we are among friends – and we thank you for that.

Our Sunday School at Twechar had fallen to only one little girl who came faithfully, Amelia Wardrope, and she has delighted in joining with the children here too.

This new experience has been a pleasure and a joy for us and along with our welcome from the congregation, Rev MacLeod has helped us in our transition with his meaningful and sincere messages and prayers.

We look forward to continuing to worship here and being looked upon as members of this welcoming fellowship who have adopted us into their fold.

Gina Whyte
Former Session
Clerk



Last deadline for December / January edition will be Sunday 27th November for publishing on Sun 4th December. It's hard to think past Christmas at this time of year but please remember to include any items for activities in the new year!

Please send emails to andersonchurchmagazine@outlook.com or give your articles to Rona Dawson on a Sunday

Rotas

Week ending	Door Duty	Reading	Cleaning	Tea & Coffee	Flower
9 Oct	Mr & Mrs B Smith	Elizabeth Strang	Team 1 (Sat)	G & J Ewen, C Clark	H Provan
16 Oct	C McIlwain	John	Team 2 (Thur)	K & I Ross, M Brown	M Laird
23 Oct	Mr & Mrs I Ross	Kathleen Ross	Team 3 (Thur)	G & J Ewen,	C Johnston
30 Oct	Mr & Mrs A Strang	Ian Ross	Team 4 (Sat)	H Provan, E Gordon, A Sneddon	B Kennedy
6 Nov	E Graham O Brittain	Ann McManus	Team 5 (Thur)	E & A Strang, M Laird	A Strang
13 Nov	A Mitchell	Rona	Team 1	J & G Ewen, C Clark	-
20 Nov	Mr & Mrs G Ewen	Jim Millar	Team 2 (Thur)	K & I Ross, A Mitchell, H Gordon	J Bateman
27 Nov	Mr & Mrs J Brown	John Weir	Team 3 (Thur)	H Provan, E Gordon, A Sneddon	E Short (comm)
4 Dec	J Gordon	Jean Ewen	Team 4	E & A Strang, M Laird	R Goodwin