

Marksman

August / September, 2023



St Mark's Church of Scotland (Oldhall), Paisley

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From the Manse



Ecclesiastes 3 tells us there is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven. It is a passage I often use at funerals, a useful reminder of the cycles of life and the different seasons in our lives.

We long for there to be a season of changed rhythm and priority over the summer. A time of sunshine (and showers), of rest and refreshment, of a looser diary, and a freer spirit.

Evening meetings mostly stop, days are long, gardening pleasurable. I do so hope that this is the case for you - and me.

However, we cannot bullet proof our holidays - things do go wrong - it rains, cars break down, and I have friends who have a long list of A and E departments they have visited on holiday! It is important that we don't put all our hopes into the magical power of a two-week break.

BUT can we use a few weeks of a different rhythm, with fewer evening meetings and less scheduled activities to set ourselves up well for the year ahead? Can we use this time to stop and be fully present to what is now? What is now to us, and to our church - to help us see what are the possibilities and priorities for the year ahead?

Time to rest and heal over the summer will help us see how we need to tend to ourselves in the season ahead. Time to laugh and dance, like *Ecclesiastes* says, or to do some of the things on our summer bucket list will remind us of what will bring life to us in the season ahead - for ideas see below.

It might be time to build in one area of our life, which may mean it is time to give something up in another, so that we can make plans for the season ahead.

It might be time to prayerfully consider what God would have us do next.

It might be time to take up a new hobby, to start a new fitness regime, or volunteer in a new way.

It might be time to retire, or reduce our working hours, and to purposefully think about how we can fill the spare time.

It might be time to sit back, and let others take over things we have 'aye done'.

It might be time to encourage and support someone in a specific role.

Whatever time it is, whatever season it is, it is always time to seek God, to spend time in prayer, and reading his word, to learn more about him, and what he wants for your life.

Your friend and minister,

Sonia



A Summer Bucket List

Connect with an old friend.

Reread a favourite book or a whole book of the Bible.

Read 6 new books.

Get up early before anyone else for an early morning prayer walk.

Have lunch outside on a sunny day.

Visit the best ice-cream shop you can get to.

Have fish and chips by the sea-side.

Visit somewhere you have been meaning to go to for ages : a local castle, museum, etc.

Have a couple of screen-free days.

Take part in a summer sport – like crazy golf, or wild swimming.

And I'll give a bar of chocolate to anyone who can prove they have done all of the above by the end of August!

Worship Matters

Members of the Worship Team are now leading some of the 'Prayers for Others and Ourselves' on a Sunday morning.

Sonia is on holiday from 24th July to 7th August and services will be taken by the Worship Team. Pastoral cover will be provided by Rev. David Hood from Paisley South Church.

Looking Ahead

Harvest Service
with a 'Bring and
Share' Lunch

17th September

Youth Dedication
Service with the
Uniformed Youth
Organisations

1st October

The Kirk Session meets on 29th August, 2023.

Funerals

30th May	Dr Gordon Forrest	Marchbank Crescent
1st June	Alistair McDonald	Dalfoil Court
5th June	Lesley Campbell	Strathmore Avenue
20th June	James Dempster	Newtyle Road
26th June	Grace McGhie	Newtyle Road



Dementia-Friendly Drop-In Café

St Mark's Church (2-4pm)

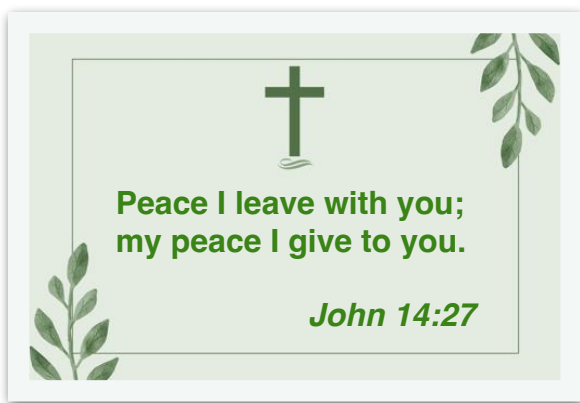
Future Dates

Thursday 24 August
Thursday 07 September (Film afternoon)
Thursday 21 September



Many thanks to all for the cards, flowers and expressions of support after my recent accident. Your thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated.

Fiona Stirling



Lesley Campbell

A belated thank you from the Campbell family for the love shown for Lesley with cards, flowers, hugs, kisses and shaking hands.

It was wonderful to see so many at the Service of Remembrance. The singing was memorable.

Thank you for supporting the retiring offering for Alzheimer Scotland. Over £1550 was collected.

Alasdair Campbell

James Dempster

Thank you to everyone at St Mark's for the flowers, cards and visits following the recent death of my late husband, Jim. This was of great comfort to all the family and we appreciate the kindness shown at this sad time.

Janice Dempster

Gordon Forrest

We would like to express our deepest and most sincere gratitude to everyone for the many flowers, cards, kind words of support, heartfelt gestures of kindness and prayers for us during this incredibly difficult time.

The love and support that we have received from everyone in the church family has been incredibly humbling and knowing that you are all standing by our side has made the burden of bereavement slightly more bearable.

We are truly touched by the outpouring of love and compassion we have received from each and every one of you.

The church was an important part of Gordon's life and he would be touched to see you all rallying around and looking after us. He often remarked on the fellowship and support that the church provides and everyone at St Mark's has shown that in abundance. Thank you again for everything.

With love and immense gratitude,

The Forrest Family



Dear Friends at St Mark's (Oldhall) Church,

Thank you very much for your continuous and unwavering support to Renfrewshire Foodbank. In the past year you have donated a phenomenal 718.83kg of food and essential items. Your donations supplied people in need with around 1711 meals.

Support like yours enables us to relieve the immediate threat of hunger while also providing support to help people out of hunger.

This past year we have increased the help we give to include a fresh pack containing bread, eggs, fruit and vegetables in addition to our non-perishable parcel of food, toiletries, cleaning products and pet food.

Through signposting to our Financial Insecurity project, we were able to maximise people's income and put over £345,000 back into the pockets of people within Renfrewshire in 2021-22.

Thank you once again for your kindness. We really couldn't do what we do without your support.

Yours sincerely,
Julie Edmiston
Renfrewshire Foodbank Assistant Manager

Home Baking

After our summer break, our baking stall will resume again on Sunday 3 September, with meringue orders as usual placed the Sunday beforehand.

As mentioned in our June/July Marksman article, we've had to make a decision to charge for the cost of the boxes used. However, we would encourage you please to bring your own container on the day to take your baked goodies home in. Cardboard boxes will, of course, still be available on the day, and the 20p cost will be added to your order. The meringues will continue to be pre-boxed for ease of handling, with the cost of a box of four meringues now £3.20.

Thanks to the generosity of our regular bakers, and the support from the congregation and community, we have raised over £2,280 for church funds from September 2022 to June 2023. This figure includes our crafts etc at *Tremendous* and at the various Plant Sales. Thank you to everyone who has supported us.

Liz Morgan and Sheena Tonner



Session Report

At the session meeting at the end of June several items were discussed and I am pleased to report that most things are progressing well in the church.

Our Community Café is in use by church members and by our Dementia-Friendly Café. We are awaiting a final business plan from First Enterprise who are well experienced in setting up ventures like our own. We have received final planning permission from Presbytery for all our conversion work, the last part of which is installing patio-style doors facing on to Glasgow Road. This will involve some extra expense and we plan to run a *Buy a Brick* campaign which will be detailed very soon. For a donation, people will be able to have their chosen name/s on a brick displayed on the café walls and we hope the project can be completed later this year.

The manse wall surrounding the garden and between our neighbours in Newtyle Rd is in fairly urgent need of repair and this work, having been approved, should start soon.

We had a big clear out of many cupboards and under the old stage and managed to fill a skip and send some metal fittings to be recycled. I am grateful to those who attended and helped with the work involved. Many hands make light work. Thank you all.

We agreed to revert to the former style of Communion Service with office bearers serving the bread and wine rather than the plastic cups and wafers and most people seemed pleased with the change.



Fiona, the church secretary, we are pleased to say is home from hospital having suffered an horrendous ankle fracture requiring 2 operations, one down south and the second in RAH. No more dancing on tables for her! We hope she is back with us soon.

Colin Reid (Session Clerk)

Buy a Brick Fundraising Campaign





Flowers in Church

Ladies Delivering Flowers

06.08.23	
13.08.23	Mrs N. Macgregor
20.08.23	Mrs J. Bradley
27.08.23	Mrs A. Fisher
03.09.23	Mrs K. Sheils
10.09.23	Mrs J. Forson
17.09.23	Mrs D. Grant
24.07.23	B.B. Co. Section

06.08.23	Mrs J. Dempster	
13.08.23	Mrs I. Pollock	
20.08.23	Mrs M. Robin	
27.08.23	Mrs D. Grant	Mrs M. Adam
03.09.23	Miss I. Higgins	
10.09.23	Mrs S. Tonner	
17.09.23		
24.07.23		

Sunday Duty Team Rota



DATE	TEAM	LEADER	DATE	TEAM	LEADER
AUG			SEP		
06/08/2023	1	Mr J. Goodall	03/09/2023	3	Mrs C. Hair
13/08/2023	1	Mr J. Goodall	10/09/2023	3	Mrs C. Hair
20/08/2023	2	Mr A. Taylor	17/09/2023	4	Mr G. Black
27/08/2023	2	Mr A. Taylor	24/09/2023	4	Mr G. Black

EVOLUTION ❤️

Evolution has continued over the summer months, thanks to Peter and his team who have covered to allow the regular team a well-earned break.

Evolution will restart on Sunday 20th August. All children, including any children visiting, are very welcome to attend.

Should anyone be interested in seeing what we do on a Sunday morning, then come along and join us.

Ruth Forrest



TRASH continues to meet up during the summer holidays after having a few weeks off.

The young people are keen to have it on and we are happy to run something for them on some of the weeks during the holidays. *Trash* over the summer is more relaxed and really just a space for the young people to enjoy each other's company.

Over the summer, some of the young people will be doing some decorating in the den/ upper room/ youth room (whatever it is called). They were keen to decorate and put their own mark on it.

We will be starting back properly in August and make a plan of what we will study through the year.



Another school year is over at **Ralston Primary School** and we were delighted to welcome the school to the church for their end of session services. The P1-3 service was taken by Sonia and me with input from a P6 violinist, the P3 singing for us and a couple of readers. The P7 are the focus of the P4-7 service, with it being their last activity in Ralston Primary. They had their awards and yearbook presented as well as singing and some musicians played too.

After the summer holidays I look forward to getting back into the classes to do some more maths support as well as the assembly program.



Messy Church meets on the last Saturday of every month from 2pm to 3.30pm. Over the past year we have welcomed a lot of families along to *Messy Church*. July's *Messy Church* will be a games afternoon and we will get back to the normal style in August.



The Junction youth café will be back from the 7th to 11th August from 7.30pm to 9pm and is for anyone in P6 to S3. It will be a space for young people to come and play some games and do some activities and just hang out with their friends. Flyers are available at the church for you to give out to anyone you know in that age group.

If anyone is able to help out on any of these nights please speak to Peter. Helping could be running the tuck shop one night or playing some games with the young people or being a jailor during a game of capture the flag!

Thank you to everyone who helped out with the **Summer Clear Out**. We managed to fill a skip of unneeded things in the church in just over an hour. We hope the church is a bit tidier and space has been created for other things.

Facebook and Instagram

To see what has been happening at the church you can keep up to date on *Facebook*, *Instagram* or on the church website.
www.facebook.com/stmarksoldhall
www.instagram.com/stmarkschurcholdhall.

Many thanks for all the support given to me in my ministry here at St Mark's.

Peter

39thA Paisley Brownies

Another productive session for the Brownies finished in June. The last meetings in May were very busy as we prepared for the final night. All the Brownie parents and our guests received a hand-written invitation in an addressed envelope. You can imagine this took quite an effort by both the Brownies and the leaders! However, many parents expressed their delight at receiving a personal invitation. Two of the Brownies organised the pack to make special bunting to decorate the hall for the evening.

At the beginning of June, 12 Brownies and 3 leaders had a great weekend at Dalguise Outdoor Centre. The weather was very kind to us and we experienced lots of adventurous activities including *Giant Swing, Zip Wire, Burn Walk, Tree Climb, Archery* and *Survival*. This group of Brownies was amazing and the most 'fearless' we have ever taken away with us – not one declined to try any of the activities!



There was a final flurry of badge activity leading up to our final meeting. This resulted in our being able to give out the following -

Take Action Theme – Jessica L

Have Adventures Theme – Freya, Emily

Aviation – Freya, Emily

Charities – Jessica L

Bronze Award – Emily

Finally, we were able to make the most exciting badge presentation. The pinnacle of achievement in any section of Girlguiding is the Gold Award. This is achieved by completing all 6 Theme awards, attending a Guide meeting and sharing the experience with others to encourage progression and a special challenge that is suggested, discussed with leaders, planned and run for the Pack. We had 4 Brownies who achieved this award and we were delighted to present it to them in front of all the parents and guests.

Charlotte S Daisy Mac Jessica L
Ruyi



We hope these Brownies will continue their hard work when they join Guides next session.

If you know of anyone [young person or adult] who would like to join Girlguiding, a warm welcome awaits them!
[girlguiding.org.uk]

We return for our new session on Wednesday 6th September but the leadership team will be planning before that.

Christine Hair
Brown Owl

39th Paisley Brownies (Tuesday)

Our Pack Holiday at South Newton was a great success. We had nine girls stay overnight for the weekend, with three as day visitors on the Saturday. Our theme was *Matilda the Musical*, and the girls did many crafts and activities over the weekend on a 'positive' and 'empowering' theme. We were delighted that Sonia was able to come out and join in the fun.

The younger girls completed their *Baking* Badge, helping to create a 'Matilda Cake' and 'School Cake' over the weekend, using different icings, creating ganache, and being creative with jam, coconut and sprinkles.

We also had a fun-filled evening of entertainment, when the girls achieved the *Performing* Badge. We were treated to extracts from the film's musical numbers, a comedy routine, and a musical recital.

Being at South Newton gave 'Miss Trunchbull' the ability to put the girls through their paces on the climbing wall, and there was much use of chalk for kerb paintings, as well as blackboard messages à la Magnus.

Our final Brownie evening was an Award Night for our girls, including our three Gold Award recipients. The sanctuary was set for the occasion with gold balloons, and a decorated cake for the girls to cut to mark the occasion.

The girls were presented with Interest Badges and Certificates, Skills Builders and Theme Awards. Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards were then presented, before we all enjoyed our refreshments and cake.



39th Paisley Brownies (Tuesday)

Isobel Ritchie presented the badges and certificates, and we were joined by Sonia and our Visiting Elders, Margaret Currie and Simone Smith. Liz Morgan and June Chapman very kindly provided refreshments for the parents and friends.

That's us now until our new session starts in September and we welcome our eight new starts to join our Unit.

We wish everyone a very happy summer.

Sheena Tonner, Brownie Leader



the JUNCTION

@ St mark's
Youth Cafe for P6 to S3.
7th to 11th August from
7.30pm to 9pm

St Mark's church @

the junction of Glasgow Road and Penilee Road

- pool
- table tennis
- table football
- giant jenga
- giant connect 4
- consoles
- active games
- table top games
- tuck shop

It is a place to come and hang out with your friends.

It is for anyone going into P6 up to those leaving S3.

For more information contact Peter@stmarksoldhall.org.uk

St Mark's Church Scottish Charity Number: SC011210



Prayer Guide



		AUGUST, 2023
		Enjoy Psalm 23 throughout the following weeks, from The Message Bible and verses in red.
Tue	1	We pray for the Property Team and all the work that is done.
Wed	2	Pray for Rev. David Hood who is providing Pastoral Care while our minister is on holiday.
Thu	3	Pray for those who are on their own and who struggle to make ends meet.
Fri	4	We pray for the NHS, for all the difficulties that have been seen recently, but also remembering the service that many receive which is free at the point of delivery.
Sat	5	Our streets for prayer are Netherdale Drive, Newtyle Road and Newnham Road.
Sun	6	Pray for Peter as he leads our service today and for the message you will give him to bring to us. <i>God, my shepherd! I don't need a thing. You have bedded me down in lush meadows, you find me quiet pools to drink from.</i>
Mon	7	Crookston Drive, Dalfoil Court and Darvel Crescent are in our prayers this week. The Junction Café starts this week for all young folk from P6 – S3. Pray for all the preparation that has gone before and that this would be a real time of friendship and fun for those that attend.
Tue	8	Remember our new Presbytery Elder, Simone Smith, this week. The Junction Café is on today. Sonia returns from her holidays today. We do pray that she has had a refreshing time and break from the busyness of ministry.
Wed	9	The Junction Café is on today. Pray especially for guidance on the Café. Ask that God will direct and lead us in all our plans and work for this venture. Give thanks for what has been done to date.
Thu	10	Pray for all who have been, and are still being affected by Covid. For young children who have missed out on learning how to socialise with others. The Junction Café is on today.
Fri	11	Pray for the Coast Guard emergency service and keep safe those who respond to help others. The Junction Café finishes today. Pray that it has been a success for all involved, but more importantly that young folk have heard a bit more about Jesus and his love for them.
Sat	12	International Youth Day.
Sun	13	We pray for Sonia this morning. Help us to come expecting to hear your word for us and ready to apply that to our lives. <i>True to your word, you let me catch my breath and send me in the right direction.</i>
Mon	14	Pray this week for those who live in Drummond Drive, Duchray Drive and Dunchurch Road. In-Service Days today and tomorrow for staff returning for the new school session.
Tue	15	Be with the Mission Planning Group when they meet and help and direct their discussions.
Wed	16	Remember all the young people who start back to school today that they will settle in quickly and be refreshed after their holidays. Start of our Prayer Groups on Zoom and in church at 7:00pm.
Thu	17	Pray for those on the edges of society, who are marginalised and often overlooked.
Fri	18	Remember the Police service in your prayers today.
Sat	19	Pray for good weather and an enjoyable day for the Ralston Community Games today.

Prayer Guide



AUGUST, 2023		
Sun	20	<p>We are having an All Age/Family Service today to mark the start of the new academic year. Pray that there will be a great turnout of people, and that many in the Community will come along to join us.</p> <p>Evolution begins for the new session. Pray for the leaders and young folk as they learn more of you.</p> <p><i>Even when the way goes through Death Valley, I'm not afraid when you walk at my side.</i></p>
Mon	21	<p>We remember all who live in Gartartan Road, Gartmore Road and Glasgow Road.</p> <p>International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the victims of Terrorism.</p>
Tue	22	<p>Take time to pray for our minister, Sonia, that she will know God's blessing on her, and on her family. Strengthen her for the work she does in various ways.</p>
Wed	23	<p>We remember our prayer groups meeting tonight on Zoom and in church.</p> <p>International Day for the remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition.</p>
Thu	24	<p>Dementia-Friendly Café meets today and we pray for all who come along, for friendships made and time to relax for carers.</p>
Fri	25	<p>Pray for the Ambulance Service today that things would improve and people are reached in time and get into hospital quickly.</p>
Sat	26	<p>I am not sure if Messy Church is on today but, if so, pray that the youngsters and parents will enjoy their time together.</p>
Sun	27	<p>Be with Sonia in her preparation for this morning's service and as she leads us in worship.</p> <p><i>Your trusty shepherd's crook makes me feel secure.</i></p>
Mon	28	<p>It is the turn of those living in Golf Drive, Hawkhead Road and Killearn Drive to be in our weekly prayers.</p>
Tue	29	<p>As schools are now back into the swing of things we pray for Peter, our Church Worker, and ask that he will know your presence with him in all the activities he organises or helps with, in church and in school.</p> <p>Our Kirk Session meets this evening at 7:30pm. Pray that we come prepared for all discussions and decisions to be made, and that we are aware of God's presence with us there, guiding us.</p>
Wed	30	<p>Prayer groups meet this evening at 7:00 on Zoom and in church.</p> <p>Leaders of the 39A Brownies meet tonight to plan for an exciting new session. Pray for them as they do this.</p>
Thu	31	<p>Give thanks for the month that has just gone by, and for the blessings God has given you.</p>



Saint Columba

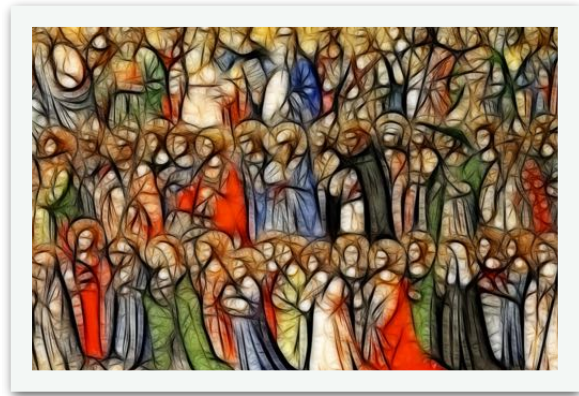
St Columba lived from December 521 to June 597. The name he is known by today is the Latin version of his given name Colum, though he came to be known as Columcille, or 'dove of the church' by most people in his own day.

Columba was born at Garten, County Donegal, Ireland. He was a member of the clan O'Donnell, and was of royal descent. On his father's side he was great-great-grandson of Niall of the nine hostages, an Irish king of the fifth century. Much of what we know about him comes from *A Life of Columba* written by his successor Abbot Adomán of Iona, who lived a century later, and who stresses Columba's supernatural encounters and his miracles.

Columba was educated at the monastic school of Moville under St Finnian. In 560, a dispute arose over a copy Columba had made of St Finnian's book of psalms. This culminated in the battle of Cooldreveny in 56, at which three thousand men were killed. Following the battle, Columba's confessor, St Molaise, set him the penance of leaving Ireland and preaching the gospel in order to convert as many to Christianity as had been killed at Cooldreveny: and never again to look upon his native land.

In 563, Columba and 12 companions left Ireland, arriving first on the southern tip of Kintyre. This, though, was still within sight of Ireland, so they travelled further north, landing on Iona on 12 May 563. The island was granted to Columba for the establishment of a monastery by King Conall. At this point Columba was 42 years old. He started his evangelising amongst the Scots of Dalriada, but then turned to the more testing task of converting the northern Picts of Caledonia.

Columba visited the pictish King Brude at his fortress overlooking what is now Inverness. Brude refused to allow the missionaries into the fortress, but - it is said - at the sign of the cross being made by Columba, the barred gates of the fortress simply opened. The story goes on to record that the king, overawed by this miracle,



was converted on the spot, with the rest of the Picts not long after him.

Another story relates how on one of his journeys, St Columba encountered several Picts who were burying the body of a man who had been killed by an aquatic monster which lived in the River Nesa: a story that has often since been interpreted as the first written reference to the Loch Ness monster. It goes on to say that Columba then saved another man from the monster by ordering the beast to retreat, which it did.

St Columba died in the monastery he built on Iona in 597. The island became a place of pilgrimage, and has remained so ever since despite St Columba's remains being removed in 849 to protect them from Viking raiders. They were apparently divided between the Scots and the Irish, with half being sent by King Kenneth MacAlpin for safekeeping to Dunkeld, and the other half taken to the Church of Downpatrick.

St Columba's feast day is celebrated on June 9. Despite his obvious candidacy for the role, St Columba was supplanted by St Andrew as the Patron Saint of Scotland.



Bible Studies Feedback

Maybe you have thought about coming along but aren't sure, or wonder what is involved, or if you feel uncertain about joining in discussion.

Hopefully you will see that those who do come are all working through their faith journey and find that the more we look into God's word, the more he helps us on that journey.

We would love to see and share with more people, so why not give it a go this coming session?

We were studying *Proverbs* and it was a new series of books for all of us.

Here are some of our thoughts, with my thanks to all who shared them.





During worship on Sunday 16th July we read part of the sixteenth chapter of *Romans*, and whilst reading this letter of Paul, reading his thanks to the Christians in the church in Rome, I was encouraged to bring to you my own 'letter of thanks', which I enclose in the *Marksman* for those who were not in church that day, and for those who were, but who wish to read it again.

*To the Church of St Mark - Thank You.
Whenever I walk in through the open doors here at St Mark's,
I meet people of all ages and genders,
different people at different times of day,
here for different reasons.
I thank you for being my friends in Christ Jesus.
You all have been good to me.*

*Thank you to my co-workers in Christ Jesus
who serve the Lord with all their hearts,
contributing to the Mission of God in this place.
I am very grateful for all your support to me.*

*Thank you to all those who share with me what you have learned.
I thank you for sharing, for your honesty and openness, your own personal insights,
I embrace your teaching in my faith journey.
Thank you to all those whose lives have been transformed by Jesus Christ.
You have encouraged me to share the Gospel.*

*Thank you to all those who provided care and hospitality in my need,
you know how much I am fuelled by cups of tea!
I will always cherish your warm welcome, and your love.
Thank you to the young people, who have allowed me to share
in the joy of knowing Jesus with them.
Thank you to those who provide music and joy,
You make my heart sing.*

*Thank you to all those who have been with me in my struggles.
I appreciate your prayers for me.*

*Thank you to all those
who unknowingly demonstrate faith in their own way.
You have opened my eyes to celebrate diversity.*

*You are all important to me, as you are important to God.
Every church is made up of people.
We all need each other
and we are all in this together
in joy and in sorrow
as Jesus called us together as one family of God.*

Sonía



Shoe Box Appeal 2023

With a Christmas deadline somewhere in October, it is time to look out a shoebox. As the list of items is fairly extensive and box space tight, fitting everything in is a challenge both on the box and the purse.

You may want to share with someone to split packs or donate items.



Blythwood Care's 2022 Shoe Box Appeal produced nearly 89,000 gift-filled boxes, with boxes being donated from Shetland to Cornwall and from Northern Ireland to Kent.

Filled with small, practical items such as toiletries, stationery, and clothing, the individually-wrapped boxes have been distributed in schools, hospitals, orphanages and care homes, and to households in very low income communities. Many have gone to people affected by the war in Ukraine.

Overall, the boxes received were seven percent up on last year. The extra boxes allowed us to send three lorry-loads instead of two to Ukraine, around 16,000 boxes.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Your gift truly makes a difference.

Here is the plan for the next two months.

- 1 Get a SHOEBOX or let us know if you need one.
- 2 Decide who you are filling it for - MALE or FEMALE- Preschool, Primary, Teenager, Adult, Elderly.

AUGUST

Essential Items

Toothbrush and Toothpaste
Soap
Underwear/Socks/Tights
Hat, Scarf and Gloves
Child - Small Toy (cars, dolls, balls)
All ages - Sweets

SEPTEMBER

Toiletries ; Miscellaneous ; Stationery ; Clothes

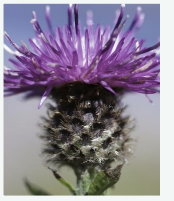
For each age group a list of suggestions for gift items to add to the essential ones will be available.

ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW.



Honours of Scotland

Presented to King Charles III at St Giles' Cathedral,
Edinburgh on 5 July, 2023



*By the symbol of this Sword, we pledge our loyalty,
entrusting you to defend our laws, and to uphold
justice and peace in our land.*

*By the symbol of this Sceptre, we pledge our
loyalty, entrusting you to seek the prosperity of this
nation, the Commonwealth, and the whole earth.*

*By the symbol of this Crown, we pledge our loyalty,
entrusting you to reign as our King in the service of
all your people.*



*What does the Lord require of you but to do justice,
and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your
God?*

May God give us grace to follow in this way.



The presence of the Stone of Destiny or Scone in this High Kirk of Edinburgh on this occasion is a historic moment in the life of Scotland.

Carved from the earth, this is a simple piece of stone. Yet, in its simplicity, it has precious and significant symbolism for the people of this land.

The Stone of Destiny – An Lia Fáil – is an ancient symbol of Scottish Sovereignty.



*Blessit be pure men in spirit: for the kingdom of heuenis is tharis.
Blessit be myld men: for thai sal weld the erde.
Blessit be thai that murnis: for thai salbe confortit.
Blessit be thai that hungriis and threstis richtwisnes: for thai salbe fulfillit.
Blessit be merciful men: for thai sal get mercy.
Blessit be thai that ar of clene hart: for thai sal se God.
Blessit be peciabile men: for thai salbe callit Goddis childir.
Blessit be thai that suffiris persecutioun for richtwisnes: for the
kingdom of heuenis is tharis.*

From Murdoch Nisbet's New Testament (1520), the first translation into Scots.

*Praise and honour to the Father,
praise and honour to the Son,
praise and honour to the Spirit,
ever Three and ever One,
One in might and One in glory while
unending ages run.*

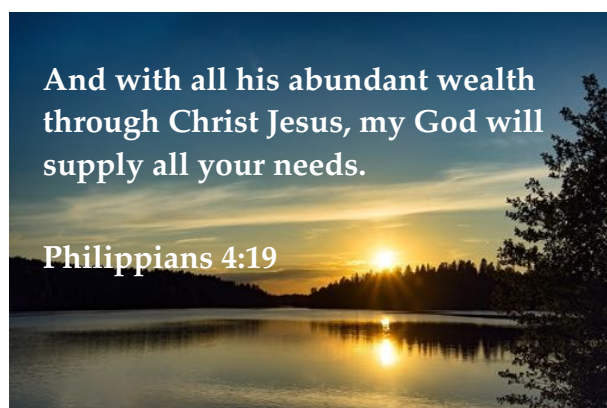


The worship is over, let the service begin.

Prayer Guide



SEPTEMBER, 2023		
Fri	1	Pray for mission workers around the world, including here in the UK, and for the many ways they are able to help others as well as sharing the gospel message through their work and words.
Sat	2	Our Bible Studies recommence this morning on Zoom at 10:15/10:30 am.
Sun	3	Sonia will lead our service today and we ask your blessing on her. <i>You serve me a six-course dinner right in front of my enemies.</i>
Mon	4	We think of all who live in Kinpurnie Road, Lanfine Road and Marchbank Gardens.
Tue	5	As the organisations within the church start up again, we pray for all the leaders and helpers, and for the young folk who will come along weekly. Bless the work they do.
Wed	6	Prayer groups this evening on Zoom and in church at 7:00pm. Bible Study recommences in Church at 7:45pm. 39thA Brownies return and welcome new members too.
Thu	7	Pray for Dawn and the choir as they begin practices soon. Be with them as they help lead us in worship and speak to each of us through the words and music.
Fri	8	There are thousands of refugees and displaced people in our world today. We pray that they may find safety and shelter, food and care to rebuild their lives.
Sat	9	Pray for Christians who work in the Arts – actors, musicians, artists, that they can show their faith through their creativity.
Sun	10	May you bless us as we meet this morning online or in church as we come to hear your word. Be with Sonia. <i>You revive my drooping head; my cup brims with blessing.</i>
Mon	11	We bring these street to you in prayer this week – Netherdale Drive, Newtyle Road and Newnham Road.
Tue	12	Remember the choir members and leader, Dawn, as they begin their rehearsals again soon. May they look to you to lead us in worship. Clyde Presbytery meets this evening – pray for Simone as she attends.
Wed	13	Prayer groups on Zoom and in Church at 7:00pm.
Thu	14	Pray for those in local and national government, and ask God to raise up people of integrity and discernment.
Fri	15	We pray for the homeless in our near community, that they would find housing.
Sat	16	Pray for our Bible Study group on Zoom this morning.



And with all his abundant wealth through Christ Jesus, my God will supply all your needs.

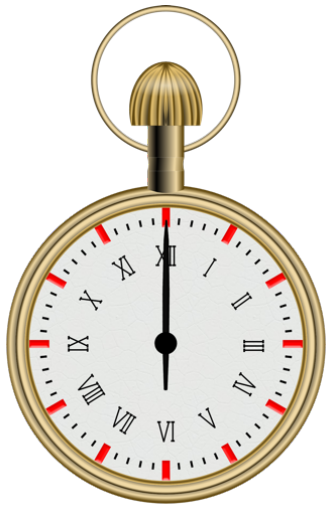
Philippians 4:19

Prayer Guide



SEPTEMBER, 2023		
Sun	17	<i>Your beauty and love chase after me every day of my life.</i> Our Harvest Service this morning as we give thanks to God for his bountiful provision to us. We also meet for a 'Bring and Share' Lunch and fellowship together. World Patient Safety Day.
Mon	18	We pray for those in Oldhall Road, Ossian Road and Penilee Road.
Tue	19	We thank you for the Flower Team who decorate our sanctuary weekly with beautiful displays, and for the joy the flowers bring to those who receive them.
Wed	20	Prayer groups on Zoom and in church at 7:00pm followed by Bible Study in church at 7:45pm.
Thu	21	Take time to pray for the Dementia-Friendly Café today and for the work being done through it. International Day of Peace.
Fri	22	We pray for the Foodbank in Renfrewshire, (and other places) and ask that we would give generously. We also pray that the need for such a thing would come to an end and that there would be fairness and equity in our society. Local September weekend holiday for schools.
Sat	23	Enjoy the leisure time that you have been given, and thank God for the opportunity to be refreshed.
Sun	24	<i>I'm back home in the house of God for the rest of my life.</i> Be with us as we meet for worship again this morning in church and online. Pray for Sonia and colleagues as they begin delivering training for Worship Leaders today.
Mon	25	We remember those in Ralston Avenue, Roffey Park Road and Rosshall Avenue.
Tue	26	Thank you for the Green Team who work, often behind the scenes, to keep our grounds neat and tidy, and help us with recycling, reusing and reducing waste. Schools go back today.
Wed	27	Prayer groups tonight on Zoom and in church at 7:00pm.
Thu	28	Pray for all those who work positions of caring – paid and unpaid – and help us support them where we can.
Fri	29	We pray for those on the margins of society and we ask that you would help challenge our perceptions and response to them. Help us show your love in action.
Sat	30	Bible study group on Zoom this morning at 10:15/10:30 am.

AND THIS IS THE PROMISE
WHICH HE HIMSELF MADE TO
US:
ETERNAL LIFE.
1 JOHN 2:25



Please send articles for the *Marksman* to the editor at :

marksman@stmarksoldhall.org.uk

Contribution deadline for Oct/Nov edition : **12 noon, 14 September, 2023.**