



# Parish News



*Dear Friends,*

If you find that this edition of the Magazine is later than usual then do not blame the Editor, it is entirely my fault. I have been rather busy of late and am shocked to find that we are so close to the end of the month, I have no idea where October disappeared to.

One of the most rewarding and joyful duties I had last week was to visit the Girls Brigade on Tuesday evening and the Boys Brigade on Thursday evening. This was to carry out a Dedication Service with each Organisation in the Halls on a meeting night. Usually this takes place in the church, but this month has been so busy, there was no time. In fact, it turned out to be a most valuable exercise as I got to meet the girls and the boys and was able to chat and see the work that was being done.

I can tell you that both Organisations are doing very well, the numbers not quite the same as before but very encouraging. I brought the best wishes of us all and I hope that everyone can find time in their prayers for the Girls Brigade and the Boys Brigade.

I was also at the Guild on Wednesday afternoon, and we had a great time. The afternoon session is proving very popular, and the numbers are almost back to Pre Covid-Level. I would encourage anyone who has not yet been to come along and join in the warm fellowship and sense of fun.

We looked at the teaching of Jesus where He is encouraging His Disciples by saying that no-one hides a light under a bowl [or a bushel]. We looked at that in a fun way with Rainbows [reminding us of God's

Promise to always be with us] and Stars [to let each person know that they are a star]. I asked them and now I am asking you to do three things which is better done with a friend or family member.

1. What Talent do you have? Eg. singing or painting or craft work or whatever. Write down your answer
2. What Talent do you have that is not Arty Crafty but a talent eg. Speaking to people, helping with the teas at church, helping others.
3. Write a wee note to Jesus promising to use these talents for His Sake. You will be surprised what you can come up and to find out how many talents you have.

On another note completely, we shall soon be holding the Remembrance Service in the church, and this will be on the 14<sup>th</sup> November at 10:30am. This year there will not yet be Colour Parties in the church or a Parade. We shall simply lay the wreathes at the church during the service as usual, then anyone who wishes to can join us up at the two Memorials. There will NOT be a service at the Memorials, simply wreath-laying after a prayer, at both Memorials.

I think that is all the news I have for you just now, and it's enough to be going on with I'm sure.

*May God Bless you and keep you,*

*Rev. Grace Saunders*

The Church is now open for full **Sunday Services** at 11.am and singing of Praise.

**Remembrance Service Sunday 14th November at 10.30am.**

You are requested to give your name and contact number at the entrance in case of tracing, should there be the need.

Masks of course should still be worn.

Seating will be every second seat at this time.

*(Services will be recorded and placed on Condorrat Church Facebook)*

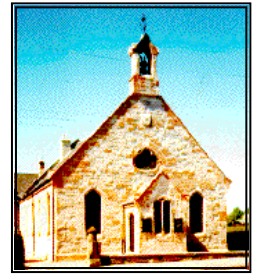
# Cumbernauld :Condorrat Parish Church



**Minister**  
Rev. Grace Saunders  
B.Th; B.Sc.  
Tel. 01236 452090)

## Session Clerk

**Family Development Worker**  
Mrs Susan Boland  
(SBoland@churchofscotland.org.uk)



## **SUNDAY SERVICES:**



*Morning Worship in the Sanctuary at 11am.*

**Communion Services** (1st Sun. – March; June; September; December.).....**11 am**

Check the *Condorrat Parish Church* blog on our website or at [www.ccosfive.wordpress.com](http://www.ccosfive.wordpress.com)

### **Cumbernauld Churches Together**

#### **PRAYER FOR CONDORRAT**

Circle Condorrat Lord  
Keep protection near and danger far,  
Keep hope within and despair without.

Circle Condorrat Lord,  
Keep light near and darkness far,  
Keep peace within and anxiety without.

Eternal Father, Son and Holy Spirit  
Shield Condorrat on every side.

Amen.

### **Sunday Welcome Teams**



#### **November 2021**

7th. — Mr. J. Moir and Team 4.  
14th. — Mr. J Newlands & Team 1.  
21st. — Mrs. L McKeown & Team 2.  
28th. — Mrs J. Bolling and Team 3.

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Church open but still with masks  
and social distancing.

#### **CLERK to THE BOARD**

Mrs Christine Macphail Tel: 728990

#### **TREASURER**

Mrs Ann Kenny Tel: 732377

#### **ROLLKEEPER**

Mr John Newlands Tel: 732632

#### **FABRIC CONVENOR**

Mr Gordon Bennie Tel: 734637

#### **FWO & GIFT AID ADMINISTRATOR**

Mrs Doreen Ross Mob. No. 07769 203648



#### **HALLS LETTING**

Mrs Elizabeth Hutton Tel: 07502 457198

Mrs Elizabeth McLean Tel: 07840 958133

#### **SAFEGUARDING CO-ORDINATORS**

Mr Alistair Robertson Tel: 734905

Mrs Elizabeth Masterton Tel: 723492

#### **CHURCH OFFICER**

Mr David Logie Tel: 724532

#### **Intimations & Parish News**

P Taylor Logan Tel: 07436 117346  
e-mail: [tayval@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:tayval@tiscali.co.uk)

## Intimation

The position of **Session Clerk** has been vacant for some time, yet this position is an important one in church life. It is mainly organisational and the person would need to work with a computer, be able to take minutes of the **Kirk Session** and carry out secretarial duties. The **Session Clerk** also has forms to fill in different times of the year to send to Presbytery or Church of Scotland Office. He or she would also set out and organise Communion.

The **Session Clerk** does not have to be a member of the **Kirk Session**, therefore, I am appealing to anyone who has organising skills to get in touch with me or a member of the Kirk Session. It would be great if two people would come forward to share this role and so support each other. I pray that someone would be moved to help the church in this way.

*Rev. Grace Saunders*

### The Treasurer

### November 2021

Dear Everyone,

Recently, I read this quote by Jim Bishop "Autumn carries more gold in its pocket than all the other seasons". I hope you have been able to enjoy the beauty which surrounds us. Looking out of a window at the variety as the leaves change colour, I think, is awe inspiring.

We have received a credit note, which will cover the cost of servicing the hygiene bins for a few months, from Initial. This is the result of considerable email communication.

We always require two people to internally audit our Organisations' Annual Accounts. For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021, Mrs Susan Gibson and Mrs Margaret McCallum will undertake this task. Thanks to both ladies for volunteering to do this.

Further to what I said last month, there will be no social "events" before the end of the year but we are going to have the Christmas Card Box. You will remember we used to have that. We each wrote a card to the whole congregation and, if desired, put a donation in with it before posting it in the box at the front door of the Church. All the cards were then displayed in the Church Hall. There will be more details about this elsewhere in the magazine. I re-iterate what I said last month and hope that we can raise some very much need funds through this initiative. Gift Aid will be claimed if appropriate.

What I said in last month's magazine, some of which I re-state here, remains true and is sincerely meant.

While I thank everyone who donates financially in any way to our Church, it is noted that our bank balance has decreased again this year. I hope that, following what was said at this year's General Assembly, the huge drain on our finances of our Ministries and Mission allocation will be alleviated next year, but

that cannot be guaranteed. Pre 2020, our Church would have received money from

Fabric envelopes at four Communion services.

So far this year we have had one such service as there was no March Communion and envelopes were not issued at the September Communion service.

A social event in most months.

The Christmas Card Box will be the only "event" taking place this year

Please consider how much you would have contributed when you attended events in previous years. If you are able, please contribute a similar amount in your Christmas Card to help our Church financially. With all the items which need attention to keep the buildings in good repair, it is essential that we all contribute what we can.

Please remember, also, that, if you are a taxpayer, your contribution can be increased by signing a Gift Aid form which can be obtained from Mrs Doreen Ross. If you have already signed such a form with the beneficiary being our Church, you don't need to do that again. It costs nothing but may be the difference between our Church surviving financially and not.

Item	Income 2019 £	Income 2020 £	Income to the end of August 2021 £
Fabric fund	2228	1311	594
Activities to generate funds	9161	355	We have had no social events so income from that source is zero.

Keep well, remain positive.....and

*May God bless you,*

*Ann Kenny*

*Hello Everyone,*

November 2021

What a difference a month makes! I'm writing this just before the clocks change, but already we are having to put our lights on indoors in the mornings and by late afternoon. And if we have dull, wet days, as we have recently, the lights are on for most of the day!

With all the publicity about COP26 it makes me much more aware of how much we depend on gas and electricity for heating, light and all the technology most of us use now. When we hear about the effects of global warming, especially on the poorest countries, I feel we have a duty to them and future generations – our children and grandchildren – to source our energy wisely.

We at Condorrat Parish Church have done our best, within our means, to be as eco-friendly as we can. We will review this regularly to keep abreast of recommendations.

The Session and Board met in the Sanctuary this week. It is getting towards the end of the year when our Church Organisation's 'Books' have to be audited. This is done by two members of the Board, and I'm happy to say that the auditors are now in place to do this when the time comes.

We were pleased to hear that our church hall has another let, to a Dance School I believe, giving us some income to off-set the costs of running and maintaining our buildings. Mr. Bennie has been kept busy dealing with many of the repairs that have become essential now that the buildings are being used more regularly.

It was decided that we would have a Christmas Card Post Box at the church door as in the

past. This gives you the opportunity to send greetings to your church friends, and if you choose to include a donation to our funds it will be very welcome! The cards can be displayed in the hall as before to give a bit of festive cheer. The Post Box will be in place for four Sundays, from 28<sup>th</sup> November until Christmas.

As I'm sure you will find elsewhere in the Newsletter, the Services from now till Christmas were put in the diary. Grace has a very busy schedule throughout December with Communion, *Carols by Candlelight* and three Services over Christmas weekend – Watchnight on Christmas Eve, a short service on Christmas morning and another on Boxing Day.

Mrs. Boland and the Outreach Group are looking forward to an Evening Service of Praise on 7<sup>th</sup> November and then, hopefully, an Outdoor Service where we can sing all the traditional Christmas Carols on 12<sup>th</sup> December.

It has been heartening to see more people venturing to church on Sunday mornings. Our numbers are less restricted and although we will probably have to wear masks for some time yet, services are returning to normal. You can even go for a cup of tea or coffee again, abiding by the social distancing and sanitising regime, of course.

I do hope you and your families are staying safe and well.

*Please remember our Church and  
all those who are members of our  
Congregation in your prayers.*

*Christine MacPhail*

*(Clerk to the Board)*

### The GUILD

*November 2021*

We started back in the Church Halls on 6th October at our new time of 1.30pm and after a short talk we settled down to have a Beetle Drive. This was played in pairs with no moving around. Between each round we had tea, biscuits and chocolates - just to keep our strength up. There was a lot of creative counting but eventually the winner was *Janette McKenna* on her first visit!

Our **Centenary Dedication Service** on 17th October was followed by Tea and Birthday Cake in the halls and everyone in Church that day was invited. The flowers from the window

ledges in the Sanctuary were given to *Molly Fleming*, our oldest member, and photos taken by Andy Eadie have been sent along with a report to the Cumbernauld News. It's safe to say we all had a lovely day and thank the minister for her input. Our 'Thanks' to everyone who helped on the day. Now it's back to "auld claes and purritch"!

Next meeting — 10th November  
at 1.30 in the church halls.

*Lesley Freeland*

*Tel: 01236 734930. Mob:  
0775771190*

*e-mail: lesleyfreeland@hotmail.co.uk*

Wondrous is the strength of cheerfulness, and it's power of endurance —  
the cheerful person will do more in the same time, will do it better,  
will persevere in it longer than the sad or sullen.



*My deep felt Thanks for the beautiful flowers from the Sanctuary, which I received following the death of my beloved Mum (Isa) who died peacefully at home, surrounded with her family, just before her 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. She greatly enjoyed her visits to our church and her days out with the Guild, where she was always warmly welcomed.*

*Thank You also, for your kind cards, texts, thoughts and prayers.*

*Mrs Sandra Graham*

**1<sup>st</sup> Condorrat Company**  
**The Boys' Brigade**

**1<sup>st</sup> Condorrat Company**  
**The Girls' Brigade**

We give 'Thanks' to EVERYONE for your continued support and hope you are keeping safe at this difficult and trying time.

**Check us out on 'facebook' !**

*Andrew Eadie*  
*(Company Captain)*  
**Tel: 07748 537621**

*Nicola Gilmore*  
*(Captain)*  
**Tel: 07557470195**

**Sunday Morning Tea/Coffee Rotas**



**November 2021**

- 7th.** - Mrs. Innes, Mrs. McLellan & Mrs. Proctor.
- 14th.** - Mrs. Graham, Mrs. Semple & Mrs. Freeland.
- 21st.** - Mrs. Diamond, Mrs. Lazzurri + 1 other.
- 28th.** - Mrs. Hynd + 2 others.

As you can see we have a few gaps in our ranks.

Mrs. Anne Forbes and Mrs. Evelyn Wales have retired due to ill-health and we thank them for their willing service over the years and give our best wishes for better health in the future.

Also, three of our team, Mrs. Maureen Muirhead, Mrs. Janette Waite and Mrs. Sandra Prested are on "temporary leave of absence" due to illness and domestic circumstances. We wish them and their families a quick return to health.

We welcome **Mrs. Jacqueline Lazzurri** to our team and would be pleased to hear from anyone else - we are unisex - who would like to join us.

Last, but not least, we look forward - with big smiles - to seeing you all again.

*Take care & God bless,*

**Mary Innes**

**giftaid it**

**Who can give through Gift Aid ?**

Anyone who pays Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax, which is annually at least equal to the Tax which the Congregation, and other Charities to which you make Gift Aid Donations, will reclaim on the financial value of your 'gifts' for that year.

**Gift Aid Declaration Forms** or further information is available from our **Gift Aid Convener:....**

**Mrs Doreen Ross**  
*Mob. No. 07769203648*

**White Donation Boxes**

Many thanks to all who continue to give a little extra through the white boxes this is very much appreciated.

Can I ask that if I am not at church when you bring your filled box that you please give it to the Team Leader on door duty and they will put it away safely until I am next at Church to collect it. Please remember to put your name on the label on the box.

*Thank you,*

**Mrs Doreen Ross**

Bill and Ben were brothers, but of very different natures. Bill was always pessimistic while Ben was always optimistic. This bothered their parents, the boys being so different, and they wished to try to redress the balance.

Christmas was upon them and they decided to fill Bill's stocking with as many goodies as possible - fruit, sweets, small toys, money - as much as they could cram in. But into Ben's stocking they just put horse manure!

On Christmas morning the parents eagerly awaited their boys' reactions.

Bill appeared first, but with a downcast face - the sweets were not right, the fruit had stones and the money was too little to buy what he wanted.

Then Ben appeared and to their great surprise he was all smiles, saying 'I haven't seen it yet, but I'm sure I got a pony!'



**Funerals:** "Blessed are they who die in the Lord." (\*member)

October

- 5th. - Mrs. Hannah McKeating of Condorrat
- 28th - Mrs. Grace Lowrie\* of Westfield



As the present conditions have prevented Funerals to be conducted with those who *would have* attended to pay their respects. There will be **Memorial Services in the Sanctuary** once we are fully allowed to come together again.

**Baptism:** Jesus said, "Go then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples: baptise them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit."



October

24th - **Tahlia Cassidy** daughter of Kenneth and Aileen McNaughton of Westfield.

**Visitations:** Due to the present crisis there will be no visits in person by the Minister.

The Fellowship/Prayer Group

November 2021

Our Prayers and thought this month are for all those who gave their lives for us and our future.



*They died that we might live.*

God grant that we may live such that they did not die in vain.

We shall remember them - and, in remembering, acknowledge the challenge they have thrown to us, for they died to make a better world, and our high task, as hard as theirs, is to live and make a better world; a world in which untimely war is outlawed; a world in which kindness and love and understanding and co-operation are the dominant aims an accomplishments.

Is this our dream?

Is it not in fact *their* dream, *their* shining ideal — they died with hope.

Let us live dedicated lives that their desires and hopes may come true.

All flowers conjure memories that range back through the years. Some evoke a happy thought and some come near to tears. But surely it's the poppy that has the power to raise scenes out of recollections of our yesterdays.

In the field of my childhood poppies grew; and could wildly make a glowing bed against the sky of blue.

Later in the first sweet flush of love, I can recall, poppies, like rose blooms upon a cottage wall.

And later still....a single poppy reverently laid, upon a the sacred mound that held a grave of memory said. Red it was to match the colour of the heart's blood shed.

**Poppies for Remembrance**

...of the living.... and the dead.

*All scripture is inspired by **God**; and is useful for teaching the truth; rebuking error; faults; and for giving instruction for right living.*

*2 Tim. 3:16,17.*



**Politics:**

Political ability is the ability to foretell what is going to happen tomorrow, next week, next month and next year....and have the ability afterward to explain why it didn't happen.

*Winston Churchill*

Politicians are the same all over. They promise to build a bridge even when there's no river.

*Nikita Krushchev*



**'AUTUMN'**

Fall leaves fall; die, flowers, away;  
Lengthen night, and shorten day!  
Every leaf speaks bliss to me,  
Fluttering from the autumn tree.

I shall smile when wreaths of snow  
Blossom where the rose should grow  
I shall sing when night's decay  
Ushers in a drearier day.

*Emily Bronte*



## 1st Condorrat Company The Boys' Brigade

November 2021

Hi Everyone!

We restarted our Company activities as usual, on the first week in September. I thought it might have been the beginning of a 'fresh start' due to the pandemic, but was quietly surprised to see good numbers turning up to join the 1<sup>st</sup> Condorrat Boys Brigade. We are delighted to say that not only have the Boys who came on the first night, still with us, but we have been encouraged by new members enrolling each week

Our numbers to date are: Anchor Section - 22.  
Junior Section -17 & Company Section - 7.

There are still uniforms (used, all sizes) for all Sections available, so please ask any of the Staff to check what's in stock.

The Rev. Grace Saunders very kindly agreed to come to the Boys Brigade on Thursday night 21<sup>st</sup> Oct. to take our company through it's Dedication Service.

AS i'm sure you are aware, this usually takes place on a Sunday, but due to falling numbers and the lack of support, our attendance record over the past few years has been very poor, hence the change of venue. That night was the first time all the Boys met as full Members of the 1<sup>st</sup> Condorrat Boys Brigade

Company which was a delight to behold.  
Thank You all for making the night a success.

We shall continue to advertise our Company by the various options open to us to encourage more boys to come and join.

We organized a Christmas Card Competition with the Anchor Section; their efforts were duly gathered in and handed in to the church to be viewed.

We received a message however, from one of our boys' mother to inform us that her son had *tested positive*. We cancelled Thursday 28th Oct. meeting as a precaution until we have further information

For further information regarding BB activities, uniforms or an update on what's happening please contact any of the Staff or myself....

Anchor Boys: Kris Tomas- 07554018417.  
Junior Section: Derek Russell- 07845768966.  
Company Section: Jamie Porritt,- 07860742720.

Thank you all for your support

*Take care Everyone.....*

*and Stay Safe,*

*Andrew Eadie*  
*(Company Captain)*

*Tel: 611 317 or 07748 537621*  
*e-mail: weandy222@gmail.com*



## The Girls' Brigade

November 2021

Girls and Officers have been meeting face to face for just over a month now and the Girls love being back in the Halls, despite Covid restrictions limiting what activities we can do.

The Girls have already started their badge work doing science experiments (messy but a lot of fun) and learning how to crochet, which they are enjoying. By the time you are reading this we shall have had a Fancy Dress Party ( details next month).

All Girls and Officers participated in a very lovely Dedication Service, and while it wasn't what we are used to, the minister made it *special* which was much appreciated.

We still have spaces for any Young Ladies age between Primary 1 to Year 6 in secondary school would like to come a join.

Just email : [first.condorrat.gb@hotmail.com](mailto:first.condorrat.gb@hotmail.com).

**Explorers:** P1-3 - 6.15pm till 7.15.

**Juniors:** P4-7 - 7.30pm till 9.00.

**Brigaders:** S1-6 - 7.30pm till 9.00.

Different Sections will also require to use different entry and exit doors and this will be explained to the parents by *email* or phone.

*Thank you for your continuing support,*

*Nicola Gilmore (Captain)*

Boris Johnson enters a Glasgow hospital ward full of patients with no obvious signs of injury or illness. He greets one patient. The patient replies,

*"Fair fa' your honest, sonsie face,  
Great chieftain o the puddin'-race!  
Aboon them a'ye tak your place,  
Painch, tripe, or thairm:*

Johnson is confused, so he grins and moves on to the next patient. The next patient responds,

*"Some hae meat and canna eat,  
And some wad eat that want it,  
But we hae meat and we can eat,*

Even more confused and his grin now rictus like, the Prime Minister moves on to the next patient, who immediately begins to chant,

*"Wee, sleekit, cowrin, tim'rous beastie,  
O, what a panic's in thy breastie!  
Thou need na start awa sae hasty,  
Wi' bickering brattle!"*

Now seriously troubled Johnson turns to the accompanying doctor and asks

*"Is this a psychiatric ward?"*

*"No"* replies the doctor,

*"this is the serious Burns Unit."*

*Of cheerfulness or good temper —*

*The more it is spent, the more it remains.*

*Emerson (7)*

**FAMILY DEVELOPMENT WORK/  
OUTREACH**

***November 2021***

I shall be attending a Glasgow Presbytery zoominar event "Communications Toolkit", on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November. This is a training session designed to help ministers, elders, deacons, MDS and church magazine editors/contributors to communicate more effectively with their congregation and parish. It will touch on social media and the usage of digital communication.

As I mentioned in my October article, there will be an indoor informal Evening Worship Service on **Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30pm**. Worship songs will include "Longing for Light", "This little light of mine" and "Colours of Day".

We shall be hosting an Outdoor **Christmas Carol Service** on **Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm**. Just wrap up warmly with hats, gloves, scarves and thermals! It will be held at the side of the library where the Christmas Tree will be providing further Christmas cheer. Everyone should come along; invite family and friends and join in with well-

known and familiar carols such as "O come all ye faithful", "O little town of Bethlehem" and "Hark the Herald Angels Sing". If the weather is inclement, i.e. pouring of rain, Service will be held in the Church.

The New Horizons group have been busy.

A Christmas Card competition was held through the Boys' Brigade and the Girls' Brigade where two designs were chosen – one from the boys and one from the girls. These designs have been passed onto a local printing company where they will be made into Christmas Cards and, with the Congregation's help will be distributed to homes throughout Condorrat, with Christmas greetings from the church. On the back of the card will be an invitation to all Services leading up to Christmas, (Outdoor Carol Service, Carols by Candlelight, Watchnight and Christmas Day). All that is required is for you to pop these through your neighbour's letterboxes. What a lovely way to invite folks to church — and with a children's Christmas Card design.

*Please continue to pray  
for the outreach to our parish,*

**Susan Boland**

***The Social Committee***      ***November 2021***

We are very aware that for almost two years we have been unable to have any fundraising events and I'm sure we've all missed the socialising these bring. Sadly we have also missed the income they bring to support the church.

There will be **no** Christmas Fayre again this year but we do plan to have the **Christmas Card Post Box** starting on Sunday, 28th November, and available for 4 Sundays. To remind you - this is rather than handing out lots and lots of cards we suggest writing one to everyone and maybe enclosing a donation covering the money you have saved. The cards will only be opened by Mrs Ross so only she will know the donation (if there is one) and then she will put the cards on the board in the Church Hall for everyone to see. This has always been a successful venture so hopefully it will be the start of us getting back to "normal".

Hopefully, next year, we'll be able to have more events again but we have to be 'safe'.

**Margaret McCallum**  
(Social Convener)  
(07799 281876)

***An email from heaven....***

One day, God was looking down at Earth and saw all of the rascally behaviour that was going on. He decided to send down an angel to Earth to check it out. So, he called one of His angels and sent the angel to Earth for a time.

When the angel returned, he told God, "Yes, it is bad on Earth; 95% are misbehaving and 5% are not."

God thought for a moment and said, "Maybe I had better send down a second angel to get another opinion." So God called another angel and sent him to Earth for a time too.

When this angel returned he went to God and said, "Yes, it's true. The Earth is in decline; 95% are misbehaving and 5% are being good."

God was **not** pleased. So, He decided to **e-mail** the 5% that were good, because He wanted to encourage them, give them a little something to help them keep going.

Do you know what the **e-mail** said?

No?

Oh, so you didn't get that **e-mail** either!

Anon



## Food –Bank Update

The Food-Bank Team were delighted to resume their local service of food distribution from Church House on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October. It was good to see some of the regular families return and a one or two new faces.

The team operate under Covid guidelines, wearing masks, hand sanitising and chairs are socially distanced. Everyone entering for food collection also wears a face covering.

We are grateful and fortunate to have had a team of regular volunteer's right from the beginning of this venture, however some folks have decided to step down, and we *Thank You* all for giving your time so willingly. We would be delighted to welcome more new folks; so if you are able to spare two hours occasionally on a Friday morning, we would love to hear from you. We organise a volunteer's rota so you may only be required to volunteer every 4/6 weeks - so not a big commitment, and the more the merrier.

What is involved for a volunteer? Organising the food bags for the families, making teas and coffees, and..... chatting!

If you feel you would like to help with the Food-Bank, supporting our church and reaching out to the local community please give me, Sheila Graham, a call. (Phone Number below).

The Food-Bank Team would like to thank the congregation for the amazing amount of donations that were brought to the Church for Harvest Thanksgiving – without your continued support the whole purpose of the Food-bank would fail.

Another BIG *Thank You* to Café Vanilla who delivered a substantial donation of food to Church House recently, we are very grateful for their generosity in supporting the Food-bank which has proved to be a much needed resource.

*Sheila Graham*

Food- bank Co-ordinator

Tel: 01236 611222

## Meeting God

A little boy wanted to meet God. He knew it was a long trip to where God lived, so he packed his rucksack with Mars Bars and a six pack of Irn-Bru and he started his journey.

When he had gone a short distance, he met an old man. He was sitting in the park, just staring at some pigeons. The boy sat down next to him and opened his rucksack. He was about to take a drink from his Irn-Bru when he noticed the old man looked hungry, so he offered him a Mars Bar. He gratefully accepted it and smiled at him. His smile was so pleasant that the boy wanted to see it again, so he offered him an Irn-Bru.

Again, he smiled at him. The boy was delighted! They sat there all afternoon eating and smiling, but they never said a word. As it grew dark, the boy realised how tired he was and he got up to leave, but before he had gone more than a few steps, he turned around, ran back to the old man, and gave him a hug. He gave him his biggest smile ever.

When the boy opened the door to his own house a short time later, his mother was surprised by the look of joy on his face. She asked him, "*What did you do today that made you so happy?*" The boy replied, "*I had lunch with God.*" But before his mother could respond, the boy added, "*You know what? He's got the most beautiful smile I've ever seen!*"

Meanwhile, the old man, also radiant with joy, returned to *his* home. His son was stunned by the look of peace on his face and he asked, "*Dad, what did you do today that made you so happy?*"

He replied, "*I ate a Mars Bar and drank Irn-Bru in the park with God.*" And, before his son could respond, he added, "*You know, he's much younger than I expected.*"

Too often we underestimate the power of a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring.

*(Author unknown)*  
— from Gordon Ross.

## Coronavirus in Scotland

- \* stay at home as much as possible
- \* Keep away from crowds of other people
- \* wash your hands often and always as soon as you return home

**Stay safe, Protect others, Save lives.**

- \* *always wear a face covering on public transport, shops and enclosed public spaces*
- \* **self-isolate if you have any symptoms and book a test**

Pictures to colour in:



A New Teddy!!

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