

Paisley South News



Easter 2022

Paisley South Church - Scottish Charity No SC 000558

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Pastoral Letter

Spring 2022

A letter from our Minister - Rev David Hood

I sit at my desk and realise that I have no confidence about what the next few weeks will bring us. Will the freedoms which we see returning have increased, and a restoration to less restricted activities be our daily experience - or will another variant emerge and cause alarm and restrictions? There is also deep concern around the implications of the International chess game which is being played by dictators and leaders, but which could cause suffering for millions of ordinary people - civilian and military. In three decades of ministry, I have never been more aware of insecurity about the near future. I have never felt less in control of my life. And like most people, I do not like to feel as if I have lost some control.

Are you tired of all of this? Fed up? Exhausted? I know most people are feeling that way. I frequently think about the endurance of the earlier generations - those who were alive during the World Wars. Four years and then only 21 years later a further six years, in times with no communication, no satellites, no news of loved ones far away or serving in the armed forces. No internet, television, or electronic distractions. Shortages of supplies and food. Limited information coming only through radio, newspapers, rumour and gossip. Long, lonely, worrying days and nights wondering and worrying. Wondering and worrying about loved ones, and wondering and worrying about how much longer it would be, and what the eventual outcome would be.

Many knew a renewed sense of the need for prayer and the power of praying. Ritualistic religious observance became the template for some, and others discarded such practises in favour of less formal praying at home or wherever they were. Facing mortality and experiencing death and destruction became universally known all round the world. Wondering about the place of God in the midst brought the same responses there have always been. The angry and cynical turned on God or those who believed in Him, accusing Him of impotence or worse, indifference. Believers turned TO God seeking his help, comfort

and strength, appreciating the difference He made.

The story of Easter, highlighting the victory over death earned by Christ, and driven by sacrificial love - resonated with millions. And still does.

Following World War 2, there was an initial period of continuing hardship and suffering, followed by years of rebuilding - with a positive commitment to creating a better world and community. As we continue to emerge from the Covid years, the message of God's love is as important and powerful as ever.

I wish to encourage you to resume attending Church and work together to rebuild our Church and community. Come along to the Holy Week services. Use the 'open doors' of Easter Saturday to visit the building in private, or join the short reflective service later in the day. Come to Easter Sunday and celebrate the message that 'Love wins'. Continue that celebration by coming to Communion the following Sunday.

Whatever the state of the world when you are reading this, I wish you renewed awareness of God's loving care, and a bright hope for tomorrow.

David

OUR MISSION

"PAISLEY SOUTH PARISH CHURCH EXISTS AS PART OF GOD'S CHURCH IN SCOTLAND TO GLORIFY GOD. WE AIM TO BE AN ACTIVE, LOVING, MODERN, CARING COMMUNITY OF FAITH, REACHING OUT TO THOSE AROUND US, SHARING THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS AND SERVING OUR PARISH"

FUNERALS

Did you know that the Church of Scotland is there to conduct the funeral of anyone who asks, free of charge? You don't have to go to church. You don't have to be a member. Most of the funerals I conduct are not for 'churchy' or religious people. Like most people they don't go to church, but probably believe that there is more to life than just this life on earth; that somehow after we die we continue in another place. Most of the time is spent telling the story of the person who has died - and that usually involves both smiles and tears - as well as reminding ourselves of the hope that our loved ones continue in another place.

A humanist celebrant will charge about £200 for their time and humanism is also a belief; it is a belief that there is no continuity of the soul, or life after death, no reuniting of loved ones 'up there.'

I want to let you know that I will never turn away a request for a funeral from someone in Paisley South's Parish, whether you go to church or not. And I will never charge for this service either.

I actually like conducting funerals because I love hearing and sharing all the stories that people tell about their loved ones. I like sharing the hope that our loved ones do somehow still live on in another place. I like that taking a funeral is one of the important things that the church offers to Paisley South which people appreciate and welcome, even if they don't come to church.

Most funeral services take place at a Crematorium, but there are still a number of families who bury their loved ones, often at Hawkhead Cemetery. Sometimes families ask to use the church for a service prior to the burial or cremation, and there is no charge for me or for use of the Church building, though we do ask that modest staff fees are covered.

If you need my help, please contact me through the church website 'Contact Us' page, or message through Facebook page, or phone me on 0141 587 9374, or ask the Funeral Director to do so. If you are reading this because your loved one is dying and you are trying to prepare, you are welcome to contact me now. I will try to offer whatever support you and your loved one desire.

David Hood
Minister

Easter Reflective Service

The emergence of the Omicron variant of Covid in December resulted in cancellation of services as we sought to protect the congregation and community. We were particularly sorry to cancel the Reflective Service - knowing how helpful it can be for some, and especially for those who have been recently bereaved.

On the Saturday of Easter weekend the church will be open for a few hours giving anyone and everyone an opportunity to spend time in the church. It is open to all and any who find the time of year difficult. It will be a gentle and peaceful chance to use the church and seek strength from God. It will be a place where humanity and emotion are accepted with love and without embarrassment. It is our desire that it is a safe space and time for all who feel they might value it. Doors will be open from 3.30pm until 7.30pm. There will be music playing quietly in the background. At 6.30pm there will be a short service lasting 20/25 minutes.

David Hood
Minister



Holy Week Services 10th to 17th April

Sunday	10th April	- Palm Sunday Service 11am
Thursday	14th	" - Maundy Thursday Service at 7:30pm
Friday	15th	" - Good Friday Service at 7:30pm
Saturday	16th	" - Doors Open 3:30pm - 7:30pm Reflective Service 6:30pm
Sunday	17th	" - Easter Sunday Service 11am

Worship Diary@PaisleySouthChurch

APRIL

- 3rd Psalm 126 and John 12 : 1 – 8
10th Psalm 118 : 1-2, 19 – 29 and Luke 19 : 28 – 40 **PALM SUNDAY**
14th *Maundy Thursday service at 7.30pm*
15th *Good Friday service at 7.30pm*
16th *Doors open 3.30pm – 7.30pm Reflective Service 6.30pm*
17th **EASTER DAY** Acts 10 : 34 – 43 and 1 Corinthians 15 : 19 – 26
24th Psalm 150 and Acts 5 : 27 – 32 **COMMUNION**

MAY

- 1st Psalm 30 and Acts 9 : 1 – 20
8th Psalm 23 and Acts 9 : 36 – 43
15th Psalm 148 and Revelation 21 : 1 – 6
22nd Psalm 67 and John 14 : 23 – 29 **Mrs Sandra Maxwell, Reader**
General Assembly Sat 21 – Fri 27 May
29th Psalm 97 and Acts 16 : 16 – 34 [Schools off Fri 27th and Mon 30th May]

JUNE

- 5th Genesis 11:1 – 9 + Acts 2:1 – 21 (**Pentecost**) **Rev Leslie Edge**
12th Psalm 8 and Romans 5 : 1 – 5 and John 16 : 12 – 15 (**Trinity Sun**)
19th 1 Kings 19 : 1 – 15a and Galatians 3 : 23 – 29
26th 2 Kings 2 : 1 – 14 and Luke 9 : 51 – 62 **COMMUNION**
Stated Annual meeting June 26th after morning worship

JULY

- 3rd Psalm 31 : 1 – 6 and Ephesians 2 : 19 – 22
10th Psalm 82 and Colossians 1 : 1 – 14
17th Psalm 52 and Colossians 1 : 15 – 28
24th Psalm 85 : 1 – 7 and Colossians 2 : 6 – 15
31st Psalm 107: 1 - 9, 43 + Colossians 3:1 – 11 **Mrs Sandra Maxwell, Reader**

AUGUST

- 7th Isaiah 1 : 1 , 10 – 20 and Luke 12 : 32 – 40 **Rev Leslie Edge**
14th Psalm 80 and Luke 12 : 49 – 56 **Rev Cindy Pollock RAH**
CHAPLAIN
21st Psalm 71 : 1 – 6 and Luke 13 : 10 – 17
28th Psalm 81 and Luke 14 : 1, 7 – 14 **COMMUNION**

Paisley South Church Choir



gg106504342 GoGraph.com

Now that restrictions are easing, and if you enjoy singing, have you considered joining the choir? We're not looking for solo singers. The only qualifications required are to be able to sing in tune and be available on Friday evenings between September and April. You don't have to be able to read music as you will learn as you sing. Rehearsals are relaxed and light-hearted. You will not be asked to sing on your own in front of everyone. In fact, the more singers we have the easier it is. Age is no barrier, as you can see on a Sunday morning!

If you are interested please do contact me or any choir member.

Martin Doole

CHORAL MUSIC FOR SPRING 2022

I thought you might be interested to know the titles of the music we are presenting and have presented during Spring 2022. You might wish to sing along with us online if you know them, or even join us in the choir.

Sunday 30 January

Introit: Love is the touch

CH4/115 verse 1.

Anthem: I don't ask a life of grandeur

Tune Calon Lan.

Sunday 6 February

Introit: Christ of God

CH4/453 verse 1.

Anthem: I was glad

C.H.H. Parry.

Sunday 13 February

Introit: Love of the Father

CH4/610 verse 1.

Anthem: Love one another

S.S Wesley.

Sunday 20 February

Introit: Through waves and storms

CH4/270 verse 2.

Anthem: Never weather-beaten sail

Charles Wood.

Sunday 27 February

Introit: How shall I sing that majesty

CH4/128 verse 1.

Anthem: Magnificat in Bflat

C.V. Stanford.

Sunday 6 March

Introit: Forty days and forty nights

CH4/337 verse 1.

Anthem: Go forth into the world

John Rutter.

Sunday 13 March

Introit: Jesus, tempted in the desert

CH4/338 verse 1.

Anthem: I'll see you again

Hill and Doole.

Sunday 20 March

Introit: And Jesus said "Don't be afraid"

CH4/344 verse 1.

Anthem: Jesu, joy of our desiring

J.S.Bach.

CHORAL MUSIC FOR SPRING 2022 (Cont.)

Sunday 27 March

Introit: The great love of God CH4/358 both verses.
Anthem: I give you my hands, Lord Christopher Tambling.

Sunday 3 April (Passion/Care Sunday)

Introit: For us he prayed CH4/354 verse 3.
Anthem: Lord, I lift my hands to you Beethoven/
Noel Rawsthorne.

Sunday 10 April (Palm Sunday)

Introit: Shout Hosanna CH4/368 verse 1.
Anthem: Proclaim the story Charpentier/
Noel Rawsthorne.

Thursday 14 April (Maundy Thursday)

Introit: This is the night CH4/375 verse 1.
Anthem: Lord of all Malcolm Archer.

Friday 15 April (Good Friday)

Introit: Holy God CH4/379 refrain.
Anthem: O Saviour of the world John Goss.

Sunday 17 April (Easter Day)

Introit: At dawn CH4/408 verse 1.
Anthem: Sing to God Andrew Moore.

Sunday 24 April (Low Sunday)

Introit: Now the green blade riseth CH4/417 verse 1.
Anthem: Now is eternal life Richard Lloyd.

Martin Doole
Organist and Choirleader

Pastoral Committee

The Pastoral Committee would like to ask your help by letting us know of anyone who would like a Pastoral Visitor. If you know of any member celebrating their 90th or 100th Birthday, again please inform us of this.

Blister Packs

Thanks to all who have brought along empty medical blister packs to be recycled To date we have filled 10 black bags. Please keep bringing them as they get recycled and a Donation is sent to the Marie Curie Fund.

Margaret Banks

PARISH REGISTER



BAPTISM

Adam James Wright - 13th March 2022

DEATHS

CHURCH MEMBERS

Thomas Johnston - 6th November 2021

Jean Greer - 26th November 2021

Christabel Cruikshank - 12th January 2022

Mary Ferguson - 18th January 2022

Samuel Wilson - 27th January 2022

Lily Boyter - 1st February 2022

Eleanor Bolton - 28th February 2022

Moira Curry - 3rd March 2022

Elsie Niven - 12th March 2022

Stewart McEwan - 17th March 2022

PARISH

Thomas Carnachan - 15th February 2022

*The Lord will watch over your coming and going
both now and for evermore*

Psalm 121 v8

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Communion
during our morning worship on

Sunday 24th April 2022

Sunday 26th June 2022

Sunday 28th August 2022



PRAYER

Are you willing to pray for people who have requested they be remembered in prayer? As part of a group of people you would receive regular emails listing requests received. At times there would also be additional urgent requests. The process would involve ensuring that the person requesting the prayer retained control over what information was shared. This is especially important if anyone should ask for prayers for someone else. Confidentiality, privacy and dignity are essential.

If you are interested in helping in this way, please email Sarah Steven on sarah.h.steven@gmail.com

FOODBANK DONATIONS

On behalf of the Housing Advice and Homeless, we have all seen and been affected by the recent news reports of increases in fuel prices, cost of living and National Insurance which are particularly causing increasing hardship to people who were just getting by; and of course, affecting people in homeless units across Renfrewshire. The Foodbank supplies those referred by (for example) support & social workers, individuals and families with 3 days' supply of food and essentials and gives advice and support to help in their time of crisis.

Because of these increases in costs there has been an increase of referrals to the Foodbank. The outreach committee has recommended on the congregation's behalf, to start weekly collections for the Foodbank. There are plastic boxes for donations located in both the Hall and Church vestibules with reminder lists attached for the weekly donations. The list below are items that are currently urgently needed, which we would appreciate being donated.

Tinned Custard /Rice pudding

Biscuits (chocolate)

Milk UHT (blue, green)

Diluting Juice(small)

Shampoo

Household cleaning Items (washing Powder, surface cleaners)

Deodorants (male & female)

Bags for life.

Lists by the donations boxes may change from time to time as warehouse stock changes. Please keep an eye on these for the latest information.

For clarity you may wish to know that the Homeless Unit also refers its clients to the Foodbank so they would still be receiving Paisley South's support on a weekly basis.

It is also the intent to continue an uplift of non-foodbank donations 3 times annually from Paisley South Church at times to be announced.

Thank you in anticipation,
Roslyn Barbour

APRIL THANK OFFERING



This offering seeks to aid the work of the HSP (Hereditary Spastic Paraplegia) Support Group who reach out to those affected by this condition and their families and carers.

They offer help, support and practical advice and seek to improve the quality of life of those with the condition.

Through funding of research they hope new treatments will be developed and understanding of this rare condition will be improved.

Our minister and his family have firsthand experience of how helpful this charity can be.

Go to hspgroup.org for more information.
Please give generously.

Carolyn Kyle

Change for Good

There is now a box in the vestibule marked

'Change for Good'

Why not donate some change and help a very worthwhile, Scottish-based charity?

The designated charity for 2022 is Mary's Meals . This charity reaches out to people of all faiths and none. It provides chronically hungry children with one meal every school day, encouraging education that can lift them out of poverty in later life.

Two million children in twenty countries are fed each day. £15.90 will feed one child for a whole year!

Carolyn Kyle

FINANCE



At the time this article is being drafted, my layman's version of the 2021 Annual Accounts is with our Independent Examiner for scrutiny and comment. As ever, it will come as no surprise to me if these are returned with the phrase that haunts me from my schooldays "could do better". 🙄 "Could do better" might also be a reasonable comment on our financial performance in 2021 (and many prior years), and yet, given the circumstances of 2021, perhaps "could have been a lot worse" is more apposite. My apologies if that sounds a bit like being damned by faint praise! The Kirk Session is well aware of the many constraints on normal activities in 2021 and is grateful to those members who steadfastly continue to show their financial (and other) commitment to the work of the Church. It is also mindful of the passing during 2021 of many of the congregation's staunch financial supporters.

The financial statistics within the accounts are dominated by the many property transactions which took place last year. You may recollect that, in November 2020, we sold the manse at 36 Potterhill Avenue for the sum of £255,500 (net cash receipts of £251,389). That sale was accounted for in the 2020 Annual Accounts. In January 2021, we purchased a new manse at 6 Southfield Avenue for the sum of £410,000. In February 2021, we sold our manse at 31 Southfield Avenue for the sum of £320,005. Unsurprisingly, as the sale of no. 31 had not been concluded when the price for no. 6 had to be settled, we had to take a short-term loan (£180,000) from the General Trustees so as to conclude that transaction. That loan has been repaid together with £1,184 interest. When the income and expenditure relating to all of the foregoing property transactions is aggregated, there was net cash gain to the congregation of £144,650. The Regulations provide that the General Trustees are entitled to a levy of 10% on such gains, and the sum of £14,465 has been paid to them. As if that was not enough for one year, Presbytery's approval was then sought, and granted, for the sale of our church and halls at Neilston Road. The sale of those buildings was concluded in October and the price realised was £238,000. During the sale process a major temporary roof repair had to be carried out so as to comply with our insurance obligations. The cost of that repair was £17,028. Subsequently, that cost was reimbursed to us from the proceeds of the sale

of the buildings. After deduction of sale expenses, and the cost of the roof repair, the net proceeds were £215,338. Again, the Regulations provide that the General Trustees are entitled to a levy of 10% on such gains, and the sum of £21,534 has been paid to them. The remaining monies, £193,804 is held in the name of the congregation in the General Trustees' Consolidated Fabric Fund capital account. That sum will be invested, and the income generated will be deposited in an income account in our name. The Regulations provide that we can offset ordinary fabric expenses against that income, and, subject to Presbytery approval, major capital fabric expenditure can be reimbursed from the capital account.

It is seldom that church accounts fail the “curate’s egg” test, and this year is no exception. Our ordinary unrestricted income (£133,338) is less than our ordinary unrestricted expenditure (£169,676), a shortfall of £36,338. Those amounts include £17K in respect of the reimbursement and disbursement, respectively, for the aforementioned roof repair. One-off costs of about £6K also are included. The overall shortfall, in part, is offset by a gain of £20,005 (not included in the amount of income) in the sale of the manse. Nonetheless, our day-to-day income is not meeting our expenses. At the risk of being accused of looking for crumbs of comfort, as compared to 2020, our like for like income is broadly the same and our expenditure is £4K less. On a more reassuring note, our balance sheet is now transformed such that, on 31 December, we had unrestricted funds of £201,586 in investments, £42,701 in cash and £193,804 as a credit balance for fabric expenditure held in our name by the General Trustees. This provides a sound financial platform for our future work and needs.

At its meeting in November 2020, the Kirk Session approved the budget of £5,403 for the installation of permanent cameras for the livestreaming of services. It did so on the premise that, if necessary, the whole cost of the installation would be met from congregational funds. This project has been an unqualified success. As with most IT projects, however, the budget required a degree of elasticity. In this instance, it was stretched because it became obvious that it was prudent to upgrade the computers upon which it was dependent. A side benefit of this upgrade was that we now are able to store all of our church records on the system. The final cost of the

installation was £7,656. Thanks to (a) grants of £2,800 from Clyde Presbytery and £2,100 from The AllChurches Trust, and (b) three generous gift aided donations from members, the amount which was met from congregational funds was £881. ☺

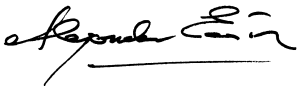
It has been my custom in year-end reports to encourage members to give thought to providing a legacy to the Church in their Will. I am aware that to many members this may be a “Marmite” topic. Nonetheless, it has been, and will remain, a valuable means of providing finance for our future needs. It is with gratitude that I confirm receipt of a restricted legacy of £7,555 from the estate of the late Jenny Dewar (this is to be used to support youth work in the congregation), and an unrestricted legacy of £5,000 from the estate of the late Harry Green. Lastly, I again remind everyone that the proper stewardship of our financial affairs is an ongoing and ever-present requirement. It is not a matter for a ‘from time to time’ special appeal. It is something which each of us must conscientiously reflect upon on a regular basis, and so I ask:

Have you reviewed your regular giving to the Church?

If you pay income tax, are you a member of the Gift Aid Scheme?

Have you remembered the Church in your Will?

Jean Lindsay (tel. 0141 561 2433) will provide any assistance that you require regarding donations under the Gift Aid Scheme or by standing order. The ability to pay our way as a congregation is not a matter of discretion; it is an obligation to which we all committed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jean Lindsay', with a horizontal line underneath.

Treasurer

WORLD MISSION NEWS

I have had no news from the Church of Scotland since the start of the pandemic - the last letter was in February 2020, and was letting us know that the World Mission Council had been wound up and replaced by an umbrella body, the Faith Impact Forum. Hopefully we will hear from them soon, now restrictions are being lifted.

Our friends Sam and Ruth Lee with O.M.F. continue to keep in touch. They left Thailand for the Netherlands (Ruth's home) in 2021, hoping to spend a year there while their sons, Mark and Paul, settled in at university. However, with being a British citizen, Sam had great difficulty in obtaining a residence permit in the Netherlands after Brexit. He's now applied for Dutch citizenship and has been told he can submit his application for Dutch nationality in October 2023. They had hoped to be back in Asia by then! Sam is able to work with O.M.F. in other ways but longing to get back to the front line. Ruth is teaching Apologetics, which she never dreamed of doing but is enjoying being stretched in her thinking and has 60 people signed up to her course. Mark, Paul, Lisa, Johannes and Anneka are all doing well. Sam cannot give us much news about mission work in Asia but in their former country, work goes on and many national workers have been reaching remote villages. The February letter ends with thanks for our continued prayers and support.

Elizabeth Gibson



YOU ARE WELCOME IN THIS PLACE

War Memorials

Chris McMenemy and Kay Bowman are researching details of those who are named on the War Memorials in the vestibule of the Church.

They have acquired basic details of those who gave their lives in both World Wars and are inscribed on the memorials. However, any personal information, memorabilia, memories or photographs about these men would be appreciated. In particular Chris would be interested in obtaining information on:-

Robert C Bolton,
Robert G Turley
William L Jackson.

Please contact them on

kard.bowman@gmail.com

for World War 1 - Kay

christophermcmenemy1947@yahoo.co.uk

for World War 2 - Chris

We wish to thank all those who contributed to this magazine and apologise for any omissions or changes to the original text.

Please advise your Elder if you would like to have a large print version of the Newsletter.

Items for future editions may be handed direct to the office or emailed to paisleysouthchurch@outlook.com



www.paisleysouthchurch.org

Don't forget to keep an eye on our website for information about our Church. You can find details of our Sunday services and other opportunities for worship and fellowship, our children and youth programmes, special upcoming events and other activities. Have a look and let us have your comments!

You can also follow us on Facebook



www.facebook.com/paisleysouthchurch/

Data Protection Act, 1998

It is normal practice to include the names and phone numbers of our office bearers and other individuals in the Church. If any person does not wish to have their personal details included please inform the office.

