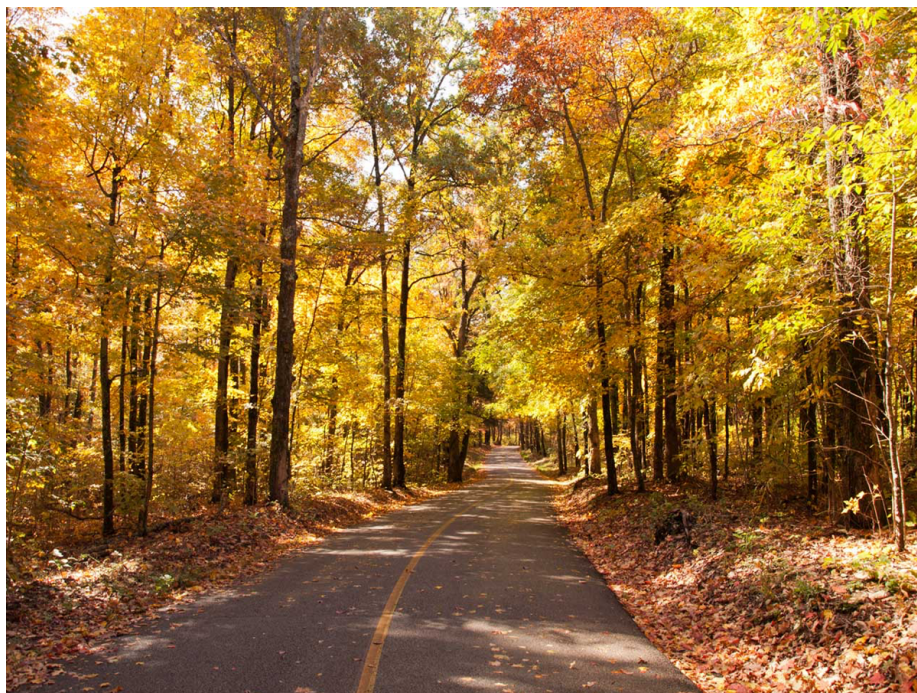


# **St. Columba's Congregational Magazine**



**Autumn 2018**

**St Columba's Parish Church**  
Old Aisle Road  
Kirkintilloch  
G66 3HQ

**Minister: Rev. Philip Wright**

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The Church Office is staffed from 09.00 to 12.00  
during school terms.

**Secretary: Miss Janet Brown**

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**Charity No. SC008735**

## From the Manse

This October marks the beginning of the 50th anniversary year of St Columba's Church. One of the events we'll be holding to celebrate the occasion is a Ceilidh on Saturday 24th November. I hope many from our church and community will be able to come!

The Bible has a special name for a 50th anniversary year. It is called the 'Year of Jubilee'. In Leviticus chapter 25 God gave his people instructions for the 'Year of Jubilee'. It was to be a year when land and property were returned to their original owners and when slaves were set free. This was a tangible reminder to the people that all they owned really belonged to God – and that he is a God who delights to set people free.

In the New Testament, the Year of Jubilee takes on a new meaning when it is associated with Jesus' earthly ministry. It is called 'the year of the Lord's favour' (Luke 4:19). Indeed, Jesus came to set us free from sin through his death on the cross and, in so doing, he made it possible for us to belong to God in a new way – as his children.

As we look forward to celebrating this 'Year of Jubilee' here at St Columba's, my prayer is that it would be for each one of us a 'year of the Lord's favour'. A year when we truly experience the freedom Jesus came to bring. A year when we are reminded in a fresh way that all we are and have really belongs to God.

**Your minister and friend,**

**Philip**

## The Church Family



### Deaths

We are saddened by the death of two of our members Jack Young and Vi Barbour. We are also saddened by the death of Margaret Staward, formerly of Muirside Avenue and latterly Stenhousemuir. We extend our sympathy, love and prayers to their families.

### Baptism

We are delighted to celebrate the baptism of Ellis Greenaway.

### Wedding Anniversary

We are delighted to celebrate the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Brian and Carol Ashcroft.

### Thank you

Jean Davidson would like to thank all who have sent cards, phoned, visited and prayed for her in recent months as she has been unable to be with us in person. Jean is most appreciative of the love and care shown to her by the St Columba's family.

### Bereavement Service

There will be a short Bereavement Service at 3pm on Sunday 2nd December 2018. All those who have lost loved ones will be very welcome to attend.

## Great Grandfather

Tom Fawcett has become a great grandfather following the birth of Zac earlier this summer.

## Special Birthdays

Special birthdays for 2 ladies in August with Helen Woods celebrating her 90th and Violet Anderson her 96th.

October will also see Helen's husband, Alan, reach 90 to catch up with his wife.

## Daily Bible Readings

Aids to a daily schedule of bible readings can be very beneficial and there are several such booklets available. One such publication which can certainly be recommended is the interdenominational "Upper Room" which is published in 33 different languages and which features short daily readings and meditations from contributors all around the world. Each issue covers a 4 monthly period.

Sample copies of the May edition which were placed on the Welcome Table at the back of the church were soon picked up and, at the time of writing, there is only one left.

The next edition will contain readings from September – December and the intention is to again have copies available on the Welcome Table for people to take home and use. You will find them a very useful aid and the "Upper Room" can be commended to you wholeheartedly.

## Sunday Club & Bible Class

We look forward to the start of the new session this August following the summer Sunday Club which finished on the 12th August. This session marks the beginning of a Bible Class for those of secondary school age which will run alongside the Sunday Club during the Sunday morning service. We expect four children from the Sunday Club to move into this Bible Class and look forward to the year ahead with this new setup. If you know of anyone that would like to come along to the Sunday Club or Bible Class please invite them along, we would warmly welcome anyone that wishes to join us.

Looking ahead to the new session we have also begun planning extra activities as part of the Sunday Club and Bible Class. The calendar for the year ahead is as follows:

Wed 31st October	Light Party at Manse	5.30pm
Sat 15th December	Christmas Party	2.00pm
Sat 16th February	10 Pin Bowling & McDonald's	12 noon
Fri 31st May to Sat 1st June 2019	Camping Trip	4.00pm Departure

## Scott Inglis

### The Leprosy Mission

A big thank you to everyone who is still collecting all their loose change for The Leprosy Mission.

I have been given jars of money every few weeks, and since the beginning of May we have collected nearly £100.

Hopefully we will have a big fund raising event over the winter, in the meantime please keep collecting.

## Margaret McCallum

## Christianity EXPLORED

Christianity Explored is a way of sharing the best news ever heard, and gives people space and time to think about the big questions of life. Over 7 sessions in Mark's Gospel, find out more about the life of the person at the heart of the Christian faith - Jesus Christ.

25 people have now attended some or all of a Christianity Explored course here at St Columba's.

If you would be interested in attending a daytime Christianity Explored course, probably on a Wednesday morning, please speak to Philip.

[www.ceministries.org](http://www.ceministries.org)

## Discipleship EXPLORED

Discipleship Explored is the sequel to Christianity Explored. It is an eight-session journey through Paul's letter to the Philippians and is ideal for believers at any stage of the Christian life.

Redesigned for 2018, it features brand-new documentary-style films and inspiring real-life stories from around the world. There are also Bible Studies and weekly reading plans.

We hope to run two Discipleship Explored groups – one at 10am on a Thursday morning and the other at 7:30pm on a Thursday evening – with both groups starting on Thursday 20th September.

If you would be interested in joining a Discipleship Explored group, please speak to Philip or leave your name with Janet in the Church Office.

[www.ceministries.org](http://www.ceministries.org)

## Oasis

Oasis will be opening its doors again to start our tenth year of serving soup, light lunches and home baking on 27th September from 12 – 1.30pm and will continue thereafter on the last Thursday of each month.

We hope to welcome back all our regular customers but would also like to encourage some new faces to give us a try. Everyone will be made very welcome and we hope you enjoy the company, chat and cake. One or two new volunteers who could help out occasionally on a Thursday would also be much appreciated.

Over the years we have been able to give a substantial amount of money to a variety of charities, as well as supporting the ongoing needs of St Columba's, and we would hope to again have sufficient profits for this policy to continue.

## Marilyn Gibb

## Friendship Club

The new session of our Christian club for young people of school age with learning disabilities begins on Wednesday, 29th August and continues every fortnight when we meet in the small hall from 6.30 – 8.00 pm. The children learn about Jesus and the Christian life through a range of appropriate – and often noisy(!) – activities.

Siblings are also welcome to attend and the parents/carers appreciate their time together over a cup of coffee.

If you know of anyone who would benefit from our club please speak to the minister or any member of staff.





## 1st Kirkintilloch Company

Officers and helpers from all Sections attended our end of session team building exercise which consisted of a meal and a blether, a great opportunity to relax in each other's company after a long, but enjoyable, session.

The Company had a stall at Kirkintilloch Gala Day in Woodhead Park. The games proved popular and we managed to raise some funds for the Company but, more importantly, we were able to demonstrate that the BB is alive and well in Kirkintilloch. Luck was smiling on us that day as we managed to get all our gear packed away before the rain came on.

Our 2018-19 session starts on **Friday 7th September.**

**Anchors** for boys in P1 – P3 meet at 6.15pm,

**Juniors** for boys P4 – P6 meet at 6.45pm,

**Company and Seniors** for Boys P7 – 18 years of age meet at 7.30pm. We are hoping all previous members will return but there are vacancies in all age groups. More details can be found on our website [1kirkintilloch-boys-brigade.btck.co.uk](http://1kirkintilloch-boys-brigade.btck.co.uk).

We would like to recruit a couple of adult helpers. No previous experience necessary, training will be provided. Anyone interested in being an officer or helper should contact the Captain or the minister.

**Allan Geekie**

## Anchor Boys

After a glorious summer we are looking forward to the new session at Anchor Boys which starts on Friday 7th September at 6.15 pm.

We are all looking forward to seeing how much the returning boys have grown over the summer and also meeting some new faces.

If you know of any boys in P1 - P3 they would be more than welcome to join us for games, crafts and bible stories.

**Lorna, Margaret, Lorna, David and Craig**

## Junior Section

It seems no time since we wished everyone a great summer break and for once it has been a great summer. Now as the days begin to shorten we turn our thoughts to the start of another session.

Like the other sections we start back on Friday 7th September at our usual time of 6.45pm. At the end of last session some boys moved up to the Company Section but we are looking forward to welcoming our new recruits coming up from Anchors. Although our numbers remain healthy we still have room for any other boys who may wish to give the Boys' Brigade a try. So if you know of any boys in the Primary 4 – 6 age group then please tell them about us as they will be made most welcome to come and see what we get up to.

The officers & boys appreciate the support given to us by the Church family and we hope that you will remember us in your prayers as we embark on another hopefully successful year.

**JUNIOR SECTION FRIDAY 6.45pm – 8.15pm IN THE CHURCH HALL**

**Fraser McCallum**  
**O.I.C. Junior Section**

## **Company Section**

At our display in May the main prize winners were:-

**Regular Attendance** - Pte Liam Ewing, Pte Ben Ormerod.

**Excellent Attendance** - Pte Jackson Coyle, Pte Jack Haughey, Pte Lee Henry, Pte Dean McAdam, Pte Rhys McGilvray, Pte David Penrice, Pte Scott Stewart, Pte Callum Swan.

**Cross Country Trophy** - Pte Callum Swan.

**Best Squad** - The Squad medal was contested over eight months. Each Squad won the competition at least once.

The total points gained by each Squad were 4118, 4198 and 4413 and the worthy winners and Best Squad of 2017-18 was Squad 3 – Squad Commander Pte Dean McAdam.

**Best Recruit** - Pte Scott Stewart.

**Best Intermediate** - Pte Callum Swan.

**Best Senior** - Pte Dean McAdam.

**Ken Cape Memorial Cup** - S/Sgt Matthew McNeil.

**President's Badge** - L/Cpl Callum Wares.

Congratulations to all the prize winners and a thank you to all the other members for their contribution over the session.

Following the display, we ran several summer activities, a Tour de Kirkie cycle run, kayaking on the Forth and Clyde canal, thanks to Mrs Alison Higgins, and a mini hill walk over Croy Hill. Unfortunately, our planned barbeque had to be cancelled due to holiday commitments kicking in once the school term finished. We will get the timing better in future.

**Allan Geekie**

## **Men's Club**

After such a beautiful summer it is difficult to turn one's thoughts towards winter activities.

The Men's Club will restart at 7.30 pm on Monday 1st October and, as always, we look forward to welcoming back our regular members but we would really like some new members to come and join us.

If you would like to consider joining but are unsure about doing so why not come along and have a sample evening with us? You will be made most welcome and will enjoy the friendship and fellowship of our group.

The majority of our evenings are games nights with table tennis, pool, snooker, carpet bowls and for the less active darts and dominoes. There is also plenty of opportunity for a chat.

We also have three speaker evenings and get-togethers with other local Clubs.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of the Club, please phone me on 0141 776 6349.

**Edward Rogerson**

## **CRAFT GROUP**

We start again on Monday, 24 September at 1.30 pm meeting every fortnight.

New members always welcome for inspiration, relaxation, chatteration and hopefully, creation.

**Margaret**

## **THE GUILD**

Fifty years ago the first session of our Guild took place. We look forward to starting this anniversary one on Tuesday, 18th September with an evening of Music and Magic. We have a varied and interesting syllabus planned with something for everyone. A big welcome back to all our members and a special welcome for new faces. If you are unable to come along regularly, do keep an eye on the Intimation Sheet and join us for items of interest.

**Margaret Rogerson**  
**Secretary**

## **Following Jesus Group**

This is a new group for adults with learning disabilities.

In a happy and relaxed atmosphere members, together with their carers, will learn about following Jesus.

Our first meeting will be on Wednesday 3rd October at 7.30pm – 9.00pm and thereafter on the first Wednesday of every month.

We now have an enthusiastic team of leaders, but everyone can help by –

1. Encouraging anyone you know who has a learning difficulty (16 – 80) to join us – they will come to know Him better and make new friends.
2. Remember us in your prayers.

**Pat Muir**

## **Autumn Work Nights**

We have had a great response to the appeal for folks to help with the cleaning, painting and decorating jobs around the church building over July and August.

We are planning a further three work nights over the next term. These will be held from 6pm to 9pm on the following

**Wednesday** evenings:

Wednesday 19th September

Wednesday 31st October

Wednesday 21st November

If you are able to help on any or all of these evenings we'd love to see you! There's no need to sign up in advance - please just turn up on the evening. Come when you can and leave when you must!

## **Singing Group**

Do you enjoy singing? Would you like to help introduce some new songs to the Sunday morning service? Then why not come to the Singing Group? You don't need to be able to read music and new members are always welcome!

This term, the singing group practices between 7pm and 8pm on the second Monday of the month, i.e. 10th September, 8th October, 12th November & 10th December.

We have two extra practices in the run up to Christmas, 7pm on Monday 3rd September & 10am on Saturday 8th September.

## Used Stamps

All used stamps will again be going to the Church of Scotland "World Mission Stamp Project" which is based in Wishaw.

Please put your stamp donations into the marked basket in the church vestibule.

Please leave about one centimetre of paper around the stamp when you remove it from its envelope.

Thank you for your support in this venture.

## The Pastoral Team

Our role is to let the congregation know that their church family cares about each of them. We do this by sending a card, arranging a visit, or by just making a telephone call.

However, we can only do this if you let us know when and where there is a need. So please, if you know of anyone who is ill or is having a difficult time please contact me or the church office. We do not need to know details and we respect people's wish for privacy, but it is amazing how uplifting it can be to know that your church family are thinking of you.

**Pat Muir (776 5692)**

## Just a Thought

As St Columba's gears up for its 50th Anniversary we would like to encourage the congregation to share any thoughts, stories, memories and experiences, which have gone into shaping our Church family over the years and making St Columba's the success it has become.

Please send your articles to the Minister at:

PWright@churchofscotland.org.uk.

Or the Editor at: mar.clayton@ntlworld.com

## Letter From the Editor

It's the season when leaves on the trees turn golden, the morning air has a crispness about it, children are back in school, church organisations begin again, our glorious summer is over and Autumn has arrived.

It's the time of 'starting over' and new beginnings. Our five year old granddaughter Elizabeth started school this month and as we stood at the school gate and saw her take her first steps into a new life I realised how much things change and yet how much they remain the same.

Every parent knows this is the first moment of a long journey for their child. Will they settle in? Will they make friends? Will they enjoy learning? What does the future hold for them?

Autumn is also the beginning of a new season in our church life. Who will join an organisation for the first time? Who will offer to help with church work? Who will decide to come along to a Bible study group this year?

St Columba's has a very special birthday in 2019 as we celebrate 50 years of worshipping God in this place. Years of love, praise, work, some sadness, much joy. Generations of children were baptised and married in our church. Sadly we said 'goodbye' to older, much loved members whose funeral services were held here.

Ministers have come and gone and all have left their mark of service, support and gifted preaching which opened our hearts and minds to the love of God and His enduring gift of grace so freely and generously given to us.

We have been blessed to have Philip, his wife and family coming to take us on the next step of our spiritual journey.

There is much work to be done in the church, in the parish, in schools and in our homes and this golden glowing Autumn sees the start of it.

Some of us have difficulties to face. Health problems, family problems, anxieties and insecurities.

We cannot predict the future. What we can do however is reach out to each other and try to understand the burdens that others are carrying.

Sometimes a caring word, a smile, a welcome to a member of the congregation we haven't seen for some time, makes a huge difference.

We need to remember we are a church family and although families can sometimes be distant and difficult - we are all equally loved and cherished by our father God.

In His name we reach out to each other.

So as we enjoy this Autumnal season of "mists and mellow fruitfulness" we can look forward to learning more, sharing more, deepening our friendships and our faith.

**Margaret Clayton**



As part of our celebrations for the 50th Anniversary of St Columba's we are having a Ceilidh on the evening of Saturday 24th November. More details will follow in due course and tickets will be available from Janet in the Church Office.

## *Glasgow Flower Festival 1993*



Can you spot any familiar faces from St Columba's?

**Picture kindly supplied by George Smith**



## What A Wonderful World.

Sometimes it's so easy to take things for granted - our health, families, friends. Then one day we open our eyes, look around and see something which takes our breath away.

I'd like to share one such experience with you. This year John and I were able to fulfil his boyhood dream of taking a train journey across the Rockies.

When we married at the age of 21 on a railway signal engineer's pay, we were lucky enough to be able to afford a week's summer holiday in a seaside cottage in Carradale. The dream went on hold.

This year we decided it was time. We flew to Vancouver, boarded the 'Rocky Mountaineer' train, piped aboard by a kilted Scot. The domed coach gave an awesome view of the spectacular scenery. Snowcapped mountains, their tops piercing the blue summer sky. Lush green and golden leafy trees, glimpses of sparkling sapphire lakes at every bend of the railway line. Shy deer darting away from the noise of the train thundering by, while black and grizzly bears with their cubs paused to stare at this noisy intruder in their world..

There were a lot of Australians on the train, noisily enjoying the scenery and sharing their stories with us of great grandparents who had left Scotland years ago.

After two days on the train we boarded a ship for a cruise to Alaska.

On a still Sunday morning, our ship sailed slowly through icy, turquoise, glacial waters. In the cabin next to us was an elderly couple taking their trip of a lifetime too.

Softly her voice rose as she sang a hymn - The Lord's My Shepherd. The quietness of that moment. The beauty of our world. The silence of remote places. The overwhelming power of our God to create our planet and our duty to preserve and protect it for future generations was a moment we will never forget. **John & Margaret Clayton**



Lake Louise in Banff National Park, Alberta, Canada.



Mother Grizzly Bear with two cubs eating dandelions at the roadside.

## FLOWER ROTA

We are grateful to those who donate flowers to beautify the Church Sunday by Sunday and to those who give of their time to deliver them to people in the Congregation who we would wish to assure of our prayers and support.

Thank you all for your part in this two-fold Ministry.

### Delivery Rota for the next Four Months

	<b>DONATION</b>	<b>DELIVERY</b>	
<b>September</b>			
2	Mrs R Innes	Sheena Wright	5
9	Mrs C Grant	Moira French	7
16	Mrs I Perry	Julie Reid	8
23	Mrs D Morgan	Glenys Swann	9
30	The Robertson Family	Ishbel Thomson	10
<b>October</b>			
7	Mrs A McKelvie	Lydia Ramsay	11
14	Mrs G McGuire	Irene Armstrong	12
21	Mr & Mrs D Oliphant	Janet Brown	1
28	Mrs A Craig & Mrs J Davidson	Guides***	
<b>November</b>			
4	Mr & Mrs J Thomson	Christine Grant	2
11	Remembrance Sunday	Mr & Mrs I Muir	3
18	The Guild	Joan Beattie	4
25		Sheena Wright	5
<b>December</b>			
2		Moira French	7
9	The Swann Family	Julie Reid	8
16		Glenys Swann	9
23		Ishbel Thomson	10
30		Lydia Ramsay	11

## SERVICES

### Sunday Worship 10.30

(Creche available)

### Senior Friends Service 12.30

(Transport Available)

(Last Sunday of each month)

### Midweek Worship: Tuesday 10.00

(In Lounge)

### House Group: Monday 19.30

(Fortnightly)

**Kirkintilloch: St Columba's Parish Church**

**"To know Him and make Him known"**