

# *Saltcoats St Cuthbert's Church Magazine March 2019*



Amy, Sarah and Megan in front of the Reredos depicting the Lord's Supper after their profession of faith, confirmation and admission to the Lord's Table.

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Scottish Charity Number: SC002905

## *Minister's Letter*

Dear friends,

What a wonderful service we shared at the beginning of February! As well as celebrating the Lord's Supper, we were delighted to welcome three new communicants into membership of the Church during our Communion service. Amy, Sarah and Megan have been part of our church family from childhood, and it is encouraging for us to see our young people grow in their faith.

As they stood up in front of the Kirk Session and congregation to profess their faith in Jesus Christ, maybe we were reminded of the day we, too, affirmed our faith, and were received into the Fellowship of the Lord's Table. Our special day may have been in St. Cuthbert's or it may have been in another church in another town. The place is less important than the Person in whom we placed our trust – Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

At this time when the numbers of people joining the Church in Scotland are fewer than in years past, it is important that we value each person who comes to worship with us, from the youngest babe in arms to the most senior member of Christ's Church.

It is also important that we find ways to share our faith with those who do not yet come to worship, in the hope that they might choose to be a part of our congregation and a part of the whole Family of God.

In previous generations we probably did not need to think much about 'mission' in Scotland, for most people went to their parish church and brought their children to Sunday School. 'Mission' was more often about sending people abroad to preach the Gospel, often alongside their work as doctors and nurses, teachers and agriculturalists.

However, 'Mission' now needs to be something much closer to home as we live as the Church in a changing society, sharing the Good News

of the love of God through Jesus Christ with the people who live in our community.

As reserved Scottish Presbyterians, most of us probably do not think of ourselves as 'missionaries'. We may imagine missionaries in Scotland as people handing out tracts on the main street or speaking at open air services or initiating conversations about spiritual matters with strangers in the cafe or pub. This might not be 'for us'. We may be more comfortable thinking of ourselves as quietly sharing our faith by example.

Showing the love of God in practical ways is indeed a vital part of sharing the Good News, but our situation is such that we need to grasp every opportunity to share the Faith of Jesus Christ with the generations in our land who do not seem to know much about Him.

Our Kirk Session is thinking about how we should move forward as the congregation of St. Cuthbert's. What could we be doing to help more people hear about and experience the love of God in Jesus Christ?

Will you play your part in this vital 'missionary' work of our congregation within the Church in Scotland? Maybe your way will be to be part of a team delivering invitations to Christmas and Easter Services through the letterboxes of the homes in our parish. Maybe your way will be to offer a personal invitation to a neighbour or friend to come with you to Sunday Services or to one of the Groups meeting throughout the week in our church hall. Maybe your way will be to volunteer to experiment with a 'Fresh Expression' of Church such as Cafe Church or Messy Church, or a 'Revived Old Expression' of Church such as a Summer Mission Holiday Club for children. Maybe your way will be to improve our communication with those around us through creating thought-provoking posters to catch the eye of passers-by or to develop our Social Media Presence.

There are many ways to be ‘missionaries’. What will you and I do to spread the Good News of God’s love in Jesus Christ, to help ‘grow the Church’ in our community?

*With every blessing,*

*Sarah Nicol.*

## *Church Register*

### **Admission by Profession of Faith**

*“As you come to Him, the living Stone ... you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house...”*

Miss Amy Park, Saltcoats

Miss Sarah Park, Saltcoats

Miss Megan Roberts, Saltcoats

## *Snippets from Presbytery*

Presbytery has approved in principle an application by Saltcoats St Cuthbert’s Church to apply to the General Trustees and Heritage Lottery Fund to assist with repairs to the Tower and continued consideration to await the formal application for work to proceed.

Permission was granted to the congregation of Kilwinning Old Parish Church to call a minister under the terms of unrestricted tenure as given in the current Presbytery Plan.

Rev David Watson has been appointed as Interim Moderator at Kilbirnie Auld Kirk.

Dr Gordon Isbister began his MDS appointment with Ardrossan Park Church on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019 as a Family and Outreach Worker.

Miss Deborah Nicol, Saltcoats St Cuthbert's Church was nominated to be Youth Representative to represent the Presbytery of Ardrossan at the General Assembly 2019.

A Conference was held recently within West Kilbride Parish Church where over 100 representatives from the churches in the Presbytery met to discuss the future of the Church. Our own Kirk Session as well as other local churches produced and submitted ideas many of which were explored and expanded on during the discussion.

The congregation of Cumbrae Parish Church are now using their new build church for public worship. Well worth a visit.

*William Parke: Presbytery Elder*

## *Sunday School*

At the request of our minister the children have completed a poster for one of our outside notice boards and we hope to have this displayed soon.

This year we are hoping to enter the design a Christmas Card Competition. As you will be aware, we have some talented artists in our midst.

In a few weeks we are planning to start a new project on the Lord's Prayer.

This will take the form of the prayer displayed in words with drawings to highlight the words of the prayer.

*Sunday School Teachers*

## *Community Café*

We look forward to welcoming patrons, old and new, on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> March from 11.30 – 1.30pm.

Come along and enjoy the fellowship and the usual selection of freshly prepared cuisine.

Recently we had a visit from the PC Colin Johnston Community Safety Officer to talk about personal safety and safety in the home.



Anyone who would like to assist should speak to Angela or any of the volunteers.

*Angela Beattie*

## *Choir*

March Anthems

- |    |  |          |
|----|--|----------|
| 3  | Blessing and honour and glory and power.   | Hymn 441 |
| 10 | My life flows on in endless song.          | Hymn 565 |
| 17 | It's a world of sunshine, a world of rain. | Hymn 245 |
| 24 | Come now is the time.                      | Hymn 196 |
| 31 | When in our music.                         | Hymn 203 |

*Rosemary Smith*

## *Guild*

The Guild had a very pleasant visit to South Beach House where Bea Nicholson entertained the residents with film and music. This was enjoyed by everyone. The shop was delighted with the gifts donated by our ladies.

By the time you read this we hope to have had a successful Daffodil tea with a time to chat and have some fun with our friends.

On March 6., we will have a talk and slide show presented by Christine Watson, entitled "Keep calm, and keep on digging."

On March 20., Alison Montgomerie will be telling us about her trip to Mount Kilimanjaro, so do come along and give her your support.

All are welcome to our meetings, which start at 2pm.

*Sheila Sarginson*

## *CrossReach*

### **South Beach House**

As indicated above the residents thoroughly enjoyed the visit from our Guild and it was a joy to see and hear them taking part in the singing. Music seems to be one of our last senses to leave us. Please remember in your prayers the residents of South Beach House and similar homes. The staff have a very difficult task at times but do it willingly and with love.

*Evelyn Slater*

## *Zumba Gold*

A new Zumba Gold class led by Mhairi Tindall has commenced in the church hall on Tuesday mornings at 10 -11am.

This class promises to be a further asset to the life of the church and a real boost to health and fitness. Zumba Gold is for active, older adults who are looking for lower intensity Zumba that focuses on balance, range of movement and co-ordination. Great music and fun with your friends. All are very welcome. Cost £6 per session or £5 with an OIR card.

## *Congregational Board*

It was agreed at a recent meeting that anyone parking in the church forecourt should ensure that sufficient parking spaces are left to accommodate members or visitors who have mobility issues. Where possible cars should be parked out with the grounds. Please be mindful that emergency vehicles may require unimpeded access.

As Caledonia Primary School now lock their gates at week-ends, our new assembly point in the event of an emergency will be St Cuthbert's Court.

In order for our church to comply with ever increasing regulations Angela Beattie has been appointed Food Hygiene Coordinator and as such will organize training as per the Food Safety Policy.

A committee was formed to deal with matters relating to the Tower repairs and members were confirmed for the re-established Fabric Team. Anyone who is able to assist them or would like to join those who give their time for their church in the various volunteer groups should speak to me or any office bearer.

Several members wear many hats. Perhaps now and again you might help to share or spread the load by picking up a hat! There are a few marked choir or flower rota. Some involve putting on an apron, duster or gardening gloves. Every little helps.

*Maureen Crilley Board Clerk*

## *Tower Fund Appeal*

Recently an appeal was launched to raise funds for the anticipated major repairs required to our Church Tower.

Although grant contributions towards the works are being pursued, the continued well-being of our beautiful place of worship depends on us all contributing what we can.

One off or regular donations can be sent to Mrs. A. Turner, St. Cuthbert's Treasurer, 42 Keir Hardie Road, Ardrossan, by bank transfer or setting up a standing order to Saltcoats St Cuthbert's Church No. 2 Account.

Account no. 18600668 Sort code 80-22-60.

## *Men's Club*

This group will continue with meetings on the 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> March.

## *Afternoon Club*

The number attending continues to grow with 24 on a recent Monday afternoon. Why not pop in even if only for a cup of tea and a chat?

*Nan Smith*

## *World Day of Prayer*

Every year on, or near, the first Friday in March, Christians of all ages gather in small groups and large congregations using the same basic form of worship, written by women of a different country each year on a theme chosen by the World Day of Prayer International Committee.

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2pm Saltcoats North Parish Church

'Come – Everything Is Ready'

Written by Christian women of Slovenia

Refreshments after Service

## *Lenten Discussion Group*

The first gathering for Lent will be held in the manse on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March from 11am-12noon.

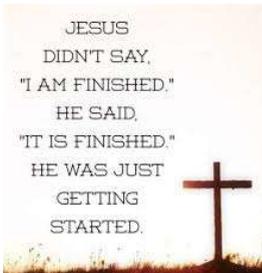
Theme will be "Lent – for giving up something or doing more?"

## *Advance Notice*

The Stated Annual Meeting where the Annual accounts will be presented to the congregation for approval will be held immediately following the morning service on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March.

The Annual Plant Sale will be on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May in the Church Hall.

## *Wayside Pulpit*



# Weekly Calendar

- Sundays: 10.45 a.m. - Morning Service,  
Sunday School and Youth Group
- Mondays: 2.00 p.m. – Afternoon Club  
for bridge play & instruction, crafts, etc  
7.30 p.m. – Country Dancing (social dancing class)
- Tuesdays: 10.00am. - Zumba Gold  
7.00 p.m. – Men’s Club (fortnightly)
- Wednesdays: 10.00 a.m. – Walking Group  
11.30 a.m. – Community Cafe (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays)  
2.00 p.m. - The Guild (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays)
- Thursdays: 9.30 a.m. – Mother and Toddler Group  
6.30 p.m. – Anchor Boys
- Fridays: 6.30 p.m. - Boys Brigade

## Diary Dates at a Glance

World Day of Prayer at North Parish Church on  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2pm

Men’s Club	Tuesday	5 <sup>th</sup> March
Guild	Wednesday	6 <sup>th</sup> March
Community Café	Wednesday	13 <sup>th</sup> March
Men’s Club	Tuesday	19 <sup>th</sup> March
Guild	Wednesday	20 <sup>th</sup> March
Community Café	Wednesday	27 <sup>th</sup> March
Plant Sale	Saturday	11 <sup>th</sup> May