

October 2024 Magazine

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Please do not contact the Rector in connection with hall bookings – the contact details for Celia, who deals with this, are above.

The cover picture: Sunflowers – Gillian Kingslake

*All Saints Scottish Episcopal
Church*

Drymen Road Bearsden



October 2024

Dear All,

A CALL TO COMMITMENT

If you fancy something a little different when studying the Bible, you could do a lot worse than read and pray through the Minor Prophets in the Old Testament. Sometimes known as “the Twelve Prophets” they offer a real challenge, but are well worth spending a bit of time on - they are: Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi. As you read them you will notice how often the prophets call people to get their priorities right, to shift their perspective, and to have a renewed commitment to God.

There couldn't be a better time of the year for us here in this charge to take that message to heart. In some places October includes Dedication Sunday, when we give thanks for the history of our churches and the witness of all those who have worshipped in them in the past, then at the beginning of November we have our All Saints Patronal Festival, celebrating the lives of all the saints and especially those who have influenced, inspired and encouraged us here.

As people of God today we are challenged with the same questions that God's people were faced with thousands of years ago, and indeed what Jesus himself asked of his followers when he was living on Earth. We are asked the same questions today. Are you ready to make God your first commitment? Where are our priorities? Is God first in our lives?

The world we live in has many people, places and things that can draw our priorities away from God. Our families, our jobs, our bank accounts, even the sports activities we like can become our number one priorities. They can wedge their way into our commitment to God. I'm not saying these people and activities are not important, but how do they rank in our lives?

When we allow anything to come between ourselves and our relationship to God we are challenging our commitment to God. We have made something else in our lives our god.

Where do our priorities lie? Where does our commitment to God stand in our lives? Jesus challenged the disciples on these questions, and we are challenged today.

Are we committed to following a living God with our time, our talent and our treasure, or does God simply receive a donation? We all have to struggle with the answer to this question. We all have to face the possibility that our priorities are out of line.

This month, as we think about dedication of our building and our lives and prepare for All Saints' Day (which falls on November 1st, but we will be keeping it on November 3rd), we are given a gift. We are given the opportunity to reflect and see what our priorities are. We are given the opportunity to make a commitment to put God first in our lives.

Some may even feel challenged in this matter to the extent that they want to respond by making a special gift of thanksgiving for the work of the church, but I hope many will also reflect on where prayer, Bible study, church attendance, etc. stand in our list of priorities as Christians called to commitment by our Heavenly Father.

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus...”
(Hebrews 12. 1-2)

Revd David

VESTRY NOTES - 16 SEPTEMBER 2024

- The Vestry thanked Andrew Long for painting the hall railings.
- The estimate for repairing the stained-glass window has been accepted.
- An assessment of the condition of the Bell Cote will be made in October.
- Plans are under discussion for the resurfacing of the carpark.
- The Lunch Group will start again on Wednesday, 18 September. All are welcome, and people who have attended the morning service are warmly invited to coffee in the hall.
- There will be Evensong at All Saints on Sunday, 3 November. A memorial for the departed will take place during the service.
- The next meeting will be on Wednesday, 6 October.

BMH

AGM NOTICE SUNDAY NOVEMBER 24TH

Our Annual Meeting will be held this year on Sunday, November 24th (the feast of Christ the King) following the 10.30am service.

It has been decided to revert to the more traditional time for holding our annual general meeting (it was shifted slightly during Covid and in the vacancy), on a date which is widely kept by other churches throughout the Province. It also

links to the day where we must take numbers attending services as part of our annual return to the diocese.

At the AGM, as well as the reports of activity during the past year, we hold elections for the Vestry for the forthcoming year. This year we have at least four places to fill on the Vestry so we are looking for people who might be willing to consider standing for this important role in our church life.

A Vestry plays an important part in the life of a congregation, working with the clergy in all matters relating to the spiritual welfare of the congregation, plus having responsibility with them for the management of the temporal affairs of the charge. Clergy and laity both have vital though different leadership roles in a congregation and this collaboration is key in helping the church to flourish, both as a place of worship and spiritual growth, and reaching beyond the walls to the people and needs of our community.

We hope that people will feel able to come forward as Vestry members or else vital work will not happen. Do have a word with me or other Vestry members if you would like to know more without committing yourselves or if you feel called to this important role. Brenda will have papers for vestry nominations.

Revd David

HARVEST CELEBRATIONS

Our Harvest Festival this year will be on Sunday, 6th October, with both our services that day reflecting a Harvest and Creation theme. There will be a Said Communion at 9.00am and an all age Sung Communion service at 10.30am.

At both services you are invited to bring non-perishable items which we can pass to Drumchapel Foodbank. Revd David will celebrate at both services and at the 10.30 service our preacher will be Revd Kevin.

Revd David

HARVEST LUNCH OCTOBER 6TH

Following the Harvest service on October 6th there will be a Bring and Share lunch in the halls to celebrate Harvest. It has always been a pot-luck affair which seems to work remarkably well. In the past we used to say people with a surname starting with a letter in the first half of the alphabet please bring savoury, the rest please bring a pudding. I suggest we do the same this year but do feel free to swap with someone. As this is not a fund-raising event, if you would like some wine, please feel free to bring a bottle - and maybe share it with your



table! Any culinary enquiries or offers of help with setting up would be gratefully received.

There will be a collection in church/the halls in aid of Christian Aid

Celia

THURSDAY HOUSE GROUP

The House will be holding its first meeting this session on Thursday 3rd October at 7.30pm at 8 West Chapelton Crescent and thereafter usually fortnightly.

We plan to study Ephesians and are delighted that the first session will be led by the Rector who will give an introduction to the epistle. New members are always very welcome. If you would like more information, please do get in touch either with me, David Hamblen or the Rector. I'd be very grateful if you would email me to let me know if you can come to the first meeting on October 3rd and suggest that a read-through of the epistle would be useful preparation.

Looking forward to seeing you.

Janet Stack

E GROUP RESTARTS

The E group met recently to discuss what we would study next and to enjoy a brief WhatsApp call with Ellen which was fun. She seems to be having a splendid time, doing a little studying between various social events with her international group of friends,

We have decided, partly prompted by a sermon from Rev David, on the letter of James. We will study it with the aid of a study guide by Tom Wright and will be meeting once a month at Jean's house on a Thursday evening, starting on October 3rd. The group is informal: we have tea and cake, chat about the chapter in the book which we have pre read, pray, and generally have fun while also trying to develop our faith and enjoy fellowship.

Do contact Celia if you would like to know more.

ADVENT COURSE

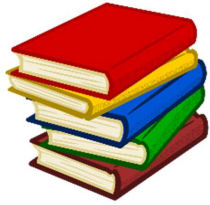
We are hoping to run another study course on Thursday afternoons during Advent. This idea seems popular, but some haven't enjoyed what we were studying and numbers drop off considerably!

If you would like such a study course perhaps some of you might have some suggestions as to a theme or suitable book.

Please let me know ASAP and we can announce it next month.

Revd David





BOOKS FOR SALE

We have plenty of books on our shelves at the moment; so we DON'T need any more books at the moment. But PLEASE keep buying the books and supporting us!

Many thanks

Jane & Mary

DIFFICULTY READING LOCAL NEWS?

The Bearsden and Milngavie Talking Newspaper Association - BEAM - was started in 1990 by the then Bearsden South Church with support from other churches in the area and continues to operate with support coming from the communities of Milngavie, Bearsden and beyond.

The blind and visually impaired in the local communities of Bearsden, Milngavie and beyond, are sent recordings each week of the Milngavie and Bearsden Herald and extracts from the Community News all of which helps to keep them in touch with what is going on in the local community. Stories from the likes of the Scottish Book Trust are added to give a bit of light-hearted interest to BEAM's recordings.

Free easy to use boom boxes are supplied to help our listeners access our recordings and the Post Office's free postal service for the blind allows BEAM to provide this service to all our listeners at no cost to them.

BEAM NEEDS YOUR HELP to reach those members of the community including your family, friends or neighbours who might be interested in having BEAM's service. There is no need for anyone to be registered blind or visually impaired to have our service. Think about anyone you know and have a chat with them about this opportunity. If they would like to try BEAM's service for a few weeks that would be great, just let us know on: 07597 519791 or BEAMrecordings@outlook.com

Many thanks

Alisdair Meldrum BEAM Chair

SOME WORDS FROM YOUR LAY REPRESENTATIVE

Apologies that it has been some time since my last report. As many of you know I had to take some time off everything recently. I am extremely grateful for the kind thoughts and prayers from you all, which have made a huge difference.

Back to business, there was a meeting of the North-West Regional Council (NWRC) at St. Michael's, Helensburgh, on Wednesday, 18th September and the first meeting of the newly formed Electoral Synod at St. Mary's Cathedral on

Saturday, 21st September. At the former, I chaired the meeting in the absence of our usual chair, Rev. Andrea Hagenbuch. Alongside the usual sharing of news from other charges in the region it was a pleasure to meet our new Diocesan Administrator, Kim Schmulian, who told us about the scope of her role and her experiences so far (she has only been in post since April). Kim seems very much a versatile "hands on" person who will work very hard to do what is necessary to help charges in the Diocese, especially with things like finance and governance.

Kim was very much on duty, in charge of the catering, at the first meeting of our Electoral Synod. This Synod is tasked with the job of discerning our new Bishop. Much of this process is confidential, but at this first meeting we were introduced to the procedures involved, given some training on what "discernment" means and asked for our feedback on the draft "Diocesan Profile" (the document which will be sent to candidates who express interest in the role). This was all ably chaired by Bishop Andrew (Bishop of Brechin) our current interim Bishop. Details of the timetable of the Episcopal election process can be found here: <https://www.glasgow.anglican.org/who-are-we/bishop-search-2024/>

David Simmons

WEDNESDAY LUNCH GROUP UPDATE

The new season of the Wednesday Lunch Group started on 18th September with the last of the summer sunshine. Regular lunchers greatly enjoyed getting back to their soup, rolls and cakes after the summer break, and catching up with their friends.

For the first time the lunch was co-ordinated with the mid-week services in the Church (prayer group at 10.30 am, Holy Communion at 11.00 am), and we were very happy to welcome those wishing to have a cup of coffee in the Drymen Hall after the service, even if they did not stop for lunch. We hope that by running the mid-week worship



and WLG on the same day of the week, members will choose to make this combination a regular date at All Saints.

The first special meeting of the 2024-25 WLG season is scheduled for 2nd October when Robbie Morrison, the local TearFund representative who spoke recently in Church, will give an extended account of the recent work of the fund. Other special meetings are planned, including a talk on the island of Sicily and its triskelion symbol later in October, and the Christmas Party on 18 December. Come along and join us for good food and convivial conversation, with the occasional surprise. Even better, bring a friend.

Brenda Hadcroft & Andrew Long

DIAMOND WEDDING

On August 8th, 1964 we were married at Holy Trinity Church, Stratford upon Avon, before 40 invited guests and a significant number of tourists! (Holy



1964

Trinity is Shakespeare's church) so in 2024 we celebrated our diamond wedding! Our immediate close family, - i.e. children, grandchildren and their spouses/partners numbered 19 people so we wanted to share the celebration with all of them. We invited them to join us on a three-day cruise from Southampton to Guernsey and back - thus giving us lots of time together, activities suited to age



2024

group 23 to 83 and NO COOKING! We were blessed with glorious weather - almost the first this summer for us northern dwellers. Relaxing in and around the pool, going to lectures, playing deck games, going to the bar(!) and even the gym gave a special time together. We came home with wonderful memories and strengthened family bonds.

Sixty years have passed in a flash, and we only have black and white photos from 1964 to remind us that we are no longer so young and fresh faced! Years have been kind to us - we feel truly blessed.

We followed the cruise with a "diamond honeymoon" in Switzerland. Once again, the sun shone. We wandered through the flower-filled Alpine meadows, accompanied by the sound of cowbells and, once, an Alphorn. The scenery was spectacular, and we were thoroughly spoilt by Swiss hospitality. It has been a Summer to remember.

Gillian & Richard

A LETTER FROM ELLEN

Dear All Saints,

I truly hope each of you are well. Firstly, I want to say a massive thank you for my lovely card and gift presented to me on my *bon voyage* church service by



Revd David. It was far too kind, and I had a lovely time speaking to you all during the coffee and cake refreshments.

American University is absolutely wonderful; I am truly having a ball here. I have met some wonderful people from across the globe: Tokyo, Madrid, Dublin, Paris, Belfast and even someone from University of Glasgow. I am loving this experience, being able to network and become friends with people who are so similar yet different from me. For me the spontaneity of the experience has

been such a fun aspect for me. Heading to Washington National Games, Lincoln Memorial at nighttime and volleyball. It is an experience for sure!!!

Regarding my class, they are wonderful. I have a class with a professor called Allan Litchman, who is a world-renowned historian. He is known for his work on the 13



Key's to the White House and has successfully predicted all the Presidents since the 80's, bar one. His classes are very interesting and academically stimulating. For this year, he has predicted Kamala Harris to become the next President. We shall see how it plays out next! I have classes on Voting and Election in the US, looking at the historical aspects of the elections from George Washington to the 2024 election. Ancient Greek focusing on Greek culture, lifestyle, Mycenaeans and reading literature such as the Iliad and Odyssey. Politics in the US to understand the levels of power and the systems with the US. Finally, Law and the Political System to which I study the interplay of law and politics especially with the Supreme Court and constitution.

Mum and I had a wonderful time exploring DC and finding my feet in my new home. We both enjoyed walking down the mall from Capitol Hill to the Washington Monument and, the final destination, to the Lincoln Memorial. Our favourite spot being the Wharf.

I look forward to writing again and hope you like the photographs and updates.

Ellen

A VISIT TO CANNA

Ken and I don't need much persuasion to visit the Western Isles, so when a friend suggested a few days in Canna we readily agreed.

Canna is the most western of the small isles and is now owned by the NTS.

It is a volcanic island formed from a supervolcano on Skye and as a result has some great cliffs and dramatic coastline.

Human history dates back to several Bronze age duns and 2000-year-old underground chambers.



There is an early Christian cross carved 1300 years ago- all that remains of an early monastic site dating from the 7th-9th century.

There is a presbyterian church - the rocket church- built by the Thom family who owned the island in the late 1800s



Not to outdone there is a huge catholic church, St. Edwards, built by the mar-
chioness of Bute in memory of her husband. It is now deconsecrated and un-
used

However, there still is in use a very small, but beautifully looked after, St. Co-
lumba's chapel, and a minister comes
once a month to take a service here.

Only 17 people are resident here at pre-
sent, although with workmen building a
visitor centre, and restoring Canna
house, it seemed busier.

There is a lovely small restaurant, Cafe
Canna, which serves up delicious meals
using the produce of the island as much
as possible - beef, fish and seafood and
seaweed !!

Lots of interest for a short break.

Kate Ross



The Rocket Church

tearfund

20 August 2024

Supporter No: 3067484/czb

All Saints Church Bearsden
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Dear Friends

Thank you for your gift of £477.80. Your church's generosity is providing hope for people like Justina in Zambia.

Zambia remains one of the least developed countries in Africa, with 54 percent of the population living on less than £1.50 a day. Many, particularly rural farming communities, have struggled to escape the seemingly ingrained legacy of poverty.

For Justina, now aged 24, her childhood and the start of her adult life in Kagoro had always been a struggle. While primary school education is free in Zambia, very low-income families face many barriers to accessing it. Parents can't always afford books, stationery, uniforms and shoes. But it's not just education that is unaffordable - healthcare is expensive too.

Four years ago, an opportunity opened up for her. Tearfund's partner, Jesus Cares Ministries, identified the church and community in Kagoro as in need of support to break the cycle of poverty. They started a Transforming Communities programme, which envisions and equips the church in practical ways to work with the local community.

Justina undertook training in tailoring skills and now has a sewing machine to make and mend clothes. She sews school uniforms and the profits from her business are funding her niece's education.

Justina has further plans to become a qualified teacher and she's saving money to pay for the training. **Thank you for your support as we work together with communities to bring lasting hope and transformation to people like Justina in Zambia.**

Yours in Christ

Beatrice Roy
Scotland Lead

**WILLIAM BUTLER YEATS
1865 - 1939**

THE FALLING OF THE LEAVES

AUTUMN is over the long leaves that love us,
And over the mice in the barley sheaves;
Yellow the leaves of the rowan above us,
And yellow the wet wild-strawberry leaves.
The hour of the waning of love has beset us,
And weary and worn are our sad souls now;
Let us part, ere the season of passion forget us,
With a kiss and a tear on thy drooping brow.

W.B. Yeats was an Irish poet who was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1923 and is considered to be one of the greatest twentieth century poets of the English language. He belonged to the small protestant minority in Ireland and served two terms as a Senator in the Irish Free State.

In this sombre poem Yeats is lamenting the end of summer and the start of autumn. He describes the setting as if it were the sad but inevitable end of a dying love. But autumn is the cause as it hangs over the leaves which love us, and it upsets the poor little mice which live in the barley sheaves. Yeats then draws our attention to the colours we associate with the end of summer – the gorgeous reds and yellows.

But it is too late: the end is right upon us, and we are tired and sad that our summer love is going away. We must, he advises, part with a kiss and a tear, but let's not forget!

Well, whether we forget or not, we can always be sure summer will return next year.
Brenda

SERVICES IN OCTOBER

Our 10.30 a.m. services will be held both in Church and on Facebook
It is also possible to watch services on our Facebook page afterwards

Date Sunday	6 October Harvest Pentecost 20 (Green)	13 October Pentecost 21 Trinity 20 (Green)	20 October Pentecost 22 Trinity 21 (Green)	27 October Bible Sunday Pentecost 23 (Green)
Celebrant	Rev David Guest	Rev David Guest	Rev David Guest	Rev David Guest
9.00am Service	Said Eucharist (1970 Liturgy)		Said Eucharist (1970 Liturgy)	
10.30am Service	Sung Eucharist (preacher: Rev Kevin Francis)	Sung Eucharist	Sung Eucharist	Sung Eucharist
Stewards	Celia Fisher	Kate Ross	Pauline Waugh	Andrew Long
Eucharistic Assistants	Louise	Graham	Celia	Jenny
Readings	Joel 2:21-27; 1 Timothy 6:6-10; Matthew 6:25-33	Amos 5:6-7, 10-15; Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 10:17-31	Isaiah 53:4-12; Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45	Isaiah 55:1-11; 2 Timothy 3:14 – 4:5; John 5:36b-47
Reader	Mary Stott	Andrew Long	David Hamblen	Bryan Stack
Intercessor	Andrew Long	Celia Fisher	David Hamblen	Sheena MacDonald
After-service Coffee	Janet Fiona	Sheena Susan	Kate Moir	Mairi Elaine
Other events	A 9.00am Said Eucharist is held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, using the 1970 liturgy. There is a 11.00am Said Eucharist on Wednesday mornings, preceded by a prayer group at 10.30am.			

The Editor for the November edition will be Janet Stack. Please send articles to janet.stack@btinternet.com by **Sunday, 20 October 2024**.

The Rector's usual days off each week are Thursdays and Fridays. One of these may occasionally change depending on other work demands