

## Church Register

Deaths:

“The Lord’s my shepherd I’ll not want”

Mrs Rosemary Murdoch    Beech Way

## Church Office

Janette Robertson will be in the Office – Tuesday 10.00 am – 12 noon & Friday 9.00 am – 1.00 pm. All items for the Pew Leaflet should be given to Janette, or posted through the office door. Please note that articles for inclusion in the Sunday Pew Leaflet must be with Janette no later than 11.00 am on the preceding Friday.

### **Contact details:**

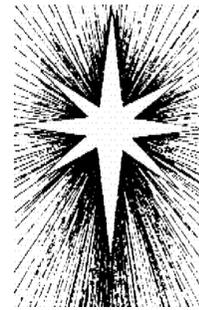
Telephone: (01465) 712672

email: [churchoffice12@btconnect.com](mailto:churchoffice12@btconnect.com)

Church Website: [www.girvannorthparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.girvannorthparishchurch.org.uk)

### ***EDITOR’S NOTE:***

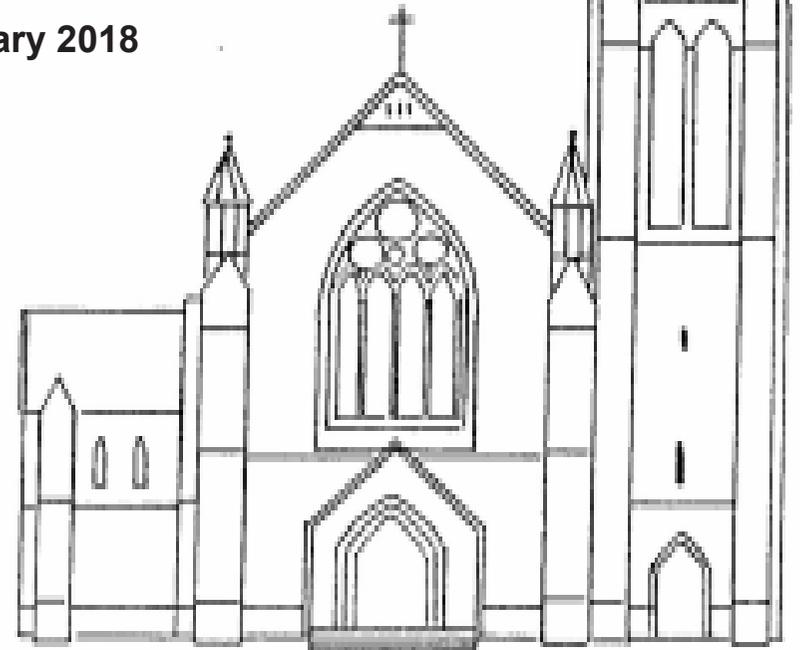
All articles for the March 2018 issue of the Church Magazine should be given to the Editor by Sunday 25th February 2018



# The Church of Scotland

## The North Star

**February 2018**



**Girvan North Parish Church**

**Girvan North Parish Church Charity No. SC007347**

## **CHURCH OFFICIALS**

### **Minister:**

Rev. Richard Moffat 38 The Avenue, Tel: 713203

### **SESSION CLERK:**

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### **TREASURER:**

Mr Jim Nicol 52 The Avenue, Tel : 714044

### **CLERK TO THE BOARD:**

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### **ROLL KEEPER:**

Mr. Billy Benson 1 Rodney Drive, Tel: 713059

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### **HALL CONVENER:**

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(Keys & practical arrangements)

Mrs Janette Robertson 78 Bourtreehall, Tel: 715195 (Bookings)

### **GIFT AID CONVENER:**

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Mrs Margaret Nicol, 52 The Avenue, Tel: 714044

### **MAGAZINE CONVENERS:**

Mrs Barbara Warren 35 Sycamore Drive, Tel : 714960

Mrs Irene Tyson 3 Kirkpatrick Street, Tel : 713590

### **F.W.O. CONVENER:**

Mrs. Agnes Gibson 7 Young Street, Tel: 479206

**CHURCH Tel. 712672**

## **Blythswood Care**

**We have resumed our collection for Blythswood, so please bring any of the following donations, and they will be taken up to their shop in Prestwick.**

Please mark your boxes/bags with the following appropriate label(s):

**BRB = Bric-a-Brac C = Clothes D = Dishes F = Food  
G = Glass items M = Medical T = Toys = Books**

## **Stamps**

Please bring along used stamps and place them in the box in the vestibule at the church building.

They are sent to World Mission at '121' who benefit in the region of £2,000 + per annum.

Please leave about one quarter of an inch around the stamp when you cut it off the envelope.

## **Computer Inkjet Cartridges**

Used computer inkjet cartridges continue to be handed in in good numbers in response to the Kirk Session's decision to collect used computer inkjet cartridges and send them off to either The Leprosy Mission (Scotland) or to CHAS. The Leprosy Mission (Scotland) can take only three particular makes but other makes can be sent via the Rotary Club of Girvan to CHAS.

The church will send off the ones to TLM (Scotland) while the rest will be taken to Rotary for them to send to CHAS.

A box will be found each Sunday in the vestibule of the church building into which you may place your used cartridges. Please keep them coming!

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Girvan Girls' Brigade**

As part of our 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration, we are looking for any donations for upcycling of duvet covers, curtains, flat caps and tankards. Poor condition is perfect! We are also looking for unwanted cardboard. Many thanks in advance

## **BB & GB Car Wash and Coffee Morning 2018**

The Girls' Brigade and Boys' Brigade are having a Coffee Morning and Car Wash on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March 10.00 am – 12.00 noon. Tickets will be available from Carolyn Wells, Kevin Borland, Lauren Borland and Agnes Gibson – Car Wash £3.00 and Tearoom £2.50. Any donations of home baking would be greatly appreciated. Tickets can also be purchased at the door on the day. We ask that you please purchase car wash tickets in advance if possible. Lauren will be selling tickets after a church service in February.

## **Book of Remembrance**

The Book of Remembrance in the Memorial Chapel has not been updated for some time. The lovely calligraphy in this book was done in the past by Mrs Jenny Lindsay and we are indebted to her for this. The Kirk Session have given approval for this book to be updated and Mr Ian McKenzie has kindly agreed to do this. If you would like the name of a loved one recorded in the Book of Remembrance, please contact Violet Connor 712144 with the details.

## **Greetings Fellow Saints.**

I don't know if any of you have seen the new movie "Dunkirk" about the miraculous saving of allied troops. As you might remember, in the spring of 1940 the German army was plowing through France despite the help from more than 300,000 British troops. Finally, the Germans surrounded and trapped most of the Allied forces at Dunkirk, a town in northern France. It appeared that the Allied army would face annihilation or surrender. Eventually, through a miraculous outpouring of courage and many would argue response to prayer, the British managed to organize an amazing flotilla of hundreds of little ships that evacuated most of the Allied forces. But before the evacuation, at one point when everything looked utterly hopeless, allegedly a British officer sent the following message, condensed into three powerful words: "BUT IF NOT ...." At the time it was a strong message of courage and of ultimate hope in the midst of trouble. The message conveyed that the British would stand defiantly against the Nazis and that God would provide a way through the dark night.

Now you may not be aware that the background to the three-word message: "BUT IF NOT" came straight from the King James Bible. As the prophet Daniel and his friends (Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego) faced the fiery furnace in Daniel chapter 3, they refused to go down in defeat. Instead, they declared their trust in God even if their mission failed. In Daniel 3:17-18 they said,

"If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thy hand, O king. BUT IF NOT, be it known unto you, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up."

But if not ... words from God that still speak to our hearts today. But if not ... words of hope and courage when the world seems dark and hopeless. But if not ... words to live by; and for some, words to die by. May we learn to trust in God as Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego did, "BUT IF NOT...."

Shalom, Pastor Richard

## Outreach and Mission Team

### News from the Pastoral Care Action Team

The new Pastoral Care Action Team met on 9<sup>th</sup> January and the following business was discussed and decided. A report on our decisions was made at the Kirk Session meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2018.

#### **Safeguarding**

Before making pastoral visits, team members require to have Safeguarding checks made. This is being done at present.

#### **Pastoral Care Visits**

When your elder calls in February please let him/her know if you would like a visit from the minister, if you would like Home Communion or if you would like one of our Pastoral Care Team members to visit you regularly. Perhaps you would be able to come to church if we organised a car to collect you on Sunday mornings. Please let your elder know or call Margaret Benson on 713059. Each Sunday the church flowers are taken out to members so we would also appreciate if you let us know of any member ill at home or in hospital or celebrating a special birthday or anniversary. We need your help to tell us.

#### **Co-option of two new members**

The Kirk Session approved our request to approach two members of the congregation to join our Team to assist with our pastoral care work. We are delighted to welcome Margie Moffat and Myra McCutcheon to our team.

One of the promises we make when we become members of the Church is to give a fitting proportion of our time, talents and money for the greater work of the Church. As a congregation we have a commitment to support our Presbytery partners on Likoma Island in Malawi. At the moment they have no minister because they don't have the £10 a month needed for a minister's stipend; they also need to build a new church because their congregation has doubled! We hope to raise money to help them through the Sales Table. That's where we can all fulfil that promise we made.

We know there are many talented people among us – by making something, however small, that we can sell, you will be giving your time and talent to help those who have nothing. Likewise if you come and buy something. The Table will be available after Sunday Worship and at other events. We realise that times are hard everywhere but we here in the North Parish Church have always been known for our generosity and the Team hope that you will support us in helping others

### Sunday Morning Refreshments

Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	Irene Tyson, Agnes Gibson
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Maureen Stowers, Fiona McCutcheon
18 <sup>th</sup> February	SOUP & SWEET LUNCH
25 <sup>th</sup> February	Una Jess, Sylvia Stewart
4 <sup>th</sup> March	Myra McCutcheon, Barbara Sloan

## **A CAT GOES TO HEAVEN**

A cat dies and goes to Heaven. God meets him at the gate and says, 'you have been a good cat all of these years. Anything you desire is yours, all you have to do is ask.' The cat says, 'Well, I lived all my life with a poor family on a farm and had to sleep on hardwood floors.' God says, 'Say no more.' And instantly, a fluffy pillow appears.

A few days later, 6 mice are killed in a tragic accident and they go to Heaven. God meets them at the gate with the same offer that He made the cat. The mice said, 'All our lives we've had to run. Cats, dogs and even women with brooms have chased us. If we could only have a pair of roller skates, we wouldn't have to run anymore.' God says, 'Say no more.' And instantly, each mouse is fitted with a beautiful pair of tiny roller skates.

About a week later, God decides to check and see how the cat is doing. The cat is sound asleep on his new pillow. God gently wakes him and asks, 'How are you doing? Are you happy here?' The cat yawns and stretches and says, 'Oh, I've never been happier in my life. And those Meals on Wheels you've been sending over are the best!'

### **EPITAPH (In a cemetery in England)**

Remember man, as you walk by,  
As you are now, so once was I,  
As I am now, so shall you be,  
Remember this and follow me.

**To which someone replied by writing on the tombstone:**

To follow you I'll not consent,  
Until I know which way you went.

## **Crèche Rota**

4 <sup>th</sup> February	Margaret Nicol, Rhona MacKinnon
11 <sup>th</sup> February	Lauren Borland, Diane Irvine
18 <sup>th</sup> February	Yuna McLeod, Michelle Scobie
25 <sup>th</sup> February	Wilma Armstrong, Fiona McCutcheon
4 <sup>th</sup> March	Arlene McGarragle, Susan Brown

**It is essential that 2 people are on duty in the crèche at all times.**

**If you are unable to attend please arrange a substitute.**

If anyone is interested in helping out on a Sunday morning, Diane, would be delighted to hear from you – contact details are given below.

We are grateful to those members of our fellowship who voluntarily give of their time to staff our Crèche on Sunday mornings. Please remember that if you cannot do your duty one Sunday it is vital that you arrange a replacement with somebody else who is already on the Crèche rota.

We wish to take this opportunity to remind members that the Crèche is available every Sunday for children under 3 years of age.

Diane Irvine is the Crèche co-coordinator, her contact details are:

5 Trowier Road, Girvan    Tel: 710524    [Wells1969@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Wells1969@hotmail.co.uk)

## A CORRECT ASSUMPTION

### Number Quiz    Answers

- 1      3    Blind Mice, See How They Run
- 2      90   Degrees in a Right Angle
- 3      64   Squares on a Chess Board
- 4      8    Legs on a Spider
- 5      52   Weeks in the Year
- 6      13   Loaves in a Baker's Dozen
- 7      8    Tentacles on an Octopus
- 8      18   Holes on a Golf Course
- 9      36   Black Keys on a Piano
- 10     15   Players in a Rugby Union Team
- 11     101  Dalmations in a Walt Disney Film
- 12     29   Days in February in a Leap Year
- 13     26   Letters in the Alphabet
- 14     147  Maximum Break in Snooker
- 15     12   Sides on a New Pound Coin

### ACTS 2:38

An elderly woman had just returned to her home from an evening of religious service when she was startled by an intruder. As she caught the man in the act of robbing her home of its valuables, she yelled, 'Stop -Acts 2:38!' (..turn from your sin...). The burglar stopped dead in his tracks. The woman calmly called the police and explained what she had done. As the officer cuffed the man to take him in, he asked the burglar, 'Why did you just stand there? All she did was yell a scripture to you.' 'Scripture?' replied the burglar, 'She said she had an AXE and two 38's!'

A man was being tailgated by a stressed out woman on a busy boulevard. Suddenly, the light turned yellow, just in front of him. He did the right thing, stopping at the crosswalk, even though he could have beaten The red light by accelerating through the intersection.

The tailgating woman was furious and honked her horn, screaming in frustration as she missed her chance to get through the intersection, dropping her cell phone and makeup.

As she was still in mid-rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer. The officer ordered her to exit her car with her hands up. He took her to the police station where she was searched, finger printed, photographed, and placed in a holding cell. After a couple of hours, a policeman approached the cell and opened the door. She was escorted back to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal effects.

He said, "I'm very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, flipping off the guy in front of you, and cussing a blue streak at him. I noticed the 'What Would Jesus Do' bumper sticker, the 'Choose Life' license plate holder, the 'Follow Me to Sunday-School' bumper sticker, and the chrome-plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk, Naturally... I assumed you had stolen the car."

## The Wee Quiz

The Christian names of these well known people are the same as names of biblical characters.

Clue for well known person.

Name of biblical character.

### Females

1 Princess Margaret's daughter -----

2 Anton Du Beke's 2017 partner -----

3 TV Cook -----

4 Scottish Curling Skip at Winter Olympics -----

5 Maths expert on Countdown -----

6 Won 2 gold swimming medals in 2008 -----

### Males

7 Former North Church minister -----

8 Countryfile farmer -----

9 Former F1 driver from Galloway -----

10 Princess Anne's husband -----

11 Mull of Kintyre Singer -----

12 Author of Tom Sawyer -----

Enjoy!

## Sports Equip

Sports Equip will held on Saturday 24th February 2018 from 10am - 3pm in Bankfoot Church Centre, Tulliebelton Rd, Bankfoot, Perth, PH1 4BS.

Our keynote speaker is Mark Fleming from Sports Chaplaincy UK and there will be a number of workshops aiming to encourage us as the local church as to how we could use sport as a way of connecting with our communities. With so many major sporting events due to take place across the world in 2018, could there be an opportunity for us to reach out to those around us?

Please see poster in halls for further details. The event costs £20 and people who wish to come along should register on the Resourcing Mission website: <https://www.resourcingmission.org.uk/sports-equip>

## Soup & Sweet Lunch

A Soup and Sweet Lunch will be held in the main hall after morning worship on **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2018**. The Fundraising, Activities & Communication Team would appreciate donations for this and a sheet is available today.

## **Prayer Topics February 2018**

### **1. The Leprosy Mission - Nepal**

Pray that TLM Nepal will be able to continue its so-ordination and foster the partnership with the Government of Nepal and transfer leprosy skills to more Government health personnel, so that more people affected by leprosy can be reached. Pray for the safety and good health of the many volunteers and medical elective students who visit TLM Nepal. May the Lord give them ample opportunities to gain better understanding of TLM's leprosy work and the culture and situation of Nepal.

### **2. Mission Aviation Fellowship - Mongolia.**

Mongolia is developing fast with shops, restaurants, imported products, cars and even paved roads. But there is still much spiritual poverty. Pray for the ministry of our "Jesus plane" as it supports the fledgling Church and enables the needs of isolated communities to be met. Four year old Amuun wears a white polka-dot dress and smile that melts hearts. Today she loves to run. When she was only 18 months old, she couldn't crawl, walk or talk. Pray for God's blessing on Namuun, her amazing mother and the therapists from our partner Reaching the Light, who are helping this beautiful little girl to reach her full potential.

### **3. Open Doors - Brunei**

As Brunei's sultan encourages Islamisation throughout society, pressure on Christians increases. The first stage of Sharia (Islamic law) is in effect in Brunei, making it mandatory for all Muslims (including Christian converts) to attend Islamic prayers. A fatwa bans the building or renovation of buildings for non-Muslim worship and importing Bibles, evangelising and celebrating Christmas is prohibited. Once implemented, the last two phases of Sharia would be even more restrictive. Christian converts also face pressure from their communities to return to Islam. Pray that many Bruneians will choose

to follow Christ, despite incentives from the government to encourage people to convert to Islam. Pray for secret believers, trying to hide their faith for fear of persecution, that God would protect them and give them wisdom in how to shine His light. Pray for strength and wisdom for church leaders in dealing with growing religious restrictions.

**4** In the N.H.S. present crisis ask God to give the government wise, attainable answers to the serious problems arising. Uphold the staff in the severe pressures they experience daily. Pray for the patients in their difficulties and need of healing.

Continue to pray for our Session Clerk and the Kirk Session along with our new teams. This month remember the Fund Raising and Hospitality team, its leader, co-leader and members and pray for God's guidance in all their deliberations and planning of activities for this year. Pray for Pastor Richard as he keeps a guiding hand on everything as well as his preaching ministry and pastoral work. Ask God to give him health and strength and the power of the Holy Spirit in all he does. Remember Margie as she faithfully supports and encourages us with her love and prayers. Give God thanks and may all we do be to His praise and glory.

### **Choir**

We meet each Thursday in the Memorial Chapel at 7.15 pm. Anyone interested in joining us will be most welcome.