

Church Register

Deaths:

“The Lord is my shepherd, I'll not want”

Robert Wallace

Elder Avenue

Church Office

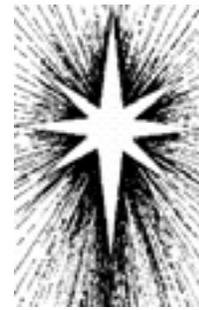
Church Secretary: Janette Robertson will be in the office – **Tues. 10.00 am – 12 noon & Frid. 9.00 am – 1.00 pm.** All items for the Pew Leaflet should be given to Janette, or posted through the office door. Please note that articles for inclusion in the Sunday Pew Leaflet must be with Janette **no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

Contact details: Telephone: 712672
Email: churchoffice12@btconnect.com
www.girvannorthparishchurch.org.uk

 Girvan North Parish Church

EDITOR'S NOTE:

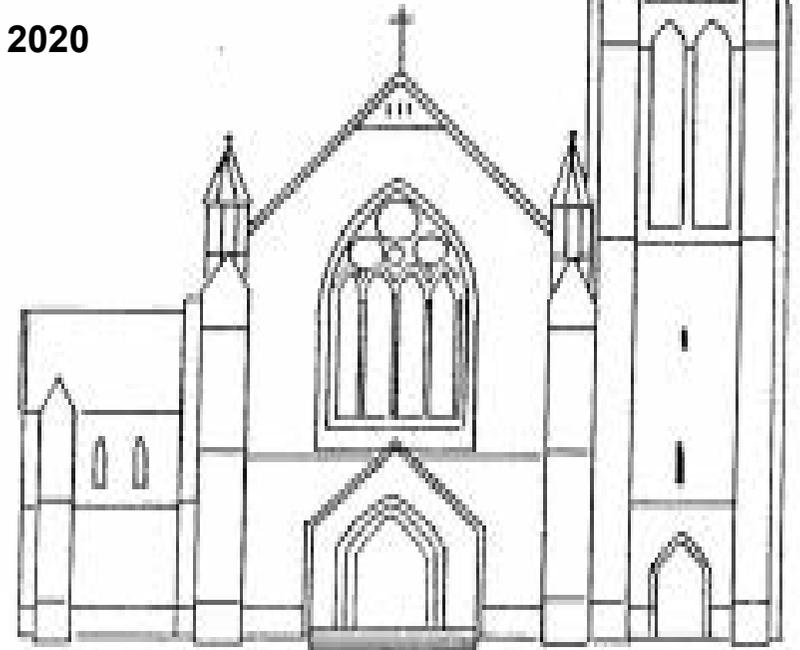
All articles for the April 2020 issue of the Church Magazine should be given to the Editor by Sunday 29th March 2020



The Church
of Scotland

The
North
Star

March 2020



Girvan North Parish Church

Girvan North Parish Church Charity No. SC007347

CHURCH OFFICIALS

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TREASURER:

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ROLL KEEPER:

Mr. Billy Benson 1 Rodney Drive, Tel: 713059

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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!

March Newsletter for Girvan North.

Dear friends,

David Livingstone was born in the Mill town of Blantyre on March 19th, 1813. A poor child, he was brought up well by good parents. He worked 14-hour shifts at the local cotton mill. He studied science, languages, religious studies and medicine. He joined the London Missionary Society after meeting missionary Robert Moffat, his future father-in-law. There was war in China, so Livingstone chose missionary work in Africa. He spent the remaining 30 years of his life there. Not only did Livingstone, the first Westerner, discover the Victoria Falls, “the smoke that thunders”, and Lake Malawi, he had a famous meeting with Henry Morton Stanley, “Dr. Livingstone I presume”. He was the first white European to cross the Kalahari Desert, was the first to cross Africa from the Atlantic to the Indian coast and was the first to treat Malaria with quinine. Malaria was generally fatal and caused by the mosquito bite. He fought the slave trade through commercial trade. He remained popular amongst Africans he ministered to, and medically treated, so they carried his body many miles after he died. His body was eventually buried in Westminster Abbey, in April 1874. Livingstone could of course have spent more time with his wife and 7 children. Half of his 17-year marriage was spent in Africa. He only convinced one person to become a Christian during his long stay there. The converted Seychelle then changed his mind ! His failure as a missionary meant that he left the London Missionary Society and became a full-time explorer. However, he was still spreading the Christian message through using commercial trade as a means of replacing the slave trade. Unfortunately, this led to the “carve-up” of Africa. This was where white settlers took land they believed to be theirs. Malawi was just left with a strip of land. Livingstone was a person who lacked patience, could be unreasonable, could be unreliable when placed under pressure, had no practical skills, believed he was always right, was moody, kept things to himself when he should have trusted others, reacted badly to criticism and was not a good team player. I think we all possess some of these failings at times. Hopefully what connects Livingstone to us all is faith. Livingstone needed

faith to cope with a lion attack which withered his arm when he was in his 20s, faith to deal with the problems with his marriage to Mary, faith to cope with Mary’s death from Malaria in 1862, faith to deal with his mistakes as a missionary, and a leader, and faith to cope with his own ill health. He died from malaria and dysentery on May 1st, 1873. We should all have a faith too, and trust in God when we fail in life. God will turn our failures into strengths like he did with Livingstone, and like he did with St. Paul when he saw the light. When our failings are illuminated, we trust in God and do his work. Just as David Livingstone was a missionary in Africa for God, we are all missionaries when we go to church, pray, read the Bible and spread the Word. A missionary, through faith, learns about Jesus and passes on that learning to others. We are all missionaries in our lives when we spread the Good News. Let us all be missionaries to the people of Girvan and see the wonderful results, which will undoubtedly follow.
Best wishes, Glenn.

Alternative Gift Scheme:

We are delighted with the response to the alternative gift scheme this year. You will remember the two gifts on offer were much needed seeds and fertiliser and solar lamps. The money for seeds and fertiliser will be sent to Malawi and distributed locally by the Presbyteries in Limphasa and Bandawe while the solar lamps will be delivered by the group from Ayrshire who will be visiting Malawi in May of this year. So far we have enough to send 559 packs of seeds and fertiliser and 250 solar lamps and we still look forward to adding to this total. Many, many thanks to everyone who has publicised this scheme and who has contributed.

Bill Duncan

Interim Moderator

Troon Portland Parish Church of Scotland

Scottish Registered Charity No SC 003477

interimmoderator@troonportlandchurch.org.uk

Girvan North Parish Church

Crossraguel Choir



on Monday 9th March 2020

at

7.00 pm

Ticket: £5.00 includes refreshments

Charity No. SC007348

Christian Education and Discipleship Team

Team Leader Robert Jess, Note taker/Deputy Margaret Nicol
Team Members: Diane Irvine, Isobel Bone, Tina Ingram, Billy Leith
Sconaid Clark and Pauline Rattery

Team Remit

The team is responsible for the teaching of children and young people; organises provision of Creche facilities on Sunday Mornings ; encourage youth leaders of Sunday School, the Boys' and Girls Brigades, who nurture the interest of children and young people in the life of the congregation

The team decided to send Christmas cards to the residents of Hillcrest residential unit. Pauline and the Sunday School delivered the cards and they were well received. Posters have been made inviting children from birth to 3 years of age to Creche and from age 3 upwards to Sunday School.

Birthday cards will be sent to all children who have been Baptised up till their 5th Birthday.

Care For the Mother-in-law

A man, his wife and his mother-in-law went on vacation to the Holy Land. While they were there, the mother-in-law passed away.

The undertaker told them, 'You can have her shipped home for £5000, or you can bury her here in the Holy Land for £150.'

The man thought about it and told him he would just have her shipped home. The undertaker asked, 'Why would you spend £5000 to ship your mother-in-law home, when it would be wonderful to have her buried here and spend only £150?'

The man replied, 'a man died here 2000 years ago, was buried here, and three days later he rose from the dead. I just can't take that chance.'

Church Ladies with Tripewriters

Those wonderful Church Bulletins! Thank God for church ladies with typewriters. These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

Nellie Morgan and John Rees were married on February 2nd in Newtown's Baptist church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Seven new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of new members, and to the deterioration of some of older ones.

Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

St Hilary church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

Treasurer's Report

The Annual Accounts for 2019 have been scutinised by an Independent Examiner and approved by the Church Trustees. The accounts will be presented to the congregation at the Stated Annual Meeting on Sunday 22nd March.

In 2020 we will be trying to keep our expenditure down as our contribution to Ministries and Mission has increased, also our salaries. Could you help us meet these increases...at no extra cost to yourself? If you are a tax payer we can get some of your tax back. All you need to do is sign a form confirming that you pay tax. No need to say how much you are going to give to the church or how much you pay in tax, just a signature. Every 3 months I make a claim to the Inland Revenue and they refund us 25p for every pound given to us in this way a total of around £10,000 per year to the church. Is this something you could do? Please get in touch with Joyce Mills (712050) who will happily bring you a Gift Aid form to sign.

Perhaps you could help in another way. By making your donation to the church by Bank Standing Order you save yourself the bother of looking for money on a Sunday morning or filling envelopes for missed Sundays. It also helps our elders who count the offering every Sunday. If this is something you would like to do, please get in touch with me. I have a simple form to fill in to hand in to your bank

However I do understand that many people like to put their offering in the plate every Sunday and this is very welcome. Some people prefer to give an annual cheque. Whichever way you choose to give your offering, we are very grateful. Through the generosity of our faithful members I am able to pay our bills month by month.

Thank You.
Margaret Benson, Treasurer.

New Minister

Recently a large seminar was held for ministers in training. Among the guests were many well-known motivational speakers. One such boldly approached the pulpit and, gathering the entire crowd's attention, said, "The best years of my life were spent in the arms of a woman that wasn't my wife!" The crowd was shocked! He followed up by saying, "And that woman was my mother!" The crowd burst into laughter and he gave his speech, which went over well.

About a week later one of the assistant ministers who had attended the seminar decided to use that joke in what was his first sermon to the congregation. As he shyly approached the pulpit one Sunday, he tried to rehearse the joke in his head. He was notably very nervous and getting to the microphone he said loudly, "The greatest years of my life were spent in the arms of another woman that was not my wife!" His congregation sat shocked.

After standing there for almost 10 seconds the pastor finally blurted out, "...and I can't remember who she was!"

Funnies

The Sunday School Teacher asked, "Now, Johnny, tell me frankly, do you say prayers before eating?"

"No sir," little Johnny replies, "I don't have to - my Mom is a good cook!"

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Reverend to his congregation: "We have good news and bad news.

The bad news is that the roof needs repairing.

The good news is that we have the money to pay for it."

(appreciative murmurs all round)

Reverend: "The extra bad news is that it's still in your pockets!"

## **Vacancy News**

Unfortunately, for health reasons Rev Ian Stirling, has had to resign as Interim Moderator of both the Girvan charges. We are very much indebted to Ian as it has been his vision and his clear, patient and logical guidance which has helped to bring us to the position we have reached so far in the process of working towards a union of the four churches concerned. That and the willingness of almost every member of the four Kirk Sessions and Boards to co-operate fully has meant that whoever takes over as Interim Moderator can be confident that, although we still have a long way to go, we will continue this process in the spirit of friendliness and co-operation which Ian has very much encouraged. We are already having joint Sessions & Boards meetings and the Session Leaders also meet regularly to try and iron out some of the inevitable practical problems which will arise over the coming years as we work towards a union of the two charges.

## **Wednesday Break**

Wednesday Break meet each Wednesday at 10.30 am in the small hall, when we will welcome our mid week worshippers back. Please feel free to join us any week. The talks are not long and onerous, together with praise and prayer – a half hour service followed by tea/ coffee and a chat. This is an excellent opportunity for quiet reflection if you have missed Sunday worship.

### Crèche Rota

|                        |                                   |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> March  | Wilma Armstrong, Fiona McCutcheon |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> March  | Isla Johnston, Leslie Forbes      |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> March | Heather Smith, Michelle Scobie    |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> March | Jillian Nelson, Leslie Forbes     |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> March | Isla Johnston, Heather Smith      |
| 5 April                | Wilma Armstrong, Fiona McCutcheon |

**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.**

***Due to retirals, etc., we are very short of  
volunteers. If you can help, please contact  
Jennifer Ramsay on 712200.***

### Centre Group

Centre Group meets on first and third Wednesdays of each month at 7.00 pm in the church lounge. A warm welcome is extended to all.

### Church Calendar

|        |                        |                      |                 |
|--------|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Sunday | 1 <sup>st</sup> March  | Morning Worship      | Mr Glenn Ronald |
| Sunday | 8 <sup>th</sup> March  | Sacrament of Baptism | Mr Glenn Ronald |
| Sunday | 15 <sup>th</sup> March | Morning Worship      | Mr Glenn Ronald |
| Sunday | 22 <sup>nd</sup> March | Morning Worship      | Mr Glenn Ronald |
| Sunday | 29 <sup>th</sup> March | Morning Worship      | Mr Glenn Ronald |

**[All services begin at 11.00 am unless indicated]**

### Elizabeth and Her Sunday School

Elizabeth asked her Sunday School class to sketch a picture of their favourite Bible stories. She was puzzled by Bert's picture, which showed four people sitting in a plane, so she asked him which bible story it was meant to represent.' The flight to Egypt,' said Bert. 'I see ... and that must be Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus, 'Elizabeth said, 'But who's the fourth person?' Oh, that's Pontius - the Pilot.'

## Prayer Topics March 2020

### 1. The Leprosy Mission – Mozambique

We travel many thousands of kilometres each year to reach villages, conduct case finding and supervise activities in Cabo Delgado. Please pray for God's continued protection and the good health of staff out in the field. There is a continued armed insurgency in northern districts of Cabo Delgado. This influences our programmes directly and is dislocating many communities. Pray with us for the situation to be resolved and for affected populations to find sufficient food.

### 2. Mission Aviation Fellowship –Bangladesh

We provide flights for Jago Nari, which hopes to open a boat school to help educate the landless Manta (Water Gypsy) children. These precious youngsters aren't able to attend state schools in Bangladesh, so the boat school will be vital to their education. Please pray for the completion of this project and the impact it will have on future generations. The island of Bhota is remote and life there can be hard. MAF's partner Bhota's children runs a home and school on the island, to assist the large number of orphaned and disabled children living there. Please pray for the staff as they teach academic subjects as well as practical skills such as farming and food preparation.

### 3. Open Doors – India

Pray for the government of India and its leadership, as they plan to make amendments in Indian laws. This will make professing and practising the Christian faith more difficult. Pray that such laws may not be allowed to pass and that the leaders of India will seek freedom and justice for all.

Manav and his brother were badly beaten by extremists because of their faith in Christ. Manav is in hospital and his treatment is ongoing. Pray for their continued healing and comfort, and ask God to change

the hearts of their attackers so that they turn to follow Jesus.

4. Give thanks for much needed rain in Australia, helping to put out the devastating bush fires. Pray for God's help for those people who have lost everything.

Pray for provision for those in the U.K. whose homes and businesses have been ruined by the continued flooding.

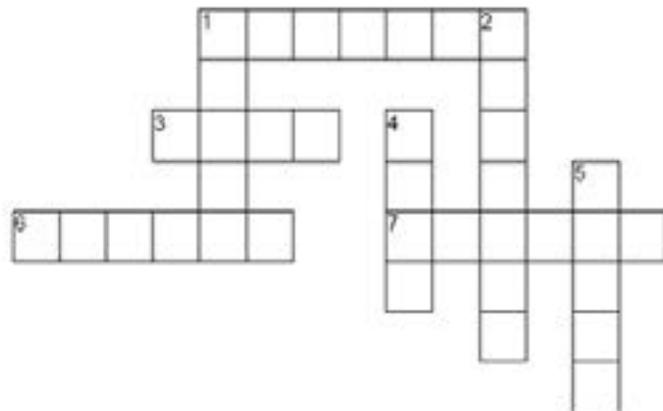
As local councils try to balance their budgets, as God to help them make wise decisions on how to save money without causing hardship to vulnerable people and to know what is non-essential and purely wasteful.

As time goes on, pray that Ayr Presbytery will soon come to a decision regarding the future of our vacant churches in view of the current serious shortage of ministers. Give thanks for all retired ministers who are willingly giving of their time and experience to bridge many gaps and bless many congregations. Pray for our Sunday School, the children and the teachers, especially Pauline. Pray too for the Boys' Brigade, for Kevin and his staff and boys. Ask God to encourage more children to join the Sunday School and Boys' Brigade that they might learn of Him. Pray for our Bible Studies and Prayer Meetings that people would want to be a part of these to learn of the Lord's will for our lives and to know Him more intimately. Pray for people to come to know the Saviour and that we might more effectively share His love with them.

# Faith Is the Key

When Jesus heard this, he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, he said, "I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel." Then the men who had been sent returned to the house and found the servant well. Luke 7:9-10 (NIV)

Puzzle is based on Luke 7:1-10



## ACROSS

1. People that you know well and regard with affection
3. To be physically ill
6. To deserve something
7. To be overwhelmed, surprised, or shocked

## DOWN

1. A strong belief in the power of God
2. A person working in the service of another
4. To cure or make healthy again
5. The Son of God

|        |         |      |         |
|--------|---------|------|---------|
| WORTHY | SERVANT | SICK | FRIENDS |
| FAITH  | JESUS   | HEAL | AMAZED  |

# Faith Is the Key

When Jesus heard this, he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, he said, "I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel." Then the men who had been sent returned to the house and found the servant well. Luke 7:9-10 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J  | K  | L  | M  | N  | O  | P  | Q  | R  | S  | T  | U  | V  | W  | X  | Y  | Z  |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |

1. 19-5-18-22-1-14-20 \_\_\_\_\_
2. 6-18-9-5-14-4-19 \_\_\_\_\_
3. 6-1-9-20-8 \_\_\_\_\_
4. 4-5-19-5-18-22-5 \_\_\_\_\_
5. 19-9-3-11 \_\_\_\_\_
6. 8-5-1-12-5-4 \_\_\_\_\_
7. 1-13-1-26-5-4 \_\_\_\_\_
8. 23-15-18-20-8-25 \_\_\_\_\_
9. 7-18-5-1-20 \_\_\_\_\_
10. 3-5-14-20-21-18-9-15-14 \_\_\_\_\_

|           |         |         |        |       |
|-----------|---------|---------|--------|-------|
| WORTHY    | SERVANT | AMAZED  | HEALED | GREAT |
| CENTURION | DESERVE | FRIENDS | SICK   | FAITH |

# Faith Is the Key

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L F Q S P T A M A Z E D T A G  
R L G W N Y S W B C W A H U M  
D S B R F W I R Q W E I Y T H  
I H O X U N C W I R X H D H N  
E B W L Y E K H G Y T Y B O K  
Q V H B D W V U O R P H M R H  
J J C N S I Q A O D I T B I I  
C R X E E W E W O U D K B T J  
R S H D N C G R E K A B E Y I  
H T E P E T P I J G C R O W D  
L E F R J S U F R I E N D S S  
W T A A V L E R S H O U S E K  
R E J L I A M R I X O H N G E  
S T P L E T N E V O V B D B J  
G K X D C D H T P E N J Y P U

AMAZED  
DESERVE  
AUTHORITY

CENTURION  
HEALED  
DIE

SOLDIER  
SERVANT  
GREAT

CROWD  
SICK  
FRIENDS

WORTHY  
FAITH  
HOUSE