

Church Office

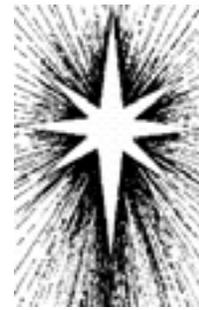
Church Secretary: Janette Robertson will be in the office – **Tues. 10.00 am – 12 noon & Frid. 9.00 am – 1.00 pm.** All items for the Pew Leaflet should be given to Janette, or posted through the office door. Please note that articles for inclusion in the Sunday Pew Leaflet must be with Janette **no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

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 Girvan North Parish Church

EDITOR'S NOTE:

All articles for the October 2021 issue of the Church Magazine should be given to the Editor by Sunday 26th September 2021



The Church
of Scotland

The
North
Star

September 2021



Girvan North Parish Church

Girvan North Parish Church Charity No. SC007347

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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!

August Newsletter for Girvan North.

Dear friends, Mark's Gospel was thought by many to be written first. His Gospel is not written chronologically, but rather topically. There is a calling of Jesus' disciples, then Jesus' Ministry, and His subsequent Jerusalem rejection. The pivotal moment comes when Peter confesses Jesus is indeed the Christ, 8:27-31, before Jesus predicts His death. For Mark, the Kingdom of God is present but will be completed in the future. The Kingdom's mystery is that it starts small then fulfils its purpose, 1:15.

Mark's events happen **immediately**, rather than having been taught by Jesus. Mark only has the parables of the Kingdom, 4:1-33, and a discussion of the "end times", 13:1-37. Mark believes Jesus did 20 miracles. Jesus, the Son of God, prevents sin, believes in the Sabbath and controls temple practices, making Him the Jewish leaders' enemy.

Jesus' authority does not exist in isolation. In Mark, Jesus is seen as the "suffering servant", or suffering Son of Man. This is seen in 10:45, which parallels Isaiah 53. Mark emphasises the importance of secrecy for those who mention His divinity, so Jesus is allowed to suffer. Jesus' Messiahship can only be revealed when it is better understood.

After Jesus' suffering comes His resurrection and ascension. These events will lead to His "second coming" when Jesus will judge us all. Mark is critical of the disciples' actions. We have to ensure Jesus' suffering is not repeated. Mark talks to a church in conflict. The disciples will suffer like their master. Serving God and following Jesus will mean the Christian message will be spread to others.

Like the other Gospels, there is no author's signature to the work, but Papias describes Mark as Peter's interpreter, as Eusebius says. Irenaeus, Clement of Alexandria and Justin concur. Mark's name on the parchment, confirms this. So it is John Mark, assistant to Peter,

Paul and Barnabas. There is no other likely candidate. Mark's knowledge of Peter explains the Gospel's popularity in the Early Church. This is particularly true as Mark was not an Apostle.

Mark is harder to date as the evidence does not correlate. Irenaeus thinks it was written after Peter and Paul's death in the late 60s. Clement of Alexandria, on the other hand, believes the Gospel was written when Peter and Paul were still in Rome - sometime in the 50s. Some scholars believe Mark was written after Jerusalem was destroyed by the Romans in 70. This argument is on shaky ground as it uses as its evidence, Mark 13. Mark could easily have been writing about what could come to pass in the **future**. The early 60s seem more likely, particularly with Markan priority, as more scholars believe. Clement considers Mark a Roman Gospel. Others think it is Egyptian. Rome seems more likely especially due to Roman Christian persecution, Mark's suffering theme, and the conflict between the disciples and the Jewish leaders.

My wife will now recover at home after five weeks in Crosshouse Hospital. She appreciates everyone's kindness, care and attention. Stay safe and keep well everyone.

Best wishes, Glenn.

Harvest Thanksgiving Service **Sunday 26th September**

Our Harvest Thanksgiving Service will be held on Sunday 26th September at 11am.

Non perishable gifts can be handed in to the church on Saturday 25th September 10am – 12 noon.

After the service, because of the Covid situation, the gifts will be donated to the local Food Bank.

Announcements

In the intimations on Sunday 18 July 2021 we announced that Lorna Mearns had been appointed Assistant Organist. This idea was put forward by our Organist, Marie Mortimer, to the Session and they readily agreed. So in recognition of Lorna's contribution to church music and in anticipation that we will see her not infrequently at the organ or the piano, we introduced Lorna Mearns as Assistant Organist.

Many know that our locum minister, Glenn Ronald, has been pursuing academic studies at the University of Aberdeen. These studies came to an end this year, and on 5th July Glenn graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Theology (BTh). Unfortunately for us this does not make him an ordained minister, just very highly qualified!

He had to forgo the usual graduation ceremony but we did not want his achievement to go unrecognized. The Session therefore decided that a book token would be appropriate and so, in recognition of Glenn's academic success and in continued gratitude and thanks for all his work as locum minister, we were delighted to hand over this expression of our congratulations.

Dr. James Anderson

Treasurer's Report

Church Income from 1st January until 23rd August is £43,039 while our expenditure for the same period is £42,992. This is an encouraging position considering the number of weeks the church was closed, the lack of lets and fundraising events during these last eight months. Members of the Kirk Session are grateful to our faithful members who have continued to support Girvan North through these difficult times in the following ways:-

- By filling their FWO envelopes and handing them in at church or sending them to me.
- By using a Monthly Bank Standing Order which is a safe and regular means of giving. Around £2000 is donated this way each month.
- By making a donation in cash or by cheque made payable to Girvan North Parish Church of Scotland.

Your generosity has made my job as Treasurer easier and less stressful. Thank you for that. So far this year I have been able to claim back £9986 tax from the Inland Revenue on donations given by members who have signed a Gift Aid form. This allows me to claim back 25p on every pound given by members who are UK tax payers. This is an excellent way of raising money for the church at no extra cost to the member. Joyce Mills 712050 has the Gift Aid forms. You do not declare how much you are going to give. You only need to sign to confirm that you are a UK taxpayer. If you are a member who has not contributed to the church for some time, please consider giving a donation in one of the above ways. This supports not only Girvan North but also the wider work of the Church of Scotland through our Ministry and Mission contributions. Thank you all for your continued support

Margaret Benson
Church Treasurer.

Good news!

Sunday School is reopening Sunday 5th of September 2021 following our extended period of closure due to Covid-19 restrictions. As recently appointed Sunday school teacher, I am really looking forward to welcoming our returning pupils, some new faces and our parent/carer/grandparent helpers. I would also like to thank Pauline Rattray for her hard work and boundless enthusiasm on behalf of the Sunday school and we very much hope she will continue to join us on occasion.

All children aged three years old and above are welcome to join us any and every Sunday at 10:50am for singing, craft, stories and a variety of fun activities. Children under five should be accompanied by an adult when attending.

**Many thanks,
Heather Smith**

Baby and Toddler Group

As things are getting back to normal I am delighted to say the group will be back on Tuesday 7th September from 9.30 till 11.00 during term time. All little people aged birth to 3 years will be very welcome.

Mandy McGlaughlan

Carpet Bowling Club

The Carpet Bowling Club will be starting back on Wednesday 8th September, we hope to see as many of our present members coming along after such a long break.

We would also love to see new faces too, so come along and join us, we are a happy bunch and you will be made very welcome. It's a good fun night.

Margaret Murdoch

Centre Group-Good News

Restrictions are easing and we are allowed to open church halls again, so, that is certainly good news!

Centre Group plan to meet again on first and third Wednesdays of each month, starting Wednesday 6th October. We meet at 7pm in church lounge.

Please come along and join this friendly group. As always, a warm welcome awaits.

Violet Connor

Choir Practices

The Choir are going to delay choir practices until they are able to sing without masks. They hope that this will be soon.

Malawi

Last month we sent out money to our twin church at Likoma. They were desperate to do more building work on the new church. They also found some food items were very expensive since the pandemic hit their country.

Two members of the congregation gave donations to help with the bank charges and to supplement the minister's stipend.

Restrictions have hit them again with only 20 allowed into church at present, so while the weather is good they have outdoor services. The new minister was inducted on the 8th August, I have included photos of the service.

Sandra Smith



Baby and Toddler Group

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Mandy McGlaughlan

Kirk Session

Now that we are getting back to some normality the new door duty lists are out, the Banking duty lists are also out and refreshments are all starting on 5th September. Some of the organisations are also starting in September. Since the church reopened after lockdown numbers have kept up.

Thanks to Glenn for keeping in touch with everybody during lockdown. Thanks also to all the volunteers who did Door Duty over the past months.

The next meeting of the Session is on Monday 13th September at 7.00 pm. A decision will be made nearer the time whether it will be a face to face meeting or be held by Zoom.

Keep well and safe – God Bless
Ian Fitzsimmons

Sunday Tea

Meet after Church service for tea/coffee, biscuits and a chat starting on 5th September

Sept 5	Una Jess	Sylvia Stewart
Sept 12	Stella Bone	Agnes Gibson
Sept 19	Fiona McCutcheon	Myra McCutcheon
Sept 26	Jean Morris	Janet Arthur
Oct 3	Una Jess	Sylvia Stewart
Oct 10	Margaret Benson	Billy Benson
Oct 17	Irene Tyson	Agnes Gibson
Oct 24	Stella Bone	Irene Tyson
Oct 31	Myra McCutcheon	Fiona McCutcheon

Boys' Brigade

1st Girvan Boys' Brigade are in the midst of preparation for the, long anticipated, return to action. Some things will be the same. Some things will change.

We're currently looking to hold an enrolment night on the 3rd of September at 18:30 with a view to kicking off officially on the 10th. We will aim to provide all information and answer questions at enrolment night.

We look forward to seeing familiar and new faces alike! Keep an eye on the company Facebook page for updates.

Kind Regards,
Captain Kevin Borland.

Prayer Topics for September

1. **Leprosy Mission – Thailand**

Pray for doctors to provide timely diagnosis and correct treatment for new leprosy patients attending integrated general clinics. Pray that appropriate support will be given to many disabled patients who are elderly and frail.

2. **Mission Aviation Fellowship**

Every flight that takes off requires a team of behind the scenes workers. Pray for all MAFs aircraft maintenance engineers, managers, logisticians, quality and safety staff, building maintenance workers and cleaners. Ask God to bless the work of MAFs partners in Liberia, Ethnos 360 who is planting churches through Bible lessons and teaching literacy classes. This year MAF helped the organisation formerly known as New Tribes Mission to bring Gospel Light to the land by transporting solar panels to power the printer that produces its materials.

3. **Open Doors – Cameroon**

Boko Haram extremists continue to target believers in North Cameroon. “Pray for Boko Haram” asks one believer from the far North of Cameroon. “Pray that the Lord will change the hearts of our persecutors so that they may know Christ as their only Saviour.” The ongoing insecurity keeps Christians from cultivating their own land and providing for their families. Thank God that Open Doors partners were able to deliver relief aid to over 300 displaced families. Pray that this will encourage vulnerable believers. “Things are hard for the young widows” says church elder, Pierre. “Pray that they will not lose faith, but put their trust in God, Who will help them raise their children.

4. Pray for God’s protection for the Afghanistan people against future violence. Ask for a complete change of heart for the Taliban, that they may rule their own people with wisdom and compassion.

Pray for the needs of the people of Haiti after another devastating earthquake.

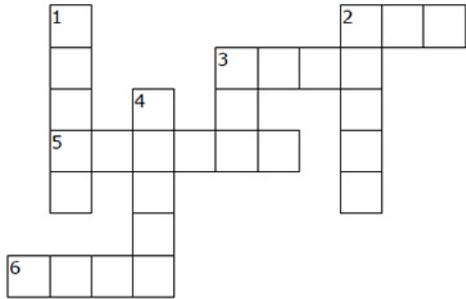
Once again ask God to bring an end to Covid-19. Give thanks for all who have cared for those affected by the virus. Pray for all whose minds have been badly disturbed over this time that God will grant them peace and healing.

Remember Glenn as he leads us in worship each week and ask for the Lord’s peace and healing for Wanda.

Intercede for the Church worldwide. In Chronicles 7:14 we read “If My people who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” So pray for a true spirit of repentance in all our lives and that God would send a mighty revival in these days drawing millions of people to Himself and accepting Him as Lord and Saviour of their lives, to His praise and glory.



Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

2. A feeling of great happiness
3. A contest of speed
5. The place where a king or queen is seated
6. The organs which are used to see

DOWN

1. A strong belief in God
2. The Son of God
3. To traveling on foot at a fast pace
4. The wooden structure on which Jesus was crucified;

CROSS	JESUS	RUN	THRONE
FAITH	JOY	EYES	RACE



*...let us
run with
patience
the race
that is set
before us...*

Hebrews 12:1

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Children's Worship Bulletin

Run the Race

Hebrews 12:1-2

Word Search

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

GREAT	RACE	JESUS	JOY	FAITH
WITNESSES	THROW	THRONE	EYES	RUN
MARKED	FIX	HINDERS	CLOUD	SIN

Your Church Name
City or Town

Decoder Puzzle

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

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

- 26-6-23-13-9-3-3-9-3 _____
- 5-9-3-2-3 _____
- 25-6-24-9-7 _____
- 25-11-6-23-12 _____
- 14-22-18-3-3 _____
- 22-11-14-9 _____
- 22-2-13 _____
- 5-18-20 _____
- 9-20-9-3 _____
- 23-12-22-18-13-9 _____

FAITH	FIXED	WITNESSES	CROSS	JESUS
EYES	THRONE	JOY	RACE	RUN



Coloring Page



Let us run with perseverance the race that God has set before us.
Hebrews 12:1b (NIV)