

The Church  
of Scotland

The  
North  
Star

### **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 June 2022 issue of the Church Magazine should be given to the Editor by Sunday 29th May 2022

**May 2022**



**Girvan North Parish Church**

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

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## 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

The Rotary Club of Girvan closed down at the end of 2021. Used inkjet cartridges will now only be collected in aid of the Leprosy Mission Scotland. It needs three particular makes for this purpose. Hewlett Packard (HP), Lexmark and Dell.

The Church will post them off. Please continue handing in the three names makes for all cartridges, into the box at the front door vestibule.

Many thanks for all cartridges previously given. TLM Scotland play a part in the exceptional work of caring and curing the dreaded disease of leprosy. ***Thank You – Norma Logan***

## Blythswood Care

The Blythswood Charity Shop in Prestwick has closed, with no guarantee of opening in the area in the near future.

We will no longer be able to collect unwanted or unused donations from the congregation.

This should not affect the Shoe Box Appeal, as a special uplift is made every year.

## May Newsletter for Girvan North.

**Dear friends**, we were all deeply saddened by the senseless killing of the respected Conservative politician, Sir David Amess, by someone with complete contempt for human life. Sir David was stabbed to death, last October, conducting constituency business, because he voted for air strikes, on Isis, in Syria and Iraq. His murderer, Ali Harbi Ali, who was convicted and is now serving a full life term, was planning terrorist attacks on other MPs. This killing followed Labour MP Jo Cox's fatal attack, in June 2016. After Jo's murder, and again when Sir David was murdered, a debate began about how to best protect MPs whilst also allowing them to still be accessible to the public whom they serve. A very difficult balancing act to observe.

Sir David had been an MP for 40 years. He was elected in 1983. He never sought ministerial office but instead focussed on his beloved constituents of Basildon, Essex, whom he diligently served. He had very strong political views but still achieved cross-party support due to his sincerity. He was well-liked by all in Parliament and was a popular constituency MP. He cared passionately about animals, fought against fuel poverty, and obesity, and had a very strong faith. He never took himself seriously but always took his work seriously. A lesson to us all. Every type of politician, but particularly national politicians, frequently get death threats, either on social media, or in the post, or on the telephone. It takes a very special person to become a politician; it takes a very special person to be completely accessible to their constituents; it takes a very special person to believe that they too will not be targeted, like Sir David Amess and Jo Cox were. Despite the bad press coverage politicians tend to get, I would like to believe that most politicians work very long hours and are very principled. Who would want to be a politician? Would we?

Similarly, every Christian always has to work very hard at defending their faith and staying true to their beliefs. This is despite the abuse and mockery that they frequently face. Just as it takes a very special person to be a principled politician, it also takes a very special per-

son to be a principled Christian. The principled behaviour is what we increasingly must observe in a world where violence has become normalised. Violence of any kind is never, ever, acceptable. We must "raise our head above the parapet" when we see any injustice. As the late, great, preacher Martin Luther King has said: "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere".

Sadly, all politicians, and Christians alike, must always protect themselves from ridicule, or from a more deadly act. They also must continue to be true to their beliefs and be accessible to anyone who seeks them out. In this increasingly violent world, we would give terrorists victory if we were cowed by any bully. If we seek inspiration we only need to look at the charismatic leadership of Ukraine's President Zelensky. He believed, from the start, that Ukraine was a match for the mighty army of Russia. That has proved to be the case. Ukraine's greater self-belief, better organisation, superior training, more generous pay, and more inspirational leadership, will **ultimately** lead to victory. We should never give in to terrorism. Every politician, and every Christian, in every nation, should never be in any doubt about that.

**Best wishes, Glenn.**

## Ladies Afternoon Badminton Club

The Afternoon Club finished on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March for the summer break.

The winter session was well attended (two new members).

Many thanks to all our ladies for their continued support and friendship in the running of the club.

Further details will be in the September church Magazine.

Have a good summer, and take care – keep safe.

## Notes from the Kirk Session

The Kirk Session met on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April and discussed and agreed the following business.

- The Kirk Session welcomed the First Minister's recent announcement that wearing a mask is no longer essential during church services. Members may choose to wear a mask or not. Any members who would be more comfortable with a bit more space around them in church can feel confident that they will easily find a suitable seat. Not only are we looking forward to the Boys Brigade Service and Prize Giving on Sun 15<sup>th</sup> May but also the Celebration of Holy Communion on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June.
- Matthew Scobie reported that the quality of sound of the live recordings of Sunday services continues to improve. The services can be viewed on the Girvan North Parish Church Facebook page and are attracting more than 200 views!
- Girvan: North Parish Church moved to the Unitary Constitution on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018. The Kirk Session agreed that first steps should be taken towards our Action Teams starting back again after a period of absence due to restrictions. It will be good to get back to normal again.
- Our Interim Moderator, Dr Jim Anderson, reported that our Joint Mission plan has been submitted to Ayr Presbytery. The plan, to unite the two parish churches in Girvan with Dailly and Barr, is the first to be received. The Presbytery has assessed the two manses and we are hoping that they will ratify our joint recommendation that the North Manse is the preferred option. This would allow further progress to be made.

The Kirk Session will meet again on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May

Kind Regards  
Pauline Rattray  
Session Clerk

## Prayer Topics May

1. The Leprosy Mission – The Democratic Republic of Congo  
Pray for our mental health research project ("Peace of the Heart"). Please pray that our work will bear fruit capable of benefitting those affected by leprosy and other neglected tropical diseases.

2. Open Doors - Uzbekistan  
Recently, police officers broke into the house of a pastor and searched his house for religious materials. They also went into schools and took phones from students to check them for religious content. Pray for those believers and that the raids will not have negative consequences for the church.

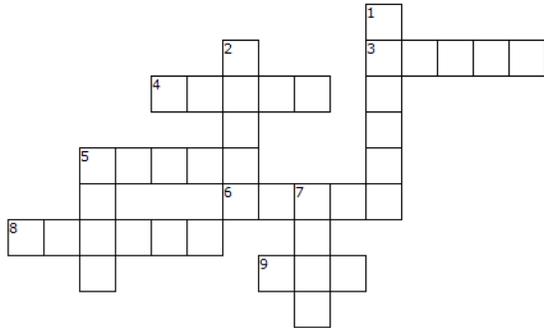
3. Mission Aviation Fellowship  
Praise God for MAF Technologies Papua New Guinea. The team is crucial to the installation of solar power in the country. The reliable energy source provided by the sun has become vital for many of PNG's small remote villages. Like hundreds of villages throughout PNG Kwaphalim is surrounded by mountains and cut off from a main hospital. Pray for God's blessing on its clinic, where the solar panels we installed ensure that surgery can continue uninterrupted and vaccines remain safely chilled.

4. "Bring before the Lord the Ukrainian situation". Give thanks for the courage and perseverance of their soldiers and pray for a speedy and decisive victory for them. Pray for comfort for all who have lost loved ones. Ask that the Russian people would be told the truth.

Pray for many people in these days who feel misfits in society and worthless, that they might know that in God's eyes no one is worthless. All are loved and special and each one has a purpose whoever they are. Remember the depressed, the abused, addicts and prisoners and all who are tempted to get involved in criminal offences.

Pray for a new vision for the church today. Ask God to raise up men and women of spiritual stature to lead us to new heights and depths of maturity in our faith. Pray for God-given wisdom in all decision making. Give thanks for all God's blessings.

# Crossword Puzzle



## ACROSS

3. To be in a state of pleasure, satisfaction, joy or delight
4. Free from conflict; getting along with others; opposite of war
5. To be undecided or unbelieving that something is true
6. The body parts at the end of the arms
8. Not open
9. To break God's law

## DOWN

1. The disciple who would not believe without seeing
2. To believe in something for which there is no proof
5. An entrance into a building or room
7. A thin piece of metal with one pointed end and one flat end which you hit with a hammer

PEACE	DOOR	HANDS	FAITH	HAPPY
NAIL	THOMAS	CLOSED	SIN	DOUBT



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# Children's Worship Bulletin

## Doubting Thomas

John 20:19-31

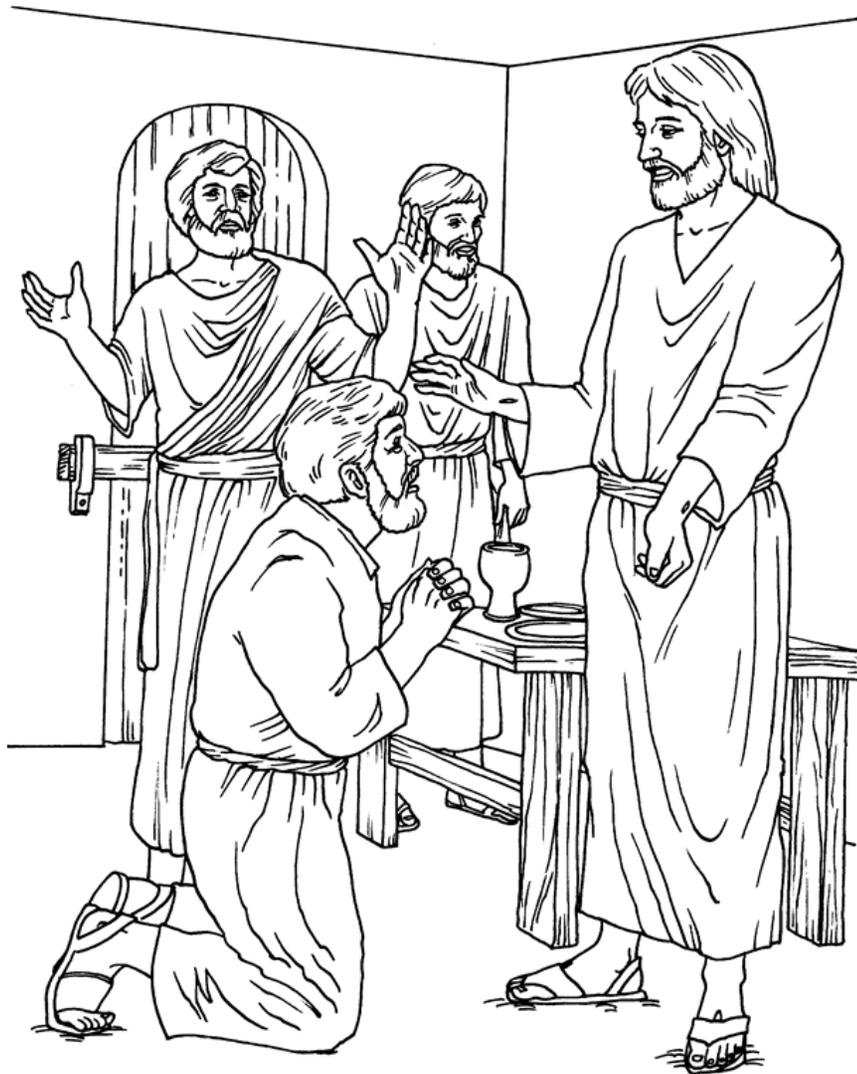
## Word Search Puzzle

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

JESUS	TOGETHER	DOUBTING	RECORDED
MIRACLES	SIGNS	SHOWED	BELIEVED
DOORS	LIFE	HANDS	DISCIPLES
TOUCHED	THOMAS	SIDE	LOCKED

Your Church Name Here  
Anytown, Anywhere

# Coloring Page

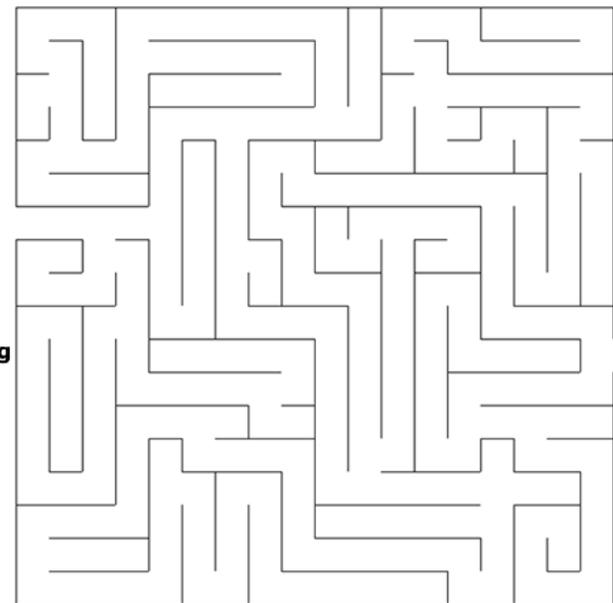


Jesus Appears!

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# Maze Puzzle

## Stop doubting and believe!



# Answers to Ukraine Appeal Quiz

1	Split in road	Fork
2	Uses cement or soda	Mixer
3	Trophy	Cup
4	When full of fish, it's a real mess!	Kettle
5	Hidden in salad lettuce	Ladle
6	A newspaper first.	Scoop
7	HP has a blank expression	Saucepan
8	Sounds like you do this with your dog!	Wok
9	South American river	Plate
10	Question relentlessly	Grill
11	Bobby or Cop	Peeler
12	For fire or food	Tongs
13	Last prize	Wooden Spoon
14	Edam fast boat	Cheese Cutter
15	Green or carpet	Bowls
16	The edge of this is critical	Knife
17	8,15,2	Hob
18	The dog ran away with it	XXXXXXXX
19	Attack and rob	Mug
20	Take away swiftly	Whisk
21	On fish or reptiles	Scales
22	Sounds wonderful! Er!	Grater
23	Citrus hugger	Lemon Squeezer
24	Sounds full of dates	Colander
25	LARESOCES ( 1 WORD)	Casserole
26	REPACOLPRE (2 WORDS)	Apple Corer
27	TICRLANOYGO (2 WORDS)	Cooling Tray
28	NOGLIRIPLN (2 WORDS)	Rolling Pin
29	GOSINMUSOANSPRE (2 WORDS)	Measuring Spoons
30	SCHIFESIL (2 WORDS)	Fish Slice

I have not counted 18. It should have read, "The dish ran away with it....SPOON."  
£910 has been raised for Ukraine with money still coming in.  
Sincere thanks to everyone who supported this charity fundraiser.  
There has been a wonderful generous response with entries coming in from all over.

The winner is Sandra Smith who has kindly donated the £10 prize money to the Ukraine Appeal.