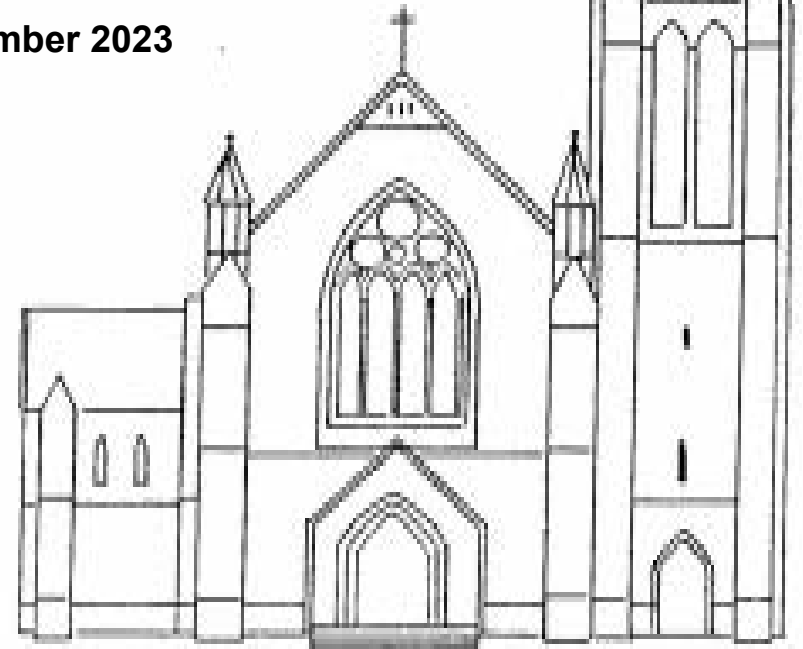


The Church
of Scotland

The
North
Star

September 2023



Girvan North Parish Church

Girvan North Parish Church Charity No. SC007347

EDITOR'S NOTE:

All items for the October Magazine should be given to, or posted through the office door, or emailed to the Church Office or, to Matthew no later than Sunday 24th September 2023.

Contact details: Telephone: 712672

Email: churchoffice12@btconnect.com

matthewscobie@btinternet.com

Email: churchoffice12@btconnect.com

Church Website: www.girvannorthparishchurch.org.uk

If secretarial services are required, please contact Matthew Scobie on 01465 713935 or email matthewscobie@btinternet.com when arrangements will be made.

CHURCH Tel. 712672

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

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.

September Newsletter for Girvan North.

Blythswood Shoebox Appeal

During September prepared boxes will be in Church to be filled with essentials for this year's Blythswood Appeal

As well as hat, scarf and gloves, necessary toiletries, toothpaste, toothbrush, soap flannel, comb etc. Notebooks and pens, underwear and socks may be added.

This becomes a gift of love to someone who may not experience a Christmas, A child's book a calendar or some spiritual text will also added in each person's language. Last year our boxes were delivered to desperate families in Moldova. Please start thinking about this needy cause now – we need to be ready and packed for the beginning of November

Wednesday Break

Wednesday Break: The Wednesday Break resumes on Wednesday 6th September 2023 at 10:30am in the small hall

This is a short informal service led by Stuart, Eric or Anne. It lasts about a ½ hour then we have tea and a chat.

The group is small around 12 – 16 but we are very friendly. If you think the Church is a bit big or you feel isolated on a Sunday why not join us for a more cosy service We are open to all whether Church goes or not

The invite has been given - please accept it.

Dear friends, I hope you all have had a nice Summer. Today I want to talk about Climate Change – the issue which dominates our time. I was particularly concerned when I saw the dreadful wildfires which were devastating Rhodes, Hawaii, Canada and Greece. I believe we are seeing more of these awful events due to Climate Change. No one wants these catastrophes, so we need to reduce their frequency. So, why do these wildfires start, and how do we reduce their prevalence? For a fire to start, it requires three things: fuel, oxygen and heat. Something as small as a spark can ignite a huge wildfire. Sometimes fires start naturally. They could be ignited by the light from the sun's heat or from a lightning strike. Also, wildfires can happen through human carelessness or deliberate destruction. Throwing away lit cigarettes, not burning rubbish properly, playing with matches, or fireworks, or committing acts of arson. So, our behaviour needs to completely change. These wildfires spread really quickly due to wind, if they spread on a slope, or if there is something present fuelling the fire. That "fuel" could be trees, dry grassy fields, or even houses. If conditions are particularly dry, the fire can spread even quicker. We have seen these conditions on Rhodes, Hawaii, Canada and Greece. The weather affects these wildfires too. With low rainfall and drought, extremely hot temperatures and a strong wind can be the perfect conditions for a wildfire. This wildfire only gets worse in the afternoon when the temperatures are at their highest. How then do we control these wildfires? As we cannot control the weather, we must control the "fuel" instead. Wind speeds must be checked, slopes investigated, the direction of the fire examined, and there must be enough water to put out the fire. We must go ahead of the fire to remove anything that will stop the fire spreading. It is not just areas of Africa, Asia, North and South America, Australasia, and Europe which generate wildfires, but they can occur in the UK too. Climate Change scientists predict wildfires will increase in the UK by 30-50% by 2080. We have a lot to do. To reduce wildfires we first need to check the weather and drought conditions; build our campfire, (if we are having one), in an open lo-

cation far away from flammables; douse our campfire until it is cold; refrain from driving over dry grass; regularly maintain our vehicle and our trailer; refrain from generating sparks near dry vegetation; avoid using fireworks; and burn rubbish with care, and never if it's windy. These are all important preventative measures, but we also must address Climate Change and our "carbon footprint". By insulating our homes; cutting down on food waste, and on red meat; driving less and flying less; and buying the most energy-efficient products, we will reduce our "carbon footprint" and the incidence of wildfires. How would Jesus react to devastating Climate Change and the increased incidence of these dreadful wildfires? He would be angered by our lack of care for our beautiful planet, and for our fellow human being. We must love our neighbour as ourself, reject materialism, and love our planet so much more. This matter is in our hands. **Best wishes, Glenn.**

SCCT Pot luck Supper - Sun 17 September at 5 pm.

All are invited (including families!) to our Joint Pot Luck Supper.

Our local Community Choir will be providing some entertainment, on a Scottish theme. All our partner churches are donating food for the meal and The North Parish Church will be responsible for providing any Hot Dishes.

If you are able to make any food donation, a list is at the front door of the church today.

Thank you in advance.

Treasurer's Report

I hope you have all enjoyed the summer months despite the unsettled weather. Hopefully we will have a glorious Autumn.

We are two thirds through 2023 already. Our income for these 8 months has amounted to £55,629 which includes a donation of £7000 + Gift Aid to be used exclusively for fabric work.

The Kirk Session has agreed to use this money to make a more accessible entrance, including a ramp, at the north side of the church. Ie the side entrance into the church, session room and vestry. The steps at that door are very narrow. Plans have been drawn up by an architect and a submission has been made to South Ayrshire for a Building Warrant. We hope to see progress with this work over the coming months. Our expenditure for the 8 months has been £65,145. This includes £11,799 to have the manse rewired. It was good to get this done while the Manse was empty. Other big expenses include £3605 for heating and lighting, £3515 for Insurance, £14,871 for salaries of Locum, Church Officer, Organists and Secretary. We have also sent £16,132 to the Church of Scotland Giving To Grow scheme which supports the work of the Church of Scotland at home and overseas.

It continues to sadden me that so many of our 445 members do not contribute anything at all to the upkeep of our church. However I am very grateful to our faithful members who contribute regularly and generously using the FWO envelopes, cash, Bank Standing Orders, and by sending me cheques.

Sincere thanks for your support.
Margaret Benson
Treasurer

Mrs Janette Robertson:

Mrs Janette Robertson has resigned from the post of church secretary due to ill health. Our heartfelt thanks are given for all she has done serving our church.

Funnies

A Sunday school teacher asked the children just before she dismissed them to go to church, "And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?"

Annie replied, "Because people are sleeping"

A teacher was testing the children in her Sunday school class to see if they understood the concept of getting to heaven.

She asked them, "If I sold my house and my car, had a big garage sale and gave all my money to the church, would that get me into Heaven?"

"NO!" the children answered.

"If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the yard, and kept everything neat and tidy, would that get me into Heaven?"

Again, the answer was, "NO!"

Now she was smiling. Hey, they're getting it, she thought! "Well, then, if I was kind to animals and gave candy to all the children, and loved my husband, would that get me into Heaven?" she asked.

Again, they all answered, "NO!"

She was just bursting with pride for them. "Well," she continued, "then how can I get into Heaven?"

A five-year-old boy shouted out, "YOU GOTTA BE DEAD."

Afternoon Tea

You are invited to come and have a chat with friends and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and some home baking in the large hall on Tuesday 19th September 2023 at 3.00pm

Everyone will be made most welcome

Harvest Thanksgiving Service

Our Harvest Thanksgiving Service will be held on Sunday 24 September at 11am.

The church will be open on Saturday 23 September from 10am. - 12 noon when any donations can be handed in.

After the Service, the gifts will be donated to the local Food Bank and Age Concern.

Pastoral Care Team

Church Diary:

Sunday Service on 10th September, Jim Anderson

Kirk Session, Wednesday 13th September

SCCT Pot Luck Supper, Sunday 17th September

Afternoon Tea, Tuesday 19th September

Harvest Thanksgiving, Sunday 24th September

Prayer Topics for September

1. The Leprosy Mission – Chad

Chad is going through a transition period after the president was killed in a battle in 2021. Please pray for a smooth peace process, which will lead towards stability in the country. Mental health problems are a serious issue that are causing isolation, rejection and poverty. Y.L.M. Chad has started a small project to support families with a member who is suffering from mental health challenges in Mongo, please pray for the success of this project and for Botol who leads the project and is visually impaired himself

2. Open Doors – Sri Lanka

Pastor Chandana recently began constructing a new Church building but is being opposed by the local Buddhist majority community. He's received death threats and the police are refusing to help. Pray for perseverance for pastor Chandana as he serves God in this hostile environment.

3. Mission Aviation Fellowship.

Please pray for the vital work of CEML. Hospital in Angola M.A.F. has supported the hospital by flying patients, supplies and staff since it opened in 2006. Pray for continued flight safety and for the staff led by Dr. Steve Foster and Dr. Annelise Oison. The hospital is run by Christians so the staff pray that the care that the patients receive and the witness they provide will have a lasting impact

As summer gives way to autumn, give God thanks for the beauty of the changing seasons and the promise of harvest. Pray for countries where harvest has been disastrous, destroyed by drought, floods or fire. Ask God for aid for all people affected by the dreadful forest fires in Greece and Canada especially, who have lost everything, their homes, possessions and livelihoods. Give thanks for the brave fire fighters who risk their own lives to save others. Pray for courage, strength and protection for them.

4. As another school year has begun, pray for teachers and pupils that their work may go on without the disruption of further strikes. As we look forward to our union with other Churches, pray that we may welcome all who come to join us, that there will be a real spirit of harmony and a willingness to compromise when necessary.

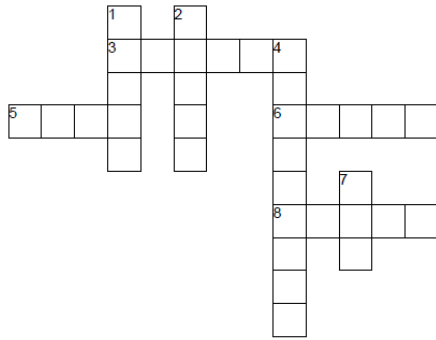
Pray for Pauline, our session clerk, at this very busy time, for health, strength, wisdom and give thanks for all the hard work she does so willingly and cheerfully. Pray that this new chapter in our Church history will be an exciting one, alive with power and vibrance of the Holy Spirit and that we may experience him mightily working in our midst to the blessing of all and primarily the glory of our God.

Ladies Afternoon Badminton Club

The Ladies' afternoon club starts the winter session on Wednesday 13th September 2023. Hope everyone had a good summer break and looking forward to meeting again The club meets in the Church hall from 2:00pm – 4:00pm. It is a fun afternoon of “not too strenuous badminton”. Why not come along and give it a try. (We have a few spare rackets).

A warm welcome awaits any ladies wishing to join us I can be contacted on 714116

Crossword Puzzle



HORIZONTAL

- 3. To have a feeling of fear
- 5. A relatively small craft which travels on water
- 6. A violent weather condition with strong winds and heavy rain
- 8. To be calm, without much activity

VERTICAL

- 1. A high degree of trust or confidence in someone
- 2. To die by being under water and unable to breathe
- 4. The original followers of Jesus
- 7. A period of twenty-four hours

FAITH	PEACE	DISCIPLES	DAY
STORM	AFRAID	DROWN	BOAT



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Children's Worship Bulletin

Jesus Calms the Storm

Mark 4:35-41

Word Search Puzzle

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

CUSHION	CALM	LAKE	WOKE	WAVES
SLEEPING	STORM	AFRAID	WATER	WIND
DISCIPLES	BOAT	JESUS	DROWN	FAITH
SILENCE	STILL	EVENING	OBEY	HEAD

Your Church Name Here
Anytown, USA

Coloring Page

Word Jumble



Jesus Calms the Storm

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Standard Publishing, www.standardpub.com, 1-800-323-5473.

Unscramble each word and then place the numbered letters in the numbered boxes at the bottom to reveal the answer.



BAOT
2

DOWRN
4 3

WEAVS
1

CMLA
5

When Jesus woke up, he rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Silence! Be still!"

Mark 4:39a (NLT)

JESUS CALMS A
1 2 3 4 5

PUZZLE CLUES

1. Jesus and his disciples got in a _____.
2. The disciples were afraid that they were going to _____.
3. Jesus spoke to the wind and the _____.
4. After Jesus spoke, the sea became _____.

Answer: There was a fierce _____ on the sea.

Check your answers in Mark 4:35-41 (NIV)

The disciples were absolutely terrified. "Who is this man?" they asked each other. "Even the wind and waves obey him!"

Mark 4:41 (NLT)