

Church Register

Deaths	“The Lord’s my shepherd I’ll not want”	
Mrs Marlyn White, North Drive		June 23
Mr Mitchell Allan, Hawthorn Drive		June 23
Mr Bob Grassom, Rodney Drive		June 23
Mr Norman Reid, Care Home Ayr		June 23
Mr John Fleming, Ainslie Manor		June 23
Mr Chris Borland, Torcy Drive		August 23
Mrs Sandra Brown, Bennane Caravan Park,		August 23
Mr Hugh Gray, Newton Kennedy		August 23
Miss Dorothy Meikle, Malin Court		September 23

EDITOR’S NOTE:

All items for the November Magazine should be given to, or posted through the office door, or emailed to the Church Office or, to Matthew no later than Sunday 29th October 2023.

Contact details: Telephone: 712672

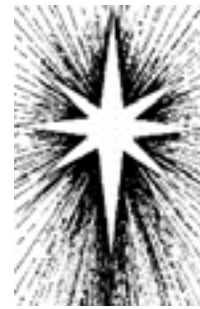
Email: churchoffice12@btconnect.com

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Church Website: www.girvannorthparishchurch.org.uk

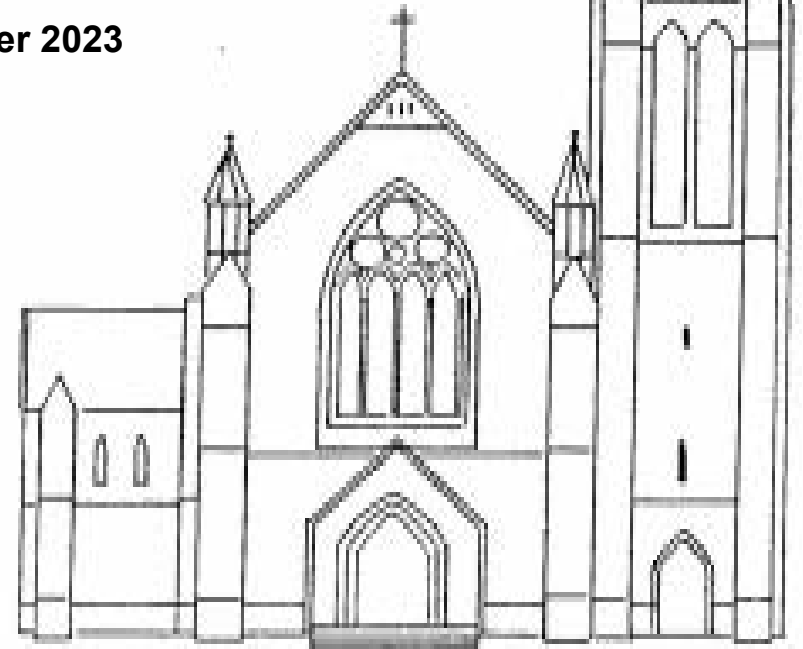
If secretarial services are required, please contact Matthew Scobie on 01465 713935 or email matthewscobie@btinternet.com when arrangements will be made.



The Church
of Scotland

The
North
Star

October 2023



Girvan North Parish Church

Girvan North Parish Church Charity No. SC007347

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.

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 resumed 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.

October Newsletter for Girvan North.

Dear friends, being a public figure is a very serious responsibility. You are a public figure because, supposedly, you have a talent for something which the public likes to see you doing. You then have a responsibility to behave appropriately when you have any dealings with the public. Some public figures take their responsibilities very seriously, whilst others sadly abuse the position of responsibility that they hold. There have been many instances when public figures disappoint their supporters, and the old adage comes to mind: "never meet your heroes, as they can let you down." That is not to say that there are many public figures who behave in a responsible, and in a legal manner. They are always polite when they meet their supporters; they always turn up on time for any interviews that they are asked to do; they do not take themselves too seriously; and they are always aware of the fortunate position in public life that they hold. How we each react to a public figure is very different, but I am sure that we can think of many who are talented, but who are decent human beings as well. Not only does the public figure have a responsibility to behave in the appropriate manner at all times, the organisation that they work for has a similar responsibility to be honest with the public about any information which "comes to light" about that public figure. If that information is not revealed at the appropriate time, the reputation of that organisation can be irreparably tarnished. Sometimes a person's so-called talent, and their ability to attract new viewers, and listeners, can override any other unsavoury aspects of their character. That is always wrong. It is impossible for us not to be aware of the Russell Brand storyline which is dominating all our broadcasting outlets. We forget how popular and powerful that man once was, and possibly still is. I have a responsibility not to prejudice any trial, and it should always be "innocent until proven guilty." I must however say that it is not just the behaviour of one individual which is under question, but also the organisations which championed him, and employed him, the public who laughed at his sexist, puerile jokes, and the people who worked with him, but whose "silence is deafening." This man reached the heights of fame in becom-

ing a Hollywood actor, so what does that say about us. Yes, some may say he must have some talent, and some charisma, which is debatable, but he channelled it completely in the wrong way. Those who supported him are partially responsible for putting him in this position of power, and in this position of abusing that power. We just need to remember “Sachsgate” and how he allegedly treated women he encountered. Although Brand is not the star he once was, as the BBC and Channel 4 realised, belatedly, that employing this man had dangerous consequences for all concerned, he still has social media platforms to voice his opinions. On YouTube, for example, he has millions of subscribers who listened to, and presumably believed his denials, and his other outlandish conspiracy theories. Brand was making a considerable amount of money from YouTube, and that thankfully has been stopped. For Brand to make money, though, he needs an audience to listen to, and believe, his views. What does that say about us? Do some of us believe all this nonsense? Jesus, in some ways, was a public figure. He was well-known as a religious leader who challenged the authority of the status quo. Is that what Brand was doing? In my opinion, Brand was challenging the authority of the status quo as a diverting tactic to take people’s attention away from what was happening in his private life. Brand found many millions of disillusioned people who subscribed to his conspiracy theories. Jesus challenged authority, on the other hand, for legitimate reasons. He saw how the religious leaders were behaving and he was appalled by their hypocrisy. Jesus used his status as a public figure for the right reasons, to challenge hypocrisy, but did not have a hidden agenda. His agenda was there for everyone to see. Sadly, they chose not to see it. Thankfully, there are a lot of wonderful public figures who bring much colour to this nation. They do not have a hidden agenda. Please do not allow the alleged activities of one individual increase our cynicism in all others.

Best wishes, Glenn.

Treasurer’s Report

Our Harvest Thanksgiving on Sunday was a reminder that colder days are ahead and the need to switch on the heating. This is a concern for all of us in our homes. For me as treasurer I am constantly aware of the cost of heating our church, our halls and our vacant manse to keep it aired.

We are in the Church of Scotland Energy Scheme, which negotiates the best energy prices for churches. As of 1st October, our supplier for electricity will be E.ON Next with a 2-year contract. This was previously with OPUS.

Our gas supplier at moment is SSE but will change to E.ON Next as from 1st April 2024. This will also be a 2-year contract.

In the first 9 months of this year with 3 colder months still to come, our costs are already at £3909 which is higher than last year. On behalf of our congregation, I will be watching the next few bills with interest.

My sincere thanks for your continued support.

Margaret Benson

LOOKING FORWARD

It’s always good to look ahead and with that in mind let’s think about CHRISTMAS! Again we will be holding a **Craft Fayre** at the end of November to raise money for our partner church in Malawi. Last year, many members were generous both in donating craftwork and in supporting the event and this was much appreciated. A number of our members have enquired if it’s time to get crafting again and the answer is a resounding- yes please! Please get those knitting pins clicking Or any other crafting underway in preparation for the Fayre.

In addition, advance notice is given of our Jars of Grace Appeal. You are invited to collect loose change to enable a donation that will be brought into church in the beginning of January 2024. The proceeds will go to the local CAN Charity which benefits so many local people..

Church Diary

Joint Holy Communion (South Parish)

Joint Remembrance Service (South Parish)

Sun 5 Nov

Sun 12 Nov

Better Write That Down

An elderly husband and wife noticed that they were beginning to forget many little things around the house. They were afraid that this could be dangerous, as one of them may accidentally forget to turn off the stove and thus cause a fire. So, they decided to go see their physician to get some help. Their physician told them that many people their age find it useful to write themselves little notes as reminders. The elderly couple thought this sounded wonderful, and left the doctor's office very pleased with the advice. When they got home, the wife said, "Dear, will you please go to the kitchen and get me a dish of ice cream? And why don't you write that down so you won't forget?" "Nonsense," said the husband, "I can remember a dish of ice cream!" "Well," said the wife, "I'd also like some strawberries on it. You better write that down, because I know you'll forget." "Don't be silly," replied the husband. "A dish of ice cream and some strawberries. I can remember that!"

"OK, dear, but I'd like you to put some whipped cream on top. Now you'd really better write it down now. You'll forget," said the wife. "Come now, my memory's not all that bad," said the husband. "No problem—a dish of ice cream with strawberries and whipped cream." With that, the husband shut the kitchen door behind him. The wife could hear him getting out pots and pans, and making some noise inconsistent with his preparing a dish of ice cream, strawberries, and whipped cream. He emerged from the kitchen about 15 minutes later. Walking over to his wife, he presented her with a plate of bacon and eggs. The wife took one look at the plate, glanced up at her husband and said, "Hey, where's the toast?"

Harvest Thanksgiving

A huge thank you to everyone who donated so generously to the Harvest Thanksgiving. Thank you also to all who set up and distributed the goods.

Pastoral Care Team



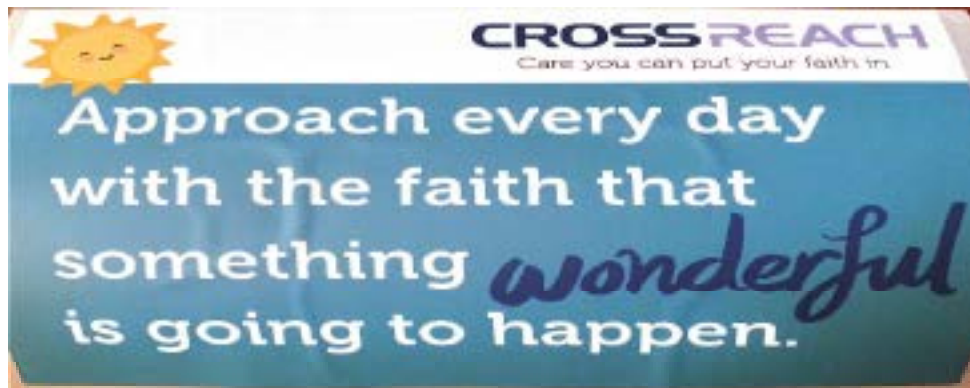
Session Clerks Spotlight

LOOKING BACK ON A BUSY SEPTEMBER

South Carrick Churches Together (SCCT) -Pot Luck Supper (Sun Sept 17.) The Large Hall was filled with guests representing the churches in SCCT who joined together to enjoy an evening of fun, feasting and fellowship. A group of Girvan Community Choir entertained us with a selection of songs in a Scottish theme.

CROSSREACH

CROSSREACH is the social care arm of the Church of Scotland and delivers a fabulous service to vulnerable adults, families, children and elderly across Scotland. Many of our congregation have generously given to enable this valuable work to continue in the toughest of circumstances. Over the month of October perhaps we can continue to remember CROSSREACH work in our prayers We are planning on having Crossreach Christmas Cards and Calendars available for church members to order soon.



Session Clerks Spotlight

Harvest Festival – It was wonderful to see the contributions that our members brought to church to share with our Food bank and Age Concern. Thanks to our Pastoral Care team and all who supported our Harvest Festival.



Session Clerks Spotlight

Afternoon Tea -Tuesday 19 Sept. It was lovely to see a good turnout to support our Afternoon Tea. There was a lovely friendly atmosphere with loads of chatter and lovely refreshments. Many thanks to the enthusiastic team of helpers. We look forward to a possible Afternoon Tea in October and a possible Coffee Morning in November



Prayer topics for October.

The Leprosy mission. Timor Leste

Pray for our partnership with the government, with churches, with disabled people's organisations and for all other major partners. Pray that we may work together powerfully to achieve our goals of leprosy defeated and lives transformed.

Open Doors - China.

Give thanks that several Christian pastors and church workers were released from prison this year. They are still being closely monitored by the authorities. Ask for God's protection as they adjust to life outside the prison and pray that their relationships with loved ones will be restored.

Mission Aviation Fellowship.

Praise God for the four aircraft maintenance engineers and three pilots currently in various stages of training for service with M.A.F. It is a big commitment, and we pray that they will all serve God's Kingdom in amazing ways. Former M.A.F. PNG team member Erwin Jungen has swapped working in France to train to become an M.A.F. pilot. Ask for God's blessing as he completes his training and prepares to serve in whatever country the Lord has for him.

4. Thank God for our homes in this country. Pray for many in other lands whose homes have been devastated by floods, earthquakes, or deliberate attacks. Ask God to help all those trying to rebuild their homes and communities especially in Morocco and Libya and pray for the refugees who have fled their homes because of fear of attack. Pray that they may find a place of safety. Pray for the homeless addicts that they may turn to God and find healing and the will and ability to break free from their addictions.

Give thanks for all workers in the Church, those who operate the sound system, arrange the delivery of flowers, welcome us at the door, serve tea, coffee, clean the church, and do many other tasks that are less noticed.

Ask God to bless and encourage them and let them know their faithfulness is appreciated. May the praise and the worship of our lives be acceptable and honouring to our Lord, who has given all for us.

Afternoon Tea

Come and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee on Tuesday October 17th at 3pm. in the large hall Home baking and a chat with friends is on offer.

Date for your Diary

Coffee Morning on Saturday 25th of November at 10:30 AM.

"Do this in remembrance of me"

Joint Holy Communion Service

Invitation to Communion

We will be celebrating Holy Communion

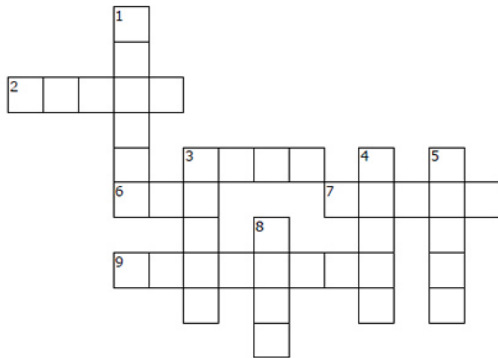
at the South Parish Church on

Sunday the 5th November 2023 at 11am.



All are welcome and look forward to seeing you there.

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

2. To form something by combining materials or parts; to construct
3. The amount paid for a something; the price
6. Fighting between two or more countries
7. Coins or currency used to buy things
9. A follower of Jesus

DOWN

1. To take someone as a model; to imitate
3. A wooden structure consisting of an upright with a horizontal beam
4. A very tall, narrow building, or part of a building
5. The opposite of war
8. A male ruler in some countries

cost	king	tower	cross	money
follow	war	peace	disciple	build



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Children's Worship Bulletin

Counting the Cost

Luke 14: 25-33

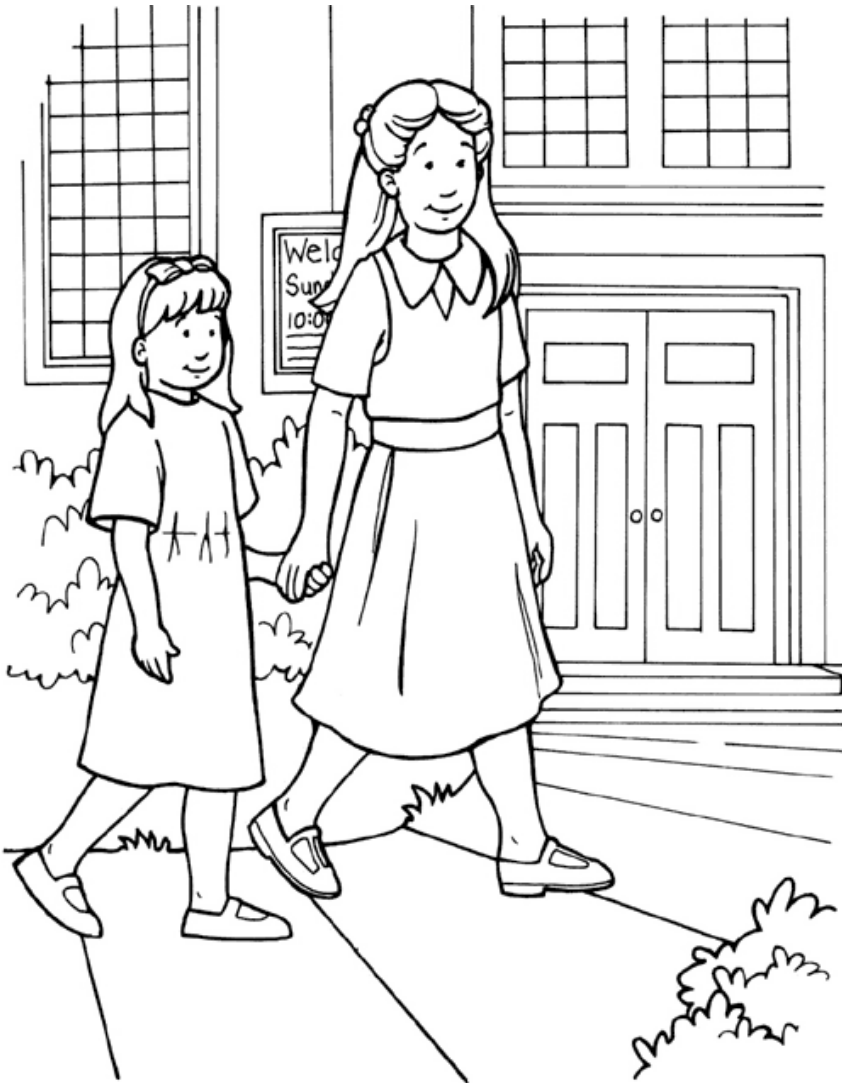
Word Search Puzzle

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

PEACE	ENOUGH	TRAVELING	TOWER	LARGE
FINISH	CROWDS	COMPLETE	CROSS	MONEY
JESUS	WAR	DISCIPLE	BUILD	KING
CARRY	COST	FOLLOW	ESTIMATE	THOUSAND

Your Church Name
City, Address

Coloring Page

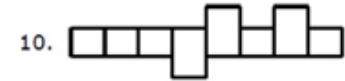
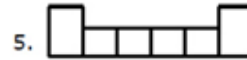
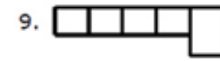
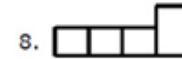
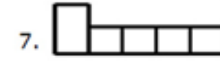
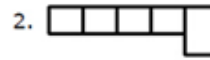
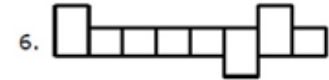
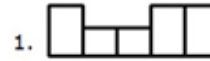


I will follow Jesus, God's Son

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Word Shape Puzzle

Enter the correct words in the boxes based on the shape of the letters.



tower	follow	finish	carry	cross
build	disciple	complete	cost	money



AND FOLLOW ME