

New Name for our Magazine

We are looking for a new name for this new magazine for our new united church . If you have any suggestions for a name we would love to hear from you

EDITOR'S NOTE:

All items for the Winter 2024 Magazine should be given to, or posted through the office door, or emailed to the Church Office or, given to Matthew, date to be announced at a later time.

Contact details: Telephone: 712672

Email: churchoffice12@btconnect.com

Email: matthewscobie@btinternet.com

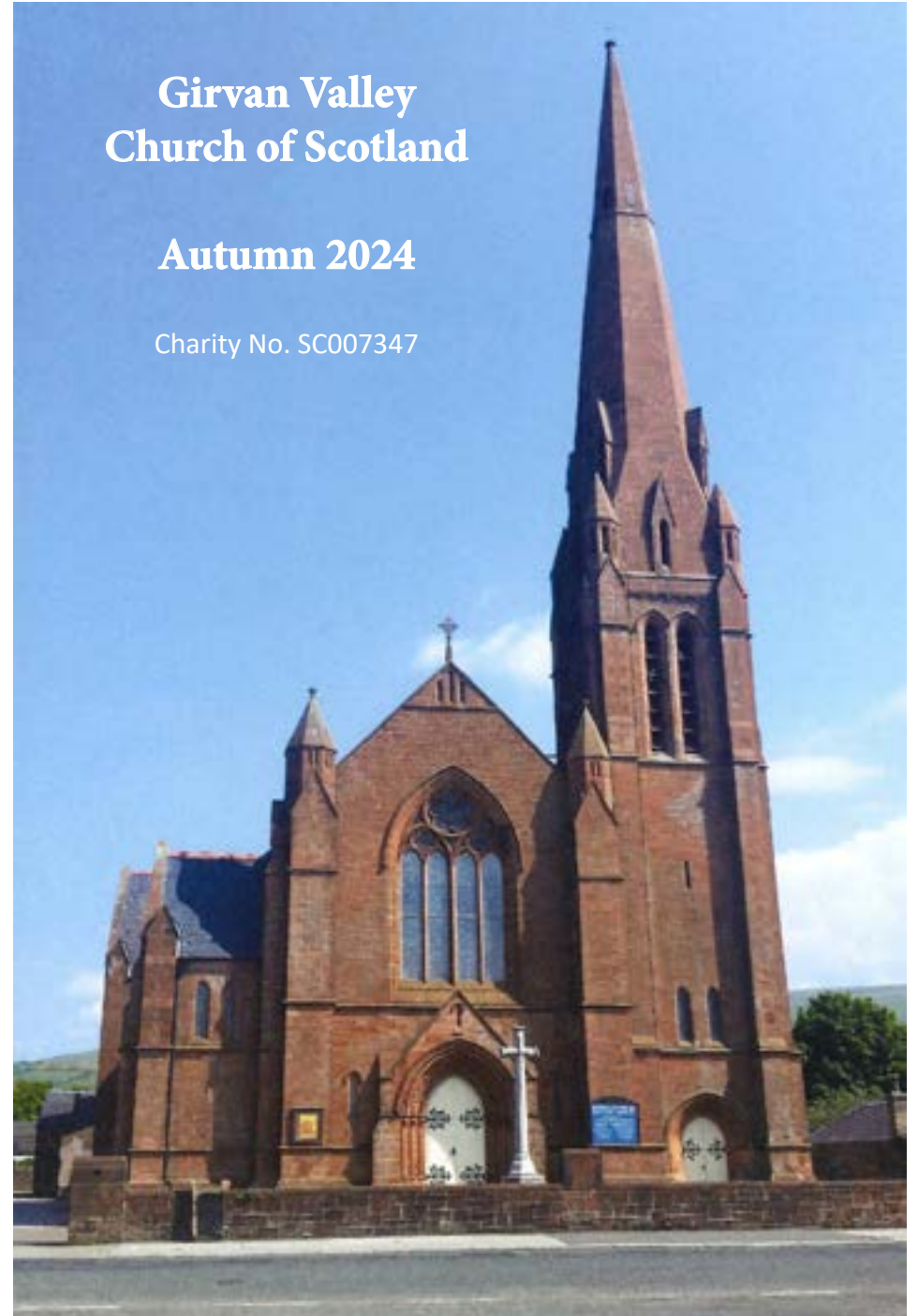
Church Website: www.girvannorthparishchurch.org.uk

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

Girvan Valley Church of Scotland

Autumn 2024

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***

The Union – done!

At the meeting of the Presbytery of the South West on 15 June 2024, the union of Barr Parish Church, Dailly Parish Church, Girvan South Parish Church and Girvan North Parish Church was approved, and the Presbytery gave the effective date as 1 July 2024, under the name Girvan Valley Church of Scotland. Barr and Dailly were established as local mission churches within Girvan Valley Church (GVC). I was appointed Interim Moderator of the new church from 1 July.

On that date the elders of Barr, Dailly, Girvan South and Girvan North Churches automatically became elders of Girvan Valley Church. In the same way the members of the constituent churches became members of the new Girvan Valley Church, except for a small number of people who chose to 'lift their lines'. The membership of the new church is around 715.

The first meeting of the United Session was held on 17 July 2024. We appointed office-bearers, and I am pleased to report that Pauline Rattray became Session Clerk (she took the Oath of Fidelity again in recognition of the formation of a new church), with Ken Johnstone as treasurer, Billy Benson as roll keeper, Sylvia Stewart as Presbytery Elder, and Margaret Nicol as Safeguarding Officer.

Since the first meeting we have updated our Unitary Constitution, (which does away with a Board; the work of the board now being done through a committee of the full session) and made a start on the Pastoral Profile, all with a view to calling a minister. The Vacancy Procedure Committee visited on the elders on 15 Sept to advise on the process.

One of the next things we must do is to make up the Electoral Register of the congregation. Those who think of themselves as adherents of GVC, and are not a member of another congregation, can apply to be added to the roll. A date will be announced (probably 20th

Oct 24) on which individuals can check (if in doubt) that their names are on the roll. This will become the Electoral Register and will be used when the time comes to elect a Nominating Committee, and subsequently in the election of a new minister.

We are making good progress in 'filling the vacancy'.

With every blessing, **James Anderson, Interim Moderator**

DELIVERY NETWORK

Girvan Valley Church of Scotland has 715 members and this could present a challenge in communicating with everyone. Your magazine and communion invitation will now be delivered by a volunteer from the amazing new delivery network who will now manage all door to door postings. (Of course our Pastoral Care elders will continue to be active in our local church community.) Thank you to all involved in the delivery network, to all magazine contributors, to Matthew for compiling the magazine and to the Magazine Sorters who prepared the bundles for delivery.

Carpet Bowling

The carpet bowling will be starting on Wednesday the 2nd of October at 7:00 PM in the large hall. Looking forward to seeing all present members and welcoming new members. Please come along, it is good fun. **Margaret Murdoch..**

Blythswood Christmas Appeal

Last autumn the combined Churches in Girvan sent 153 shoeboxes to one of the poorer areas in Europe, Moldova. We are ready to start this year's appeal.

In church we have prepared boxes for you to fill with the central items. Pick up a leaflet too which will give you a list to follow, toiletries, soap, toothbrush, shampoo, etc, hat scarf, gloves, underwear, socks, pants, etc. stationery, pens, pencils, notebooks and a toy or something personal.

If you were in need what would you like to find as you open your box? When filled, hold the lid down with an elastic band preferably. Your box needs to be opened at sorting centres where, depending on age, a Bible story, calendar, or religious script will be added in the language of the box's destination. If you feel you cannot fill a box, please hand in some items to the Church and boxes will be filled.

Give someone a Christmas to remember.

Remit for Christian Education And Discipleship

The Team is responsible for the teaching of children and young people organise provision of creche facilities on Sunday Mornings , the Boys' Brigade who nurture the interests of children and young people in the life of the congregation ,be fully aware of Safeguarding issues in liaison with appointed PVG Co-Ordinator ; promote adult education ;provide relevant resources to nurture adult education ; arrange opportunities for relevant speakers to stimulate educational debate and faith Sharing ; continue with the system of elders visits to organisations . Help members and adherents to identify their God given gifts and talents and find ways to serve God in the Church /parish/home /workplace.

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***



Wednesday Break.

The new session begins on Wednesday the 4th of September at 10:30 AM in the small Hall. You have an open invitation to join us for a short uplifting service with fellowship, whatever your age, whether a church member. Or not. Whether a regular worshipper or not, a warm welcome awaits you.

Throughout the autumn we will be looking at 'Things We have in common' by Pete Jackson. 'We are all different,' but there are still many things we have in common. We all have good days and bad days. We like to laugh and have fun. We are all afraid of something at least. We want to be loved. It is fair to say we have more in common than not.

In a fun, thoughtful, and engaging way, Pete Jackson examines various aspects of what we call 'the human condition,' things that are common to us all and reflects on how Jesus addresses what we are like. Even in the 21st Century Jesus continues to be deeply and personally relevant to each one of us. Come and find out what, Pete uncovers some of the things that we share.

Church Diary

Kirk Session Meeting – Tuesday 15th October 2024

Holy Communion – Sunday 3rd November 2024

Remembrance Sunday - Sunday 10th November 2024

Malawi Christmas Craft Fundraiser - Sunday 17th November

Christmas Fair - Saturday 23 November 2024



Badminton Club

The afternoon badminton club started our Winter Session on Wednesday 11th September 2024. Hope everyone has had a good summer and looking forward to meeting up again. The club meets on a Wednesday afternoon in the Church Hall from 2:00 to 4:00 PM. There is no upper or lower age limit but we have fun. A break for tea, coffee and cake is “**guaranteed.**” A warm welcome will be given to any ladies interested in joining the club. **Nancy Stewart.**

Baby and Toddler Group

We returned for the new session at the beginning of September. It was lovely to welcome back our returning little people and meet some new ones. We have plenty of space for more so if you know of anyone who may be interested please let them know that we meet every Tuesday from 9.30-11.00 term time.

Sessions Clerk Spotlight

Recently, a number of our congregation have mentioned to me that they had noticed the change in “Pulpit Fall” which has been in place since the beginning of July. A few days before our first Sunday Service as a united congregation in the Valley Church, a Pulpit Fall from the previous South Church was placed carefully in the pulpit of the Valley Church. It fitted perfectly- a suitable symbol of our new united church.

Thank you to all those who have made such a big effort for our churches to evolve together in these early days as a new church. We look forward to a bright future together as we take early first steps towards calling a minister. **Pauline**



The Fundraising Committee

The Fundraising Committee are going to be hosting a Christmas Fayre here in Girvan Valley Church on Saturday 23rd November 2024. We will be having our usual stalls, Home Baking, Gift and Book Stall. There will be our usual Christmas Hamper where the challenge is to guess the price. There will perhaps be an odd one or two other things still to be confirmed and of course there will be the obligatory cup of tea/coffee accompanied by warm mincemeat pies, shortbread, and a very warm welcome. We would welcome any donations for the Hamper, stalls, any unwanted gifts that are taking up cupboard space, books that you have read that you particularly enjoyed and want to share, and of course I know there are some super bakers among you if you wish to donate for our baking stall or even a packet of mincemeat pies or shortbread from our local shops. Anyone I hope you will put the date on your calendars and come along, we would love to see you. **Sylvia Stewart.**

Outreach and Mission Team

The Team is responsible for all aspects of mission within the new Girvan Valley Church. This includes supporting Crossreach the Church of Scotland's social care service, responsibility for Christian Aid fundraising, and support for our partner church on Likoma Island in Malawi. We also support disaster appeals from time to time and the Blythswood Shoe. Box Appeal which supports poor families mainly in Eastern Europe at Christmas time. We collect stamps and ink cartridges which are sent to the Church of Scotland in Edinburgh and this raises further funds for the Church's work. We try to encourage outreach within the community and social concern within the church life.

Boys' Brigade

It is great to be back for the new session of Boys' Brigade. It is nice to welcome back our members. On the first night back we got four new anchor boys.

Anchors and juniors started the year of learning the story of Jonah and the whale, We made whales out of balloons and used a Jelly baby to represent Jonah.

Company Section had a games night to start off and played a variety of games such as donkey dodgeball and laser quest.

We meet on a Sunday night in the big hall. Anchors and Juniors 6 to 7:00 PM and Company 7:00 to 8:15 PM. We are always looking for helpers.



CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR SPECIAL BIRTHDAY



Warmest Congratulations to Mrs MacMorland on celebrating her 100th Birthday on 16th September. Her Elder, Billy Benson visited on her birthday with a beautiful floral arrangement from Girvan Valley Church. We send her our love and best wishes.

Summer Mission.

At the beginning of August, Anna and I made our way to Milton of Campsie, about half a mile from Kirkintilloch for the now one and only summer mission. Led by the Reverend Phyllis Wilson, who began her career in Girvan in the 60s, 70s and 80s with Reverend Andy Moyes. We are part of the away team, students as well as others giving up two weeks to share the Gospel.

We are supported by the home team, young and old supplying soup, tray bakes, their time and beds and showers. Our day begins at 7:30 PM preparing breakfast for twenty and getting ahead while the children enjoy the morning's music, art, and drama we are off to the delights of Tesco, Sainsbury, Lidl and occasionally Iceland, telling everyone that we have a large family to feed.

After lunch, (perhaps 30), a Bible study followed by games for the youngsters. We are likely to be preparing for tea again thirty with an oven that only registered hot! (Church ovens are a law unto themselves). We also visited the local nursing home to sing hymns and choruses, and we came third in the annual quiz run by Tom Wilson.

After clearing the tea dishes it is off to the Harmony Group to practise the opening to the Evening Service at 7:00 PM. A Bit of a Sing led by Garth Wilson, he conducts a choir at Girton College - we are privileged. For fun songs and hymns based on our theme of the Nine parables from Luke which we will sing at our charity concert and our final evening. The evening service Parable Prayers is conducted by our young people. After a cuppa we managed to get back to our digs for half hour chat with our hosts Jim and Wilma before bedtime. It's a fortnight of fun, of learning, of sharing, of friendship working as a unit - it's invigorating it is refreshing, it is tiring, at times. Exasperating - but that is what makes it a unique experience.

Prayer

Father God, this is a momentous time in the building of your Church, and we thank you that you have been with us every step of the way, guiding our thoughts, lighting our way, strengthening our faith, moulding us into people ready to witness for you by our nature and our actions, united in love through your Son Jesus Christ. We pray that the Spirit continues to guide your church. Here we step forward into an exciting future. Forging new friendships. Bringing fresh ideas. Renewing confidence as we share the gospel throughout our town.



Build your church, Lord,
Make us strong, Lord.
Join our hearts, Lord,
through your son.
Make us one Lord in your body,
in the Kingdom of your Son
in Jesus our Saviours name, Amen.