

Sharing God's Love – Caring for our Community

www.stonelawchurch.org

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STONELAW CHURCH WEBSITE

Our new website went live in November. If you have not visited it yet, please check it out at www.stonelawchurch.org

If you have missed a service and would like to listen to the audio recording, go to **Worship** then **Service Recordings** any time after 2.30pm on the day of the service.

If you think there are any inaccuracies or omissions, please get in touch by emailing: info@stonelawchurch.org

THE CUT-OFF FOR THE APRIL & MAY MAGAZINE IS SUNDAY 14TH MARCH
PLEASE EMAIL ITEMS TO MAGAZINE@STONELAWCHURCH.ORG

LETTER FROM OUR LOCUM MINISTER

Dear friends,

This being my first contribution to the magazine as your new Locum, I thought I should give a little precis of my history by way of introduction. I was born and brought up on a farm and so I'm a country boy at heart. My first career, however, was as a civil engineer with British Rail, based in Glasgow. It was later, with a wife and young family of three that I responded to the call to ministry, and after studying at Glasgow University and then Columbia Seminary in Atlanta, I took up my first charge at Stonehouse in Hamilton Presbytery. My second charge was at Netherlee in Glasgow where I served for over 16 years until my retirement in July 2018, when we moved to our present home in Crosshill Drive. My wife Catherine and I have been greatly blessed, making many good friends through the various chapters of our life and, thanks to your warm welcome, we feel we have already made many new friends in Stonelaw. So I am looking forward to serving as your Locum in the coming weeks.

I hope that by the time you read this, I will have become a bit more adept at conducting worship via Zoom. This modern technology has been a real source of blessing, enabling our members not only to see and converse with one another, but also to take part in worship week by week. As the vaccination programme gathers momentum and the lockdown restrictions take effect, it is our prayer that we will soon be back in the church building to enjoy worshipping together in person. We have this to look forward to as well as welcoming a new minister in the future. I thus write to you with a sense of optimism and hope after so many months of restrictions.

We will soon be in the season of Lent in preparation for Easter, so I am trusting that our time together will be encouraging as we reflect once again on our Lord's journey to the Cross and resurrection. It is my special privilege to join with you on this journey and I trust that together we may be drawn deeper into fellowship with Him and with one another.

I leave you with part of that wonderful prayer in Ephesians 3:16.

"I pray that out of his glorious riches the Father may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your heart through faith."

Rev Tom Nelson

STONELAW CHURCH PRAYER CHAIN

Do you have a prayer request, **or** would you like to pray for others in the congregation, in our local community and beyond? Why not sign up for our Prayer Chain?

Normally John Shaw organises the Prayer Chain, but while he is incapacitated, please contact Janis Neil on **0141 634 1901**, or email prayerchain@stonelawchurch.org

COMMUNION IN STONELAW

During these past months of church closures, we have not been able to meet for communion in the normal way. The sacrament is such an important part of the church's life and something that we have realised we have missed greatly. For that reason, the Kirk Session agreed to have a 'virtual' communion during our Zoom church service on Sunday 7th February. This involves participants providing their own bread and wine or juice at home while watching the minister leading with the church communion elements on screen.

Although this will be a different way of receiving communion, we trust that as we gather together in spirit, it will still be a very meaningful act of worship. The Kirk Session will review the situation and look at future possibilities for providing communion as lockdown restrictions begin to ease.

THINKING ABOUT LENT

Lent is usually thought of as a time of giving up something special to you, in preparation for Easter. It's a discipline Christians have traditionally engaged in from Ash Wednesday until Palm Sunday, in order to focus particularly on Jesus' journey to the cross. This year, Lent begins after Shrove Tuesday and lasts from 17th February until 28th March.

This little verse gives us a different way of engaging in the spirit of Lent.

Fasting for Lent

Fast from criticism; feast on gratitude
Fast from worry; feast on joy
Fast from pressures; feast on prayer
Fast from fear; feast on faith
Fast from gossip; feast on praise
Fast from bitterness, feast on forgiveness
Fast from doubt; feast on truth
Fast from self; feast on God.

Anonymous



Rev Tom Nelson

WORSHIP IN LOCKDOWN

MIDWEEK SERVICES IN STONELAW CHURCH



Sadly, our Wednesday 30-minute services in the Sanctuary have had to be halted, due to Covid-19 restrictions. Once the lockdown is relaxed, please contact Thérèse Reid to find out when they will be starting again.

Mobile: **07508 213 099** Email: therese.stonelawchurch@gmail.com

HOW TO JOIN ZOOM LIVE BY PHONE, AT THE LOCAL RATE



If you would like to join our Zoom Sunday Service at 10.30am, or the Wednesday Prayer Meeting at 7.30pm, live by phone, please ask anyone who sees the Saturday emails for the specific Zoom Meeting ID and Passcode. (see p.25 for Contact Information)

Five minutes before the start time, dial **0131 460 1196**. You will be asked to enter the specific Meeting ID and then the Passcode for that Zoom meeting.

LISTEN TO A RECORDING OF OUR SUNDAY SERVICE ON ZOOM

Alternatively, you can listen to the audio recording of the Sunday Service from 2.30pm onwards each Sunday, or during the week, on **0141 465 4368**. Before the recording is played, you will hear the Stonelaw news that was sent out in the previous Saturday's congregational email. (For more details see p.19)

JOIN A HOUSE GROUP LIVE BY PHONE ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

Call Jennifer Menzies on **07974 793 235** to join the 10.30am group.

Call Dorothy McTaggart on **07815 949 648** to join the 7.30pm group.

WORSHIP ONLINE ON ZOOM



You need a Meeting ID and Passcode to log into Zoom. These are shared each week in the Saturday Congregational Email.

To sign up, please email info@stonelawchurch.org

It's easier if you log on about ten minutes early.

SUNDAY MORNINGS ON ZOOM 10.30AM

We meet on Zoom for our Sunday Service at 10.30am.

During the sermon there are Breakout Rooms for Discoverers (children up to P7 and their leaders) and for Connect2 (young people from S1 upwards). In addition, after the service, everyone is invited to join Breakout Rooms for a time of fellowship.

PRAYER MEETINGS ON ZOOM 7.30PM

Every Wednesday 7.30-8pm, with a short time for fellowship afterwards.

GRACE AND TRUTH BIBLE STUDY ON ZOOM

Every Friday 5.30pm-7pm. (See page 7 for details.)

HOUSE GROUPS ON ZOOM

House Groups meet on the first Thursday of the month, so our next meetings will be on Thursday 4th February and Thursday 4th March. To find out the Meeting ID and Passcode, call Jennifer Menzies on **07974 793 235** to join the 10.30am group or Dorothy McTaggart on **07815 949 648**, to join the 7.30pm group.

BETTER SOUND QUALITY ON ZOOM

Now that we are well and truly conversant with Zoom and its benefits to us all during various levels of lockdown, I'd like to suggest how to further enhance your enjoyment of our services on a Sunday. At the moment, you may well be using Zoom from your phone, iPad/tablet or PC/Mac.

In order to enjoy the best possible sound quality, try listening in on headphones or using a Bluetooth speaker. You will find that the sound quality is far superior to that produced by the speakers on most devices.



If this is something that you would like to investigate further, please email me at alanjenkins248@gmail.com for more advice.

Alan Jenkins, Musical Director

WORSHIP ON RADIO AND TELEVISION

Many of you will know about most of the programmes listed below, whether they are broadcast on radio or on television, but we hope that this summary will be helpful for some readers. BBC's output is restricted just now because the pandemic has made it impossible to record many church services.



Are there additional programmes that you would like to recommend? Please contact the magazine team - see page 24.

*For Programmes marked * the timing can vary from week to week, and occasionally, the broadcast may switch between BBC1 and BBC2.*

BBC Radio Scotland: 92-95 FM or 810 MW **BBC Radio 4:** 92-96 FM or 98 LW

Programme	Where to find it	Day(s) and Time	Duration
New Every Sunday	BBC Radio Scotland	Sunday 7.30am	28 mins
Sunday Worship	BBC Radio 4	Sunday 8.10am	38 mins
Reflections at the Quay *	BBC1 Scotland	Sunday 11.30am	29 mins
The Service <i>(usually, but not always, a Christian service)</i>	BBC Scotland Channel Freeview 9	Sunday 12 noon	29 mins
Songs of Praise *	BBC 1 Scotland/BBC2	Sunday 1.15pm	34 mins
Daily Service	BBC Radio 4 98 LW	Monday to Friday 9.45am	14 mins
All Together Now with Pam Rhodes (Lunchtime sing-along)	Premier Radio Listen on Freeview 725 or go to www.premierchristianradio.com	Monday to Saturday 1pm	45 mins

GRACE & TRUTH BIBLE STUDY

Are you young, or young at heart? Let us study the Bible together!

'As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby'
1st Peter 2:2 (KJV)

Date and time: Every Friday 5.30pm – 7pm

Platform:



Contact: Mada at madalitsochikumbanje@gmail.com or on **07789 619 349**

Mada and Mirriam Chikumbanje

A STORY TO LIVE BY: TEARFUND'S FREE DEVOTIONAL FOR LENT

Tearfund invites us to join them for Lent this year, starting on 17th February, by reading **A Story to Live By**. This is a series of prayers, practices, poems, and reflections to help us focus on Jesus' journey to the cross, and his glorious resurrection.

You can sign up to receive each day's devotional by email at: www.tearfund.org/lent

Or you can order **A Story to Live By** - the daily devotional in booklet form, free, by phoning the Glasgow Office on **0141 332 3621**.

Dorothy McTaggart

CAMBUSLANG AND RUTHERGLEN REACHOUT TRUST

Readers will not be surprised to learn that Ross Murray and Alison Kennedy have been furloughed, due to the schools being closed since the New Year.

However, Greg Senior is still working and was able to share that the Christmas Unwrapped project was delivered to schools and was very well received. Many thanks to everyone who prayed for its success.

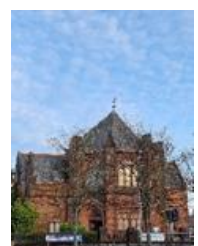
Let's keep praying for Ross, Alison and Greg, that their important work with many young people in our community can resume before too long.



WATCH THIS SPACE!

Keep your eyes peeled for new displays coming soon, on the church railings.

Although the church building is closed, the Stonelaw Church family is very much alive!



Mr Robert (Bob) Hardie died on 17 December 2020. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Chalmers (known as Chalms), their daughter Moira and their three grandsons.

ROBERT "BOB" HARDIE 1931-2020

The son of a mill manager, Bob Hardie came to Rutherglen as a lad of 2 and here he stayed, until his death in mid-December at the age of 89.

Bob was educated at Rutherglen Academy but, anxious to join the world at work, he left school early to become an office boy in a firm of solicitors, initially without telling his parents. Office work, however, was not for Bob, and he soon left for a career in the textile industry, serving a six-year apprenticeship that saw him study part-time at what was then the Royal College of Science and Technology. A period of National Service with the Royal Military Police in Cyprus and a period of further study of machine knitting led to Bob moving from the factory environment to take a job as a trainee yarn agent.

A keen tennis player, Bob met and literally 'courted' his wife-to-be, Chalmers, at the tennis club in Overtoun Park and they married in Stonelaw Church in 1956. Settling first in Underwood Road, their daughter, Moira, was born in 1959 and their son, Robert, in 1961. It was through Robert, an exact contemporary of mine at Sunday School, Calderwood Primary and Stonelaw High that I first got to know Bob in the early 1970s.

Bob was by then a very successful and respected businessman, hardworking and ably supported by Chalmers. His business often took him away from home travelling around the UK and Bob knew the value of a good car. He was the only person I knew at the time who drove an Audi, with which I was most impressed. I still can't see an Audi without thinking of these carefree days and the visits to my friend's house with its large gardens, carefully tended by Bob.

However, tragedy struck in 1981 when Robert died suddenly at the age of only 19. Life for Bob was never the same again and subsequently, never a day passed without Bob and Chalmers thinking about Robert. (A table gifted in memory of Robert was the focal point of our services in the Main Hall in 2019 during our Sanctuary alterations.) The family stood together through that difficult period and happier days came with Moira's wedding and the arrival in time of grandsons Cameron, Euan and Neil, with whom Bob shared many new adventures. Great-granddaughter Eve was born in 2018.

Bob joined Rutherglen Bowling Club in 1978 and over the years he won the Vice President's Trophy in 1986 and the Nominated Fours Competition on four occasions. Although Bob stopped playing in 2014, he remained a non-playing member and many a club occasion was all the better for Bob's attendance.

A fall, which damaged his spine, and failing eyesight, which stopped his driving, curtailed his activities latterly, but not his spirit. Bob's sudden but peaceful death on December 17th, from Covid-related causes, came as a shock and sadness to all.

We remember his family and friends at this difficult time.

John Liggat

NEWS FROM THÉRÈSE AND THE NEXT STEPS GROUP

Joyce Allan
Susanne McCabe

Fiona Benson
Dorothy McTaggart

Shona Forsyth
Jennifer Menzies

Marlene Galt
Thérèse Reid

PHONE TREE PROJECT



For those who are unable to go out of the house and find that frustrating and isolating, we have set up a Phone Tree. The idea is that someone from the church would call you once a week for a wee chat. We already have a few volunteers who each have three other members to call and keep in touch with.

Would you appreciate a call from another church member once a week?
Or do you enjoy talking to people? Would you consider joining our Phone Tree Team?

If I decide to volunteer with the Phone Tree Team, what would I have to do?

We would simply (*with their permission*) give each volunteer the telephone numbers of three other people for you to call once a week.

Do you have a neighbour or a friend that you know is struggling and who might benefit from a phone call? If yes, can you ask their permission for us to get in touch?

Joyce Allan Tel: **0141 637 2524** Email: starryjoelle@yahoo.co.uk

NEW ZOOM COFFEE AND CRAFTS GROUP MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS

Looking for some company? Stonelaw's Next Steps Group has a **Coffee and Crafts** group that has just started on Zoom, and you are invited! Bring a coffee or a cup of tea and, if you like, some knitting, sewing, painting by numbers, colouring, or not – as you wish.

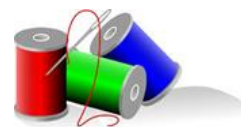
We meet on Monday evenings from 7pm-9pm, hosted by Dorothy McTaggart and on Thursday afternoons from 2pm-4 pm, hosted by Fiona Benson.

Please come along to either meeting - or both! Come for half an hour or stay for two hours. Bring some craft to work on - or just come for a blether. The choice is yours - hope to see you there!

We are looking forward to seeing you soon. Zoom details will be included in the Saturday Congregational Email.

Dorothy McTaggart **07815 949 648** Email dotmctag@msn.com

Fiona Benson **07980 734 182** Email fiona.benson@sky.com



STONELAW ACTIVITIES



*'Twas two weeks before Christmas, when all through the town
Not a person was stirring, not even a sound,
When all of a sudden at two o'clock sharp
Things started happening to gladden the heart!*

A terrific afternoon was had by all on Saturday 12th December when bakers from the church family gathered in their kitchens, logged into Zoom and baked Cranberry Angel Cakes!

Unfortunately, we couldn't be together in person, but watching everyone on Zoom was every bit as entertaining. It was an afternoon of fun which certainly brightened up a rather dull and empty December day.

Many thanks go to the Mary Berry of Stonelaw (Jennifer Menzies!) who organised the Bake Along and talked everyone through the recipe. Thanks also to all those who took part in the baking. We simply watched as part of the audience and enjoyed ourselves very much.

Nancy & Margaret Borland

PS Grateful thanks to the bakers who brought us samples – mmm!

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND WORLD MISSION STAMP APPEAL

Last year, our congregation gave more than 2000 used stamps to the World Mission Appeal. These are sold to raise money for World Mission projects, such as the Women's Development Centre in Kandy, Sri Lanka, which runs a project to give women and girls who have survived violent attacks, somewhere to stay. The team supports them in caring for their children, helps them return to education, and trains them in skills to make a living when they leave.

Although we can't meet in the church building these days, please keep your stamps until things return to normal, and remember to leave a little paper border around the stamp(s).

I'll look out for them on the table in the Meeting Place!
Thank you,

Leslie Gibson



LODGING HOUSE MISSION CHRISTMAS CARDS SALES

I'd like to thank everyone who ordered Christmas cards from the Lodging House Mission. We actually raised about twice as much as in 2019, at just over £400.

Thank you so much to you all. Hopefully we'll be able to do it all again next Christmas!

Jane Paulsen.

BLYTHSWOOD SHOEBOX APPEAL

A big thank you to all those who were able to support the Blythswood Shoebox Appeal. We delivered 32 shoeboxes along with over £100 in donations and we know others donated online, so thank you to all those who contributed.

Jill Rennie

I wonder how you would complete the phrase, 'New ..?'

This may remind readers of a certain age of a television programme called Blankety Blank, a comedy game show which originally ran from 1979 to 1990. It involved filling in blanks; contestants had to think of the most common response based on a studio audience survey. If you had to fill in the blank after 'new', what would you say? Perhaps the most obvious one at the moment may be New Year but maybe you are thinking of 'new day', 'new life', 'new beginnings', 'new dawn' or 'new vaccine'. Here in Stonelaw, we may think of 'new minister' or 'new manse'.

It was fitting that Rev Tom Nelson was talking about new beginnings in his first sermon with us as our locum minister. The Bible offers us advice and encouragement for beginning a new chapter in our lives. New beginnings can stem from a range of circumstances, such as entering a new year, starting a new job or moving to a new city - but we all face a new beginning in 2021.

Here are some verses which may offer encouragement at the start of 2021 by providing strength and support in the word of God:

Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Isaiah 43:18-19

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. Hebrews 11:1

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away. Revelation 21:4

As we look forward into 2021, let us live by faith, trusting in God through uncertainty and tribulation, always leaning on His everlasting arm.

In 2017 Lou Fellingham composed this song, based on a hymn by Annie J. Flint:

Everlasting Arms

*He lavishes grace when our burdens grow greater,
He sends us more strength as our labours increase,
To added afflictions, He offers more mercy,
To multiplied trials, He multiplies peace.
So lean hard, lean hard,
Lean on the everlasting arms,
Lean hard, lean hard,
Lean on the everlasting arms.
Lean on the everlasting arms.*

So, let's not be anxious about tomorrow. Instead,
Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you. 1 Peter:5:7

May God richly bless you with a new beginning in 2021.

Margaret A. Borland

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dear Friends

The world we find ourselves living in in January 2021 has changed hugely from the world we knew in January 2020. No-one needs this pointed out to them, but it is important to remember when looking at our financial situation at the end of 2020.

When I wrote to the congregation in April 2020 the assessment of how Stonelaw could be impacted by Covid 19 was very bleak. Approximately one in every three pounds of budgeted income into the General Fund had been expected to be received either during Sunday Worship or via a Church organisation which had had to close. This created a very real risk that the General Fund would be completely depleted before the end of 2020.

The actual result by the end of 2020 was a deficit of approximately £5,500 from the General Fund. In a normal year this would be extremely concerning. Given the events of last year this is an outcome which, while far from ideal, is significantly better than it could have been. Avoiding a much more serious deficit was only possible thanks to the resilience, generosity and fast actions of the congregation.

I am currently putting the budget for 2021 together. This task is made much harder by the uncertainty of how 2021 will unfold. I don't therefore want to sound too optimistic in saying this - but I do have some better news to share with you. Thanks to support from the Church of Scotland we should see lower costs from the General Fund in 2021. While this does not address all the financial issues we currently face, such as the outstanding fabric issues I mentioned in my last letter, it will make it easier to deal with whatever happens in 2021.

As has become standard, I have included a reminder below, for anyone who wishes to do so, of the ways in which you can donate to Stonelaw Church. If possible, please keep Iain updated with any changes, either to the way you give, or the amount, so that he can keep his records accurately.

STANDING ORDER/ ONLINE BANKING

Either a one-off payment or a standing order can be set up using online banking.

Our bank details are as follows:

Account: Stonelaw Parish Church, Account Number: 00465105, Sort Code: 80-12-75.

If you wish to set up a standing order but do not have access to internet banking, a Standing Order Form (to send to your bank) can be found on our website at: <http://stonelawchurch.org/giving> or contact me and I'll get one to you. If you are thinking of setting up a standing order, then please remember - you are free to cancel this at any time.

POSTING A CHEQUE

We are also able to accept donations by cheque. These should be made out to

Stonelaw Parish Church and posted to our Free Will Offering Treasurer:

Iain Morrison, Flat G/L, 5 Parkhill Drive, Rutherglen, G73 2PJ

TEXT DONATION SERVICE

We have set up a text donation service to allow donations by text for those who are not able to use online banking or cheques.

To use this service, text **STONELAWCH** followed by the number of pounds you wish to donate to **70085**. E.g. **STONELAWCH 5** to donate £5.

If you are thinking of using this service, then please remember that we will not keep a record of your phone number or use it to contact you for any reason.

GIFT AID

No message from the Treasurer would be complete without a reminder about Gift Aid.

If you are a UK taxpayer, donating through the Gift Aid scheme means that we are able to claim back 25 pence for every £1 that you give - without giving anything extra.

If you would like to give using the Gift Aid scheme, you will need to complete a declaration form (also available on <http://stonelawchurch.org/giving>) which should be completed and returned to Iain Morrison, as Freewill Offering Treasurer, at the address above.

Best wishes,

Euan Campbell, Church Treasurer 07413 580 103

A PEACEFUL ELECTION - FROM TEARFUND'S ONE VOICE

One Voice is Tearfund's weekly prayer resource. These extracts come from the email sent out on 8th January 2021, two days after the violent attack on the United States Capitol. Read how, with good leadership, even previously violent elections can be peaceful.

Elections in Burundi (east central Africa) have often been marred by violence. We wanted to show people there was another way. Before the 2020 Burundi elections, we organised workshops with faith leaders, to equip and engage them to advocate for free, fair and peaceful elections. *(These leaders)* were a beacon of hope – showing communities what a peaceful election could look like.

After the Tearfund-run workshops, faith leaders took the message of peace into their communities. A prayer event was organised for the leaders and candidates of the political parties. Sermons on electoral participation and unity were crafted and delivered. Faith leaders even took to the radio, so they could reach still more people.

Whole communities were disciplined in peace and reconciliation. And it didn't stop there. After the election, faith leaders continued to hold people together, and communities remained largely calm and peaceful.

Please keep us in your prayers as we partner with these faith leaders.



Rachel Adams One Voice team and *Désiré Majambere*, Country Director for Burundi

If you are interested in **One Voice**, sign up here: <https://www.tearfund.org/get-involved/pray>
Or you can order the **Tear Times magazine & Prayer Diary** from the Glasgow office on **0141 332 3621**.

STONELAW PRESCHOOL – LOCKDOWN UPDATE

I am sure we are all very aware of the disruption to normal life that the current lockdown is causing. While nearly everything that takes place in our building is on hold, at least as a physical meeting place, it is pleasing to note that Stonelaw Preschool is still active, working with a small number of children of key workers who are attending regularly, which allows their parents to undertake their jobs. So, although our building is closed to nearly all of us, let us give thanks that it is helping, in a small way, to serve our community during this crisis.

In other Preschool news, those who have passed by the church recently will have seen the improvements to the garden area on the south side of the church. As reported in a previous magazine, this was funded by a grant for which the Preschool applied (towards Covid-19 improvements which encourage outdoor play). The new facilities were built in two phases and were essentially completed in November. The children have really enjoyed using the new playhouse, shelter and slide (on the banking).

Yvonne Breslin, Operations Manager for Stonelaw Preschool told me:

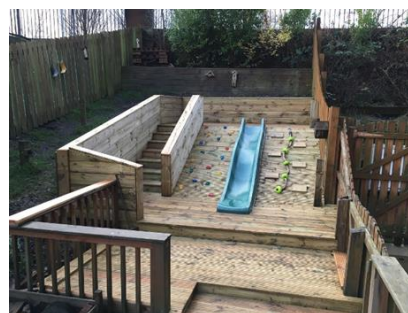
“This has been a challenging time for everyone; however, we have been determined to ensure we are providing a safe and nurturing environment for our children. We are grateful to have a refurbished garden space which provides the children with great opportunities for outdoor learning.

Covid restrictions meant that we were unable to undertake our usual fundraising activities pre-Christmas such as our annual Christmas Fayre. However, we found new inventive ways to fundraise. A sponsored Santa Dash with the children in Overtoun Park and a virtual Nativity Play, together with selling some of the children’s Christmas crafts, resulted in a fantastic £1300 being raised. We were overwhelmed by the generosity of our children’s families!”

The Preschool still have some places available for the August intake. However, the closing date is fast approaching (end of February).

If you would like further information and an application form, please contact Yvonne Breslin spsmanager@stonelawpreschool.org

Stuart Menzies



NEWS FROM THE LODGING HOUSE MISSION

Below is Claire Herbert's impressive report on how the Lodging House Mission staff have been meeting the needs of homeless people this winter. Sadly, in mid-January Gus Smeaton told us that this valuable work had to be interrupted...



UPDATE 29TH JANUARY. "Angela, our support worker, known fondly by many, has contracted the virus. Please remember her, Stephen Mitchell (LHM's manager, still in hospital) and Graeme, who has almost recovered, in your prayers. We have closed for ten days at least."

LHM Newsletter February 2021

Dear Supporters,

We thought we would give you an idea of what the reduced LHM team has been able to provide, thanks to your continued support through this Covid-19 pandemic.

£5 Hot Meal Voucher Scheme	Emergency Food Parcels	Essential Toiletries packs
667 meals given out	2,816 parcels distributed	1,437 packs distributed
Total cost £3,154	£13.44 approx. cost each	£22.61 approx. cost each
Clothing	Christmas Gift Bags	Full Christmas Dinner
255 distributions	165 individuals	432 meals delivered

Working with Bethany Christian Trust and Glasgow City Mission we have secured 1,200 emergency supply packs of food, cleaning materials and toiletries for vulnerable households across Glasgow. To date we have reached 146 separate households in crisis.

We receive regular referrals for help and assistance from Simon Community Scotland, British Red Cross, Hunter Street Homelessness Health Centre including Addictions Team and Blood Borne Virus Nurses, Positive Outcomes Project (Criminal Justice Team), Housing First, The Access Hub, Mungo Foundation, Wise Group and Quarrier's. Additionally, we have been able to supply £10 supermarket shopping vouchers to various charities' frontline staff to issue to clients, as follows: 450 to Marie Trust; 700 to the Simon Community Scotland and 350 to Street Soccer Scotland.

Lunch bag provision to the Glasgow Overnight Welcome Centre has been ongoing since 1st December. We have also been helping with welfare rights advice and mobile phone top ups.

Our chaplaincy phone line **07864 705 668** remains available for prayer, support and assistance. Our support worker, Angela, is available for over the phone consultations and offers a one-to-one appointment if required. Our dedicated volunteers continue to sort food and clothing, despite tightening restrictions. Many churches and organisations have stepped up to offer additional support with regular supplies for our kettle food packs, clothing and toiletries. We are indebted to you all, and want to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone in the Lodging House Mission family who make this vital work possible.

We ask for your prayers as the team continues to engage with vulnerable people, offering support to the Glasgow Overnight Welcome Centre until end of March. Please pray for all those living in temporary accommodation, concerned about their future. Pray for protection for them and for the LHM team during this pandemic and beyond, as we continue to provide essential services to those in most need.

*May God bless you as you have blessed the least of these brothers and sisters of Christ.
Matthew 25:40*

Claire Herbert, Lodging House Mission Chaplain

If you would like to support LHM's work, you can send a cheque to
Lodging House Mission, 35 East Campbell St Glasgow G1 5GT
or go to www.lhm-glasgow.org.uk

RUTHERGLEN AND CAMBUSLANG FOODBANK

We're still open in spite of the lockdown, so anyone in need of food is invited to come along at these times:



St Columbkille's Church, Rutherglen on Mondays and Thursdays,
12.30pm - 2.30pm

The Baptist Church, Cambuslang on Fridays, 12.30pm - 2.30pm.

If you need food, please come along to either centre. Someone will be there to help you. If you can, please bring a Red Voucher, but if you cannot bring one, please come along anyway and we will help you out.

Donations to the Foodbank are always very welcome and can be handed in to our permanent collection points at Morrison's in Cambuslang, or on Rutherglen Main Street: at The Co-operative, Nationwide Building Society and Laurie Ross Insurance. Boots also collects toiletries for the Food Bank.

Donations to Tesco in Dalmarnock go on alternate months to Rutherglen and Cambuslang and to Glasgow South East Foodbank. It's our turn to receive them again in March.

At the moment we are particularly short of the following items:

Sugar	Jam
Tea	Toilet rolls
Coffee	Washing-up liquid
Rice pudding	Soap powder
Tinned fruit	

Thank you once again for your continued support of the Foodbank which genuinely helps people in our community

Katharina Nimmo Foodbank Manager

Foodbank Mobile **07393737030** Email info@rutherglencambuslang.foodbank.org.uk

FAIR TRADE FORTNIGHT 22ND FEBRUARY TO 7TH MARCH

Buying Fairtrade is easy. There are over 6,000 Fairtrade products, from coffee and tea to flowers and gold, so when you shop, look for the Fairtrade Mark on products like these:

Locally: Bananas, chocolate, coffee, flowers, sugar, tea and wine. It's worth trying the Co-operative, if you don't find these elsewhere.

Online: clothes, beauty products, sweets, snacks, grains, herbs and spices

<https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/buying-fairtrade>

www.traidcraft.co.uk



CARING FOR CREATION: RECYCLING TIPS FOR RUGLONIANS

Did you know that you can recycle plastic bags and a wide range of other plastic wrappings, including bread bags and magazine wrappers, at the collection point in supermarkets, instead of sending them to landfill in your green or black bin? Look out for this green logo on any plastic wrappings. Sadly, those showing the smaller black 'Not Yet Recycled' logo have to go in the rubbish bin for now. Maybe some year...

If you store your washed recyclable bags and plastic film in an old carrier bag, it'll take a while to fill. Then you can take it, or ask a friend to take it, to a local supermarket collection point. These are usually tall containers sitting near the entrance to the shop, or next to the checkouts, but if you can't find it, a member of staff should be able to help.

Our nearest carrier bag collection points are in the following supermarkets:

Tesco Burnside and Dalmarnock
Morrisons Cambuslang
Sainsbury's Kingsgate



WHICH TYPES OF PLASTIC FILM CAN BE RECYCLED?

The table below is taken from the **Recycle Now** website.

<https://www.recyclenow.com/what-to-do-with/plastic-film>

YES PLEASE! ✓	NO THANKS! X
All plastic bags, <i>except biodegradable or compostable bags, which go in with food waste</i>	Any non-Polyethylene film (e.g. PP, PVC, others)
Bread bags	Cling film
Breakfast cereal liners	Food and drink pouches
Shrink wrap & ring joiners from multipacks of water, cans etc	Wrappers from bakeries, e.g. bags with lots of small holes in them
Frozen food bags, e.g. bags for frozen vegetables, chips, etc	Film lids from trays and pots, e.g. yoghurt pots
Dry cleaning bags/bags covering new clothing	Any dirty bags or film (containing food, for example)
Magazine and newspaper wrappers (<i>But not the compostable ones, which go in with food waste</i>)	Crisp packets (<i>please save these for the Burgh Primary School Rotakids project</i>)
Bags for loose fruit and vegetables	Compostable bags or wrappers
Bubble wrap	Any film claiming to be biodegradable
Low-density polyethylene (LDPE) - resin ID code 4	Pre-prepared salad bags

Do you have suggestions for Part 2 of Recycling for Ruglonians? If so, please email us at magazine@stonelawchurch.org by 14th March, or phone Jean on 0141 647 4913.

Would you like to find out about Christian Aid's work in Ethiopia? If you are free on **Tuesday 16th February 10am-12 noon** and have access to Zoom, here's an invitation for you.



The 2021 Christian Aid Gathering – on Zoom – is free to attend. Come and hear from Christian Aid Ethiopia staff members Netsanet Feleke and Solomon Woldetsadik, who will be speaking about the impact on vulnerable communities of locusts, climate change, and conflict, and we'll have an opportunity to ask them questions.

We'll also be hearing about new ways to fundraise in lockdown, and finding out how we can support the aims of COP26, the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference which takes place in Glasgow this November.

If you are interested in attending the Gathering, email edinburgh@christian-aid.org as soon as you can, to register and receive the joining instructions.

If you like, let me know too, so that we Stonelaw folk can look out for each other!

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK: 9TH-15TH MAY 2021 - ANY IDEAS?

Sadly, this May, we probably won't be able to run any of our usual Christian Aid Week fundraisers. But the Rutherglen Churches Christian Aid Committee still hopes to raise what we can to help our brothers and sisters in the world's most vulnerable communities. It is hard for us even to imagine how challenging those families' lives must be.

One possibility is to rerun last year's **150K in May Challenge**. This was a lockdown substitute for the 2020 Christian Aid Fun Run/Walk, now postponed till June 2022.

Stonelaw members and friends were sponsored to walk or run an average of 5K (about 3 miles) each day in May – alone or in family groups. The weather was good; we could choose a time to suit ourselves; we all felt better for the regular exercise, and best of all, we raised over £800 for clean water and soap.

Would you be tempted to take part this year?
The more, the merrier!



You'll find more details in the next magazine about local Christian Aid Week events. Do you have any ideas for fundraisers, virtual or otherwise? The committee members are working on this, but would welcome any suggestions you may have.

Jean MacKenzie

hjmackenzie27@btinternet.com Tel 0141 647 4913

MAGAZINE CALENDAR 2021

Month(s)	Deadline for submissions	Issue Date
April & May 2021	14th March 2021	4th April
Summer 2021	16th May 2021	6th June
September & October 2021	15th August 2021	5th September
November 2021	17th October 2021	7th November
December 2021 & January 2022	14th November 2021	5th December

CHURCH MAGAZINE EDITORIAL TEAM

Jean MacKenzie 647 4913, Margaret Borland 647 5280, Veturia Gorman 07799 645 114, and Derek Westwood 01292 286 923.

Many thanks to Sandy and Jane Paulsen for printing this issue of the magazine.

Contributions and suggestions for the magazine are always welcome, by email, by phone or by post to 21 Park Drive, Rutherglen G73 2QG.

**THE CUT-OFF FOR THE APRIL & MAY MAGAZINE IS SUNDAY 14TH MARCH
PLEASE EMAIL ITEMS TO MAGAZINE@STONELAWCHURCH.ORG**