

Sharing God's Love – Caring for our Community
www.stonelawchurch.org

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**PLEASE EMAIL ITEMS FOR THE DECEMBER & JANUARY MAGAZINE
TO MAGAZINE@STONELAWCHURCH.ORG BY SUNDAY 14TH NOVEMBER**

MESSAGE FROM NEIL



Dear Friends,

There is a proverb found in the Old Testament (Proverbs 18:24) which states that a friend can be better than a sibling! This is quite a statement when you think that family tends to be there for each other through thick and thin but there may be times when family don't really understand each other or, upsettingly so, fail at times to love each other at all!

In the early stages of life, most people learn from and are shaped by family. However, when we get older, we develop friendships with people outside our family. It is a well-known fact that we, ultimately, become like those we spend most of our time with.

One of the most important concerns in modern society is the tendency to become so individualistic or busy that our friendships suffer. We cannot live without friendship, and it is important that we are intentionally cultivating relationships; allowing ourselves to stick closely to people.

A wee while ago, I met with a couple of friends and, as we began to chat about what we were all up to, it suddenly dawned on us that while we had met separately at various times, it had been almost 3 years since we had all been together in the same room! We used to be referred to as the 'Three Amigos' and would travel the country watching our beloved football team together but as our lives took different directions which caused us to move to different parts of the country, maintaining the friendship has been difficult! It has been helped slightly due to social media, but it is not the same as being in the same place as each other.

These face-to-face interactions are important not only for our friendships but for our very own mental and physical health. As Jesus points out in his teaching on the vine in chapter 15 of John's Gospel, we have been created to be loving, social creatures. Even the most introverted of us needs human interaction to keep us flourishing; there is a reason why Jesus sent out His disciples in pairs! Unfortunately, not everyone has the opportunity to have face to face interactions regularly and loneliness is becoming a very real issue in our society. This is something that we as a church need to do our very best to combat.

Let us never be too busy that we miss out on key relationships, and may we learn to truly cherish the friendships that we have. If you find yourself struggling with loneliness at the moment, then please reach out to someone. Equally, please reach out to those who you know might be feeling isolated and lonely too.

Yours in Jesus,

Neil

Rev. Neil H Watson
minister@stonelawchurch.org
2 Dryburgh Avenue, Rutherglen, G73 3EG
07871615840



Thanks to the Rutherglen Reformer for permission to use the above photo

A PRAYER FROM NEIL

Loving God, while I may be limited in my full understanding of you, I know that you care for me and for all of your creation.

Thank you for loving me and remaining with me in my sorrows and in my joys.

Thank you for Jesus, whose life shows me the way to

**true life
happiness
and trust.**

Thank you for your Spirit who leads me.

Warm my heart and unite me with you, in order that I might open up my life to you, be accepting of all your love and respond to that love by offering myself to your service with all that you have given me and made me to be.

I am so aware that there are too many times when I do not do this, and I am truly sorry and confess those times to you now.

Loving God, I am truly thankful that whatever I have done or said that is not of you, it is never enough to break my relationship with you, through my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who when teaching us to pray, taught us to say the words...

**Our Father in heaven
Hallowed be your name
Your Kingdom come,
Your will be done
On Earth as it is Heaven
Give us today our daily bread
And forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us
Lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from the evil one
For yours is the kingdom,
the power and the glory forever.**

Amen

DATES FOR OUR DIARIES

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE STONELAW CHURCH BUILDING?

Every Sunday 10.30am Morning Service, with a crèche for children under 3, Discoverers for pre-school and primary children and Connect2 for secondary pupils.
The first Sunday of the month is a Communion Service.

Wednesday 3rd November 2.00 - 2.30pm Mid-Week 30-minute Service. See **p.6**

Wednesday 1st December 2.00 - 2.30pm Mid-Week 30-minute Service.

Monday to Saturday 10:30 - 12:30 Café@The Meeting Place All welcome! See **p.7**

Wednesday 10th November 2.30 - 4pm Past Times Dementia Café See **p.7**

Tuesdays 6.00 - 7.15pm Rainbows See **p.22**

Thursdays 6.30 - 8pm 131st Boys' Brigade See **p.21**

Fridays 6.15 - 7.15pm Brownies and **7.45 - 9.15pm** Guides See **p.21**

Every Friday 9.45 – 11.30am Stonelaw Toddlers Group. See [here](#) for details.

STONELAW CHURCH ON ZOOM

Please see the Stonelaw weekly email for how to access our Zoom events. To sign up, email info@stonelawchurch.org
For more details about our Zoom events, see **p.23**.

Every Sunday 10.30am Church Service on Zoom
The first Sunday of the month is our Communion Service.

Every Wednesday 7.30pm Prayer Meeting on Zoom (Interested? See note in italics **p.11**)

Tuesday 2nd November 7.30pm Session Meeting

Thursday 4th November 10.30am Zoom House group with Jennifer Menzies. See **p.24**

Thursday 4th November 7.30pm Zoom House group with Dorothy McTaggart. See **p. 24**.

Tuesday 30th November 7.00pm Eco-Friendly Forum See **p.8** for details

Thursday 2nd December 10.30am Zoom House group with Jennifer Menzies.

Thursday 2nd December 7.30pm Zoom House group with Dorothy McTaggart.

Tuesday 2nd November 7.30pm Session Meeting

Thursdays 2-4pm Coffee and Crafts with Fiona Benson.

Fridays 5.30-7pm Grace and Truth Bible Study with Mada and Mirriam See **p.24**

UPDATED GUIDANCE FOR SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES

There is no longer any need to book a place at church services. In order to avoid people having to queue before services, there is a new system for entering the building. If you are checking in using your Smartphone and the church QR code, please enter using the South Door (i.e. the entrance without a ramp)

If you need to provide your contact details using pen and paper, please enter via the North Door (the entrance with a ramp). Of course, everyone who needs to can use the ramp via that entrance too.

Please note that a camera is in use on a Sunday morning so that our service can be recorded and displayed on our website. As a result, the front of the church, where the communion table is, and the area in front of the door to the right of this area, are in view of the camera. If you are in this area you may be seen and recorded.

WHY NOT TRY OUR WEDNESDAY 30-MINUTE SERVICE?

Everyone is welcome to joins us in the Sanctuary at 2pm on the first Wednesday of the month, when we have a short 30-minute service for those who, perhaps, find sitting for the full service on a Sunday difficult, have different shift patterns or childcare issues.

In this service our minister leads us in the singing of songs, (sometimes playing his guitar!) reading from the Bible and gives a short reflection on the passage. From time to time we also share Communion.

If you would like to know more about this, please get in touch with Neil on **07871 615840** or at minister@stonelawchurch.org.

BLYTHSWOOD SHOE BOX APPEAL



The annual Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal aims to provide Christmas gifts for desperately poor people of all ages in Eastern Europe. The last day when filled shoe boxes (or drawstring bags) can be left at the church is **Sunday, 7th November.**

In the Meeting Place (which is open every day 10:30-12:30) there are empty boxes provided by Blythswood Care which can be used to pack your gifts. Leaflets detailing what you can give are also available there.

If you don't have a leaflet but still want to contribute, and you are able to hand in a box by 7th November, see <https://blythswood.org/shoeboxappeal> for the list of suggested items. Alternatively, if you would like to make a donation instead, follow the same link and click on **Donate** at the top of the page.

Or you can send a cheque to Blythswood Care, Highland Deephaven, Evanton, IV16 9XJ

Please contact Jill or Mary if you need further information.

Jill Rennie and Mary McDougall

CAFÉ@THE MEETING PLACE IS OPEN AGAIN!

Great news! The **Café@The Meeting Place** is now open Monday to Saturday from 10:30 to 12:30.

This is such a significant event in our church life. and we give thanks to all the volunteers who have allowed this to happen. Please pop in when you can and bring a friend too, if you like!



Our new coffee machine will allow us to offer a wide range of delicious Fairtrade drinks. Unfortunately, we are not yet able to provide home baking, but we will be serving Sainsbury's pancakes, scones and croissants meanwhile.

PAST TIMES CAFÉ



We are delighted to have a date for opening Past Times, our Dementia Friendly Café. The café will be held on the second Wednesday in every month and our first session will be on Wednesday 10th November from 2.30 - 4pm. Past Times will be open to dementia sufferers, accompanied by their carers.

Anyone wishing to attend should email me info@stonelawchurch.org. Having a system of pre-registration will allow us to manage the numbers more easily, since we will be maintaining one metre distancing in the café. Please share these details with anyone you know who is likely to be interested.

Please pray that God will bless us and help us to make a real difference to those living with dementia.

WOULD YOU ENJOY HELPING TO LOOK AFTER THE CHURCH GARDEN?

Since we have been able to get back into the church grounds, you may have noticed work going on to replace the fences on our property. Thanks to Tom Nisbet for organising this. We have also started to cut back the overgrown laurels and other shrubs and trees.

The Managers now want to set up a regular work party to improve our gardens and keep them looking good. We propose meeting regularly for an afternoon, probably on a Tuesday or a Wednesday.

If you would like to volunteer, please let me know. Even just litter picking for a couple of hours is a help. Thank you all, in anticipation of a stampede of volunteers!

Jane Paulsen 07867 646 010

STONELAW'S ECO-FRIENDLY FORUM 30TH NOVEMBER 2021

As Stonelaw moves towards becoming a fully registered Eco-congregation, a great idea was suggested: to gather folks from the congregation to share ideas on how we can be more eco-friendly. Are there things that you are currently doing yourself that others would benefit from hearing about? Is there something you think we could be doing as a church?

Our Eco-Friendly Forum will be held at 7pm on Tuesday 30th November on Zoom. We are particularly keen to have our young people involved in the discussion, so maybe you could take part as a family? And if you know someone who doesn't have access to Zoom but might like to join us on the night, maybe you could invite him or her to take part in the forum with you?

Please note that this will be a forum for sharing ideas, not a lecture! If the group is quite big we will divide into Breakout rooms for part of the time. Log in details will be made available soon, through the weekly email but, in the meantime, please have a think about the things you'd like to highlight, or questions you'd like to ask.

We look forward to hearing from you on the 30th!

HOW DO YOU LIKE READING YOUR CHURCH MAGAZINE?

Due to the problems of delivering the magazine during lockdown, we started to send the magazine in an electronic format to everyone who had an email address. We appreciate, however, that some people prefer a paper copy and don't have access to a printer.

While we would like to keep the print production as low as possible (to save paper, power and effort) we are able to offer a return to a paper copy from November onwards.

If you would like to receive a paper copy, please contact me on jneil1@virginmedia.com.

Janis Neil

LODGING HOUSE MISSION CHRISTMAS CARDS

We will be selling Lodging House Mission (LHM) Christmas cards again this year. As usual, you can obtain an order form from me, from 31st October and I will get them ordered as soon as possible. Please get in quickly because supplies will go fast!

If you'd like to have a look on-line, go to <https://www.charitycardsonline.com/lhm> but remember, there's no postage cost if you order through me.

Jane Paulsen 07867 646 010

USED POSTAGE STAMPS

Many thanks to all the folks who continue to hand in their used postage stamps. It is heartening to learn just how many have been saving their stamps throughout lockdown. The money raised from the sale of used stamps goes to support projects in various countries, currently a woman's refuge in Sri Lanka.



It would be great if you could remember to keep your Christmas stamps and leave them on the table in the Meeting Place. I check each Sunday to see if any have been left.

Thank you.

Leslie Gibson

FAREWELL AND THANK YOU TO THÉRÈSE REID

Thérèse Reid retired in September 2021 after spending 13 years as our Outreach Worker, church elder and above all, friend. We're going to miss Thérèse a lot, for her openness about her faith in Jesus, her bubbly, caring personality, and for all that she has contributed both to the life of Stonelaw and to the lives of many in the surrounding community.



There is an amazingly long list of projects which Thérèse either instigated or supported enthusiastically, including:

Stonelaw Toddlers Group, the Holiday Club, Messy Church, Lunch Bunch, the Welcome Plus project, the Big Brunch (Christian Aid Week) two Lendrick Muir Weekends, the Phone Tree, the Stonelaw Church WhatsApp Group, the Stonelaw Young Families WhatsApp Group, the projects carried out by the Next Steps Group as lockdown was beginning to ease, such as Jars of Hope, Christmas Angels and Easter Bags of Love and Hope; the Spring and Summer Hubs; and in the wider community, supporting Rutherglen and Cambuslang Foodbank, Friends of Overtoun Park, the Soup Kitchen in Glasgow, giving out tea, coffee and (pre-pandemic) hugs at Landemer Day, Rutherglen Churches Together - *and that's probably still not all...*

Thank you, Thérèse, for everything you have contributed during your time as part of Stonelaw Church. We wish you a very happy and fruitful new life on the Isle of Bute.

Thanks very much also to those who supported Thérèse by serving in the Development Worker Management Group.

ADELE ON THÉRÈSE

I first met Thérèse when she came to help at our Holiday Club, which I remember as one of her first assignments with the Church. She was very keen and 'hands-on' right from the start, joining in with gusto in all the fun of the Holiday Club. This enthusiasm continued throughout her time with us, as she introduced new projects and encouraged members of the congregation to contribute and participate. Personally I feel that Thérèse has helped people get to know and appreciate each other better.

Thérèse and I have become close friends over the years, having long discussions on our Christian beliefs and understanding, music, the Government - you name it! We have opinions on everything - but mostly we were in tune! Thérèse is a very supportive, generous and giving person, whose loving support I have really appreciated, particularly in the past few years.

Thérèse will be missed by a lot of people, both in the Church and in the wider community. While I will miss the day-to-day personal contact, it is a comfort to know that she is not far away. I'm sure she'll be back to Rutherglen before too long!

I, and am sure all of the congregation, would like to wish Thérèse and her family well in this latest exciting adventure in their lives.

Love and blessings to you, Thérèse!

Adele Molloy

ELAINE ON THÉRÈSE

You will have heard the phrase 'gift of the gab'. I know Thérèse won't mind me saying that she has this gift - along with the uncommon ability to get people to talk and share their life experiences with her. Therese has used this gift to bring people together and to minister gently to our wider community.

I remember when my own children were much younger, feeling exhausted with running from school to nursery. I mentioned this to Thérèse, and she told me I was not alone. Therese saw there was a group of women who were struggling, so she brought us together to chat over a cuppa in someone's house. As mothers, we shared experiences and ideas but also explored our spirituality. Therese listened, encouraged and introduced us to the Christian charity 'Care for the Family'. We participated in a parenting course that brought Christian values and Jesus's love into our lives. The course was brilliant. It totally revived us and we came away from these meetings feeling supported, understood and enthused. Many of these Mums now bring their children to our Christmas Eve services and holiday clubs, and one volunteers in our church.

Thérèse is also a founding member of Friends of Overtoun Park. This group started because teenagers were causing trouble in the park and it was spilling out to the surrounding houses. Thérèse, Ross Murray and the community police spent many a night in Overtoun Park, sitting on a log waiting to see what would happen. I remember Thérèse saying she really didn't know how it would go or what she would say! However the teenagers took the first step, wanting to know who they were and what they were doing. I'm sure Thérèse's 'gift of the gab' got her through this and over several weeks the three of them got to know the teenagers better. More importantly, the message that Thérèse and Ross were trying to bring to the teenagers was that people did care about them and that God loves them.

The trouble stopped and as time went on the teenagers moved on. Since then, Thérèse has been faithful in her support of Friends of Overtoun Park, standing out in the cold making tea, litter picking in the rain or painting Easter eggs in the blistering sun!

I will always be thankful for Thérèse's encouragement, support and 'can do' attitude.

Elaine Devlin

COLLECTION FOR THERESE

Many people have asked if they can donate to a collection for Thérèse and this is still possible. Please put your donation in an envelope marked 'Thérèse Reid' and place it in the collection plate.

Alternatively, you can donate via online banking to the church account with the reference shown below:

Account Name - STONELAW PARISH CHURCH

Account Number – 00465105

Sort Code – 80-12-75

Reference – Thérèse Reid

CHURCH REGISTER

Mr David (Davie) Stewart died on 01 October 2021. Our thoughts and prayers are with his daughter Christine and her husband Robert.

Mrs Winnie MacLean died on Thursday 21st October. Our thoughts and prayers are with her daughter Morag, her sons Alistair and David and their families.

We are very happy to welcome **Fiona Reid** into the membership of our congregation. Fiona has been worshipping with us for a good number of weeks now and we are very pleased that she has decided to become part of our Stonelaw family.

STONELAW CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Please send any Church Family news that you would like to share to magazine@stonelawchurch.org or phone any of the editorial team – see page 31.

MRS LILY LYON

As was announced at our Sunday service on 17 October, Mrs Lilian Lyon, known as Lily, died on 13 October 2021.

Lily was a member of Stonelaw for many years until she moved from her home in Abbotsford Avenue to a smaller property in Fernhill, at which point she transferred her membership to Fernhill and Cathkin Parish Church.

An active member of the Stonelaw Guild, Lily worked with the late Ann Alston, another stalwart of Stonelaw and the Guild, to produce the blue and white 'Peace on Earth' banner showing a dove, the world and the quotation from Psalm 55:6 "Oh that I had wings like a dove" which has been admired by many.

Lily died in Kilbryde Hospice. Our thoughts and prayers are with her daughter Hazel, her sons Alistair and Graeme and their families.

TWO NEW BABIES IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Congratulations to **Liz Tait** on the birth of her grandson Brooklyn, a son for Mairi and Tony and a brother for Dale and Robyn.

Congratulations to **Jill and Brian Rennie** on the birth of their grandson Blake, a son for Hazel and Graeme and a baby brother for Sophia.

ANOTHER SIDE TO VETINIA...

Many of us have known Vetinia Gorman for years as a friendly, active member of our congregation, serving as one of our managers and as Hall Booking Officer, while also running her business, the Calderwood After School & Holiday Club. What you may not know is that Vetinia is also an active member of Marama Alliance UK, described on their Facebook page as 'a community of Fijian women, journeying together as we integrate into life in the United Kingdom.'

If you have access to Facebook, you can read an interesting article about Vetinia's contribution to the Glasgow Fijian community [here](#)

MORE STONELAW CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

THANK YOU

Just a word to say a big thank you for the beautiful cards, flowers and prayers I received during my recent surgery and recovery. I have to say they really cheered me up, especially at the beginning when I wasn't getting out and about. It went against my nature not going out but it was for the best, as I have at least 25 stairs to get into our flat. I thank our Father that I am now much more mobile than I have been for some time. I still have pain but nothing like what I had before surgery. I am extremely pleased that my pain has been reduced by approximately 50%; I am very grateful.

In the Wednesday Prayer Meeting before the lead-up to surgery, someone prayed that I would experience God's supernatural peace. Wow! I really have experienced nothing short of 'the peace that passes all understanding'. Even my recovery has been miraculous; God has been so good.

I just want to thank everyone for their prayers. May each of you know Father God's peace and joy.

Jean Murray

If you haven't tried it yet, why not join Wednesday Prayers at 7.30pm (if you are able to access Zoom) for a time of prayer and fellowship which lasts for just over half an hour? There's no need to pray out loud, unless you feel moved to do so. Contact John Shaw on 07885 508130 if you'd like to join our WhatsApp group, where we share needs for prayer.

LIFE AND WORK MAGAZINE

The price for the print version of Life and Work for 2022 remains at £36.00. (The cost of a digital subscription for 12 months is £20.99)

If anyone who gets it delivered to the church no longer wishes it, or if anyone wishes to have it sent directly to their home and to pay by Direct Debit, please let me know as soon as you can, as the order for the church has to be placed at the beginning of November.

I have Order Forms and Direct Debit Forms if anyone needs them. Payment for those sent to the church can be made to the Treasurer before the end of the year.

Life and Work has produced a FREE four-page COP26 Special Supplement available now at <https://www.lifeandwork.org/resources/cop26-special-supplement>. The purpose of this publication is to enable congregations to engage before, during and after COP26 and also signpost resources.

Also, the November 2021 issue of the magazine has a focus on COP26 and Remembrance. Anyone who is not a subscriber and is interested in this particular issue can purchase a single print or digital copy at <https://www.lifeandwork.org/subscribe> or by contacting the Life and Work Office at 121 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 4YN Tel 0131 225 5722.

Isobel Wilson

Rutherglen Stonelaw Church November 2021



ROOF REPAIRS AND EXTERNAL WORKS ON THE CHURCH BUILDING

As many of us are aware, our church has had a number of leaks and required some roof maintenance: cleaning the gutters and painting the vents. We are pleased to report that during the first two weeks in October this has been tackled.

We used a specialist company, Airtex Structural Height Specialists. They use traditional steeplejack techniques, including roped access methods, to access the roof. As well as fixing the leaks, Airtex also fixed some windowpanes in the back gallery windows.



(Left) Steeplejacks' ladder (Above) Painting the vents. A good head for heights is required!

In addition, we decided to address our pigeon problem - droppings have been building up on some of our windows and other ledges and this is slowly damaging the stonework as well as being a potential health risk to us. We decided to fit bird spikes to the worst affected areas as a deterrent. Airtex also cleaned off the droppings, being careful to avoid damaging the sandstone.

Airtex recommended that we should also have a full survey of the roof to identify if there are other maintenance tasks. For this they used a drone to take high quality photographs without having to be on the roof itself. Unfortunately, these photographs have confirmed there is further significant maintenance required, some of which is deemed to be urgent (we are still waiting on the full report).

The cost of the initial completed works is just over £14,000. This includes VAT but we should be able to reclaim the VAT element through the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme. As mentioned in the treasurer's report over £6,000 (before Gift Aid is added) was given in September's National Giving Day. Thank you for supporting this important work on our building. We will be seeking quotes for the other maintenance works identified.



***(Left) Cleaning the pigeon droppings and fitting bird spikes
(Right) The drone survey***



Stuart Menzies Convenor of the Managers

JOSEPH, JESUS AND US

If you think that this is a Christmas story, you are not alone. I felt so too when I was writing the title! After all, Mary was betrothed to a man called Joseph before Jesus was conceived. However, the Joseph in this article is the eleventh son of Jacob, and this article highlights a few common things between Jesus and Joseph and how we can use them in our lives.

They were men of their words

The Bible reveals that both Jesus and Joseph were men of their words. When the Egyptians pleaded with Pharaoh for food in Genesis 41:54-55, he told them, **"Go to Joseph and do whatever he tells you."** We read this exact phrase in John 2:5 when the wine had run out at a wedding party and Mary, the mother of Jesus, said to the servants, **"Do whatever He [Jesus] tells you."**

I wonder how much weight our workmates, business partners, family members, friends, etc., put on our words. Can they wholeheartedly urge others to do whatever we say?

They were overcomers of temptation

Both Jesus and Joseph faced temptations, and they overcame them with the help of God, in line with 1 Corinthians 10:13:

God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength

What is also worth noting is the great success that both men achieved after overcoming the temptations; we can only speculate what could have happened if Joseph or Jesus had succumbed to the temptations that came their way. Friends, every temptation is the enemy's attempt to take us away from the wonderful things that God has already lined up for us. Therefore, we have a lot to lose when we give in to temptation.

They succeeded with God

We read in Genesis 39:3 ***"The LORD was with Joseph, and he was a successful man..."***, and in Acts 10:38, referring to Jesus: ***"...who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him."***

According to these verses, God's presence underpinned Joseph's and Jesus' respective successes. Since we are assured that ***'God will never leave us nor forsake us'*** (Matthew 28:20), we are more than ready to attain success in the areas of our respective callings.

Friends, both Joseph and Jesus depended on God, overcame temptations thrown at them and were men of their words. These three lessons are essential in fulfilling what God has called us into – whether in a predominantly teaching, preaching and healing ministry like Jesus, in the marketplace like Joseph, or in our everyday lives among family, friends and in our community.

May God bless you abundantly.

Mada (Madalitso) Chikumbanje

GOD WHO MADE THE EARTH

I'm sure most, if not all, of us will be familiar with the following words from the old hymn.

God, who made the earth,
the air, the sky, the sea,
who gave the light its birth:
He cares for me.

God, who made the grass,
the flower, the fruit, the tree,
the day and night to pass:
He cares for me.

God, who made all things,
on earth, in air, in sea,
who changing seasons brings:
He cares for me.



Perhaps this wonderful hymn, which praises God's creation of the world and everything in it as well as his care for us, is a memory from Sunday School many years ago.

But I wonder how many of us are familiar with these verses?

I brought you into a fertile land to eat its fruit and rich produce. But you came and defiled my land and made my inheritance detestable. Jeremiah 2:7

Over the past years it has become abundantly clear that though God cares for us, we have not been caring for this wonderful and amazing world he made for us. We have been neglecting to look after our world and the consequences are now all too apparent in so many ways.

Just one example of this is the recent scenes in the media of the oceans from all around the world, swamped with our waste plastic, which is going to be with us for an estimated 400 - 500 years. Food packaging makes up a large percentage of plastic waste found in our oceans, but, thankfully, we are now beginning to see small changes taking place such as more and more recyclable wrappings being used by manufacturers. Our choice to buy only products using such wrappings will help to speed up food producers' and manufacturers' changeover to recyclable products.

But is there anything we can do as individuals in our day-to-day living, to try to reduce our own plastic waste?

The answer is yes! There is a lot we can do simply by stopping and thinking about the purchases we make. We have become so used to plastics in our life that we often don't even notice them. Some are aware of the huge number of plastic milk bottles even an individual household uses and have returned to having bottles delivered in glass recyclable bottles.

For another example, let's look at something less obvious, something we nearly all do every day, and see how we might reduce our plastic consumption: brushing our teeth!

.Maybe tooth-brushing is not the most obvious place to cut out the use of plastic. However, here are a few simple changes we could make.

- Use toothbrushes made from bamboo instead of plastic.
- Use toothpaste in tablet form, not in a plastic tube.
- Use floss made from degradable corn starch.
- Use mouthwash in tablet form (to be added to tap water) and not in plastic bottles. This also saves energy by doing away with the cost of transporting what is, in essence, largely water, around the country.

There are many eco-friendly companies selling these dental products, mainly online at the moment. Eco-friendly items are usually more expensive than what most people currently use and are possibly not within everyone's budget. However, if we can afford that bit extra, this is surely a small cost if it helps to save God's beautifully created world.

Over the coming months we hope to highlight other easy ways to become more eco-friendly, and make small changes which have the potential to make a huge difference.

If you would like some help in sourcing eco-friendly products, please ask!

Lesley Nisbet

A BIG STEP FORWARD IN SOFT PLASTICS RECYCLING

Did you know that in Tesco supermarkets and in the Co-op on Rutherglen Main Street, you can now recycle **any** soft plastic packaging - even if it still has the 'Not Yet Recycled' logo printed on it?

Rigid plastics like bottles, trays and bottle tops will go in your grey bin as usual, but **any kind of rinsed bag, wrapper or film** that bounces back when you scrunch it can go in the Soft Plastics recycling unit.



Soft plastics include all the following: biscuit wrappers, bread bags, inner bags from cereal packets, crisp packets, frozen food bags, fruit, vegetable and salad packaging, pasta bags, sachets of pet food and baby food - and any kind of film, **but not compostable bags**, which need to go in your food waste or rubbish bin.



It doesn't matter where you bought them. Just rinse them, save them up in a plastic bag and pop them into the shop's Soft Plastics recycling unit. Tesco's are near the front of the shop in Burnside and Dalmarnock and the Co-op on the Main Street has theirs beside the tills.

For more details, go to www.coop.co.uk/environment/soft-plastics or to [Tesco Soft Plastics Recycling](#)

Jean MacKenzie

PLAYLIST CHALLENGE 2



Firstly, I'd like to thank Liz Maltby for her great playlist in our last magazine, and for nominating me to provide my worship song playlist for this edition. I am glad that, despite choosing some great songs herself, she has left me some good ones to choose.

I hope you have an enjoyable and worshipful time listening to some of these songs. If you find clicking on the link doesn't work, please search for the song title and singer/band.

- Blessed Assurance – Steph Macleod
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WCyrAgBxXnU>
- Love them like Jesus – Casting Crowns
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=20a9mhoyXec>
- Your love never fails – Jesus Culture <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=loezWBPGRAc>
- This is Amazing Grace – Phil Wickham https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XFRjr_x-yxU
- Because of You – Paul Oakley <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PBSYV5Z8cl4>
- Sweetly Broken – Jeremy Riddle https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O5_Z3ZZYLDc
- Guardian – Worship Central https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f_XaZ11kpo
- Come as you are – Crowder Band <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r2zhf2mqEMI>
- Power of the Cross – Keith and Kristin Getty
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cegCHACHFAI>
- Spirit Break Out – Luke Hellenbroth (with Worship Central)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GLR_1NFvFv4

For our next magazine, I nominate and challenge my wife, Elizabeth, to share her favourite songs and playlist with us.



Neil

HARVEST THANKSGIVING APPEAL UPDATE

In addition to the many food items already brought to church, we have received £865 as of 3rd November in donations to our Harvest Appeal - a wonderful result.

We are continuing to collect food items for the Lodging House Mission and our local Foodbank. Please place your donations in the box marked **Harvest Appeal** in the Meeting Place. Copies of the list of the requested food items will be next to the box, or see the list in your Saturday email.



Financial donations can be made by cash in an envelope clearly marked **Harvest Appeal** and placed in the offering plate.

Or you can give via online banking to the church account with the reference shown below:

Account Name - STONELAW PARISH CHURCH

Account Number – 00465105

Sort Code – 80-12-75

Reference – HARVEST APPEAL

LIVES REMEMBERED

We all remember people, places and events which are special to us, but we don't need to set aside a particular date in order to remember them. These have a special place in our hippocampus (where we can store memories in our brain) and can retrieve them at any time. However, there are world events which are so significant that a date has been set aside in order that millions of people can reflect on them.



November is the month associated with remembering.

Remembrance Sunday is observed on the Sunday closest to November 11th, to recall the end of WW1 and honour the veterans of both World War 1 and World War 2. May we be eternally thankful that so many gave their lives in the two World Wars and other conflicts in order that we could live in freedom. It is very important that these events are recalled, so that future generations never allow anything similar to happen again.

The Polish poet, Czeslaw Milosz put it like this in his book, 'The Issa Valley':
'The living owe it to those who no longer can speak (sic) to tell their story for them'.

As we remember the millions who lost their lives in the First and Second World Wars, let's also be aware that countless human lives continue to be lost in battle all over the world. For example, at last 10,000 deaths in battle have occurred in the last year in Afghanistan, Yemen, in the Mexican drug wars and in the conflict in northern Ethiopia. Thousands more have died in Myanmar, Syria, Columbia, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan and in cross-border conflicts in other parts of Africa.

So as we proudly pin our poppies to our coats this month, let us remember all the precious lives lost in wars.

'We will remember them'.

Margaret A. Borland

PRAYER REQUESTS FROM CAMBUSLANG AND RUTHERGLEN REACHOUT TRUST

We give thanks that Reachout has been able to deliver the "It's Your Move" project to P7 pupils in 12 of the 14 local primary schools. Please pray that this contact with school pupils would bring some into a relationship with God.



Please pray also that the Christmas Unwrapped project would go well and that schools would still be receptive to allowing Reachout's ongoing witness in the schools in Cambuslang and Rutherglen.

Reachout is in need of new Management Committee members. Please pray for wisdom for the existing members as they seek new additions.

Greg Senior

on behalf of Youth and Schools workers **Ross Murray** and **Alison Kennedy**

Reachout Trust, Cambuslang Parish Church, 1 Arnott Way, Cambuslang G72 7JQ
Tel **07837 193028** Email greg.crrt@outlook.com Website: <https://crrt.org.uk/>

A FATHER'S LOVE LETTER

Some years ago my brother ??? gave me a copy of this set of Bible verses. I have found it really encouraging to read all these truths in Scripture about our Father's love for each one of us. I pray that you will find it encouraging as you dip into it.



Jean Murray

My Child,

You may not know me, but I know everything about you. **Psalm 139:1**

I know when you sit down and when you rise up. **Psalm 139:2**

I am familiar with all your ways. **Psalm 139:3**

Even the very hairs on your head are numbered. **Matthew 10:29-31**

For you were made in my image. **Genesis 1:27**

In me you live and move and have your being. **Acts 17:28**

For you are my offspring. **Acts 17:28**

I knew you even before you were conceived. **Jeremiah 1:4-5**

I chose you when I planned creation. **Ephesians 1:11-12**

You were not a mistake, for all your days are written in my book. **Psalm 139:15-16**

I determined the exact time of your birth and where you would live. **Acts 17:26**

You are fearfully and wonderfully made. **Psalm 139:14**

I knit you together in your mother's womb. **Psalm 139:13**

And brought you forth on the day you were born. **Psalm 71:6**

I have been misrepresented by those who don't know me. **John 8:41-44**

I am not distant and angry, but am the complete expression of love. **1 John 4:16**

And it is my desire to lavish my love on you. **1 John 3:1**

Simply because you are my child and I am your father. **1 John 3:1**

I offer you more than your earthly father ever could. **Matthew 7:11**

For I am the perfect father. **Matthew 5:48**

Every good gift you receive comes from my hand. **James 1:17**

For I am your provider and I meet all your needs. **Matthew 6:31-33**

My plan for your future has always been filled with hope. **Jeremiah 29:11**

Because I love you with an everlasting love. **Jeremiah 31:3**

My thoughts toward you are countless as the sand on the seashore. **Psalm 139:17-18**

And I rejoice over you with singing. **Zephaniah 3:17**

Amen

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

Sunday 7th November marks the International Day of Prayer (IDOP) for the persecuted church. This is an important opportunity to stand with Christians across the world from various denominations and organisations to pray with our persecuted brothers and sisters. Here in Stonelaw, we will be marking IDOP during our morning service.

Also on that day, there will be an online worship service from 7.30pm – 8.30pm. This event, jointly hosted by the Evangelical Alliance, will feature the latest news, testimonies and prayer requests from Nigeria, Eritrea and India. It is free to register, and this can be done by visiting www.releaseinternational.org/idop/

Release International has a very thought-provoking website where you can read about what the charity does, watch videos, listen to podcasts and find out about other areas of interest.

I hope that you will be able to join Christians from around the world on the International Day of Prayer at 7.30-8.30pm to remember our brothers and sisters who face an increasing array of violent persecutors, whether from the Islamic State (Middle East), Boko Haram (Nigeria) or Hindu extremists in India.

Margaret A. Borland

CHRISTIAN AID NEWS AND COP26 EVENTS

The Rutherglen Churches Christian Aid Committee has made an enthusiastic start to our 2021-22 fundraising, in support of families all over the world who are facing extreme hunger.



We have two events planned, in addition to each church's Christian Aid Week activities in April. **'Songs and Scones'**, a choir concert by female voice choir Arietta, will take place in March at the United Reformed Church. And if all goes to plan (after being postponed twice) a second **Rutherglen Christian Aid Fun Run/Walk** will be held in June.

The Paulsen family and Jean MacKenzie plan to join Christian Aid staff and supporters at the **Global Day of Action on Climate Change** on **Saturday 6th November**. We'll meet in Kelvingrove Park at 11.30am and walk to the 3pm rally in Glasgow Green. If you're planning to join the march, click 'going' on the Christian Aid [Facebook event](#). For more information, go to [Global Day of Action](#)

Christian Aid have also organised two COP26 church services, which we are all welcome to attend in person or on-line:

- **The Time is Now:** a night of prayer, inspiration and music from the Kingdom Choir, in person at Glasgow Cathedral, or online, on Monday 8 November at 7pm. You can register [here](#) or, as this service will be recorded, see it a few days later, once it has been uploaded to the Christian Aid and Glasgow Cathedral websites.
- **Ecumenical Service of Solidarity for Climate Justice** at Sandyford Henderson Memorial Church or online, on Tuesday 9 November at 6pm. You can register [here](#)

Jean MacKenzie

NEWS FROM STONELAW'S YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

131ST COMPANY BOYS' BRIGADE

We are delighted to be back in the church building after our 19-month absence. It was heart-warming to see everyone welcome each other. The wee boys are now taller but just as enthusiastic.



The Company was using Stonelaw High School Sports Hall for the first five Thursday nights of our session. We are very grateful to the school staff who were very cooperative and supportive

We run a full programme of games, crafts and scientific activities. All young boys in Primary 1 to Primary 7 are welcome to come and enjoy the fun -
THE ADVENTURE BEGINS HERE !

Walter Smyth,

Lt. 131 Company Boys Brigade, Rutherglen.

Mobile **07586 255466** Email: **walt_smyth@yahoo.co.uk**

2ND RUTHERGLEN RAINBOWS



On 14th September, Rainbows were able to meet in person in the church hall for the first time since March 2020. We welcomed back the girls we had first met on Zoom and some new faces from our waiting list. All those who had come as Rainbows to the church hall have now become Brownies, so we have all had to

learn a lot of new names!

During our first month back, the girls have completed and been presented with their 'Communicate' Stage 1 Skills Builder badge. We have lots of promise badges ready to give out in the next few weeks as well, as more new girls join us. The leaders have also been busy updating our 'Safe Space' & First Aid training.

Sadly, we heard that another local Rutherglen Rainbow unit has had to close due to a lack of leaders. This isn't the only unit in the area which has not been able to reopen after the pandemic, as leaders' circumstances have changed.

If you would like to volunteer in any area of Guiding (or know someone else who would like to do so), whether in Rainbows, Brownies, Guides or Senior Section, please go to <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/register-your-interest/> to find out more.

Helen Paulsen 2nd Rutherglen Rainbows Leader

2ND RUTHERGLEN BROWNIES



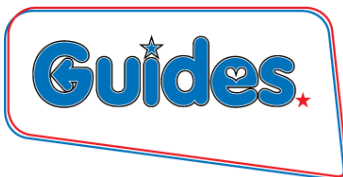
2nd Rutherglen Brownies were delighted to start back on Saturday 4th September with our delayed summer trip to Edinburgh Zoo (photo attached). On Friday 10th we were finally able to return to the church hall, which felt amazing! We are so glad to be meeting indoors back in our permanent home and are growing used to the new routines, like using a different entrance

and not being able to have parents come in. We said goodbye to seven of our girls the following week when they moved up to Guides.

Our new intake started following the September weekend, giving us a full unit of 24 once again. The waiting list for our unit continues to grow weekly and, if all the girls take up their places when offered, we are now full until January 2024. If you are interested in finding out more about Brownies or joining the waiting list (birthdays after summer 2013), then please email Diane and Rachel at 2ndrutherglenbrownies@gmail.com

Diane Wilson 2nd Rutherglen Brownies Leader

2ND RUTHERGLEN GUIDES



If you would like your daughter to join 2nd Rutherglen Guides, please register at this address:

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/>

Thank you,

Jan Morgan 2nd Rutherglen Guides Leader.

INFORMATION FROM PREVIOUS ISSUES OF THE MAGAZINE

HAVE YOU MISSED A SUNDAY SERVICE?

You can catch up with any service, by watching the video recording on our website at www.stonelawchurch.org/service-recordings. Recordings are normally available at any time from about 2.30pm on the day of the service.

HOW TO GIVE TO STONELAW CHURCH

YOU CAN CONTACT THE CHURCH TREASURER by email at treasurer@stonelawchurch.org

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 Euan Campbell (see page 26) to ask for one. 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

If you are a UK taxpayer, donating to the church through the Gift Aid scheme means that we are able to claim back 25 pence for every £1 that you give – at no extra cost to you. 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 above address.

HOW TO JOIN US FOR WORSHIP ON ZOOM

To use Zoom, you need a computer, iPad/tablet or smartphone. Download the app and choose Join Meeting.

You need a specific Meeting ID and Passcode to log in. These are shared each week in the Saturday Congregational Email. To sign up, please email info@stonelawchurch.org

It's always easier if you try to log into Zoom about ten minutes ahead. If you have trouble accessing a Stonelaw event on Zoom, please call Janis Neil on **07808 926067**.

EVERY SUNDAY Morning service on Zoom at 10.30am

EVERY WEDNESDAY Prayer Meeting on Zoom at 7.30pm

To join the Wednesday Prayers WhatsApp group - for prayer updates and to ask for prayer for yourself or others - please contact John Shaw on **07885 508130**

EVERY FRIDAY Grace and Truth Bible Study on Zoom at 5.30-7pm.

This group is led by Mada and Mirriam Chikumbanje.

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

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

FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH House Groups on Zoom, for Bible study, discussion and fellowship. All welcome.

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.

CHURCH MAGAZINE EDITORIAL TEAM

Jean MacKenzie Margaret Borland Vetinia Gorman Derek Westwood

Many thanks to everyone who has contributed items, to Jane and Sandy Paulsen for printing this issue of the magazine, and to Janis Neil, Isobel Wilson and her team for distributing it.

Contributions and suggestions for the next magazine are always welcome, by email to magazine@stonelawchurch.org. Please send them by **Sunday 14th November**.

PLEASE EMAIL ITEMS FOR THE DECEMBER & JANUARY MAGAZINE
TO MAGAZINE@STONELAWCHURCH.ORG BY SUNDAY 14TH NOVEMBER