



***Sharing God's Love – Caring for our Community***  
[www.stonelawchurch.org](http://www.stonelawchurch.org)

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

*Contributions and suggestions for the magazine are always welcome, by email to [magazine@stonelawchurch.com](mailto:magazine@stonelawchurch.com) or see the foot of page 21 to give us a ring.*

**PLEASE EMAIL ITEMS FOR THE APRIL & MAY MAGAZINE  
TO [MAGAZINE@STONELAWCHURCH.ORG](mailto:MAGAZINE@STONELAWCHURCH.ORG) BY SUNDAY 13TH MARCH**

## MESSAGE FROM NEIL



Dear Friends,

I hope this edition of the Stonelaw magazine finds you well and having a good start to the new year.

As you may know, Elizabeth and I had a break to see our friends over in California after Christmas and over the new year period. The weather over there is very different to the weather we have here at home. Some of the looks we received from the locals, including our friends, as we walked around in shorts and t shirts were priceless! It really felt as if we were on a summer holiday, rather than a winter one, and the vitamin D was very much appreciated!

Even although we are still in the first months of 2022, with the good news this week that the spread of the Omicron variant appears to be diminishing and the much longed for loosening of the restrictions on our lives, you may already be looking forward to the summer holiday season already. For some that will be a staycation at home, exploring our beautiful country. Some will be preparing for a trip to take in the sights and sounds of a new place; for others it will be to absorb some much-needed sunshine on a beach somewhere. Whatever your preferred destination or relaxation, I hope it is wonderful... given the previous 2 years you have lived through, you have earned it!

However, as wonderful as a summer holiday or break can be, I want to remind you again that, as Christians, we are called to take care of ourselves all year round.

Remember, as the author of Hebrews writes, 'So then, a sabbath rest still remains for the people of God; for those who enter God's rest also cease from their labours as God did from his.' (Hebrews 4:9-10 NRSV)

This sabbath rest is just as important today as it has ever been, and we should ensure we are living and working from that place of "God's rest". This sabbath should be more regular than a week or two every year but every single week of our lives.

We are of no use to anyone if we are constantly running on empty, so I urge you take time for yourself each and every week, resting in God's presence. Take time to read the Bible, spend some time in prayer regularly, take a walk and listen for God speaking to you... read a book... watch a film... whatever it is you enjoy... do it. God wants you to live from that place of sabbath rest!

Yours in Jesus,

*Neil*

Rev. Neil H Watson  
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2 Dryburgh Avenue, Rutherglen, G73 3EG  
07871615840



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

## A PRAYER FROM NEIL

I hear You calling me, Lord; grant me grace to pause and be still; still my pre-occupied mind; still my gaze to see, with Your joy, the wonders of Your creation.

Guide my seeing and my hearing, my words and my actions, to the quiet place of Your presence and rest.

Stir in my heart a new passion, a passion for justice and peace, grounded in Your wisdom, a wisdom that I can faithfully pass on to others.

Lord God, You are the breath of life sustaining me each day; You are with me in my journeying and in my resting; my companion and teacher along the way.

You, Lord, are my hope and strength.

Forgive me when I turn away from You; when I am distracted by worldly cares; when I am wrapped up in myself and fail to pass on Your Good News.

Forgive me when I fail to hear Your words, when I am distracted by my own voice and when I am unmoved by the cries of those suffering.

Lord Jesus, I am thankful that You are my strength when I need it.  
I pray all of this in Your precious name, using the words You taught us:

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 STONELAW'S CHURCH BUILDING?

Every Sunday at 10.30am we have our **Sunday Morning Service**, with a **crèche** for children under 3, **Discoverers** for pre-school and primary children and **Connect2** for S1 up. Our **Communion Service** is held on the first Sunday of the month.

Wednesday 2nd & 16th February 2.00-2.30pm	<b>Mid-Week 30-minute Service.</b>
Wednesday 9th February 2.30-4.00pm	<b>Past Times Dementia Café</b> (see p.7)
Wednesday 2nd & 16th March 2.00-2.30pm	<b>Mid-Week 30-minute Service.</b>
Tuesday 1st March 7.30pm	<b>Kirk Session Meeting</b>
Wednesday 9th March 2.30-4.00pm	<b>Past Times Dementia Café</b> (see p.7)
Mondays to Saturdays 10.30am-12.30pm	<b>Café@The Meeting Place</b>

### ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Thursday 10th February 6.30-8pm	<b>Young People's House Group *</b>
Saturday 5th March 2.00-4.00pm	<b>Children's Pancake Party **</b>
Thursday 10th March 6.30-8pm	<b>Young People's House Group *</b>
Saturday 23rd April 2.00-4.00pm	<b>Children's Easter Eggstavanza **</b>
Tuesdays 6.00-7.15pm	<b>2nd Rutherglen Rainbows</b>
Wednesdays 9:45-11:30am	<b>Stonelaw Toddlers Group</b> (See p.8)
Thursdays 6.30-8pm	<b>131st Boys' Brigade</b> (See p.13)
Fridays 9:45-11:30am	<b>Stonelaw Toddlers Group</b> (See p.8)
Fridays 6.15-7.15pm	<b>2nd Rutherglen Brownies</b>
Fridays 7.45-9.15pm	<b>2nd Rutherglen Guides</b>

\* For details about the **Young People's House Group**, please email [fiona.benson@sky.com](mailto:fiona.benson@sky.com)

\*\* For details about the **Children's Parties**, please email [jennifermenzies70@gmail.com](mailto:jennifermenzies70@gmail.com)

For Rainbows, Brownies and Guides leaders, visit: <https://www.stonelawchurch.org/organisations>

### STONELAW CHURCH ON ZOOM

To log into Zoom events, please see the Stonelaw weekly email. To sign up for the email, contact [info@stonelawchurch.org](mailto:info@stonelawchurch.org) NB For details about our Zoom events, see page 18.

Every Sunday 10.30am	<b>Join our Church Service on Zoom.</b> Communion: first Sunday of the month.
Every Wednesday 7.30pm	<b>Prayer Meeting</b>
Thursday 3rd March & 7th April(tbc) 10.30am	<b>House group</b> with Jennifer Menzies.
Thursday 3rd March & 7th April 7.30pm	<b>House group</b> with Dorothy McTaggart.
Tuesday 1st March & 4th April 7.30pm	<b>Session Meeting</b>
Thursdays 2.00-4.00pm	<b>Coffee and Crafts</b> with Fiona Benson
Fridays 5.30-7pm	<b>Grace and Truth Bible Study</b> with Mada and Mirriam Chikumbanje



## CHURCH REGISTER

**Mrs Janice McInnes** died on 28th December 2021. Our thoughts and prayers are with her husband John, her sons: Iain, Alastair and Ken and their families.

## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR GOOD WISHES

Our 70th wedding anniversary was celebrated on Saturday 8th January 2022. As fairly recent members of Stonelaw Church, we have been surprised and delighted to receive so many cards from church friends. Dorothy and I wish to express our warmest thanks for your good wishes.

*Robin and Dorothy Stewart*



9th January 1952



8th January 2022

### A FIRST CHILD FOR MADA AND MIRRIAM

Andrew Chikumbanje was born on 11th January, three months early, weighing 2.5lbs. He is still in hospital, so Mirriam and Mada are visiting him there every day. Let's keep the family and the Princess Royal staff who are caring for him in our prayers.

A message from Mirriam and Mada:

*"We are thankful for the spiritual and material support that the church has given us since the birth of our son. Andrew continues to show tremendous progress in his development. We thank God for the gift of a baby boy."*

### WATCH THIS SPACE!

I hope, as the pandemic calms down a bit, that we will once again be able to meet in our Church building for a time of chat and fun. It's the spending time together that's been missing in our lives. Any ideas about what we might do? Please email me to share them!

*Marlene Galt* [marlenesummersgalt76@icloud.com](mailto:marlenesummersgalt76@icloud.com)



A lot has happened since our last update in the November magazine. Past Times first opened on November 10th, 2021 and met again on December 8th.

In December we welcomed ten people living with dementia and their carers who

had registered with us. We followed a similar format to the first meeting - lots of tea, coffee and cake - and we also introduced our new visitors to those who had attended the first meeting. The highlight of the event was when our minister sang and played the guitar for a singsong of Christmas carols. The Meeting Place capacity is limited so we set up tables and chairs in our Sanctuary to allow plenty of space for everyone.

Moving forward, this will be our regular venue because we have so many people wishing to come to our café. (Please note, we ask that people register with us before attending Past Times so that we can control numbers.) Having begun with four pairs of people we knew from our own and a neighbouring church, we then began to liaise with local health professionals, including Eastvale Older Adult Community Mental Health Team, based in Rutherglen Health Centre. We have now had a number of people referred to us from this team, including two more pairs in the last few weeks. We have also had referrals from the Lanarkshire Adviser from Alzheimer Scotland. In February, this adviser is going to deliver 'Dementia Friends' training for our volunteers.

We were disappointed not to be able to meet in January, but the levels of Covid in our area meant that this was not advisable. Then on 21<sup>st</sup> January, we received wonderful news. Past Times has received funding from the Community Mental Health and Well-being Fund. The fund aims to support and encourage initiatives that promote and benefit the mental health and well-being of people in the community at a small scale, grassroots, community level. It was launched by the Scottish Government with £15 million allocated to support adult mental health and well-being in communities across Scotland.

The money we have received will last for two years and will allow us to:

- Buy equipment, puzzles and games which will help us to stimulate and entertain our visitors living with dementia, while their carers can have time to chat and share experiences etc.
- Pay for musicians and/or musical therapists, who will be able to provide great stimulation and enjoyment for everyone there.
- 'Hire' the Sanctuary on an official basis, which will help to pay the significant cost of heating. (We have outgrown the Café area and the downstairs hall is not accessible for our visitors, many of whom have mobility issues.)

So, exciting times lie ahead, as this money will allow us to offer a much better service to our visitors. But the work will only be possible because of our volunteers. They are: Jill Rennie, Moira Shaw, Liz Tait, Diane Broadfoot, Mabel Moore, Mabel Crawford, Tricia Finlayson, Marlene Galt and Linda Allison.

If you have any questions about Past Times, please contact me on 0141 634 1901.

*Janís Neil*

## A STEP FORWARD FOR STONELAW TODDLERS

When Toddlers opened up again in August 2021, we decided to start back on Fridays only, to let us all settle in. All went well! Families seem to be enjoying being able to get out and mix again, so on **2nd February** we're starting the Wednesday Toddlers Group again, led by Mary McDougall,.



**Both groups meet from 9:45 to 11:30 during the school term.**

**The WEDNESDAY team** consists of Mary McDougall, Vetinia Gorman, Doreen Frew, Gemma Ramsey and Allie O'Brien (our ever-present Tea and Toast provider). To join, please contact **Mary McDougall** at [mcdoums@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mcdoums@yahoo.co.uk)

**The FRIDAY team** consists of Adele Molloy, Carolyn Kennedy, Jennifer Menzies, Allie O'Brien and Doreen Frew. Elaine Devlin, Jean O'Brien and Margaret Breckenridge also help on a rota basis. To join, please contact **Adele Molloy** at [molloyadele@gmail.com](mailto:molloyadele@gmail.com)

We have a great team of volunteers. I'd like to thank each and every one of them for their time, commitment and energy in this very popular outreach programme.

*Adele Molloy*

## RETIRAL OFFERINGS IN 2022

Session has agreed that Retiral Offerings in 2022 will be on the last Sundays of February, May and August, as follows:

**Sunday February 27th:** The Well <https://thewell.org.uk/> (See below for details)

**Sunday May 29th:** The Bethany Trust: <https://www.bethanychristiantrust.com>

**Sunday 28th August:** Release International [www.releaseinternational.org](http://www.releaseinternational.org)

*David McTaggart* Session Clerk

**What is The Well, and why are we supporting its work on 27th February?**



Our February 27th, our Retiral Offering is for The Well, a multi-cultural resource centre based in the heart of Govanhill and originally set up by the Church of Scotland. If you don't know much about this organisation, the best person to ask is our own George Morrison who, until a couple of years ago, volunteered there regularly - for over 15 years.

The support provided by The Well is greatly appreciated by those who are disadvantaged through poverty, racism, limited English language skills - and for some - just being new to life in the UK. At present the Well is fund-raising for a move to bigger premises nearby; they have already raised more than a third of the £140,000 required. They still hope to be awarded grants, but our support through the Retiral Offering would be very encouraging.

The Well is always looking for volunteers, so if you have a heart for this work, please go to <https://thewell.org.uk/volunteer/>

*Jean MacKenzie*



## UPDATE ON THE ROOF REPAIRS

In November's magazine I reported on the roof repairs and maintenance work which were successfully undertaken in October, and mentioned that we also had a detailed roof inspection, which, unfortunately, identified further maintenance works. For the inspection, the steeplejacks used a drone to take high resolution photographs of the roof. These were amazing to look at – they allowed us to see almost every single slate on the roof. If we really wanted to, we could count them all!

Much of the further maintenance work required is urgent. The report identified a number of issues, including missing slates and, at the interface between the slates and the gable coping stones, missing or loose skews (the mortar fillet that keeps water away from the wall). It also highlighted that the pointing between many of our coping stones is either partly or fully missing. Essentially, water is almost certainly penetrating our building and we need to repair these gaps urgently to prevent further deterioration.

The report also highlighted potential safety issues, including where the mortar skews have broken up and are loose, meaning they could possibly fall off the roof.



**Missing/loose mortar skew and missing pointing between cope stones.**



**Suspended scaffolding above the north-west stairwell gable.**

To address these safety issues whilst awaiting the full repair, we have regrettably had to close off access to the south side of the church grounds (the garden area used by the Preschool). On the north side we stopped access along the pathway between the north-west stairwell door and north-east door (under the archway). As this had significant impact on access to the north-west door, the steeplejacks recommended installing high level suspended scaffolding to avoid the risk of falling objects. We agreed to this on the two north gables, and the work has recently been completed. As well as providing fall protection, this scaffolding may also help to provide access while the permanent repairs are taking place. The cost of using the scaffolding is approximately £4,600 for 12 weeks.

As the cost of the permanent repairs is therefore anticipated to be greater than £20,000, we had to seek approval from Presbytery of Glasgow. They approved our application in December. To comply with their rules we must seek at least three quotations, which we are in the process of getting; we hope to be able to appoint a contractor soon.

The financing of any major project is always important. The Kirk Session have agreed that these works should be primarily funded from our reserves, in particular from the surplus from last year's purchase of a new manse. Nonetheless, we have also applied for grants. So far, we have been awarded £5,000 from the Baird Trust, which will make a significant contribution towards this project, and we should also be able to reclaim the VAT from the

Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme. If anyone would like to contribute directly to these repairs, please contact the Church Treasurer. (See page 13 and page 21)

If you have any questions about the roof repairs, please contact the Managers. (see p. 21)

*Stuart Menzies*, Convenor of the Managers

### 'FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU...' JEREMIAH 29:11

When I graduated as a teacher, I truly thought my student days were over. But, God, of course, had plans for me! Before the summer months in 2021, I read about a short Glasgow University course in the church email. It was called Developing and Leading Christian Worship. I thought that it looked really interesting and stimulating.

The course sounded great for me as I could access in-person classes via Zoom in a hybrid classroom, meaning I could join the live in-person evening class via my computer. The course would be spread over four months and there would be assessment at the end, but it was not compulsory. Things were just getting better and better!

So, in September, I became a student again. When I zoomed, I saw some familiar faces on the course but also some new faces including someone from Colonsay and others from Iona and Arran. The rest of us were from the Central Belt and mainly represented the Church of Scotland. There was homework every week and preparation to be done for the next session, including essential reading, watching videos and listening to lectures. Some of the topics covered were – Centring Worship around the Bible; All-age Worship; Music in Worship (which was of particular interest to me) and Leading with Words, Presence and Posture. All in all, this was a thought-provoking and challenging course.

By week 8, we were asked to plan and prepare a service of worship which we would lead. We were not expected to preach a sermon, but we could if we particularly wanted to. I would like to thank Neil for being so willing to allow me to lead our first Sunday in Advent service and for acting out a scenario which I had contrived!

This time last year, I wouldn't have believed that I would do a university course on Zoom, never mind lead part of a service. As we enter this new year, it is comforting to know that God has our future in his hands and knows what's best for us. All we have to do is 'Let go and let God'.

I began by quoting part of a famous verse from Jeremiah; now I'll quote it in full. May these words be an encouragement for us all, as we travel through the year:

***"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11***

With every blessing for 2022,

*Margaret A. Borland*

### 'ONE' - TEARFUND'S BITE-SIZED DAILY REFLECTIONS FOR LENT 2022

Tearfund's short daily devotions for Lent are available free, online or in print at [www.tearfund.org/devotional](http://www.tearfund.org/devotional) or by calling the Tearfund office on **020 3906 3906**.

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FRIDAY 4TH MARCH

This year's World Day of Prayer will be held on Friday 4th March at 2.00pm in Burnside Blairbeth Church. The service has been constructed by the English, Welsh and Northern Irish World Day of Prayer committee, focussing on Jeremiah 29 and particularly on the verse "*I know the plans I have for you...*" (See also M. Borland's article on page 10)

*John Shaw*

## PLAYLIST CHALLENGE 4: MOIRA AND JOHN SHAW



Thank you, Elizabeth Watson, for nominating us. These songs are probably well known to you all, but each one is special to us. We challenge Cameron and Jean Murray to share their favourite songs with us in the next magazine.

1. In Christ Alone - Stuart Townend

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RCeSOY5tisI>

2. Shout to the Lord - Darlene Zschech

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RCeSOY5tisI>

3. When I feel the touch - Rob and Gilly

<https://music.youtube.com/watch?v=vqDIBWCswQg&list=RDAMVMvqDIBWCswQg>

4. O for a closer walk with God - Keswick Convention.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=THv6sPbBRXc>

5. The Lord's my Shepherd - Stuart Townend

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pN4tPkX0MG0>

6. King of Kings - Jonathan Veira

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DSP00Y9UbA8>

7. It is well - Kristine de Marco

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T0dIWJ4t4Jg>

8. There is a redeemer - Keith Green

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C\\_YM\\_hYzcPo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C_YM_hYzcPo)

9. From the squalor of a borrowed stable - Stuart Townend

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YksTeR61O1I>

10. He will hold me fast - Keith and Kristyn Getty

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=936BapRFHaQ>



*Moira and John Shaw*

## KEEP THE STAMPS COMING, PLEASE!

Stonelaw's response to the Church of Scotland Stamp Appeal has been amazing. In December I sent off thousands of stamps and last month I delivered thousands more! A huge thank you to everyone who contributes.



Please keep saving your stamps in 2022! Just pop them in a bag or envelope and leave them on the table in the Meeting Place. I check for donations every Sunday. Thank you.

*Leslie Gibson*

<https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/connect/campaigns/stamp-appeal>

## Q AND A - WHAT IS AN ECO-CONGREGATION?



**Q. Perhaps you already knew that Stonelaw Church is now an Eco-Congregation, but what does that mean?**

**A.** It simply means that we've joined over 500 Scottish churches from Shetland to Dumfries and Galloway, in registering as an eco-congregation. Neil and the Kirk Session took this decision as our first step towards becoming a more eco-friendly church.

**Q. What is Eco-Congregation Scotland?**

**A.** *Eco-Congregation Scotland is a movement of Scottish church congregations, of all denominations and none, committed to addressing environmental issues through their life and mission.* Read more here: [www.ecocongregationscotland.org](http://www.ecocongregationscotland.org)

**Q. What next on Stonelaw's eco-journey?**

**A** We'll start thinking about which criteria we already meet, to qualify us for one of the eco-congregation awards. We'll also decide on steps we could take to help us meet the others. The first level of the award system is bronze, which recognises that: '*...a congregation is doing all the basics that we would expect from every eco-congregation across 3 broad areas: **spiritual living, practical giving, global living.***'  
Read more here: [www.ecocongregationscotland.org/award/](http://www.ecocongregationscotland.org/award/)

**Q What could we be doing as a church, or as individuals, to be more eco-friendly?**

**A.** Over to you now! Please send any ideas you have to Neil at [minister@stonelawchurch.org](mailto:minister@stonelawchurch.org) and/or to [magazine@stonelawchurch.org](mailto:magazine@stonelawchurch.org) and we'll include them in the April & May issue. The more the merrier!

## CAN YOU HELP IN THE CHURCH GROUNDS ON THURSDAY 10TH FEBRUARY?

The Stonelaw managers would like to tidy up the church grounds, just for a couple of hours, from about 2.00pm on Thursday 10th February. If you are able to help us, please come with gardening gloves, and if you have one, a litter picker. A pair of secateurs might also come in handy. All assistance will be very welcome! Thank you.

*Jane Paulsen*

## LETTER FROM THE TREASURER

Happy New Year, everyone! Apologies that this update is slightly briefer than usual and does not include the usual table.

I have thrown myself headlong into the task of putting together the annual accounts, which takes up the majority of my attention in this role at the start of the year. Therefore I hope you'll forgive me if I give you the headlines now, and fill in the details at a later date.

The good and the bad news is that our financial position has not changed significantly from the position Stuart and I outlined in early December. The General Fund made a small surplus in 2021, which was particularly pleasing as it was achieved without an appeal to the congregation. Replacing the old Manse significantly increased the reserves held to address both Fabric issues generally and the ongoing roof issues, as explained by Stuart.

However, the news is not all good. As you'll be aware, in 2020 the General Fund suffered a significant shortfall - and while the surplus in 2021 is obviously welcome, it has not made up for the 2020 shortfall. 2022 also looks likely to present many challenges. These include a significantly higher Church of Scotland Ministry and Mission allocation, in addition to the higher costs everyone is facing. On the other hand, the prospect of a year with fewer restrictions does offer the chance to meet some of these challenges without making appeals to the congregation.

As always, I would like to sign off by thanking the congregation for their support and generosity - whether in time, talent or money.

*Euan Campbell* Church Treasurer **07413 580 103** [treasurer@stonelawchurch.org](mailto:treasurer@stonelawchurch.org)

## 131ST COMPANY BOYS' BRIGADE

We are pleased to report that we are beginning a 'bring a friend' initiative, and with the excellent support of parents are attracting new recruits.

Our 2021 session finished with a trip to the Rutherglen Pantomime 'Sleeping Beauty'. This

was great fun and the reactions of our younger boys were hilarious. Some had never been to a panto before, and assumed, because the cast was mixing with the audience, that it would be okay for the boys to go on stage! Some swift footwork and explanations followed. When the 131st received a 'shout out' from the cast and a birthday wish for one of the boys, our street cred rose dramatically.

We started back on the Thursday 13th January, resuming an 8pm finish to allow more time for games, marching, crafts and Bible study. The enthusiasm the boys have for basketball gave us the idea of contacting Glasgow Rocks Professional Basketball Team at the Emirates Stadium in the East End of Glasgow. Their ticket office staff were very supportive, offering us great reductions. A discussion with boys and parents regarding possible family attendance has been well received. Watch this space!

131st Boys Brigade Company look forward to 2022 with enthusiasm, energy, (my poor legs!) and lots of fun. We will warmly welcome new members, so if you know of any boys aged 5-10 who would enjoy challenges, fun and making new friends, please share my contact details.

*Walter Smyth*, Lt. 131 Company Boys Brigade, Rutherglen.  
Mobile **07586 255466** Email: [walt\\_smyth@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:walt_smyth@yahoo.co.uk)





## RUTHERGLEN AND CAMBUSLANG FOODBANK

Thanks to everyone who supported this year's Reverse Advent Calendar! Between us we collected over 400 items for the Rutherglen and Cambuslang Foodbank.



The Foodbank Committee member, Anne Hunter, who wrote to thank us, said:  
*Thank you for the generous donation by Stonelaw Church members of items for the Foodbank. The regular collections of donations at local supermarkets are not sufficient to keep up with the volume of goods being distributed, so it was great to get things that we regularly run short of. Your donation helped to bring the spirit of Christmas into the lives of those facing hard times this year.*  
*Thank you again for your gift and best wishes to you all.*

Thanks again, Stonelaw, for supporting this appeal.

*Lesley Nisbet*

In her update for this magazine, Foodbank manager, Katharina Nimmo added:  
*Without these donations we couldn't continue our work of serving people in our community who find themselves in crisis. And with the cost of fuel rising so dramatically and the cut-back in benefits, there is an ever-greater need for our support.*

*Please keep the Foodbank in your prayers and keep collecting for us.*

*The items most needed at the moment are:*

- **Jam**
- **Sugar**
- **Small jars of coffee**
- **UHT milk** (full fat or semi skimmed)
- **Diluting juice**
- **Washing up liquid**

Thanking you for all your support,

*Katharina Nimmo*, Manager, Cambuslang and Rutherglen Foodbank

Mobile: **07393737030** Email: [info@rutherglencambuslang.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@rutherglencambuslang.foodbank.org.uk)

Website: <https://rutherglencambuslang.foodbank.org.uk/>

### WHERE CAN I HAND IN FOODBANK DONATIONS?

You can hand in goods **from any shop** at one of Rutherglen and Cambuslang Foodbank's permanent collection points:

- **MORRISON'S**, Cambuslang
- **THE CO-OPERATIVE, NATIONWIDE BUILDING SOCIETY, and LAURIE ROSS INSURANCE** - all on Rutherglen Main Street
- **BOOTS** on Rutherglen Main Street collects toiletries for the Foodbank.
- **TESCO** Dalmarnock, during the month of March, is a permanent collection point for the Foodbank. (This collection alternates month about with Glasgow SE foodbank.)
- **TESCO** Burnside donations go to FareShare, which fights hunger by supporting groups rather than individual households.

For more information about FareShare, go to

<https://fareshare.org.uk/fareshare-centres/glasgow-west-of-scotland>

## PRAYER REQUESTS FROM CAMBUSLANG AND RUTHERGLEN REACHOUT TRUST

Alison Kennedy has left her position as Youth and Schools Worker, and Reachout will miss her. Please pray for the finances that will enable us to hire a new worker.

We give thanks for the success of the Christmas Unwrapped and Boomerang projects, which were very well received. Please pray that these will be the beginning of a life of faith.

Pray that 2022 would be a good year for the Trust and that things can look a bit more normal.

*Greg Senior*

Reachout Trust, Cambuslang Parish Church, 1 Arnott Way, Cambuslang G72 7JQ

Tel **07837 193028** Email [greg.crrt@outlook.com](mailto:greg.crrt@outlook.com) Website: <https://crrt.org.uk/>

## MEET ASIF AND HEAR ABOUT OPERATION PHILIP



In Hebrews 13:3, Paul wrote, 'Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering'. (NIV)

It is estimated that more than 300 million Christians around the world are persecuted and oppressed simply because of their faith. Often, they are treated as second-class citizens and have to endure harassment in law and education as well as being denied access to services and employment. Please pray for our brothers and sisters who suffer terribly at the hands of dictators and governments in places like Uganda, Afghanistan and North Korea.

At the end of November 2021, Release, an organisation which supports persecuted Christians held its annual National Volunteering Conference on zoom. Partners, Hugh and Barbara (their full identity was not revealed) told us about their work in Central Asia, using broadcasting ministry to spread the gospel and strengthen the church. The whole experience gave me an insight into the real danger that workers like Hugh and Barbara face daily.

Later there were interviews with volunteers from Northern Ireland and Scotland (me!) to help encourage others to volunteer for Release in the own churches.

This month you can hear first-hand about Asif and his project, Operation Philip, which rescues Christians whose lives are in immediate danger, due to persecution.

- Hear Asif in person on **Wednesday 23rd February** at East Mains Baptist Church East Kilbride, at 7.30pm
- Hear Asif on Zoom on **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February** at 7.30pm. Book [here](#) or go to <https://releaseinternational.org/persecuted-christians-in-flight/>



Further details about these events are available at [www.releaseinternational.org](http://www.releaseinternational.org)  
Or, if you wish, please contact me for details. I hope that as many of you as possible will be able to hear Asif, either in person or online.

*Margaret A. Borland* Tel 647 5280

### CHRISTIAN AID SCOTLAND GATHERING ON ZOOM, 22ND FEBRUARY 10.00-12.00 AM

The Christian Aid Scotland Gathering is always good! It's in two parts. First we have a chance to find out first-hand about the work Christian Aid does on the ground. This year, we'll hear from a local worker in South Sudan, the country which is to be the focus of Christian Aid Week 2022. We found last year's speaker, from Ethiopia, very interesting.

Later, we'll see short videos featuring Scottish Christian Aid supporters' fund-raising efforts during Christian Aid Week 2021, with a chance to ask questions. If a recent Zoom recording worked, there may even be a 2-minute slot about Stonelaw's 150k in May!

You can sign up for the Gathering here: <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/events/gatherings>

### WHAT ABOUT TRYING THE 150K IN MAY CHALLENGE IN 2022?

Requests have already been made about repeating last year's 150k in May Challenge. Why? Because 19 of us took part, enjoyed it and helped to raise £1250 for Christian Aid. Why not think about having a go, if it's feasible for you? The format seems to suit people of all ages/levels of fitness/work and family commitments, as we each walk/wheel/jog/run at a time and place of our own choosing. It's definitely NOT a competition, but a personal challenge! See the April & May magazine for more details.

*Jean MacKenzie* and *Jill Rennie*

[hjmackenzie27@btinternet.com](mailto:hjmackenzie27@btinternet.com) [jillrennie@hotmail.com](mailto:jillrennie@hotmail.com)

## MOTHERS SUPPORTING MOTHERS AND CHILDREN IN SOUTH SUDAN



Mother-of-five Achoya, says the majority of pregnant mothers in her area did not have much knowledge about healthy eating. But that was before she and other mums like her took action, alongside Christian Aid's local partner in South Sudan.

The climate crisis, conflict and isolation have made diets very limited, and malnutrition rates high, in her area. Yet there are solutions, and Achoya, who trained to be a health facilitator with one of our local partners, is helping to implement one of them. She supports Mother to Mother groups and shares information about nutrition and the importance of breastfeeding. The group members then help to spread this knowledge to other mums.

Achoya also promotes good hygiene, which has meant more mums are delivering their babies safely in health facilities – and more newborns can be checked for malnutrition.

We are able to reach people in extreme poverty thanks to generosity from supporters like you. Thank you!

Read more at [www.christianaid.org.uk/our-work/where-we-work/winter-stewardship-2022](http://www.christianaid.org.uk/our-work/where-we-work/winter-stewardship-2022)



For two weeks each year, at the end of February and start of March, thousands of individuals, companies and groups across the UK come together to share the stories of the people who grow our food and drinks, mine our gold and who grow the cotton in our clothes, people who are often exploited and underpaid.

Can you help us get the message out even louder this Fairtrade Fortnight? Sign up now to receive an invite to our preview event and be the first to hear about our headline events!

<https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/get-involved/current-campaigns/fairtrade-fortnight/>

## WHAT IS FAIR TRADE?

Fairtrade is a system of certification that aims to ensure a set of standards are met in the production and supply of a product or ingredient. For farmers and workers, Fairtrade means workers' rights, safer working conditions and fairer pay. For shoppers it means high quality, ethically produced products.

Choosing Fairtrade means standing with farmers for fairness and equality, against some of the biggest challenges the world faces. It means farmers creating change, from investing in climate friendly farming techniques to developing women in leadership.

With Fairtrade you change the world a little bit every day. Through simple shopping choices you are showing businesses and governments that you believe in fair and just trade.

## MAGAZINE CALENDAR 2022

Month(s)	Deadline for submissions	Issue Date
April & May 2022	<b>13th March 2022</b>	3rd April 2022
Summer 2022	<b>15th May 2022</b>	4th June 2022
September & October 2022	<b>14th August 2022</b>	4th September 2022
November 2022	<b>16th October 2022</b>	6th November 2022
December 2022 & January 2023	<b>13th November 2022</b>	4th December 2022