

THE MAGAZINE  
OF  
NEW LAIGH KIRK  
Church of Scotland  
KILMARNOCK

Scottish Charity No.:SC031334

September 2023



"A caring welcoming church at the heart of Kilmarnock reaching out to all"

*Minister: Rev. David S Cameron, 1 Holmes Farm Road, Kilmarnock (525416)*

*Session Clerk: Mr Derek I'Anson*

*Depute Clerk: Mrs Margaret Patterson*

*Community and Families: Amy Tanner*

*Youth Worker: Rachel Taylor*

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### SUNDAY

11.00 a.m.  
11.00 a.m.

#### MORNING WORSHIP

Crèche (0 to 3 years)  
Ignite Children's Church (Age 4 --Primary 7)  
*Contact: Amy Tanner (07980 665432)*  
TrekkersNG (11-17 years)  
*Rachel Taylor*

5.30 to 7.30 p.m. *See Youth activities programme*

### MONDAY

7.15 p.m.

Guild (every second Monday)  
*Contact: Lesley Wright (523039) or Elspeth Dale (01292 541240)*

7.30 p.m.

Highlights (Mondays as per syllabus)  
*Contact: Eileen Murphy (543488)*

### TUESDAY

10.15 to 11.15 a.m. Tots Praise (Babies - 4 year olds)  
*Contact: Amy Tanner (07980 665432)*

2.00 p.m.

Music and Movement  
*Contact: Christine Kinnell (535190)*

7.00 p.m.

Badminton Club  
*Contact: Mr Alan I'Anson (07949 169051)*

7.00 p.m.

Session Meeting (Dates as arranged)  
*Contact: Mr Derek I'Anson (521445)*

### WEDNESDAY

2.00 p.m. Friendship Group (downstairs second Wednesday of each month)

6.00 to 7.00 p.m.

Rainbows  
*Contact: Sheena Baillie (07749 617204)*

6.15 to 7.30 p.m.

Brownies:  
*Contact: Fiona Malcolm (07903 212703)*

7.45 to 9.00 p.m.

Guides  
*Contact: Mary Dunlop (07519 124548)*

### THURSDAY

7.00 p.m.

Vestry  
*Contact: Rev. David S Cameron (525416)/Mr Derek I'Anson (521445)*

### FRIDAY

6.00 to 7.00 p.m. Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys (5 to 8 years)  
St. Marnock's Halls  
*Contact: Mr Stewart Chapman (07745162694)*

7.15 to 9.00 p.m. Boys' Brigade Junior Section (8+ to 11 years)  
St. Marnock's Halls  
*Contact: Elaine Park (533464)*

7.00 to 9.30 p.m. Boys' Brigade Company Section (11+ to 18 years)  
New Laigh Kirk Hall *Contact: Mr David McDonald (544037)*

Safeguarding Co-ordinators: John and Jamila McDowall

Safeguarding Panel Members: John Dale, Bill Sherry and Ellen Stewart

September 2023



Hello Folks

Here we are at the beginning of another new session. It seems that we never seem too far away from new beginnings, even as summer begins to draw to a close. What summer you might ask? Well June was nice. The beginning of a new school term, a new job, the beginning of a new session after a recent break. I hope you have enjoyed some time relaxing at home or away this summer. It is good to return from holidays renewed and relaxed and feeling good. I hope September follows the pattern of the recent years and provides some extra sunshine, extending summer into autumn to make up for the amount of rain we've had recently.

Even though we have just come through the holiday season, the work of our Kirk in mission and outreach continues throughout the year. We are a busy Kirk and a welcome place to many people. Amy and Rachel have just concluded our Going on Safari Summer club, another great event in our calendar, encouraging young people to explore a wild faith, engaging with stories of the bible in a fun filled way. We'll endeavour to keep contact and encourage all the children back for more fun and adventures through Ignite.

We also have another new beginning - our Union with St John's, which is now upon us. Due to unfortunate mindless wilful acts of vandalism it has been necessary to close St John's sooner than anticipated. The Union is formally recognised by presbytery as beginning from 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2023. A Service of Union will be intimated in due course. As folk from St John's tentatively come and attend worship in a new place. It will be unfamiliar and we welcome our friends with open arms, as we embark on yet another new beginning. St John's and New Laigh have shared many

activities through the years. We now become one congregation to meet the challenges of an indifferent society.

Our traditional programme of activities of all our organisations also gets underway this month. We are grateful to all those who commit their time and talent to the work of the church, to nurture young and old alike and provide a sense of belonging. Let us build from the strength of talent available and realise the vision to offer generous hospitality, social care, outreach, prayer and action to our town and parish.

When we engage with people within and outwith our church in the ministry of Jesus Christ, the Kingdom of Heaven is brought near in every loving, caring, compassionate, welcoming action. We are a caring welcoming church at the heart of Kilmarnock, reaching out to all with the gospel of Jesus Christ. The gospel encourages us to engage with all people. It is never an optional extra and we strive to do so prayerfully and faithfully.

The Psalmist wrote

*Trust in the LORD and do good;  
dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.  
Delight yourself in the LORD  
and he will give you the desires of your heart.  
Commit your way to the LORD;  
trust in him and he will do this:  
Commit your way to the Lord*                      *Psalm 37:3-5*

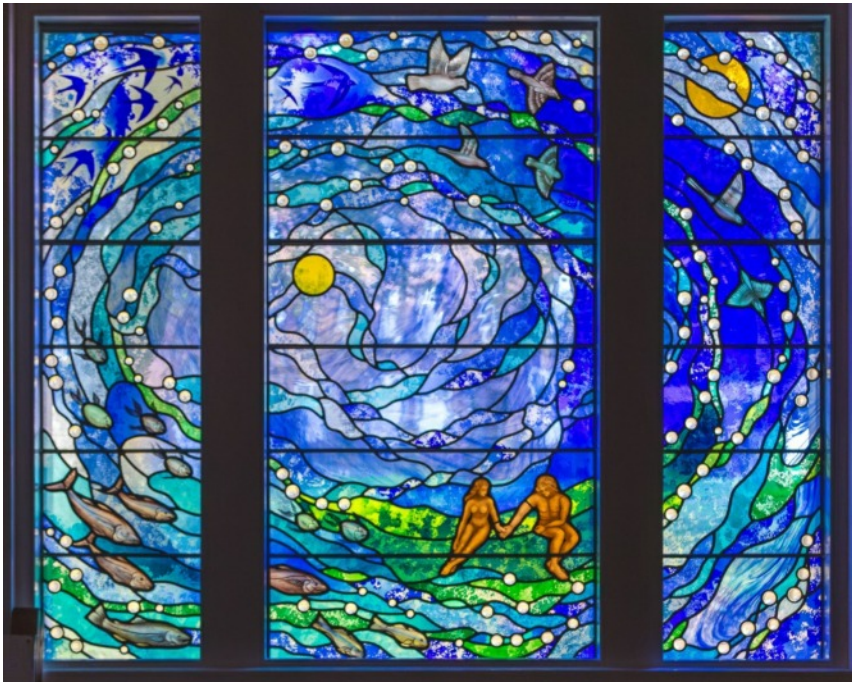
That is good advice for us as summer gives way to autumn and rest gives way to a new round of activities in our Kirk. The words *trust*, *delight* and *commit* are key to a successful year at New Laigh Kirk, as we all prepare to minister to our town and enlarged parish of the north west of the town. Let us *trust* in God to guide us in all we undertake, *delight* in what he is doing with and for us, and *commit* ourselves to

give the time and energy to being a caring welcoming church, as we exemplify the gospel of Jesus Christ in all our work.

With every Blessing and good wish to you in all you do for New Laigh Kirk in the coming months

With every Blessing and good wish to you all

David



New Beginnings Stained Glass - Susan Bradbury (Photo: Colin Brockie)



If you had to summarise Scripture in 12 verses, which would you choose?

Would it be these or something else?

1. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (John 1:1).
2. "So God created man in his own image; in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them" (Gen. 1:27).
3. "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel" (Gen. 3:15).
4. "I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your seed as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your seed shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your

seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed” (Gen. 22:17–18).

5. “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall have no other gods but me” (Ex. 20:2–3).
6. “When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever” (2 Sam. 7:12–13).
7. “For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people” (Jer. 31:33).
8. “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth” (John 1:14).
9. “But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed” (Isa. 53:5).
10. “Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here. He has risen!” (Luke 24:5–6).
11. “And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, Abba! Father!” (Gal. 4:6).
12. “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man . . . He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away” (Rev. 21:3–4).

## **Message From Amy**

Hello everyone! I hope you've all had a wonderful summer and are excited to be starting the new term.



We've certainly had a busy summer with NLK's first Summer Club in 4 years this August and we definitely brought it back with a bang! 'Going on Safari' was a well attended summer club, focusing on exploring faith in a wild way, which covered stories from the bible in new and interactive ways. We focused on an animal of the day, covering the snake in the Garden of Eden, the dove flying from Noah's ark and Jesus as the lamb of God. As part of our bible stories, the children got the chance to enjoy a visiting petting zoo from 'Sense of Nature', with a real python, tortoise, scorpion and more! On our last night, the kids also got to enjoy a silent disco, with headphones provided by Vibrant Communities, and of course, it wouldn't be summer club without ice cream from the Forum! We had such a fantastic summer club week and we were so thrilled to have so many kids from the community join in the fun.







I want to say a huge thank you to all the leaders and youth leaders who took time out to not only help with the summer club itself, but for all their help decorating and prepping our halls for the club, and church for the summer club service too. Without the magnificent team of volunteers this year, the club wouldn't have run as perfectly as it did, so thank you so much to the team! I also want to give a

special thank you to my colleague Rachel, who helped and supported in the running of the club. I am very grateful for her help and encouragement in my role with children.

Going forward, we have a lot to look forward to in the new term. We aim to welcome the Ignite children and team back with open arms, feeling refreshed and ready to dive into faith. We also have an autumn activity day out planned which we encourage all children to get involved in. Thinking forward again, (before we know it) the festive season will be upon us and there will be even more to plan for on the run down to the end of the year. Please stay tuned for all the events that we have planned for our Ignite families on our social media pages and intimations.

Recently, New Laigh Kirk updated its website which includes a multitude of sections offering vast amounts of information about our church and our halls. This new site offers refreshed information weekly, so if you're looking for information about what's happening in our church on a weekly basis, feel free to head over to [www.newlaighkirk.com](http://www.newlaighkirk.com) to see what you can get involved in. We also encourage organisations to either be in touch with me about booking our church or halls for term time use, as well as special events, or fill out the 'Booking Form' on our website should you wish to book the church or halls directly. Our bookings will be updated on our church calendar, visible in the 'Book Online' section of the website. If anyone has any other questions about the website or booking information, please feel free to be in touch: [amy\\_bh@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:amy_bh@hotmail.co.uk).

Amy



## **The Guild**

Our new Guild session begins on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September at 7.15pm in the church hall when we will welcome our minister David as our speaker. This is the third and final year of our “Look Forward in Faith” theme and this year’s topic is “New Wine, New Wineskins.” Don’t worry – the Guild has not taken to the drink! I think the reference suggests that the Guild is in a time of change, as is the Church in general. Membership throughout Scotland is rising and is about 10,000. Let’s hope we can add a few members to that total. Everyone will be made most welcome on the night, whether you have been before or not. The capitation fee this year is £15 but if you are joining for the first time, it will be free. Don’t say we’re not good to you!


We have had three informal meetings during the summer. At the end of June we had a cream tea to mark the King’s Coronation. The hall was suitably decorated, as were guild members in summer dresses, hats and fascinators. His Majesty did not appear but we did have Rae Lind as our guest. We all enjoyed a fun evening!

Our meeting at the end of July was used to complete answers to questions put to us by the National Guild about our experiences of and opinions on the guild, as they plan for the future. There was much discussion and reminiscing before we had our cuppas.

At the end of August we will meet to plan our coffee morning which will take place on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. I am sure we will be as well-supported as usual as we raise funds for the Guild projects. Then on the following Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> September, several members will be heading to Edinburgh for the Annual Gathering. The speakers are the Moderator, Rev Sally Foster-Fulton and Prof Jason Leitch. It will also be good to see the induction of our friend, Rae Lind, as the new National Convener. You'll hear us clapping! You can of course watch online on the day or even go along to the Howard Centre to watch in the company of other guild members. It starts at 11am.

As you can see, there is never a dull moment with the Church of Scotland Guild! Come along and join us for fun, friendship and fellowship!

Lesley Wright  
Convener.



### **Music and Movement**

Music and Movement will begin on Tuesday, 19th September from 2pm to 3pm in lower hall.

The group requires someone to lead the weekly sessions of this worthwhile group.

If you would like to help the group in this way, please feel free to contact Christine Kinnell on Tel:0777220176



## Christian Aid News

All over the world, the need is increasing. In the past year we have seen horrific scenes of devastation in the earthquake in Syria and Turkey, the floods in Pakistan, famine in sub-Saharan Africa in places where scarcely any rain has fallen for four years, not to mention people displaced by conflict and terrorists in Yemen, Sudan, Myanmar, Afghanistan and Ukraine.

In the face of such tragedies and unimaginable suffering, we may feel helpless. How can our tiny contributions make the slightest difference to people's woes? Think again as we remember the Starfish story.

*A man was walking on a beach when he saw a boy picking up something from the sand and throwing it into the sea, over and over again. He asked the boy what he was doing. "Throwing stranded starfish back into the sea before they die", said the boy.*



*The man replied, "You are fighting a losing battle, as there are hundreds of them here. Throwing back a few won't make much difference." "Well, "replied the lad as he threw back another starfish, "it made a huge difference to that one!"*

The moral of the tale is that if no one gives anything to those in need, nothing will happen, but if many people give a little, it does make a difference in people's lives.

Donations to Christian Aid from our church increased this year, thanks to collections in Christian Aid Week plus a concert in April. None of this would have happened but for the sterling efforts of Kilmarnock's Christian Aid Secretary, Helen Colman, and those who responded to her appeal for help.

It is amazing to think that Kilmarnock's Christian Aid Committee consists of Helen, a Treasurer and one other person. An appeal is therefore being made to all local churches for more people to join this Committee and bring in fresh ideas for new types of fundraising idea. The Committee is especially keen to hear from young people who will have novel ideas about what kinds of events will appeal to their age group and new ways of communicating with their generation.

Over the course of a year this is not a huge commitment, but planning for 2024 activities needs to start in autumn 2023. If you can help either by joining the Committee or by suggesting a brand new fundraising event, please contact:

Helen at [helenmcolman@gmail.com](mailto:helenmcolman@gmail.com)

Or

Barbara Graham at [barbara.graham74@btinternet.com](mailto:barbara.graham74@btinternet.com) or 01563-522108.

Thanks.



## Prayer Group

If you read “Life and Work”, the Church of Scotland magazine – which I thoroughly recommend for keeping you up to date with what is going on - then you will know that our minister David often has a featured article, in his role as Convener of Assembly Trustees. In August his article was titled, “A time for prayer and action” and he wrote about revitalising our presbyteries as a source of inspiration for worship and mission.

As you will know, David does his utmost to stir us at New Laigh Kirk into all kinds of action! We do our best!! He does of course also lead us in prayer during our Sunday services. However, it is up to us to keep on praying, on our own or in groups. As the apostle Paul wrote to the Thessalonians in chapter 5, “Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Jesus Christ.”

There are opportunities for group prayer at NLK. David organises an online prayer time which is usually on the first Wednesday of the month at 7pm.

For those who are not comfortable with technology, there is also Inspire! This small group meets in the session room in church on the second Wednesday of the month at 11am for a time of fellowship, reflection and prayer. We would be delighted to welcome new participants. Come along and give it a try.

And I had hoped to have a prayer chain up and running but to my great disappointment, only a couple of people expressed an

interest and they are both members of the prayer group. So, I am giving you one last chance! If you feel this is something you could do, then phone me on 07977532505 and leave a message if I don't answer. I will certainly get back to you!

But if group prayer is not your thing, then here are some suggested topics for your private prayers:

- Pray for our united congregation, that everyone will feel welcome and at home in NLK and for our minister, David.
- Pray for all the children of our congregation, whatever stage they are at, that they may know they are loved and valued.
- Pray for all those who don't come to church any more, especially those who are unable because of ill-health or infirmity. But also for those who have got out of the habit. Let them know they are missed.

And remember Paul's words – pray continually!

Lesley Wright.





## Pastoral Care Group

# Pastoral Care Group News

The aim of our Pastoral Care Group is to ensure that no one in our church family feels forgotten because they may not be able to come to church services. We offer support and friendship mainly to older members of our congregation, but also to anyone who is experiencing a difficult time in their life. If you would value any of the following services, please let us know.

- We visit people who are housebound at home or in care homes, or keep in touch via friendly phone calls.
- Twice a year we host Silver Sunday afternoon services led by our Minister in the church. We also invite our guests to enjoy afternoon tea in our halls in the spring and before Christmas, with entertainment and time to chat to friends. Of course, all these events include home baking, tea and coffee! Door to door transport is provided where required.
- We send seasonal gifts to housebound people.
- We lead worship in Argyll Care Home once a month.
- Some people simply enjoy reading our monthly newsletter and we'll be pleased to add you to our mailing list.

These activities cannot happen without a team of willing volunteers, who find immense satisfaction in befriending the people whom we serve. In recent years the number of helpers has reduced due to volunteers' circumstances. Without giving away

any secrets, I shall simply say that many of us have had a bus pass for quite a few years!

We are actively recruiting volunteers, especially as New Laigh Kirk's parish has greatly expanded following the union with St John's Church. The good news is that volunteers can choose the aspects of pastoral care work in which to be involved. Please consider whether you can help, either occasionally or regularly, in any of the following ways:

- Visiting or phoning people who are mainly housebound at home or in care homes.
- Delivering monthly newsletters.
- Delivering gifts at Easter and Christmas.
- Driving people four times a year to our Silver Sunday services and afternoon teas.
- Entertaining at our afternoon teas.
- Singing at our care home services.

Please tell us about anyone who could benefit from our services. If you want to find out more about volunteering, we'll be happy to speak to you. Please contact Barbara Graham at [barbara.graham74@btinternet.com](mailto:barbara.graham74@btinternet.com) or 01563-522108

# Highlights Klub

I hope you have all had a lovely summer, despite the weather, and that you are looking forward to our new session. Below is the syllabus for 2023-24, which hopefully has something for everyone. I look forward to seeing you all in September, and any ladies who wish to come along for the first time will be made most welcome.

## Highlights Syllabus 2023-24

**\*\*Please note our new starting time of 7.30pm\*\***

### **18th September - Cookery demonstration Cost £4.00**

Cookery demonstration and tasting presented by Chris Walker, followed by a welcome back glass of wine.

### **27th November – Merry Christmas Make-Over, Mulled Wine and Mince Pies Cost £5.00**

Festive make up ideas with a demonstration from Samantha Jackson, followed by mulled wine and mince pies, to start off the festive season

### **29th January - Keep Fit and Groove Cost £5.00**

A keep fit and dance workout with Alison Hunter (MusicAli). We will provide water and fruit for after the workout, but please also bring your own small bottle of water, to keep you hydrated in between dances..

**\*NB £10 deposit per person for our May night out is required by tonight**

### **25th March - Craft workshop Cost £10.00**

A craft workshop with Naomi Hume – make a beautiful gift to take home. Cost includes the workshop, all equipment and materials, and our usual refreshments. **NB £25 balance per person for our May night out is required by tonight.**

**29th April – Annual Charity Quiz in aid of Ayrshire Cancer Support**  
**Cost £6.00**

Teams of 6 – 8. Prizes, refreshments and raffle.

(As in recent years, we have had to add £1 to go towards the cost of refreshments, as recent price rises have eaten into our funds. £5 of the admission cost and all raffle money go to the charity as usual though, so please give generously!) **Please note this will be held in the downstairs hall.**

**20th May - Evening out - Talk, Tour and Afternoon Tea at Lamlash House**  
**Cost £35.00\***

Visit to Lamlash House in Newmilns - illustrated talk about the history and restoration of the house, a tour of some key rooms and stained glass windows, then afternoon tea (in the evening!) Drinks will be available to purchase separately, if you wish, in the Strongroom Bar.

Time to be confirmed.

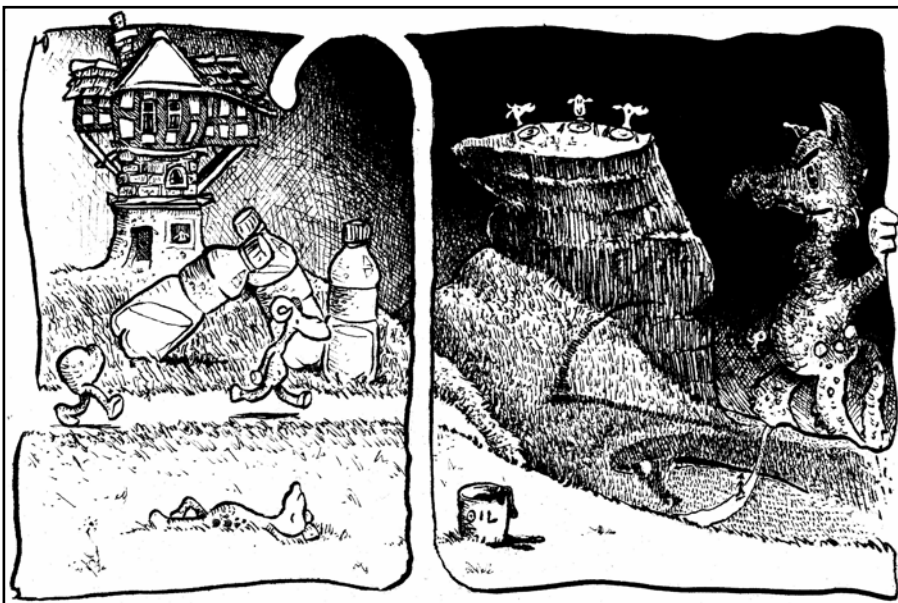
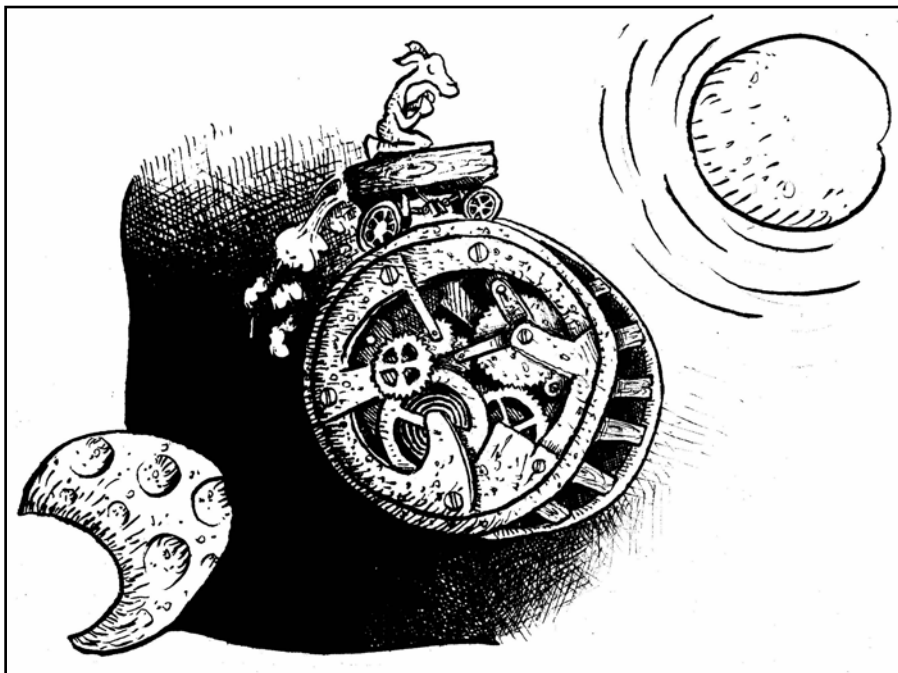
Names of Highlights members **only** can be given to the committee from now until January, when we will open any remaining places to friends of members. Maximum of 30 places – allocated on a first come, first served basis. (Deposit due by January night and balance by March night please.)

Janis, Laura, Kathryn and I look forward to seeing existing and new members at any of our evenings. If you have not been before, please do come along, either on your own or with a friend – you will receive a very warm welcome. Unless otherwise stated, we meet at 7.30pm in the Upper Hall. For further information, please contact me on 543488 or 07887 541651, or any committee member.

Eileen

## Cryptic Biblical Cartoons

The two cryptic cartoons below, created by Gus McLeod, each depicting a different bible passage. Can you guess them? Answers on page 28





## **We are Fair Trade Kirk We are an Eco-Congregation**

When the union that created New Laigh Kirk came into being we inherited from Grange Church eco-congregation status. Eco-Congregation is an ecumenical programme helping churches make the link between environmental issues and

Christian faith, to respond in practical action in the church, in the lives of individuals, and in the local and global community.

However much has changed in the way that eco-congregation operates, so it is suggested we begin the process again, so all of the congregation of NLK is on board with what we are doing and trying to achieve, and where possible linked to our Mission Plan.

This is not about creating a new committee to take us forward but merely a small group to collate all we already do and need to do to truly be an Eco-Congregation.

Our first task is to create a formal plan as outlined by eco-congregation. This is done by using an evaluation template provided for that purpose. This is a whole congregation journey not just our Minister, office bearers and organisations, so you may be asked to assist in answering a questionnaire.

With the echoes of Cop 26 still reverberating around the world, now is the perfect time to put into action Monday to Saturday, the words that are preached from the pulpit on a Sunday. At our recent Family Communion sermon, the words “No individual can live alone, no nation can live alone, and anyone who feels that he can live alone is sleeping through a revolution” were used. Martin Luther King spoke those words. King also stated that, “Before you finish breakfast this morning

you've depended on more than half the world". This fact shows how our habits affect others globally, as the Global South strives to feed the Global North.

We, as a congregation, connect with each other plus others in our community locally and others we do not know or see globally. We do it in a Christian manner that hopefully is eco-friendly.

The two quotations from Martin Luther King can be used as inspiration for the way forward. In the coming weeks and months more will be shared.



### **Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning**

A coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support will be hosted by our Kirk Session in the morning of **Saturday 30th September** in the John Finnie Street halls. All welcome. Home baking, raffle, bottle stall. Please come along to support this very worthwhile cause.



## EACH

Each person matters

*Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SC052257*

*Commit your way to the Lord;*

*Trust in him and he will do this:*

*He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn*

*The justice of your cause like the noonday sun. Psalm 37:5-6*

East Ayrshire Churches Homelessness Action (EACHa) was formed as a charity in 2005, and now comprises around 22 participating churches. New Laigh Kirk has taken a leading role from the beginning, and we are privileged to have been allowed to use our John Finnie Street hall to host our Community Friends drop-ins.

Our other congregations support the charity by providing food, toiletries, household goods, Christmas gifts, cash and volunteers. We could not manage without our partner churches.

Our aim is and has always been to prevent or reduce homelessness. The Community Friends drop-ins provide a one-stop shop for anyone in need, whether simply in need of a hot meal or a food parcel, or requiring assistance with housing, debt, benefits, mental or physical health, or support on their recovery journey. We also provide haircuts, dental advice and eye checks. Our drop-in is the place where our professional partners know they can find their 'hard to reach' clients. One of our homelessness nurses put it like this:





Haircutting

*One of the most remarkable aspects of EACHa Drop-In is the collaboration with other support services. By working alongside EACHa volunteers , nursing, housing agencies, benefits services, community well-being cops, oral health professionals, and peer recovery supports, EACHa has created a network of care that extends far beyond the immediate individual presence of each agency. This multidisciplinary approach allows us as nurses to address the diverse needs of our service users comprehensively, ensuring they have access to the resources and support systems necessary for their well-being.*

We also aim to meet our clients' wellbeing needs. Hot meals are available at our drop-ins – breakfast on Mondays and Fridays and a hot dish such as mince and tatties on Wednesdays. Everyone is offered a food parcel to take away. Service users are involved in planning the meals, quite difficult when some say tuna pasta is their favourite, and others say 'anything but tuna'!

The aim of the Friendly Fresh Start project is to help people settle into their new homes, and avoid repeat homelessness. Many of the items in the FFS packs have been donated by church members, and we are very grateful for these. Cleaning materials are also very welcome, allowing the recipients to take pride in their own new homes.

Donations of essential household goods can be delivered to our premises at 32B Grange Street, which is staffed Mondays and Wednesdays, 9am till 12noon.

From time to time we receive donations from local supermarkets, most recently a donation of new clothes from Tesco Extra.



Tesco clothes donation

The Recovery Hub celebrated its 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday on 1<sup>st</sup> August. Can it really be just a year since the John Finnie Street Hub opened? They have gone from strength to strength, and have made a real difference to many people. It is bursting at the seams, and weekly sessions include: New Heights walking group; Recovery Rocks music group; AA and CA meetings; Veterans group, Thrive for women.

Anyone is welcome just to walk in, no appointment needed. There is always someone available to help.

International Overdose Awareness Day is on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> August. This was a huge success last year, with people marching from the North West Centre to the Howard Park, where there were several inspirational speakers, including the then Minister responsible for drugs policy, Angela Constance. It was a very poignant day, many of those present marking the loss of a loved one to overdose.

This year's walk is from Patchwork, in Wellington Street, to the Howard Park, where there will be many stalls, speakers and attractions. There will once again be a Rose Ceremony, where people will have the opportunity to remember those who have been lost to overdose. Fingers crossed for a repeat of last year's sunshine!

September is Recovery Month, so expect to see local buildings lit up in purple. It is a pleasure to see so many recovery groups, including the

Hub, working together, treating people in a respectful, non-judgemental way, walking with them along their recovery journey.



International Overdose Awareness Day 2022

Everyone, whether a user of Community Friends or the Hub – or both – is an individual, with his or her own story. Our role is to listen, to understand, and to offer hope. To make a difference. We would love to be able to close the doors as we are no longer needed, but sadly there is still work to do.

We appreciate all your support - we could not manage without you. Have a look at our new website, and please contact any of us if you'd like further information.

Emma Wylie Springer tel 07871 153458

Janice Grant tel 07581 722331

[www.eacha.org.uk](http://www.eacha.org.uk)



## Open Doors

New Laigh Kirk is open on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 12noon to 2.00pm. The church will be open for those who want to come for a period of solitude or reflection, to see the stained glass windows from the inside or to find out some of the history of the church and town.

As some of our more elderly volunteers have decided to retire we urgently require some more volunteers during the autumn, especially men, to welcome the visitors, so if you could spare a couple of hours every month to six weeks, we would be delighted to hear from you. There will be the opportunity to volunteer on different days as volunteers are contacted in advance with suggested dates and shifts are arranged to suit people's commitments. This is an ideal opportunity to meet different people as you do not necessarily have to be on duty with the same people every month. We would be grateful if you could spare the time to help at a couple of sessions occasionally if you are unable to help on a monthly rota.

If you would like to be included in the rota, please speak to Helen Colman, Email: [helenmcolman@gmail.com](mailto:helenmcolman@gmail.com). Remember that the more volunteers that there are, the less often you will be on duty!

### Cryptic Biblical Cartoons

The answers are

"Pray continually" 1 Thessolonians 5:17,

And

Psalm 23.

## Eco-congregation Scotland – Update

A big thank you to all the members, of all ages, who contributed to the Eco-congregation Scotland self-assessment survey in June. Your assessment of where we are as a congregation aligned with our application and the application for bronze status was submitted at the end of June.

At the time of writing, we have not yet met with the Eco-Congregation Scotland assessors but hope that this next stage will be completed shortly. However, initial feedback was the application was very good, so fingers crossed!

But the work won't stop here – a couple of members did pass on other thoughts for improvements and developments within the eco-congregation work and the small committee will consider these as part of the ongoing work.

And there will be a section within the new website for NLK – please look out for hints, tips, updates etc on our eco work, reducing energy and unavoidable waste on the website as well as information on Fair Trade being shared on the NLK members Facebook page.

Lots going on, lots still to do and lots to achieve but often it is the small changes that can have the largest impact – we are all asked to what we can do to look after our homes, our Church, our town and our world in an ever changing, ever challenging climate.

With thanks again to those who have helped or helping with the eco work and I hope we can share some positive news in the next newsletter.

Elaine Paton



# Church Register

## Funerals

19 June 2023 Betty Locke (M), 49 Rugby Road, Kilmarnock

27 July 2023 Cathy McCrumb (M), 8 Nth Hamilton Place, Kilmarnock

10 Aug 2023 Hugh Ralston, 5 David Orr Street, Kilmarnock

28 Aug 2023 Roddy Fraser (M), 4 Maple Place, Kilmarnock

My world is one great  
wailing wall.  
The sky has fallen and no one seems to notice.  
God almighty who why am I all alone.  
Couldn't you O God  
come and sit with me by the waters of Babylon.  
Couldn't you come and sit with me  
on the trouble of the temple.  
Please O God rebuild my world.  
Have mercy on me  
for I am all alone,  
no one sees that the sky has fallen.  
No one O God  
no one but you.  
All knowing God  
you are the only one  
who can put the stars back in place.  
Take pity on me and hold up the sky.  
I will walk by the river of hope  
and you will find me there  
and you will reach out your hand

and push the heavens back into place  
and I will give thanks  
for you will be with me.  
You will put the stars back in the sky.

Amen





Kilmarnock Amateur Operatic Society (KAOS)



kilmarnock\_amateur\_operatic

[www.kaos-operatic.co.uk](http://www.kaos-operatic.co.uk)

# KAOS IN THE KIRK



**KILMARNOCK AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY  
PRESENTS AN EVENING OF MUSICAL HITS!**

**29.09.23  
7.30PM - FREE ENTRY!**

**NEW LAIGH KIRK  
3 JOHN DICKIE STREET  
KILMARNOCK  
KA1 1HW**

