

West and Wardlawhill News

MAY 2024



Rutherglen West and Wardlawhill Parish Church is a congregation of the Church of Scotland and a Charity registered in Scotland, Charity Number SCO 07585

www.westandwardlawhill.org

Hello from the Interim Moderator again,

I'm just back from my Easter holidays – by the time you read this, about four weeks ago. It's that thing that Ministers do after the excesses of Easter – go somewhere for a quiet week.

Ours was five days. So Siena is quite the place. We flew to Florence from Glasgow and then did the train to Siena – a bit like the train journey from Glasgow to Edinburgh, in journey time at least! The accommodation was great; the architecture amazing; and, most importantly, the food wasITALIAN!!

The fact we were there in April meant we were missing the enormous crowds for 'the Palio' – two horse races staged in the central palazzo (famously not a square shape, more like a fan) in July and August. It is often assumed they are staged for the tourists – they are emphatically not! They are run among the contrades of the town – that's the small neighbourhoods that very competitively vie with one another in various ways throughout the year. The two horse races being the most famous. In Glasgow terms, think in terms of the '12th of July' crossed with the Ayr races all happening around George Square. But in April you get none of that..... or so we thought!

On our first morning there, we awoke to a series of small parades by our hotel. Hanging out our first-floor room window we heard the marchers first, getting louder and louder with each passing second. While it was initially just the drums, when they turned the corner we saw all the pastel-coloured outfits and the highly-colourful flags. 'Flags' doesn't really do it justice.

These 7 or 8 man teams come from all over Siena, each from their own contrades with the specific flags for their contrade and the drum players. It was an event where they all met in the palazzo – we followed 'our' team (!) and saw the whole cavalcade arrive beside the central tower. I think the local Councillors were there too.

Then they all went home. Our initial response was that it seemed to have been put on just for us. But more and more, what I took from it was just the sheer bravura of the whole spectacle. It seemed like a lot of hullabaloo for not much at the end. But they didn't care – they just went for it. Simply for the unadulterated pageantry of it all – it was simply stunning.

Some things do just catch you off guard. These Siena folks just do this. It's who they are. Whether the tourists are there or not they just get on with doing their thing. Boy do they ever.

Roughly 5% of the population of Glasgow are in church on a Sunday morning. We can analyse why it has declined to that number until the cows come home. I think more and more we need to be besotted about what people think about us less and less. Let's do our thing. Whatever it is we are doing, just do it as a Christian would it. Do it openly and without apology. But just do it. I was left so impressed by the Sienese people because they just got on with what they have done for centuries. In the right sense they don't care.

So let's be clear: I'm not saying waving flags and wearing pastel colours is the new missional outlook we need to adopt – I really don't look good in turquoise. It really is the attitude of mind ultimately, rather than some particular choreography. It's about the freedom to simply greet the world with that quiet confidence that says, I'm a Christian. Not arrogance – but confidence. The obvious Bible verse would be 2 Timothy 1:7-8.

For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline. So never be ashamed to tell others about our Lord.

So at Landemer Day, on holiday or in your back garden this summer, can we bring some of that Sienese confidence into following Jesus? Not so much drums and volume but that ability to do life with that openness about who we are and whom we serve. Together with an absolute 'not caring' about what people think of your faith.

Jesus thinks you are to die for – that should be enough for all of us.

Grace and peace

Ian Cathcart



From Stuart, our Worship Team Leader

Hi All, just a quick thank you to all of you who supported my Dad, myself and the family at Mum's funeral at the end of December last year.

I realise that it has taken me a fair bit of time to get back to you all but from the bottom of our hearts we thank everyone for their kind support and words, it meant a great deal to all the family.

Next, I would take this opportunity to invite anyone with any issues, personal or otherwise, to please contact someone in the congregation or myself if there is anything the church can support with. Our doors are always open and I am on the phone 24hrs a day so don't be frightened to pick up that phone and call, only too glad to be of assistance when I can.

We have had a few illnesses recently and I just wish all a safe recovery from their issues and just letting them know they are not alone so don't feel you are, the church is with you as is the Love and Grace of God.

It has been nice to see some fresh faces attending the church recently and I am hopeful that will continue. As we all agree our doors are open to all but it's obviously something you all are doing that is having this effect - so keep it going and well done, it might be the coffee - obviously the best cup of coffee ever (smiley face). Whatever it is, it's not my reflections!

I attended Pastor Rosa's church downstairs at our Western Avenue Halls, with oor Kim. We had a really good time in worship with them. I came out with my ear's ringing though as Kim decided to sit under the speaker. However, we thank Pastor Rosa for her invitation, and I look forward to going back and worshipping our God with them again. It was good fun and a good time with all the congregation. Pastor Rosa has built a very vibrant church there, and I recommend it to all.

By the time you read this, I'll have been off to Dutch land and that's why I didn't take the service on 29th April. Alistair and some of the Worship team took on that responsibility and a big thank you from me for your support, which I heard went without a hitch. I am told the brownie cakes are (in Dutch land) of a required taste, so I think I will be participating in that with my mother-in-law as she loves a brownie cake with her coffee (stay by the phone in case we need bailed out).

I noticed that Rev Ian Cathcart has posted some authors for you to peruse and I thought I would join him in this. Anyone interested please find a copy of Helmut Richard Niebuhr (Christ and Culture) 1955. He is a middle of the road theologian, and this book is said by

some to be a book on ethics. However, notwithstanding this, he does give 5 interpretations on how Christ and Culture clash. It's not that big of a read and maybe you can tell me what you think.

I look forward to seeing you all after my short trip away with the family.

God Bless you all.

Stuart Harbinson

PASTORAL LIST

Funerals (*Denotes Church Member)

19th April *Elizabeth (Betty) Alexander, Coldstream Drive

Alistair McInnes

Session Clerk

USEFUL CONTACT INFORMATION

MINISTER
Vacancy

All enquiries regarding – weddings, baptisms, funerals, illness etc., in the first instance contact the Session Clerk.
Enquires for pastoral care, please contact:

Stuart Harbinson – [REDACTED]

SESSION CLERK
Alistair McInnes
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

TREASURER
Kim Jackson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

MAGAZINE EDITOR
Margaret Feeney
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



From the Editor

Items for the June magazine to be handed in by Sunday 26th May. Magazine available Sunday 2nd June.

Please note there will be no issue of the magazine July and August.

Items for the September issue of the magazine to be handed in by Sunday 25th August. Magazine available Sunday 1st September.

Margaret Feeney - Editor

50th Anniversary

RUTHERGLEN LANDEMERE DAY
Saturday 8th June 2024

The 50th Landemer Day is fast approaching, if you or someone you know, would like a stall this year, please contact [REDACTED] Jim Nixon [REDACTED]

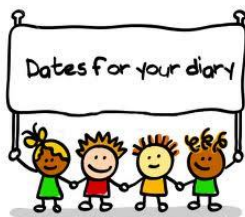


CORRECTION



The BB Quiz held in mid-March was a family fun night. It did not have a Raffle, and the sum raised was £28 not £400 as stated.

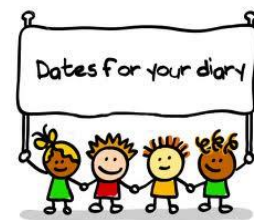
Alistair McInnes
BB Company Captain



SUNDAY 12TH MAY 2024
STATED ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Following Morning Worship

Monday 3rd JUNE 2024
Session Meeting – 7.30pm

Monday 10th JUNE 2024
Board Meeting – 7.30pm



Christian Aid Week: 12-18 May 2024



7 days – so many ways to make a difference. So many ways to fund lasting change. This Christian Aid Week, what will WE do??

Donations, time and prayers will help push back the scandal of poverty and secure a better future for our neighbours. With our fundraising, gifts, prayers and actions, we can help others transform their lives.

Donation Envelopes are available and the plight of “Aline” from Burundi is highlighted on the back of the envelope.

Please give generously.

Rutherglen Christian Aid 2024 150K in May Challenge:

Last year, alongside Rutherglen Churches, we set ourselves the challenge of participating in the daily 10,000 step challenge. This proved to be a very successful fundraiser not only in monetary terms but by causing an exciting buzz each Sunday as participants discussed how many steps they had managed that particular week. I am confident that we will have the same level of excitement as we challenge ourselves to join the 150 K in May challenge. 150 K equates to 93.2057 miles, which divided by 31 days is just over 3 miles per day. 25 days (before receipt of magazine) is equivalent to 3.7 miles daily. WE CAN DO IT!!

These May Challenges have raised more money each year and is open to anyone who'd like to try walking, running, jogging, cycling, swimming – whatever! It's very flexible - just fit in the exercise around your own commitments, whether this be any of the above or perhaps gardening, vacuuming and just keeping active. And if, for any reason, 150K in a month seems a bit ambitious, you're welcome to team up with one or two others and challenge yourselves to cover the distance between you. The 150k in May is a team challenge, not a competition! Each person (or small team) aims for an average of 150k, but those who go further will balance out any who run out of time or energy.

Please add your name to the Participants List and uplift a sponsor form and I will get back you. These can be found in the T-Bar.

Together we are focused on supporting people to push back against the inhumanity of poverty and to build a better future.

Let every step bring food security, better health, safer homes and increased hope to all in need.

Christian Aid Week Paper Quiz:

Another Challenge – not physically but mentally!!

30 Questions, with the answer being an animal/creature.

Quizzes are priced at £1.00 and are available at the T-Bar or at Church Door.

The winner will be announced at the end of the month and the prize is a £10.00 shopping voucher.

Good Luck!!

Jesus showed us what love is by laying down His life for us.

This Christian Aid Week, help to reflect that same sacrificial love through generous giving and courageous action for those in need.

Blessings to all

Isabelle Tennent

(Christian Aid Committee)

**WAYS
&
MEANS**

"FILL A SMARTIE TUBE"

AMOUNT RAISED SO FAR - A FANTASTIC - MOUTH WATERING -

£ 602. 52

WELL, it seems our church members, family and friends certainly enjoyed their smarties, once eaten, replacing the empty tubes with such VERY GENEROUS donations, as you can see from the figure mentioned above. Thank you to every single person who took part in this particular fundraiser - members and non-members alike.

Although our cut-off date was the end of April for the return of your filled tubes, of course we will be delighted to continue receiving them, especially as we realise some people may have only recently picked up a tube of smarties from the T-Bar or front door of the church and are still in the process of filling it up. We will let you know if and when the great total above increases even further.

Thought you would like to know, we hear some church members now have a craving for smarties, something they had never eaten before and even checking in with myself as to the handiest place to purchase them - please don't tell your dentist who is to blame for your new habit!!

LANDEMERS DAY EVENT - SATURDAY 8th JUNE **Celebrating its 50th Anniversary**

Once again we are taking our Church to Rutherglen's Main Street, this year taking part in Landemer's very special 50th Celebrations. Let me remind you of the total amount raised last year - **£1428.80** - thanks in no small part to your kind donations, both monetary and in goods towards our stalls and very importantly the amount of help given to the Committee, which enabled us to pack up at the halls - very early, transport everything to the Main Street, unpack onto our stalls, serve the public from 10am till around 3pm, pack up and return home to the halls for our clear up. Yes, a lot of packing and unpacking which I'm afraid comes with fundraising away from our home-ground, Impossible to do without the marvellous extra help which was offered by quite a few people. **We look forward to this special help once again on the 8th of June.**

Our stalls this year, situated in our usual spot, just before the Town Hall coming from the West end of the Main Street, are - Small new gifts - Cake and Candy - T/Coffee/Soft drinks - Hot Dogs - Rolls in Sausage.

If you have any enquiries on your proposed donations to any of these stalls, in particular regarding goods needed for the catering side of things, please have a word with either myself or Sandra Blakeley any Sunday morning. Committee members will be in our halls on **Friday 7th June 10am till 12noon and 7pm till 8.30pm** should you wish to pop in with any goods. Regarding 'monetary' donations, as in the past some of these if required, will be used to purchase anything still needed for catering purposes. (If more suitable, donations of home baking can be handed directly into our stalls on Saturday morning 8th June.)

OUR LANDEMERS DAY COMPETITION

As you will no doubt have become used to, we have a Competition for you to take part in which adds to our Landemer Day fundraising. So what do we have this year? We ask you to go to our "table-top beach" situated in the T-Bar (Yes! in the T-Bar!) and - **"FIND THE LUCKY BEACH BALL!"** Simply choose a beach ball, numbered between 1 - 150, write your name and contact details, then place your beach ball in the sand. The lucky number will win a £50 cash prize to spend any way you choose over the summer weeks. Your choice of a beach ball will cost £2.

Our Competition will be available on three Sundays running up to Landemer Day -**Sundays 19th and 26th May and 2nd June.** Total amount raised from our stalls combined with the Competition will be announced on Sunday morning 9th June, along with our prize winner. This information will also appear in September's magazine. Look forward to seeing you at our "T-Bar Beach"!!!!

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:
Tuesday 21st May 2024 - 7.30pm
in Committee Room

Morag Smith
Ways and Means Convener



The volunteers at the cafe are delighted to welcome you each Tuesday morning (10.00 a.m until midday) to enjoy not only the best filled roll, sweet treats and tea/coffee, but also a hand of friendship.

You can hear the buzz of conversation from friends old and new as you enter the halls, and if you are coming for the first time, you will be welcomed by smiling faces, inviting you to sit at any table.

The cafe is open to all, not only church members, and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Richest Blessings

Isabelle Tennent on behalf of the Cafe Team



Garden Team:

Commencing work on the gardens for the first two weeks, saw sunshine but cold winds.

This was a change from the previous rainy Saturdays and provided an opportunity to mow, weed and turn over the soil which resulted in a pretty landscape around the front of our church. Not an easy task for the Young at Heart, although not so young bodies but we do enjoy the fruits of our efforts.

We will continue each week to maintain the grounds and appreciate the positive comments from church members and from passers-by who stop and admire the colourful borders.

Once again we are sending out an S.O.S for help, especially regarding the grounds at the side of the sanctuary;

So, if you have a free hour or maybe more some Saturday morning, please join us in keeping this oasis weed-free.

We promise you a cuppa and biscuit for elevenses.

Thank you in advance.

God Bless

Isabelle Tennent (On behalf of the Garden Team)



Do you enjoy crochet, knitting or just nattering? If so, join our friendly group on a Friday afternoon (2.00 – 4.00 p.m) in the Baker Hall.

We continue to knit or crochet items for Care Homes, Charities, Hospitals or for family/friends.

We welcome anyone to come along and have an enjoyable couple of hours and if not productive, certainly a time of stories and laughter.

We always look forward to rounding off the afternoon with a cuppa and sweet treats. For a fun filled afternoon come along to West & Wardlawhill Busy Fingers.

Blessings from All

(Isabelle Tennent for Busy Fingers Group)

RUTHERGLEN & CAMBUSLANG FOODBANK

This year the Foodbank reaches its 10th Anniversary, marking this with a “Thanksgiving” event, bringing together supporters and volunteers, past and present. The event will include hospitality and a short presentation, but mainly an opportunity for people to chat and share their experiences of the Foodbank.

I have represented W & W since the concept of a Foodbank in Rutherglen and find the experience humbling but rewarding. I am but one of over 100 volunteers and it is not only food being offered to those experiencing food poverty, but we lend an ear to each client and sign post them to other agencies for the help we cannot provide.

I would like to offer my thanks for the generosity of you, our church members. Not only do you offer food, toiletries and monetary donations, but you show a sensitivity to those in need and an appreciation for the work of the Foodbank. Unfortunately, even after 10 years, the number of single persons and families who come for help to put food on the table is not decreasing and it is only with donations from churches, businesses, supermarkets etc., that we are able to provide this service.

Please pray that while necessary, we will have the stocks to continue our service, but also that in the near future, foodbanks will not be required.

Isabelle Tennent

(Foodbank Duty Manager)



**ROTAS FOR
MAY AND JUNE**

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE READERS

MAY

5th M Smith
12th D Aitken
19th S Rowan
26th A McInnes
30th M Ross

JUNE

2nd M Grieve
9th A McMillan
*16th K Jackson
23rd M McInnes

*Communion

Alistair McInnes
Session Clerk

DOOR AND OFFERING PLUS COUNTING DUTIES

5th May, 2nd and 30th June

C-K Johnston, C-M Feeney, C-S Brown, C-J Duncan,
A Kennedy, C-D Baird, C-D Smith, C-K Jackson
Beadle: C-A Chambers

12th May and 9th June

C-E Ross, C-E Reid, C-S McDonald, C-M Ross,
C-A McMillan, C-M Cruthers, C-D Smith, C-K Jackson
Beadle: C-J Brown

19th May and *16th June

*Communion
C-M McInnes, C-A McInnes, L Fotheringham,
C-T McEwan, C-S Kerr, C-D Smith, C-K Jackson
Beadle: C-S Blakeley

26th May and 23rd June

C-L Fletcher, C-K Mann, C-D Fraser, R Tennent,
C-S Harbinson, C-D Smith, C-K Jackson
Beadle: C-I Tennent

Alistair McInnes
Session Clerk



5th & 12th May, *16th & 23rd June

L Fletcher, V Rowan, A Chambers,
G McMillan, H Mulholland

*Communion

19th & 26th May, 30th June & 7th July

I White, N Hay, K Johnston,
E McMillan, J Doherty

2nd & 9th June

S Blakeley, B Reid, S Kerr,
J Brown, M Ross

Morag Smith

T-Bar



CHURCH FLOWERS

MAY

5th M Feeney
12th M Smith
19th J Doherty
26th M Feeney

JUNE

2nd M Smith
9th J Doherty
*16th M Feeney
23rd M Smith
30th J Doherty
*Communion

Morag Smith

Church Flowers

CHURCH FINANCES

MARCH 2024

Receipts
Payments

£12472
£12295

YEAR TO DATE

£23049
£28657

Surplus/Deficit

-£ 177

-£5608

Flower Dedications

Robert McPhail (Bob)
7th May 2013

In loving memory of a beloved husband, father, father-in-law and Papa Bob
Never Forgotten xxxx

Margaret, Andrew, Stuart, Karen, Cathy, Katie, Ellie, William and Janet.

On the 19th April my beautiful husband Gordon McKinnon who passed away 2022 would have been 69yrs old and on 23rd April my mother Margaret Madden who passed away 2020 would have been 85yrs old. We miss you both so much and hope your partying in heaven.

Love you both
Isobel, Charles and Stuart xxx



A very sincere 'Thank You' for the lovely Church flowers delivered to me by Margaret Cruthers after the loss of my dear sister, they were very much appreciated, also the thoughts and prayers of my friends, thank you all.

Margaret McPhail

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, my fellow members at West and Wardlawhill for the kind wishes and prayers offered during my time in hospital and for my recovery.

I do miss the fellowship and also being able to welcome you into the church and see your smiling faces each Sunday and of course, being involved in other groups. By the power of your prayers and God's Grace, I hope to be back soon. God's Richest Blessings to you.

Robert (Tennent)

Thanks were received from the Foodbank for the sum of £220.30 which was donated following our Easter Week Services.

Shh it's not a secret

Prostrate Disease Awareness Evening

Wednesday 15th May 2024 @ 7pm

Cambuslang Tabernacle Hall

Tabernacle Lane, Cambuslang

In Conjunction with **Prostrate Scotland**

Cambuslang Freemasons are Hosting
a Prostate Disease Awareness evening

This event is **OPEN to ALL** – Not just Freemasons!

Wives, Partners, Family & Friends

All welcome

The Aim is to Raise Awareness about Prostate
Disease which effects 1 in 2 Men over 50

Prostate Cancer is the most common Cancer
Amongst men in Scotland and may affect 1 in 10 during their lifetime.

Presentations will be given by Prostate Awareness Champions.

Come and enjoy Tea / Coffee and biscuits.

We Look Forward to Seeing You There!



THE GRAND LODGE
OF SCOTLAND



Praise in the Park

On the 2nd of June the Churches in Rutherglen are hosting 'Praise in the Park' at the bandstand in Overtoun Park as we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the reintroduction of Landemer Day within the town.

PICNIC: At 12 noon gather at the Bandstand.
Bring a picnic (& something to sit on)
Races and Games!

&

PRAISE: At 12.30pm we'll join together and sing a selection of traditional and modern hymns performed by the Salvation Army Band, Revd Neil Watson & Fr Stephen Reilly.

In the event of bad weather we'll relocate to Stonelaw Parish Church, Stonelaw Rd, Rutherglen.