

Kilsyth Anderson Parish

Church News

Aug / Sept 2025



Dear friends,

On Sunday afternoon, the 17th Aug, the Scheme of Delegation appointed by Glasgow Presbytery delivered their prayerful and considered recommendations to both congregations, Anderson and Burns & Old, as to which Church building is to be retained for worship in Kilsyth. In September Presbytery will be invited to vote on the recommendation. Not an easy decision. And though the recommendations were received with dignity and grace, It was obvious that half of the gathering left with sad and heavy hearts.

On leaving the meeting, I prayed that God would give me a word for the people; Hebrews 13:1ff came instantly to mind, ***'Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters.'*** Or, as the King James version of the Bible says, ***'Let brotherly love continue.'***

Well, I'm sure you already know that the city of Philadelphia was named in 1681 by William Penn. He chose the name "Philadelphia" which is Greek for "***brotherly love***", It's derived from the Greek words "philos" (loving) and "adelphos" (brother). Penn envisioned the city as a place of religious tolerance and peaceful coexistence, and the name reflected this idea.

Penn was a Quaker but did not come up with this word himself, rather, he borrowed it from the New Testament Scriptures, with which he was well versed. It was Jesus who commanded His followers to ***'Love one another as I have loved you'*** John 13:34.

Hebrews 13:1 reminds us that true Christian Faith expresses itself through practical action, hence the words of exhortation in verse one following of the last chapter in the letter, ***'Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters.'***

I digress, albeit briefly, to give context to the above verse. The writer of Hebrews reminded the people, that while running the race of faith, they are to focus on Jesus, Heb. 12:1-2.

However, some runners may have had the idea, that in order to be successful, they should see other competitors as the opposition, and so ignore them and their needs and hope they would fail. Not so, says the author, we are all part of the same team, and each team member is given the injunction, **'keep on loving one another.'**

The writer reminds them that active team members, present some of the following characteristics or actions.

- a. They offer hospitality to strangers, **'2 Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.'**
- b. They show empathy and display genuine compassion for people in need, **3 'Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison.'**
- c. Also they live above human lust and greed, **4 'Marriage should be honoured by all, 5 Keep your lives free from the love of money.'**
- d. Respect, and pray for their leaders, vs. **7 'Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you,'** e. And do not be tempted to take the easy road, **9 'Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings.'**

Why should they *'trust and obey'*? Because of the glorious promise given by none other than God the Father.

5' God has said, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.'
6 So we say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?'

Where God the Father is, there is always an ample supply, for His resources are eternal. If God's presence is constant, then we need not fear for He will provide the necessities of family and church life.

Things may change; will change, leaders come and go, but Jesus remains the same; He does not change, and for that reason they are to fix their gaze on Him, **8 'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever.'**

Our Spiritual Leader is not an unelected dictator who drives you from behind. He is the Good Shepherd who goes before and leads the way. Do not be afraid to trust, follow and confess Him as your Saviour and Lord.

Blessing from a fellow traveller,
Kenneth.

Scheme of Delegation Report

Sunday 17th August was the date appointed for the three members of the Scheme of Delegation to report back to the congregations of Anderson and Burns & Old with their recommendation for which building will be retained for the new joint congregation.

In Anderson we met as usual for morning worship and Mr MacLeod preached from Jeremiah 29 on the theme of "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" which was very fitting.

There was then a congregational lunch after which everyone made their way to the Church of God to hear what Rev Andy McIntyre minister of Patrick Victoria Park, Rev. Dr. Ruth Morrison, minister of Kirkintilloch St. Mary's and Mr. Ian McVean, property conveyor for Perth Presbytery had to say.

In coming to a decision, Mr McIntyre said that many submissions had been considered including reviews from both congregations, Property reports, Presbytery asset reports, last year's accounts, the Parish Profile 2021, the Presbytery cluster mission plan and some emails received. The group had prayed a lot for direction and while a decision could have been announced in May, the summer was left for further reflection.

He spoke with great empathy and understanding under 6 headings: Prayer, People, Property, Pounds, Potential and Proposal saying ultimately that people are the heart of the church and he was greatly uplifted by the grace and courtesy that had been displayed by both congregations to each other throughout the previous months when meetings were ongoing.

The recommendation which will be put to Presbytery was in 5 parts

1. That Anderson Church is retained as the principal place of worship
2. That the sanctuary of Burns & Old be sold, let or disposed of
3. That Glasgow Presbytery reserves the final decision.

Two further recommendations were outwith the original remit, and it is for Presbytery to decide whether these are accepted.

4. Investigate whether the B&O Hall can be separated from the sanctuary and used for mission in the community. A detailed plan to be drawn up and costed not later than one year from the date of union.
5. In the event that number 4 is rejected, it is for Presbytery to decide to sell/let or dispose of the halls.



Christians Against Poverty Befriending Unwrapped Invitation

Special information evening on Monday 25th August designed to showcase the life-changing work CAP is doing in our community. We have had another of our clients go debt free since sending the initial email which takes us to **102 cases debt free** and **£1,335,133.06** since we opened!

At this event, you'll hear:

- Real stories of local people who have been supported through debt and crisis.
- How churches and individuals are helping clients not just financially, but spiritually and relationally—through the vital role of **befrienders**.
- The exciting partnership we have with **SU Scotland**, offering opportunities for young people from CAP-supported families to attend camps that can shape their future.

Whether you're already familiar with CAP or just beginning to explore how you can engage with social justice and local mission, we'd love for you to join us. There's no commitment required—just come along, listen, and see where God might be leading. There will be the opportunity to ask questions to our amazing debt help team as we explore CAP, its mission and your role in it!

Please let us know if you or someone from your church would like to attend. We'd be delighted to welcome you. Join us from **6:30pm** onwards for tea and coffee before our **7:00pm** start at **Kirkintilloch Baptist Church**

2nd Kilsyth Girls' Brigade.

Margaret and Jean would like to thank everyone in our church family for the support they have given to the 2nd Kilsyth Girls' Brigade over many years. As the company moves forward with Jacqueline Gore and Mhairi Mcfarlane as Joint Leaders in charge we wish them every success. They will be supported by Katie Gordon who is a leader in the company and soon to become an Officer.



Unfortunately, we were recently informed that two leaders will not be returning to the company and we will miss their input. We are hoping to get the support of some other leaders, even on a part time basis, but this is still to be confirmed.

If anyone in the Church feels they would like to be involved please speak to one of us. This is how I first became involved in the 2nd Kilsyth by answering an item in the church magazine written by Jacqueline, nine years ago.

The first night of Girls' Brigade will be on Tuesday 26th August with an Enrolment and games evening. The Officers and Leaders look forward to meeting with the girls again and any new girls are always very welcome.

Explorers, Primary 1-3 meet at 6 -7.15pm.

Juniors Primary 4-7 and Brigaders Secondary years 1-6 will meet at 7pm-8.30pm.

Jean Ewen

Annual Stated Meeting

A meeting was held in the Church following the morning service on 22nd June.

Graeme Barrie, interim moderator, chaired the meeting at which the accounts for year 2024 were presented and considered. Thanks to generous giving of members, the bank balance is in a healthy state. Mr. Barrie thanked all who helped in any way with the running of the Church – cleaning, flower arranging, gardening, catering, organist, technology etc and of course our dedicated and inspiring locum, Rev. K.D. MacLeod and his supportive family.

Sharing our Holiday Experiences

Another year and yet another holiday on Arran, so please let me share our visit to Arran in 2025.

Arran is a wonderful Island off the West Coast of Scotland and is often referred to Scotland in Miniature. Villages are close to one another and many offer lots to see and do. As in past years we were based in Whiting Bay, a lovely village with shops including a Deli, a Craft shop, Post Office, Chemist, a lovely restaurant (The Shore), Arran Art Gallery and an Eco Savay Shop (2nd hand / previously loved items) , Petrol Station and Hardware, not to mention the Jetty and the Sea Views.

Whiting Bay also has a Church of Scotland, however, when we are on Arran we always go to the Church of Scotland at Brodick (St Bride's) and once again we were warmly welcomed. With many Churches now closed on Arran, the congregation come from many villages on the Island, so they come together for a cuppa before the service (11.30am). Sadly, there is no Sunday School, however the good news for the Church of Scotland on Arran is they have now called a full-time Minister: Rev Dr Knowledge Zinduru, he and his wife and family (2 sons) are in early days on the Island and I am sure we all wish them every Blessing in their Ministry on the Island.

Our holiday was a bit different this year as Bill now uses a 'stroller' to get around, but as usual with us, it did not hold us back, even if it was a bit slower. We visited Arran Art Gallery, The Lagg Distillery, did some various walks and had some lovely meals. We also visited Arran Heritage Museum which had a pop-up exhibition celebrating 100yrs of the Scottish Women's Institute on the Island (See Picture of Banner). Arran has so much to offer everyone from the youngest to the oldest and

of course the weather was kind,

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so you won't be surprised to hear we are booked up for 2026.

Catriona C Clark



Gardens

For many years the Church grounds and gardens have been cared for, kept tidy and replanted with plants and flowers as and when required. Plants have been pruned and weeds removed.



Some people have come and gone from the wee group who did this work, but there were always two stalwarts. These two ladies have now decided that it is time to hang up their gardening tools and have a well earned rest.

We say a huge 'Thank You' to Marion Cowie and Margaret Laird who have done a power of work over the years. We've been told 'The pots will still be attended to.' Thanks for that – the pots are so welcoming at the front door.

The Kirk Session will now consider how we care for the grounds at their next meeting.

The Bible Come to Life Exhibition has a large model of the Temple, a model of the Ark of the Covenant, a Jerusalem backdrop, original Torah Scrolls, clothes of the period - so we may have the High priest, Roman soldier, Shepherd, camel owner walking around and we have a (nearly) life size camel. There are stands on Judaism, Christianity, and the Biblical Feasts, as well as explanations in all the other areas. There is a Bedouin Tent, with all the accompanying artifacts and though Abraham was not a Bedouin, he would have used tents in his travels. Dan Boot, who runs the BCTL, has recently made a tomb complete with a stone that rolls to the side and has been working on a pyramid!



Where

Partick Victoria Park Church, 259
Dumbarton Road, Partick, G11 6AB

Exhibition open

Monday 25th to Wednesday
27th August, 10am to 4pm then 6pm
to 8pm. Please book ahead by
emailing pvp.rev@outlook.com or
messaging 07952852049 to guaran-
tee a space.

Malawi statistics

70%

live on less than £2 daily

35%

Food inflation making it
one of the worst in the
world

85%

People living in rural areas,
dispersed across the
country

Imagine longing for God's Word... but knowing you can't afford it due to inflation and poverty.

For 14 years, Bettie in Malawi longed for a Bible but the cost was simply too high. The cost of a Bible in Malawi can be as much as a week's wages. Local churches and ministries are doing all they can, but many believers are still waiting and praying.

The Bible Society of Malawi cannot afford to meet the overwhelming need for God's Word without support from people like you.

Find out more at www.scottishbible society.org

St Mungo's Church in Cumbernauld was a striking landmark until it was burned down in a devastating fire at the beginning of August.

The Church building was part of Trinity Parish Church, a union formed from Cumbernauld Old Church and Kildrum and St Mungo's churches only a year ago and was used by many community groups including Cumbernauld Gaelic Choir. The community hub, based minutes away from the church, would use the building for some bigger events or activities, including a weekly café offering free breakfasts.



When buildings are very much in our minds, please pray for the poor souls whose church has been deliberately destroyed to find a new place to worship in the coming months and years.

Thanks

We would like to thank everyone for cards, gifts and flowers given to us for our Diamond Wedding Anniversary.

A special thanks to William and all who helped to prepare and serve the beautiful church lunch. Everything was such a total surprise!

It was good to be with our Church family on our special occasion.

God bless you all.

Jean and John Weir

Many thanks to one of our members - don't want to name her, but she'll know who she is - who asked that I receive some of the flowers which

she had donated. They were really appreciated and lasted for about two weeks.

Christine Johnston

Elsa and John Gordon would like to thank everyone who offered their condolences on the passing of their aunt May Mathieson and also for the flowers given to Elsa.

Thank you very much for the lovely flowers from the church delivered by Alison. They were very much appreciated.

Kind Regards,

Clem Bryden



The Deep Waters Programme

People often have complex emotional responses to the climate crisis, including grief, anger, blame, and many others. Deep Waters aims to help people navigate these responses through a Christian lens of love, wisdom, and justice, and to lead people into a place of active hope.

Deep Waters can be used in a church context and seeks to be a practical resource for pastoral needs.

Do have a look at the details of the course on these pages: <https://borrowedtime.earth/programmes-of-mutual-support/deep-waters-programme/>

The next Deep Waters course will run from 7pm – 8.30pm, Mondays 8th September to 27th October 2025 inclusive, on Zoom.

Celebrations

During the month of June we discovered that one of our faithful couples would be celebrating their Diamond Wedding Anniversary early in July. It is not a common occurrence to have a Diamond Wedding celebration and so plans were then secretly drawn up to have a congregational lunch complete with a special cake to help them celebrate.

Just days before the date of the lunch, plans had to be changed rapidly. We had not one, but two 'Diamond Couples' – married in the same week in 1965. A cake had been ordered and at the last minute two extra names had to be added! A phone call was received asking 'Have there to be FOUR names on this cake?' YES!!! In Anderson we don't do things by half!!

And so, on the last Sunday in June, a large group of members along with some family members celebrated the diamond wedding anniversaries of Kathleen and Ian Ross and Jean and John Weir.

Both couples cut the cake simultaneously and both received flowers and a quaiach engraved from Anderson Church to mark the occasion. Both also received congratulations from the King on the dates of their anniversaries.

The Kingsman Travelling Theatre Company

30 & 31st August 2025 (3 performances)

Book your ticket at <https://lanternhousearts.org/>

Up A Close is the story of Joanna, looking back on her life in her Partick tenement flat, when her husband doesn't come home one night, she reminisces on her marriage, her children, the wonderful times she had growing up in the mid 70s with her mum, dad and her auntie Sandra. Her best friend Anne Marie, the nuns and dancing up the toon to the Bay City Rollers. The audience will laugh and cry and identify themselves in this brilliantly written and acted play of tough love and hope and laughter, full of nostalgia, poignancy and fun and Pure Glasgow banter.



Funerals

I am the resurrection and the life

June – Jessie Clelland

July - Barbara Fleming (Babs)

Scripture Union Scotland.

I want to give thanks for the many camps, missions and holiday clubs that have been run by Scripture Union (SU) this summer.



SU Scotland

- Over 2000 children and young people attended SU holidays.
- Over 1300 children attended 32 Community based missions across Scotland.
- Over 1500 young people attended Magnitude in July.

Magnitude is a five-day annual Christian youth festival for young people aged 11-18. Based in the breath-taking Lendrick Muir, near Kinross, it is a week like no other: a space to encounter God, enjoy community and experience nature together.

SU considers the impact that Holidays, Missions and Magnitude have had on young people and pray that through exploring the Bible, many have and will respond to the significance of Jesus.

We pray for the schools that will be restarting their SU groups and that many new children will attend. We pray and give thanks for the many people who volunteer for SU, also for our local Regional Worker Karen Stangoe.

Jean Ewen

Dates –

21st August – Meeting of Kirk Session

29th August—Drop-in starts again

9th September—Glasgow Presbytery meeting

14th September - Joint meeting with Burns & Old in Anderson

21st September – Communion

Thanks to all who bring items for the **Foodbank** each week

When Anne handed in the last lot of items they asked for certain items:

Long life milk - semi-skimmed & whole milk

Dinner items - Tins of chicken, steak in gravy, haggis, or any other tinned dinner items

Packets of Mac & Cheese, Savoury Rice, cereals etc

Jars of cooking sauces

Tins of meat and fish

Also they are asking for dessert items - creamed rice, custard, tins of fruit also Tea, Coffee and sugar, diluting juices

Please make sure that items are in date as they can't accept out of date items

Items can be put in the box in the vestibule on a Sunday or you can hand it into the Foodbank on a Monday or Wednesday from 12noon - 2pm at their place in the Main Street

Boys' Brigade



The BB year in May ended with a slightly different "Parents' Day". This year we hosted a sandwich lunch and awards ceremony for all of the boys and their families. This was very well received. We also took 30 boys and girls to Dalguise for our annual camp. This was once again a wonderful weekend, filled with lots of fun and laughter. We took part in a few new activities which everyone loved. We are booked again for next year!!

We also have several boys working through their King's badge. We spent some time over the summer discussing plans for them to move forward with this over the next 12 months. These boys will be spending time in other areas of the Company over the next year or so and we look forward to watching them develop as leaders.

And just like that the summer is over, the boys are back at school and the BB returns. We start back again on Wednesday the 20th of August, and all timings remain the same. Any boy of any age would be made most welcome to come along and join in.

Scott Anderson, Captain

Thanks

Thank you very much for the beautiful church flowers and for the kind thoughts and best wishes.

Elsie Brown

Please accept my thanks for the flowers received from the church. They were absolutely beautiful.

Linda Irvine

I would like to say a big thank you for the beautiful church flowers I was so kindly given on Sunday 20th July. They really brightened up my week. It was a lovely surprise.

Grace Gray.

I've been lucky enough to receive flowers from the church twice recently and I would just like to say thank you to everyone involved.

Blessings to all.

Margaret Laird.

I would sincerely like to thank the church very much for the beautiful flowers I recently received'. They were very much appreciated. Thank you.

Aileen Anderson

Thank you to our Flower Ladies for the lovely arrangement we received from the Church recently. They were beautiful as always and much appreciated.

Ann and Allan Smith

Grateful thanks for the beautiful church flowers and to Allison for delivering them. It was a lovely to see her and we had a nice chat
Thank you

Elizabeth Anderson

Thank you for the beautiful flowers that I was given to me a few Sundays ago. It was a lovely surprise and very much appreciated.

Aileen Mitchell

I would like to thank you for the beautiful flowers that I recently received. I was a lovely surprise

Elaine Anderson

Ian and I would once again like to thank everyone for our celebratory lunch and also for the lovely flowers, gifts and cards we received. It was a wonderful surprise .

Kathleen Ross

Thanks for the lovely flowers which Margaret Martin delivered to me. They brightened up my day. I miss coming to Church so much, but it is good to be remembered.

Margaret Kennedy

Thanks for the lovely flower arrangement which I received. It is very much appreciated - thanks for thinking of me. I miss everyone at the Church and hope to be able to join you again at some point soon.

Anne Strang



JAM Club

Thanks to Marion Cowie for donating some sunflower plants to the JAM club. We had a whole lesson based on these beautiful plants, including some sunflower seeds to taste.

We were reminded in Hebrews 12:2 and John 8:12 that we should always turn towards Jesus to help us grow in faith. Just like the sunflowers who follow the light of the sun.

Thanks to Olivia for sharing her sunflower photo.

JAM Club day out

JAM club are planning to have a day out after church on Sunday 31st August. We will have lunch & some games afterwards. All children are invited to come along and bring their well-haved Mum, Dad, Gran too !



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Pizza Night

On 30th July, Anderson Church hosted a Pizza, Chips & Movie night.

With Jenni from KCC, we welcomed 14 teenagers along to the Wyper Hall. Everyone mucked in to create an exciting range

of pizzas, with different toppings.

The younger ones stayed on after dinner to watch Peter Pan. Later on, we chatted about the pros & cons of “never growing up.”

Church Fayre

The Church fayre, held back in June which seems a world away now, raised the magnificent sum of £2510. As always there was a great selection of cakes and sweet treats, bric a brac, smellies, books & CDs, clothes and jewellery on the stalls and the tea room was doing great business in the small halls. Thanks to everyone who donated or helped in any way at this important fund raising event.



Copy deadline for the October / November magazine will be Sunday 5th October for distribution on the 12th.

Please send emails to andersonchurchmagazine@outlook.com meantime or give your articles to Rona McFadyen on a Sunday.

Rotas

Week ending	Door Duty	Reading	Cleaning	Tea & Coffee	Flower donations
Sun 24 Aug		Jim Millar	Team 1 Sat 23	J & G Ewen, O Brittian, M Laird	Olivia Brittian
Sun 31 Aug		Olivia Brittian	Team 2 Thu 28	E Gordon, A Mithcell, H Provan, M	Margaret Whitelaw
Sun 7 Sept		Jean Ewen	Team 3 Thu 4	K & I Ross. A Sneddon, G Whyte	William Shaw
Sun 14 Sept		George Ewen	Team 4 Sat 13	M Brown, E Gordon, A Mitchell, A Sneddon, M Whitelaw, C Clark	Cathie McIlwain
Sun 21 Sept		Jean Chalmers	Team 5 Thu 18	J & G Ewen, O Brittian, M Laird	Jan Bateman
Sun 28 Sept		Anne Sneddon	Team 1 Sat 27	K & I Ross, H Provan, G Whyte	Allison Russell
Sun 5 Oct			Team 2 Thu 2		Helen Provan