

Holytown Parish Church

260 Edinburgh Road, Holytown, ML1 5RU : 01698 832622



Spring Fayre

The grand total raised at the Spring Fayre is revealed!



What's On

A comprehensive list of all the events you need to know about.



Children's Corner

A little space for the little members of the church.

What does 2018 mean to you?

Caryl Kyle

If you are a woman ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament, as I am, it means that on the 22nd May 2018 the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland will celebrate the historic 50th anniversary of their decision to ordain women as ministers of Word and Sacrament. On that day all women in ministry, as well as their friends, family and colleagues, are invited to process up The Mound into the quadrangle of New College to pay tribute to the role of women in the church.

You may have read recently in Life and Work Dr. Lesley Orr, the woman organising the event, speak of this being a good opportunity to recognise the many women who have contributed to the Church of Scotland.

Her words were: "This will be a simple, public and dignified procession to honour the pioneer women (and men who supported their call) who first walked this way - remembering also those who knocked but were not allowed to enter - and to celebrate the manifold gifts and service of

women in ordained ministry over 50 years, 1968 - 2018."

You see on Wednesday 22nd May 1968, the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland passed a deliverance 'that women should become eligible for ordination to the ministry of Word and Sacrament on the same terms and conditions as men'. This decision came after decades of debate and through the faithful endeavor of women who believed they had the right to test their vocation to ministry, and it brought new opportunities and new challenges.

It cannot be denied though that that decision changed the face of the Kirk.

After the vote, Mary Levison, whose petition helped break the impasse, commented that, 'The Church no longer regards women as second class citizens. I hope this decision will have a liberating effect right through the Church'.

It did for around 30% of ordained ministers are women, serving in variety of diverse contexts and situations.

While this is something to celebrate, and while yes, we should give thanks for those women who have paved the way for us, there is always a hope within me that there will come a time when we don't need to celebrate in this way, a time when gender does not determine whether a woman is fit to become a minister or not, a time when women are not excluded by some churches seeking to call a minister, a time when male and female ministers will happily walk together as equals sharing the mission of bringing about God's kingdom.

So we will celebrate the pioneer women on the 22nd May 2018 but we will also hold on to that hope that there will be no need for celebrations such as this in future years and pray that it might be so!

If you are a young person then 2018 means that this is your year!

For in case you have not noticed 2018 has been designated by the Scottish Government as the Year of Young People and the Church of Scotland has made this their particular focus this year too.



Throughout the year the National Church is encouraging us to become involved in this initiative and to explore new ways to involve and recognise children and young people within the life of the church.

We are being encouraged to think about how we enable the participation and involvement of children and young people and to celebrate who they are and what they are involved in in all areas of their lives and, of course, we are all encouraged to pray for children and young people.

Both our Kirk Sessions have undertaken what is called the 'Children and Young People Healthcheck' which is like the baseline of where we are now and we have signed up to the charter and as such we have made the following promises to our children and young people:

We promise to:

- Get to know you
- Listen to you
- Share faith with you
- Pray with and for you
- Involve you
- Help keep you safe
- Help develop your gifts
- Enable you to grow in your relationship with God

Having made these promises we now have to work at keeping them - so watch this space as we begin to get our children and young people more involved for they are such a blessing to us!

2018 Blessings to you all!

Caryl

(Please note: Resources for the **Year of Young People** are available on the church website at: http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/resources/children_and_youth)

You are invited to share in Communion on
Sunday 3rd June 2018 at Holytown Parish
Church at 10am.



What's On

Equip for Sports

Saturday 8 September 2018, Bankfoot Church Centre, Perth | 10am-3pm | £14

Join us for our first-ever Equip for Sports event, featuring **Mark Fleming**, from **Sports Chaplaincy UK**, encouraging our churches to use sport as a way of connecting with our communities. Choose from a range of workshops - you'll find something to suit, whether you're already involved in sport, or just wanting to get started.

Workshops:

Getting the Ball Rolling (with Robbie Morrison)

Are you up for a challenge? Help create a new sporty resource for churches by participating in a fun, lively brainstorming session to form the basis of a resource for churches.

Christians in Sport (with Kirsten Ross)

We will consider how you and others from your church can engage with the hundreds of sports clubs and communities and share the good news of Jesus, in both actions and words.

Hands-on Sports (with Rob Rawson)

Have fun while learning how to run a variety of quick and simple games for any number of people, using traditional indoor sports such as table tennis, pool, and Unihock. Be prepared to have a go - *it's better felt than telt!*

Recognising & Developing a Sports Parish (with Neil Urquhart)

God is into sport and loves people who do sport! Encouraging Christians to be salt and light in sport and leaders to find new and imaginative sporting opportunities, teaching new life skills and helping people to get closer to Jesus through sport.

Showcase your church

Does your church currently use sport as a way of connecting with your community? We are offering churches the opportunity to share their work with others attending the conference, and will have an exhibition space in the foyer. One complimentary ticket will be available for every church taking advantage of this offer. Contact dknowles@churchofscotland.org.uk (link sends e-mail) for more details.

National Youth Assembly 2018

The National Youth Assembly is a platform for young adults to voice their opinions and actively participate in decision making within the Church of Scotland. NYA this year runs from 5pm on **Friday 17 August** - 5pm on **Monday 20 August**.

Held annually the residential event is for young adults aged between 17 and 25 that have some connection with the Church of Scotland. Attracting folk from all over Scotland (and beyond) with different backgrounds it's a chance to get together, worship together, learn together, discuss together and work together.



Learning Disabilities Conference 2018 - Being Communities of Belonging

When: Saturday 16 June 2018

Where: St Matthew's Church, Tay St, Perth PH1 5TF

When: Coffee from 10am for 10:30am start. Finish at 4pm

Cost: £15 (lunch is provided)

This will be our third Learning Disability Conference. The conference looks to share good practice from those who are living and being communities of belonging.

The event will have a celebratory air as we review the suite of resources created by the Learning Disability Working Group over the last few years. We will take time to explore these interactive tools, equipping you to use them fully wherever you are in the journey: Reflecting, Creating, Being or Celebrating Communities of Belonging.

The day will include:

- Interactive worship
- Instructive workshops on how to create change in your communities of faith
- Time to listen to the input of those with Learning Disabilities
- Meeting contacts from your local area to create meaningful networks

For more information email Wayne Morris (link sends e-mail) or call 0131 225 5722.

Book your place before 4 June 2018.

Praise Gathering

Praise Gathering has its origins in a choir which came together in 1985 to sing 'Psalms Alive' songs, inviting singers - skilled and unskilled, but with a heart for God - to come and take part in this corporate act of Praise.

Tickets are now on sale for Praise Gathering 2018 and the dates are as follows:

Perth Concert Hall, Saturday 16th June 2018. Box office: 01738 621031.

Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, Sunday 24th June 2018. Box office: 0141 353 8000.

Weekend of Invitation

A new event taking place this June is aiming to encourage and empower church members worldwide to invite new people to church.

During the National Weekend of Invitation, from Friday 15 - Sunday 17 June, churches across the UK are encouraged to host an event to which members will feel they can invite friends.

The weekend is being held in partnership between churches, including the Church of Scotland, and Michael Harvey, founder of Back to Church Sunday in the UK.

Fresh Expressions!

Described as an event to help you create something new, this event is for you. If you'd like to know what a fresh expression of church might look like in your parish. Come along to this free event to hear more. No need to book, just arrive! The event is being held within Motherwell South Church on 20th June 2018 from 7 - 9pm.

Trip to Oberammergau Passion Play

The Rev Robbie Hamilton is organising a trip to the Oberammergau Passion Play in July 2020. If you are interested or require any further information please contact Robbie himself at RHamilton@churchofscotland.org.uk

Social Committee / Friends of Holytown

May McNeil

Taylor Fashions

Around 50 attended our fundraising event on 9th May. It was a really successful evening from a fundraising perspective as we raised the not inconsiderable sum of £348. Brian was the most amusing host and everyone present warmed to his sense of humour. After his presentation, many bargains were to be had. After the purchases had been made, food and refreshments were served in the lesser hall. Thanks must go to Robert Ferguson and Cynthia Boyd for all the time and effort they put in towards making this part of the evening a success. Thanks also must go to our two models, Rebecca and Kirsten who started their stuff with great panache.

Found

In the offerings at the end of last year (possibly Remembrance Sunday) and old penny (1d) was received as part of the offering.

Did you or anyone you know put it in the offering bag by accident?

Please see me or contact me for further details as I would like to return this to its rightful owner.

Susan Reid - 01698 732904

Spring Fayre

This year's Spring Fayre was held on Saturday 28th April and like previous years, was a great success!



Isa Hinshelwood would like to thank everyone who was involved with the Spring Fayre; our Minister Caryl, James Coyle, everyone on the committee, the treasurer Syd McCartney, Linda for all her help, all the stall holders and Bill Jenkins for taking photos on the day. A big thanks goes also to all those who donated goods or funds. A special thanks again to the ladies in the tearoom as it is a hard shift but needless to say, everyone appreciates the tea, coffee and home baking! Thanks to all the bakers and to everyone who came along on the day and supported the fayre.

We are very pleased to announce that a grand total of £2,666 was raised!



1st Holytown Girls' Brigade

Linda Baillie



1st Holytown Girls Brigade held their Annual Awards night on Wednesday 2nd May 2018 and it was very well attended by parents and friends of the girls. All girls gained their badges which they had worked extremely hard for. Well done girls.

All sections attended M&D's on Wednesday 16th May for a party evening, younger girls had fun at the Crazy Congo soft play and the older sections had a bowling experience.

Linda and Alexandra have been invited to attend the GB125 afternoon tea event at the Hilton Hotel in Glasgow in June which should be a lovely afternoon.

The new session starts Wednesday 29th August 2018.

The Officers wish everyone a lovely SUNNY Summer.

1st Holytown Boys' Brigade

Glen Baillie



The boys of 1st Holytown Boys Brigade are pictured above at the presentation of their badges and awards. Main Prize winners

Anchor Boy promotion to Junior section; Lyle Cunningham, Lewis Brown, Lyall Wardrope.

Junior Section promotion to Company Section; Isaac Gardner

Junior Section Main Prize winners

Endeavour Cup for hard work throughout the session; Spencer Craig, Findlay Leggate, Christopher Murdoch.

William Gardner Trophy for Bible Knowledge and Bible for Excellence; Isaac Gardner.

Calderwood Trophy for best boy; Lucas McKenzie

Company Section main awards

David Brownlie Trophy for Bible Knowledge; Billy Gilliland

Best Recruit; Leo Law

D.I Paterson Award for Best Boy; Lewis Woodlock

Thank you to all the boys for their efforts throughout the session and we look forward to seeing you all back in the new session. Enrolment takes place on Monday 3rd September, starting Monday 10th September.

The Guild

Christine Duns - President

The Guild has finished for the Summer and we are now planning for the next season which begins in October. It would be great if we could have more members / visitors. Please come along, men or women, everyone is very welcome. A good night is had on a Wednesday evening from 7.15pm til 8.30 / 9.00pm. There is always plenty to catch up on, a time for fellowship and some good entertainment / speakers / laughs.

World Day of Prayer

This year our church was pleased to be the host for the World Day of Prayer on 2nd March 2018, involving the other Guilds in our area - Newarthill, Chapelhall, Calderbank, New Stevenston Methodist and Wrangholm. I would like to thank all who came along and joined in our service. We had a lovely evening of worship and learning about the country and customs of Surimane. Thank you to Caryl for giving the talk and also Netta for playing the organ.

Thanks also to all those who helped serve the tea afterwards and clear the hall. Thanks must also go to Jim for preparing the hall, setting out the tables and thanks also to Robert for all his help.

EASTER EGG SHOW - Motherwell Civic

Our end of season night out was at the Easter Egg Show in Motherwell Civic Centre. A great night of singing, dancing and jokes was enjoyed.

So, keep us in mind and please come along. It would be nice to see you!

The Gardener and the Heart Surgeon

A gardener once worked for a heart surgeon. The heart surgeon was an atheist. The gardener was a man of faith. They got on very well together, but often had friendly arguments about the nature of life, and faith, and the spiritual life.

One day the heart surgeon thought he had finally settled the argument when he told the gardener: "You talk about 'soul' but let me tell you that I have cut open thousands of human hearts in the course of my career, but not once have I found a 'soul' inside."

"Well" replied the gardener, "I have to tell you that in the course of my work over all of these long years in your garden, I have accidentally sliced through many a daffodil bulb with my spade but I have never seen a daffodil inside them."

Source Unknown. Home Vs School

Mr Bob McLaughlin



As you may know Bob McLaughlin passed away on the 21st April and Bob was very well respected in the Pigeon Fancy world, often speaking at National events. The speech below was reproduced in the 'British Homing World' dated August 25th 2017 by the Lancashire Social Circle, of which Bob was an Honorary Life Vice President, in celebration of Bob's 90th Birthday last year. It seemed quite appropriate to share it in our newsletter as it is indeed as relevant today as it was in 1991 when Bob first delivered it to the Lancashire Social Circle.

'Last Saturday I attended a Fiddler's Rally. To the uninitiated this is a concert given by an orchestra of violinists who play traditional Scottish music. On listening to the introductions by the compere of the leading violinist and the remainder of the orchestra, I remembered something I read some time ago.

If you were to ask any musical friend which instrument of the orchestra is the most difficult to play I am sure you would start an argument, with some plumping for the harp and others the oboe or French horn, but the late Sir Malcolm Sargeant had quite a different answer. In his dressing room before the Last Night of the Proms one year when asked the same question, he said, 'I can find any number of violinists who can perform the job of being lead, or first violin admirably. But it takes a rare type of ability to play second fiddle with enthusiasm.'

Sir Malcolm's words held a deep meaning, of course. The world could not exist without second fiddles. Think of the people who never hit the headlines, but cheerfully suppress their own ambitions to help a husband, or support a family. While the stars receive the flowers and the plaudits, the second fiddles soldier on in the background, doing a good job and often very little thanks for it.

Then we have the other type of person. The Tate family. Let me introduce them to you.

There's the head of the family DIC TATE who wants to run everything.

Uncle RO TATE, he tries to change everything, and his sister AGI TATE always rubs people up the wrong way.

Nieces HESI TATE and VEGI TATE pour cold water on every proposal.

Then there's Aunt IMI TATE who's all for trying something new because someone else is doing it and of course cousin DEVAS TATE will always throw a spanner in the works.

You are sure to know the Tates for they sit on every committee, live in every street, join every club, travel in every bus or train, work in every factory, shop, office.

Watch out you do not become one of them. It is much better to be a second fiddle.'

Highland Hideout

Susan Reid

As some of you may know, my husband Willie is a devoted Bob Dylan fan. As part of his birthday treat (it was a big number ending in zero) several years ago we rented a cottage in the grounds of Aultmore House which is owned by Bob Dylan and his brother. It is situated near Nethy Bridge which is between Aviemore and Grantown-on-Spey.

The cottage had originally been the Laundry for Bob's House as we named it, and had been renovated along with two other cottages for rental purposes as is Bob's House if you need 12 bedrooms and have a large amount of cash to splash! They now hold weddings and dinners there.

We enjoyed it so much that we have returned there every year just to chill out and smell the roses as they say, or in Aultmore's case the Rhododendron hedges. It is a great base for travelling around the area as there are lots of things to see and do. We've managed to visit :

Crathie Church (no, the Queen wasn't there that day unlike Ian Houston's visit) although I did get to sit on the Gordon family pews!

Balmoral Castle grounds - plenty to see outside and only access to one area inside where they hold their ceilidhs - it was a lot smaller than I imagined it to be.

Cairngorm Venicular Railway - we ventured out onto the viewing platform and as expected the views were amazing and not surprisingly it was extremely windy.

Abernethy Old Church which is now owned by a Trust and run as a museum although weddings, baptisms and funerals can still be held there or in the new Church in the village.

RSPB visitors centre at Loch Garten where you can observe the ospreys which return every year from their winter base in Africa and hopefully see the eggs hatching before their return journey to warmer climates in August. The female osprey known as EJ (from the ring on her leg) has returned to the same nest every year since 2003 and is currently sitting on three eggs.

The Steam Train from Aviemore to Broomhill (or Glenbogle as it was on Monarch of the Glen on television).

The Sweetie Shop in Aviemore - too many favourites to choose from - Chelsea Whoppers, Lucky Tatties, Edinburgh Rock - better find a dentist next time we visit!

Cockbridge to Tomintoul road - easy to see why it's always mentioned on the winter traffic reports as being closed.

In the Highlands it's a different pace of life and it's a blessing to see and experience God's magnificent creations in the people, the animals and the scenery of the Cairngorm National Park and I would thoroughly recommend a visit to this beautiful part of Scotland.



General Assembly

The Church of Scotland held its annual General Assembly from 19-25 May 2018 at the General Assembly Hall on the Mound in Edinburgh.

More than 730 commissioners from congregations across Scotland and beyond came together to take part in the event, a unique mix of debate, tradition and worship.

Over the course of the week they were joined by more than 150 people from associated partners and other organisations who work with the Church. The public gallery was open each day for any members of the public who are interested in observing the proceedings.

This year the General Assembly celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the ordination of women to the ministry of word and sacrament.

The theme for this year's General Assembly and for the Heart and Soul festival was 'Peace be with you'.

Walking with Grandma

Author unknown

I like walking with Grandma

Her steps are short like mine

She doesn't say 'now hurry up'

She always takes her time.

I like to walk with Grandma

Her eyes see things like mine do

With pebbles bright, a funny cloud,

Half hidden drops of dew.

Most people have to hurry,

They do not stop to see.

I'm glad that God made Grandma

Unrushed and young like me.



Foreign Aid

The director of an organisation overseeing reconstruction work in Nepal following a deadly earthquake has urged Scots not to be “cynical” about foreign aid.

Joel Hafvenstein said it would have been “impossible” for the United Mission to Nepal, (UMN) and its local partners to help thousands of people rebuild their shattered communities if it wasn't for £310,000 donated by generous Church of Scotland members.

He said the money had made a “tremendous, transformational difference” in the Dhading region.

The 7.8 magnitude earthquake, which lasted 45 seconds and killed nearly 9,000 people, injuring 22,000 and destroying around 800,000 buildings, happened on April 25, 2015, over three years ago.

Mr Hafvenstein said Kirk members should be “very proud” of the positive impact their donations have had on one of the worst hit regions of Nepal.

The Kirk's World Mission Council's Let Us Build A House campaign is the biggest fundraiser it has orchestrated in its 200-year history and it continues to generate much needed funding.

The money has enabled UMN and its partners to build 72 earthquake resistant schools, bio-gas plants, community water taps, toilet blocks, repair vital water irrigation systems and mini-hydro plants, reinstate 33 miles of roads and paths and kit out schools with computer suites.

The Kathmandu headquartered organisation has built five earthquake resistant demonstration houses across the Dhading region to inspire people to use the same building techniques and materials in their own reconstruction projects.

Nearly 600 masons have been specially trained to assist them.

Mr Hafvenstein, who is the Church of Scotland's Mission Partner, said: “The work we do would be impossible without the financial and prayer support provided by the Church of Scotland. We are tremendously grateful and Church members should be very proud. Initially, we had hoped to use the fund to rebuild houses but when that proved impossible due to a Nepali Government decision, we decided to use it for the rebuilding of schools and restoring drinking water systems to villages.”

“We have restored electrical systems, small hydro plants and canals that take water to fields that they grow their crops in. We have spent some of the money on trauma healing programmes, first aid training and helping people to improve their livelihoods so they have more options in earning an income than they did previously. The money is making a real difference.”

Mr Hafvenstein said he understood why some people were cynical about foreign aid, particularly in wake of sex scandals that have recently engulfed two of the UK's biggest charities.

“We have seen there are good reasons to have safeguards in the international aid process,” he added. “But that should not be reason for cynicism and when you investigate some of the work, you will see there is tremendous good being done in countries like Nepal. It is all more important for us to speak out about transformational work that is being done so it is not swallowed up in cynicism.”

A group of 18 Church of Scotland ministers and elders have just returned from a 10-day visit to the Dhading region to see first-hand the work being under taken by UMN and partners.

Some of them spent four days trekking in the mountains, up to 6,500ft above sea level, in the north to see community restoration work.

The others toured projects in villages in the southern part of the region.

Trekker David Chisholm, an elder at Fossoy St Serf's and Devonside Church near Kinross, described the trip as an "fantastic experience".

"Tragic as it is, the earthquake has spurred people on," he said. "It is sad that it takes destruction to cause construction which is leading to progress. It is a kickstart that local people were not expecting but it has done a lot of good on the hill. I was very struck by the level of community spirit, we are not used to seeing communities working together in such an intense way."

Hannah Dunlop, an elder at Dalgety Parish Church in Dalgety Bay in Fife, added: "Being able to see how people in the mountains live was a unique experience.

"I got the impression that most people are not feeling sorry for themselves at all and just getting on and working together to do what they need to do. It was amazing to see. I was also very struck by seeing how faith plays a part in people's lives. We attended a church service and people seemed so open, happy and joyous knowing that God will help and provide for them. It was very inspiring."

Rev John MacGregor, minister of Cadder Parish Church in Bishopbriggs near Glasgow, said: "I was very moved by the sacrifice of people in order to rebuild their communities.

"It was amazing to see 80-year-olds struggling up the hill with such heavy loads on their backs and a smile on their faces."

Jennifer Elsplin, an elder of Dunipace Parish Church near Falkirk, said community spirit, hope and faith was strong in communities she visited in south Dhading.

"It was incredibly humbling and we learned so much that we can take back home and apply to our own lives," she added. "I am so glad to have been part of it."

Rev Barbara Ann Sweetin, minister of Old and East Church in Forfar, Angus, said: "We read in the Bible about miracles and for me the United Mission to Nepal is one of them."

The Church of Scotland is one of the founder partners of UMN, which was established in 1954.

Sir David Attenborough

Anonymous

Since I was a young boy I have loved the programmes that Sir David Attenborough has presented. He is still a picture of health and energy at the age of 92 and recently made the following plea; 'It's surely our responsibility to do everything within our power to create a planet that provides a home not just for us, but for all life on earth.' We believe that God made the world and everything therein and thereon and it is good that Sir David is reminding us that we have a responsibility for its upkeep and to respect it and all life within it accordingly.

Fundraising

A word of thanks must go to all who supported our Spring Fayre and all those who gave of their time and skills to make it such a resounding success. In this day and age in Church life the congregations are not quite as large as they have been in days past which basically means the financial responsibilities have to be met by fewer contributors. As individuals, we can only give what we can afford and review this every so often so the fundraising activities we organise have firstly to help us meet our essential financial obligations. After that we can look to the additional areas that require money to be spent e.g. the fabric of our hall, manse and Church building. In light of this I would ask for your support in these additional fundraising initiatives. I think you would all agree that the Spring Fayre was more than just a fundraiser. It provided an opportunity for folks that don't normally come around the Church to see a little of what we are about and I believe there was a real spirit of fellowship at this event. Future events will provide further opportunities for fellowship so it would be wonderful if you and your friends, your neighbours and your relatives could support these initiatives by actually attending rather than ignoring them or just giving a donation. Some of these events might not necessarily be your 'cup of tea' but please remember Church members are putting a lot of time and effort into the organisation and planning side of things and if they don't get the support from our Church family

it can prove a significant disincentive for the organisation of future events. It is easy to criticise the efforts of others if an event doesn't particularly suit you but a more positive response would be to support it anyway and take on the responsibility of organising a future event yourself.

Sunday Readers

3rd June	David Shaw
10th June	Glen Baillie
17th June	Betty Reid
24th June	Graham Kyle
1st July	David Paterson
8th July	Jim Smith
15th July	Kirsty Shaw
22nd July	Ian Houston
29th July	David Shaw
5th August	Glen Baillie
12th August	Betty Reid
19th August	Paula Speirs
26th August	Graham Kyle

No one in this world is pure and perfect. If you avoid people due to their mistakes you will be alone in this world. So judge less and love more.

Psalm 14 verse 1

Only the fool says in his heart 'There is no God.'



Our Church in Geneva

We hear from the Rev Laurence Twaddle, minister of the Church of Scotland congregation in Geneva.

Embedded in the heart of the Old Town of Geneva is the Auditoire de Calvin, the spiritual home of the Church of Scotland congregation.

The Reformation Wall in Geneva has statues of William Farel, John Calvin, Theodore Beza, and John Knox.

The Church of Scotland in Geneva is an English-speaking Presbyterian/Reformed Church, whose congregation is made up of many different nationalities and denominations.

It is a dynamic community, with new people arriving - and others moving on, almost every week. This is challenging and rewarding at the same time. Newcomers and visitors of all ages and backgrounds are welcome to join us. Our service is in English, which is appreciated by many from across the world whose first or second language is English.

We number around 200 families from Geneva and the surrounding area including Vaud and neighbouring France, and have a wide range of activities to promote Christian service and fellowship for all age-groups and interests.

The congregation worships at the Auditoire de Calvin where John Knox was once based

Our links in this delightful city go back to the days when the Scot, John Knox, ministered here - alongside John Calvin; but today we are a contemporary community, seeking to be a place of shelter and inspiration to all who seek what Christ offers us.

Visitors are always very welcome.

As part of the International Presbytery, we enjoy working together with Ministers and Elders from all kinds of different and interesting settings, from Lisbon to Lausanne, Rome to Rotterdam.

For some years now we have been involved in mission projects in Malawi and in Nepal.

In Ekwendeni we fund a youth centre for AIDS and HIV education among young people - while in Nepal we have a long connection with the Leprosy Hospital in Lalgadh. Regular visits in both directions help make sure this is a real connection that goes beyond simply funding projects, but rather is embodied in friendships and shared experiences that go deep.

Invitation to Taize! A Reminder

The Scots Kirk in Paris is inviting young people (18-25) to spend a week in Taize in France. This is a great opportunity for young people in the congregation/ presbytery or area, during the Year of Young People.

The Taizé community welcomes thousands of young people from all over the world to share in community, prayer, and explore questions about life and faith. There will be 1 night in Paris, including a visit round the city and a service at the Scots Kirk, followed by a week as part of the Taize community.

For more information and if you are interested contact: scotskirkparis@orange.fr

Remaining Dates : 31st June - 8th July 2018. Cost: The cost will be a return flight to Paris plus £120, covering travel and accommodation in France.

Parish Register

Funerals

2018

February

Joe Moody
William Baillie

March

Abraham Stevenson
Sandra Carruthers

April

May Blair
Andrew Scougal
Gordon Boylin
Robert McLaughlin
Mae Harrold

Baptisms

2018

February

Aaron Jack Marsden

Weddings

2018

March

Steven Rennie and Marion Bannister



Financial Statement

Financial report as at 30/04/18

General Income

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Freewill offering	5156.50	5734.00
Plate	1750.77	1834.10
Standing Orders	3965.00	3175.00
Hall lets	1282.00	1245.00
Funerals/Weddings	460.00	440.00
Donations	100.00	1657.10
Magazines	130.00	130.00
Wrangholm Linkage	722.82	16.00
Day of Giving	0.00	765.00
Spring Fayre	2613.19	0.00
Total General Income	£16180.28	£14996.20

Fabric Fund	£213.30	£297.20
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Total Income	£16393.58	£15293.40
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General Expenditure

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Ministries & Mission	9339.60	9158.10
Presbytery dues	794.00	741.00
Insurance	1435.80	1424.52
Minister's expenses	223.56	302.76
Pulpit supply	170.00	140.00
Electricity	285.00	552.00
Gas	2193.02	876.13
Telephone	255.52	218.64
Broadband	456.96	278.16
Council Tax	345.32	323.19
Organist/Church officer fees	410.00	420.00
Paper/Toner/Copier Maintenance	317.89	234.19
Life & Work Magazines	136.50	136.50
Baptism Certificates	5.99	13.18
Wrangholm transfer	60.00	0.00
Garden maintenance	600.00	600.00
Spill the Beans literature	20.00	24.00
Amazonia	0.00	101.50
Organ maintenance	0.00	156.00
Total General expenditure	£17049.16	£15699.87

Fabric Fund

Floor covering for Manse	0.00	387.13
Floodlight	0.00	126.01
Fire Extinguisher service	251.70	112.80
Fire Alarm / Smoke detector service	615.24	0.00
Asbestos survey (part payment)	436.80	0.00
Toilet lock	0.00	48.66
Total Fabric expenditure	£1303.74	£674.60

Total Expenditure	£18352.90	£16374.47
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Investors Trust Funds

Balances as at November 2017 are as follows:

General Fund £15887.45

Reserve Fund £8196.84

Legacy Fund £824.70

Sunday School £434.02

Boys Brigade £1074.89

Children's Corner

This is the space for the younger members of the congregation (although I suspect a few 'big kids' might enjoy it too)... Kids, let me know what you would like to see in this space!



Matthew 5:16

Love One another

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. John 15:12 (NIV)

Based on John 15:9-17 (NIV)



G Q R J N I L D R Z G F U R G
 C O M M A N D D I M Y T E Z I
 G F S Y J F W J O K H N Y O J
 Q W F L F R U I T W S C P M I
 C H M E R B W Q J F N R U P O
 T L D R I K O B U S I N E S S
 Q X S X E J U O E R N L A Y R
 O A P R N E N B A I F L I S R
 M J L B D I O E D K R V T E T
 L A F O S A B Y M Z N N T V F
 M D S A V V Y K N R A A U E E
 Z H T T T E P W L V E L S F F
 Y M N P E H H A R R P O I V Q
 F F G P B R E E G Z H L H R I
 R E M A I N S R V C E C D S A

FRIENDS	OBEY	LOVE	FRUIT
DOWN	BUSINESS	BEAR	MASTER
LAY	FATHER	LIFE	REMAIN
SERVANTS	GREATER	COMMAND	CHOSE