

THE NEW WELLWYNDER

MARCH/APRIL 2022

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From the Manse

Dear Friends

Firstly, an apology for the lateness of this issue of the newsletter. I had asked for it to be held back to allow for the inclusion of any updates about the relaxing of Covid restrictions affecting the life of the church. Although an announcement has been made, the church guidelines have not been updated and, naturally, there are concerns about the increasing number of Covid cases. Towards the middle of April an extract from the Accounts and Trustees Report for 2021 will be sent out to all households within the congregation which I hope you take time to look at and consider how you might respond to the worship, work and witness of the Kirk here in this place.

We always find ourselves in changing times in our lives and are constantly confronted with decisions to be made as a result of the changes. Over the past two years there have been major changes. Some of these have been temporary, others have been more permanent. There has been a constant need to "re-invent" ourselves and how we go about our daily business and routine.

These challenges continue and they are reflected in the report which will be sent out to you in April. They are challenges for the whole of the church and for each and every congregation. These call for all of God's people, all who are part of the family here, to take seriously the whole concept of partnership and the understanding that God has blessed all of us people with gifts. I intimated the other Sunday that there will be challenges affecting my health in the coming months which, again, calls for the gifts of God's people to be used to continue the advancement of the Kingdom of God.

When change is seen as a challenge it can, at times, be intimidating and scary. But, when it is seen as an opportunity to reflect on the past from the perspective of the present with a look to the future then, it can be something to embrace.

The phrase "the people of God" was first given to God's faithful people in Old Testament times and continues to be key in our understanding of what it means to be a part of the church which, through baptism, confirmation and profession, we all are. There is a sense of great privilege in the title but also great responsibility. The privilege is to know that in changing times, those scary moments when life doesn't make sense and all is spinning out of control, God who is Christ Jesus is "the same yesterday, today and forever". He is the one who never changes and is there by our side even when tears blind us to him. The challenge is our response to God in the worship of our lives bringing alive the commitment we made in promises made at times of baptism or confirmation.

List of Services

Sunday Morning Services

at 11am



The focus throughout Lent and into Holy Week is of how subversive Jesus was,

Jesus who turned the tables over in the Temple and changed people's perspectives of God and each other. Tea and Coffee has started again after morning worship.

Sunday, 27th March

Third Sunday in Lent

Subversive Jesus: Re-imagining Religion

Sunday, 3rd April

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Subversive Jesus: Challenging Authority

Sunday, 10th April

Palm Sunday

Subversive Jesus: A Subversive Approach

Sunday, 17th April

Short Outdoor Service followed by

Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Morning Worship

Subversive Jesus: A Subversive Ending Leads to New Beginnings

Sunday, 24th April

Morning Worship

Unless I . . .

Sunday, 1st May

Morning Worship

Catching on

Sunday, 8th May

Morning Worship

Perseverance

This response is in the face of the changes that are currently challenging the church to the very core yet are the opportunities to truly follow Christ in our lives and into the life of the world.

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellences of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy."

(1 Peter 2: 9 - 10)

As God's people we are recipients of his mercy, love and grace. We are called to share his gifts in every aspect of our lives and to do that we need the church not only to survive but also revive and thrive.

Your friend and minister
Robbie

Church Garden

*"The kiss of the sun for pardon,
The song of the birds for mirth,
One is nearer God's heart in the garden,
Than anywhere else on earth."*

Dorothy Gurney 1858-1952

I've helped out in the church garden for a few years now. I enjoy weeding the borders, tidying up the plants and pruning. I'm one of three members who work weekly to keep the church garden looking good. Two other members help by cutting the grass, trimming the hedge and dealing with the weeds in the large stoned area.

If, like Dorothy Gurney and me, you appreciate the peace, joy and pleasure the garden provides, and if you are able, can you spare some time to help care for this special place? To find out more, please contact:

Ronnie Wright on 07980 870839

Tom Kane on 07855 181620

Joyce Russell on 07989 085407

Joyce Russell

The Christians who upstaged the Atheist Russian Leader

You probably don't know the name Nikolai Ivanovich Bukharin, nor should you. But during his day he was as powerful a man as there was on earth. As Russian Communist leader he took part in the Bolshevik Revolution 1917, was editor of the Soviet newspaper Pravda (which by the way means Truth), and was a full member of the Politburo. His works on economics and political science are still read today. There is a story told about a journey he took from Moscow to Kiev, in 1930, to address a huge assembly on the subject of atheism. Addressing the crowd he aimed his heavy artillery at Christianity hurling insults, argument, and proof against it. An hour later he was finished. He looked out at what seemed to be the smouldering ashes of men's faith. "Are there any questions?" Bukharin demanded.

Wednesday Services at 12 noon **Delve in at 12**

These are held every week in the sanctuary for those looking for a shorter, more reflective service. There is tea and coffee available in the large hall after the service. During the Season of Lent we are looking at the "I am" sayings of Jesus as we try to understand more of who he is and what he can offer to us in our lives.

Holy Week Services at 7.30pm

Monday, 11th April

Subversive Jesus: A Subversive Response

Tuesday, 12th April

Subversive Jesus: Subversive Following

Wednesday, 13th April

Subversive Jesus: You Decide

Thursday, 14th April

Subversive Jesus: The Table is Turned

Friday, 15th April

Subversive Jesus: The Dissident Dies

Welcome Teams

I have been welcome team coordinator for 10 years and feel it is now time to hand over to a younger better looking replacement. I extend my thanks to all the teams for their support over the years and a special thanks to those who have managed to help as stewards during the pandemic. I will miss the camaraderie (posh word for banter) the smiles and the laughter from the congregation as they arrived. I must not forget the hugs and kisses. I pass my best wishes to my successor Karen Taylor and to all of you for the future.

Bobby

Karen is currently working on the creation of new Welcome Teams. Information will be available shortly.

Deafening silence filled the auditorium, but then one man approached the platform and mounted the lectern standing near the communist leader. He surveyed the crowd, first to the left then to the right. Finally he shouted the ancient greeting known well in the Russian Orthodox Church: **"CHRIST IS RISEN!"**

En masse the crowd arose as one man and the response came crashing like the sound of thunder... **"HE IS RISEN INDEED!"**
Have a Blessed Easter and Rejoice... for Christ is risen! Hallelujah!

The Editor

Emergency Appeal for the People of Ukraine

When we consider what is happening in Ukraine it is easy to feel helpless as we watch from a distance. Throughout the country many groups and organisations are collecting all manner of goods as needs continue to change with changing circumstances. In response to this you might consider making a monetary donation to support the work of Christian Aid in Ukraine and for the ever increasing number of refugees fleeing into neighbouring countries. Our friends at Christian Aid are working with partner organisations in the ACT Alliance, a global faith based coalition, to offer assistance to Ukrainian refugees fleeing the deadly violence. ACT partners have already distributed food supplies and other life-saving essentials to people on the Ukrainian borders. Hungarian Church Aid is organising food distributions and meeting refugees at the Hungarian border. The Lutheran World Federation is supporting refugees in Ukraine itself, Poland, Hungary, Slovakia and Romania.

If you would like to make a donation you can do this in two ways:

- Go onto The New Wellwynd's website and locate the donate button, click on it, scroll down then click the Christian Aid logo. You will be invited to fill in the necessary details. This method allows Gift Aid to be collected automatically and means that if you are tax payer your gift will be worth more.
- Put a monetary donation in an envelope clearly marked 'Ukraine' and place it in the offering plate at the door.

Thank you

Why We Love Our Mothers

Mother and Father were watching TV when Mum said, 'I'm tired, and it's getting late. I think I'll go to bed.' She went to the kitchen to make sandwiches for the next day's lunches. Rinsed out the breakfast bowls, took meat out of the freezer for dinner the following evening, checked the cereal box levels, filled the sugar container, put spoons and bowls on the table and started the coffee pot for brewing the next morning. She then put some wet clothes in the dryer, put a load of clothes into the washer, ironed a shirt and secured a loose button. She picked up the game pieces left on the table, put the phone back on the charger and put the telephone book into the drawer. She watered the plants, emptied a wastebasket and hung up a towel to dry. She yawned and stretched and headed for the bedroom. She stopped by the desk and wrote a note to the teacher, counted out some cash for the field trip, and pulled a text book out from hiding under the chair. She signed a birthday card for a friend, addressed and stamped the envelope and wrote a quick note for the grocery store. She put both near her bag. Mum then washed her face with a cleanser, put on her night cream, brushed and flossed her teeth and filed her nails.

Thank You

Just a few lines to thank Robbie, Eckhardt, our organist David and the congregation for your encouragement during my participation in the "Word and Worship" Course.

Everyone's support was very much appreciated! Thanks also to the technical team for their assistance.

Margaret Jack

Funerals

17 th February	Jack Young
18 th February	Cath Graham
1 st March	Nancy Wardall
3 rd March	John (Iain) Cox
8 th March	Charlotte Brown

Thank You

Jim and Margaret Thomson wish to say a sincere thanks for church flowers, cards, flowers and all the support received on the death of Cath, Margaret's sister.

Alex and Margaret Anderson wish to thank the congregation for the church flowers on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

2nd Airdrie Boys' Brigade

Now that restrictions are easing, we are in a better position to celebrate our centenary. We are holding a special service here in the Church on **Thursday, 5th May** and the Moderator of the General Assembly of The Church of Scotland will be in attendance. A cordial invitation is extended to one and all to attend. Further information will be available in due course.

Jean Kinniburgh



Art Club

The Art Club has now reopened and is meeting at the new time of 2.30 to 4.30pm on a Friday in the Upper Hall. New members will be made most welcome.

Gordon Waddell

Dad called out, 'I thought you were going to bed.' 'I'm on my way,' she said. She put some water into the dog's dish and put the cat outside, then made sure the doors were locked and the patio light was on. She looked in on each of the kids and turned out their bedside lamps and TV's, hung up a shirt, threw some dirty socks into the laundry basket, and had a brief conversation with the one child up still doing homework. In her own room, she set the alarm; laid out clothing for the next day, straightened up the shoe rack. She added three things to her six most important things to do list. She said her prayers, and visualised the accomplishment of her goals. About that time, Dad turned off the TV and announced to no one in particular, 'I'm going to bed.' And he did.....without another thought!

Happy Mother's Day to Mothers everywhere!

One Pair of Hands

Looking through some old vinyl records recently (yes, remember them?) I came across some albums of the 'King!' The King in question being none other than Elvis Presley! It certainly took me back in time! Unfortunately, I no longer possess a record player to play the albums so I did the next best thing. GOOGLE! Yes, YouTube and Spotify do have their advantages. I was supposed to be tidying the garage but hey, there was always tomorrow! As I spent the afternoon faffing and listening to Elvis and many others one song in particular caught my attention. 'One Pair of Hands!' It has now been added to my favourites.

One pair of hands formed the mountains
 One pair of hands formed the sea
 One pair of hands made the sun and the moon
 Every bird, every flower, every tree
 One pair of hands formed the valleys
 The ocean, the rivers and the sand
 Those hands are so strong, so when life goes wrong
 Put your faith in the one pair of hands

One pair of hands, healed the sick
 One pair of hands raised the dead
 One pair of hands calmed the ragging storm
 And thousands of people were fed
 One pair of hands said I love you
 And those hands were nailed to a tree
 Those hands are so strong, so when life goes wrong
 Put your faith into one pair of hands

I am sure if you Google it and listen to the words being sung you too will probably add it to your favourites!

George Randall

Easter Laughs

Mary came home from Sunday School on Palm Sunday and told her mother that she had learned a new song about a cross-eyed bear named Gladly.

It took her mother a while before she realised that the hymn Mary had been singing was really: "Gladly The Cross I'd Bear."

IM Jolly

Easter Laughs

The minister announced to the children of the Sunday Club "This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs Kinniburgh to come forward and lay an egg on the chancel!"

IM Jolly

A Mother's Love

Her love is like an island
 In life's ocean, vast and wide
 A peaceful, quiet shelter
 From the wind, the rain, the tide.

'Tis bound on the north by hope
 By patience on the west
 By tender counsel on the south
 And on the east by rest.

Above it like a beacon light
 Shine faith, and truth, and prayer;
 And thro' the changing scenes of life
 I find a haven there.

Anon



Useful Contacts

Minister: Robbie Hamilton
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Session Clerk: Fraser Gillespie
 01236 604860

Treasurer: David Watt
 01698 853921

Organist: David Stewart
 07774674345

Roll Keeper: Allister Jack
 01236 767898

Hall Convener: Robert Forrest
 01236 767898

Magazine Editor: George Randall
 01236 763102

What a week that was Holy Week!

Holy Week is the last week of Lent, when we follow Jesus from Palm Sunday, to his death on Good Friday in preparation for his rising from the dead on Easter Sunday.

Palm Sunday: Accompanied by his disciples, Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, while crowds of people covered the streets ahead of him with their cloaks and with palm branches.

Monday: Jesus chased the money lenders out of the Temple.

Tuesday and Wednesday: Jesus preached and taught in Jerusalem.

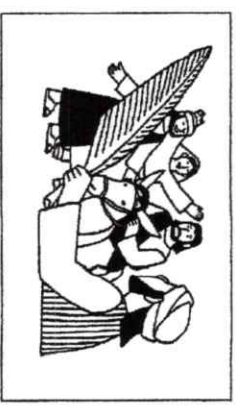
Thursday: After washing the feet of the disciples, Jesus celebrated the Feast of the Passover (The Last Supper), creating the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

After the supper, Jesus and his disciples went to Gethsemane to pray, where he was arrested by the Temple guard and taken to an illegal night session of the Jewish court, the Sanhedrin.

Good Friday: Jesus was taken into Roman courts, before Pontius Pilate and Herod Antipas. Roman soldiers took him to Golgotha, the place of the skull, where he was crucified.

Saturday: Jesus was laid to rest in the tomb while his disciples observed the Sabbath.

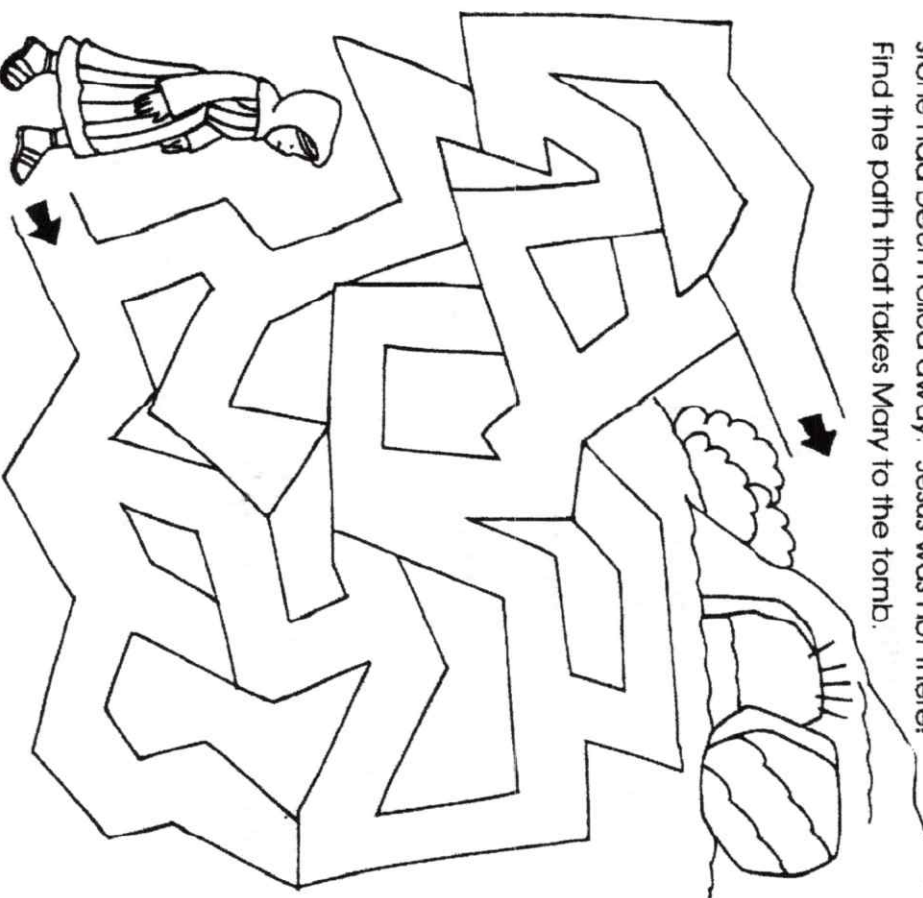
Easter Sunday: An angel met Mary Magdalene at the tomb to tell her that Jesus was risen from the dead.



Jesus Rises Up

(John 20)

After Jesus died on the cross, His body was put inside a tomb. A heavy stone was placed in front of the opening. When Mary Magdalene went to His tomb, she saw that the stone had been rolled away. Jesus was not there! Find the path that takes Mary to the tomb.



EASTER WORD SEARCH

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

RISEN	SUNDAY
CROSS	FLOWERS
TOMB	EGGS
JESUS	BASKET
SAVIOR	BUNNY



Happy Easter!