

### THE NEW WELLWYNDER

### DECEMBER 2022/JANUARY 2023

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### From the Manse

Dear Friends

Is it just me or is it getting more and more difficult to buy presents for others? I have tried the shops. I have looked at magazines. I have also looked on the internet and, yes, I managed to get some gifts there but have struggled with others. Gone are the days when the children were happy with a selection box (even with the Spangles), the ladies with some smelly stuff and the gents with socks!

What do we get for someone who's got everything? I think for me this is one of the greatest difficulties in trying to buy gifts. What do we buy for people who, on the whole, have what they need? This makes it harder and harder to dream up ideas and that is why "alternative" gifts have become more and more popular over the past number of years: a goat, a chicken, a pail of manure, a well. The list is almost endless. Yet, as many of us might be comfortably off, there are undoubtedly others in our midst, on our doorstep and further afield who do have particular needs. They have real choices to make between eating and heating. In this we recognise that Christmas is a great time for some but also a difficult and pressurised time for many.

So, in giving gifts, we can still let others know of our love, thoughts and prayer whilst, at the same time, meeting the needs of others. This is something for us all to consider.

At the heart of this time is the greatest gift of all time, a gift that brought to life for many and for us the greatest story ever told. This is a story of God looking into the world and into the hearts of many and in doing so recognising the needs of his people. What gift would be the one that would have the greatest impact? The only answer to this question was found in a bundle first nestled in a manger in Bethlehem, Jesus. God's gift to us a gift for those who have nothing and those who believe that they have everything was a personal one. He came to us and made himself one with us in Jesus and he still comes to us even today. Will we take the gift? Will we unwrap it? Will we fully realise the benefit that a relationship with God in Jesus can offer to us? I hope that we can and do answer "yes" to all of these for as we say "yes" to God we know that whatever the future holds we can and will persevere through him who loves us and gave his son for each and every one of us.

We embark upon yet another New Year. In personal terms and, especially, in Church terms we don't know what the future holds but we know who holds the future and holds each one of us in palm of his hand, the Father of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, our one true, loving God.

### Forthcoming Services

Sunday, 4th December

11 a.m. Second Sunday in Advent Named by God: Named and Protected The Sacrament of Holy Communion

3 p.m. Memorial Service Named by God: Named and Comforted

Sunday, 11th December

11 a.m. Third Sunday in Advent Named by God: Named and Celebrated Readings and Reflections with music from the Choir

Sunday, 18th December

11 a.m. Fourth Sunday in Advent Named by God: Named and Welcomed Nativity Sunday \*(Community Carol singing from 10.45 a.m.)

Saturday, 24th December

6.30 p.m. Christmas Eve All Age Service Named by God: Name that tune . . .

Christingle Service

11.30 p.m. Christmas Eve Watchnight Service

Named by God: Named and Embraced \*(Refreshments in the hall from 10.45 p.m. and Community Carol singing in the church from 11.15 p.m.)

Sunday, 25th December

11 a.m. Christmas Day Service Named by God: Named and Surprised

Sunday, 1st January

11 a.m. New Year's Day Morning Worship

God's Journey: Our Journey

Sunday, 8th January

11 a.m. Morning Worship

Let's do this

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Sunday, 15th January

11 a.m. Morning Worship

Come, see, tell, repeat

I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year 'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.'

And he replied,

'Go into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God that shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way!'

Put your hand into the hand of the one who stilled the water for that "shall be better than light and safer than a known way." May the peace of Christ be yours this Christmas and beyond in the coming year.

Your friend and minister **Robbie** 

### Return to work

Robbie has returned to work this week. His return is on a "phased return" basis. After Sunday worship he will be off duty until Tuesday and will not be taking on any duties on a Monday or a Saturday and carrying out duties on a reduced basis the rest of the time. He will be available to conduct congregational funerals and Lynette Jardine, a Reader appointed by Presbytery, will be available to conduct parish funerals. This will be reviewed at the end of December.

### Word of Thanks

Robbie, Carol and Daniel would like to thank you once again for the support given following surgery. Your cards, thoughts, prayers and love helped tremendously with the recovery!

### Maggie's in Airdrie

As a congregation we are supporting Maggie's this Christmas and there will be an opportunity for you to give either online or by using envelopes which will be available next Sunday. These envelopes can be placed in the offering plate in the vestibule any Sunday up until and including Christmas Eve. If you pay tax you are encouraged to fill in the appropriate details to allow gift aid to be claimed. Visit the church website and search for the link to Maggie's if you are able to give online.

### Name the Christmas Carol?

- 1. Bleached yule
- 2. Singular yearning for the twin incisors
- 3. Loyal followers advance
- 4. Far off in a trough
- 5. Small male percussionist
- 6. Monarchy triad
- 7. Nocturnal noiselessness
- 8. Frozen precipitation commence
- 9. Delight for this planet
- 10. Give attention to the melodious celestial beings

  Answers at the back



Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> January

11 a.m. Morning Worship About turn

Sunday, 29th January

11 a.m. Morning Worship

Walking humbly with your God

Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> February

11 a.m. Morning Worship Restore the streets

Tea and coffee will be served in the Church Hall after morning worship

### Wednesday Services at 12 noon Delve in at 12

Our midweek service on a Wednesday at 12 noon will continue during the winter months.

The service is followed by tea and coffee.

### **Funerals**

November Helen McIndoe

### Welcome Teams Sunday, 4th December

Team Leader: Irene Yates Alex Anderson, Avril Cockburn, Allison Gray, Beatrice Holden, George Lowden.

Sunday, 11th December

Team Leader: Karen Taylor Billy Brooks, Janet Nimmo, Tom Sorbie, Isabel Sorbie, Wilma Davidson.

Sunday, 18th December

Team Leader: David Watt Linda Francis, Margaret Jack, Allister Jack, Alison Sefton, David Walker, Andrew Paul

Sunday, 25th December

Team Leader: Bobby Forrest Freda Gilchrist, Fraser Gillespie

Sunday, 1st January

Team Leader: Bobby Forrest Freda Gilchrist, Moira Gartshore, Fraser Gillespie

Sunday, 8th January

Team Leader: Harry Shaw Freda Gilchrist, Lynne Cartwright, Lynne Thompson, John Clydesdale, Maureen Paterson

### **Party Invitation**

You are invited to the Party of a Lifetime On Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 11 a.m. Within The New Wellwynd Parish Church Refreshments served in the hall afterwards. Appropriate party clothes to be worn!

### **Church Flowers**

The new Flower Calendar for 2023 will be posted in the church on the 4<sup>th</sup> December. If you need further information, please contact the Flower Conveners. Thank you for your help in continuing the flower service. Avril (769134) and Margaret (767898)

**Coffee Morning** 

Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December was the last Coffee Morning of 2022. The next Coffee Morning will be on the 4<sup>th</sup> February 2023. We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Irene and Mairi

### **Oberammergau Diaries**

The tale of the intrepid pilgrims continues.

Thursday, 21st July .....

Dong! Dong! What in the name is that? It's 6am! Press the snooze button please! Ah that's better! 6.15am Dong! Dong! Dong, more of the same! No, it's not the alarm clock, it's the church bell ringing! Yes, it would appear it's time to get up! Three dongs does not do it justice as the record for the week that followed was seventy eight dongs in one go! The church was located just behind the hotel and was directly opposite many of our rooms, there was no escape, not even with earplugs and your head buried in a pillow! Just get up! Our day began with morning prayers in the library. A short reading (1Kings 19) and reflection. Thought for the day: "It's not what you look at that matters it's what you see, and it's not what you listen to that matters it's what you hear!"

After a hearty Austrian breakfast, hard rolls, cheeses and cold cuts or a nice omelette, we were off on the first of our adventures, a day in the Pitztal Valley! Our first stop was in the village of Karrosten just outside Imst where we visited a small traditional linen and lace making workshop and were given a demonstration of the ancient craft. One or two small purchases were made! There was also the King's Chapel a small ornate church known as the Konigskapelle built in memory of the Emperor Frederick Augustus II of Saxony. From there we travelled to the small town of Wenns and enjoyed a short organ recital in the local church. Whilst there with everyone in the one place (captive audience) we were able to worship together. The singing of "Be still for the presence of the Lord" within the beautiful St Johann the Evangelist Parish Church was truly wonderful. After a short reading (Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8) and reflection we closed in prayer: Generous and loving God, through your kindness and goodness you have brought us safely to this place, and for this we give thanks. Kindle us with the fire of your spirit as we travel the pilgrim road together so that when Jesus comes again we may shine like lights in his face. In his name we pray, Amen,

Sunday, 15th January

Team Leader: Barbara Watt William Watson (Sen), Gordon Waddell, Colin MacPherson, Lesley MacPherson, Carol Randall

Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> January

Team Leader: Elizabeth Roberton George Lawson, George Grant, Morag Stewart, George Murchison, Una Lawson

Sunday, 29th January

Team Leader: David Gillespie Christine Cassells, Christine Gibb, Anne Grainge, Jim Neilson, Jim Nimmo, David Paterson

Sunday, 5th February

Team Leader: Bobby Forrest Fraser Gillespie, Mairi Mitchell, Jim, Thomson, William Watson

### **Prayer Points**

- Pray for all who will be taking part in services over Advent and Christmas: the Minister, the Organist and Choir, readers, participants, Sunday Club and Bible Class that they might do so in a way that not only is a blessing to them but also many others.
- Pray for all visitors who come and join us that all of us will find a way to welcome them and share something of our faith for them that as they come they might keep on coming.
- Pray for the school services taking place that all involved might bring to light what and who is at the heart of this season.
- Pray for all who find this time of year difficult – those ill at home or in hospital, those recently bereaved and those still finding it hard to pick up the pieces after bereavement.
- Pray for those facing the stark choice between eating and heating and for those supporting them through such agencies as food banks.

Afterwards we headed up the hill (slowly) to visit the Christmas Crib Collection where we received a warm welcome accompanied by schnapps!

Our final destination today was the glacial mountain lake of Rifflsee, to which we ascended by cable-car, to a height of 2,300 metres (7,475 feet). At the top, there was a lovely mountain restaurant where the Weiner Schnitzel went down a treat, accompanied by a few more Austrian refreshments! After lunch, some of the more adventurous went for a walk down to the lake itself, which was not far, but down a rather steep slope, which you had to climb back up! Others just sat back, relaxed and enjoyed even more refreshments, breathing in the rarefied mountain air and taking in the mountain and lake views. Bliss! Alas, it was time to head back down the mountain and retrace our steps through the beautiful scenery of the Pitztal Valley back to Imst. Along the way our jovial leader presented the group with a number of riddles to solve! (If you would like to try and solve them the answers can be found elsewhere in the magazine). Here we go!

- 1. Who was the first mathematician mentioned in the Bible?
- 2. Where was the first mathematical problem solved?
- 3. Why did God create man before woman?
- 4. What kind of lights did Noah use on the ark?
- 5. Who is the greatest babysitter mentioned in the Bible?

At last, back at the hotel – no more riddles, heids are nipping! Before dinner, some weary pilgrims enjoyed some of the spa facilities on offer at the hotel, others enjoyed a light refreshment on the terrace and the remainder – a sleep! Dinner was followed by an evening of entertainment with much merriment and dancing. As the night wore on it was like a scene from the Sound of Music as weary pilgrims one by one left singing "So long, farewell, Auf Wiedersehen, goodnight!" Then there were only three! Who, in their wisdom decided to go for a midnight walk! Great idea as long as you remember to take a key to get back into the hotel! Oops! Night night! **To be continued** 

### **Nearly New**

The Friday Nearly New will be closed from the 9<sup>th</sup> December until the 3<sup>rd</sup> February. Many thanks to everyone for their custom throughout the year and we wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Liz Hannah

### Snack Bar

The Snack Bar will be open on the 16<sup>th</sup> December and will then be closed until the 13<sup>th</sup> January. Many thanks to everyone for their company on Friday mornings and we wish one and all a happy and peaceful Christmas.

Snack Bar Team

### **Used Postage Stamps**

With Christmas fast approaching, please keep saving your stamps for our Church's World Mission. You can leave them at the Church entrance any Sunday with the Welcome Team.

- Pray for those who will not get a break at this time of year – those in our armed forces, those in caring professions including the NHS, those many folk working to keep necessary services going.
- Pray for Laura in all her work as Pastoral Assistant and with her focus on nurture.
- Pray for the work of Maggie's.



### Thank You

Hugh Clark would like to thank the congregation for the beautiful flowers he received in October. They were very much appreciated.

Ralph and Sandra Di Mascio would like to thank everyone for the beautiful flowers they recently received from the church.

### A Friends Greeting

I'd like to be the sort of friend that you have been to me;

I'd like to be the help that you've been always glad to be;

I'd like to mean as much to you each minute of the day

As you have meant, old friend of mine, to me along the way.

I'm wishing at this Christmas time that I could but repay

A portion of the gladness that you've strewn along the way;

And could I have one wish this year, this only would it be:

I'd like to be the sort of friend that you have been to me.

Edgar Guest



What a friend we have in Jesus!



### A Christmas Story - On Santa's Team!

My granny taught me everything about Christmas. I was just a kid. I remember running down the street to visit her on the day my big brother dropped the bomb: "There is no Santa Claus," jeered my brother. "Even dummies know that!"

My granny was not the gushy kind, never had been. I fled to her that day because I knew she would be straight with me. I knew she always told the truth, and I knew that the truth always went down a whole lot easier when swallowed with a big slice of her clootie dumpling! Granny was home, and the dumpling was just sitting waiting to be eaten. Between bites, I told her everything. She was ready for me. "No Santa Claus!" she snorted. "Ridiculous! Don't believe it. That rumour has been going around for years, and it makes me mad, plain mad. Now, put on your coat, and let's go." "Go? Go where, granny?" I asked. I hadn't even finished my second bit of dumpling. "Where" turned out to be Orr's Store, the one store in town that had a little bit of just about everything. As we walked through its doors, granny handed me a one pound note. That was a lot of money in those days. "Take this money," she said, "and buy something for someone who needs it. I'll wait for you outside." Then she turned and walked out of Orr's.

I was only seven years old. I'd often gone shopping with my mother, but never had I shopped for anything all by myself. The store seemed big and crowded, full of people scrambling to finish their Christmas shopping. For a few moments I just stood there, confused, clutching that one pound note, wondering what to buy, and who on earth to buy it for. I thought of everybody I knew: my family, my friends, my neighbours, the kids at school, people who went to my church. I was just about thought out, when I suddenly thought of Bobbie Wilson. He was a kid with bad breath and messy hair, and he sat right behind me in Mrs. Burns primary three class. Bobbie Wilson didn't have a coat. I knew that because he never went out at play times during the winter. His mother always wrote a note, telling the teacher that he had a cough, but we all knew that Bobbie didn't have a cough, and he didn't have a coat.

I rubbed the one pound note with growing excitement. I would buy Bobbie a coat. I settled on a blue duffle coat, one that had a hood to it. It looked real warm, and he would like that. I didn't see a price tag, but one pound ought to buy anything. I put the coat and my one pound note on the counter and pushed them toward the lady behind it. She looked at the coat, the money, and me. "Is this a Christmas present for someone?" she asked kindly. "Yes," I replied shyly. "It's ... for Bobbie. He's in my class, and he doesn't have a coat." The nice lady smiled at me. I didn't get any change, but she put the coat in a bag and wished me a Merry Christmas.

That evening, Granny helped me wrap the coat in Christmas paper and ribbons, and write, "To Bobbie, From Santa Claus" on it ... she said that Santa always insisted on secrecy.

### A Letter to Santa from a Mum

Dear Santa,

I've been a good mum all year. I've fed. cleaned and cuddled my two children on demand, visited the doctor's surgery more than my doctor, sold sixty-two boxes of chocolate bars to raise money to plant a tree in the school playground and figured out how to attach nine patches onto my daughter's girl's guide sash with staples and a glue gun. I was hoping you could spread my list out over several Christmases, since I had to write this letter with my son's red crayon, on the back of a receipt in the laundry room between cycles, and who knows when I'll find any more free time in the next 18 years.

Here are my Christmas wishes: I'd like a pair of legs that don't ache after a day of chasing kids (in any colour, except purple, which I already have) and arms that don't flap in the breeze but are strong enough to carry a screaming toddler out of the sweetie aisle in the supermarket. I'd also like a waist, since I lost mine somewhere in the seventh month of my last pregnancy. If you're hauling big ticket items this year I'd like a car with fingerprint resistant windows and a radio that only plays adult music; a television that doesn't broadcast any programmes containing talking animals; and a refrigerator with a secret compartment behind the crisper where I can hide to talk on the phone. On the practical side, I could use a talking daughter doll that says, "Yes, Mummy" to boost my parental confidence, along with one potty-trained toddler, two kids who don't fight and three pairs of jeans that will zip all the way up without the use of power tools. I could also use a recording of Tibetan monks chanting, "Don't eat in the living room" and 'Take your hands off your brother.' because my voice seems to be just out of my children's hearing range and can only be heard by the dog. And please don't forget the Playdoh Travel Pack, the hottest stocking stuffer this year for mothers of nursery kids. It comes in three fluorescent colours and is guaranteed to crumble on any carpet

Then we walked round to Bobbie Wilson's house, my granny explaining as we went that I was now and forever officially one of Santa's helpers. As we approached his house we crept along quietly and hid in the bushes by his front path. Suddenly, granny gave me a nudge. "All right, Santa Claus," she whispered, "get going." I took a deep breath, dashed for his front door, threw the present down on his step, rang his doorbell twice and flew back to the safety of the bushes and granny. Together we waited breathlessly in the darkness for the front door to open. Finally it did, and there stood Bobbie. He looked down, looked around, picked up his present, took it inside and closed the door.

Sixty years haven't dimmed the thrill of those moments spent shivering, beside my granny, in Bobbie Wilson's bushes. That night, I realized that those awful rumours about Santa Claus were just what granny said they were: Ridiculous!

Santa was alive and well ... AND WE WERE ON HIS TEAM! Whose team will you be on this Christmas? Merry Christmas.

The Editor

### Season Tickets!

Billy and Henry were fortunate enough to have a season ticket to watch the mighty Glasgow Rangers! They could not help noticing that next to their own seats (C 13, 14) there was always a spare seat. They had a friend who would love to buy a season ticket, especially if all three could have seats together. One half-time Billy went to the ticket office and asked if they could buy the season ticket for C15. The official said that unfortunately the ticket had been sold. Nevertheless, week after week the seat was still empty. Then on Boxing Day much to Billy and Henry's amazement the seat was taken for the first time that season. Henry could not resist asking the newcomer, 'Where have you been all season?' 'Don't ask' he said, 'the wife bought the season ticket in the summer, and kept it for a surprise Christmas present!'

IM Jolly

### Name the Christmas Carol Answers

- 1. White Christmas
- 2. All I want for Christmas is my two front teeth
- 3. O come all ye faithful
- 4. Away in a manger
- 5. Little drummer boy
- 6. We three kings
- 7. Silent night
- 8. Let it snow
- 9. Joy to the world
- 10. Hark the herald angels sing

making the in-laws' house seem just like mine. If it's too late to find any of these products, I'd settle for enough time to brush my teeth and comb my hair in the same morning, or the luxury of eating food warmer than room temperature without it being served in a Tupperware container. If you don't mind I could also use a few Christmas miracles to brighten the holiday season. Would it be too much trouble to declare ketchup a vegetable? It will clear my conscience immensely. It would be helpful if you could coerce my children to help around the house without demanding payment as if they were the bosses of an organised crime family; or if my toddler didn't look so cute sneaking downstairs to eat contraband ice cream in his pyjamas at midnight. Well. Santa, the buzzer on the dryer is ringing and my son saw my feet under the laundry room door. I think he wants his crayon back. Have a safe trip and remember to leave your wet boots by the chimney and come in and dry off by the fire so you don't catch a cold. Help yourself to cookies on the table but don't eat too many or leave crumbs on the carpet.

### Yours Always...Mum.

P.S. – One more thing... you can cancel all my requests if you can keep my children young enough to believe in Santa!

### Riddle Answers

- Moses he wrote the book of Numbers
- 2. The Garden of Eden When God told Adam and Eve to go forth and multiply
- 3. He did not want any advice
- 4. Floodlights
- 5. David he rocked Goliath to sleep

Ho! Ho! Ho!

### **Useful Contacts**

Minister: Rev Robert Hamilton 01236 763022

Treasurer: David Watt 01698 853921

Roll Keeper: Allister Jack 01236 767898

Magazine Editor: George Randall 01236 763102

Session Clerk: Fraser Gillespie 01236 604860

Gift Aid: David Walker 01236 747075

Hall Convener: Robert Forrest 01236 767210

Organist: David Stewart 07774674345

### **Kids' Corners**

### The Carol Singers!

There are four penguins named Micky, Freddie, Rob and Eve who are fond of singing Christmas carols before the inhabitants of the colony, where they live. Every time they sang, they received a golden star which they put up on their Christmas tree. One Christmas eve, Micky catches a terrible cold and starts sneezing. He tells his fellow singers that they will have to sing without him that year as he is unwell. "No, that's not possible," said the other three. But they realise that the inhabitants of the colony looked forward to their performance every year and would be terribly disappointed if they didn't sing.

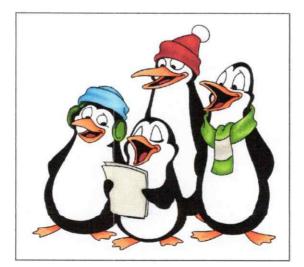
The penguins decide to approach Doctor Lolo and ask him to heal Micky soon. The doctor thinks for a while and tells them that the only way to get Micky better was by using the golden seaweed which could be found in the Indian Ocean. The penguins realise that the Indian Ocean is far away from them and that it would not be possible for them to get the seaweed in such a short time. Freddie is tearful, and his tears fell in the water below, which Pincho, an ice fish, feels on his body. He swims up to the penguins and asks them the reason for their sadness.

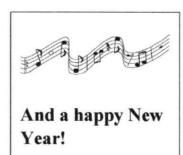
On hearing their problem, Pincho says, "Wait! If it is the Indian Ocean, I have an idea." Pincho has friends and family spread across all the great oceans and seas of the world and begins to send messages to them. The message is passed on from one fish to another, across the Antarctic Ocean and the Pacific Ocean, before finally reaching the butterfly fish in the Indian Ocean. The butterfly fish looks for the golden seaweed, high and low. When he finally finds it, he passes back across all the oceans till it reaches Pincho. The penguins are overjoyed, and they ask the doctor to prepare the medicine from it. Micky drinks the medicine in one gulp and his original voice returns in a jiffy. The Christmas carol show is a hit, and the penguins tell everyone how Pincho helped them in finding the golden seaweed.

Just goes to show, that by helping each other, we can bring true happiness in the world!

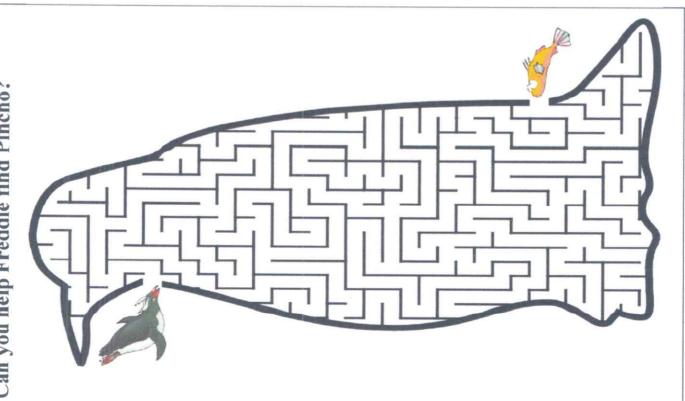
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!







# Can you help Freddie find Pincho?



**FEATHERS** 

FEET

COLONY

EGG

COLD

FLIPPERS HUDDLE

### **PENGUINS**

## **WORD SEARCH PUZZLE**

BLUBBER BRAY BUOYANT CHICK

BLACK

The words appear UP, DOWN, BACKWARDS, and DIAGONALLY. Find and circle each word.



WADDLE

OCEAN

MOLT

JUMP

SNOW

SWIM