



THE NEW WELLWYNDER

SEPTEMBER 2024

Visit us at www.newwellwynd.org.uk

Message from the Vestry

Dear Church Family,

As the long, sun-filled days of summer give way to the cooler evenings of autumn, I hope this letter finds you well and in good spirits. The changing of the seasons is always a beautiful reminder of God's handiwork—how each season has its own rhythm, its own beauty, and its own purpose.

With the night's drawing in and the first hints of autumn's colours appearing in the trees, we find ourselves entering a season of reflection and renewal. Autumn invites us to enjoy the crisp air, and to marvel at the beauty of creation as it transforms around us. It's a time to gather close with loved ones, to give thanks for the harvests of our lives, and to prepare our hearts for the months ahead.

Here at church, we're excited about the new session and all that it brings. As we move from summer's restful pace, our groups and activities are beginning to restart, offering opportunities for everyone to reconnect and re-engage. Whether you're interested in deepening your faith through Bible studies, sharing fellowship in worship or at the snack bar or serving others, there's something for everyone.

This season, we are particularly mindful of the importance of community. As the evenings grow longer, let us also draw closer—to each other and to God. Let this be a time when we renew our commitment to being a supportive and loving congregation, where each person feels welcomed and valued.

As we embrace this new season, let us take comfort in the words of Ecclesiastes 3:1

"To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven."

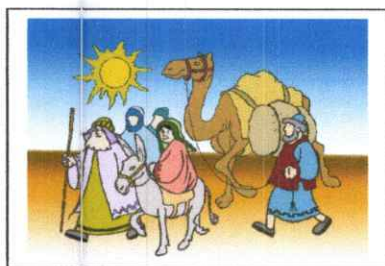
This verse reminds us that just as nature moves through its seasons, so too do our lives. Each season carries its own blessings and challenges, and each is a part of God's greater plan. As we embark on this autumn journey together, may we be open to the new opportunities and growth that God has in store for us.

We are deeply thankful for the vibrant community we share, and we look forward to all that this new season will bring. May it be one of deepening faith, warm fellowship, and joyful service.

With love and blessings,

Eleanor

A Journey with God



During the past few months many of us will have embarked upon a journey. That journey may have involved travelling just a short distance or perhaps it was much further afield. We may have journeyed alone or with family and friends. We might have met many other people on our journey and saw many different things. Now as our summer draws to a close and autumn approaches we look forward to what the changing season brings.

In the book of Genesis we learn of Abraham. He was the first Hebrew patriarch and is revered in Judaism, Christianity and Islam. He was called by God to journey to a new land where he founded a new nation. Abraham shows us how to trust in God, to trust in the good times and the bad and to trust even when things seem impossible. Abraham is our faith father because he shows us how to follow God.

Let's be honest, most of us probably feel pretty comfortable with where we are with God as long as life moves along in ways we enjoy or in ways that we have grown accustomed. Unfortunately, when life throws us a curve ball, a dramatic decline in health, an unanticipated death, a surprise betrayal by a friend, or an unexpected downturn in our personal circumstances, we often find, we don't have a strong enough relationship with God to sustain us.

No matter how comfortable we feel we are with God, a genuine relationship with the Almighty goes far beyond a few religious rituals, like making time for Him at Christmas and Easter or throwing a few prayers each month toward heaven, and a surface knowledge of who God really is. None of that is intended to be disparaging about the ways we seek God. However, we know that a genuine relationship with anyone, much less God, is going to require more than superficial effort. Hopefully, we are all on a journey to God and with God as knowing God is about experiencing his presence in our lives.

The story of Abraham helps us see what a journey to God and with God means. His life's outcome also reminds us that the journey is worth the cost, effort, and challenges. By the end of his life, Abraham was known as a friend of God. His example teaches us that faith is a life-long journey. That journey should lead us to a deeper, more meaningful, relationship with God and with others. But, what can we learn from Abraham for our travels through life?

- Be available to God, don't believe your schedule is too full to find faith.
- Be open to experience God in fresh ways, to encounter him in places and times you don't see as necessarily religious or comfortable.
- Be hospitable to God and his people, welcoming others in the name of God and welcome the presence of 'The Holy Spirit' into your life.
- Be committed to pleasing God and how you treat others instead of settling for being religious.
- Be willing to make agenda changes in life, our experiences of God and with God often call us to explore new ideas, new lands, and new people.

Being a person of faith doesn't mean our journey to God will be easy. It wasn't for Abraham, that's for sure. He faced challenges all along the way. He had times of failure as well as great success. Along the way, God journeyed with him to bring him to the place that both Abraham and his God wanted him to reach. So please, don't give up on your journey. No matter what life throws in the way, keep seeking God until you arrive at that place where God is not only near, but he is also real! After all, this Almighty, Creator God longs to be our Father and our friend.

The Editor



Prayer Points

- Pray for the Minister, Kirk Session and Congregational Board as they prepare for new challenges and opportunities ahead.
- Pray for the Sunday Club and Bible Class, for all leaders, children and young people as they start a new session.
- Pray for all of our youth organisations starting up that the vision of the leaders might have been refreshed in the summer and the enthusiasm of the young folk might continue.
- Pray for all of our adult organisations including the Snack Bar and Coffee Morning that these might continue to be ways of reaching out and encouraging fellowship.
- Pray for all young people preparing to start College or University, for those starting work and for those unsure about their futures.
- Pray for the work of the minister in our local schools, strengthening the bonds of friendship that already exist.
- Pray for the work of all organisations, groups and individuals who seek to make this a better and fairer world for all.



The Annual Christian Aid Hunger Lunch on 23rd June raised the amazing sum of £818.40 which was duly transferred to Christian Aid. Many thanks to all who contributed in support of this year's focus on Burundi, one of the five poorest countries in the world and the smallest in Africa.

Liz Riddell

Thank You

John and Helen Fettus would like to thank the church family for the lovely flowers, home visits and get well wishes following John's short hospital stay in June. All greatly appreciated.

Eileen and Robert Stewart would like to thank the congregation for the lovely flowers and kind thoughts on the passing of their good friend Jan Allison of many years. They were very much appreciated.

Maggie and Jim Weir want to thank the congregation for the lovely flowers.

Trudy Henderson wishes to thank the congregation for the beautiful flowers she received.



Bungee Jump!

Donald Jarvie completed his leap of faith and successfully made his jump on the 28th July. Donald and the family would like to thank the church family and many others for their support in helping him raise over £1500 for our wonderful St Andrew's Hospice here in Airdrie. Well done Donald!

The Senior Circle

The Senior Circle resumes on Tuesday, 10th September 2024. Join us between 1.30pm and 2pm for a chat and cuppa, with the meeting starting at 2pm. We usually finish at 3pm. We look forward to seeing both existing and new members. Come and join us at the friendly Senior Circle!

Our first 3 meetings are:

10th September – Eleanor Hamilton – our Probationer Minister

24th September – Talk from a representative from the Maggie Centre Lanarkshire

8th October – Talk from the Fire Brigade, Coatbridge

Anne Learmonth

Airdrie Probus Club

Airdrie Probus Club are a men's club who meet every second Tuesday in Cairnlea Parish Church Hall from 10am to 12 noon. They welcome a variety of guest speakers throughout the year. A warm and cordial invitation is extended to new members or visitors to come along and enjoy a time of fellowship. The new session commences on Tuesday, 3rd September. For further details please contact John Clydesdale on 07512912016 or john.clydesdale@hotmail.co.uk

John Clydesdale



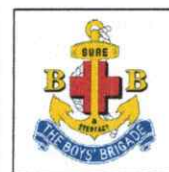
2nd Airdrie Boys' Brigade

All sections resume on Monday, 9th September.

Anchor Boys 6pm

Junior/Company Sections 7pm

Jean Kinniburgh



Harvest Flowers

We plan to decorate the church on Harvest Sunday, 6th October with flowers. Once again we are asking the congregation to donate flowers. The Flower Team will be in the Crush Hall on Saturday, 5th October from 10am until 12 noon to receive your gift of flowers. As is usual, these flowers will be distributed to our housebound members and those not so well at this time. Thank you for your help.

Avril and Margaret (Flower Conveners)

Art Club

As we approach the autumn months and you are perhaps at a loose end on a Friday afternoon, why not come along to the Art Club, which is held in Church Hall every Friday from 2.30 to 4.30pm. No experience necessary and you will be made most welcome.

Gordon Waddell

'In Stitches'

'In Stitches' Craft class resumes on Tuesday, 10th September at 10.00am in the Session Room. All will be made welcome.

Helen Fettus

Bible Study

The next Bible Study starts on Wednesday, 11th September 7.30 – 9pm. It's a study using the TV series 'The Chosen.' All will be made welcome.

Eleanor Hamilton

Re:connect



SUNDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER 2024

JOIN WITH US @ 11:00A.M.

IN OUR

SONGS OF PRAISE

ALL ARE WELCOME – BRING A FRIEND

THIS EVENT WILL BE FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS IN THE
LARGE HALL.

Our re:connect series of events will be running each month from September through to Advent and Christmas. There will be one event each month and these are offering everyone a variety of different opportunities to come together and reconnect with fellow members in worship, fellowship and friendship. It would be great to have you among us. If you've not been to worship in person recently, your presence has been missed, so why not come along and bring a friend. Together, we are stronger. The first event is our 'Songs of Praise' service on Sunday, 15th September at 11.00am. All are welcome.

Situations Vacant



Social Media: The congregation currently has accounts with Facebook and Instagram. At the moment, these are updated by Eleanor. In an effort to improve our Facebook and Instagram presence going forwards, we are looking for one or two people to help upload posts relating to the congregation and church groups. If you have skills in this area and are interested in finding out more, please speak to Eleanor for further information.

Church Notices

Morning worship every Sunday at 11.00am.

Sacrament of Holy Communion – Sunday, 8th September

Songs of Praise Service – Sunday, 15th September

Harvest Thanksgiving Service with Sacrament of Baptism – Sunday, 6th October

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



Delve in at Twelve - Wednesday Services at 12 noon

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

The service is followed by tea and coffee. Sacrament of Holy Communion on the 11th September.

Funerals

Jan Allison; Louise Armstrong; Martha Blair; Jessie Boyd; May Penman

Useful Contacts

Probationer Minister: Eleanor Hamilton 07594163051

Session Clerk: David Walker 01236 747075

Treasurer: David Watt 01698 853921

Roll Keeper: Moira Gartshore 01236 761001

Organist: David Stewart 07774674345

Hall Convener: John Clydesdale 07512912016

Gift Aid: David Walker 01236 747075

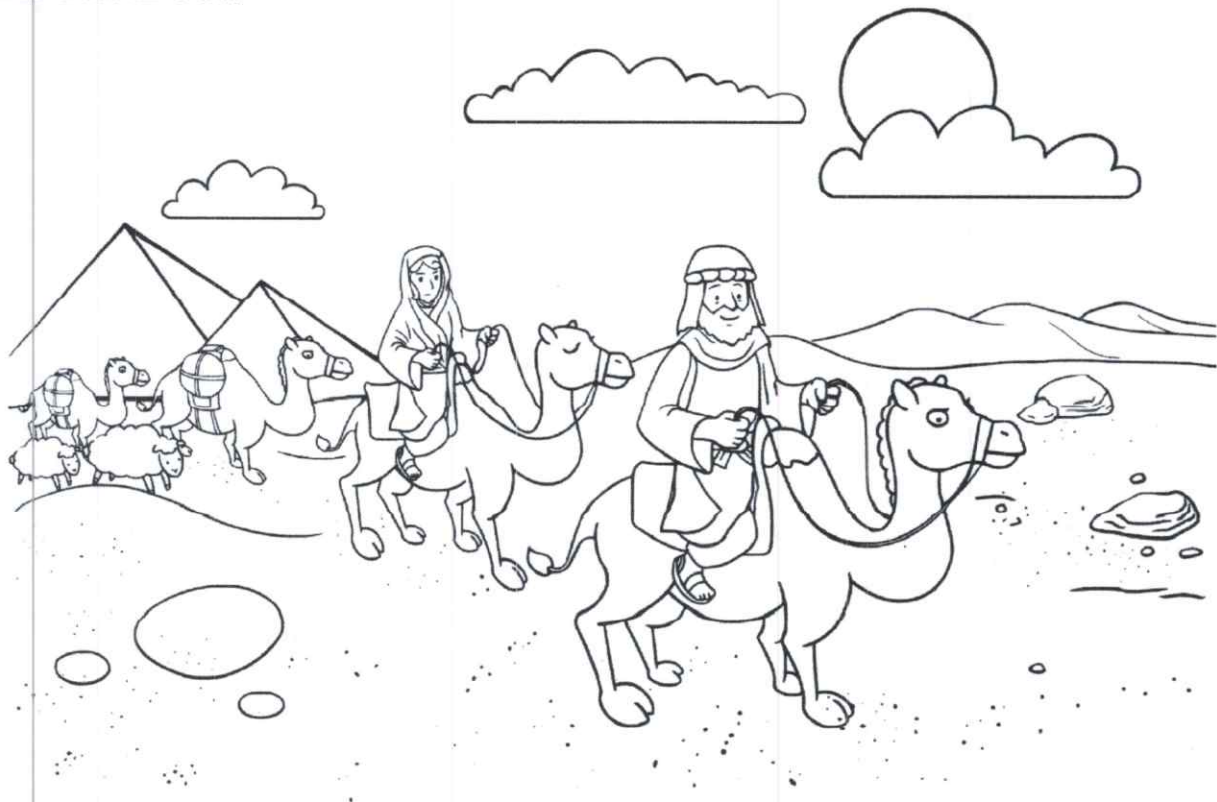
Magazine Editor: George Randall 01236 763102 or 07738089762

The Story of Abraham and Sarah

Abraham was one of Noah's descendants. He was a good person who believed in God. One day God told Abraham to leave his home in Ur and move to a different country. God wanted Abraham to trust him and promised Abraham, "I will make you into a great nation and bless you! (Genesis 12:2). Indeed, all the people on earth will be blessed because of you." God promised not only to bless Abraham, but bless everyone through him.

Now, as you can imagine, Abraham did not want to leave his comfortable home and all his friends. But, trusting in God he packed up all his belongings and set off with his wife Sarah, his servants, his animals and his nephew Lot. They left their old life behind forever.

Abraham and Sarah lived in tents and moved wherever God told them to go. They put their faith and trust in God.



After a long journey, Abraham and his people finally reached a land called Canaan. However, there was a problem. If they all stayed together there would not be enough food and water for everyone to eat and drink. Abraham explained to Lot they must go their separate ways and allowed Lot to choose in which part of the land he wanted to settle and live.

What does this story mean for each one of us today?

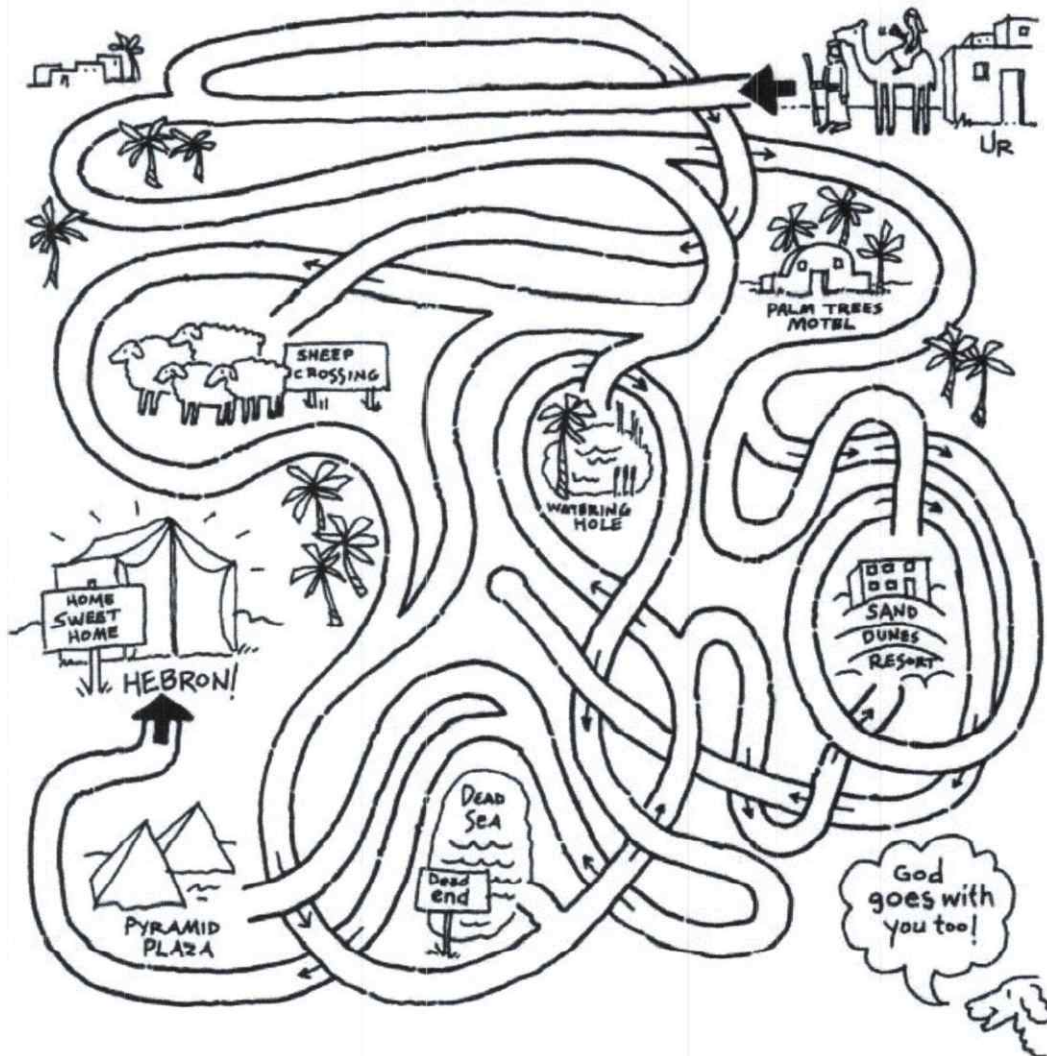
Moving to somewhere new is always difficult. Whether a new home in a different country or a new class at school, it's difficult to leave family and friends behind. We don't like to leave the known for the unknown.

However, like Abraham we should obey God and trust God for the next step, even when we do not know where or what that might be. Faith involves both trust and action.

Abraham and Sarah Move to a New Land

God told Abraham and Sarah to move to a new land. He promised to make Abraham's sons and daughters into a great nation. God said that one day the whole world would be blessed through a child born from Abraham's family.

God kept His promises when He sent Jesus to be our Savior. Jesus was a great-great-great ... grandson of Abraham and Sarah. Help Abraham and Sarah find their new home.



Always put your faith and trust in God