

THE NEW WELLWYNDER

November 2021

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from the Manse -

Dear Friends,

It is heartening to look out and see a growing number of people attend "in person" worship. We have been so fortunate to have the technology that has allowed us to stream services and even have them transmitted via the telephone (when it was working). But, there is nothing like being together and that is true, not only of church, but also of some many other encounters we could name - from coffees through to lunch and meetings. Yes, we have cause still to be tentative in the steps that we take but it is good that we are able to spend more time together.

A sense of community has always been an important part of the life of the church, from the time of the early church through the Reformation to today. Howard Rice and James Huffstutler have written extensively about the Reformed church and Reformed worship. The very first characteristic they recognised of reformed worship, despite its great diversity, is a focus on community. This can be taken as a focus on both the church community and the family of the church, and the community in which the church finds itself and is called to serve as a witness to Jesus Christ.

For the church community here at The New Wellwynd to continue to develop and reach its full potential what is needed is a full investment of the time, talents and money by all its members seen in your involvement in the worship, work and witness as well as in the fostering of friendships and the building up of relationships. This is an area we need to continue to explore and develop together as the whole people of God.

We are a community and we are a family. We belong to each other as we belong to the body of Christ. In the time that lies ahead as we need to look at building up our community and building bridges in the community within which we live. All of us need to consider the part we have to play and all that we can freely give to ensure the continuation of the advancement of Christ's Kingdom in this

place. This prayer is a reminder that being a Christian and being called by Christ into the fellowship is not a spectator sport, but that it is going on a journey when we are actively engaged in the full life of Christ and his Church.

*Christ has no body now on earth but yours,
No hands but yours,
No feet but yours;
Yours are the eyes through which to look at
Christ's compassion to the world,*

*Yours are the feet with which he is
to go about doing good,
And yours are the hands
with which he is to bless us now.*

May God bless us and enable us
to be faithful to our calling.
Your friend and minister



CHURCH FLOWERS :

We are pleased to be able to put flowers in the Church for the Sunday Morning Service. There is no Flower Chart available in the church, but we are asking anyone who would like to contribute to the Flower Fund, just to make a donation. Please mark your envelope "Flower Fund".

The donation can be handed in when the Church is open for worship or you can phone one of the Flower Conveners and discuss other arrangements.

The Church Flower Service is always very much appreciated by those who receive the flowers.

Thank you again for your help.
Avril Cockburn - 769134; Margaret Jack - 767898.

MORNING WORSHIP

In relation to Sunday morning we await revised guidelines for worship and for other areas of church life (such as hospitality). We are taking little steps forward. There is now no longer any need to book for Sunday morning worship. You are now free to come along. We are still doing track and trace and so you will be asked to write down your details if we haven't already got them or you can scan the QR code on the way in.

We can now sing but unfortunately we continue to have to wear masks but that, and a number of areas, are under discussion. The national Covid Task Group is in discussions with the Scottish Government.

It was anticipated that more information would be available at this stage but unfortunately it is not. We will keep you up-to-date as best we can.

FUTURE SERVICES

Sunday, 14th November

10.45 a.m. Morning Worship –
Remembrance Sunday.

Sunday, 21st November

11 a.m. Morning Worship - *Listen to my voice.*

Sunday, 28th November

11 a.m. First Sunday in Advent
Making time to watch: looking for the signs.

Sunday, 5th December

11 a.m. Second Sunday in Advent
The Sacrament of Holy Communion.
*Making time to mark time:
preparing to step out.*

*Delve in at 12 continues
on a Wednesday at 12 noon.

**You are welcome to join us
at any of these services.

FUNERAL SERVICE

15th October - Peter Smith

Baptism

17th October - Zac James Youngson.

Wedding

1st October - Lesley Frame
and Colin Macpherson.

TALKING THE WALK -

Robbie and the Camino

CAMEO is hosting an evening when Robbie will talk about his recent experience of walking the Camino. With stories and PowerPoint slides he will bring to life an amazing experience.

The evening will take place in the church/hall on Friday, 26th November at 7.30 p.m.

A BIG THANKS

A big thanks for all of your financial and prayerful support helping contributing to the success of my recent walk along the Camino de Santiago. Your prayers helped my feet cope with the journey and your financial support helped raise almost £8000 for Tradecraft Exchange. Many, many thanks.

Robbie

CAMEO

On the 7th December Cameo are holding their annual Advent meeting. This meeting is always a lovely Celebration of Christ's birth. Looking forward to seeing a great turn out on the evening.

Wilma Davidson

SHOE BOX APPEAL

Cameo have a large number of shoe boxes available if any church member would like to fill one to give to Women's Aid. There is also a list available with suggested items, however, it's not essential for everything to be included from the list. A selection of items would be excellent. The boxes with list are available from the Church at any service.

Wilma Davidson

THANK YOU

Nancy Vance would like to thank the congregation for the lovely flowers received after her recent stay in hospital. They were very much appreciated.

Grace Frame would like to thank the congregation for the lovely flowers received which were very much appreciated.

USED TOYS AND WARM CLOTHES

This year we are collecting any used toys, books and games which are in good condition. Although the main charities, The Health Board and Social Work don't accept second hand items there are children who will be delighted to receive a gift – large or small. Also needed are any warm clothes for 5-13 year olds – in good condition please.

As before there is a box at the manse for any donations, or they can be left at the Church on a Wednesday or Sunday. Thank you

Maggie Weir

SCOTTISH POPPY APPEAL

Poppyscotland provide support for current and former members of the Armed Forces as well as their families. This support, in recognition of their sacrifices and service, is holistic and bespoke, never cookie cutter. They have helped countless men, women and families with issues linked to their time in the Armed Forces or with struggles adjusting from military to civilian life. They even help with needs that have arisen long after someone has left the Armed Forces. Whenever, wherever support is needed, they are there.

It is now that time of year as the country remembers the sacrifices made by many that we can support the work of Poppyscotland by donating generously to this year's Scottish Poppy Appeal.

Poppy, Poppy, what do you say?

Wear me on Remembrance Day.

Poppy, Poppy, what do you tell?

Many soldiers in battle fell.

Poppy, Poppy, what should we know?

That peace on earth should grow and grow!

The Editor

Happy Birthday!

It's a big happy birthday and congratulations to the 2nd Airdrie Boys' Brigade who celebrate their Centenary during November. The company founded in 1921 are still going strong and we wish them all the very best for the next one hundred! At the re-dedication service on Sunday, 31st October, Alex Anderson, a member of the Company since 1962 as a boy, officer and Captain gave an informative and amusing account of some of the Company's landmarks and highlights. Thereafter the Company's current Captain Jean Kinniburgh along with representatives from the Anchor Boys, Junior Section and Company Section presented the Church with a Defibrillator to mark the occasion. This was received with grateful thanks and dedicated by Rev Hamilton who thanked the Company for their generous gift.

Roving Reporter

The John Muir Way!

Over the past 19 months it would be fair to say I have done a fair bit of walking both near and far! Traversing both east and west across the country with my pal Boab, we have walked many parts of the John Muir Way which is a walking/cycling route that runs for 134 miles from Helensburgh in the west to Dunbar in the east! My feet can testify to that! But that aside,

I came across an article recently by a lady called Holly Rossi which resonated quite a bit with me, making me view the naturalist John Muir in a completely different light!

Holly writes.....[The naturalist John Muir](#) wrote, "Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in [and pray in](#), where nature may heal and give strength to body and soul." As the leaves start to change colours and float to the ground in all their crunchy, russet majesty, Muir's words are on my mind. The beauty of nature during autumn is both glorious and fleeting. I love the idea that there's [strength to be found in both](#).

Muir asks us to both "play" and "pray" in nature, to recognize both [the sacredness of natural cycles](#) and seasons and the joys of comparing leaf colours, and even leaping into piles we've raked up through our less-than-playful hard work.

His words are a call to find balance in our lives. In Muir's formulation, we don't need to choose between play and prayer, or between beauty and bread. We need all these things, balanced in relationship with each other, to fulfil our bodies and souls—to find healing and strength.

This autumn, we had hoped to feel renewed and refreshed, in a post-pandemic moment of return and resilience. The reality has turned out to be quite a bit more complicated than that. Muir's words offer subtle context—"nature *may* heal," he writes. Then again, for survivors of natural disasters and the ongoing pandemic, nature may also challenge us deeply and painfully.

How we navigate this complex reality is, in my view, where the [true strength and healing emerge](#). May we each find moments of joyful play and prayerful reflection, moments when we can rediscover the beauty we need to nourish ourselves, body and soul.

..... **I don't think anyone would disagree with that!**

George Randall

Mobilise for Change!

COP26 has arrived and it's happening NOW! This turning-point, this turning-round moment, is one the world has waited for. What is happening in Glasgow just now will leave an indelible mark – for good or ill.

Be in no doubt, this climate conference is one of the last moments we have as a global neighbourhood to commit to the changes necessary to avert the worst effects of climate change. There is no other moment – the time is

now. Grasp this moment and give it your all!
The ones suffering most who had least to do
with it are here to tell us their truths. The ones
not here, whose every moment depends on
what we do in ours, will look back on this time
and say 'thank you' or 'why?' Embrace the
moment as it might change the world.
In this moment, let us listen for the word of
God ...
The still, small voice ... the whisper to your
heart, the silent stir in your soul...
This moment, let us listen for the word of God
...

Our children leading the way, our sisters and
brothers sharing their lived-truths, prophets
pounding the streets ...
In this moment, let us be challenged to listen
for the word of God ...
The new idea, the disturbing insight, the
uncomfortable question – 'are you willing to
let go of your privilege, your power,
your possessions?
The world whispers, "Listen, God is speaking.
You don't want to miss this."

Sally Foster-Fulton

When I say, "I am a Christian"

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I'm not shouting, "I've been saved!"
I'm whispering, "I get lost!"
That's why I chose this way"

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I don't speak with human pride
I'm confessing that I stumble –
Needing God to be my guide

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I'm not trying to be strong
I'm professing that I'm weak
And pray for strength to carry on

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I'm not bragging of success
I'm admitting that I've failed
And cannot ever pay the debt

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I don't think I know it all
I submit to my confusion
Asking humbly to be taught

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I'm not claiming to be perfect
My flaws are all too visible
But God believes I'm worth it

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I still feel the sting of pain
I have my share of heartache
Which is why I seek God's name

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I do not wish to judge
I have no authority
I only know I'm loved!

Carol Wimmer

SITUATIONS VACANT

Over the past year or so we have been
developing our work in the use of PowerPoint
and digital media both for the in person
congregation and those watching online. This
is an area that we would like to develop and
harness the skills of a wider number of people
in the congregation and so, we need help with
sound, camera work and PowerPoint.

Sound: On a Sunday there is a Rota of
individuals who control the sound coming
through the speakers in the Kirk and out to
those watching from their houses and
homes. Is this something that you think you
could learn or, if you know something of it
already, develop?

Cameras: There are now three webcams
in the sanctuary and these are controlled by
volunteers Sunday by Sunday and at other
times. Those controlling the cameras are also
controlling what is streamed live. Again, is
this something you've dabbled in and would
like to learn more? Is it a new challenge you'd
like to take up?

PowerPoint: Currently the minister controls
the PowerPoint which is what you see on the
big screen on a Sunday and on your screens at
home - all of the words and videos. It would
be good to have a Rota of people willing to
take control of that on a Sunday. You wouldn't
need to know your way around PowerPoint but
would only need to be ready to learn how to
move the slides on a Sunday and deal with any
trouble shooting.

These posts are open to people of any age and
full training will be given.

Please contact either the minister (763022) or
David Walker (747075).

Give it a thought!

- What is greater than God? More evil than Satan? Rich people need it? Poor people have it? – Nothing!
- As long as there are exams there will always be prayer in our schools!
- We cannot direct the winds of life but we can adjust the sails!
- Dust on your bible could lead to dirt in your life!
- Forbidden fruit creates many jams!
- Can't sleep? Try counting your blessings!
- The best vitamin for a Christian is B1!
- People are like tea bags -- you have to put them in hot water before you know how strong they are!

Phil Osopher

Oops!

A middle-aged woman has a heart attack and is taken to the hospital. While on the operating table she has a near death experience. During that experience she sees God and asks if this is it. God says no and explains that she has another 30 years to live. Upon her recovery she decides to just stay in the hospital and have a face lift, liposuction, tummy tuck, etc. She even has someone come in and change her hair colour. She figures since she's got another 30 years she might as well make the most of it. She walks out of the hospital after the last operation and is killed by an ambulance speeding by. She arrives in front of God and complains, "I thought you said I had another 30 years."

God replied, "I didn't recognise you!"

Jo King

Life is just a stopping place!

Life is just a stopping place
A pause in what's to be.
A resting place along the road
To sweet eternity!

We all have different journeys
Different paths along the way
We all were meant to learn some things
But never meant to stay!

Our destination is a place
Far greater than we know
For some the journey's quicker
For some the journey's slow!

And when the journey finally ends
We'll claim a great reward
And find an everlasting peace
Together with the Lord!

ANON

TRAIDCRAFT

The Autumn / Winter Catalogues are now available, giving details of Christmas Cards and other items.

If you are interested in receiving one of these, please contact David Walker (747075) who will arrange to get a catalogue to you.

The closing date for orders is 28th November.

Thank you for your continued support.

Useful Contacts

Minister:	Revd Robert A Hamilton	01236 763022.
Session Clerk	T. Fraser Gillespie	01236 604860.
Treasurer	David J. Watt	01698 853921.
Organist	David J. Stewart	07774 674345.
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