

Queen's Park Govanhill Parish Church



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**MONTHLY
MAGAZINE**
January 2021
No 67

*A Prayer
for you is said today,
"May the love of God
ever with you stay.
Wherever you are
whatever you do,
May the blessing of
God ever rest on you.
And in the years that
are still to come,
May the peace of God
be in your home
And God's great love
abide with you."*



From our Interim Minister

Dear friends,

'Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go' (Joshua 1: 9)

I wish you all a very happy and hopeful New Year!

As we are all well aware, we enter 2021 in very unusual and difficult circumstances. We hope that the relief we felt just a few weeks ago when we welcomed the news of a successful vaccine and the beginning of the vaccination programme will prove to be well-founded in the weeks to come. But, sadly, that good news was rather swiftly followed by the bad news of rapidly rising infections, a drastically curtailed Christmas and new restrictions under Level Four requirements.

All of this will have consequences for our congregational life, and I have said something about that elsewhere in this magazine.

But these are as nothing compared with the impact all of this is having on us as a society and as human beings. Livelihoods and lives are being lost; our health care services are under pressure; isolation and loss of social contact are taking their toll; we are missing fellowship and singing at church. And so much more besides.

And yet, at the beginning of every year, none of us can tell what lies

ahead of us, whether good or bad. Surely none of us could have foreseen what the year 2020 would hold.

And there is hope; hope that the now unrolling vaccination programme will be effective in containing and controlling the virus; hope that ever more effective means of treating COVID-19 will emerge; hope that this pandemic will pass just as past pandemics did.

But there is the still greater and more significant hope that we as Christians have. A hope that sustains us whatever this year may bring. We know the One who has gone before us into this year, the One who walks with us through it, the One who has promised never to leave us as we journey.

In all the joys and victories that lie ahead in 2021, he will be with us. In any difficulties or sadnesses we may face in 2021, he will be with us.

He will be with us just as he was with Joshua.

So let us be strong and courageous. Let us not be afraid or discouraged. The Lord our God is with us wherever we go.

May God bless you richly in 2021, and may you know his promised presence on the way.

Your friend and Interim Minister

David Denniston 07903 926727



Forthcoming Services

It is difficult to be certain as to when we will be able to have our next service in the church building. We are presently facing some of the most stringent restrictions that have been imposed on gathering and movement since the early days of lockdown in March and April.

We will continue to carefully monitor the Scottish Government's announcements and we will be in receipt of the Church of Scotland's constantly updated guidance which we will follow closely.

Meanwhile, the service themes and readings will be as follows whether or not the services are online or in the church building. What is certain is that services on 3rd and 10th will be online and not in the building.

3rd January CHRISTMAS 2

'Perspective' Luke 2: 22-40

The sermon will be provided by the Moderator, Rt Revd Dr Martin Fair

10th January EPIPHANY 1

'Baptised' Mark 1: 4-11

17th January EPIPHANY 2

'Follow me 1' John 1:43-51

24th January EPIPHANY 3

'Follow me 2' Mark 1: 14-20

31st January EPIPHANY 4

'With authority' Mark 1: 21-28

7th February EPIPHANY 5

'Healing the sick' Mark 1: 29-39

Level Four Restrictions

As you read this, the whole of Scotland is continuing under Level Four restrictions. At the time of writing this will continue to be the case for at least the first half of January and possibly for longer. In addition, there are some indications that further restrictions will be added to the existing Level Four provisions.

At the moment the Scottish Government and the Church of Scotland guidance has implications for us as a congregation and it may well be that more limitations will be announced that will affect church life.

Pastoral Care can not be offered 'in person' or in another's home (or Care Home or hospital) except in the most extreme of circumstances and even then only where this cannot be effectively undertaken via internet or phone.

Church Services will remain online only until further guidance is given and the Kirk Session is able to decide future plans. (While it is allowed for worship to continue in church during this period numbers are even further restricted to no more than 20. When this was last the case, the Kirk Session decided then that we would worship online only. The Kirk Session will re-consider this matter when they meet in January).

Church Meetings and Groups remain closed and the building unavailable for use except in the most limited of circumstances (eg Food Bank and Club 170 which are specifically allowed).

Interim Ministry Aims and Objectives we will try to take forward as best as we can by use of phone, internet etc. until such time as face to face meetings are permitted.

David Denniston

MONDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY.

After a short break over Christmas and New Year, our meetings will resume courtesy of Zoom on Monday 11th January at 7.30pm. Since the cessation of meetings within the church building in March we have been very grateful to Jo Gibb for arranging the necessary “Zoom” technology which has enabled us to continue with these “virtual” meetings and although some of our previously faithful members who do not have access to Zoom have not been able to participate, we have together worked our way through 1st and 2nd Timothy (looking at the issues related to church leadership) in the spring and early summer, and the Book of Daniel (thinking about the difficulties of being in exile-just as we are in “exile” from our building) in the autumn and early winter.

Our next series will tackle the Gospel of Luke following on from the Christmas story. It would be a great source of encouragement to have some new participants so if you are interested in learning a little more of the early ministry of Jesus and what it means for us today, all you have to do is pass on your email address to Jo and he will include in the Zoom link. We’d love to have you with us every second Monday for just over an hour!

CLUB 170

As we approached the end of 2020 it felt that we had just packed away Christmas from 2019 into the club 170 cupboard, when it was time to get it all back out for 2020!



On Sunday 20th December at the club we gave out the usual weekly food bags along with Christmas gift bag, and the ever welcome vouchers for the chip shop to be used over the 2 weeks we are closed.

The bags had the usual parcel of socks, hat and gloves, a parcel of toiletries, a Christmas cracker, packet of chocolate bars, text card, church Christmas card and this year following a great suggestion from Alasdair we included a face mask and a bottle of hand sanitiser. The bags, along with hot drinks, were all well received by the visitors who came along that day.

The club will reopen, all being allowed, on Sunday 10th January.

As always we are so very grateful to those of you who have provided food, donated money, upheld the club in prayer and to those who have been able to come along throughout these challenging months and help Sunday by Sunday. Thank you all.

Our hopes and prayers are that 2021 will truly bring a way out of this worrying and very testing situation and we hold close the hope that we might be back serving cups of soup and rolls with sausage. *B.R.*

Appreciation and thanks

As we begin a new year it seems an appropriate time to once again acknowledge and give thanks for all the continuing dedication which has provided so much for our congregation and beyond, throughout what has been a very challenging year.

It's a bit like running a home, no matter what is happening around, there are so many jobs need to continue. In Queen's Park Govanhill we are most blessed to have so many members who are so dedicated in using their skills to keep the purpose of our congregation alive. It can be tricky to list thanks for fear of missing out but I go ahead and list with the best of intention:

A huge amount of time is needed communicating for church business and for organising all the following

- Financial matters, banking and paying bills continue*
- Maintenance and security of our buildings demand regular time*
- Weekly updates and other communications are written by email*
- Thoughts for the day requiring thought, time and commitment*
- Keeping in touch regularly with Pathfinders delivering crafts, activities and treats!!*
- Regular Bible study requiring thought, effort and time*
- Zoom choir practices using musical skills and personal effort*
- Online worship dependent on contributions and time from our organist, our minister, choir, Pathfinder leaders, members reading and leading prayer and our technical expert putting it altogether.*
- Live worship including all for online services along with booking lists, preparation of sanctuary in line with restrictions, additional technical challenges and the frustrations of technology!!*
- Preparation and presenting special Christmas services*
- Magazine editing, printing and distributing*
- Arranging for flowers to be sent to members for different occasions*
- Foodbank and Club 170 – requiring donations, time, effort and dedication of teams each week*
- Continuing communications with one another through phone calls, texts and cards.*
- Prayer – the one we can all do.*

These are things I am aware of going on but I am sure there are many more which I'm not aware of but which are very much valued along with all of these. Much of this list comes to us as a completed item but all have so much going on to get to the point of presenting it to us and that is where the dedication and skill is.

I am sure that my thanks to our minister and all our congregation for being there throughout these many months, will be echoed by many others. Thank you all. Keep safe, keep strong, keep faith and keep looking forward to being together again. **Betty Roberts**

Thank you

2020 is a year than none of us will ever forget. Our lives were halted, or taken, and our whole way of living changed and was put on hold.

On 3rd January 2016 the folk from Daisy Street (Govanhill Trinity Church) attended their first Service at Queen’s Park Govanhill Church. A little bit like 2020, our lives were changed with the closure of our Church and the uncertainty of what lay ahead. But we did not need to worry. On stepping into the Welcome Hall that day we were indeed made “Welcome” and Morag was first in the queue to snatch us up for Hospitality, and others fell in quickly after that.

I know I can say, on behalf of the Daisy Street folk, we thank those at 170 for the welcome we received, not only then, but the friendships formed and kindnesses shown throughout those past 5 years. None more so than during this year, when in Lockdown and our spirits were low, true Christian friendship was extended.

So, as we look back on the Pandemic, we feel blessed to have had our Union with Queen’s Park, and give thanks it has been so fulfilling. We look forward to when we can be with our Church family in 2021.

Linda

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

**Please remember...
‘Thought for the Day’ will continue to be published on a daily basis on our webpage and is also available by email and on the phone number 0141 473 6899.**

USED STAMPS

I hope you have all been saving stamps. It is not possible to deliver them by hand but if you care to post them to;

World Mission Stamp Project
PO Box 9191
Wishaw
ML 12 OYS

The proceeds will go to a Women’s Project in Sri Lanka.

Otherwise please keep them till I can deliver them to the Presbytery Office. Thank You.



Lexa

“Daily Bread” NOTES: JANUARY

God’s King

Fix your gaze on God alone

Fri 1	Matthew 3:1-12	Sun 17	Psalm 130
Sat 2	Matthew 3:13-17	Mon 18	Matthew 7:1-6
Sun 3	Psalm 128	Tue 19	Matthew 7:7-12
Mon 4	Matthew 4:1-11	Wed 20	Matthew 7:13-20
Tue 5	Matthew 4:12-17	Thur 21	Matthew 7:21-29
Wed 6	Matthew 4:18-25	Fri 22	Exodus 1:1-22
Thur 7	Matthew 5:1-12	Sat 23	Exodus 2:1-25
Fri 8	Matthew 5:13-16	Sun 24	Psalm 131
Sat 9	Matthew 5:17-26	Mon 25	Exodus 3:1-12
Sun 10	Psalm 129	Tue 26	Exodus 3:13-22
Mon 11	Matthew 5:27-37	Wed 27	Exodus 4:1-17
Tue 12	Matthew 5:38-48	Thur 28	Exodus 4:18-31
Wed 13	Matthew 6:1-4	Fri 29	Exodus 5:1-21
Thur 14	Matthew 6: 5-15	Sat 30	Exodus 5:22-6:12
Fri 15	Matthew 6:16-24	Sun 31	Psalm 132
Sat 16	Matthew 6:25-34		

WAY IN....to Exodus 1-6

These passages show pain, discomfort, uncertainty – but they also show a God who loves his people, who is hugely powerful, holy and in control and who will ultimately have the victory. It encourages readers to fix their gaze on God alone and hold firm to his promises.

During Joseph’s time in Egypt, the Israelites had prospered. But, in Exodus, there is a new king who did not seek to honour God but instead to oppress the Israelites.

Moses is a key character in these readings. He is imperfect and flawed – but God uses him. These chapters are, in part, a lengthy conversation between Moses and God. How amazing that God would speak to Moses in such a way and get to know him personally, offering reassuring words and signs of encouragement.

By Louisa King (adapted)

**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 out 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.
May that almighty hand guide
and uphold us all.” ’**



A Dundee Sheriff Court was hearing a case involving a fracas outside a Chinese takeaway. Part of the evidence related to an item of nourishment which had been purchased from the takeaway. "and what happened to the carry-out food?" the defence lawyer asked. "A' e' i' a'. Thus becoming, possibly, the first witness in a courtroom to utter a full sentence without a consonant.

A lady minister was replying to a particularly sexist Toast to the Lassies at a Burns Supper by saying that men were not as romantic as they had been in Rabbinic days. "I received an obscene telephone call last week and even he needed a lot of prompting."

The cruellest jibe about the good citizens of Cumbernauld is that when there is an escape from the State Mental Hospital at Carstairs the police immediately throw a cordon around Cumbernauld "If they get into Cumbernauld we'll never find them," a police spokesman said.

SIGN in Ayrshire pub: 'Welcome — A Pint, a Pie, and a Kind Word.' A visitor duly followed the suggestion on the sign. The barmaid slammed his pint in front of him without a word. She was equally taciturn when she dumped an extremely greasy and aged pie on the bar.

'What about the kind word?' he asked. 'Don't eat the pie,' she retorted.

I don't mean to brag but I finished my 14 day diet in 3 hours and 20 minutes.

MISTAKE MISTAKE MISTAKE...

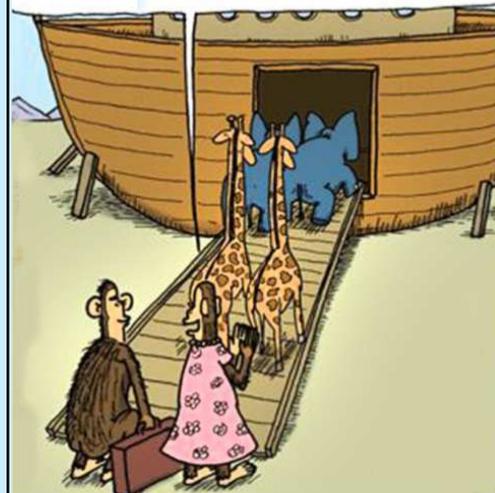
If a **BARBER** makes a mistake
it's a **NEW STYLE**,
If a **POLITICIAN** makes a mistake
it's a **NEW LAW**,
If a **SCIENTIST** makes a mistake
it's a **NEW INVENTION**,
If a **TAILOR** makes a mistake
it's a **NEW FASHION**,
If a **TEACHER** makes a mistake
it's a **NEW THEORY**,



If a **STUDENT** makes a mistake
it's a **"MISTAKE"...**



A 40 DAY CRUISE? JUST THE TWO OF US
WITHOUT THE KIDS? OH, NOAH, THIS'LL BE THE
BEST VACATION EVER! I HOPE IT DOESN'T RAIN!



My goal was to lose 10 pounds in weight this year. Only 15 pounds to go.

In other news, the seven dwarfs have been advised that due to social distancing they can only meet in groups of 6...

One of them isn't Happy!

HOW OTHER CHRISTIANS HAVE TO LIVE

NIGERIA

Christians in Nigeria have been suffering terribly during December. Here are just some of the atrocities they have had to face.

Church leaders have been abducted as farming communities in Kaduna state are experiencing renewed violence and abductions by armed assailants of Fulani ethnicity.

On 24 December, Mrs Jumai Luka, the wife of Rev Luka Shaho of Assemblies of God Church in Ungwan Waziri, was abducted by armed men who had beaten her husband “mercilessly.”

On 21 December, Reverend Thomas James of Godiya Baptist Church Gwazunu was abducted following an attack by over 100 well-armed men on the Gwazunu community in Gwagwada, Chikun LGA.

On 19 December, Rev Luka Dani of the Evangelical Church Winning All (ECWA) was abducted following an attack on the Galumi community in Gwagwada, Chikun LGA.

Reports emerged on 23 December of the death of Pastor Kabiru Babangida, a convert to Christianity from Islam who worked in remote villages in the north western states of Kebbi and Niger. The pastor was abducted and hacked to death by assailants who had initially demanded N4 million in ransom, before raising the amount to N10 million, then switching off their phones. Villagers subsequently decided to search for the

pastor and eventually found his bound and mutilated corpse. The pastor is survived by his wife and two children, as well as by his parents and siblings who had disowned him due to his conversion.

On 2 December, Fulani assailants stormed the prayer retreat of the Christ Apostolic Church (CAC) near Abeokuta in Ogun state at around 1 am, stealing cash, phones, and other valuables from the worshipers. Several pastors and worshipers were attacked with machetes, and three women were abducted for ransom, including the wife of a senior pastor.

“More must be done to address Nigeria’s security vacuum, to stem the staggering loss of life across the nation, and to assist, compensate and rehabilitate victims of violence. There is a pressing need for an overhaul of the entire security structure, including with regards to intelligence gathering, coordinating action between the security services, and equipping troops in a manner commensurate with terrain and challenges. A holistic security strategy must be formulated as a matter of urgency, given the increasing links between what may have initially appeared to be disparate sources of violence.”

This is only one country where Christians are suffering persecution for their Lord. Please pray for them and for all who are in similar circumstances in virtually every country of the world.

GLASWEGIAN

In the May 2020 Mag we gave a list of descriptive face phrases in the Glaswegian language. We were inundated with further examples which we produce below.

A face like a City Bakeries Halloween cake.

A face like a torn melodeon wi' the tune hingin' oot.

A face like a can o' angry worms.

A face you could chop sticks wi'.

A face like a fish supper lookin' fur the vinegar boatle.

A face you'd never get tired o' kickin'.

A face that would turn milk soor.

A face like the wrang end o' a Belfast ham.

A face like a camel chewin' sherbert.

A face like a blind cobbler's thumb.

A face for hauntin' hooses.

A face that's good for dookin' fur beetroot.

A face like he had been dookin' fur aipples in a hot chip pan.

A face that made a Happy Meal cry.

But still our favourite of all time -
A face that would turn a funeral up a side street.

HOW TO COOK A TURKEY!

We're a bit late with this recipe but it will do for next year.

Step 1: Buy a turkey

Step 2: Have a wee dram

Step 3: Put turkey in the oven

Step 4: Have another dram

Step 5: Set oven to 375 degrees

Step 6: Have a wee top up

Step 7: Turn oven the on

Step 8: Have a drinky another

Step 9: Turk the bastey

Step 10: Whisky another bottle of get

Step 11: Stick a turkey in the thermometer

Step 12: Wee yourself a dram another

Step 13: Bake the whisky for 4 hours

Step 14: Take the oven

out of the turkey

Step 15: Take the out from the turkey

Step 16: Floor the turk

Step 17: Under slide table.

Q: What do cats eat for breakfast?

A: Mice Krispies

A lot of people cry when they cut an onion. The trick is not to form an emotional bond.

Fred: "Why do elephants wear red nail polish?"

Bob: "I don't know, why?"

Fred: "To hide in cherry trees."

Bob: "But I've never seen an elephant in a cherry tree."

Fred: "See, it works."

The past, present, and future walked into a bar. It was tense.

GIVINGS FOR OTHERS

It is a source of amazement to the Finance Team to constantly see and experience the generosity of members of Queen's Park Govanhill.

Not only do you remember and regularly update your givings to our Church to maintain its fabric and pay our bills but you respond unstintingly to appeals to help others in need of our assistance.

Despite all the deprivations we have suffered in 2020 you have answered a large number of calls from charities most of whom are suffering a significant reduction in their income because of Covid-19 restrictions.

In November, on one of the rare occasions the church service was in the building in the last 9 months, £175 was collected for Poppy Scotland. Since they were not able to collect in the streets and shops this year, this donation was greatly appreciated.

Dewar sent out an appeal from the Lodging House Mission which appeared in the November Mag and a magnificent £1,080 has been sent to their bank account this year. Not to mention finance raised from all those who bought LHM Christmas Cards directly from the Mission.

In the December Mag there was an appeal to help children in Zimbabwe who were dying of starvation. The fact that this atrocity was happening in 2020 in a world of plenty obviously struck a chord with many of you and to date we have collected £1,355 which

we hope to have sent off by the time you read this magazine. This very generous amount will feed 1,305 children over 7 years of age for one week or 2,610 children under 7 years for the same time.

Robin House at Balloch and Church House in Bridgeton and Mary's Meals have also been in your thoughts and you have donated generously for them.

But you have not forgotten charities and needs closer to home. Club 170 is a regular recipient of your gifts of food and finance as you will see from Betty's article on page 5 of this Mag and this allows the Team to carry on this great work of feeding many which unfortunately is still so much needed in our city

And the Foodbank is also the beneficiary of many of you as you have donated just under £500 since October so enabling them to do a similar job to Club 170 in catering for the needs of those who stay close to us but who do not have enough to survive without help.

All this and more. The Leprosy Mission, Starchild, Scottish Bible Society, Barnabas Fund and others have all benefited from your largesse in 2020.

On behalf of them all—



LIFE ^{A N D} WORK

JANUARY 2021

“The real Deal”

In his final column, Ron Ferguson reflects on the nomination of the Moderator-Designate for 2021/22.

Reap the harvest

The Very Rev Albert Bogle urges churches to look outside their walls and engage with those who have found the Church through technology.



Forward in Faith

The Rt Rev Dr Martin Fair highlights the importance of faith when looking to an unseen and uncertain future.

Chaplain to a King

Robert Beaken offers an insight into a new book profiling the diaries of a Scottish churchman who became a confidante of royalty and political leaders.

'Covid-19 challenged us at every level'

Dave Kendall, the Church of Scotland's chief officer, looks back at 2020 and ahead to 2021.

Listening church

Thomas Baldwin reports on a new project seeking experience of faith during the Covid-19 pandemic.

All this, and reviews, crosswords, youth column, bible study, church registers and much more. News from the church – national and world wide.

INTIMATIONS

15

1. Cases of illness or urgent pastoral need should be intimated without delay to the Minister.
2. Any person who would like to become a communicant member of the church should speak to the Minister.
3. The final date for submitting articles for the February Magazine is Sunday 31st January.

TREASURER'S REPORT TO 31st DEC 2020



Open Plate	£ 573
Freewill Offerings	£ 8,814
Gift Aid Freewill Offerings	£ 52,489
Total	£ 61,876
Average per Sunday (52 weeks)	£ 1,229

OTHER INCOME IN DECEMBER

Donation to Church House	£10
Donation to Lodging House Mission	£550
Donation to Club 170	£20
Donations to Foodbank	£30
Donation to Rachel House (CHAS)	£10
Donations to Zimbabwe Children	£1,230
Donation to General Funds—Pathfinders	£200
Donation to General Funds—Lunch Stop	£500



*M. Borland,
Treasurer*

GENERAL FABRIC FUND

Balance at 1/1/20	£ 6,830
+ Income	£ 3,501
	£10,331
Expenditure	£ 9,993
Balance at 30/12/20	£ 338

OFFICEBEARERS

INTERIM MINISTER	Rev David Denniston	07903 926727
SESSION CLERK	Mr Jo Gibb	at Church Office
FABRIC TEAM	Mr. Euan Gibb	at Church Office
HOSPITALITY TEAM	Miss Morag Reid	at Church Office
PASTORAL TEAM	Miss Lexa Boyle	at Church Office
MISSION TEAM	Miss Lynn Flower	at Church Office
PRAYER TEAM		
MINISTRY TEAM	Rev David Denniston	at Church Office
MUSIC & DRAMA TEAM	Mrs Lynn Gibb	at Church Office
FINANCE TEAM	Mr Lindsay Macqueen	at Church Office
ADMIN/OFFICE TEAM	Mrs Rhona Hughes	at Church Office
EDUCATION TEAM	Mr Malcolm Leitch	at Church Office
TIME TALENTS MONEY TEAM	Mrs Joyce McNae	at Church Office
YOUTH TEAM	Miss Lynn Flower	at Church Office
CONG. TREASURER	Mrs. Margaret Borland	at Church Office
MAGAZINE EDITOR	Mr. Malcolm Leitch	
	malcolmleitch135@btinternet.com	
MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTION	Mrs. Rhona Hughes	at Church Office



Turnberry Golf Course in the mid-ground and looking over the Firth of Clyde to Ardrossan